

Fourteenth Year Of Publication

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 10 - #219

SECOND MARCH 1955 ISSUE

Ten Cents

JULES SALTMAN LEAVES "ORBIT SCIENCE FICTION"

NO SCHEDULE FOR "COSMOS" OR "ORBIT"

New York, NY, 15 March, (CNS) - News arrived today that Jules Saltman is no longer connected with the Hanro Corp, publishers of Orbit Science Fiction, and that no new editor has been appointed to take his place. Actually while Mr. Saltman was the official editor of Orbit, Donald A. Wollheim was the actual buying editor. Orbit has seen no new issue since mid-1954 and no new issue is scheduled at the present time.

Cosmos Science Fiction, like Orbit has not seen a new issue since mid-1954 when its official publication schedule was changed from bi-monthly to quarterly. Also like Orbit, the publishers have no schedule for a new issue at the present time.

At best, these two magazines never had an actual tight schedule of publication and are considered by many as "one-shot" magazines.

2nd "FANTASY & S F" OUT IN AUSTRALIA

by Roger Dard

Perth, W. Australia, 7 March (CNS) - The Magazine Of Fantasy & Science Fiction, Australian edition, #2 and published by The Consolidated Press Ltd., 168 - 174 Castlereagh St., Sydney, Australia, is now on the newsstands priced at 2/-, and
(concluded on page 4, column 2)

S.R.O. PREVIEW OF "MAN IN SPACE"

Hollywood, Cal, 3 March (CNS) - Largest congregation of science-fiction professionals in Southern California history dominated the crowd of an estimated 500 here at the Walt Disney Studios tonite for a theatrical projection in technicolor of the hour long feature seen generally by the rest of the country only in black-&-white on TV. Special showing was sponsored by the American Broadcasting Co. G. Gordon Dewey and Forrest J Ackerman devoted over a day in contacting writers and important fans as far as 50 mi. away by phone and special delivery. Even the legendary Henry Kuttners (she is Catherine Moore, he is Lewis Padgett at alia) turned out for the occasion, which marked the assemblage under one roof of Chad Oliver, Charles Beaumont, Ray Bradbury, Kris Neville, Mari Wolf, James Schmitz, Curt Siodmak, Ross Rocklynne, A E van Vogt, E. Mayne Hull, Mel Sturges, Frank Quattrochi, Rick Strauss, Helen Urban, Len Pruyn, artist Paul Blaisdell, R. DeWitt Miller, Ford McCormack, Ed M. Clinton jr, Arthur Cox and his fan alter ego Juan, and many others. All got a kick out of seeing "our" Willy Ley on the screen, and the production was in general enthusiastically received, chiefest criticism centering around the artwork where it was felt the picture could have been improved by employing the talents of Bonestell, Leydenfrost, Schomburg, Blaisdell, Schneeman or some
(concluded on page 4, column 2)

THE FANTASY RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES OUT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING FEBRUARY, 1955:

| N A M E | D A T E | P R I C E | P A G E S | S I Z E | D A T E O N S T A N D S | S C H E D U L E |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Fantastic Universe S F | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 128 | Digest | Feb. 3. '55 | Monthly |
| Imagination | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Feb. 7. '55 | Monthly |
| Galaxy Science Fiction | March '55 | 35¢ | 144 | Digest | Feb. 7. '55 | Monthly |
| If, Worlds Of S F | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 120 | Digest | Feb. 8. '55 | Monthly |
| Amazing Stories* | May '55 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Feb. 10. '55 | Bi-Monthly |
| Astounding Science Fiction | March '55 | 35¢ | 162 | Digest | Feb. 15. '55 | Monthly |
| Spaceway Science Fiction | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 128 | Digest | Feb. 15. '55 | Bi-Monthly |
| Science Fiction Quarterly | May '55 | 25¢ | 98 | Pulp | Feb. 24. '55 | Quarterly |
| Fantasy & Science Fiction | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 128 | Digest | Feb. 24. '55 | Monthly |
| Galaxy Science Fiction | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 144 | Digest | Feb. 26. '55 | Monthly |

During February, 10 s/f magazines came out. I was a pulp and 9 were digest-size. The pulp cost 25¢ and the digests \$3.15, making a total of \$3.40. The pulp contained 98 pages; the digests 1,214 pages; making a total of 1,312 pages.

