

7th Anniversary Issue

# FANTASY TIMES

September  
1948

15¢



FANDOM HOUSE



# NOTICE!

Tho the book is completely sold out, we  
CAN still supply you with a copy!

## THE SIGN OF THE BURNING HART

by Dr David H. Keller

This book is published by the NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION in a very limited edition of less than 500. Tho the book is not yet off the presses, it is completely sold out. We have a few issues of it "Up For Sale" and will ship it to you upon publication.

Here is the latest news from Paul Spencer, chairman of the NFFF Book Publishing Committee:

Sept. 11, 1948

Dear Jimmy:

The NFFF book, "The Sign of the Burning Hart", by David H. Keller, has been delayed by the bankruptcy of the original printers. However, new printers have been engaged; the book is now in production, and is expected to be ready in the latter part of November.

Sincerely,

*Paul*  
Paul Spencer

Here's is your last chance to get this book. Send \$2.25 in the form of a Postal Money Order or United States cash; and we'll mail you the book right on publication.

Also on hand is another Dr. David H. Keller book, "Life Everlasting and Other Tales of Science, Fantasy and Horror". A collection of Dr Keller's fine fantasies. Only \$3.50 in Postal Money Order or Cash. SEND YOUR ORDERS TO:

James V. Taurasi  
101-02 Northern Blvd  
Corona, New York

7th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Vol. 3 - No. 9  
Whole No. 69

# Fantasy-Times

"The World of Tomorrow Today!"

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editor and publisher  
James V. Taurasi

co-editor  
Ray Van Houten

science editor  
Dr. Thomas S. Gardner

movie editor  
Les Mayer, Jr.

art editor  
John Giunta

correspondents  
Milton A. Rothman  
Sam Moskowitz  
Gordon M. Kull  
Alvin R. Brown  
William S. Sykora  
Martin Margulies

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(British Edition of FANTASY-TIMES, edited by Ray Van Houten, is published monthly and mailed FREE to British fans only.)

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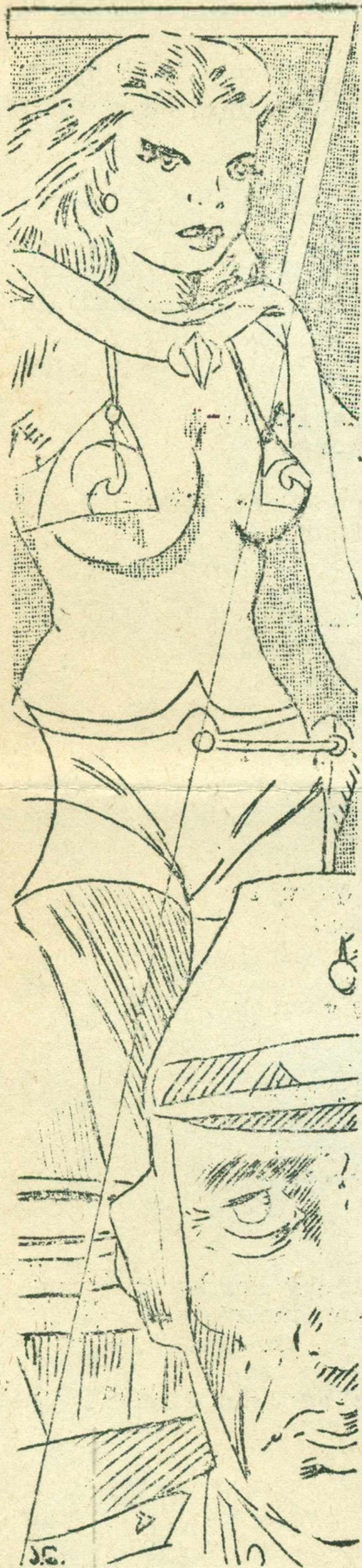
### COVER

Our cover this month is by Herman Tok and illustrates our "7th Anniversary Issue. Tok titled it "The Keeper of the Time".

Inside illustration is by John Giunta.

FANDOM HOUSE  
Publication





# EDITORIAL

by James V. Taurasi

This issue marks the 7th Anniversary of FANTASY-TIMES. In those seven years many things have happened in the field of fantasy. Many pro magazines being published in 1941 are no longer with us today: the two, FANTASTIC NOVELS and SUPER SCIENCE STORIES have been restored to us. SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, COMET, ASTONISHING STORIES COSMIC SCIENCE FICTION, STIRRING SCIENCE STORIES, SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY and UNKNOWN WORLDS were published around the 1941 area, were suspended and have to this date, not been revived. Some, we fear, will never again see the light of a newsstand. In this we are sorry, as we feel the more pro mags being published, the more of a market for authors there will be; more competition and thus for us, readers of fantasy fiction, better stories. Let us hope that in the near future some of these now dead magazines will be revived and pro fantasy will again see "The Golden Age" of pulp publication.

To get back to FANTASY-TIMES, we had hoped to bring you a super issue, but fate has decided not to let us. We had only time for 18 pages this month and our planned photo-offset cover by Giunta had to be delayed. Work for WEIRD TALES, SUPER SCIENCE and cartoon work has overloaded Giunta this month, so Tok had to be called in for a cover. We hope to present Giunta's fine photo-offset cover next month.

