

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

14th YEAR, Vol. 9 - #206

NEW YORK, 1st September 1954

TEN CENTS

"COSMOS S-F" GOES QUARTERLY

New York, NY, 18 Sept., (CMS) - Cosmos Science Fiction & Fantasy Magazine goes quarterly with its 5th issue. At this time there isn't any schedule set up or release date on this 5th issue. The magazine has been listed as a bi-monthly since its first issue, dated Sept. 1953.

Although Cosmos has been listed as a bi-monthly since its first issue, it has been skipping issues since the 2nd issue and only two issues have come out so far, in 1954. The magazine has been dated as follows: 1st issue: Sept. 1953, 2nd: Nov. 1953; 3rd: March 1954 (The January 1954 issue was skipped); and the current: July 1954, #4 (The May issue being skipped).

"VARGO STATTEN S-F" CHANGES NAME TO "BRITISH S-F MAG"

New York, NY, 23 Sept., (CMS) - Britain's Vargo Statten Science Fiction Magazine has changed its name to The British Science Fiction Magazine with its 6th issue, just out. Its still edited by Vargo Statten (John Russell Fearn).

The magazine started as a monthly,
(concluded on page 4, column 2)

SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE

by James V. Taurasi

13 years is a long time for a professional magazine to be published, it is also an unheard of feat for an amateur magazine to still be coming out after so many years. We are proud to state that Fantasy-Times after 13 years is still going strong. This past year, the 13th, has been a mighty trying one for Fantasy-Times. When our partner, who does the mimeographing and mailing out of issues, had to drop out because of personal troubles, it was all we could do to keep the newspaper going. We have been late, later than ever before, our pages (in some issues) were cut to the bone, but we still didn't miss an issue and still managed with the help of Bill Blackbeard to put out the largest issue of our career, the monster 30 page, 200th issue. Now, the well-known silver lining is showing in our troubled skies. Ray Van Houten has cleared his personal troubles and is back once more, with his skilled mimeographing and doing the uninteresting chore of mailing out our monstrous mailing list. We expect to be out on time from now on, and except for rare quick extras to contain at least six pages. Allow us, at this time to thank all of you who took so many short comings this year without a complaint. With people like you to publish for, we expect to be here at least another 13 years, if not more.

(continued on page 4, column 2)

by Arthur Jean Cox

Details of the 2nd Day of the 12th
World Science Fiction Convention.

Sunday afternoon, the Second Day of the World Convention, Margaret St. Claire gave an interesting talk on "Cookery Of The Future" in which she tried to anticipate some of the culinary and dietetic developments which might be expected during the next couple of decades. Briefly, she foresees an internationalization of American cooking, with an especially strong Oriental influence. She goes so far as to predict that twenty years from now American families will be sitting on the floor on mats while they eat as the Japanese do. She also predicted that starch foods will entirely disappear from the table. Taking a longer view, she suggested that a couple of centuries from now the average family would be eating -- very little, and that rationing would be a permanent aspect of domestic life. If things get too bad, she thinks, a favorite delicacy of certain primitive peoples may appear on the American table: "Long pig".

Miss St. Claire's talk was followed by two others; one by Sam Moskowitz, which was probably the most interesting talk at the Convention (and the only one which dealt with science-fiction fandom, as I remembered) and one by Reginald Bretnor, who spoke on "Characterization In Science-Fiction". Mr. Bretnor's talk was cut short because of time limitations and therefore he wasn't able to fully develop his thesis that in science-fiction detailed characterization is usually unnecessary because the science-fiction story does not principally concern characters, but ideas.

One of the major successes of the Convention was the opera, "A Scent Of Sarsaparilla" by Charles Hamm, based on the short story by the same name by Ray Bradbury. Since I am not qualified to judge operatic compositions, especially when they are in the tradition of modern music, I'll limit myself to saying that I thought the performances by the principals, Sue Belle Stark and Keith

by Ben P. Jason

Cleveland, Ohio, 5 Sept., (CNS) - At the 12th World Science-Fiction Convention, surprisingly enough, one ballot only was sufficient to decide the outcome of the voting this time. Tally was: CLEVELAND 135, Detroit 57, Buffalo 12, Abstaining 2.

