

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

14th YEAR, Vol. 9 - #208

NEW YORK, 1st October 1954

TEN CENTS

"BEYOND" DELAYED; To Be Numbered Instead of Dated

New York, NY, 13 October, (CMS) - Beyond Fantasy Fiction has been delayed by the breakdown of the printing press it was suppose to be published on. The next issue, supposedly dated November, 1954 and on the stands the early part of September 1954, will not be out for about 3 or so weeks. Because of the delay, the dating of Beyond has been dropped for the time being and numbers will be used instead. The next issue (previously dated November 1954) will be called #9.

Added to the breakdown of Guinn's printing press, and adding to the delay was a Binder's strike. It is at the binder that the magazine is put together, the staples are inserted, and the covers glued on and trimmed. The Binder's strike is now over. The printing press is a brand new one, and it takes a little time to get all the bugs out. These current breakdowns are due to that.

Due to all the delay of #9 Beyond, #10 will also be delayed, but it is hoped that the magazine will be able to resume its bi-monthly schedule in the near future.

As Galaxy Novel, was also to be published on this press, it too has been delayed. The next Galaxy Novel will be titled: "Killer To Come".

During the press breakdown, Beyond will be printed by an outside company.

Galaxy Science Fiction has not been affected by this breakdown, as it is printed on another press.

Beyond #9 will feature: "The Green Magician", a Shea story, by L. Sprague de Camp & Fletcher Pratt.

COMING IN "PLANET STORIES"

by Jack O'Sullivan

Stamford, Conn., 6 October, (CMS) - The Winter Planet Stories will have a cover by Algis Budrys. The fiction includes: Novelets by Leigh Brackett: "Teleportress Of Alpha C"; and Michael Shaara: "The Vanisher". Short stories by Raymond E. Banks: "Bottom Is Up"; H. Sanford Effron: "The Ultimate Eve"; Chas. A. Stearns: "The Grave Of Solon Regh"; Mike Curry: "The Recluse"; Fred Freair: "Life Of A Salesman"; plus an extra-long "Vizigraph".

The Spring 1955 Planet will have a cover by Kelly Freas, and feature a novelet by Alan R. Nourse, "The Brain Sinner", and a short by Algis Budrys (yeah, the same guy that rendered the Winter cover) "Cage Of A Thousand Wings".

REMEMBER Fantasy-Times' new address: PANDON HOUSE, P. O. Box 2331, Paterson 23, New Jersey.

WORLD'S OLDEST SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSPAPER

by Arthur Jean Cox

The campaign against horror and crime comics seems to have achieved its aims. I saw a recent news story which stated that the sales of some of the gorier magazines in the field had fallen off 45%. And a recent UP release (22 Sept) states that the newly-elected "czar" of the comic book industry, Charles F. Murphy, has ordered an immediate stop to the distribution of magazines featuring horror, terror and grue.

Reilly and Lee will soon issue a Who's Who in Oz by Jack Snow. It will contain PICTURES OF THE LEADING CHARACTERS of the Oz books, maps and charts, and brief synopses of every book in the series. There will also be a biography of Frank L. Baum, who discovered Oz.

The Incomplete Pogo is now out. Issued simultaneously with it was the Pogo-mobile -- a mobile composed of cutouts of the stars of Walt Kelly's strip. With a little luck and intelligence, a person can assemble it and have it set in gentle, swirling motion within an hour. Both these items are one dollar a piece.

In the next issue of Crawford's Spaceway, there will be an article called "Fifty Questions and Answers On Dianetics" by A. E. van Vogt. That will be the February, 1955 issue. The current issue, December, 1954, recently came out, after skipping two issues.

The London Times published a special literary supplement on September 17th of this year devoted to American Writing Today. It contains an article on science-fiction, "A typically American phenomenon". The article, entitled "Escape Into Space", is unimpressed with the field, for the most part, and thinks that it has little to offer to persons of taste and intelligence. It suggested that those writers like "Mr. Ray Bradbury" who has attracted some attention have done so not so much because of their own abilities but because of their contrast with the other

(concluded on page 4, column 2)

by William Blackboard

AGAINST THE FALL OF NIGHT, by Arthur C. Clarke, PermaBooks, 1954, 160pp., 25¢.

