

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

14th YEAR, Vol. 9 - #213

NEW YORK, 2nd December 1954

TEN CENTS

WEIRD TALES

reported in bankruptcy

Flushing, NY, 15 December, (CNS) - Fantasy-Times has received numerous reports this past month that Short Stories, Inc., publishers of Short Stories & Weird Tales has gone into bankruptcy. We have been unable, up to this time, to check on these reports, and are still continuing the search. As reported in #211, the last (Sept. 1954) issue of Weird Tales has been returned by the distributor, and the phone at the editor's office has been discontinued.

We have to assume until further notice that the above rumors are probably true and that Weird Tales has folded.

"BEYOND" NO 10 DELAYED ONE MONTH

New York, NY, 29 December, (CNS) - Robert Guinn, publisher of Beyond Fiction, announced today that that magazine has been delayed one month and that issue - #10 will be out in February 1955.

Galaxy Science Fiction, reports Mr. Guinn, is doing quite well, and if things continue as they are doing now, he hopes to be able to restore the cut
(concluded on page 10, column 1)

"ASTOUNDING" IS 25 YEARS OLD.

Flushing, NY, 16 December, (CNS) - Astounding Science Fiction celebrated its 25th Anniversary with the publication of its January 1955 issue. It was 25 years ago that Clayton brought out the first issue of Astounding with its January 1930 issue. It is the 3rd science fiction magazine (still being published) to appear, Amazing in 1926 and Wonder Stories in 1929, being the first two.

It has set an almost unbreakable record for itself. It is the oldest publication of its type published by the same concern. Street & Smith took it over in 1933, over 21 years ago. Its editor John W. Campbell, Jr. has held that position for the longest time in the s-f world, over 17 years, AND, it holds the most unique record of all, monthly publication for over 21 years, even during the last war, when all s-f magazines went quarterly and cut pages, Astounding held firm with monthly publication.

It holds many "firsts" in science-fiction.
(concluded on page 10, column 1)

by Arthur Jean Cox

An event of major importance has occurred in dianetics. During the past two and a half years, L. Ron Hubbard, creator of dianetics, has either been out of the country or has been interested solely in scientology. Now, he has once again turned his attention to dianetics and, by some means, all the organizations in the field have come under his control. The Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation, the Hubbard Dianetic Foundation, the Dianetic Foundation and the Dianetic Research Foundation have all been consolidated under one name: the Hubbard Dianetics Research Foundation, legally owned by L. Ron Hubbard.

Volume 1, number 1 of Foundation Bulletins, official publication of the H.D.R.F. states the situation in no uncertain terms:

"The ownership and control of all Dianetic publications, books, certificates, without contest, are now vested by the laws of the United States, its several states and the State of Arizona in the organization which (Hubbard) began in 1950."

Since the appearance of scientology (a spiritualistic, or religious, version of Hubbard's "New Science of Mind"), there has been unconcealed hostility and resentment between it and the more conservative dianetics. Now, apparently, the official keynote is to be harmony. The same issue of Foundation Bulletins quoted above announces that the Fourth International Congress of Dianetics and Scientology, to be held in Phoenix, Arizona, December 28th through the 31st of this year, will be jointly sponsored by The Hubbard Dianetic Research Foundation and the Hubbard Association of Scientologists, International. The big event of the gathering is to be the unveiling of some new "processes" developed by Hubbard. I quote:

"These processes establish Dianetics as a workable science and practice of human behavior, resolving cases that failed to respond to Dianetic processes in the past."

Hubbard has written a new book

BY Bill Blackboard

STAR SHORT NOVELLS, edited by Frederick Phol, Ballentine Books, 1954, 168 pp., pb., 35¢; hardbound, \$2.00.

This book, a selection of three original science-fiction novellas, may confound the gentry who edit and review such literary journals as The Saturday Review and The New York Times Book Review. These boys have given the back of their critical hand to science-fiction books by relegating reviews of such publications to a few miniscule paragraphs in the rearward pages of their magazines or by cramming them willy-nilly into a two or three column seasonal survey of the field. None of them has ever granted, save in the special case of Ray Bradbury, space for a normally long review to any title actually labelled "science-fiction".