*First issue with revived Fan Mag Review column, expanded readers' column, editorial, and book review column.

NOT SCIENCE/FANTASY. BUT OF INTEREST:

| | | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----|-----|--------|--------------|------------|
| Fate | March '55 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Feb. 1. '55 | Monthly |
| Mystic | Apr. '55 | 35¢ | 130 | Digest | Feb. 16. '55 | Bi-Monthly |

RECEIVED FROM ENGLAND DURING FEBRUARY, 1955:

| N A M E | D A T E | P R I C E | P A G E S | S I Z E | S C H E D U L E | T Y P E |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Tops In Science Fiction | #2 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | ----- | US reprint |
| Authentic Science Fiction | Dec. '54 | 1/6 | 144 | P.B.* | Monthly | British |
| Authentic Science Fiction | Jan. '55 | 1/6 | 144 | P.B.* | Monthly | British |
| Fate** | Feb. '55 | 1/- | 100 | Digest | Monthly | British & US |
| Supernatural Stories | #5 | 1/6 | 132 | P.B.* | Bi-Monthly | British |
| Galaxy Science Fiction | #22 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | Monthly | US reprint |
| Amazing Stories | V1-#8 | 1/6 | 128 | Digest | Bi-Monthly | US reprint |
| Science Fiction Quarterly | #6 | 1/- | 98 | Pulp | ----- | US reprint |

*P.B. - Pocket book size. **Not s/f, but of interest.

THE AUSTRALIAN FANTASY RECORD

by Roger Dard

| N A M E | D A T E | P R I C E | P A G E S | S I Z E | S C H E D U L E | T Y P E | M O N T H O U T |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| American Science Fiction* | #30* | 9d | 34 | Digest | Ap. Monthly | US* | Dec. '54 |
| American Science Fiction* | #31* | 9d | 34 | Digest | Ap. Monthly | US** | Jan. '55 |
| American Science Fiction* | #32* | 9d | 34 | Digest | Ap. Monthly | US** | Feb. '55 |
| American Science Fiction* | #33* | 9d | 34 | Digest | Ap. Monthly | US** | Mar. '55 |
| Fantasy & Science Fiction | #2*** | 2/- | 128 | Digest | Ap. Monthly | US** | Mar. '55 |

* American Science Fiction is actually undated and unnumbered. I have assigned these numbers (and the months they appeared) purely for convenience.

United States reprints. *F&SF is just numbered and not dated.

by Our Readers

King-Size Publications, Inc.
471 Park Avenue
New York 22, New York
February 2nd, 1955

Dear Jimmy,

What are the aims of a magazine that tries to be different - and is bound, to some extent, by the rigid controls of submitted manuscripts? Why shouldn't there be one magazine, at least, that strives to please the masses - those untold thousands and thousands who are willing and even anxious to know this new (to them) thing called science fiction and fantasy? Why shouldn't there be that magazine for the masses instead of only for the few? And why should the few misjudge a magazine because of its ambitions and aims?

Long before we started publication of FANTASTIC UNIVERSE I made an extensive reading and analyses of the science fiction magazines of the past few years. I didn't concern myself too much over the past - for I had been an integral part of that past as an editor for over twenty years. And several obvious considerations left a rather deep impression on me.

I believe that the trend in general, among the leading contenders in the field, has been towards an ever increasing specialization larded with variety and the spice of excitement. It appeared that this specialization had gone too far, and had become self-defeating.

