

ROBOT ADDRESSER SPEEDS "F-T" WORK

-story on this page-

Fourteenth Year Of Publication

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 10 - #222

FIRST MAY 1955 ISSUE

Ten Cents

"IF" GOES BI-MONTHLY FIVE MONTHLIES LEFT

New York, NY, 14 April, (CNS) - With its current (June 1955) issue of If, it has gone bi-monthly. No reason for the change from monthly to bi-monthly has as yet been received from its publisher-editor, James L. Quinn. Mr. Quinn was to have been one of the speakers at the recent Fanvet Convention (see story on page 3), but business pressure kept him away.

The first issue of If was the March 1952 issue, was published bi-monthly, digest-size, 35¢ and 160 pages. Paul Fairman was then editor. With the November 1952 issue, publisher James L. Quinn took over the editorialship, the format was drastically changed and the pages cut to 120. Size and price remained the same. Paul Fairman had left the magazine for Amazing Stories. With the May 1953 issue, Larry T. Shaw left his editorialship with Auto Age and became Associate Editor of If.

If became a monthly with the March, 1954 issue. This was also the last issue on which Larry Shaw was listed as one of the editors, tho for some time (concluded on page 4, column 1)

ROBOT ADDRESSER SPEEDS "F-T" WORK

Paterson, N.J., 27 April 1955, (CNS) - The response to our recent permanent subscription offer has proven what we have always believed, that the readers of Fantasy-Times are among the nicest people we know.

Regular readers of F-T have undoubtedly noticed several improvements in the last few issues --- the new-type addressing instead of stickers, the clear-cut reproduction, and the absence of "offset" (caused by the wet ink of one sheet imprinting on the back of the sheet directly on top as they come out of the mimeo). All these improvements have come about as the result of our readers' response.

The addressing machine, an Elliott Model 3000 Senior, does in about thirty minutes what used to take six to seven hours, when our mailing list had to be laboriously typed on stickers issue after issue (concluded on page 4, column 2)

by The Readers

422 East 8th Street,
Mt. Carmel, Ill.,
March 5, 1955.

Dear Jimmy:

I have followed your Let's-All-Stomp-On-Crawford campaign in Fantasy-Times with considerable interest. If you don't mind I'd like to dust the man off and set him on his feet for a minute for re-examination. Heinous crimes are charged against him — he has run articles by Criswell. Have you ever read these articles? I have and I'll have to admit they are sheer heresy. In the first one, Criswell predicts that the space station will be square and run by women. I repeat heresy! All faithful readers of Ley and Clarke know the space station will be round and run by men. Of course, Criswell does claim that he knows these things to be a fact by an unexplained means. And of course, we can't for a minute ever consider the possibility of precognition! Ley and Clarke on the other hand predict interstellar voyages by what they call Science. I admit their articles are better in my opinion, but when you get to interstellar voyages of several hundred years, so infinitely beyond our contemporary science, whether you call your predictions Science or Magic they come out of the same hat.

But even if you dispise Criswell articles of such horrible, perverted and criminal type, they constitute only about 3% of SPACEWAY. All this griping that has been done has been done because five pages as opposed to one hundred and twenty-five pages of other material. Five pages! In these days, it's hard for a science-fiction magazine — particularly a new science-fiction magazine — to stay in business. If these few pages of Criswell can keep SPACEWAY going I think Crawford is justified in using them and fans might have the good will and decency to try and ignore these few pages and take a look at the other 97% of the magazine. In that maligned February issue is TOWERS OF SCIENCE, one of the best novels of the year, by George H. Smith, a taboo-breaker any other editor would be

soundly praised for running. And in the April issue, I might also mention in passing, are such superb stories as RIDDLE OF THE RIM by Jack Lewis and PEOPLE OF THE VALLEY by Jim Harmon.

The trouble is, fans just naturally love to gripe. They griped at the pulps to go digest-size like ASTOUNDING (they never read it — too technical — but they liked it's looks) or to trim their edges. Now that virtually all science-fiction magazines are digest-size with nice, neat trimmed edges all the fans gripe about all the magazines looking alike and long for the Golden Age of the pulps. Of course, griping is a great old American custom, but sometimes I think it is just griping for the sake of griping.