Now, however, they are confronted with the spectacle of a generally praised "serious" novelist who has descended into this too, too deplorable field of adolescent wish-fantasy and permitted her "latest" long story to appear in print as part of an outright science-fiction collection. Perish forbid! At first glance, it looks like a nasty problem. Shall Jessamyn West's "Little Men" be given a lengthy review in accordance with her literary standing (while the two novellas accompanying hers in the volume are given a polite brush-off), or shall pretence be made that the horrid fall from grace never took place and all reference to it be buried in the hidden or sporadic science-fiction columns?

Most likely the latter course will be taken after no more than a bit of well-calculated soul-searching, however, for "Little Men" is a poor piece of work by anyone's critical standards and is outclassed both as science-fiction-

(concluded on page 8, column 1)

called "Dianetics, 1955", which is to be issued this December. "The format of this book is a photolithographic facsimile of the original manuscript", costs five dollars.

by Our Readers

THE MOSKOVITZ ANTHOLOGY (con't).

Newark, New Jersey
November 26, 1954

Dear Editor:

Bill Blackbeard asks why his particular review of Editor's Choice In Science Fiction was singled out for rebuttal and other critical reviews were not. The reason were given in my last letter.

- 1.) He panned the book for not selecting the "best story from each of the magazines picked". I pointed out that such an aim was never blurred, that the intention of the book was to have the editor select a previously unanthologized story which he thought outstanding.
- 2.) He went on record as saying the book had failed because no stories were printed that did not have the unanimous approval of the McBride staff and the editors of the magazines who picked them. He said that he preferred the magazine editor alone to be the sole authority, regardless of how good or poor a story they picked. He then criticised Dorothy McIlweath, editor of Weird Tales for choosing Far-Below by Robert Barbour Johnson, claiming that she could have picked a better one. I pointed out that this attitude was hypocritical and therefore invalidated his criticism.
- 3.) He intimated that I was falsifying when I stated that many of the stories had been publicly acclaimed when printed and he asked evidence to support such a statement in regard to specific stories. I supplied it and called attention to his lack of knowledge of science fiction history.

THE HAMLING INCIDENT

Now he accuses the book of being a

dishonest selection and reprints W. Lawrence Hamling's letter from Imagination to back his claim. I have replied to Hamling's letter and the false statements made by a reader named Donald A. Thompson in a subsequent issue of that magazine (to the effect that I did not use a story from Galaxy because I did not agree with Gold's selection). Readers of Fantasy-Times should write to Imagination and insist that Hamling be fair enough to print my rebuttal. Here is the inside story on what happened.

Originally Donald A. Wollheim was to have compiled Editors Choice In Science Fiction. When the publishers at McBride read the selections they felt they were too poor to publish and asked Wollheim to make a second round. Wollheim refused on the grounds that it would be embarrassing. McBride and Wollheim parted company. I was asked to edit the anthology. Thinking that it might be a case of publishers lack of knowledge I asked to see the selections Wollheim had obtained. With three or four exceptions they were almost unprintable. This was not Wollheim's fault, he had asked for selections and had gotten them. One editor, I strongly suspected of selecting a story by himself under a pen name. Another selected a story by a staff aid. Wollheim had no selections at that time from Galaxy, Fantasy and Science Fiction. I wondered why. I found out.

With only a few weeks to go we had to put together a top-drawer anthology. As a matter of pure ethics, (with the exception of my own magazine, Science-Fiction Plus), we decided to use none of the selections that had been given to Wollheim. We also decided to top some of the outstanding science fiction magazines of the past for a number of our selections.

Though Imagination features a more academic and less literary style of science fiction, we decided to include them to give our book balance. At the World Convention in Philadelphia in 1953 I had eaten dinner with W. Lawrence Hamling, his wife, Thaddeus Dikty and Judy May. At that table the short story Heir Unapparent by Alan E. Nourse from Imagination was mentioned and Hamling praised it fulsomely. Remembering

this, I air-mailed Hamling, suggesting that story for Editors Choice. Two weeks went by. Then I received a letter 48 hours before my press deadline from Hamling stating that he preferred Pattol by Richard H. Nelson. We would have used it except that this was the same selection he had given Wollheim. There was no time to recontact him. With considerable difficulty we rang in a last minute selection from Fantastic Story Magazine so that the book could go to press. Hamling, very unfairly chose to punish my book (because, he claimed, other anthologists had by-passed him), despite the fact that he received a letter of explanation from me before the issue with his trumped up accusations went to press.