Two years of careful preparation by the Cleveland team of Norren Kane Falasca, her husband Nick Falasca, Honey Wood, and Ben Jason overcame the hurried methods of Detroit's Rogers Sims and Harlan Ellison.

A resolution, introduced by Les Cole, was passed unanimously to raise, or permit the price of convention membership tickets to be raised to \$2.00. Les explained that rising costs made this necessary and that the next convention committee should be given a break. Oddly enough, very few people challenged this rise. Practically everyone had \$2.00 in his hand when he walked up to buy his membership, expecting this price to be the accepted one.

For the time being, until a Post Office Box is obtained, all memberships are to be mailed to the following address:

Ben Jason
3971 East 71st Street
Cleveland 5, Ohio

Membership fee, as I have shown above, is \$2.00.

Bentley, excellent and that the narration by Anthony Boucher was very impressive. I'm told that every word in the opera is taken directly from Bradbury's story; this may account for the impression some people had that the prosody was a little clumsy at times. Unfortunately, Bradbury was not present and, I'm told, has never seen a performance of the opera.

FOR THE FINEST CONVENTIONS HELD IN THE NEW YORK AREA, COME TO THE FANVET CONVENTIONS. The next one, THE 5th ANNUAL FANVET CONVENTION, will be held on Sunday, April 17, 1955, at Werdermann's Hall, 3rd Ave and E. 16th St., New York City, NY. Program starts at 1 P.M.

BRITISH SCIENCE-FICTION FILMS

by Michael Corper

The British Argosy for January 1951 (repeat, 1951) contains a witchcraft story with a New England (Salem, Mass.) 17th Century background: "A Kiss From Lucia", by Rod MacLeish.

As from Aug. 29th, 1954, The London Sunday newspaper, Sunday Chronicle, Kemsley House, London, W.C.1, will publish science-fiction stories, each of which will be illustrated and complete, covering a full page. New stories by Bradbury, Arthur C. Clark, John Wyndham and Chas. Chilton have been specially commissioned.

Authentic advance information, as supplied by its editor, is as follows: September 1954: "Logic" (Tubb), "Asteroid Crusoe" (Jon. Burke), "Forgive Them" (Don Morgan), "Insomnia Cure" (E. Everett Evans), "S. F. Story" (Richard Wilson), and "Jar Of Latakia" (G. Cooper). Articles will be: "Space & Mr. Newton" (W.W. Byford, B.Sc.), "Ways Of Science - 1" (Frank Wilson, B. Sc.), "Body & Brains" (Peter Summers), plus depts. For October 1954, there will be: "It Takes Two" (H. Ken Bulmer), "Hidden Treasure Of Kalin" (Tubb), "Won't Powers" (S. M. Lane), "The Kid" (K. E. Smith), and "One Hour" (G. C. Duncan). Articles: "The Expanding Universe" (Prof. Delwood), "Ways Of Science - 2" (Wilson), "Back To Go Forward" (Byford), & "Brain & Mind" (Summers); plus depts.

No. 1 has appeared this week, dd. 4-Sept. '54, of a new London newspaper (weekly) for youngsters: Junior Express. Priced 2d., it is published by Beaverbrook Newspapers. One page is dedicated to Space Rider Jeff Hawke (who appears daily in the Daily Express) in strip cartoon form. A "Space Gen" feature, explaining space terms, has also been started, and is illustrated. The issue carries further a protest against film censorship barring youngsters under 17 from seeing the s-f film "Them".

Nebula #9 just reached me, two months late, but editor Peter Hamilton now as- (concluded on page 4, column 1)

FANTASY-COMICS

by James V. Taurasi

New York City Magistrate Charles F. Murphy has been named official "censor" of the comic magazines. He will administer a code of ethics that the comic book publishers hope will purgify the field of objectionable comics. He will be operating a position like the movie pre-issue censorship, and like the movie deal, we think that it will do the comics more harm than good. While it will rid the field of most bad comics, it will also prevent new ideas being introduced and the comics, like most movies, will become dull and lifeless.