Attractively packaged with an admirable cover by Powers (certainly the first major science-fiction artist of our time to have developed a full and sophisticated use of his abilities without ever having appeared in a science-fiction magazine), Arthur C. Clarke's little classic, Against the Fall of Night, which is about as imperishable a NOVEL as contemporary science-fiction is likely to produce in the sub-Crawford-Kafka-Wells-strata, has been made available to the non-book buyer for the first time since 1948.

This is a very worthwhile event, for Clarke has produced no work of fiction better than this. His Childhood's End, written last year for Ballantine Books, is a work of a controlled and poetic imagination, but is structurally clumsy and thematically unfocused, while Against the Fall of Night, completed in the mid-1940s, is that rarest of science-fiction novels: the tight-knit, carefully-written, uniquely original story with a climax every bit as compelling and evocative of wonder as the opening chapters. The meaning of the tale opens and expands like the spreading petals of a new rose; revelation follows revelation; and the full pattern of earth's far future as exposed by the development of events in the latter chapters is as stunning as any but the most surfeited and jaded reader could wish.

It is hard to imagine a more attractive science-fiction novel than this; it seems to have everything, in quintessence, that science-fiction has introduced and made uniquely its own in literature. Here, in sharp, clear, compelling quantities, are all the elements provocative to the free-wheeling imagination that first emerged in Verne, were wielded so memorably in the works of Wells, and then became the special province and base of the whole multifaceted literature of the genre that spread exfoliate through the pages of

(concluded on page 4, column 2)

by Our Readers

Wembley, England
25 September, 1954

Dear Jimmy:

In the 1st June issue of Fantasy-Times, page 6, you state that the British Astounding is the oldest s-f mag published in the U.K. While it certainly is the longest in existence, and always contains the best material, it is not the first British s-f mag that made its appearance here. I, for one, am not certain which mag really was the first to come out, but I do know that there was a British s-f mag - as against a BRF - before the War. If I remember rightly - I per chance obtained one number, some years ago - it was called Fantasy, was brought out by the Pearson-Hawnes group (who published "Strand Magazine", "Tit-Bits", "London Opinion" and other well known mags), and lasted but 3 issues. I made enquiries at the office a few days ago, but the mag is not mentioned in their lists; probably because it did not last very long.

Sincerely,
Michael (Corper)

(You are quite right, The British Astounding is not the first s-f magazine to appear in England. It is, though, the oldest s-f magazine still being published in England. The first was a newspaper-size "boys" magazine called Scoons that appeared in 1934 and lasted 20 issues, published weekly. The in newspaper-size and a juvenile it was a true s-f magazine and towards the end was publishing fine s-f stories, well illustrated. After that came Tales Of Wonder in 1937, edited by Walter Gillings, pulp size and published quarterly. The Fantasy you mentioned appeared in 1938 and lasted 3 issues published irregularly. It was also pulp size. From time to time MILCROSS BOOK SERVICE has back issues of these magazines for sale.

Waltham, Mass.
18 September 1954

Dear Jim,

In Arthur Jean Cox's column of 2nd
(concluded on page 4, column 1)

by Michael Corper

The News Chronicle, London morning paper, writes today (Sept. 25) that The Soviet Academy of Arts will award a gold medal for outstanding research in the field of space travel, which is to be issued once every three years.

The News Chronicle, today also, reports that in the Hutchesontown district of Glasgow, Scotland, a rumor started last Thursday (23 Sept.) according to which two little boys had been killed and eaten by a vampire from the cemetery. Hundreds of kids thereupon invaded the graveyard to track the monster down, scaling 8 ft. walls to get in. Many carried stones and sticks. Horror comics and films are blamed for this fantastic behaviour.