He followed his comments with a false statement from Donald Thompson claiming that I had turned down Galaxy's selection. What are the facts?

I contacted Gold for a story. He was compiling The Second Galaxy Reader Of Science-Fiction and could not let any story go. After great difficulty I finally persuaded him to give me a selection. It was The Garden In The Void by Poul Anderson--an excellent story. I found that Fletcher Pratt had beaten me to it for an anthology of his own and understandably would not give it up. I went back to Gold who could not be persuaded to give me another selection. There is no statute on the books of NY State forcing an editor to give you a selection if he does not want to. I went to press without Galaxy.

In the case of Fantasy And Science Fiction I had a choice of six selections, all from the early issues of Fantasy And Science Fiction. They would not let us have any selections from recent issues. Fantasy And Science Fiction prints its own annual anthology, and is one of the most heavily anthologized fantasy magazines extant. None of us at McBride could unanimously agree that any one story was truly representative of the standard expected of Fantasy And Science Fiction. We went to press without a story from that magazine.

A FEARLESS SELECTION

Far from being a dishonest book,

The Editors Choice In Science Fiction is probably one of the most honest anthologies ever turned out. Why?

- 1.) We were out for quality first, and we set the highest standards.
- 2.) Readers were paying \$3.50 for the book, we did not want to give them previously anthologized material.
- 3.) We set out to give a selection of the entire science fiction field, not merely a segment.
- 4.) We did not limit an editors selection to recent material, as has been the policy of many anthologists.

If the book were not honest it would have taken selections only from currently published science fiction magazines. This would have insured good reviews and thereby improved sales. We did not do this, included instead selections from such great magazines of the past as Unknown, and Famous Fantastic Mysteries.

If the book were not honest it would not have taken selections from current magazines which had no book review departments! Yet we had stories from current magazines Thrilling Wonder Stories, Amazing Stories, Fantastic Story Magazine and Bluebook. None of which have book review departments and therefore would not even give us a plug.

If the book were not honest it would have used some of the choices of the previous compilation by Wollheim. By not doing this we incurred Hamling's wrath.

If the book were not honest it would have included one of the selections from Fantasy And Science Fiction even though it were not up to snuff, since Boucher reviews for the N.Y. Herald Tribune as well as his own magazine and we therefore ran the risk of antagonizing him.

If the book were not honest it would not have criticized the state of modern science fiction in its introduction. It would not have stated the method of story selection. It would not have printed so very many authors who were not "big names". It would not have criticized lazy anthologists who feel that a selection from the past two or three years of a few magazines is good enough for an anthology.

The end results is that we have come up with some wonderful stories, marvelously diverse in theme and method of relation. Stories that contain all the elements of good short story writing and the extra punch that science fiction and fantasy themes, well done, can bring to a story.

If not for this book, no one might ever have put into hard covers the beautiful All Roads by Mona Fransworth; the poignant Sublime Vigor by Chester D. Cuthbert with one of the most original ideas ever used in science fiction; the adroitly told Exit by Wilson Tucker, which while an early effort of the author, surpassed a European master in the handling of the theme, or Far Below by Robert Barbour Johnson, one of the greatest horror science fiction ever written. Modern anthologists were familiar with these stories, and with the exception of Tucker, none of them were "big names" that would help sell an anthology.

If not for this book even Arthur C. Clarke himself might have forgotten about his masterfully written Wall Of Darkness; only historians would have known of I, Robot by Isaac Asimov which was a turning point in the writing of robot stories in science fiction.