However, I decided I would not abandon it completely. I would retain its good aspects and reject the too self-limiting bad. It seemed to me that one story in four or five should be of a specialized type, appealing to that wide group of readers who knows science and likes technical themes handled with brilliance, originality and daring.

The fan audience is extremely limited, but does form a solid core of enthusiasts, and enthusiasm acts as a dynamic mechanism for securing a wider circle of readers.

Those who prefer consistently specialized stories comprise the largest group of potential readers; engineers, physicians, college professors, chemis-

ts, biologists, lab workers in all branches of the natural sciences. And many readers of science fiction who bought the magazines from the very start, having acquired across the years a specialized approach and a partiality to science fiction. This discriminating audience is certainly twenty or thirty times as large as the fan audience. But it shares the contagious enthusiasm of the fan audience in general.

Let us try to group some of these specializations in the field of science fiction and fantasy.

Fantasy appears today to be somewhat a shade less popular than science fiction. But there is a large group who would be far more likely to read a science fiction magazine at random on the newsstands if their fantasy preferences could be stimulated by the inclusion only of two or more fantasy yarns in an issue. Some editors have often stressed that a good many readers write in protesting the occasional inclusion of a fantasy story, but are tremendously enthusiastic about fantasy stories when they actually appear thinly disguised as science fiction.

Science fantasy has an edge, I think, over pure fantasy. And it seems to me that as many as three strong fantasy yarns might safely be included in an issue and that their inclusion would be enjoyed by the majority of readers.

Stories with a wide, universal reader appeal are the backbone of any good magazine. The completely unspecialized story, basing its appeal on easily grasped, realizable future science, dynamic character conflict, intellectual curiosity - and intellectual curiosity does have a wide appeal - and humorous, pathetic, tragic and startling surprise twists, should certainly predominate in a magazine aimed at a capacious audience in the science fiction field.

The plot story, pure and simple, is a rare and difficult story to write. I've never been too keen about stories that base their appeal primarily on ingenious plotting in science fiction. It's a pulp tendency which I think even the wider audience doesn't like any more. But an occasional story of this type should certainly not be frowned on, and when that aspect accompanies the more vital ingredients - it would be carping to object to it.

The poetic story - a recent offshoot - the story which stresses Man's sense of awe and mystery and high adventures in the presence of the unknown - can be a thing of soul searching beauty. If written with conviction, such stories pack a memorable emotional wallop. It seems to me that at least three or four stories in every issue should be the poetical, philosophical type, since it is in just such stories that the peculiar genius of science fiction - which sets it apart from all other forms of entertainment - resides.

And as for the odd character story, the incredible child, the hidden superman, the little people just below the hill with their incredible shining plans, I'm all for 'em.

Then there's the realistic documentary, pure and simple. I'm in favor of that too, but perhaps one to an issue would best ring the bell.

Add them all up - and you'll know why we publish a round dozen stories in each issue of FANTASTIC UNIVERSE. Our eager aim is to make it the one universal magazine in the field. Long serials - book-length novels - have no place in our editorial scheme of things. For a quarter you can buy these in the pocket-size books. Variety is our target and we aim for good writing, recognizable science, understandable fantasy and our constantly growing-in-appeal attempt is FANTASTIC UNIVERSE.

We're after new readers - old readers, new writers - old writers.

Sincerely yours,


LEO MARGULIES

(Thank you, Leo, for a most interesting letter, I'm sure our readers will write in commenting on it. Their letters will appear in future issues of Fantasy-Times. -eds)

December 29, 1954

Mr. Taurasi & Mr. Van Houten,

It is good to know that Fantasy-Times is still in there pitching. The magazine has been late but at least it still comes; a number of the better fan magazines seem to have called it quits.

I feel that the "recession" in the field will continue for another year, an upswing to take place in late 1955 or early 1956.

Best wishes for your 300th anniversary number.



