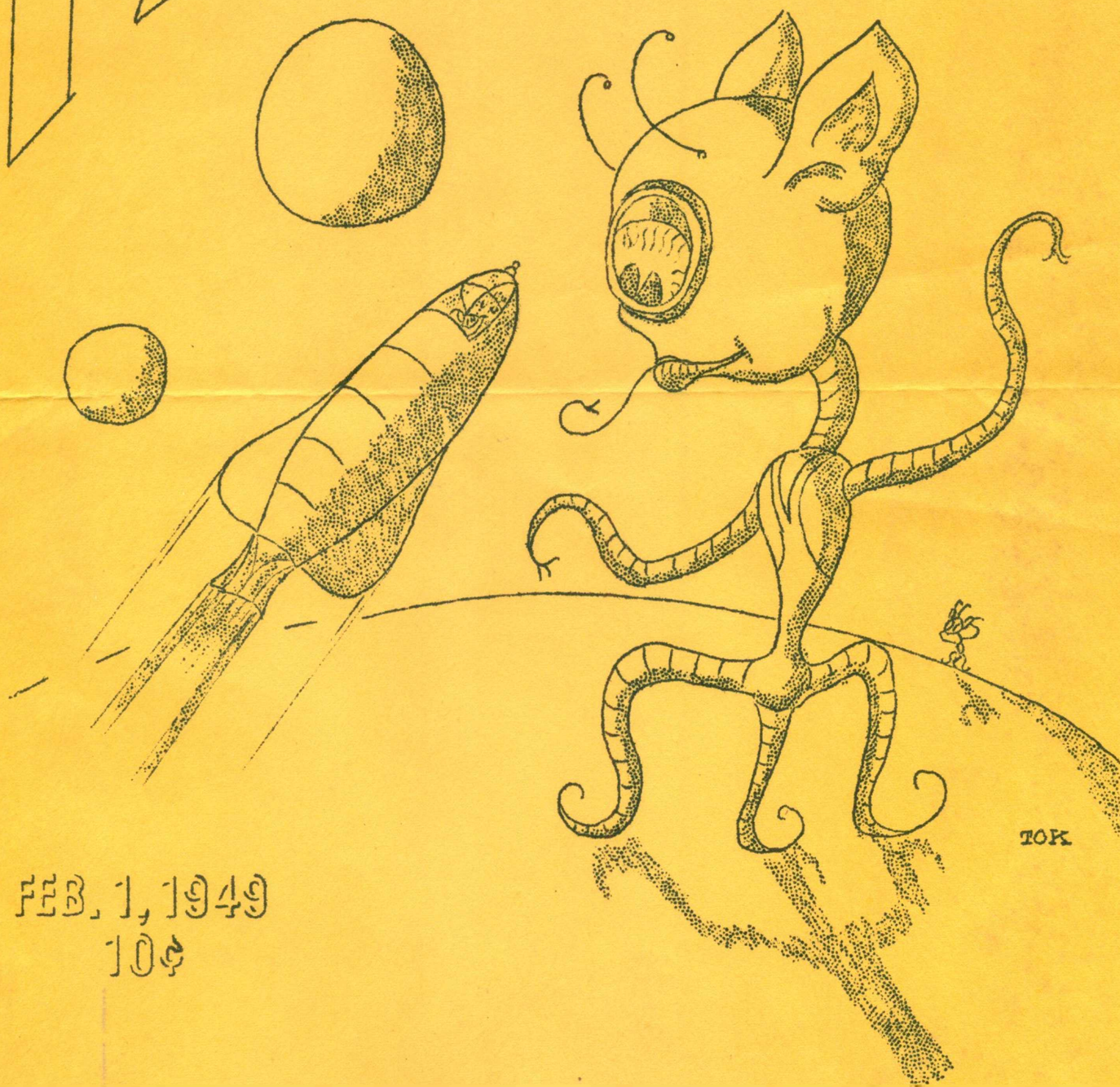


FANTASY-TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"



FEB. 1, 1949
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A Fandom House Publication

FANTASY-TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 4 - No. 2

1 February 1949

Whole No. 75

News Of Our Cover Artists

by Lane Stannard

Many of our readers have written in asking for information of our cover artists that we have decided to answer all of them in this issue of FANTASY-TIMES.