If not for this book no one would have recognized the Jack Kirland who wrote the expertly wrought world doom story Wall of Darkness as the important playwright who had brought Tabbacco Road to Broadway, and probably no one would have ever put between the covers of a science fiction or fantasy anthology Robert Chambers superb short masterpiece from The King In Yellow, The Demoiselle d'ys.

The Editors Choice In Science Fiction is a challenge to the field. It proves that science fiction is multi not single dimensioned. It shows that great science fiction stories have been published by many magazines in many eras. It is different! It is challenging! It is controversial! If you are a real science fiction fan it will be a revelation, and an education to read. It may be trite to say it this way, but in all truth, you owe it to yourself to read it and find out why it has aroused such a storm of controversy.

It is a book that may be hard for

VAMPIRA & ACKERMAN "GHOSTS OF HORROR"

Hollywood, Calif, 5 Nov. (CNS) - Vampira and Perry Ackerman were Ghosts of Horror here tonight at a midnight masquerade sponsored by the Chesley Donavan Science Fantasy Foundation. A pseudo-Dracula and Frankenstein were in attendance, the latter winning First prize for costumeing, as well as a Mad Scientist (and an array of Beautiful Young Daughters), a high priest of Egypt, a Bem from insectallia, and a variety of other masqueraders. Mari Wolf, Len Prynn, Walt Daugherty, Alvin Gorneshausen, Thelma Hamm, E. Everett Evans and Wendayne Ackerman were among those in attendance. FJA quoted dialog from the original "Frankenstein" and told of visiting the actual Castle in Germany in 1951, as well as recounting a fantastic anecdote involving Dr Keller and another concerning a ouija board and the name of Bradbury. Evening included an art exhibit of originals, from Bonestell to Bok, and fantasy charades with teams captained by Vampira and Dr Ackerman.

WEST COAST HOSTS EASTERN CELEBRITIES

Altho it is a little late for F-T to report these activities, as they happened in September, nevertheless it is concluded on page 8, column 1.

some quarters to stomach since by its selections it dramatizes the literary failure of recent trends in science fiction and offers an antidote for the poisons prevalent in science fiction writing today.

The importance of the book is amply testified by the violent reaction of a few of those who have not been included.

Sam Moskowitz
Readers of Fantasy-Times are invited to send in their comments on Fantasy-Times and the pro and fan field to this department, "Notes To The Editor". The editors will publish as many letters as they can in each issue.

by Michael Corper

Here is advance info. on Authentic, as supplied by Editor Campbell: November, 1954: Stories: "The Envied" (J. Burke), "It's Dark Out There" (S. J. Bounds), "Jean-Gone-Jeanne" (A. Reed), "Black Dawn Miracle" (P. J. Harzell); Articles: "Hallucinogen" (Ducan), "Gravity Of The Situation" (Byford).

December 1954: Stories: "Star Haven" (E. C. Tubb), "Date With The Past" (L. C. Brooks), "John Brown's Body" (S. J. Bounds), "Cleaning Fires" (Dan Morgan); Articles: "Invisible Daylight" (Byford), "Photography In Future" (Joy Goodwin).

January 1955: Stories: "Without Love" (Rick Strauss), "Conspiracy" (John Christopher), "Present From Mars" (M. Jordon), "Parting" (Peter J. Rigby); plus a 16-page artpaper supplement with many illos. in line and halftone, articles, features; which will be regular from Jan. '55 onwards.

Science-Fantasy No. 11, priced 2/-, is now out, featuring "Live Forever" (J. T. McIntosh), "Where's The Matter?" (Richard Rowland), "I Hear You Calling" (Eric-Frank Russell), "The Tooth" (G. Gordon Dowry), "The Enemy Within Us" (E. C. Tubb), "The Mailman" (Joseph Slotkin), "Co-Efficiency Zero" (Francis G. Rayer), "First Trip" (Sydney J. Bounds), "Dimple" (John Kippax). The cover is by him, from "Live Forever"; he also does interior illos, together with Hunter and Lewis. The next issue will have "The Wrong Track" (George Whitley), and material by Temple, Tubb, Dowry, Gardener, and Aldiss. The current issue, beside abovementioned stories also has a Guest Editorial by William F. Temple, "Standard Style"; an interesting comment on the modern way of writing.

