

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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FIRST APRIL 1955 ISSUE

Ten Cents

PRATT SUES RAYMOND AWARDED \$1,600

New York, NY, 24 March, (CNS) - It was reported today that Fletcher Pratt has sued John Raymond and Future Publications for a sum a little more than \$1,600. The sum covered Fletcher Pratt's services as an editor of John Raymond's Fantasy Fiction and for material that he, Pratt, had bought for that magazine. Judge Choen, of a New York Municipal Court, awarded Mr. Pratt \$1,600. The case is not as yet closed as Mr. Raymond can appeal the decision.

Fletcher Pratt took over the editorship of Fantasy Fiction from Lester del Rey, with the 5th issue. This 5th issue never appeared, as Mr. Raymond killed it when it was about ready to be printed. The magazine was published under the firm's name of Future Publications.

SHASTA REPORTED BEING SUED BY 3 SF AUTHORS

Flushing, NY, 24 March, (CNS) - A report has come in from a very reliable source today that three science-fiction authors, Raymond F. Jones, William F. Jenkins and John W. Campbell, Jr., are suing Shaster Publications of Chicago for alleged non-payment of science-fiction books published by Shasta by the three writers. It is further alleged that Shasta Publications has sold pocket book rights of two of Campbell's
(concluded on page 4, column 1)

PALMER "RELEASES" CIRCULATION FIGURES

Flushing, NY, 23 March, (CNS) - Ray Palmer in his "new" Other Worlds releases some circulation figures on his and other science-fiction magazines. He claims that his magazine has a 30,000 circulation, while Amazing Stories has about 45,000. He claims that Bill Hamling states that Astounding has a circulation of about 72,000 and that Galaxy has about 60,000. He further claims that Bill Hamling's Imagination has about a 40,000 circulation.

Speaking about the "old-days" when he was editing Amazing and publishing Shaver Mysteries, Amazing had a 185,000 circulation, meaning that Amazing since then has lost 145,000 readers.

Palmer further states that: "The FACT is that MYSTIC and FATE are the new up and comers! The new phase of "fantasy" in literature. Stf is washed up. So far as the mass of the public is concerned".

It is interesting to note that the circulation figures given out by Palmer tie up very well with the figures given out by Sam Moskowitz at the 1954 Philly Conference. Which, by the way, no editor or publisher has yet to differ with. It is safe to state then that even with the "boom" of 1939 and the early 1950s, science-fiction has yet to
(concluded on page 4, column 1)

by Stephen J. Takacs

RECENT HARDCOVER S/F BOOKS:

THE TREASURY OF SCIENCE FICTION CLASSICS, edited by Harold Kuebler, Harcourt House, NY, \$2.95.

SHADOWS IN THE SUN by Chad Oliver, Ballantine, \$2.00.

STAR SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, edited by Fred Pohl, Ballantine, \$2.00 (#3)

TYRANT OF TIME by Lloyd A. Eshbach, Fantasy Press, Reading, Pa., \$3.00.

EXPLORING MARS by R. S. Richardson, McGraw Hill Book Co., NY, \$4.00. (non-fiction).

THE OTHER PLACE by J. B. Priestley, Harper & Bros., NY, \$3.00. (a collection of supernatural stories).

ALL ABOUT THE FUTURE, edited by Martin Greenberg, Gnome Press, NY, \$3.50.

EARTHTMAN, COME HOME by James Blish, Putnam, NY, \$3.50.

THE MOUSE THAT ROARED by Leonard Wibberley, Little, Brown, \$3.50.

EARTHLIGHT by Arthur C. Clarke, Ballantine Books, NY, \$2.75.

UNDER THE TRIPLE SUNS by Stanton A. Coblentz, Fantasy Press, \$3.00.

SCIENCE FICTION TERROR TALES, edited by Groff Conklin, Gnome Press, \$3.50.

RECENT POCKET-SIZED PAPER BOUND BOOKS:

SPACE TUG by Murray Leinster, Pocket Books, Inc., NY, 25¢.

YOU SHALL KNOW THEM by "Vercors" Pocket Books, Inc., 25¢.

FALSE NIGHT by Algis Budrys, Lion Books, NY, 25¢.

THE ALTERED EGO by Jerry Sohl, Bantam Books, NY, 25¢.

THE LIGHTS IN THE SKY ARE STARS by Fredric Brown, Bantam Books, NY, 25¢.

THE CHAOS FIGHTERS by Robert Moore Williams, Ace Books, NY, 25¢.

THIRD FROM THE SUN by Richard Matheson, Bantam Books, NY, 25¢.

WAR WITH THE NEUTS by Karel Capek, Bantam Books, NY, 35¢.