You and Ray Van Houten were in the army. I bet you spent many lovely hours griping about the food, the uniforms, the weather, the officers, the Wacs, etc. etc. etc.

Cordially,

Jim
Jim Harmon

(Thanks for your letter Jim, we can well understand your position, but as long as Ray Van Houten and I are editors of Fantasy-Times, we'll crack-down on any crack-pot deals veing published in professional science-fiction magazines. The field has had about all the Shaver-dianetics-Criswell junk it can take and still be respectable. If these editors or publishers can't publish s-f and make it sell, then they should publish "crack-pot" magazines and make a million. Better there be no science-fiction mags, than a 1000 that "have to publish crack-pot material to sell". We are all for Crawford, having seen him trying hard to get in the s-f publishing field from Marvel Tales on, but this we'll never take, be it from Astounding, Amazing, Spaceway or X Science Fiction! By the way, Jim, what is the latest news of your s-f mag, X Science Fiction?

-James V. Taurasi, Sr.)

New York, N.Y.

13 April 1955.

Editor:

At least as regards Galaxy, Pal-
(concluded on page 4, column 1)

APPROX. 235 ATTEND FIFTH FANVET CON.

New York, NY, 17 April, (CNS) - Approx 235 fans, authors, artists, editors and publishers crowded the Big Hall at Werdermann's Hall today to attend the 5th Anniversary Fanvet Convention. They heard James V. Taurasi, Sr. tell them that money was needed to carry on the mailing of free s-f magazines and books to servicemen overseas. They heard Ray Van Houten announce the program, as "Where Do We Go From Here?" he voiced a hope that the speakers this afternoon, would find a solution to the "recession" that has hit the s-f magazine and book field.

Sam Moskowitz keynoted the convention stressing that modern s-f magazines were all mostly using pseudo-sophisticated stories and were by-passing the true science-fiction tales. And that as long as most magazines used this type of stories, they were doomed to poor sales and finally fade from the scene. He thought that while a sophisticated s-f story was enjoyable once in a while, as a steady diet they would drive readers away. He pointed out that there was only one New Yorker and that its sales were not among the highest in general magazines, -- so why should 90% of the science-fiction magazines use that type of story. Ted Sturgeon spoke on "Where Do We Want To Go From Here?", while William Gaines spoke on comic censorship and showed with the first issue of Incredible Science Fiction, the continuation of Weird Science-Fantasy, his own comic, on how the comic self-censorship board was reducing the comics to a mere white-wash of their former selves. John W. Campbell, Jr., spoke on "---But Will We Like It?", explaining that he was trying to do away with publishing stories of the physical science and stress on mental science and P S I. He felt that this was the answer. He stated that he would not publish stories of things happening now, which were,

OFCOURSE not s-f, and that most of the physical s-f were in the works now. Ed Emsh explained the different types of science-fiction illustrations, demonstrating each with a huge sketch done by himself. Near the end he asked, by show of hands, which type of drawing the audience liked best, and the detailed illustration of the Bonestell-Paul etc. type won by a large majority. Demon Knight spoke on "The Little Picture And the Dollar: A Discourse On Competence".

After dinner intermission, a panel consisting of Sam Moskowitz, William Gaines, Demon Knight, de Camp, Howard Browne, Ed Emsh, Mrs. Gold and Moderated by James V. Taurasi, Sr., was held, which proved to be the best feature of the day. It also proved that "We Had Gotten Nowhere That Afternoon". Many, many questions were asked. Howard Browne stated that Amazing Stories had increased circulation by 17% since January. William Gaines stated that he would prefer to work without censorship, but had to, if he wanted his comics to be distributed. Willy Ley was called upon to talk of Hollywood and his recent appearance on the Disney show, and stated that that s-f one would appear twice more on TV and then appear as a full length, colored movie.