Next month we'll be able to present to you two new steady departments. The first, "The Blue Pencil" by Martin Margulies. This column will replace "On The Newsstands" by Lane Stannard and will review all the pro mags on the stands. You'll like this one. The second is a movie column by Les Mayer, Jr., and will take the place of Kishi's column. I think you'll find it interesting. Joe Schumburger who was suppose to do it, as announced last month, has resigned. -jrt



The Cosmic Reporter

News of the month, selected and edited by LANE STANNARD

# SUPER SCIENCE STORIES REVIVED! OUT IN NOV.!

New York (CNS) - Not being satisfied with the honor of being the first publishing house to revive a fantasy magazine in this post-war era, with the republication of FANTASTIC NOVELS, Popular Publications has taken the lead again and announced last week that it will revive SUPER SCIENCE STORIES this Fall. The tentative date of the first revival issue to hit the stands is the first week in November of 1948.

The revived magazine will contain either 128 or 144 pages and will sell for 25¢. It will be published bi-monthly and present only new fiction, as against their two other fantasy magazines, FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES and FANTASTIC NOVELS, which present mostly reprints. The cover will be by Lawrence, with future issues featuring Finlay and Lawrence. Inside illustrations will be by Paul, Finlay, Lawrence, our own John Giunta, Napoli and possibly one or two others. It will contain a Readers' Column and a fan department, "Fandom's Corner", containing news of the TORCON, and fan mag reviews, written by James V. Taurasi.

As this issue of FANTASY-TIMES goes to press, Mr. Norton of Popular Publications, has released the line-up of the first issue, see P.17 of this issue. The best of luck to your new magazine, Popular. Now let's hope that you complete the job and revive our old friend, ASTONISHING STORIES.

## QUEENS SFL PRESENTS THE "FIRST ANNUAL SCIENCE FICTION CONCLAVE"

Long Island City (CNS) - The Queens Science Fiction League, will, on September 12, present the "First Annual Science Fiction Conclave", which in reality is an eastern science-fiction convention. Invitations have already gone out and a neat program, including F. Orlin Tremaine of ASTOUNDING and COMET fame, as guest of honor. Popular Publications, WEIRD TALES, PLANET and Standard Magazines have promised original illustrations for the customary auction. We plan to report this convention in the next issue of FANTASY-TIMES.

## FANDOM HOUSE PUBLISHES FIRST ISSUE OF "BRITISH EDITION"

Fandom House has published and mailed out the first issue of the "British Edition" of FANTASY-TIMES. Ably edited by Ray Van Houten, it contains condensed news-items from the regular edition of FANTASY-TIMES and is mailed free only to British fans.



ODDS AND FANTASY

John Giunta has just finished two illustrations for WEIRD TALES. They are for two short stories, "The Big Shot" by Eric-Frank Russell and "The Last Train" by Fredric Brown. Johnny is now working on his third cover for WEIRD TALES, it will be about the "Damp Man".

The British ARGOSY, for August 1948, contains three fantasies, "Sand Girl" by Kate Thompson; "The Little Bishop" by Cledwyn Hughes and "The Glow" by Helen Popashvily.

The August 28th COLLIERS contains a fantasy, "Rain in August" by Anthony Steven and illustrated by John Pike.

FLASH: As we type this page news has reached us that the popular artist, Hannes Bok, will do some illustrating for the revived SUPER SCIENCE STORIES. It seems this mag will be well illustrated.

"Much Ado About Pending", the latest yarn in a popular series by Nelson Bond appeared in the August 1948 BLUE BOOK. It's a time-travel yarn, and well illustrated.

'Chesley' Bonestell, cover artist for ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION, has an interesting article, "When we reach the Moon" in the September 1948 issue of Street & Smith's PIC. He has illustrated the article with seven of his paintings; any of which would be fit for publication as covers for ASTOUNDING.

Cartier is illustrating the weekly detective stories in the LONG ISLAND STAR-JOURNAL and other papers thruout the country. They are excellent and are unsigned. You'll remember that Cartier first came to our attention as inside artist for the SHADOW magazine.

The two latest books published by THE FANTASY PRESS are "Sinister Barrier" by Eric Frank Russell, reprinted from the first issue of UNKNOWN and illustrated by NEW drawings of Edd Cartier, and "Beyond This Horizon" by Robert A. Heinlein and well illustrated by Robert Breck. They sell for \$3.00 each and well worth it.

Less not forget to help the coming 1949, "7th World Science - Fiction Convention" the best yet held by joining the CONVENTION SOCIETY. It costs only \$1.00 and helps make THE fan activity of 1949 a reality. Write to Donald B. Ford, 129 Maple Ave., Sharonville, Ohio. Remember it's CINCINNATI IN 1949!

A science-fiction comic-strip begins in ACTION COMICS, the SUPERMAN stronghold, in the January 1949 issue. It is called TOMMY TOMORROW and from what we've seen of the first pages it is very good. -continued on page 17-

WANTED WANTED: Complete sets of Canadian SUPER SCIENCE STORIES & UNCANNY TALES, Jas. V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Bvd, Corona, N. Y.



# The World Of Tomorrow Today

by Ray Van Houten

## FIRST ATOMIC PLANT IN DECEMBER

The news for which every science-fiction fan has been waiting these past twenty-odd years was recently released by the wire services. The first atomic plant will go into operation in December of this year.

This is the uranium pile of the Brookhaven National Laboratory of the Atomic Energy Commission at Upton, N. Y., and the tentative date was announced by Dr. Lyle Borst, designer and director.

The pile is wholly for research purposes, but is capable of delivering some 2300 KW of electricity, enough to supply the needs of a small village. It is a huge cube of yellow brick, six or seven stories high, fitted with a stack through which the air used to cool the actual uranium pile will be discharged.