Pvt. Edward Wood

(Thank you, Fantasy-Times has been on tight schedule since the Fall of '54, & while before that we were late, at times, no issues were skipped. Actually the "recession" is over, tho we will go along with you and state that the real upswing will not come about until early 1956. We are now in what could be called the "adjustment" phase of the "recession". We expect to be around for quite a number of issues past our forthcoming 300th anniversary issue. Hope to have you aboard then too. -eds)

2nd "FANTASY & S F" OUT IN AUSTRALIA
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

128 pages. Cover is from the January 1954 U S edition. Contents: "One In Three Hundred" by J. T. McIntosh; "The Star Duck" by Bill Brown; "Superiority" by Arthur C. Clarke; "Gavagan's Bar" by de Camp & Pratt; "The Fun They Had" by Isaac Asimov; "Time Is The Traitor" by Alfred Bester; "The Liberator" by Arthur Perges; "Rustle Of Wings" by Fredric Brown; "Judgement Planet" by Idris Seabright; "Captive Audience" by Ann Warren Griffith. Same size, format, logo, etc. as the 1st Australian issue.

"MAN IN SPACE"

(concluded from page 1, column 2)

of the other excellent sci fi artists.

Postmortems were held on MAN IN SPACE as the Kuttners drove the Bradburys home; at a postmidnite party at Helen Urban's, attended by 15; at a roundtable rendezvous consisting of the Deweys, the van Vogts, the Ackermans and the Vincent Shermans (he the well-known movie director now interested in a space station story and SLAN); and all agreed it was regrettable that s.f. enthusiasts and the public alike could not see MAN IN SPACE in color in a show.

WANTED: Toy Train catalogs before 1946, The Marx electric Army train; Marx Hoco #333 and the Marx "Mickey Mouse" windup train set. James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Avenue, Flushing 54, New York.

Coming U. Next In The Pros

FANTASY AND SCIENCE-FICTION

Volume 8, Number 6 - June 1955:

"Your're Another" (novelet) by Damon Knight, "Survival" (verse) by Carlyn Coffin, "Created He Them" by Alice Eleanor Jones, "The Soul of Laploshka" by Saki, "The Adventure of the Ball of Nostradamus" by Mack Reynolds & August Derleth, "The Faithful Friend" by Evelyn E. Smith, "Astronomy Lesson" by Willard Marsh, "Recommended Reading" (a department) by The Editor, "Walk Like a Mountain" by Manly Wade Wellman, "A Slice of Life" by P. G. Wodehouse, "The New Sound" by Charles Beaumont, "Artifact" (short novelet) by Chad Oliver, and the Index to Volume 8. Cover by George Salter.

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE

conducted by J. Harry Vincent

Mark Reinsberg, old-time Chicago science-fiction fan and 1940 Chicom Chairman is now teaching English at Chicago's Wright Junior College where he has assigned a science-fiction book, THE DEMOLISHED MAN by Alfred Bester (Shaster Publishers \$5.00; Signet Books 25¢), to his two English Composition courses as required reading.

The South is planning "The First Annual Southeastern Science Fiction Conference" THE AGACON, on April 2 and 3, 1955. It is sponsored jointly by The Atlanta Science Fiction Organization and The Charlotte Science Fiction Club.

The conference will officially begin at 10 AM on Sat. with a brief registration period. Feature speakers for that afternoon include Robert A. Madle Dr. J. B. Rhine (international authority on Extra Sensory Preception), and Theodore R. Cogswell (prominent science fiction author). There will also be a panel devoted to amateur science-fiction periodicals and a discussion by members of the Cleveland (13th World) S-F Convention committee.

Saturday evening will bring the

by Donald E. Ford

Time, February 28, 1955:

Article on Hi-Fi. Notice that the Air Force has their first nuclear reactor going at Convair's Forth Worth Plant.

Time, March 7, 1955:

MEDICINE has an article: PILLS FOR THE MIND, A NEW ERA IN PSYCHIATRY. Gives latest results on tests with Reserpine, and Chlorpomazine. Worth reading.