The auction was next and it brought in \$200.00, while expenses of putting on the convention ran to approx \$150.00. The \$50 profit has been turned over to The Fantasy Veterans Association. The convention committee was disappointed in this poor showing of the auction; they had hoped for much more than that. The best item of the auction was the Schomburg cover from the April 1952 Startling Stories, which WAS AUCTIONED off for \$21.00. The old Paul covers from Wonder Stories brought in an average of \$10 each, while the current covers from Ziff-Davis brought in around \$7 each. The auction was stopped once to allow Paul Fairman to introduce Walter Brooks, one of the stars
(concluded on page 8, column 1)

"IF" GOES BI-MONTHLY
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

news made the rounds that Shaw was soon to become full editor. Larry Shaw is now editor of Rodding and Re-Styling, an auto magazine.

When the first issue came out it also included a readers' column "The Postman Cometh". This was dropped late in 1953. The readers' column returns with the current issue as "Hue and Cry".

With If going bi-monthly, only five monthly science-fiction magazines are left: Astounding, Galaxy, Fantastic Universe, Fantasy & Science Fiction and Imagination. All are digest-size and 35¢. With the exception of Astounding (160 pages) and Galaxy (144 pages), they have 128 pages. Of them all, Astounding is the only pre-war s-f magazine, and the second-oldest s-f magazine still being published.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR
(concluded from page 2, column 2)

mer's figures are laughable. (see F-T #220, page 1) We have not, since the fifth issue, gone below the average figure given for Astounding. Our own average circulation is a good 10,000 higher — if you exclude subs (we have several times as many as our nearest competitor) and additional sales (we have no intention of putting anybody wise to outlets we've worked hard to develop) and our foreign editions (more than any other mag in the field).

Taken altogether, Galaxy has more readers than any s-f magazine in the world. Anybody, including Mr. Palmer, who cares to challenge this statement is free to do so — but he has to be prepared to make a silly ass of himself against such data.

H. L. Gold
H. L. Gold

(We're open for answers. —eds)

Columbia Publications, Inc.
241 Church Street
New York 18, New York
April 29, 1955

Dear Jim:

Afráid I misinformed you: the letter department starts in the Septem-

ber, not the July Science Fiction Stories. And Sam Mervin's "A Sense For Crime" will be in the August Famous Detective. But did I say that "In Relief From Yesterday" was science-fiction; pretty sure I didn't — it's fantasy you know.

Got a weird one coming up in the August Real Western Stories. "The Salt Wagons" by Lou Williams. It's part of a series about Deputy Marshal Lee Winters, a not-too-courageous gent who often runs into supernatural things in the desert. (Not all the stories are weird, tho.)

as ever,

R. W. Lowndes
R. W. Lowndes

(Thanks for the corrections, Bob, I checked my notes, and that "In Relief From Yesterday" was suppose to read fantasy — guess I have s-f on the brain. —James V. Taurasi, Sr.)

ROBOT ADDRESSER
(continued from page 1, column 2)

ter issue. It is electrically powered, operated automatically by means of foot pedals, and is, so far as we know, the only such machine ever owned and used by an amateur publisher in the s-f field.

The clear reproduction is the result of having our stencil-cutting typewriter rebuilt, which it sorely needed after pounding out an average of six stencils every two weeks since 1948.

Offset is the bane of every mimeographer's life. To dodge it, some use only one side of the paper, while others "slipsheet" (insert blank paper between each printed sheet). Neither of these methods were practical for Fantasy Times. We purchased and are now using a special anti-offset device which eliminates the evil without the necessity for doubling our paper consumption, or for long, tedious hours of inserting slipsheets and then stripping them out again between each run.

Many thanks, readers, for your confidence in Fantasy Times and the ability of the staff to turn out a worthwhile newspaper. We have more improvements in mind, which we will put into

(concluded on page 6, column 1)

by Arthur Jean Cox

Recently, the Contemporary Film Museum of Los Angeles gave a preview showing of the first full-length Finnish film to be released in this country: "The Witch", written by Mika Waltari, author of "The Egyptian".

It is the story of an archeologist who discovers a grave, three centuries old, in which a witch was buried with a stake driven through her heart. He removes the stake. Later, a young girl, nude, is found lying in the grave, unconscious. She is vague as to just how she got there. Following her appearance, a series of strange happenings convince the inhabitants of the local village that she is the witch returned to life and they make several attempts to kill her. Until it is nearly three-quarters over, the picture looks as if it's going to have a tragic and mundane ending. But it is a genuine fantasy: The girl really has supernatural powers, is really the witch resurrected.