BRF Astounding Science Fiction for October 1954 is out, featuring: "At Death's End" (Blish), "Bias" (McIntosh), "Weak Spot" (Russell), "Of Course" (Oliver), "Earthman's Burden" (Klass), and "First To Serve" (Budrys). Besides usual departments, it has 2 articles: "Tornadoes and Atom Blasts" (Hutton) & "Orthodoxy In Science" (de Camp). Cover is by Van Dongen; interior illus. by him, Freas. There are 128 pp., but the paper is much thicker than usual.

The BBC are broadcasting a s-f serial by Charles Chilton: "The Red Planet". It has been going on for 3 weeks, to date, and altho (in my opinion) the story may be found in many a s-f mag in different guises - a space fleet setting out for a planet - the radio rendering is able and thrilling.

Science-Fantasy No. 10 is now out, containing "Five Into Four" (J.T. McIntosh), "Bitter Sweet" (L.C. Tubb), "Zone of Youth" (Marton Jordan), "The Chronoclasm" (John Wyndham), "Dark Summer" (Francis G. Rayor), "Stone and Crystal" (John Ashcroft), and "Unborn Of Earth" (Les Cole). Cover: Patridge. Interior illus.: Quinn, Hunter and Ashcroft. Nova Publications, who publish this mag announce the forthcoming publication of s-f pocketbooks of a new series of full

length novels, 160 pps, selling at 2/-.
 Shortly to come: v a n Vogt's "Weapon
 Shops of Isher", and Wilson Tucker's
 "City in the sea". Nova Publications
 are now at 2 Arundel Street, London,
 W.C.2. The next issue of Science-Fan-
tasy will contain "The Wrong Track"
 (George Whitley), story about a tube
 train that enters another dimension in
 which the Allies had lost the last war;
 and material by McIntosh, Dewey, Tubb,
 Burke, and James.

Here is advance info. on forthcoming
 issues of Nebula Science Fiction:

Nebula No. 10 will have "Project
 Starship" (22,000 words; Sydney J.
 Bounds); two new stories by Americans:
 "Anachronism" (9,000 wds.; Chas E. Fri-
 tch), and "Final Curtain" (7,500 wds.;
 Robert Donald Locke); also material by
 E.C.Tubb, Richard P. Emnis, and Geoffrey
 Humphreys. The cover will be by Bob
 Clothier on the fury of an atomic ex-
 plosion. Also promised is more than
 usual interior artwork, and usual de-
 partments.

Nebula No. 11's lead novel is by
 E.C.Tubb, and Editor Hamilton tells me
 it will relate "in stark reality the
 battle for life by the first Martian
 expedition." There will also be "The
 Type" (Chas. Eric Maine), and stories
 by E. F. Russell, John Christopher,
 Harry Warner Jr., Cyril Meyerscough, and
 Bob Shaw. Cover will be by James Rat-
 tigan, and departments might contain
 the first of a series of articles on
 Hypnotism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(concluded from page 3, column 1)

June issue (an exceedingly good feature
 by the way) mention is made of my forth-
 coming Abelard-Schuman book. It's tit-
 le is CHEMICALS OF LIFE and it is not
 really for children, but for teenagers,
 which is not quite the same thing.

Paul French is a pseudonym for Is-
 aac Asimov as Cox guessed in the same
 column. The Doubleday book: LUCKY
STARR AND THE OCEAN OF VENUS is the
 third of a series, the first two being
DAVID STARR, SPACE RANGER AND LUCKY
STARR AND THE PIRATES OF THE ASTEROID.
 Although these books have not received
 the attention the Winston series has in
 the various s-f review columns, they

are doing very well financially and I
 hope to do one a year as long as that
 continues and my typing fingers hold-
 out.

Yours,
 Isaac (Asimov)

(Thank you for the information, our
 readers will be very happy to hear it.
 We hope that we'll be able to review
 your next LUCKY STARR novel, when it
 comes out. Jean Cox's "Cosmic Reporter"
 is the oldest column still being pub-
 lished in Fantasy-Times. The first ap-
 peared ten years ago in the Fall of
 1944. It has always been rated first
 in all the polls we have taken. -eds)

THE COSMIC REPORTER

(concluded from page 2, column 1)

writers in the field. The article says
 that science-fiction readers are, gen-
 erally speaking, on the same level as
 western story readers and that there is
 little chance that science-fiction will
 become as popular as the mystery story.
 The essay, as is the policy of The Lon-
don Times, is unsigned.