John Giunta is an old time fan who started illustrating fan magazines back in the "hecto" days of 1937. He is now doing work for "WEIRD TALES" and "SUPER SCIENCE STORIES" plus cartoon strips for the SUPERMAN - DC Comic Books. He has just had accepted his third cover for "WEIRD TALES" which will appear shortly.

Tok, whose real name is Herman Von Tokken, is not a stf fan or reader of stf. He is a good friend of James V. Taurasi and gets a great kick out of the covers he draws. He started drawing back in 1943 for JVT's Army magazines.

Mars is not a pen name, but J. Russell Mars, an active fan from New Jersey and part owner of FANTASY-TIMES. His real job is his well-liked "Fantasy Book Notes" department in this and every issue of FANTASY-TIMES.

The Dold cover a few issues back is a reprint of a cover Elliott Dold did for FANTASY-TIMES in 1941. It was first published on the November 1941 issue.

Outside of Dold, they will all appear on our covers from (continued on page eight)

LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS

by Arthur Jean Cox

Volumen I, Numero 10 of "LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS" has a Finlay cover; the one done for Henry Kuttner's "Reader I Hate You" (Lector, Te Odio) which appeared in the May 1943 "SUPER SCIENCE". Kuttner's story leads a distinguished lineup. Illustration for Kuttner's story on the interior was taken from a VCM (West Coast fan mag) cover. Bill Rotsler, stf fan, has two original illustrations in it, and Stan Mullen's fan mag GORGON's masthead is also present.

EVANS WINS LASFS CONTEST

Winner of the "LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY's" 1948 amateur writers' contest was E. Everett Evans. Evans had published or sold during 1948 such stories as "Guaranteed", "The Undead Die", "Food For Demons", "Blurb", "Was Not Speeen". The contest was judged on the basis of financial returns; judges were Kenneth E. Bonnell and agent Forrest J. Ackerman. The winner will be given a fanquet in the near future, to which the West Coast science fiction authors & fans will be invited. -ajc

GARDNER REVIEWS
WEIRD TALES
ON PAGE 3

PORTLAND SFS TO BID FOR '50 CONVENTION

LOS ANGELES, Calif. Jan 28 (CNS) FANTASY-TIMES' West Coast editor, Arthur Jean Cox, reported today that after long deliberation, the "PORTLAND SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY" has finally decided to accept the "LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY's" suggestion that they make a bid for the 1950 convention -- THE 8th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION -- with the backing of the LASFS. However, the PSFS will, most likely, not have a representative at the "CONVENTION" so they have asked that the LASFS make the bid for them. Forrest J. Ackerman was assigned the job. Mr. Cox completes the report with, "Want to make a bet that -- if they get it -- it'll be called the "ORECON"?"

CONVENTION NEWS

The "CONVENTION COMMITTEE" issued their first report this month with the publication of "The Cincy Report", a 6 page, mimeographed in red ink, booklet. Charles R. Tanner, in a two page report, states that the "CONVENTION" will be held at the hotel, "The Metropole" over the Labor Day Weekend. He goes on to say that it has about been decided to photo-offset the Convention Program. He asks all clubs etc who are willing to entertain at the convention to write in and make arrangements. Two auctions will be held; 1. the regular auction, with original covers and inside illustrations etc supplied by the pro magazines and book publishers and 2. an auction where anyone may sell any stf object and pay the convention 20% commission; all monies to help pay off the convention expenses ofcourse.--ls

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

Willey Ley has an article in the Feb. issue of MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, entitled "Prehistoric Monsters Still Exist". It is illustrated by Frank Tinsely and some old wood-cuts.

Forrest J. Ackerman has just received a telegram from Robert Sair of Fireside Publications that he is back on the job as editor and reading and selecting of stories for his two new Canadian periodicals, SUPERNATURAL STORIES and AMAZING ADVENTURES will get underway immediately.

BLUE BOOK still continues to print excellent fantasy material. The current issue contains Kenneth Cassen's "George, The Djinn Fizzer", and several semi-fantasy items; stories of ancient China, Greece and so on.

