

FANTASY-TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

VOL.3-NO 3

MARCH 1948

WHOLE NO 63

TORCON SWINGS INTO ACTION

WHY EDITORS GNT GRAY by Sam Moskowitz

The first printing of Groff Conklin's fine anthology THE BEST OF SCIENCE FICTION contained an unusual error that almost no one noted. There was a story listed titled "The Monster from Nowhere" by Donald Wandrei and full credit was given to prior publication in "The Eye and the Finger" published by Arkham House. This story was actually written by Nelson S. Bond as a comparison of Wandrei's story with the one in the "BEST" will speedily divulge. The editor, Groff Conklin had the correct listing, but the publishers, who are science-fiction readers thought he was mistaken and without consulting him changed the author's name and obtained reprint permission from Arkham House instead of Bond.

Thomas S. Gardner begins his review of 1947 with AMAZING STORIES: On page 3.

CAMPBELL NO LONGER EDITOR OF AIR TRAILS

John W. Campbell, Jr. is no longer editor of AIR TRAILS AND SCIENCE FRONTIERS and the title has been changed back to simple AIR TRAILS PICTORIAL. The format has been modified as well. Mr. Campbell now edits ASCENDING from the old offices at 79-7th Ave, New York. L. Jerome Stanton who acted in an associate capacity on ASCENDING SCIENCE FICTION has left Street & Smith for employment elsewhere.

KELLER'S BOOK ON THE PRESSES!

The Avalon Company, publishers of LIFE EVERLASTING AND OTHER TALES OF SCIENCE, FANTASY AND HORROR report that their book is now on the presses and over half the press run has been completed. In order to facilitate binding in uniform signatures of 32 pages apiece the book will contain 382 pages (62 more than advertised) -continued on page 2-

The first issue of the official TORCON Publication (The 6th World Science Fiction Convention) has appeared. It is titled TORQUE and presents the following information on the progress the TORCON SOCIETY has made. The tentative date of the convention is July 3, 4, & 5th, 1948. The Convention will not be held in a hotel but in a large hall conveniently situated near the town's down-town hotels and transportation system, The Rai-Purdy Studios, 55 Queen St., East, Toronto, Canada. Membership cards have already been printed and distributed to TORCON SOCIETY members.

Chairman of the TORCON Committee is Ned McKeown. One Dollar for membership in the TORCON SOCIETY should be mailed to him at 1398 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto Canada. Chairman McKeown urges speed in clubs recruiting and sending memberships inasmuch as the TORCON has only 10 months to prepare the convention in comparison to the PHILCON's 14 months. sm

A COSMIC PUBLICATION

FANTASY READER DELAYED BY CHANGE OF COVER

The fifth issue of the AVON FANTASY READER should be out by the time you receive this issue of FANTASY-TIMES.

Donald A. Wollheim, editor of the READER, gave out the following statement to F-T when asked about the delay.

"The delay which resulted in putting the book off schedule was an editorial decision regarding a change in cover illustration. We decided to have a different painting made rather than the one that had been originally prepared for this number. The consequent delay forced the book off our shipment and production schedules and amount in effect to dropping an issue. We believe that the change will nevertheless do the series good.

The sixth number will include Jack Williamson, Thorp McCutsky, A. Merritt, H. P. Lovecraft, David H. Keller, and others.

Beginning with the fifth number, our covers will illustrate the lead story of the book."

KELLER'S BOOK

-continued from p. 1-

and the cross-indexed bibliography of all of Keller's work will be printed in a separate

brochure and distributed free to subscribers. Keller who has been vacationing in Bandera, Texas is now autographing the photos for the advance copies of the book. The price definitely rises to \$3.50 immediately upon publication. The \$3.00 price will be honored only up to the mailing date of the book, so this is practically the last call at the old price. Head bands and red stained top will be additional features of the volume. The Avalon Company operates from P.O. Box 8052, Clinton Hill Sta., Newark 8, N. J.

ON THE NEWSSTANDS

-continued from p. 10-

tation. It was dished out to us in too dull a fashion. ASF still doesn't give us enough stories for 25¢. All debts were good, the BRASS TACKS was too short as usual. Orban was the best interior artist this time. We missed Cartier. We rate this issue a very good B.

EDITORIAL

-continued from p. 10-

umn or not, we should stand together and use our energy against "Shaver" and not against each other. -jvt

ADVERTISE IN FANTASY -
TIMES AND REACH THE
MOST INTERESTED FANS!!

