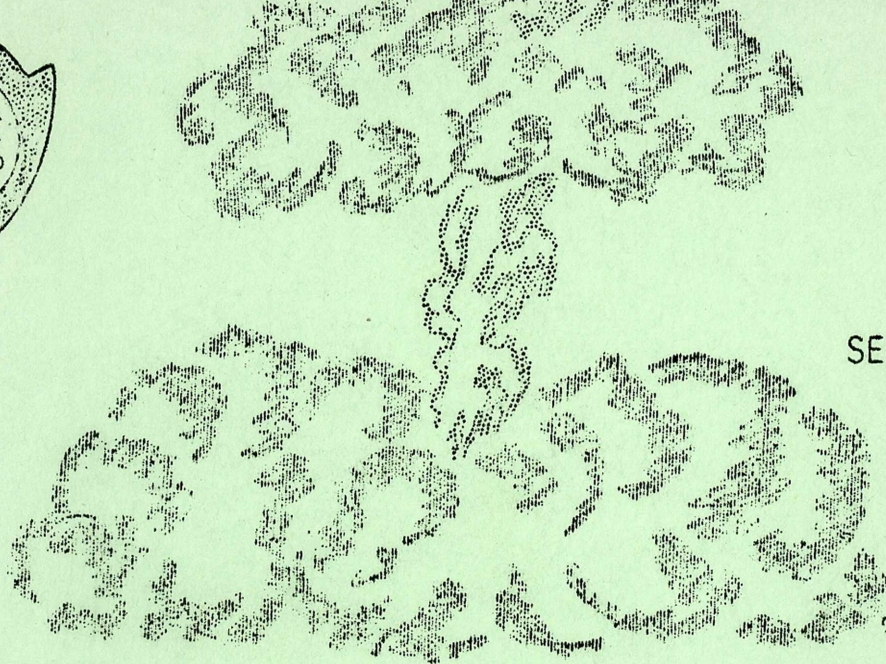
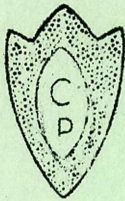


FANTASY TIMES



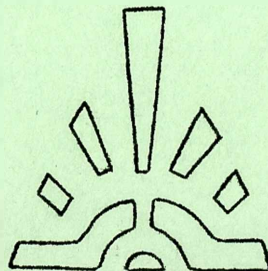
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"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

FANTASY-TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

JAMES V. TAURASI, editor-in-chief
Ray Van Houten and Sam Moskowitz co-editor
Alex Osheroff assistant editor
Gordon M. Kull west coast editor
Alvin R. Brown associate editor
Dr. Thomas S. Gardner science editor
David Kishi theatre and film editor
John Giunta, art editor

Vol. 2 - No. 26

October 1947

Whole Number 57

-Our editorial was withdrawn at press time to make room for these headlines. A complete story on the convention will appear next issue.-

180 (APPR.) AT PHILCON

AUCTION DRAWS \$400 (APPR.)

1948 Convention In CANADA!

*PROFITS SPLIT BETWEEN PSFS,
1948 CONVENTION, NFFF, AND
FANTASY FOUNDATION.*

FANTASY-TIMES is published monthly by James V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Blvd., Corona, New York. 10¢ an issue, 3 for 25¢, \$1.00 a year. Advertising: \$1.00 a page, 50¢ half page and 25¢ a quarter page. Fantasy-Times is a Cosmic Publication.

THE COSMIC REPORTER

LANE STANNARD, EDITOR

OCTOBER 1947

FANTASY FOLDS

3RD ISSUE NOW OUT!

What is probably the worse stiff news this month is that the British science-fiction magazine, FANTASY is to be discontinued after its current and 3rd issue. The title, FANTASY, we are informed by Dave Kishi, will be incorporated with an Astrological monthly, PREDICTION. It is interesting to note that the pre-war British stf magazine, FANTASY, also lasted three issues. The present FANTASY had no connection with the pre-war edition.

Only a few days before the sad news arrived, we had heard from Walter Gillings, the editor of FANTASY, who gave us the partial lineup of the 3rd issue, and commended about the latest paper but that was keeping down his magazine's circulation.

The third issue of FANTASY, the British Magazine of Science Fiction, is now out, the copies may not yet have reached the United States.

It features a long novelette, Time Trap, by Stanton A. Coblentz which is reminiscent of his The Man From To-morrow but has been specially written for the magazine. There is an unusual story by the new author F. G. Rayer, Basic Fundamental, and other pieces by three more new names---Norman C. Pallant, Charles Alban Crouch and E. G. O'Brien.

Another article by Walter-Gillings, Are You There, Mars? deals with the possibility of in-

-continued on page 3, column 2-

DERLETH TO PUBLISH FANTASY ALBUM

A literary quarterly of fantasy, fact, fiction and poetry will soon be published by August W. Derleth.

The magazine will be titled, FANTASY ALBUM and be similar in format as the official organ of The Baker Street Irregulars; a detective-fan organization. The permanent cover design has been done by Ronald Clyne. The first issue is expected out this Fall and will feature Lovecraft, C. A. Smith, Frank Belknap Long and others.