The stack is 300 feet high. The air coming from the pile will be radioactive to some extent, and its long trip will dissipate most of its radiations, save those coming from the small percentage of argon in all air. These rays persist for two to four hours, but will not be dangerous in the vicinity except when a down-draft of air carries the discharged gases close to the ground. To guard against that, a 300 feet high weather tower will be erected a mile away, and when a down-draft is reported, the pile will immediately be shut down.

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## NOW ITS ROCKET SHIPS

Not content with flying saucers, observers are now reported as having seen full-fledged Buck Rogers rocket ships.

Two airline pilots said they had met a two-decked wingless plane on their way from Houston, Texas, to Atlanta, Georgia. The phenomenon was sighted near Montgomery, Alabama, shortly after midnight and was described as "a strange ship shooting red flames, and with a blue glow underneath the fuselage." It was headed toward New Orleans. The observers said further: "....its fuselage appeared to be about 100 feet in length and about four times the circumference of a B-29 fuselage. It had two rows of windows, an upper and a lower. They were square. Out of the rear of the ship red flames were shooting 25 to 50 feet. There was a blue glow underneath the fuselage. The ship appeared to be doing between 500 and 700 mph, heading toward New Orleans. When it got alongside us

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# 1947 in Science Fiction

by Thomas S. Gardner

## PART VII - ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION (conclusion)

1947 has been a very successful year with ASTOUNDING. A 11 stories published rate good on any scale although there are variations on the ASTOUNDING scale. The articles were outstanding with perhaps a criticism that a little too much electronics were involved. I would like to see an extension of the scientific articles to cover a broader scope than electronics, astronomy, nucleonics, and rocketry. In review, let us discuss some of the outstanding stories of 1947.

January 1947 issue: This year was marked with a flood of atomic doom stories. Padgett's Tomorrow and Tomorrow poses a problem - that might arise. Suppose the Atomic Security Regulations do work? Will everyone be satisfied under the restrictions? Read and see. A queer little story by Chandler, Bad Patch struck me as having more in it than meets the eye. Power may be many kinds. Perhaps a barbarian can have some of it. Smith's (G. O. not Doc) has a story Command that is full of human interest, atomic bombs, and futility. Take a drink before reading it.

February 1947 issue: R. F. Jones' Pete Can Fix It is another atomic doom story that offers a solution, by using the time paradox of a man meeting himself, and ends with the paradox preventing a successful solution, in my opinion.

March 1947 issue: J. Williamson in an excellent story The Equalizer falls into the fallacy of world builders, utopians, and people who worry about the death of the human race. The question, if you had a machine with plenty of power to make anything you wanted, would you solve social problems, all of them? Make evil men good? The greatest fallacy is that people would abandon all cities to live an urban or rural life if given the opportunity - to have all they want without the inconveniences of present day life. Wrong, Jack. People live in cities because they like them, and although many people might abandon them, the cities would continue. Incidentally the self sufficient city machine was used in the fourth story of Laurence Manning's Man Who Awoke Series. That resulted in a very selfish type of individual. This is a story to argue about. W. Tenn's Child's Play will amuse you no end.

April 1947 issue: A. M. Phillips An Enemy of Knowledge is an excellent story of the post atomic war during the period of the barbarians. The story is humanly told and strikes one's sympathy, to such an extent that you want to kill the hero of the story!



Every one I have talked with liked the story, and all disliked the conclusion. The same kind of fear destroys everything as shown by the driving motif of the story. A logical development would be, instead of holding back the rebuilding of civilization to prevent future wars, would be to eliminate the human race entirely. The hero however simply wanted to keep the race on a primitive level to prevent killing! Past history does not bear out the theory. I am getting a little tired of van Vogt's series, of which Homo of the Gods was in this issue. The use of the deus ex machina to solve the situation is horse radish. Padgett's Project is a very clever solution of getting homo superior in control without a schism in the race. The story is too clever, you won't believe it. Sorry, Clement, the problem you propose in Answer, is I believe incorrect. Essentially, the human being cannot understand himself. I disagree. Give him a little time. Real research and thinking is only about a hundred years old ~~your~~ your grandfather lived in a time when there was very little. Assuming no catastrophe to civilization, your grandchildren can properly evaluate the problem.

May 1947 issue: Ah, the best novel of the year, L. O'Donnell's Fury. A sufficient canvas painted by a master. This is the first story in which the psychology of an immortal (av. life about 800 years) has been treated at an adult level. The story must have a sequel, for remember; Sam Awoke! I should like to call attention to E for Effort by W. L. Sherrod for those wishing to prevent war and helping mankind. I must recommend Padgett's Jesting Pilot because of the setting, and Sturgeon's Tiny and the Monster for the story of a very human alien. You'll love the monster.

June 1947 issue: van Vogt's Centaurus II rings the bell as a document of a probable voyage of interstellar exploration. It may be closer to the future than one realizes. Human problems go on even around the atomic engines of a space ship, and generations forget! We have already forgotten Pearl Harbor in six years. How long would it take for us to forget other things? Can people cooperate perfectly for any length of time? van Vogt's answer is no!

July 1947 issue: J. Williamson's story With Folded Hands gave me the cold shivers when I read it. Better the extinction of mankind than that. Would you like a life in which everything, literally everything was done for you and you couldn't even cook a meal, use a screw driver, nor any physical effort that might be dangerous to you? In which your life, mental, physical, and moral were closely supervised to prevent harm to yourself? If you think so, read this story.