The price of the magazine has been increased following an increase in production costs.

Two Nova Science Fiction Novels, at 2/-, 160 pp., will be coming out in the near future, a re van Vogt's "Weapon Shops Of Isher" and Wilson Tucker's "City In The Sea".

New Worlds No. 30 will have the first installment of a 3 part serial,

"Prisoner In The Skull" by Charles Dyo.

BRITISH REPRINT EDITIONS (BRE)

Science Fiction Quarterly, #7, 1/-, 96 pp., pulp size, contains "The Children Of Thon" (Cox, Jr.), "A Transmissible Matter" (Schmidt), "The Dry Spell" (Fritch), "Last Stand Of A Space Grenadier" (Grimmell), "The Monster or -- the Monster?" (Binder), "The Last Hero" (Wilton), "Audience Reaction" (Young), "Communicado" (Kath, MacLean); plus features. Cover is by Luros; interior illos by Luros, Orban, and Bibly. A special article is de Camp's "Stars In Their Courses".

Dynamic Science Fiction, #3, 1/-, 98 pp. including adverts., and unnumbered from page 82 onwards, gives us "The Chapter Ends" (Anderson), "The Final Figure" (Merwin, Jr.), "The Heat's On" (Woodruff), "Desire No More" (Budrys), "The Unwilling Professor" (Porges), "... So They Baked A Cake" (Marks); plus features, including part 2 of a survey on science-fiction by James Gunn. Cover by Luros; interior illos by Luros, Beecham, and Orban.

If #12, has "The Thing In The Attic" (Blish), "A Monster Named Smith" (Gunn), "Beauty And The Beast" (Young), "The Small World Of M-75" (Clinton, Jr.), "Fair and Varmer" (von Wald), "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?" (O'Hara), "The Big Stink" (Coggsell); and features. The cover is by Ken Fagg.

If #13, contains "The Unlearned" (Jones), "The Academy" (Sheckley), "Boing" (Matheson), "The Joy Of Living" (Nolan), "Exhibit Piece" (Dick), "Contact Point" (Anderson & Coggsell); plus features. Cover by Fagg. If costs 1/3 is digest size, and has 128 pages (The Us edition has 120 pages.)

All the above BREs are distributed in the UK by Thorpe & Porter, Oadby, Leicester.

Astounding Science Fiction for December 1954, contains "The Hunting Lodge" (Garrett), "Pyramid" (Abernathy), "The Distrurber" (Marks), "In The Beginning" (Klass), "Question and Answer" (Anderson; conclusion), and part one of an article, "Achilles And The Tortoise" (Gunter); plus departments. Cover is by Alejandro, and interior illos by Freas, Orban, and van Dongen.

(concluded on page 7, column 2)

SPACEWAY

joins lunatic fringe

Flushing, NY, 23 Dec., (GNS) - Without editorial-preamble, Bill Crawford's Los Angeles edited and published Spaceway (now Spaceway Science Fiction) has joined in its current (February, 1955) issue the heavy handed and almost desperate chase after the crackpot reader initiated by Ray Palmer in the old Ziff-Davis Amazing Stories and continued by that editor in his present non-science-fiction Fate and Destiny.

The February issue features only two items on its cover (out of some 13 in the issue), both of which make an appeal limited almost exclusively to the moronic or psychotic reader: "Criswell Predicts On Outer Space", and A. B. van Vogt on Dianetics*. The cover itself is a grisly affair, involving a photograph of a dissolute-looking Criswell sniffling inanely at what appears to be a flying battery emitting sparks.

The Criswell article is the most unspeakable mess of pure balderdash to see print in a "science-fiction" periodical in many, many moons. Those of a morbid turn of mind might flip through the article for laughs, at the newsstands.

The van Vogt piece, as might be expected, has at least a little surface rationality. One can at least respect van Vogt's interest in the subject, while utterly deploring the apparent loss of one of the field's top writing talents to this morass of senseless (and demonstrably dangerous) pseudo-psychoanalytic dithering.