THE COSMIC REPORTER by Lane Stannard

THE EASTERN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION had their February meeting announced over Station WPAT, one of New Jersey's largest radio stations. For one week preceding the meeting, the listening public heard, between 8 and 8:30 A.M., that the ESFA was meeting that coming Sunday. It is understood that most future meetings will be so announced.

The March meeting of the ESFA will be a "convention" in all-but-name. They are planning a "bang-up" meeting to celebrate their 3rd anniversary. Many editors and authors are expected.

"The Ship of Ishtar" by A. Merritt as published in the current issue of FANTASTIC NOVELS is taken from the original Munsey publication and is 20,000 words longer than the book or pocket-book.

Forest J. Ackerman announced at the January 22nd meeting of the LASFS that Hannes Bok is working as an usher in a movie house and recently received a \$2 raise.

Ed Cartier has done the cover and all interiors of the current DOC SAVAGE magazine. The cover is a colored drawing and not a painting. -ls

SUPPORT THE TORCON

1947 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

1946 IN SCIENCE FICTION proved so popular when we published it last year that we asked, Mr. Gardner to review the 1947 pro magazines. As we did last year, we're publishing the poorest pro magazine first and on up, not necessarily in order to the best. —the editor.

PART I - AMAZING STORIES

January 1947 issue: The best story in the issue is R. M. Williams' Link's Alarm Bells Ringing. Not because of the writing or the plot, but because of the implications contained in the story. Shaver's The Mind Rovers has already been reviewed in FANTASY-TIMES. Some stuff as past. The other stories may be passed up.

February 1947 issue: The best story of this issue is E. Sturgeon's Blabbermouth. It will remind you of too many things today, and will strike your funny bone (I hope). W. D. Hamilton's Orphan of Atlans is a fair adventure story. B. Livingston's Land of the Damned is worth reading.

March 1947 issue: This issue has the honor of having the most confused, illogical, hash of trash to appear in AMAZING STORIES. I refer of course to H. Hauser's Titans Battle. I am ashamed of RAP for pre-

senting it. Why doesn't Hauser go on back to Germany as he intimates he wants to in his infamous They Germans Talk Back. D. Liska's Warlord of Peace is a short story that is very timely.

April 1947 issue: This issue is readable. Adventure, Sherman's All Aboard for the Moon is very much like the stories written in 1930. A queer little short, 'I, John Cotter', by M. Cooke may intrigue you for its relation to past so-called supernatural occurrences.

May 1947 issue: E. Petaja's The Ancestral Thread is the best story of the issue.

June 1947 issue: This issue can be completely ignored. It is devoted to the Shaver mythos only. It has been reviewed in FANTASY-TIMES.

July 1947 issue: C. S. Geier comes through with an interesting space opera, Hidden City. The Weapon by Williams is well done. The other stories are

readable.

August 1947 issue: Rog Phillips has his best story in this issue, So Shall Ye Reap. This novel is worth reading. Contrary to the statement on page 17, cellulose is not a constituent of the cell walls of mammals. The other stories are readable, except that you'll get bored with Shaver's contribution.

September 1947 issue: Well, here is an old time space opera, E. Hamilton's The Star Kings. It is reminiscent of 1928. I thoroughly enjoyed it although it will never be classed even as a near classic. Just a space opera that puts adventure above everything else. Rog Phillips' The Uninvited Guest will hit you as being everything the title states. Worth reading.

October 1947 issue: Rog Phillips' The De-spellers is a good story. Also read F. M. Deegan's The Third Bolt and Voice From A Star by W. F. MacIver. Both are slightly off-trail and I liked them.

November 1947 issue: This issue contains one of Don Wilcox's poorest novels, The Giants Of Mogo. While reading this story I had the damndest sensation that Wilcox was trying to write a satire on science-fiction. It is boring in many places,

and hard to finish. After praising Rog Phillips' stories in preceeding issues, I wish to mention that And Eve Was is far below his usual caliber of writing. Too much Shaver-type mythos, and plain buncum in it.