August 1947 issue: L. Ron Hubbard's The End is Not Yet was the biggest disappointment of the year in ASTOUNDING'S serials. Hubbard can do better. I must point out that M. Leinster's stories usually stand out in their deep felt human treatment of incidents. For example, Propagandist.



September 1947 issue: E. Frank Russel's Hobbyist is an excellent story concerning the origin of planetary forms of life, except the creator, which supposes another origin, and so on ad infinitum. Anyway you will enjoy the enigma of the planet in which every life form seemed to be unrelated. A testing laboratory often presents this aspect! Should a biological proving ground be different?

October 1947 issue: R. Lafayette introduces one of the most interesting characters in science fiction, in Ole Doc Methuselah. The immortal physician has to become a slight backslider to his code in order to straighten out a tangled mess of lesser mortal affairs. It is interesting to note the method of immortality used, injection, of some type of serum at regular intervals. So far as we know that is one vector of five or six lines of research toward a longer life. Peter Cartur's Target is too good -- I get the shivers on thinking of it. We are not quite ready to fight an armed galaxy, but incidents leading to war may be accidental, or wrongly interpreted. F. B. Long's Collector's Item sounds like collecting may amount to something after all. I would like to get a few disks giving directions to make certain machines, chemical processes -- work, etc. from the year three thousand, always assuming continued progress. What would you like to have from the future? Incidentally an interesting problem struck me the other night. Many stories depict the building, or finding of a time machine and going into the future. With the present world prospects would you go into the future now? Remember a first class atomic war can end mankind, and at least make uninhabitable most of the earth. Suppose you are living in the best time ever to occur on the earth due to the end of mankind, and the best time is in New York City right today? Still would you take a chance on hopping ahead ten years, twenty, a hundred, a thousand? Frankly I have my doubts insofar as I am concerned.

November 1947 issue: Doc. E. E. Smith's long awaited Children of the Lens starts. I plan to write a review for Fantasy-Times, so will merely state here that Doc, like any good scientists, raises more problems to be solved than he solves. My vote for the best story of the year goes to Sturgeon's Thunder and Roses, in spite of the fact that the story is based on a fallacy. The story is well written, and grips ones interest. The fallacy lies in that people would decide to save the human race under the premises given, genetic breakdown, and practically reversion to the beast stage. Why save it? I have discussed this point with several scientists who read the story. So far they said they would counter-attack and end the sorry story.

December 1947 issue: C. D. Simak's Aseop is worthy of mention, also A. Coppet's Age of Unreason. The Dreamers by M. Yamin brings another problem of the atomic age. Frankly I would like to see a curtailment of the doom stories, as they begin to pall. If we have chaos, well, do we have to put up with it now? If the readers of ASTOUNDING could prevent it, or even knew of a method, I would be for them, but as it is, they get stale after a while. So 1947 ends for ASTOUNDING with an astounding number of good stories. -tsg



# THE TORCON REPORT

by William S. Sykora

## PART II - THE SECOND DAY

The second day of the Convention began at about 2:00 PM. McKeown announced that a "buffanet", a sort of buffet dinner, would be held the third night of the convention. He requested more support for this as the TORCON SOCIETY had guaranteed 100 diners at \$2.00 per plate.

He also announced the future publication of "THE TORCON MEMORY BOOK", a compilation of all the speeches and events at the convention. Beak Taylor was called on and he expanded the idea of the memory book. He also announced that typewriters had been provided in the lobby so that fans could write their impressions of the convention on the spot for inclusion in the book. He said lots of illustrations and photos would be included and advertising space sold. The price and other details were to be announced later in a special circular.

Erle Korshak was then called to the platform to act as auctioneer. Eighty-seven items consisting of books, original paintings, and illustrations which had been used to decorate the hall were then auctioned off. Ned McKeown stated that names of successful bidders would be recorded with the items they had purchased, and requested that all the items be returned and left in their places until the convention was over.

Korshak's style of auctioneering was quiet and sophisticated, with the result that the auction was very orderly and without confusion, though there were many tense moments particularly during bidding duels between two fans who wanted the same item very badly.

The bidding sequence which created the greatest sensation was that between Al Prime of Philadelphia and Harry Moore of New Orleans. The item up for auction was the original Finlay cover in color for the June 1943 FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES illustrating "The Devil's Spoon". It was knocked down to Moore for \$70.00, the highest amount ever bid for any item in any auction. This single item brought more than the total for all of the hundreds of rarities sold at the NEW YORK CONVENTION in 1939. The high price made it necessary for Moore to sell some of the books he had purchased in the Toronto bookstores. About a dozen of these brought a return of \$17.75 after the main auction was over.

The highest price paid for a book was \$12.50, but this was a signed copy of Campbell's "Who Goes There", with the original



signed mss. for each of the seven stories thrown in. The highest price paid for a single book was for the French edition of Dr. Keller's "La Guerre du Lierre". This brought \$11.00. The next highest price paid for a book was \$10.00 for a signed copy of "Slan" by A. E. van Vogt. All other books sold for close to the publishers' prices.

Two unpublished illustrations by Russell Swanson received the second and third highest bids, \$17.00 and \$16.00 respectively. These were a painting in blue pastel of the Andromeda nebula, and a painting in full color of an eclipse of the sun. The latter was bought by Mrs. Dave MacInnes of Baltimore. Both of these were framed under glass. Several black and white linays brought up to \$11.00, while the original jacket illustration for Fantasy Press' "Beyond This Horizon" was bought by Fred Harter for \$13.50. By and large, the original illustrations brought far higher prices than the books.