The Jan. issue of HARPER'S MAGAZINE has several items of fantastic interest. First, there is a short fantasy story, "The Man Who Walked Through Walls", by Marcel Aume, translated from the French. Then, there's an article, "When Conan Doyle Was Sherlock Holmes", by John Dickson Carr. And, last, "The Best Supernatural stories of Arthur Machen" is reviewed in its book department.

As perhaps many of you remember the rather unusual cover presented on #4 AVON FANTASY READER is the reproduction of a detail of a fifteenth century tapestry. The projected cover for #5 was a similar one, apparently especially painted for the magazine. At the last moment they cahnged their mind about

(continued on page eight)

1948 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

Part II -- WEIRD TALES

January - Is Edmond Hamilton going to imitate Lovecraft? His "Serpent Princess" has the Lovecraftian atmosphere to a major extent. Perhaps that is why I like it. Theodore Sturgeon's "The Deadly Ratio" is the best weird I have read since the demise of UNKNOWN. Dear reader are you a ghost? Can you prove it? In fact I could rave about this issue, for example, Morvsky's "Green Brothers Take Over" or Grendon's "The Night Train To Lost Valley". We are seldom permitted such a good issue of WT.

March - Hamilton writes a short story, "The Might - Have - Been" which would have been better as a novelette or novel. One of those If or branches of time stories depending upon your viewpoint. Harding's "The Coming of Mr. Alkerhaus" is a story of tomorrow's Armageddon with a throwback of sequence unusual in the extreme. Incidentally from whence did Mr. Alkerhaus come? Our future? or another time track? or completely Alien? I liked Jacobi's "The La Prellio Paper" a peculiar trail backwards. Sturgeon clicks again with "The Professor's Teddy Bear". That guy Sturgeon is certainly on the ball. Blackwood's "Roman Remains" is a Pan story with an unusual twist.

May - This is a poor issue. There are no good stories. Only two deserve the barest mention, Bradbury's "Black Ferris" and Grubb's "One Foot in the Grave", they all stink with varying degrees.

July - Ed. Hamilton comes through with one of his old-time stories, "Twilight of the Gods".

Fair adventure but he has written better and somewhat the same theme before. Sturgeon's, "Abreaction" is well worth reading. An unusual solution to the solution to the so-called Crodatan mystery is the story by the same name by Ferguson. A pathetic, and fair vampire story is "The Undead Die" by E. E. Evans. Sounds like Bloch in spots, and some Bradbury influence too.

September - Derleth finally comes through with a good Lovecraft type of story carrying on the mythos. "The Whipporwills in the Hills" is a must for the Lovecraft fan. Bradbury's "Fever Dream"; excellent. Dorothy Quick's "The Cracks of Time" is another well written Pan story. For some peculiar reason I like most Pan stories, if well written and having unusual twists -- this does. I must praise Lawlor's "The Beasts that Tread the World". It can stand re-reading. Ed. Hamilton's "The Watcher of the Ages" has a most unusual angle -- it would be a shame to give it away. While I re-read E. F. Russell's "Displaced Person" twice at the same sitting. Mary Elizabeth Counselman comes through with another immortal story strongly reminiscent of "The Three Lucky Pennies" (Did I remember the title correctly?) entitled, "The Devil's Lottery". This issue is quite good.

November - A very unusual story, Sturgeon's "The Perfect Host". I still don't know whether I like it or strongly dislike it. Murchie's "Tryst Beyond the Years" has a haunting nostalgia that is refreshing. Don't fail to read Seabury Quinn's "Such stuff as Dreams". An excellent development in spite of the childish diatribe against this story at the New York Conclave. It was written for both adults and near adults. Those
(continued on page eight)

Fantasy Films Radio & Television

by Lester Mayer, Jr.

"Tarzan And The Arrow Of Death" will be partly fantastic in nature. For one sequence, a girl will have to age 30 years in a few moments.

One of the latest fantasy pictures around town is really a fairy-tale. It's about an evil, ugly giant, a boy who can turn himself into a pea, and his magic sword which overcomes all obstacles. Only drawback is that the picture is Spanish. The name of it is "Garbancito de la Mancha".

A British Film, "Don't Take It To Heart", has just opened in New York, where it received excellent reviews. One of the characters is a 400-year-old ghost.