The name-change taking place with

*Dianetics was introduced to the science-fiction world by Campbell in As-tounding Science Fiction, and has been judged by many as in the same class as Palmer's infamous "Shaver Mystery". Both editors now make a point of avoiding this type of trash in their science fiction magazines.

This issue, in which "Science-fiction" is added to the magazine's previous moniker adds insult to injury. Any resemblance between Spaceway with its present policy and a respectable science-fiction magazine is purely coincidental.

BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION NEWS (concluded from page 6, column 2)

The fight against horror comics is going on. The National Union Of Teachers (according to a report in the Times Chronicle, London, on November 20, 1954) staged a special exhibition of this type of publication, which was visited by parents, educationalists, church leaders, Members of Parliament, Police officials and journalists from half a dozen countries. Even the Soviet Izvestia's representative took pix of the display. So much interest has been aroused that the National Union Of Teachers are preparing 30 sets of film strips on the comics.

John Bull, a 4d. weekly magazine published from Long Acre, London, W.C.2, has in its November 20, 1954 issue a light story, "The Second Trip To Mars", by Ward Moore. It is illustrated.

"Journey Into Space", a BBC radio serial by Charles Chilton whose latest space story, "The Red Planet", which saw its 12th installment on the air, November 12, 1954, is published in book form at 9/6 by Herbert Jenkins, London.

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WEST COAST HOSTS EASTERN CELEBRITIES
(concluded from page 5, column 2)

is felt they are of sufficient interest to be given partial mention. Evelyn Gold, wife of Galaxy's editor, flew out to Southern Calif. prior to the World Con with Martin Greenberg of Gnome Press, and the pair were picked up at the airport by Forrest Ackerman, who whisked them to his home for a specially prepared soiree where they met Ray Bradbury, Chas. Beaumont, Mark Clifton, Helen Urban, Gordon Dawcy, Floyd Wallace, James Causey and a number other of the pro's who did not anticipate being able to attend the SFCon. Next day they were chauffeured about by the Henry Kuttners. Sam Moskowitz, visiting LA after the Con, was guest of honor at the famous local club, and afterwards at the home of the Ackermans, where a party was held in his honor with Paul Blaisdell, Dale Hart, Joan Cox, Charles Beaumont, Walt Liebscher, JELvans and many others in attendance.

FANTASY BOOKS

(concluded from page 2, column 2)

and as a literary effort by the adjoining novellas of Lester del Rey and Theodore Sturgeon. It seems unbelievable that this naive, humbling, pseudo-satirical work is by the author of the two excellent and extremely readable novels, Witch Diggers and Gress Dolhanty. The theme of "Little Men" is a natural one for an author who writes so well of childhood and adolescence -- by the peculiar chemistry of some mysterious disease, all children grow overnight to monstrous size and all adults shrink to infantile heights -- but her obvious attempts to deal tellingly, through its reversal, of the great weight more size plays in child-parent relationships, comes to naught in the labored prose with which she attempts to handle a clumsy plot and a set of the most wooden characters since David H. Keller. Yet the story is not altogether without charm, and in parts, at least, may prove palatable to some tastes. (The college professor for whom it was probably written as a term assignment years ago may have liked it very much.)

Theodore Sturgeon's novella, "To

Here and the Easel", is another of the author's completely delightful fantasies written in the rich, heady prose he perhaps wisely aschows in his formal science-fiction work. The story's theme deals with the "wellsprings" of artistic inspiration and how they may be replenished when apparently dry; and the plot involves a painter who pops inadvertently from his twentieth century studio into the fantasy world of Orlando Furioso -- last used as a story background in Pratt and de Camp's Castle Of Iron --- without any immediately apparent rhyme or reason. The novella is certainly worth the time of the reader, except for that sensitive soul too allergic to puns to enjoy any material in which they are to be found in abundance -- and there are more here, be he warned, than in any science-fiction or fantasy story.

"For I Am A Jealous People", by Lester del Rey, proves to be the piece de resistance of this collection. A story strangely reminiscent of Sinclair Lewis' It Can't Happen Here in mood and handling, the novella seems to begin as a routine alien invasion story, but rapidly introduces and develops its true theme. Since much of the effect of the del Rey story depends on surprise, nothing further will be said here concerning this theme -- or the plot, with which it is closely interwoven. It's a pity, though, that the Ballentine series has no letter column, for the controversy that would have sprung up about this story in such a column might have been springtly indeed -- very springtly.