Most of the bigger comic book publishers are members of the new organization, Comics Magazine Association Of America, and will present their comics to Mr. Murphy for censorship before publication.

Among those who are not members are Dell Comics, which need no censorship, since they do not go in for horror or terror and have about the cleanest comics published; Classic Illustrated, which if it joined the association would have to redraw quite a number of their back issues, which have been taken from the classics of literature, under the new code, would be objectionable. Since all their titles are always in print, the expense of redrawing some of their back issues would be out of the question. Bill Gaines of The Entertaining Comics Group is the third, who will not join. While Mr. Gaines will follow the code and go beyond it, he will not join because of two main reasons: 1. While the new code will not allow horror and terror comics, it does not object to crime comics, and Mr. Gaines feels that crime comics are in the same class as horror and terror; and 2. He will not allow his comics to be precensored or looked over by anyone before publications. Too many of his books are being copied, and he feels that the chances are that any organization looking over his ideas before publication will only add to the copying. But, follow the code he will.

Mr. Gaines has dropped all his horror and terror comics, the some issues of

then will be found on the stands for a short while. All the magazines he has retained are: Weird Science-Fantasy, Mad, Panic and Pirate. He has five new comics (no horror or terrors among them) coming out in January.

It is interesting to note that the oldest magazine now being published by EC is their science-fiction title: Weird Science-Fantasy, which started out in 1950 as two titles: Weird Science and Weird Fantasy. These two magazines are the first true s-f comic mags and opened up the comic field to numerous s-f comics, only a few of which are still being published today.

BRITISH SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS (concluded from page 3, column 1)

...
sures regular bi-monthly publication thruout the Winter. The cover, by Clothier, is one of the best and most attractive I have ever seen, and the Editor invites short stories based upon it. The issue contains: "Project One" (Tubb), "Ordeal In Space" (Heinlein), "Curtain Call" (James White), "Cul de Sac" (Lan Wright), "Alcoholic Ambassador" (Dan Morgan), and "Aspect" (Bob Shaw); plus departments. Interior illos are by Clothier, Wilson, Frew, Greengrass, and Hunter. The Heinlein story has never appeared in magazine form in this country. Bob Shaw makes his very first appearance in print, whilst most writers of shorts are new to Nebula's pages.

...
The British Science Fiction Book Club is now in its second year. Its current-book is "Player Piano" by Kurt Vonnegut (July-August 1954 book). The club issues books every two months and so far (August 1954) has issued nine books. March - April '53: "Earth Abides" by George R. Stewart; May - June '53: "The Martian Chronicles" by Ray Bradbury; July-August 1953: "Last and First Men" by Olaf Stapledon; Sept.-Oct. '53: "Tomorrow Sometimes Comes" by F. G. Rayer; Nov.-Dec. '53: "Minimum Man" by Andrew Marvell; Jan.-Feb. '54: "No Place Like Earth", an anthology edited by Ted Carnoll; March - April '54: "I, Robot" by Isaac Asimov; May-June '54: "The Voyage Of The Space Beagle" by A. E. van Vogt; and currently the July-August book mentioned above. The club member get the-

"VARGO STATEN S-F" CHANGES NAME (concluded from page 1, column 1)

...
with a large size format (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 10"), 64 pages and sold for 1/6. With its 4th issue it went digest size (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") 128 pages and 1/6. While the large size issue contained pulp paper, the digest sizes contain a semi-slick paper. The #5 digest-size issue is the exception, it is smaller (5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8") and contains pulp paper.

While the digests are neater and have a better atmosphere the illustrations were much better in the large size. The present inside illos are much too small, much too infrequent. The lead stories in all issues are, of course, by Vargo Statton.

The cover format, logo and illustration while poor with the first two issues, took a turn for the better with issue #3 and is now one of the best-published in England.

While the magazine is listed as a monthly, it actually, at the present, is not. The magazine was sold a while back and this disturbed schedules for the time being.

The magazine is now forming a fan club, The Vargo Statton Science Fiction Fan League, on the style of the famous Science Fiction League, founded by Hugo Gernsback in the 30s.