December 1947 issue: H. M. Sherman's The Green Man Returns should have been a top story, but it falls down in narrative appeal. Actually it is written as if Sherman hopes that he is writing the future, that is a 'utopian' type of novel. This story is not as good as the first, The Green Man. Say Mr. Sherman, why the dream ending of the preceeding story, and bingo, the factual setting of this? You didn't explain. Last year I criticized your puerile ending. Shaver's Of Gods and Goats is fairly good. I believe that it could have been turned into a really good story with proper treatment. G. Archette's The World Beyond will be liked very much by those who are 'religiously inclined'. -tsg

Thomas S. Gardner will present his 1947 review of FANTASTIC ADVENTURES in our next issue. -ed

WANTED--WANTED--WANTED
Complete set of FANTASY-NEWS. J. V. Tardasi
101-02 Northern Blvd.,
Corona, New York.-----

Radio Fantasy

by Dave Reiner

Considering the relative scarcity of real stf or fantasy on our radio networks, I must have hit a particularly lucky streak today, Tuesday, December 20th. Here's what I caught within the period 5 to 8 PM:

(1) At 5 PM, on Station WGBS (Columbia Broadcasting System), the "American School of the Air" program as its weekly "Tales of Adventure" offering, an excellent radio adaptation of Fredric Brown's THE STAR MOUSE. This delightful bit of whimsy originally appeared in an issue of "Planet Stories" in 1942. It has since been anthologized in "Adventures in Time and Space" ---- that top-notch collection of stf edited by Raymond J. Healy and J. Francis McComas. Recounting in a smoothly-pleasant style the ill-fated adventures of "The Star Mouse" -- Mitkey Mouse, I saw more clearly than ever before that radio has for far too long overlooked a rich source of story material; namely, the stf and fantasy magazine field.

(2) And later on, at 8 PM, (WOR, Mutual), the weekly "Mysterious Traveler" program featured a curious blend

of science fiction and hackneyed "whodunnit" stuff. It seems that the co-author of this show is none other than Robert Arthur, a fellow who not too long ago produced quite a few stories for the stf 'zines and who is now devoting himself to radio mystery scripting. Anyway, the night's tale was a tantalizing something called "Into 2480 A.D." ---- a title guaranteed to bring a glazed look of expected ecstasy into the eyes of the most jaded fantasy bug. So I listened avidly. I was enjoying the cleverly developed story of the escaped murderer who ends up in the foul clutches of a recluse scientist. I nodded excitedly when the mad scientist announced to the unlucky criminal that he was going to be placed in a state of suspended animation (where have I heard that one before!) for a few years and then reawakened so as to be able to corroborate the old boy's theories of the effects of pickling on the human system.

At this point, I licked my chops and said: Great stuff! Now they'll send the guy into the future and he'll wake up and ---- And it worked out that way. Up to a point. Sure enough, the criminal awakes to find himself surrounded by

a couple of strangely-garbed characters who are mumbling something about "--- the Sleeper is finally opening his eyes."

Our mug-hero wonders what the hell is going on. He soon finds out. It appears that he has overslept. About 5 centuries or so. And it is now the year 2480! Furthermore, they know nothing of his past record of criminality, only that he was found in the deserted ruins of the mad scientist's lab. Complications set in when he also discovers that the world of men has degenerated into a sluggish playground wherein war is abolished, weapons unknown and everybody just sits around and has a good time doing nothing. Our boy is disgusted with the state of the world, being a bloodthirsty lad from way back. Good fortune seems to smile on him when a pretty girl smiles at him and tells him that the others are his enemies and that she wants to help him. It seems that the gal is a member of a rebel group of malcontents who are fed up with the soft, aimless life and who want to rule the world with a firm, ruthless hand. All of which appeals to him. Only, since nobody knows nothing about guns, or bombs (seems that in 1975 the "War

of Destruction" brought desolation to the planet, and the survivors rebuilt, discarding all instruments of self-destruction)---it would be nice of our murderer-friend if he would show them how to construct guns and stuff so's they can take over the world. At this point, the unpardonable sin is committed. Probably to ap-

T h a d E n d

pease some dizzy radio vice president, a hoax ending is rung in. Yeah, one of those deals where it all turns out to be a dream or a clever scheme to uncover the killer's buried treasure. In this case, the latter trick is used. But aside from the last 60 seconds or so, it was a stimulating trip into the future.

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY

by Ray Van Houten

Many better men than your humble reporter are worrying in print nowadays about the world of tomorrow. The impact of the atomic bomb and its correlative problems and possibilities have set every thinking man's mind running on the tracks which lead to the future. That impact has been so brutal that no broad trend of human relations has remained unchanged.

Science-fiction has dealt, in a callow way, with many worlds of tomorrow in the past twenty-five years or so. Stories which postulated atomic energy have been commonplace, and "atomic wars" have been stock situations of the Schachners, the Hamil-

tons, and the Galluns.

It cannot be said, therefore, that science-fiction fans, if indeed they are the intelligent, forward-looking, star-reversers that the Gernsback press and others have told them they were, are totally unaware of what is almost certainly going to happen next.