The only fantasy to open in New York during the holidays was Republic's "Angel On The Amazon". Plot is about a woman who cannot grow old, while all her loved ones continue to age.

A recent issue of "LOOK" says that the third most popular stars of 1948 in box-office appeal, were Abbott and Costello. This is according to a survey made by the Motion Picture Herald. Last year A & C were in something like 16th place. Their sensational rise is credited mainly to one thing --- "A & C Meet Frankenstein". Seems as though fantasy, when handled right, can and does pay off!

"The Boy With Green Hair", RKO technicolor fantasy, recently opened in the RKO Palace in New York. It is based on a story printed in "This Week" magazine

about two years ago. According to advance reports which have filtered out of Hollywood, the picture is supposed to carry a "message", something about prejudice and its effect on people.

Here's the latest on "Atlantis", according to one columnist: "Siren Of Atlantis", first completed two years ago, was ready for release when the producer decided that it had to be re-shot. By this time the stars were in France, the director on another lot, and one of the main actors in a Broadway show.

Undaunted, the producer got the stars back, hired a new director, and cut out the part of the Broadway actor. The film was remade at considerable expense. Neither director will now take the credit for the job, so it was given to the film editor!

P. S. - The picture must be great!

The last broadcast of the year, 1948 of "Favorite Story" (ABC) was "The Glass Eye", by John Kier Cross. This story is included in the collection of JKC's weirds and fantasies entitled "The Other Passenger". It is a semi-fantasy, with a terrific "twist" ending.

"The Madwoman Of Chaillot", a comic fantasy play from France, premiered in New York during the Yule season. The review I read was favorable, but there's no telling how long the play will last. Plot is about a "madwoman" who attempts to "liquidate" all profit-seekers, so that those who are left may be happy.

IDLE-THOUGHTS DEPARTMENT

About six or more months ago I read in the paper that Lon Chaney and another person would team up to produce their own films.
(Continued on Page Five)

World Of Tomorrow Today

by Ray Van Houten

A recent report circulated by the wire services gave details of what was described as an "atomic clock", which, it is claimed, is accurate to the astounding degree of one part in 20 million.

It was developed by the US Bureau of Standards and is hailed by research scientists as a vast improvement in telling time over currently - used system of stargazing at the observatories.

One of the first practical uses of the new device is expected to be an application to radio and video broadcasting, whereby the frequency of broadcast waves will be regulated with a hitherto unattainable accuracy. This would open up badly-needed channels in the crowded portions of the usable spectrum.

The Bureau revealed that the "clock" is already being improved and hope that its precision can be increased to one part in 10 billion. At that rate, it would take about 3 million years for the clock to gain or lose a second.

According to the description given, the face of the clock looks like any other large electric clock, but the delicate works which need a large room to hold them, include a quartz crystal "governor" that is constantly corrected by comparison with the vibrations of atoms in the ammonia molecule.

In a left-handed manner, the flying saucers were back in the news this month. The US Navy was moved to announce recently that if citizens should see a "whirling circle of light over Washington, D.C., it would definitely not be a flying saucer".

The Navy went on to reveal that the phenomenon would act-

Fantasy Clubs

by The Fan Editor

EASTERN SCIENCE-FICTION ASSOCIATION, Meeting of December, 1948.

Approximately 30 persons attended. At the suggestion of Ray Van Houten, Director Moskowitz was empowered to appoint a delegate to the Merit Awards Committee meeting which will be held on April 24th. Feature of the program was a fantasy quiz put on by Mr. Van Houten, which was well-received by those present. Lloyd Alpaugh was the winner.

EASTERN SCIENCE-FICTION ASSOCIATION, Meeting of January, 1949.

Approximately 25 persons attended. In preparation for the gala Anniversary Meeting which is to be held in March, Director Moskowitz appointed a committee to handle the details. Besides the officers of the club, Lloyd Alpaugh and Ray Van Houten were asked to serve, among others. The program consisted of the showing of the film, "The Hunchback Of Notre Dame", starring Lon Chaney, by Mr. Van Houten.

usually be lights attached to the tips of a helicopter's rotor blades in a demonstration of a new technique to make helicopters more visible and more easily identifiable at night.