-sm

"ANCIENT RACE FOUND"

It is reported from Los Angeles that a band of amateur archaeologists calling themselves "Amazing Explorations, Inc." have discovered in California caverns traces of an ancient race who were at least nine feet tall. Howard E. Hill, spokesman for the group, claims that their civilization was in some ways more advanced than our own, and could be the last stronghold of the lost continent of Atlantis. Cooking utensils which operated on the radio-wave principle, said Hill, were unearthed, and other indications of a high civilization were in evidence.

Well-preserved remains of dinosaurs and saber-tooth tigers

-continued on page 3, column 2-

FANTASY BOOK NEW ST F MAGAZINE

A circular from the Fantasy Publishing Co., Inc., announced to the fantasy field, this month, that soon it would have a new pro magazine titled FANTASY BOOK.

The magazine will be large size in format and have a limited newsstand distribution. For the fans and collectors a special one thousand copies will be printed on book paper, which can be obtained only by subscribing.

The first issue, out about September 20th, will contain stories by Robert Bloch, Bryce Walton, Henry Hasse, Stanton A. Coblenz, Weaver Wright, and others.

The magazine can be obtained by writing to: Fantasy Publishing Co. Inc., 8618-20 Avalon Blvd., Los Angeles 3, Calif. It sells for 25¢ a copy or 12 issues for \$3.00.

-jhw

FANTASY-TIMES VISITS THE PRINTING PLANT OF "LIFE EVERLASTING"

As this issue of FANTASY-TIMES goes to press an editorial visit to the Avalon Company's printing plant reveals that not only is all copy on their forthcoming volume "Life Everlasting and Other Tales of Science, Fantasy and Horror" by David H. Keller, been completely cleared, but over 40% of the linotyping composition was completed as of August 25, 1947, the circulars mailed, the paper, a good thick stock, bought and paid for, the binder ready and waiting, and the press man available immediately upon completion of composition. We predict that this book may appear very close to its Oct 15th publication date.

A good portion of the 300 advance autographed copies of the book have already been sold, we suggest that you have better not delay in getting yours. Price and

FANTASY MAGAZINE FOLDS -continued from page 2, column 1-

terplanetary communication with the development of radar techniques. The first of the promised series of Famous Fantasies, Menace from the Moon, by Bonum Lynch, consists of a condensed version of the book published in 1924.

In his Matters of Fact, Editor Gillings deals with the current interest in science-fiction in America, with particular reference to the various boosts it has been given recently and the book reprints of magazine "classics"

FANTASY is the second fantasy magazine to fold in post-war England, the first was OUTLANDS that died after its first issue. -ls

"ANCIENT RACE FOUND"

-continued from page 2, column 2-

are said by the discoverers to be paired off in niches as if on display. Professional workers in the field point out that about 15 million years separate the existences of these huge animals on the earth.

The caves in which the alleged discoveries were made were found by Dr. F. Bruce Russell, a Beverly Hills physician, in 1931. After the war, Dr. Russell and other hobbyists organized Amazing Explorations, Inc., and started digging ----- after deros, no doubt.

No confirmation from reliable sources has as yet been forthcoming. -rvh

IN THE COMICS

In the next issue of CLASSICS-ILLUSTRATED will contain the famous stories of Edgar Allan Poe THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM, THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER and THE ADVENTURES OF HANS PFAHL; all

On The Newsstands

REVIEWED BY LANE STANNARD

PLANET STORIES Winter 1947

Anderson has a good cover in the well-known PLANET tradition. We like this mag when we just want to read an adventure-stf yarn. It never reaches great highs, b u t then again never gets real bad. If you like "space opera", this is the magazine for you. We'll pick Me, Myself and I by Putman as the best yarn in the issue. The readers' column is downright silly; Mr. Payne, we suggest that you straighten it out, it spoils the enjoyment of the magazine. We rate this issue a B.

Famous FANTASTIC MYSTERIES October 1947

Lawrence comes thru with an excellent cover that brightens up a good issue. We liked the novel, The City of Wonder by Vivian very much, and the short The Day of The Doopies by Leinster wasn't bad at all. We want to say that the picture series, Masters of Fantasy is excellent. Bok, Finlay and Napoli do their best work in this issue. Readers' column, the best, as usual. This issue is a real improvement over the other 1947 issues. We rate it a super B plus.

THRILLING WONDER STORIES October 1947

The new type of neatness on the cover is super, as is Borgey this issue. Being a "Saint" fan, we pick The Darker Drink by Charteris as the best in the issue. Not only was it a good "Saint" yarn, but an excellent fantasy yarn at

that. We want more. In second place is the lead novel, Donovan had a Dream by MacCreigh. Jerry is a Man by Heinlein is also worth reading. The rest of the yarns were also good. TWS is going right along getting better and better all the time. We suggest monthly publication. The readers' column is darn good. It's getting so that we turn to it first when we get the mag. The illustrations by Finlay and Stevens in this issue are the best these boys have put out. We rate this issue a B plus.