The daily papers cackle incessantly, and the Sunday sheets luridly elaborate, on the theme that "the next war" is inevitable and is even now bulging over the horizon. Would-be candidates for the Presidency of the United States vie with each other in their estimates of what will have to be spent on armed

preparedness and intimate archly that under their administration, the US will have an atomic bomb stockpile big enough to 'destroy' every city on earth.

Except our own, of course. The other side will take care of them.

Bernard Baruch whatever his other shortcomings may be, seems to have coined the classic answer to the stockpile boys.

"It seems," he is reported to have said, "That we will run out of people, before we run out of ammunition."

The world's speed record for land travel has been broken; in fact, almost tripled. No sort of official attempt was made to set the new record, but it now stands at 1,019 mph.

The feat was accomplished by the Northrup Aircraft Company, financed by the US War Department, at Muroc Air Base, California. The vehicle which did it was a rocket-powered, rail-guided sled.

It's all part of the intensive research to break the "super-sonic barrier" which lies damperously across the path to more speed in the air. Engineers concerned with the problem found that wind-tunnels, in which a high-velocity current of air is con-

fined and directed down a large tube, were almost useless to them because the air-current jammed when the barrier was approached.

The sled is described as an "open-air wind tunnel," and it is fitted with jigs and instruments so that any part of an airplane may be mounted and tested for its efficiency in super-sonic movement through the air.

The details are meagre, but it is known that the sled traversed 2,000 feet of standard gauge rail in less than two seconds and then plunged

on to bury itself somewhere in the desert.

The acceleration and thrust which these figures reveal indicate an enormous advance in rocket engine development since the last figures were published. The goal of interplanetary travel, which seems to have been pushed far into the background, may now be a fact except for actual accomplishment. Fulfillment, apparently, will have to wait until a new line of super-sonic warplanes have been readied for the production line. -rvh

The End

Fantasy in the Theatre

—by David Kishi—

Fantasy films for the past year, 1947, has been of not high quality. However, a few were of some conceivable value. These pictures were The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, The Bishop's Wife, and Down to Earth. But only three of only average quality is rather disheartening. There must be a reason for this poor representation, and this reason, apparently, is standardization. Fantasy to Hollywood means monsters, angels, ghosts, werewolves, and other kindred perversions; thus, we get a steady

(we don't hope) stream of inane, silly, fatuous, stupid ----- we won't say adolescent --- screen plays. However, the "blame" for the poor quality should not be entirely unloaded on these unwary producers. We, the movie-seers, are not free from "guilt". The typical movie-goer is not intelligent enough to understand anything comparably adult so Hollywood, in order to keep their yearly returns up to quota, are forced to present stories which are able to be enjoyed by these typical movie-goers. Therefore, if we want

fantasy films of a better grade, we should hope that some theatre goers would change their standards or that the producers would would change their present policy of "pleasing the people". However, I doubt if there will be any change, and amelioration of our plight is not in sight but we, at least, can hope (nice word!) for improvements in the film industry in 1948. Happy New Year!

NEWS DEPARTMENT:

Edward Golden and his son, United Artists Producers, have obtained Guy Madison and Diana Lynn for the leads in their next film, Texas, Heaven and Brooklyn, a fantasy about a Texas newspaper man. The play has been adapted from the Barry Benefield novel, Eddie and the Archangel Mike, for the screen by Lewis Meltzer.

Department for Pseudo-Intellectuals:

Last year, Stairway to Heaven, was produced by the British; and after we saw it, the thought struck us -- Was the film straight fantasy or was it allegory? We figured it out and reached a definite end. Now, we are wondering whether other film goers were intrigued by that question. What are your opinions? Write to this column. Logical, intelligent, and interesting replies will

be reprinted. Please make it as brief as possible.

KUDOS DEPARTMENT:

We must praise the producers of The Secret
The End

ret Life of Walter Mitty for their excellent work in technicolor photography. its clarity is stimulating!

The End

FANTASY BOOK NOTES

by J. Harry Vincent

The Lurking Fear in the miniature Avon pocket-sized book boasts a ghoulish cover and 223 pages. It does not repeat any of the previous (Bart House) "Lovecraft" pocketbooks" tales but reprints five of the tales in The Dunwich Horror & Other Weird Tales, the Armed Services edition. The tales reprinted from above are "Pickman's Model", "The Color Out of Space", "The Call of Cthulhu", "The Moon Bog" and "The Hound". Lurking Fear boasts 11 tales.