Only two items in the auction were neither illustrations nor books. These were a letter written by Richard S. Shaver and a sign on Dave MacInnes' car saying, "En Route to Torcon" and full of autographs of visiting fans. The Shaver letter had to be auctioned off twice because the first high bidder reneged on his bid of one dollar. Auctioned off again immediately, it was finally knocked down for fifteen cents. The sign was bought for \$1.00.

About the middle of the auction, a recess was called by John Millard for the Big Pond Fund Raffle conducted by Fannie Ackerman, the proceeds to be used to defray some of the expenses of a British fan coming to the next Convention. The prizes offered were three original cover illustrations from the Spring 1932 WONDER QUARTERLY, one of the first Summer issues of THRILLING WONDER STORIES, and the cover for the issue containing Ray Cummings' "Wings of Icarus". Tickets were sold at a dollar each, and about \$50.00 worth were sold. Dr. Keller won the first drawing and chose the old Quarterly cover, a Paul drawing. Ned McKeown won the second and chose the Summer TWS cover. The final drawing was won by Alex Oshereff who got the remaining prize.

At the time of calling the recess, Millard announced that 229 fans had joined the TORCON SOCIETY and that 157 were in attendance at the convention. Approximately 90 people were in the hall at this point.

The total gross proceeds of the auction proper were \$538.45 for just 100 items, of which 87 were listed in the catalog supplied by the Torcon Society. The first item sold was the book "The Opener of the Way" for \$3.25 and the last item was a decorative initial "S", a chapter heading for Fantasy Press' "Triplane-tary", for which I paid four dollars.

Harry Moore requested and obtained permission of the conventioners to auction off some of the books he had purchased in Toronto. This, the last event of the auction, brought \$17.75, bring-



ing the grand total spent by the fans to the unprecedented sum of \$556.20.

The second day's evening session featured Bob Tucker's report of the constituents of fandom. His talk, accompanied by charts prepared by Mari Beth Wheeler, revealed, among many other things, that most fans are between the ages of 18 and 35, that most are single, atheists or agnostics, have had sexual relationships, intend to marry, like ASTOUNDING, and are widely divergent in their estimates of the number of fans. About 175 people replied his questionnaire. The survey had its humorous aspects as well. Tucker plans to publish the results in book form in collaboration with a psychiatrist.

Tucker's talk was followed by the introduction of the editors present. The only pro editor there was Donald A. Wollheim of AVON FANTASY READER. Fan editors were also introduced.

This evening session closed with a science discussion led by Milton A. Rothman, Norman A. Stanley, and Fred Hurter, seated behind a table on the platform, with one of the Toronto boys acting as Moderator. The discussion centered mainly around interplanetary matters, rocket propulsion, and atomic energy. -WSS

End of Part II

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The Third and last day of the Torcon will be published next issue  
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## FANDOM HOUSE

formerly Cosmic Publications, founded 1937

---presents to the fan world---

### FANTASY-TIMES

edited by James V. Taurasi

British Edition of FANTASY-TIMES (for British fans only)

edited by Ray Van Houten

The above are published monthly by James V. Taurasi  
101-02 Northern Blvd  
Corona, New York

a n d

### FANTASY-NEWS

edited by William S. Sykora (published weekly)

The above is published by William S. Sykora  
P.O. Box 4, Steinway Sta.  
Long Island City, New York



# The Fantasy Clubs

## Organized Fandom Reports

### THE PORTLAND SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY

Meeting of July 17 brought news that the only member to suffer from the recent floods in the Portland area was Don Berry, youngest member and a resident of hard-hit Vanport. The Berry family was away from home during the flood, but lost practically all of their possessions, including Don's considerable collection of books and magazines. As fandom's own contribution to flood relief, the PSFS is accepting contributions of magazines, books and cash to replace the lost collection. Fans are asked to donate to Don Berry, c/o PSFS, 3435 NE 38th Ave., Portland 13, Ore.

The PSFS is currently preparing for the first anniversary issue of The FANSCIENT. Lithoed booster ads, 1" x 3.3/8", will cost 25¢.

Fan artists are informed that a publishing project is being considered, and a competition for designs of fantasy postcards is announced. Ten designs will be chosen. Details may be had by writing the club.

### SCIENCE FICTION INTERNATIONAL

Founded in late March of this year, with Dan Mulcahy, 4170 Utah St., St. Louis, Mo., as secretary. Object is to reach the vast unorganized mass of readers. International aspect being handled by Capt. K. F. Slater, now stationed in the British Zone of Germany. Dues are 50¢ until January. Organization will publish one official, one semi-official fansine, and are at present publishing two free, irregularly appearing news-letters. Results of election in July not yet available.

### LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY

Meeting of June 24th; 446th Consecutive Meeting

Those attending were: Forrest J. Ackerman, Tillie Forjes, Warren Oswald, Martin Erlich, Russ Hodgkins, E. E. Evans, Gus Willmorth, Vic Clark, Jean Cox, Louise Lupier, E. Mayne Hall, A. F. Van Vogt, Leland Shapiro, L. Ron Hubbard, Mike Sacles, Dale Hart, Walt Dougherty and Ken Bonnell.

Main business of the meeting was the election of officers. Those elected were: Jean Cox, director, Ken Bonnell, secretary, and Forry Ackerman, treasurer. Gus Willmorth and Russ Hodgkins were selected as junior and senior committeemen respectively.