According to a program note, this picture has been in the custody of the U. S. Customs officials for the past six months, due to its large number of nudity scenes. "For a time it appeared that the film would not be allowed into the United States. The authorities in Washington screened this film again and again (chuckle --AJC) in order to decide what to do about it. The question arose; 'Is nudity immoral or indecent in itself?'" Their answer was -- "yes". The climax of the film is the witch's dance in the nude; and as she whirls, twists and turns flashing spots of light, frantically inserted by the censors, dash here and there to obscure salient points of interest. The effect, naturally, is ludicrous.

The picture was filmed last year in Finland and was directed by Roland Hallstrom. I didn't catch any of the names of the actors but the witch is played by a young girl of nineteen with long black hair.

NOTE: Pictures to be released soon include a sequel to Universal's "The Creature From The Black Lagoon": "The Revenge Of The Creature" -- which is (concluded on page 6, column 2)

by Stephen J. Takacs

NEW HARD COVERED S-F BOOKS OUT:

TIMELINER by Charles Eric Maine, Rinehart & Co., \$2.75.

THE LONG WAY BACK by Margot Bennett, Coward, McCann, NY, \$3.50 (original).

SNOW FURY by Richard C. Holden, Dodd-Mead & Co., NY, \$3.00 (original).

TERROR IN THE MODERN VEIN, edited by Donald A. Wollheim, Hanover House, \$3.98

THE ANT-TEN by Eric North, John C. Winston Co., Phila., Pa., \$2.00.

STAR BRIDGE by Jack Williamson & James E. Gunn, Gnome Press, NY, \$3.00.

THE OLD DIE RICH by H. L. Gold, Crown Publishers, NY, \$3.00.

THE EDGE OF RUNNING WATER by William Sloane, Dodd Mead & Co., \$3.00.

NEW S-F POCKET-SIZED BOOKS OUT:

BEYOND EDEN by David Duncan, Ballantine Books, NY, 35¢.

CONQUEST OF THE SPACE SEA by Robert Moore Williams; and THE GALACTED BREED by Leigh Brackett (both in one book) Ace Books, NY, 35¢.

REVOLT IN 2100 by Robert A. Heinlein, Signet Books, NY, 25¢.

MORE TALES OF TIME & SPACE, edited by Healy & McComas, Pennant Books, NY, 25¢.

THE SYNDIC by C. M. Kornbluth, Bantam Books, NY, 25¢.

SLICK SCIENCE FICTION

by Donald E. Ford

Time, March 28, 1955:

Feature article on IBM. As all of you know, their models in use today, do things that are/were fantastic enough to be the mainstay of many early science-fiction stories.

Esquire, May 1955:

"The Electronic Duel" by Hugo Gernsback. Hugo sets up a conflict between 2 men, in a lab, over a girl; which results in a duel to be fought with electronic weapons. He then gives 5 alternate endings to the story and says he doesn't like any of them & suggests the reader give his own ending. I didn't like it.

THE FANTASY RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

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

NAME	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	SIZE	DATE ON STANDS	SCHEDULE
Future Science Fiction*	#28	35¢	130	Digest	March 1, 1955	"one-shot"
Planet Stories	Spring	25¢	96	Pulp	March 1, 1955	Quarterly
Science Fiction Stories	May	35¢	130	Digest	March 4, 1955	Bi-Monthly
Other Worlds**	May	35¢	130	Digest	March 7, 1955	Bi-Monthly
Fantastic	June	35¢	130	Digest	March 7, 1955	Bi-Monthly
Fantastic Universe	May	35¢	128	Digest	March 8, 1955	Monthly
Imaginative Tales #5	May	35¢	130	Digest	March 8, 1955	Bi-Monthly
If***	May	35¢	120	Digest	March 8, 1955	Monthly
Imagination	May	35¢	130	Digest	March 14, 1955	Monthly
Startling Stories****	Spring	25¢	114	Pulp	March 15, 1955	Quarterly
Beyond Fiction	#10	35¢	128	Digest	March 21, 1955	Irregular
Fantasy & Science Fiction	May	35¢	128	Digest	March 24, 1955	Monthly
Galaxy Novel	#23	35¢	128	Digest	March 25, 1955	Bi-Monthly
Astounding Science Fiction	April	35¢	162	Digest	March 29, 1955	Monthly

During March 14 s/f magazines appeared. 12 digests and 2 pulps. The digests cost \$4.20 and the pulps cost 50¢. The digests contained 1,574 pages; the pulps 210 pages, making a total of 1,784 pages. The total cost of the magazines, \$4.70.