EARTHLIGHT by Arthur C. Clarke, Ballantine Books, NY, 35¢.

ESCAPE TO NOWHERE by David Karp, Lion Books, NY, 35¢.

THE DELUGE by Leonardo da Vinci (edited and concluded on page 4, column 1)

by Forrest J Ackerman

HEINLEIN, Neville, Merrill, Campbell (Bert of Britain), Ackerman, and a Russian author are the odd admixture keeping company in the first issue of Japan's Seiun (Nebula). Hepfen will recognize the original titles of "A Mother's Pride" (Merrill) and Heinlein's "Earth's Green Mountains". Japan has produced a King Kong of its own, a 200' tall prehistoric monster that batters down modern Tokyo: this spectacular scientifilm, titled GOJILLA, will show in Los Angeles during April.

The new pocketbook outfit, Berkley Books, has scheduled a cheap reprint of the Conklinthology, Possible Worlds of Sci-Fi (rhymes with hi-fi)...Ken Crossen coming up at Rinehart with "The Splintered Man". (I should have said, This will fracture you.) /Or should I?.... ASIMOV, Ackerman, Andre Norton, Arthur sold to the Post. The New York Post, that is. Sunday supplement of the latter is featuring an s.f. series, which will include "There Shall Come Soft Rains" by Bradbury, "Donovan's Brainstorm" by Ackerman, and other reprints.

PLAYBOY has just paid a \$150 pre-publication bonus on Charles Beaumont's The Crooked Man, making a fantastic 21¢ a word that's changed hands on this story prior to its printing, which is tentatively scheduled for the pre-Convention issue. Other anthologists are too late, it already having been signed up for MR SCIENCE FICTION SELECTS. Incidentally, it was originally rejected by a market that could have had it for a hundred dollars—not, for the records, that the editor didn't perceive its merits and yearn to publish it...

PEN has purchased an original by David Grimmell, "The Egg from Alpha Centauri", is now considering "Martian Legend" by R. DeWitt Miller, which Empire's well-paying editor "wanted so bad we could taste it" but was afraid of readership (400,000) reaction to a taboo...To boo or not to boo: see The Witch Returns to Life (Finnish fantasy film) for the laff of a lifetime: the censors have scrapped the heroine "pure" frame by frame! This sexless nude is REALLY fantastic. Don't go, Sturgeon, you'd be regurgin'.

Record Crowd Expected At 5th Fanvet Convention

AUCTION MATERIAL PILING UP

Paterson, NJ, 24 March, (FVN) - Convention Committee Chairman, Ray Van Houten announced today that the FANVET CONVENTION COMMITTEE foresees a large crowd at the coming 5th ANNIVERSARY FANVET CONVENTION. With some of the most authorized speakers of the science-fiction field: JAMES L. QUINN, editor and publisher of If; THEODORE STURGEON, winner of the 1954 International Fantasy Award for his book, "More Than Human"; JOHN W. CAMPBELL, JR., author and editor of Astounding; ED EMMH, top-flight cover and interior artist of the fantasy and s-f field; DAMON KNIGHT, fan author, former editor of Worlds Beyond; WILLIAM M. GAINES, publisher of Mad, Incredible S-F and other EC comics; and SAM MOSKOWITZ, fan, author, anthologist, and editor, who will keynote the program. These experts will review the current "Recession" in science-fiction and tell us "Where We'll Go From Here"; they will attempt to find the solution to the poor sales magazines, books and pocket-books of science/fantasy have been having. The discussion session at the evening portion of the convention, should bring many, many interesting questions and mighty interesting answers from the whole gathering.

Aside from the speakers, the following well-known science-fiction personnel will be at the convention: HARRY HARRISON, LEO & MRS. MARGULIES, EVELYN PAGE GOLD, MARY GNAEDINGER, The Entire New York Staff of Fantasy And Science Fiction, WILLY LEY, ALAN NOURSE, - MORT WEISINGER, ARTHUR J. BURKS, RICHARD WILSON, DONALD M. GRANT, THOMAS S. GARDNER, JOHN VICTOR PETERSON, JOHN GIUNTA, ALGIS BUDRYS, ALAN SAMALMAN, and many many others. ROBERT M. QUINN and HOWARD BROWNE will be down if business permits.

The Convention Committee is attempting to obtain for the movie program, the first Tarzan film, "Tarzan Of

The Apes" with Elmo Lincoln.