So if you have been worrying about this traffic problem of the future, you can thank the US Navy for the first known attempt at a solution.

FANTASY FILMS, RADIO, TELEVISION

(Continued from Page Four)

Horror films were to be the specialty, pictures with weirder plots than ever before seen on the screen. Chaney was to be the star. Since reading about that, I haven't seen anything further. Anyone know what happened to the plans?

FORECASTS

"astounding SCIENCE-FICTION", issue for March, 1949, will contain Part 2 of "Seetee Shock" by Will Stewart, three novelettes: "Opening Doors" by Wilmar H. Shiras, "Throwback" by L. Sprague de Camp "Customs Declaration" by Rex Graham; and two shorts: "The Glass Eye" by Eric Frank Russell, and "Fireproof" by Hal Clement. The article will be "The Case Of The Missing Octane" by Arthur Dugan.

John W. Campbell, Street & Smith's well-known stf. expert, recently stated that the sales date on the "UNKNOWN" anthology gives six months on the stands, therefore official returns will not be available for study until April or May. Most of the fantasy addicts of the world are eagerly awaiting the decision on "UNKNOWN WORLDS" --- to be or not to be --- and FANTASY-TIMES will present this information as soon as it is available.

The April issue of "aSF" is to contain the last installment of "Seetee Shock", plus two novelettes, "Plague" by Rene Lafayette (a "Doc Mothuseloh" yarn) and "The Undecided" by Eric Frank Russell. Two short stories have so far been selected by Editor Campbell, "Prodigy" by Ted Sturgeon, and "Devious Weapon" by M. L. Pease, with others under consideration.

The article will be "9-F-19" by Arthur Parlette, which is the story of radioactive flourine.

The cover will be by Saritry and will illustrate "Plague".

SUPPORT THE CONVENTION

Membership in the "Conventio n Committee" is only \$1. Contact Donald E. Ford, 129 Maple Ave., Sharonville, Ohio.

BRITISH STF NEWS

by Francis R. Fears
(Secretary, "THE LONDON CIRCLE")

"NEW WORLDS" is hoped to resume publication by February. It will be a large book because of the thick paper used, and will contain some 50,000 words.

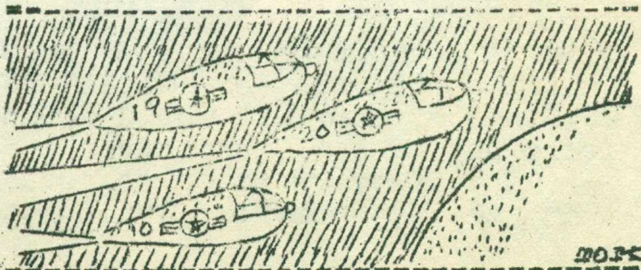
When the issue after that will be out I should not like to say. Perhaps it will be quarterly. I hope so.

A short fan mag has at last been turned out. A hundred copies have been duplicated, under the title of "British Fantasy News". It contains articles of interest to those fans who cannot attend the meetings of the "London Circle", and is intended to brings fans all over these Little Isles closer together.

We are hoping to hold our Second Science-Fiction Convention in the spring. We already have some books and magazines to raffle off as we did last year. The money is to go towards paying the passage of our representative who will attend the Cinvention in September.

I am sure that I echo what is in the mind of every other British fan when I say to all American fans, a very Happy New Year.

If your issue of FANTASY-TIMES is stamped "Subscription Has Expired" please resubscribe at once and thus not miss an issue.



DOCK

Fantasy Book Notes

— by J. Russell Mars —

Those of you who are interested in the stories of M. P. Shiel will want a new bibliography by A. Reynolds Morse. The book is published by the Fantasy Publishing Co. of Los Angeles and costs \$6.

Two books now ready from Fantasy Press of Reading, Penna. are "Divide And Rule" (including "The Stolen Dormouse") by L. S. de Camp and "Darker Than You Think" by Jack Williamson. Both of these books were very popular when they ran as serials in mags. The price is \$3 each.

I ran across a book the other day that will interest any collectors who have ever thought of binding their own mags or old books. The title is "Bookbinding Made Easy" and it really lives up to its title. The author is Lee Klinefelter and it is published by "Bruce Publishing Co." of New York. It has seen six printings since 1934 the last in 1946. It sells for about \$2.