* The number ~~two~~ #28, is actually Vol 5, #4 (see Fantasy-Times #203).

** A continuation of Universe Science Fiction (see Fantasy-Times #215).

*** Last monthly issue (see page 1 of this issue).

**** Has combined with Thrilling Wonder Stories and Fantastic Story Magazine (see Fantasy-Times #218).

NOT SCIENCE/FANTASY, BUT OF INTEREST:

Fate	April '55	35¢	130	Digest	March 4, 1955	Monthly
Fate	May, '55	35¢	130	Digest	March 31, 1955	Monthly

ROBOT ADDRESSER

(concluded from page 4, column 2)

effect as conditions permit.

ATTENTION! All fan mag publishers, book dealers, pro mag circulation departments, and anyone else who uses a periodic mailing list!

We'd like to share our good fortune with you. We have a lot of free time on the addressing machine and are willing to take over your mailing job for you. No list too large or too small. Prices very low, suited to the pocketbook of the fan publisher or the local fan club. Address inquiries to: FANDOM HOUSE, PO Box 2331, Paterson 23, New Jersey.

FILMS, RADIO & TV

(concluded from page 5, column 1)

also in three-dimensions; and "Attack Of The Flying Saucers", a Columbia picture based on Donald A. Keyhoe's book, "Flying Saucers From Outer Space". I had hoped that both 3-D and flying saucers were things of the past.

The new star of the "Tarzan" series, now that Lex Barker has bowed out, will be Gordon Scott, whom Sol Lesser, the producer, declares to be "the best Tarzan yet". The title of the next picture is "Lord Of The Jungle", and it is written by an authority on Africa, Terrence Maples. Jane will not be present in the future.

THE SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS SCORE

conducted by J. Harry Vincent

EINSTEIN DEAD AT 76

Flushing, NY, 18 April, (CNS) - The World lost it's Genius this morning. A great man, the likes of which we may never again see. A gentle and shy man, whose formulas put the whole universe in one equation, who conceived time as being the fourth dimension. Who's equations laid the ground work for the terrible atomic bomb, while he himself wanted atomic energy used only for the good of mankind. A man as far advanced in mind as science-fiction is to the present. Who's laboratory was a scrap of paper, a pencil, and a brilliant mind.

Dr. Albert Einstein will live forever, as the greatest amongst greatest.

FRANCE HONORS MEMORY OF JULES VERNE ON 50th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

Paris, France, 24 March, (CNS) - France today honored the memory of Jules Verne on the 50th Anniversary of his death. The man who wrote about atomic energy, airplanes, submarines, in the late 19th Century, was born in 1828 and died on March 24, 1905. All, or most, of the science-fiction he wrote has by now become common objects. Jules Verne, the father of modern science-fiction.

France observed the anniversary of his death with celebrations, parades and exhibitions of his works.

Monaco is honoring Jules Verne on the 50th Anniversary of his death with a set of 10 commemorative stamps. They are:

1 fr: "Five Weeks In a Balloon, written in 1862 for Hetzel's Magazin d'Education.

2 fr: "The Floating City".

3 fr: "The Steamhouse".

5 fr: "Michael Strogoff", first staged in 1880.

6 fr: "The 500 Millions Of Bgum".

10 fr: "Voyage To The Center Of The Earth" (1864).

15 fr: "Around The World In 80 Days" (1872).

25 fr: "20,000 Leagues Under The (concluded on page 8, column 1)

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Coming Up In The Pros

GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL

#24 will reprint "Lost Darkness Fall" by L. Sprague de Camp.