The subject of a West Coast Conference was brought up, and it



was voted to sponsor such a gathering on the Sunday before Labor Day, September 5. Plans for wide publicity were discussed.

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Meeting of July 1st; 447th Consecutive Meeting.

Attendees were: Decil, Dave Fox, Mike Scoles, Marvin Brotman, Russ Hodgkins, Dale Hart, Louise Lupier, Joe Kennedy, Rose-Mary Cook, Mrs. Cook, Bill Donahoe, Dan King, Don Bratton, Leland Shapiro, Mark Blanck, A. E. and Mrs. van Vogt, Gus Willmorth, Jean Cox and Kenneth Bonnell.

The meeting was held at Golden State University, 4415 Santa Monica Blvd., instead of at the regular meeting place. Feature of the evening was a talk by William R Boorman, PhD, who spoke on the comparative scientific behavior of various eras, and introduced Alfred Korzybski's structural differential diagram.

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Meeting of July 7th; 448th Consecutive Meeting.

Those present were: Marvin Brotman, Decil, Dave Fox, Russ Hodgkins, Leland Shapiro, Don Bratton, Louise Lupier, Bill Donahoe, Millicent and Murray Lesser, D. C. King, Jean Cox, Charles Walker and Kenneth Bonnell.

Business of the meeting included the reading and approving of a proposal by Ray Van Houten on the East Coast for a system of awards along the lines of the Motion Picture Academy Awards for the best work in the sf-fantasy field by both fans and pros. At the end of the meeting a trip to the Griffith Planetarium was planned to see the "Trip To The Moon" program.

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QUEENS SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE

Meeting of Sunday, July 18, held at Volkert's Hall, 38-11 27th St., Long Island City, N.Y. Those attending were: Larry Harris, Marion Pepper, Jake Towber, Alex Osheroff, A. Langley Searles, Sam Moskowitz, Rickey Glavin, Helena Schwimmer, Joe Schaumburger, Phil Froeder, R. H. Rosen and sister and her friend, Martin Margulies, Abe Oshinsky, A. Kirschner and Will Sykora.

A bus-ride proposal was held over for the next meeting, and the Director was empowered to make arrangements to get club members a 40% discount from book publishers. Also approved was a suggestion that local book dealers be invited to sell their wares before the meeting, between 2 and 3 P.M.

After a short recess, the meeting reconvened and AMAZING STORIES was rated, the ratings to be sent to Editor Palmer. One member asked that his rating be withheld. A color movie cartoon called "Aladdin's Lamp" ended the meeting.

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PASSAIC-BERGEN FANTASY GROUP

First meeting held at the home of Ray Van Houten, 409 Market  
-continued on page 18-



# Fanzine Review

by Gordon M. Kull

(AA) Comet; (A) Nebula; (B) Star; (C) Planet; (D) Satellite.

THIS month's mails brought an interesting and diverse crop of fanzines. They ranged from good printed presentation to pretty bad mimeo work. But surprisingly contents of all were on a healthy level. It seems that, as I noted last issue, quality (content at least) is on the up swing. We like to see so many (A)'s.

(C) ASTEROID X, V.1-N.1 (427 E. 8th St, Mt. Carmel, Ill.)(10¢ cpy) This is the poor mimeo job I mentioned, but the contents outshines this drawback (when readable). "George's Wife" is the best fiction, which we liked quite a bit. Other fiction also okay. Poems, articles, and features compose the remainder of mag.

(AA) FIRST PERSON SINGULAR, N.1 (12832 S West St, Garden Grove, Cal) Couldn't find any price listed. This is the printzine. It was set by the editor Stan Woolston himself, and a very good job it is too. Contents seems slim, but we think that the quantity is just minimized by the smaller type, and that it will compare in content to other small zines. A typical sneaky (good, that is) fiction piece, article by George Fox, and 4sj book review -- and poetry, all good. We hope that this will grow -- it has the promise.

(A) GORGON, V.2-N.1 (4936 Grove St, Denver 11, Colo)(20¢; 7/\$1.00) How good can a mag get? There seems to be no end of improvement with this mag. Only thing we can find wrong in our estimation is a decline in art quality. Contents page just bulges with good listings, and new names. Mullen must have the cream to pick from, for all the material is tops. New highlight is the two page spread of photos. It includes authors, editors, and charming wife.

(A) OTHER WORLDS, V.1-N.4 (3401 6th Ave, Columbus, Ga)(5¢ a copy) This is the "must" of all collectors and searchers for old mags, and out of print books. Ad presentation good, articles good, format good -- everything good this time -- no kick.

(AA) PEON, V.1-N.1 (2116 Edsall Court, Alameda, Calif) (Free) We like the mature, earnest attitude about this mag. By earnest I don't mean that it's all serious, not by any means. There is a sprinkling of seriousness and humor in right proportions. Good fiction by E.E. Evans, and Gerry de la Ree. Good articles, poetry. We class the letter by Christopher Bronte as tops. It's a must.

(B) SPEARHEAD, V.1-N.2 (817 Starling Ave, Martinsville, Va) (10¢) It seems that we can say nothing but good today. Good contents by Track, Kennedy, King, Rapp, Blyler, Hudson, Carson, Pederson.



# THE WHITCON REPORT

by Jack E. Quinn

(As extracted from the Whitcon Booklet.)

It will perhaps come as a surprise to most of our readers to learn that the TORCON, recently held at Toronto, Canada, was not the only science-fiction convention held in 1948. Its rival, or better, its counterpart, was the "Whitcon", held in London on May 15 and 16, at which fifty fans from all over the British Isles gathered to put British fandom on the map.