The Dell people have a new collection of fantasy stories called "Fear And Trembling" selected by Alfred Hitchcock. The number is 264 and the price 25¢. There are 13 stories by such men as Lord Dunsany, Ray Bradbury, H. R. James, and others.

We understand that Forrest J. Ackerman will edit a collection of stories called "The Best Of Science-Fiction" some time in the near future.

A. J. Cox reports that in a recent issue of The Saturday Review Of Literature the noted poet, Peter Viereck, picked The World Of As a book he would give for Xmas.

The Readers Service Book Club of San Jose, Calif. is sending out their Catalog Number 120 and a new Bonus Book List.

Mr. A. Langley Searles is distributing his Winter 1948-1949 issue of Fantasy Commentator. Cost is 25¢ per copy.

"James A. Williams - Books" 122 South 18th St., Philadelphia 3, Pa., is mailing his Fantasy News Letter No. 4. A 24-page printed job that is very good.

Fantasy Press will publish a book titled "The Incredible Planet" by John W. Campbell, Jr. in the early part of 1949. It will contain three unpublished stories, "The Infinite Atom" and "The Interstellar Search", as well as the title story. The stories are, in a sense, sequels to JWC's early book "The Mightiest Machine".

We understand that August Derleth is working on a companion anthology to his "Strange Ports Of Call" to be titled "The Other Side Of The Moon".

"The Radio Man" by Ralph M. Farley is ready from Fantasy Pub Co. of Los Angeles, Calif. The price is \$2.50.

FRANK R. PAUL BACK IN STF.

The publishers of the recently-revived SUPER SCIENCE STORIES may, in our opinion, take a bow for bringing Frank R. Paul back to the fantasy field. Of all the many illustrators whose work has appeared in the pages of the stf. mags, his most has the flavor of science-fiction.

Mr. Paul, who is a commercial artist well-known in other fields for his text-book illustrations, was the guest of honor at the First World Stf. Convention held in New York in 1939.

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and 50¢ a 1/4 page.

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Lester Mayer Jr. - movie & radio
Arthur Jean Cox - west coast

CORRESPONDENTS

Alvin R. Brown
Milton A. Rothman

cover by Herman Von Tokken

NEWS OF OUR COVER ARTISTS (continued from page one)

time to time, plus a few others
we have lined up, some are fans,
others are just amateur artists
who try their hands at turning
out "fantasy stuff" just for the
fun of it.

Our two color cover last
issue was mimeographed at our
Paterson Office by Ray Van Hou-
ten, who will try printing more
two or more color jobs in the
near future. -ls

1948 IN SCIENCE FICTION (continued from page three)

under eight seldom read WT any-
way. Russell's "The Ponderer"
has some merit.

1948 in WT was a curious
mixture of good and poor stor-
ies. However I seem to discern
an improvement in WT. I hope it
continues. -tsg
(continued in our next issue)

THE COSMIC REPORTER (continued from page two)

publishing it. Donald A. Woll-
heim, editor, wrote to Forrest J
Ackerman, "We decided to scrap
the BEM for a BTG." Too Bad....
But, as Wollheim has found, nudy-
cuties on the cover make the
sales go up 35%, according to
Ackerman....The cover for number
9 APR is another sensuous, rath-
er-interesting, cover done for
Clark Ashton Smith's "The Flower
Women". It ought to sell mag-
azines.

TIME MAGAZINE recently re-
ported that George Bernard Shaw
is writing science-fiction. He
is working on a book called "Far
Fetched Tales", which concerns
the world after a round of atom-
ic wars. Should be interesting.

SCIENCE ILLUSTRATED has a
rather science-fictional looking
article ~~about~~ pages ~~entitled~~
"Some Awesome Possibilities of
The Atomic Age". Mostly cartoon
work. Done by Pearson.

THE FAN MAG COLLECTOR

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

WANTED: "Dream Quest" No. 1,
"The Burroughs Bulletin" Nos. 3
& 5. James V. Taurasi, 137-03
32nd Ave., Flushing, New York.

The deadline for FANTASY-TIMES is
the 10th and 25th of each month.