The GIANT AUCTION should be a high light of the convention with 4 Paul-paintings of the old Wonder Stories donated by Frank R. Paul and passed on to the FANVETS by Standard Magazines. From Ziff-Davis we have numerous current covers and many interiors. From S-F Adventures we have some fine interiors. From Columbia, many, super interiors. We also expect art work from Ray Palmer and James L. Quinn and others. Also for auction are some rare Astoundings, Weird Tales, Tales Of Wonder, autographed copies of Fantasy & Science Fiction, the forthcoming August cover proofs of Fantasy & Science Fiction by Mel Hunter and signed by the artist, covers and interiors from Standard Magazines, autographed copies of Weird Science (autographed by Ray Bradbury and the entire comic staff); and numerous other rare collector's items.

This year the FANVET Convention Committee has obtained the "Big Hall" at Werdermann's Hall. It is located at the same address, 3rd Avenue and East 16th Street, but on the second floor. It contains a built-in loud speaker-system and will seat 400 persons. At the back of the hall is a built-in bar which will be opened for those attending and sell the usual beverages, plus soft drinks.

All of you who can make it are invited down. THERE WILL BE NO ADMISSION CHARGE OF ANY KIND, and no collection will be taken up at the convention. You just sign the register and walk into one of the finest conventions ever held.

Remember that all the profits of the convention will be turned over to the FANVETS to mail magazines and books to persons in the US Armed Forces Overseas and to set up s-f libraries in all Veterans Hospitals in the US.

REMEMBER THE DATE: Sunday, April 17th 1955, at Werdermann's Hall, 3rd Avenue at East 16th Street, New York City. The Convention begins at 1 PM Sharp. See you there.

SHASTA REPORTED BEING SUED
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

books without having the right to do so and without the permission of the author. It is also alleged that Campbell received no payment for this.

One of Fantasy-Times' staff reporters investigating the sales of Shasta books brought to light that many of Shasta books are being offered as remainders by New York Wholesellers for as little as 30¢ a volume.

PALMER "RELEASES" CIRCULATION FIGURES
(concluded from page 1, column 2)

hit the mass of the reading public. It is still a specialized field.

SCIENTI-BOOKS
(concluded from page 2, column 1)

ited by Robert Payne, Lion Books, 25¢.
THE BODY SNATCHERS by Jack Finney, Dell Pub. Co., NY, 25¢.

ONE AGAINST ETERNITY by A. E. van Vogt and THE OTHER SIDE OF HERE by Murray Leinster, (both in one book) Ace Books, Inc., 35¢.

SCIENCE FICTION TERROR TALES, edited by Groff Conklin, Pocket Books Inc., NY, 25¢.

HELL'S PAVEMENT by Damon Knight, Lion Books, NY, 35¢.

OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS by William Tenn, Ballantine Books, NY, 35¢.

THE LAST PLANET by Andre Norton, and A MAN OBSESSED by Alan E. Nourse, (both in one book), Ace Books, NY, 35¢.

THE SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSSCOPE

conducted by J. Harry Vincent

The new MAD will be on the stands about mid-May. It will be #24 in the series, the first 23, as you know, in comic format, but it'll have "First Issue" on the cover. It will not be in any comic format whatsoever, tho it will contain mostly artwork with some text. Some of the stories will be by the leading comics of our time. It will be large size, approx. 8½" x 11", slick-type paper, 64 pages and sell for 25¢ an issue. The interiors will be in black and white, while the cover will be in two colors. For the time being, it will

FANTASY FORECASTS

TED STURGEON, LESTER DEL REY,
POUL ANDERSON, ISAAC ASIMOV & OTHERS
IN JUNE "FANTASTIC UNIVERSE"

The June issue of Fantastic Universe, Vol. 3, No. 5, will contain one of the better line-up of top authors that we have seen in a long time. Three novел-ets lead the issue: "The Riddle Of Ragnarok" by Theodore Sturgeon, "In The Still Waters" by Lester del Rey, and "The Soldier From The Stars" by Poul Anderson. The short stories are: "The Last Trump" by Isaac Asimov, "The Grown-Up People's Feet" by Robert F. Young, "Miss Quatro" by Alice Eleanor Jones, "Exchange" one of the prize-winning stories from Moskowitz's school for s-f writers, by Robert Epstein, "Teragram" by Evelyn E. Smith, "The Mech Fighter" by Stuart McIver, "Pass The Oxygen" by F. B. Bryning, "Hiding Place" by William Morrison, and "The Deep Hole To China" by Robert Shackley. The cover, somewhat of the Astounding type, is an excellent job by Kelly Freas. There are no interior illustrations.