It was named "Whitcon" because it was held during the weekend of Whitsuntide, the sixth Sunday and Monday after Easter. The last previous British convention was held in 1944 on Easter, and was called the "Eastercon".

Those attending were: Walter Gillings, Madeline Gillings, D. Landman, Don J. Doughty, Byron Jeeves, A. L. P. Deacon, Peter Knott, Sydney Rounds, James Burd, R. Buchmaster, V. W. Baker, Ronald Gillings, A. Bertram Chandler, C. Duncombe, R. Duncombe, J. M. Chandler, G. F. White, Ted Carnell, Frederick C. Brown, Arthur C. Clarke, L. Clay, George Overton, M. E. Allen, D. J. Fabian, E. J. Webb, E. J. K. Ganeder, E. C. Tubb, E. Williams, D. Bradley, A. W. Clarke, J. Newman, W. F. Temple, Francis R. Fears, George Whitley, Eric C. Hopkins, W. J. Chapman, G. K. Chapman, Tony Young, B. Lawrence Sanfield, A. Lane, Graham Syms, F. Arno, S. M. Ashfield, C. Hawkins, J. D. Boggs, O. W. Planridge, W. C. Devereux, F. C. Herman, Harold S. W. Chibbett and L. L. Fiebler.

Headquarters of the Whitcon was the "White Horse Tavern" in Petter Lane, London. The first contingent of fans met at Leicester Square Station, where two parties were formed, one going off on a crawl of the bookshops, and another to a visit to the Science Museum. The second rendezvous was at 5 p. m. outside the Lyons Corner House in Tottenham Court Road. Treasures acquired at the bookstalls were displayed and all had tea before proceeding to the "White Horse".

The meeting room was liberally decorated with dozens of original covers and illustrations and a long table covered with donated books and magazines overflowed to the floor. At 6:30 fifty fans were present, and Walter Gillings, Convention President, called them to order. John Newman was secretary. For one and a half hours the gathering listened to four speakers, Mr. Gillings, Ted Carnell, Arthur C. Clarke and Mr. Newman. Afterwards a list of fans who couldn't attend but who sent their best wishes were read, and by a large majority it was decided to add the excess money of the convention to the Big Pond Fund.

A meeting at Kew Gardens the following day was announced, and the hope was expressed that a convention would be held in 1949. A convention booklet would be published and a copy given to everyone who attended or helped the Whitcon. Fans were thanked for their



generous gifts to the auction and for help they had given.

At 8 p.m., the meeting broke up to drink the health of Capt. K. F. Slater, who had sent £ 2 to buy everyone a drink. Attention was then turned to the food and even the combined efforts of all present could not cope with the amount which had been supplied. Animated groups gathered around the buffet, the bar downstairs and the auction table.

At 8:30 the plates and glasses were cleared away, coffee was served and the auction began. Ted Tubb was a magnificent auctioneer, and he succeeded in keeping everyone in excellent humor while extracting their money. Bidding was keen, especially for the magazines and books, many of which were rare collector's items.

The first books auctioned were those given to the Big Pond Fund by American fans. They were followed by the rest of the magazines and books. Finally a number of original illustrations and one of Bert Chandler's manuscripts were sold. Bidding for the drawings and paintings was not at all good. An original Dennis went for 5/- whilst Wally Gillings got a cover from "Tales Of Wonder" for only 2/-.

The auction finished at about 10 p.m. and the meeting adjourned to the bar. Closing time was 10:30 ended the day with everyone tired but happy.

£ 18 was added to the Big Pond Fund by this convention. Total amount in the fund is not known at this writing, but it is understood to be approaching the figure necessary to transport a British representative to the U. S. However, Ted Carnell suggested at the Whitcon that it would be better to wait until the World Science Fiction Convention was held in New York. The expectation was at that time (before the Torcon) that this would be the case in 1949.

Big news of the convention was the possibility of reviving NEW WORLDS. British pro mag suspended by Ted Carnell. Mr. Carnell revealed that the last issue had been oversold by 3,000 copies and that an even greater demand had been made for the suspended issue, material for which had been ready for some time. Suspension was because of the paper shortage.

-jeq

The End

#### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

1 cent a word including address.

WANTED: A copy of "Unveiling the Universe". Cloth binding preferred. Must be in good condition. John Giunta, 1355 80th Street, Brooklyn 28, New York

WANTED: Certain issues of Street & Smith's THE WHISPERER MAGAZINE and Popular Publication's SPIDER MAGAZINE. Must be in good or mint condition. Jas V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Blvd, Corona, New York.

#### THE FAN MAG COLLECTOR

This column is for our readers who have fan mags to sell or who want to obtain fan mags to complete their collection. It is FREE, but the editor reserves the right to reject any item.

WANTED: "Dream Quest" No. 1., "The Burroughs Bulletin" Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 5. Jas V. Taurasi, 101-02 Northern Blvd, Corona, New York.

DEADLINE: 20th of the month!!!!



THE COSMIC REPORTER -continued from page 4-

### LINE-UP OF THE FIRST REVIVED ISSUE OF SUPER SCIENCE STORIES

New York, Sept. 10 (CNS)-- Mr. Alden H. Norton, Associate Publisher of Popular Publication, today released the line-up of the first revival issue of SUPER SCIENCE STORIES.

This line-up is subject to last minute changes and there is a slight chance that some of the story titles may be changed. The issue will be dated December 1948, and as stated in the other news item in this issue, will be on the stands early in November.