On the strength of the Sturgeon and the del Rey items, then, I would recommend a hardbound copy of this book for your permanent shelf.

(CORRECTION: it has been pointed out to this reviewer with some vehemence by various fans that pocketbook cover artist Powers has had covers on science-fiction magazines, Galaxy in particular, in contradiction to what was said in this column in Fantasy-Times #207. I'm glad to know this, and grateful for the correction. -JEL)

COME TO THE "5TH ANNIVERSARY FANTVET CONVENTION", SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1955, at Werdemann's Hall, 3rd Av & E 16 St, N.Y.C.

FANTASY - TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today"
(S.F. Newsscope & Fantasy-Comics)

Published semi-monthly
by FANDOM HOUSE.

U.S. & CANADIAN RATES: 10¢ a copy, 12 for \$1, or \$2 for one (24 issues) year from FANDOM HOUSE, P. O. Box 2331, Paterson 23, New Jersey.

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, and 1 lb. for 24 issues, from ROGER DARD, 232 James St., PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

James V. Taurasi, and Ray Van Houten,
Editors and Publishers.
Phones: New York: FLushing 8-5025,
Paterson: LAMBERT 5-5890.

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

Fantasy-Times founded 1941.
FANDOM HOUSE founded 1937.

Advertisements: \$5.00 a full page, \$3 a half page. In photo-offset, \$15 a full page (photos and special reduction extra) FANDOM HOUSE, P.O. Box 2331, Paterson 23, New Jersey

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"BEYOND #10 DELAYED ONE MONTH
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

16 pages in the near future.

Galaxy S F Novels continue with no changes.

Mr. Guinn informed us that Galaxy now has a radio program every morning at 3 AM over station CAM out of Philadelphia at 1210 on the dial. Stories from Galaxy are read, with voices taking the characters' parts.

"ASTOUNDING" IS 25 YEARS OLD
(concluded from page 1, column 2)

fiction: The first pulp-size s-f magazine; the first digest-size; the first to sell under 25¢, (the original price was 20¢); the first s-f magazine published by a "string of pulp" publisher; the first pulp size s-f magazine to have trimmed edges; and many, many others.

Our sincere congratulations to: John W. Campbell, Jr. and Street and Smith for a job well done.

SLICK SCIENCE FICTION

by Donald E. Ford

TIME reports 2 deaths of people known to science-fiction fandom:

Time, Nov. 29: A. Hyatt Verrill,

Time, Dec. 6, Enrico Fermi.

A. Hyatt Verrill is well remembered for his many short stories, novelettes,

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Paterson 23, New Jersey.

and novels in Amazing Stories from 1926 to 1955.

Doc Barrett stopped off to see Verrill in Florida this year, along in June or July. He lived out in the palmettos and the road was a trail through those, so little used & faintly marked that one of the local citizens drove out there first so he could follow. He lived out from Chiefland, Florida.

They were building a house of their own (Verrill, his wife, and Son-in-Law) out of available materials. They had trouble keeping dogs around the place as the coral snakes kept them constantly killed off! At the time Doc Barrett was there, he'd recently suffered a stroke and his speech was somewhat slowed as a result. However, Doc, said his mind was as clear as ever.

The December issue of Astounding carried an interesting exchange of letters/views between Verrill & P. Schuyler Miller.

Enrico Fermi achieved the first nuclear chain reaction and thus began the present Atomic Age. He died of Cancer, a disease that would probably been cured by medical techniques stemming from his own Atomic discoveries, had he lived long enough.

Fermi was asked to be guest of honor at CHICON II, but for some reason or other turned it down.

"1954 IN SCIENCE FICTION" by Thomas S. Gardner, Fantasy-Times' annual review of the pros, begins in the next, 1st January 1955 issue.



Franklin M Dietz Jr 221
156 W Main St
Kings Pk LI NY

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