Avon FANTASY READER issue No. 4 (undated)

This 4th issue of Wollheim's magazine is not up to the first 3, tho it is not bad. The cover painting is not as good as the others and it is not laminated. We pick Nelson Bond's Conquerors' Isle as the best. We really enjoyed this one. We also like the way Wollheim introduces each yarn "a la" Ellery Queen. We suggest that you pick with a little more care, Don and have inside illustrations. We rate this issue a good B.

astounding SCIENCE FICTION September 1947

The cover by Alejandro is just good, but not the super job that Campbell raved about. Better you should have Cartier on the cover, Johnny, there would be something to rave about. Moddler's Moon by G. O. Smith is the best among a good crop of yarns in this issue. The serial is coming along very nice. Articles are excellent -continued on page 17. column 2-

Tome Talk

BY ALEX OSHEROFF

Biggest news of the past month is the emergence, finally and anticlimactically of Argus Books' "Pilgrims Through Space and Time" by Professor J. O. Bailly. From the standpoint of format, "Pilgrims" is satisfactory. There are 341 pages printed in readable type-size on good paper. The black cloth binding is up to snuff and Ronald Clyne tops it off with an outstanding cover jacket.

But, (and its a big "but") tho we hesitate not one whit in recommending "Pilgrims Through Space and Time" to the most fastidious and selective of collectors, simply because the book stands alone in its category, we are at the same time brought to mind of the familiar quotation, "The saddest words of tongue or pen: it might have been."

In a nutshell, the book elaborates endlessly on the literary creations of Poe, Verne, Wells and those worthies' predecessors while of Taine, Cummings, Kline, Merritt and Weinbaum, little or in some cases nothing is heard. And tho we of course do not rank the fan publications and the pro-zines equally, they garner equal treatment in "Pilgrims". Little more than two paragraphs are given to each, respectively.

Sauk City Saga: Nearest thing to a variant edition in the Arkhan House is "Dark of the Moon" the poetry anthology edited by Derleth. Some copies boast a tipped in errata sheet while in others the fifth of a book page sheet is conspicuous by its absence.

"Travellers In Time" the newest fantasy anthology follows the familiar pattern of "something familiar, something new, something

borrowed and.....er something-borrowed". Its edited by Phillip Van Doren Stern and priced at the "usual" post-war price of \$3.50.

Prime Press Presents: Complete proofs of "Equality, or a History of Lithconia" and "Venus Equilateral" have been received by the publishers and books should be ready for distribution by Philcon Time. Latter book, by the way will have 450 pages.

Newark Evening News has purchased Bob Tucker's "The Chinese Poll" for serialization in either their Sunday or daily edition. Max J. Herzberg, literary editor of above paper and one of the country's leading educators in a recent review of "The Legion of Space" by Jack Williamson, comments favorably on the action and imagination in the story but states story wasn't entirely credible.

"Supernatural Horror in Literature", "H.P.L. a Memoir" and "Circus of Dr. Lao", first three fantasy books published by Ben Abramson are now virtually out of print. Last copies, we have it, being sent out sans cover jacket.

Avalon Company announces that "Life Everlasting and Other Tales of Science, Fantasy and Horror" by David H. Keller is at present in the linotyping stage. Sam Moskowitz has completed for the book a 5,000 word biography and analysis of David H. Keller and his writings.

Paul Dennis O'Connor and Martin Greenberg hope to have "The Eternal Conflict" and nine other previously unpublished tales by Keller out by December.

Fantasy Press Postscripts: The first edition of E. E. Smith's -continued on page 7, column 2 -

The World Of Tomorrow Today

BY RAY VAN HOUTEN

Two years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, war-like applications of atomic fission still squat squarely in the center of the stage of world affairs. Confirmation has recently been given by many men now and formerly connected with the Manhattan Project that research into the possibilities of even deadlier atom-weapons is continuing at a rapid rate. David Lillenthal, head of the US Atomic Energy Commission, asserts that the atomic bombs used thus far are merely "a crude beginning"; Chancellor Robert Hutchins of the University of Chicago declares that the US now has a stockpile of improved bombs large enough to destroy every major city on earth; the General Staff of the US Army reveals that experimentation is now in progress to develop a "radioactive cloud" technique which would rain deadly particles down on the heads of defenseless populations. Scientific sources close to the military have stated that atomic weapons using the principle of atomic "fusion" rather than atomic fission would be many more times powerful than anything at present visualized.

In the light of such bellicosity, the world of tomorrow appears to be bright only in the sense of being lit by the glare of bursting atomic-super-bombs. Albert Einstein this month hit out savagely at the failure of the best political minds of today to make even a start towards protecting civilization from the disaster of atomic warfare, Einstein placed upon the US, as the possessor of the atomic bomb, the chief responsibility for initiating world control. "The US," he

said, "must act in such a manner that its intention of solving the problem on a supra-national basis are manifest beyond doubt."

Concurrently with all this seeking after new methods of atomic destruction, Uncle Sam was piously warning Russia, and incidentally the rest of the world, against the horrible dangers of an atomic war. Frederick H. Csomor, US delegate to the Atomic Energy Control Commission of the UN, charged that obstructionary methods by Russia were leading the world very close to disaster.