SCIENCE mentions two new picture tubes developed for TV, one 3" thick & the other as ~~thick~~ as 2 sheets of glass.

Saturday Evening Post, March 5, 1955:

INSIDE ROCKET TEST CHAMBER by Ronald M. Deutsch. An article about the Calif Institute of Technology Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Nice layout with photos, etc but nothing of any great interest here.

In the back of the mag, the author of the article mentions Mari Wolf as a calculating-machine operator at the lab who writes science-fiction. She's quoted as saying she gets no ideas for stories working here, as they're too old hat.

showing of a science-fiction or a fantasy film and an auction.

On Sunday, the 3rd, activities will center around a banquet lasting from noon to well in the afternoon.

Required registration fee, \$1.00. Banquet tickets \$5.00. For more information write: THE AGACON, 57 East Park Lane, Atlanta 5, Georgia.

Sam Moskowitz and Robert Frazier's school for science fiction writers will not operate for the current semester, as no pupils, except two from the last class showed up. Sam Moskowitz is now in Chicago attending a Frozen Food convention, in connection with a Frozen Food trade journal he edits.

For the finest convention of the Eastern United States, come to the 5th Fanvet Convention, on Sunday April 17, at Wardemann's Hall, 3rd Ave., & East 16th Street, New York City. NO ADMISSION FEE of anykind. Just register and walk in. TOP NOTCH SERAGERS & AUCTION.

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(all above edited by Bleiler & Dikty)

BRACHHEADS IN SPACE: ed by A.W. Derleth

WORLDS OF TOMORROW: ed by A. W. Derleth

FROM OFF THIS WORLD: edited by Margulies
and Friend

ADVENTURES IN TOMORROW: ed K.F. Crossen

BEYOND THE VISIBLE by H. C. Campbell

MESSIAH ON THE HORIZON by Solomon Cruso

FAR BOUNDARIES: ed by A. W. Derleth

TALES FROM UNDERWOOD by David H. Keller

WORLDS OF WONDER: ed by Fletcher Pratt

BORN IN CAPTIVITY by Bryan Berry

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THE TRITONIAN RING & OTHERS - L.S. deCamp

THE PETRIFIED PLANET (three novels:

"Daughter Of Earth" by Judith Merril,

"Uller Uprising" by H. Beam Piper,

"The Long View" by Fletcher Pratt.)

THE WORLD BELOW by S. Fowler Wright

JUDGEMENT NIGHT by C.L. Moore

THE MIXED MEN by A. E. van Vogt

ICEWORLD by Hal Clement

FEAR & TYPEWRITER IN THE SKY by Hubbard

ANTHRO, THE LIFE GIVER by J.J. Deegan

BLUE ASP by Rand Le Page

THE SHADOW GIRL by Ray Cummings

CLOAK OF AESIR by John W. Campbell, Jr.

THE TORCH by Jack Bechdolt

COSMIC ENGINEERS by Clifford D. Simak

SLAVES OF SLEEP by L. Ron Hubbard

THE STARS ARE OURS by H. K. Bulmer

TWENTY FOUR HOURS by Neil Charles

(continued - right hand column)

FANDOM HOUSE

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(continued from left hand column)

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THE WEAPON MAKERS by A. E. van Vogt

TIME AND AGAIN by Clifford D. Simak

VENUS EQUILATERAL by George O. Smith

WINE OF DREAMERS by J. D. Mac Donald

FROM WHAT FAR STAR? by Bryan Berry

SKETEE SHOCK by Will Stewart

WITHOUT SORCERY by Theodore Sturgeon

THE CASTLE OF IRON by de Camp & Pratt

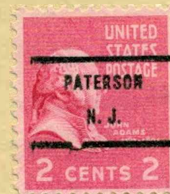
NOMAD by George O. Smith

JACK OF EAGLES by James Blish

ATOMS IN ACTION by Roy Sheldon

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