Groff Conklin's second anthology titled A Treasury of Science Fiction will be out from Crown Publishers in March. It'll have thirty tales in the main from authors not represented in the current two sf books.

Reader's Service Book Club function in last month's TOME TALK published its second illustrated folder since initiation of the sf book club with some titles listed for sale: Son of Minoas, Rory and

Bran, The Vicarion, When the Birds Fly South and Furlough From Heaven.

Otto (Eando) Binder has been signed up by Prime Press. His first book to be published by Prime Press will be Lords of Creation, first published as a serial in the 1939 ARGOSYs, and considered his best novel by many followers of sf.

Paul Spencer reports that David H. Keller's Sign of the Burning Heart, published by The National Fantasy Fan Federation, has gone to the printers; distribution sometime this spring is hoped for. First printing will be limited to 250 copies.

The Torch, published by Prime Press, is priced at \$2.50 and not \$3 as reported in last month's TOME TALK. The Torch is now at printers and is expected to be out sometime in February. It is dedicated to Ossie Train of the DFFS.

Fantasy Press' The Black Flame by Weinbaum, has been published and will be released.

ed on schedule. The advance ordered, 500 copies, will bear a drawing of Weinbaum by

Donell. Triplanetary by E. E. Smith, same company, is at the printery.

The End

duced and lithographed. This new format will allow greater use of illustrations, increased text and a generous improved appearance due to the all-lithographed production.

At the meeting of January 4, a large group was present including new member Louis D'Heedt. An advance copy of Reg Phillips's new Fan Column was brought by the de Courcys and was discussed in some detail.

Due to inclement weather, the turnout at the January 18 meeting was small. Plans were discussed to rotate the editorship of the REFS News Bulletin incorporating it with "one-shots" to be put out by different groups in the Society. Joe Salta volunteered to edit the February issue.

Also discussed was the advisability of holding a northwest regional conference late in the spring. Action on this was deferred until the next meeting.

All Fantasy Clubs are invited to send in monthly reports of their organizations.

Please renew your subscription as soon as possible as FANTASY TIMES mimeographs only enough copies to cover its subscription list.

THE FANTASY CLUBS

Organized Fandom Reports

THE PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY

The PSFS held its annual election meeting the evening of Jan 18, with an attendance of over 30 members and guests. Officers elected were: M. Rothman, president; Robert A. Madlo, vice president; Oswald Train, secretary; and Jean Bogert, treasurer.

Speaker of the evening was Theodore Sturgeon, who gave a very amusing and interesting talk on his method of writing, which he calls the "correspondence school of writing". In this system he writes the story as a letter to an imaginary character which sits opposite him and registers approval or disapproval according to the manner in which the story affects him.

During the evening, James A. Williams announced that the title for Sturgeon's forthcoming Prime Press anthology has finally been chosen. It will be called "Without Scenery -- 13 Tales by Theodore Sturgeon".

The meeting was somewhat of a high point in author attendance, as among those present were Lester del Rey, L. Sprague de Camp, Alexander M. Phillips, as well as Sturgeon.

PORTLAND SCIENCE-FANTASY SOCIETY

The Portland Science-Fantasy Society omitted the second meeting in December due to the holidays. However, in preparation of the January News Bulletin, a group assembled and as many others as possible were contacted by telephone on December 27. As a result of the telephone poll, it was decided to change The FANSCIENT to the new format that had been under discussion for some time.

Radically different from any previously used format for fanzines, it is a "pocket-size" of 4 1/4" x 5 1/2", all lithographed. Each 4 1/4" x 5 1/2" page contains the material of a letter size sheet, photographically re-

THE FANTASY CORNER

A Department For Our Readers

THOMAS S. GARDNER WRITES US A LETTER ON DAVID H. KELLER:

Dear Jimmy:

January 2, 1948

In the current controversy regarding Dr. Keller's stories I should like to call attention to several points.

Dr. Keller wrote science-fiction, fantasy, and weird fiction. He was a very versatile and a prolific writer. At the time he was selling heavily the type of writing was different from most of it today. Dr. Keller actually developed an outlook peculiar to Kelleryarns. In his stories he took human types that were different from those we encounter everyday, and used their different mental make-ups to build coherent stories about them. In fact many of his stories are fictionalized case histories in my opinion. Several times on reading his stories I came to the conclusion that Dr. Keller was all wet in depicting his characters in the light he did. Later I found out that I was all wet, and Keller right. I simply have not had the experience with abnormal mental types that Dr. Keller has, and the characters that I thought were impossible, were true to life!