Some new humanitarian uses of radioactivity were recently announced. A method of "tagging" molecules with radioactive atoms has been discovered which will enable researchers to follow the progress of various substances, including disease organisms, blood, and penicillin, through the human body, hence giving them an enormously better idea of many life processes. By so tagging infantile paralysis virus, the mystery of how it spreads would yield to solution. The abnormal paths which the blood must follow when the heart arteries are clogged in coronary thrombosis are not fully understood at present. These paths could be traced if red blood corpuscles were tagged with radiophosphorus.

The artificial radioactives produced by the atomic piles are proving of great value to medical research in improving knowledge and technique.

Plans for a new 40,000 mile road net to cover the nation are already under way. Officials of the Federal Works Agency revealed

that work will soon be started on this system of four-lane, super-de-luxe express highways which will connect all principle cities across the nation. Cost of the program will be shared by the Federal Government and the states involved on a 50-50 basis.

An "atomic congress" will be held in Copenhagen in September, the Institute of Theoretical Physics has announced. The purpose of the congress was not given.

Accurate stratosphere bombing is now an accomplished fact, US Army Air Forces announced late last month. This reduces still further the defenses against atomic war, until the point has now been reached where it is hard to discern just what defenses there really are. Atomic-bomb-carrying planes are now immune to the best ground-based anti-aircraft rifles so far developed.

Germ bombs and crop-killing sprays were suggested as effective weapons of war by Dr. Kenneth V. Thimann, who pointed out that only 11 pounds of diphtheria toxin could wipe out the population of the US. 2-4-D, now sold commercially as a weed-killer, could, if sprayed over farmland from hostile aircraft, cause famine in any land so treated.

No qualified person has yet predicted just when super-war will break out, but the research and tub-thumping now being carried on seem to assume that its coming is fairly inevitable. As science-fiction fans, we have a better understanding of what such a war would mean than the average citizen. Hence we are more anxious to avoid such a calamity. There are many pages from science fiction's book which the world would do well to heed.

-rvh

The End

TOME TALK

-continued from page 5, column 2-

"Spacehounds of IPC" has been completely sold out and a second edition of unknown quantity has been printed and is being distributed.

Hadley Publishing Company announces that "The Time Stream" by John Taine, is completely sold out and that Van Vogt's "The Weapon Makers" is almost so. Their forthcoming book "The Mightiest Machine" by John W. Campbell, Jr. has already gone to press.

And last but not least we're pleased as punch to state that John Russell Fearn's darn good yarn "Liners of Time" has arrived from England. Its a slim volume of 156 pages in small type. The cover jacket is from issue five of the British "Tales of Wonder". Price is five Shillings.

-ao

The End

LIFE EVERLASTING

AND OTHER TALES OF
SCIENCE, FANTASY
AND HORROR

by David H. Keller

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(PREPUBLICATION PRICE)

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NEWARK 8, NEW JERSEY

1946 in Science Fiction

BY THOMAS S. GARDNER

Part III - FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES and STARTLING STORIES

Famous Fantastic Mysteries

Five issues. Now I will proceed to incur the enmity of most of you guys. I don't like the stuff that FFM puts out. I get so damned bored with most of the novels and short stories that I sometimes have to force myself to finish them. I did not re-read Wells' The Island of Dr. Moreau. I must admit. The best of the year was J. Kerruish's The Undying Monster. This is a rather fair werewolf story, in fact better than most. The next was H. Best's The Twenty-Fifth Hour which is highly significant in the light of the present time. Remember Final Blackout? Not as good, but just as punching in its setting. Now I am going to say something about Algernon Blackwood's The Willows. I've heard it praised sky-high. I had read it before. It is really good or is the reader hypnotised by Blackwood? Remember George Allan England's The Thing From--Outside? Same thing, but better done by England in my humble opinion. England doesn't use as much verbiage but gives with the high note! Catch? Taine has written some good stuff, but none of it has appeared in FFM todate. The closest was Before the Dawn, in FFM. Some liked C. Ferrere's The House of the Secret. Count me out. C. L. Moore just missed a good story in Dae-mon. FFM rates a C for 1946.

Startling Stories

Five issues. 1946 was in many respects a banner year for STARTLING. The general quality of The

Thrilling Group has improved tremendously. I won't mention the Captain Future novels, those who like them will do so anyway, and those who don't, don't read them. The best of the year was Hammond's Valley of the Flame. This had a Merritt touch that took. You should chuckle, and wonder, over H. Kuttner's Absalom. If your imagination is good, W. Hamilton's The Dead Planet will strain it in several points. It did mine. Supermen have strange ways, or so says Henry Kuttner in The Dark Angel. By the way, are you looking for some one? Do you change from time to time? Hells bells, maybe Kuttner is talking about you. (Shaver-Palmer should write over that, they are the ones to pass on nutty innuendos). There is no end to time paradoxes, so you had just as well read Polton Cross' The Vicious Circle. I refuse to review the Hall of Fame Classics. Why not read them all? Most are worth it. STARTLING rates a B for 1946. -tsg

Thomas S. Gardner reviews the 1946 issues of THRILLING WONDER STORIES and Astounding SCIENCE FICTION and brings an end to this series of articles, in the next, November, issue of FANTASY-TIMES.