FANTASY BOOKS

(concluded from page 2, column 2)

the Munsey and Gernsback magazines to
 spawn a hundred periodicals and a dozen
 publishing houses devoted exclusively
 to its presentation and preservation.

In short, here is a novel at once
 ideal for introducing science-fiction
 to the uninitiate and providing an un-
 forgettable evening for the veteran
 reader. There will be no hint of the
 plot here, beyond the tantalizing imag-
 es the quotation of a few of the chap-
 ter titles may evoke: "The Prison of
 Diaspar", "The Tomb of Yarlan Zoy", "The
 Way Beneath", "The Land of Lys", "The
 Last Niagara", "The Crater Drollon",
 "The Black Sun" --- are these not para-
 des to conjure with; magicks with which
 to shape a hundred pentagrams of the
 anticipatory imagination? If they are,
 your quarter is already on its way to
 the newsdealer's pocket, if not --- st-
 ick to Winston K. Marks, George O. Smith
 and Rog Phillips, fella: the heights
 are not for you.

REMEMBER: Fantasy-Times' new address:-
RANDOM HOUSE, P.O. Box 2331, Paterson, NJ

FANTASY - TIMES

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CORRESPONDENTS: Arthur Jean Cox, Forrest J Ackerman, Thomas S. Gardner, Michael Corper, Donald E. Ford, William Blackbeard, Roger Dard, Vol Holesworth, Jean Carol, and Frank R Prieto, Jr.

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THE FANTASY RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

OUT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1954:

| NAME | DATE | PRICE | PP. | SIZE | DATE OUT | SCHEDULE |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----|--------|------------|------------|
| IF - Worlds Of Science Fiction | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 120 | Digest | Sept 4'54 | Monthly |
| Galaxy Science Fiction | Oct '54 | 35¢ | 160 | Digest | Sept 4'54 | Monthly |
| Fantastic | Dec '54 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Sept 4'54 | Bi-monthly |
| Astounding Science Fiction | Oct '54 | 35¢ | 162 | Digest | Sept 8'54 | Monthly |
| Imaginative Tales* | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Sept 8'54 | Bi-monthly |
| Thrilling Wonder Stories | Fall '54 | 25¢ | 114 | Pulp | Sept 8'54 | Quarterly |
| Fantastic Universe | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 128 | Digest | Sept 10'54 | Monthly |
| Imagination | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Sept 13'54 | Monthly |
| Universe Science Fiction** | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Sept 16'54 | Bi-monthly |
| Fantasy And Science Fiction | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 128 | Digest | Sept 20'54 | Monthly |
| Galaxy Science Fiction | Nov '54 | 35¢ | 160 | Digest | Sept 25'54 | Monthly |

During the month of September there appeared 11 science/fantasy magazines; 1 pulp and 10 digests. The pulp cost 25¢; the digests \$3.50; making a total of \$3.75. The pulp had 114 pages and the digests contained 1,378 pages, making a total of 1,492 pages.

(Not Science Fiction, But Of Interest)

| | | | | | | |
|------|---------|-----|-----|--------|-----------|---------|
| Fate | Oct '54 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Sept 8'54 | Monthly |
|------|---------|-----|-----|--------|-----------|---------|

RECEIVED FROM ENGLAND DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1954:

| NAME | DATE | PRICE | PP. | SIZE | TYPE | SCHEDULE |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----|--------|------------|----------|
| Astounding Science Fiction | Sept '54 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | US Reprint | Monthly |
| Now Worlds Science Fiction | Sept '54 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | British | Monthly |
| Fantasy & Science Fiction | Sept '54 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | US Reprint | Monthly |
| IF - Worlds Of Science Fiction | Sept '54 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | US Reprint | Monthly |

*1st issue had 160 pages, been used on Mystic.

**1st issue with new type cover. Similar cover has

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P. O. Box #2331
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