The issue will contain: "The Black Sun Rises" by Henry Kuttner; "Science of Time Traves" by Ray Cummings; "Fragment of Diamond Quartz" by Ray P. Shotwell; "The Sky Will be Ours" by Manly Wade Wellman; "Fantasy Quiz" by Simpson Ritter; "Faraway Planet" by Willy Ley; "Darkside Destiny" by Frederik Pohl; "Bounding-Crown" by James Blish; "The Other" by Dorothy Les Tina; "And Then--The Silence" by Ray Bradbury; "Cabal" by Cleve Cartmill; "A Handful of Stars" by Walter Kubieli; "Fandom's Corner" by James V. Taurasi and "Surrender" by Harry Walton. -jvt

### MEXICAN BI-WEEKLY IS OUT

New York (CNS) - The surprise of the year was the first three issues of a Mexican science-fiction magazine, LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS, that reached us this month. The first issue is dated July 1, 1948 and the magazine comes out every two weeks. It is regular pulp in size and 50 pages. It contains reprints of United States fantasy magazines, THRILLING WONDER STORIES, STARTLING STORIES, FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, The Ziff-Davis twins, WEIRD TALES and possibly others. They seem to translate the yarn into spanish and reprint the story's illustration with it. The first two covers are reprints of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES' Finlay; the third is a Bergey reprint from STARTLING STORIES. FANTASY-TIMES has informed the United States publishers of these supposed reprints and these companies are now investigating to see if any law was violated as they seem to be reprinted without permission. FANTASY-TIMES is interested that authors, artists etc, who's works are translated and reprinted are paid for it. -jvt

### STORY ON JULES VERNE IN NOV-DEC REAL FACT COMICS

The current, Nov-Dec 1948, issue of REAL FACT COMICS contains an item that all science-fiction fans will want. It is a four page cartoon form story on Jules Verne and his science-fiction stories. It is written in a serious vein and will make an interesting collector's item for any fan of fantasy.

Just an item for the interested fan. If you like the type of fiction that PLANET STORIES puts out, we'd suggest you pick up the current, November, issue of PLANET COMICS. It contains the blood and thunder interplanetary stories in cartoon form, and is the only completely science-fiction comic magazine published today. -ls



## THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY -continued from page 5-

it pulled up with a tremendous burst of flame out of the rear. The flames were so bright they blinded us for a second. Then the ship disappeared into the broken clouds.....The ship had no wings. It seemed to have an upper deck and a lower deck and was fully lighted inside. We saw no occupants."

One passenger, the only one awake at the time, confirmed the story. Needless to say, no other confirming reports were forthcoming.

Either somebody is already shooting for the Moon, or the war left more scars upon the minds of some than we realize. -rvh

T h e     E n d

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## THE FANTASY CLUBS -continued from page 13-

St., Paterson, N. J. on August 6. Present by invitation were J. Russell Mars, Les Mayer, Jr., and Lionel Wright. It was decided to hold fortnightly meetings. A general discussion of many aspects of fantasy occupied the evening. Any fan resident in either Passaic or Bergen Counties in New Jersey is cordially invited to attend meetings, which for the next two months will be held on the following dates: Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 15, 29.

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THE EASTERN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

Meeting of August 1 convened at the usual place in Newark with eighteen members and several guests present.

Chief order of business was the consideration of a club constitution, which the attendant membership passed with a few minor changes. Copies of the constitution in its final form are to be mimeographed and distributed to members at the next meeting.

There was no pre-arranged program as business was expected to take up most of the club's time. Feature of the Sept. 5 meeting will be a quiz with Ray Van Houten as quiz-master. Prizes will be given to the winners.

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THE LONDON CIRCLE

This is the British Fan Club which sponsored the "Whitecon", a report of which appears in this issue of FANTASY-TIMES. It meets every Thursday evening at the "White Horse Tavern" on Peter Lane, London, and boasts a membership of something over 20 fans. Its secretary, Francis R. Fears, reports that due to the holidays now being enjoyed over there, the meeting of July 15 was attended by only nine members.

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ATTENTION! This column is edited by FANTASY-TIMES' co-editor, Ray Van Houten, and all club reports should be mailed to him at 409 Market St., Paterson 3, N. J. The deadline is 20th of the month.

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"Later, Honey — Can't  
You See I'm Reading  
**SPACEWARP**"



.....well, maybe SPACEWARP isn't quite that interesting -- but a lot of fen subscribe (and renew their subscriptions time after time) because they find plenty to appeal to them in each new issue.

SPACEWARP is tossed to the clutches of the Postoffice Department around the first of every month. Shortly thereafter, fen all over the world begin crouching in dark corners near their mailboxes, drooling slightly in anticipation.

The September 1948 WARP, for example, features such appetizing morsels as--

"Dark Night" -- a story of ironic fate by ED COX.

"Wizard of the Weird" -- an interview with AUGUST DERLETH by Pvt. ANDREW GREGG.

"The Psycho Lab" -- this month dissecting RAY NELSON.

"Horace Longhammer, Stif Fan" -- a whacky tale by WILKIE CONNER.

"I Object!" -- in which Ben Singer's atheism is disputed by DAN MULCAHY.

"The Great Stif Broadcast" -- an unpredictable serial, each chapter written by a different fan. September's Part Eight is by RAY NELSON and JOHNNY MacKARRIGAN.

Also some full-page hectoart by ROBERT L. STEIN, and other features by various fans, slans, and miscellaneous yuks.

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