NOTICE!

If this copy of FANTASY-TIMES is marked "Subscription has expired", please renew your subscription as soon as possible; as we print only enough copies to cover our mailing list and we don't want you to miss an issue. -ed

Fantasy in the Theatre

BY DAVID KISHI

With the passing of H. G. Wells, the world has lost-in corpore - a philosopher, scientist, statesman, and writer; but his work is still remembered, appreciated and read. Only a few weeks after his unfortunate death, the special Random House edition of his classic, The Time Machine, was published; a bibliography and memorial was issued by Forrest J. Ackerman and Arthur Jo-



THE LATE H.G.WELLS

quel, II; and a little later, at the Squire Theatre in New York, two of his movies, made from his fantasy novels, were revived, and from here, these two pictures - Things To Come and The Man Who Could Work Miracles - like a rolling stone, went from one movie house to another, proving once more that they were unforgettable and "something new"; although originally produced over eleven years ago. Still H. G. Wells is in the limelight. His novel, This Passionate Friend, is to be produced. Eric Ambler, well known (Journey Into Fear) author, will adopt the story, and Ronald Neame (Of Great Expectation fame) will direct. These two will also co-produce. Ann Todd will be starred. It was announced that Norman

Panama and Melvin Frank have completed the scenario of The Return of October, a comedy-fantasy about horse-breeding, which Don Hartman will produce and direct for Columbia. The photoplay is based on a story by Hartman and will be filmed in Kentucky this autumn or next spring. The Return of October was originally announced by Columbia in 1945 under the title, How Do You Do, I'm A Horse.

A little more up to the fantasy-in-the-theatre vogue (Finian's Rainbow) is the to-be-produced picture, A Shamrock For Stephen. It is a story not without humor and whimsy and is slated for publication in book form by Random House in the Spring. The story, it is said, is "about an American who, en route to Europe via plane, is forced down at an Irish airport and is adopted by a leprechaun". The novel from which this picture is to be made is by Guy and Constance Jones, whose humorous novel, Peabody's Mermaid, was also acquired for filming last year.

Lou Bunin, American producer, will do a version of Alice In Wonderland for the French, in Paris. It will be a nine month long production; and is France's first large scale color picture. The film will be produced with only one living actress, who will play Alice. The other characters will be portrayed in a new medium by three dimensional animation by Bunin's puppets, faithfully reproduced from the original drawings for Lewis Carroll's story by the famous British illustrator, Tenniel. This really promises to be an impressive production!

We've recently learned that John Hoffman, special effects -continued on page 10, column 2-

Blind Spots

BY THOMAS S. GARDNER

It was reported in FANTASY-TIMES a few issues ago that Barrows Dunham's new book, Man Against Myth, containing an expose of General Semantics. As I am quite interested in G. S. I have examined the book with a critical eye. The major part of the book is excellent and I was surprised at his blast at General Semantics. On analysing his book I discovered some blind spots in his thinking. Chapter IX, That Problems are mainly verbal contains the bitterest attack on G. S. that I have ever seen. Dunham by his own statements believes throughly in two valued logic rather than the multi-valued logic of G. S. this is in spite of the fact that Luckasiwiz and Tarski, two of the world's great men in symbolic logic, proved multi-valued logic about 15 years ago. I have found only three classes of people who are anti- to General Semantics. First, many symbolic logicians claim that Korzybski stole their thunder and their objections revert to jealousy. Secondly, Korsybski repudiates religion as a sanity form of conduct basis. And thirdly, Korzybski strongly repudiates both fascism and communism. Now Dunham is very pro-communist, and has the two-valued viewpoints of these groups. There can be no criticism of communism, Russia, or Stalinism. Consequently anything that does is therefore damned. Dunham seems to have gotten most of his G. S. from Stuart Chase and de Voto. He states that General Semantics was developed to combat anti-fascism, i. e., were fascist. No one who learns G.S. from Science and Sanity can get that idea. I seriously doubt if Dunham read over the

introduction, or much beyond that in Korzybski's book. He neglects, or does not know, the process of abstracting, because he says G. S. cannot use generalizations. Hells bells, that is one of the bases of G.S., generalizations of phenomena and abstracting to individuals. What G. S. objects to is generalizations of individuals. The difference is not apparent to Dunham. Dunham (page 245) states that fascism and communism are opposites! (exclamation point mine). Using Dunham's own two-valued logic, one is forced to vote against his conclusions by events. Actual events regarding Stalinism are completely disregarded by Dunham, and he uses the theoretical bases of communism found in Marx's work only. Dunham does not realize that these sociological changes are now a part of our own system of democracy, and have been included in every socialistic system in the world, such as England, Sweden, etc.

There is a great deal of good stuff in the rest of the book. It is unfortunate that many otherwise able men, feel constrained to follow or excuse communism, on the basis that the two-valued logic forces them to be against fascism, and by their warped thinking must preferce be pro-communistic. In America we realize that one doesn't have to be either of the two totalitairan systems, fascist or communist, but can be believers in our republic and democracy.