STARTLING STORIES

Summer 1955, Vol. 53 - No. 2:

This issue will feature three novelets, and short stories instead of the usual long novel. The novelets are: "An Apple For The Teacher" by Robert F. Young; "Whitespot" by Murray Leinster; and "Awakening" by Bryce Walton. "Awakening" deals with a female robot that falls in love, which brings up: "Some people say that you can live without love, but can you love without living?" Some of the short stories are: "Moon, June, Spoon" by Gordon R. Dickson, where two computing machines fall in love with each other; and "Touch The Sky" by Alfred Coppel. Cover by Emsh.

Coming in the near future will be a sequel to "Name Your Pleasure" by James E. Gunn.

THE AUSTRALIAN FANTASY REPORT

by Roger Dard

(14 March, 1955) A new issue of American Science Fiction appeared on the stands today. The 34th issue. It is the usual digest-size, 34 pages, priced at 9d. Published by the Malian Press Pty. Ltd., 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, Australia. Cover by Stanley Pitt. Contains one long story, "Swords Of Tomorrow" by Henry Kuttner. No interior illos or ads.

(25 April, 1955) The latest issue of American Science Fiction, undated and unnumbered as usual (actually #35), contains three stories: "Common Time" by James Blish; "Genesis" by H. Beam Piper; "Last Stand Of A Space Grenadier" by David Grinnel. Cover by Stanley Pitt. This issue bears an interesting error; on the cover it advertises "Common Time" by David Grinnell.

(concluded on page 8, column 2)

APPROX 235 ATTEND 5th FANVET CON
(concluded from page 3, column 2)

of "Conquest Of Space", who spoke on that picture and made quite a hit with the audience.

The program ended with the showing of a sound short "The Invisible Women" (a clever cut down from a full-length picture) and the historical "Tarzan Of The Apes", the first Tarzan picture ever made. Both were well received by the crowd. This was the first convention in science-fiction history that opened with the playing of our National Anthem. The Fanvets obtained a sound film recorded by "The United States Marine Band" and plan to use it at all future Fanvets' gatherings.

213 persons signed the registration cards, but an estimate of approx. 235 persons were present. Besides the speakers, L. Sprague de Camp, Alan E. Nourse, Judy Merrill, Larry Shaw, Donald M. Grant, Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, Arthur J. Burks, Hans Stefan Santesson, Robert P. Mills, Cyril Kornbluth, John Victor Peterson, Harry Altshuler, Mrs. Mation Sturgeon, Eugene Gold, Martin Greenberg, Richard Matheson, Joe Gibson, Mrs. Eulinda Campbell, Frank Belnap Long, Julius Unger, Harry Harrison, J. W. Ferman, David A. Kyle, Richard Wilson, Jim Blish, Paul Fairman, Howard Browne, Evelyn Paige Gold, Willy Loy, & many, many others.

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE
(concluded from page 7, column 1)

Sea" (1869).

200 fr: "From The Earth To The Moon" (1865), and-

30 fr: shows the new U.S. Nautilus.

A picture from the story is shown on each stamp.

AUSTRALIAN READERS: Please note new address of Roger Dard when subscribing.

FANDOM HOUSE

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James V. Taurasi, Sr., & Ray Van Houten
Editors and Publishers.

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION!

THE AUSTRALIAN FANTASY REPORT
(concluded from page 7, column 2)

Popular Science Fiction, #6, published by The Blue Diamond Pub. Co., Sydney, 64 pages, price 1/6. Cover is not signed, but is a redrawn version of Paul's cover on the Feb., 1933 Wonder Stories. Contents: "The Insubordinate" by Sam Sackett; "The Dreamer" by Jim Harmon; "The Viscuous Circle" by A.B. Chandler; and "The Square Peg" by Louis Moore. Plus a one-page department, "The Fans Corner".

Future Science Fiction. Companion magazine to Popular S-F. Same details as Popular, digest size, 64 pages, etc. #6. Contents: "Journey To The Hotlands" by Joe L. Hensley; "Little Joe Loves You" by Robert Donald Locke; "I Need You" by Les and Es Cole; and "The Twain Shall Meet" by M. C. McDonald. Cover not signed, no interior illos.

Ross Rocklyne ft-230
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