One of the things we like about Fantastic Universe is the excellent job Frank Belknap Long is doing with the "Story Behind The Cover" and the blurbs thruout the magazine. Mr. Long has one of the real pleasant jobs in s-f. He just writes the items above and at times when Leo Margulies is snowed under with work, does some of the manuscript reading. It is items of this type that give the magazine atmosphere, and a feeling of belonging. Since Leo wants to get in as many different type of stories he can per issue, there are no interior illustrations, a situation that we well understand but do not like as we feel that interior illustrations are as necessary to a s-f mag as the stories and covers. Long's delightful blurbs do go a long way, tho, to give each story that "This Looks Good" feeling that one gets from good illustrations.

-James V. Taurasi

be published bi-monthly. Publisher, Mr. Gaines, hopes that all will like the new MAD, and that they'll write in and tell him their likes and dislikes. It will be like no other mag on the stands

by Arthur Jean Cox

The annual LASFA award for Top Amateur Author of the Year was given to Eddie Clinton, popular Los Angeles fan, for 1954. A dinner was given in his honor at the Unique Cafe in Los Angeles, Saturday evening, March 5. Some fifty persons were present. Clinton has sold four of five stories during the past year, notably to Fantastic Universe Science Fiction and If. A story from the latter magazine, "The Smallest World" is to be re-published soon in a Groff Conklin anthology. He is the author of "Puzzle Box", a collection of short stories published a few years ago, under the pseudonym of Anthony More.

Guy Madison, TV's "Wild Bill Hickok", will star in a science-fiction western "The Beast of Hollow Mountain". The "heavy" in the picture is a brontosaurus, somehow kept alive in a hollow mountain since the Jaurassic period. The monster is being created by means of "Regiscope", Edward Nassour's electric animation system (displayed to the public, for the first time, in "Hansel & Gretel".) The picture is being made on location near Guernavaca, Mexico.

SLICK SCIENCE FICTION

by Donald E. Ford

American Weekly, February 20, 1955: OUTPOST IN THE SKY by Andrew G. Haley. About the usual Sunday Supplement article. Haley does say, though, that he thinks there are some undiscovered asteroids near enough to the Earth to enable rocket experts to set up a station on.

Time, February 21, 1955:

SCIENCE Column notes that GE has made some synthetic diamonds & mentions that the American Rocket Society has petitioned the National Science Foundation to sponsor a study of the usefulness of an earth satellite vehicle.

SUPPORT THE FAIVETS!

by Michael Corper

(Feb. 2, 1955) Yesterday, a Government Bill was published concerning the proposed ban on horror comics. Emvisaged are 4 months' jail and up to \$100 fines (according to the press) for importing, printing, publishing, selling, or hiring out of the comics. Magistrates will be empowered to issue search warrants to enter suspected vehicles and premises. The new law will apply to books or mags relating in pix-form commission of crimes, horrible or repulsive incidents, or acts of violence or cruelty, if such publications would tend to corrupt young minds. After conviction, copies of such comics, and plates or films for production, may be confiscated.

Advance info given to me by editor Carnell in respect of New Worlds #33, the March 1955 issue, is as follows: the cover will be by Quinn. As stories it will have "The Star Walk" (James White) "Mama" (John Christopher), "Logical Deduction" (Gavin Neal), "The Veterans" (Norman Dale), "The Active Man" (Sydney J. Bounds), and "Ethereal This City" (F. G. Rayer), another story in the "Magna Mensas" series. The ish will have the normal depts., including an Editorial by Carnell on forthcoming British books by new authors; and pro & con correspondence on his recent Editorial on "Religion & Sex in S. F." Interior illos will be by Quinn, Hunter, Hutchings and Osborne (a new artist). In New Worlds #34, Carnell will have a new cover artist, Bradshaw; making his entry with the first installment of a new series by Tubb: "Star Ship".

Astounding (BRE) for March 1955, presents "The Big Rain" (Anderson), "The Deviant" (Cole), "Raining Aid" (Kleine) "The Commers" (Peattie), part 3 of "They Rather Be Right" (Clifton and Riley), "Jove Intervenes" (an article by Richardson), and the usual departments. The cover is by Van Dongen, who also does interior illo work, as do Freas and Shapiro.

Wanted: Scoops #10 & Amazing Annual for F-T Files. Fandom House, P.O. #2331, Pat. NJ.

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BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORIES: 1952

(all above edited by Bleiler & Dikty)

BEACHHEADS 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 Fletthher Pratt

BORN IN CAPTIVITY by Bryan Berry

NEW COPIES, CLOTH BOUND:

\$1.00 Each, Canada & Foreign \$1.20

TALES FROM GAVAGHAN'S BAR by L. S. deCamp

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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TIME AND AGAIN by Clifford D. Simak

VENUS EQUILATERAL by George O. Smith

WINE OF DREAMERS by J. D. Mac Donald

FROM WHAT FAR STARS? by Bryan Berry

SMETEE 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

RENAISSANCE by Raymond F. Jones

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