Dunham misses the most important tenet of G.S. and bare-facedly declares the exact opposite of it. For example, G. S., and especially Korzybski, declares it is impossible to separate the body

and the mind, and speaks of body-mind relationships only, also space-time, energy-matter, etc. Now Dunham criticises Korzybski on the basis that they do separate these qualities, which is a statement absolutely false. Thus my belief that Dunham either did not read Korzybski or if he did, did not understand it.

Now the facts are that a large percentage of educationalists, scientists, engineers, etc., are studying and using Alfred Korzybski's Science and Sanity development of General Semantics. The only people still holding to a two valued logic system are communists and the Catholic Church. (I refer to informed people) Both believe that if you are not with me you are against me. Horseshoefathers. Most of us prefer our

own brand of life, separate and distinct from either.

I strongly suspect that Dunham will repudiate his chapter on G. S. in the next ten years. It took that long for the people to recognize Nazism as the beast of Europe. By that time Dunham will probably repudiate communism as well as fascism, and thus can be a good General Semantist.

My suggestion is, to get Korzybski's Science and Sanity, learn it, then read Dunham. It requires a sanity producing discipline like General Semantics to interpret some of these writers, especially those who swallow anything, and any criticism against communism as a fascist system is strictly verboten. -tsg

The End

FANTASY IN THE THEATRE -continued from page 9-

director (underline, mine), will make his debut as a regular director on Columbia's The Wreck of the Hesperus. Now, is this the special production about a trip to the moon as announced (or rather rumored) by West Coast movie fans? We're interested.

By the way, Barbary and Mr. O'Malley will not be a prospect this season. It was recorded that the Jerome Chodorov play emanating from Crockett Johnson's cartoon strip wouldn't be produced by Barney Josephson & James Proctor. This reviewer is certainly saddened by this news. Barnaby and Mr. O'Malley is one comic strip which we would like to see in play form. The comic strip is now running in the New York paper PM, and other papers thruout the country. A book bearing the same name was published last year. Readers who have not read this novel or seen the comic strip are sadly missing "true", delight-

ful fantasy.

((Any FANTASY-TIMES reader having items or comments for this column should address their items to: FANTASY IN THE THEATRE, % James V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Blvd, Corona, New York. Of course all letters used will be subject to editorial revision.))

The End

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THE COSMIC BOOK SERVICE

The Editorial Staff of FANTASY-TIMES will pick each month a few of the current fantasy book titles and offer them for sale to the readers of FANTASY-TIMES. By following these selections, you will be sure that your bookshelves contain the best.

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Nine novelettes from ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION and one novelette that has never been published elsewhere before.

TRAVELERS THROUGH TIME edited by Philip van Doren Stern
\$ 3 . 5 0

A n omnibus of Time Travel Stories.

THE FORBIDDEN GARDEN by John Taine
\$ 3 . 0 0

A hitherto unpublished 100,000 word novel by the master John Taine.

THE COSMIC BOOK SERVICE EXTRA SPECIAL, GRADE A, NUMBER ONE OFFERS:

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\$ 7 . 0 0

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THE EASTERN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

GEORGE O. SMITH SPEAKS ON ENERGY WEAPONS

The August 3, 1947 meeting of the Esfa was highlighted by a talk by George O. Smith on the possibility of energy weapons. By energy weapons, George O. Smith was mainly concerned with the ray variety where at a visible clearly defined beam does the dirty work. While various varieties of energy weapons have been developed, the tremendous quantity of power necessary to accomplish even limited damage is so extensive as to make their use unfeasible. It seems that the projectile remains about the best type of weapon as of present day knowledge.

William S. Sykora took serious argument with several of Mr. Smith's statements, particularly those regarding the difficulty of projecting a narrow beam any amount of distance without diffusing its energy too greatly. Sykora based his argument on an experiment of Nikola Tesla, who claimed to have successfully had energy travel along a prescribed wavelength for a considerable distance.

Raymond Van Houten gave his report on train reservations to take large groups of Esfa members down to the Philcon. It was decided to have the Secretary contact all members and have them forward replies to Mr. Van Houten as to which would be able to make the 10:00 A. M. (Eastern Daylight Time) train out of New York-Newark.

R. H. Rosen and Langley Searles asked that the Esfa make it clear, at the Philcon, that it reserved the right to continue its winter conventions along the lines of the First Post-War Science Fiction Convention, held in Newark on March 3, 1946, as a Newark approximation of the annual Philly Conference, if it so desired. None is planned at present and the Esfa does not intend to bid for the 1948 World Science Fiction Convention.

James V. Taurasi found himself unable to cut his regular record of the stf news of the month, so he orally gave the highlights of the events of the past month. (Taurasi was able to cut said record later and will play it at the next meeting.)

AUGUST W. DORLETH will be the guest speaker at the September 7th, 1947 meeting of the Esfa. Bob Tucker also plans to attend.

--No report has come in this month from THE PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY or THE PORTLAND SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY--

The Fantasy Corner

This department is open to all readers of FANTASY TIMES, as space where they can get their opinions "off their chest". We welcome all opinions, good or bad, on FANTASY-TIMES and the articles presented therein. We also welcome opinions on the fantasy field, pro or fan. Let's have your letters.