Some of Dr. Keller's stuff is undoubtedly written in a poorer degree than his best. However I believe that the majority of his stories, and they are a large number, will stand up well any time for being written in a fluid manner that captures and holds the readers interest. His weirds have a touch of humor, sometimes grim and macabre, but in such a manner as to rate highly with readers of Weird Tales in years past.

In criticizing a writer it would be an advantage for the critic to know what he is talking about. For example I cannot criticize Thomas Wolfe for the simple reason I am relatively unfamiliar with the writer, but I have read a vast majority of Dr. Keller's fiction stories and can pass an opinion on them. His novels are well **plotted** and he binds up loose ends rather well. Whether one agrees with the development of the story or not is personal preference. It will be recalled that Dave Kishi blasted at me in regards to FFM and AVON FANTASY READER. In his last letter Kishi comes out that he is relatively unfamiliar with either magazine and states "I do not read FFM." Well, I have read Keller, and most of his stuff I can recommend in the fields of science-fiction, fantasy, and weird. Read his best, if you have a grievance against his work, but at least do not hold up his writing technique and compare it with anybody else. Keller is Keller.

Sincerely, Thomas S. Gardner

AND NOW FROM THE EDITOR OF THAT SWELL NEWS-SHEET, TYMPANZ:

Dear Jimmy:

....Your editorial on pro contribs. to the Philcon auction was on the line. # Always glad to see your "Newsstands" column which proves that some old-time fans do still read most or all of the pros. At any rate, you read more of 'em than I do (Planet, WT) -- and I'm not an old-timer. I tho't Alejandro's Dec. cover the best he's done and one of A-F's top 5 of '47. Dull? ... Doubt!

Redd Boggs

ON THE NEWSSTANDS

reviewed by Lane Stannard

FANTASTIC NOVELS

March 1948

FANTASTIC NOVELS

makes a dramatic revival with a beautiful cover by Lawrence. It will probably rate as the best fantasy cover of 1948. The excellent A. Merritt novel, Ship of Ishtar is well illustrated with Finlay at his best. The format of the magazine is very good. We await a good readers' column in the next issue and if future issues continue in format and material as this issue we predict that FN will be rated near the top in pro mag reviews for 1948. We welcome back FANTASTIC NOVELS and wish it success. We rate this issue an A-.

WEIRD TALES, March '48

The 25th Anniversary issue of WEIRD TALES boasts 12 good stories which we recommend to all. Most of the yarns are written by well-known weird & fantasy authors and the they are not the best stories these authors have penned, they are good. The cover, by Coyo is fair and John Giunta has the best inside illustrations. The ESFA is the only fan organization with a congratulation ad in the issue. This issue is the best WT has published in recent years. We rate it a B plus. We recommend a

readers' column and better covers for this magazine.

STARTLING STORIES

March 1948

STARTLING goes 20¢ and 143 pages on us with this issue. Borgey's cover is just fair and quite a come down from last issue's fine cover. The lead novel, One of Three is good reading, and the shorter yarns are not bad. Lawrence and Finlay take top honors for interiors. Who's the new interior artist, Mr. Merwin, he's real good. Hall of Fame story by Weinbaum is so-so. Readers' column is excellent. We're glad to see that SS & TWE will soon run a list of fan clubs. We'd like to the SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE revived on the Gernsback standard. We rate this issue an even B plus.

Astounding SCIENCE FICTION, Feb. 1948

A dull cover by Alejandro greets us on the cover. We'd like to see Cartier do this type of cover. Cosmetics, the not the best in the issue, was interesting and unusual. Children of the Lens by PE with ends with a bad let-down, but we enjoyed it. The Campbell could have given it more flavor by better presentation. -continued on page 2-

FANTASY-TIMES

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JAMES V. TAURASI, editor and publisher. Sam Moskowitz and Ray Van Heuten, co-editors; Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, science editor; David Kishi, theatre editor; Milton A. Rothman, Philadelphia editor; Don Hutchison, Canadian editor and John Giunta, art-editor.

FANS—STICK TOGETHER by James V. Taurasi

The editors of AMAZING STORIES must be having the time of their lives over the recent split among fandom over AS's fan column. We, the fans, agree on one thing as we have never agreed before. We agree that the infamous "Shaver Mystery" is a hoax and is NOT stff, but we spoil this united stand by getting at each other's neck and starting to war among ourselves over AS's fan column. We are defeating our aims by doing this. Whether we agree on this fan column -continued on page 2-