While the magazine is a juvenile, it is interesting and makes very good reading.

SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE (continued from page 1, column 2)

...
Number 5 issue of Orbit Science Fiction will be out in the middle of October, dated Nov-Dec 1954.

...
The April 1955 issue of Fantastic will be the first one to bear the sub-title "Science Fiction". Howard Browne stated recently that he's all set to introduce a full blown readers' column in Fantastic and reinstate it in Amazing.
(concluded on page 6, column 1)

...
books for 6/- each plus postage. (Six books costing 39/-, 36/- for the books and 3/- for postage.) The address is: The Science Fiction Book Club (Sidgwick & Jackson Ltd.), 38 William IV Street, Charing Cross, London, W.C.2.

ANNOUNCING:

JUPITER PRESS

Jack Cordes, Vernell Coriell:- Publishers
Nan Gerding:- Secretary & Publicity

Something new in book publishing. Every cent of profit made will be turned over to the author. Strange as it may seem, we are only interested in publishing good stories of fantasy and science fiction. Only the actual expenses are deducted. Because of this, we must have enough advance orders to put out our first volume into production. The fate of JUPITER PRESS rests with you. Our printers will be the Commercial Arts Press, Monmouth, Illinois.

Our first book will be:

BEWARE MALOBRA!

by Hannes Bok

It will have an introduction by PHILIP JOSE FARMER and the dust wrapper will be done by the author, HANNES BOK. If this first volume proves successful, the ones we have lined up for future publication will come as a pleasant surprise to all of you.

BEWARE MALOBRA! is \$3.00 per copy. Cash, check, or money-order must accompany every order. Money will, of course, be refunded in case of non-publication. Send all orders to:

JUPITER PRESS
JACK CORDES
315 Catherine Street
Peekin, Illinois

FANTASY - TIMES

The World Of Tomorrow Today
(S. F. NewsScope and Fantasy-Comics)

Published semi-monthly by FANDOM HOUSE.

US & CANADIAN RATES: 10¢ a copy, 12 for \$1 from James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Avenue, Flushing 54, New York.

BRITISH RATES: 9d per copy, 15s0d. per year from MILCROSS BOOK SERVICE, 68 Victoria St., LIVERPOOL 1, ENGLAND.

AUSTRALIAN RATES: One Shilling per copy 10 Shillings for 12 issues, & 1 lb. for 24 issues, from ROGER DARD, 232 James St., PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION!

SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE

(concluded from page 4, Column 2)

but he needs letters. Why not send him one today. Don't be afraid to tell him just what you think of his mags, but expect him to be equally frank in answering your letter. No holds barred.

We think it's about time New York fans made plans to bid for the 1956 World Convention site. 1956 will be 17 years since it held a World Convention. It was New York Fandom that started it all too. New York fans are united today, as they have never been united in the past, tho it still has some persons who

would try to grab the site and not represent New York Fandom. The only group that represents New York Fandom is the New York Council, now representing The Eastern Science Fiction Association of Newark, NJ and The Science Fiction Circle of New York. This council has provisions for other New York (New Jersey) clubs to join it, when and if they are formed. Unless the council makes the bid or approves another organization to do so, the bid will not be representative of New York Fandom.

Imaginative Tales #2 is on the stands, with a 30 page cut. We do not know at this time whether this cut will stay or the magazine will have as many pages as necessary to run the story(ies). We are led to believe that it will stay. We are happy to this that this time, the titles of the stories have not been changed in reprinting. The format, illustrations and paper is still excellent.

The current Palmer UNIVERSE has the new type cover, featured a short while ago on his non-s-f Mystic. We find the new type cover very dull and non-newsstand attractive.

ARE YOU MOVING? Then let us know so that we may change your address and you'll not miss a copy of Fantasy-Times. Send us your old as well as new address and give us about 6 weeks time to make the change.

FANDOM HOUSE

Publishers of Fantasy-Times

P. O. Box #2331

Paterson 25, New Jersey



Frank Dietz Jr -209
156 W Main St
Kings Park LI NY

PRINTED MATTER ONLY

Form 3547 Requested

All required Postage Guaranteed