FIRST THIS MONTH WE HAVE A LETTER FROM OUR THEATRE EDITOR WHO DISAGREES WITH OUR LAST MONTH'S EDITORIAL:

REBUTTLE: ARE SCIENCE FICTION FANS SUCKERS?

Yes! IF they listen to "so-called" members of fandom who gripe about the current "so called" high prices...

In the September 1947 issue of FANTASY-TIMES, in an editorial, Thomas S. Gardner, not lightly, imprecates "so-called" high prices in the science-fiction magazine field. Undoubtedly, Mr. Gardner thinks that 35¢ for THE AVON FANTASY READER is too much! Maybe so; maybe so.... but comparatively (if you've noticed for the past four or five years) the prices of science-fiction magazines has not jumped up to exorbitant peaks as much as some other magazines out of our field.

No one can't argue that prices, prices for every item, has gone up; candy, selling for two or three cents has gone up to a nickel; nickel candy still going higher; clothing, the cost almost doubling since before the war; food, well! I don't think anyone needs any suggestions here; jewelry, furniture, paper, and practically every item you can think of has gone up. But has the magazine gone up? Remarkably NO! It hasn't. The price of WEIRD TALES fluctuated greatly; in 1942, and thereabouts, the cost was 25¢; later, it was lowered to 15¢; and very recently the price was jacked up to 20¢.

To make it short, Mr. Gardner says that, although seemingly the AVON FANTASY READER costs very (very, very chants Mr. Gardner) little to produce, the cover price is 35¢; ten cents higher (says Mr. Gardner) than ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION; and still higher (continues Mr. Gardner) than PLANET, THRILLING WONDER and STARTLING. Okay, I admit it: BUT WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? "What a racket! Avon, give the readers a square deal, your profits must be exorbitant by now; cut the price to 25¢ like other pocket books," writes Mr. Gardner. Nice sentiments! Mr. Gardner seems to forget although he seems to imply it throughout his little discourse, that Avon is NOT forcing each and every fan to GO to the newstand, and BUY a copy of the FANTASY READER, that Avon does NOT have secret agents carrying little pistols ready to shoot anyone that DOES NOT buy a copy; that Avon is increasing the price of the FANTASY READER as PUNISHMENT, or out of SPITE; & that Avon is a crooked concern attempting to "GYP" every buyer....if anyone doesn't like the price of the FANTASY READER, just DO NOT BUY IT. Nobody is forcing you. You're a SUCKER, if you (knowing the price), buy it, and read the mag.; and then GRIPE. DON'T BUY IT, then you won't have to GRIPE.

If Mr. Gardner knows, also, that FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES cuts their novels sometimes and that Avon's prices are high, why is HE the SUCKER and buy those mags? If he is being altruistic, and if he's thinking of other readers, why should he put in his two cents when the buyers themselves don't object? Says Mr. Gardner, "To my surprise I have heard very few kicks from the fans." Why should they kick? Mr. Gardner writes, "...They (The buyers of AVON FANTASY READER) have been hypnotised by the fancy covers..." Again, I say why should they kick? I don't know about other fans, but for me, if I can be "hypnotised by the fancy covers", the magazine is worth 35¢ and even more.

David Kishi

(Well there you are Mr. Gardner, want to answer? How about you readers of FANTASY-TIMES, what's your opinion?)

OUR SECOND LETTER THIS MONTH IS FROM MR. ROGER P. GRAHAM WHO ANSWERS GARDNER'S BROKEN RECORD THAT WE PUBLISHED LAST ISSUE,

Dear Doctor,

Your article entitled THE BROKEN RECORD was brought to my attention, and needs replying. Of course, your article condemns you by itself to any who have read my articles that you commented on. It makes one wonder how you could possibly have earned a doctor's degree, when you confuse such a simple thing as "P FINELY SCRATCHED IN REFLECTING SURFACE OF MIRROR" which appears in bold type in the diagram illustrating the experiment, and on page 153, column two, line 20, "and the first transit is centered on a thin line scratched in the silver of the mirror".

in YOUR article you badly state that "the light is reflected from the silvered back of the mirror and the scratch 'cuts' (whatever that is) from the top". You then advise me to "use a painted line on a smooth metal surface and watch them check!"

It must be concluded that either you did not read the article you are discussing (in which case you exhibit a form of dishonesty deplorable in one who flings his degree of doctor around with such recklessness), or you did read it and exhibit a mental carelessness and irresponsibility that makes one DOUBT the validity of your title of doctor. (for how could you have passed in your classes?).

I would suggest that YOU try the experiment, - something you OBVIOUSLY would not do, because if the results were to verify mine you would have to shush them or hook onto the handwagon of what you consider "crackpotism".

I have tried the experiment several times since the appearance of my article on ether-drift and verified the existence of an ether-drift TOWARD the Earth's center beyond question. If you were a TRUE scientist, you would not turn your back snarfully on a simple experiment you can perform yourself which strikes at the basics of present science so directly. A scientist looks for TRUTH in PROOF and stands ready to throw his former beliefs overboard without a qualm if they are PROVEN false.

My sincere thanks for the fact that you did not OPENLY accuse me of "stealing" some of Lorentz's stuff and advancing it as my own. The implication is there, but buried so deeply that most readers would have missed it. Unfortunately, I do not have Lorentz's works at my disposal, so I can't check on your statement that he covered the same

ground twenty-five years ago. If you would kindly give the title of the book you refer to, and the pages, I would be grateful to you as I welcome all constructive help.

But I would like to point out that IF Lorentz brought mass-energy into the framework of Newtonian mechanics twenty-five years ago, then WHY hasn't science DONE SOMETHING about it? Be that as it may, there is a continuation of that article to appear in the near future which I feel quite sure Lorentz did NOT write ahead of me, that uses the same mathematics you ACCEPT in your remarks about the unification-f-mass article, which will show that gravity is the result of a push by small particles existing as a universal swarm, or dynamic "ether", - thus supporting my contention that there should be an ether-drift TOWARD the earth.

In the beginning of your comments on my two articles you refer to an article supposed to be written by me, which "turned out to be elementary and partially incorrect calculus of variations and some probability."

That statement is totally FALSE, and I have a right to demand a retraction. I have never written such an article. You could not possibly be referring to the Frame Concept of Numbers Space and Time, which is the ONLY OTHER mathematical article by me that has appeared in AMAZING STORIES. It contained NO calculus of variations or probability whatever. And it was read and understood by many people, and ACCEPTED as being a distinct advance in PURE MATHEMATICS.

The probability of error you exhibit in your comments makes it doubtful that YOU could understand it.

You see, your trouble is that when you got your degree you immediately stopped learning. By your attitude you show that you could not accept anything not in standard textbook. You OBVIOUSLY couldn't learn anything correctly without careful tutoring because you can't even interpret what you read correctly.

If you confined your brand of "scientific attitude" to your circle of hero worshippers, it would not be harmful, but you are irresponsible enough to comment authoritatively in the printed page on things you have not read or have not read correctly. In the long run it will only work harm to yourself and to a few readers who trust your judgement, because whether you think so now or not, the ether-drift experiment will be ACCEPTED before many more years have passed. Much of your LEARNING will be obsolete and then you will be stuck, my dear doctor.

In closing, I wish to issue you this challenge. If you have a doctor's degree in science or in anything else except literature, you have undoubtedly learned how to do experiments of a rudimentary sort, and with a rudimentary amount of skill. Assuming you have a certain amount of intellectual honesty, I CHALLENGE you to perform the ether-drift experiment as I outlined it, and take a picture of it when the thing is set up so that I can be sure you DID it. THEN publish your opinion of my conclusions.

If you don't accept this challenge, the challenge plus your statement that you REFUSED to accept it will appear in AMAZING STORIES. Are you AFRAID to do the experiment, Dr. Gardner?

REMEMBER, if you fake the experiment and come out with a statement that the results prove no ether-drift, I will MAKE YOU OUT A LIAR, because I have another ace up my sleeve which PROVES BEYOND DOUBT OR POSSIBILITY OF ERROR that there IS such a drift.

Meanwhile, at least READ what you comment on so authoritatively, will you?

FANTASY-TIMES

Yours truly,
Roger P. Graham

Mr. Graham, now that you've had your say, we'll turn you over to Mr. Gardner and let him take care of you, which we're sure he's well able to. We'll be expecting a letter from you, Mr. Gardner, for our next issue.

Now Mr. & Mrs. Fantasy-Times Reader, let's see if we can't get a few items straighten out concerning this issue. It's late, about a week so, we're sorry, but a number of personal items came up near the end of the month and spoiled our scheduled. In fact it prevented us from going to the PHILCON, darn it, We should be right on time with our next issue, tho.

You'll not find Tucker's FAN-ZINE REVIEW in this issue, probably his coming East to the PHILCON and business caused that. We hope that he can return in our next issue.

Alex Osheroff was suppose to have an index of where to get the books he mentions in his fine column, TOME TALK, but the PHILCON prevented him from making it this issue. The next issue, he says!

We never intended to have the readers' column this long, but those two letters had to get in, so-----. Next issue we hope to have room for some of the many fine letters you've sent in. If we haven't answered your letter, please forgive us, we'll do so, first chance we get.

An "exciting" phone-call informs us that Derloth's magazine will not be called FANTASY ALBUM. By the next issue, we should have the right name for you.

You'll be interested to know that the AVALON COMPANY has announced that all the linotyping for LIFE EVERLASTING has been completed and is now being corrected. The boys are right on schedule. If you haven't ordered

your copy better do so now before the price jumps.

We'll see you next month.

-James V. Taurasi

ON THE NEWSSTANDS

-continued from page 4, column 2-

as usual. Departments all OK, but we miss Brass Tacks. Glad to hear that E/E. Mensman Smith is coming. Napoli, and Cartier turn out some super illustrations with Timmins taking top rating with his wash drawing. We don't like Rogers' inside work. We rate this issue a shade higher than B plus.

Out also this month were the October issues of AMAZING STORIES and FANTASTIC ADVENTURES.

Advertisements

WANTED: 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 issues of ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE. State issues and prices James V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Blvd., Corona, New York.

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