

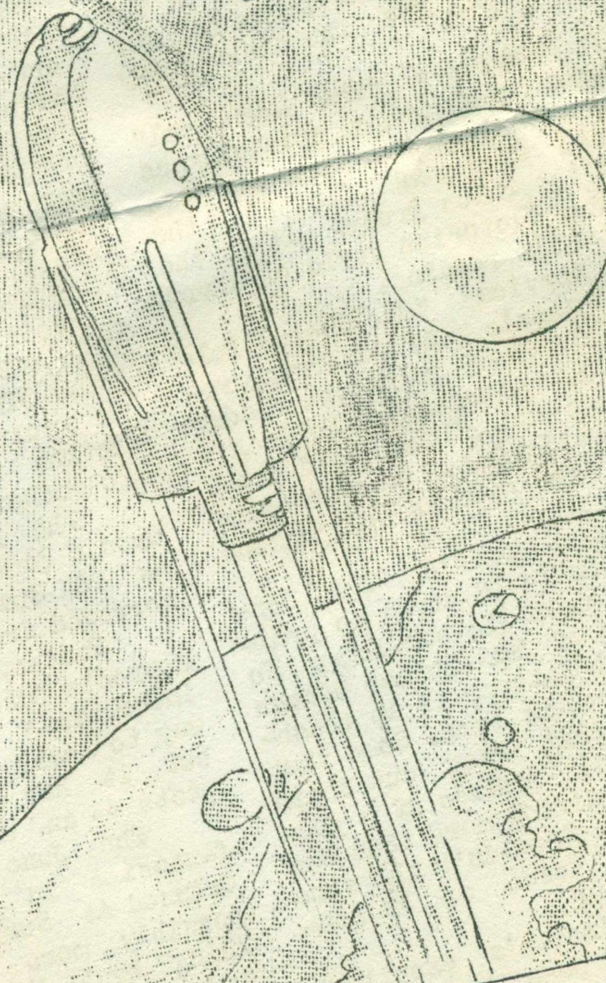
# FANTASY-TIMES

1st May Number

## NEW WORLDS

*fiction of the future*

NO  
4



WORLD  
IN  
SHADOW  
BY  
JOHN

10¢

HERMAN TOK

A Fandom House Publication



## 1948 In Science Fiction

by Thomas S. Gardner

### PART VIII - FANTASTIC NOVELS

I think all of us were glad to see FANTASTIC NOVELS back again.

MARCH: Merritt's "The Ship Of Ishtar", of course, is excellent. However I should like to see an experiment performed. FN might publish the same Merritt novel every month for a year with different illustrations. I wonder how long sales would keep up? The re-publication so many times of even the best smacks of a smell better left to the imagination. Would it not be better for the publishers of FN to issue all the Merritt novels in book form, paper back, and keep them on the stands all the time so we can get something else in FN? The short story is poor.

MAY: Merritt's "The Moon Pool" has the same double edged criticism as the Merritt in the March issue. Giesy's "Jason, Son Of Jason" finishes the trilogy of the Palos group. It is the same average, Victorian style of adventure. Worthwhile reading.

JULY: Serviss' "The Second Deluge" is a classic well deserving reprinting. This story grips the reader and is usually remembered. Pollock's "Finis" is an end of the world story only fairly well done. The description is not as good as Well's "The Star".

SEPTEMBER: Merritt's "The Conquest Of The Moon Pool" needs no praise. It stands upon its own legs. No one in the field of fantasy has beaten Merritt, although Kuttner is approaching him at the present time. Some time ago FFM stated that they cut their novels (one excuse) because of a postal regulation requiring more than one story in an issue. Shouldn't the same apply to FN? This issue of FN contains only one story!

NOVEMBER: Leinster's excellent  
(continued on page three)

## The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

Forrest J Ackerman was interviewed by the Portland Oregonian when he attended the Norwescon. He gave them the "low-down" on science-fiction, including the fact that SCIENCE FICTION is going slick, if information sent to him by L. Ron Hubbard is correct. Ackerman states that the PORTLAND SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY is quite enthusiastic about holding the 1950 World Science Fiction Convention there. (see page 2)

Arthur Jean Cox spoke on "The Fiction Of The Future" before the journalism classes at East Los Angeles College.

THE LOS ANGELES EXAMINER, April 24th, ran quite a long article on Robert H. Goddard, the much-abused physicist and rocket pioneer. Article by Bob Considine, and carefully avoids subject of interplanetary travel, concentrating on Goddard's association with famous personalities (Lindberg, etc.),

The May issue of POPULAR SCIENCE contains a lead article entitled, "Is The US Constructing Another Moon?". It is by Willy Ley. The cover done for it would pass on nearly any science-fiction magazine, and the interiors are rather nice, also.

The May issue of BLUE BOOK features a fantasy by Nelson Bond, "Strikes To Spare", which has a character borrowed from Washington Irving.

Fantasy fans will find Vaughn Monroe's "Riders In The Sky" recording interesting enough to go out of their way to hear. It's a so called Western but it has very definite fantasy aspects -- and a swell song, to boot!

The June issue of SIR! has two fantasies in it. One is "The Totem Grinned At Sunrise"; the other, and possibly more interesting, is "The Thing" by L. Major Reynolds. This story has a story behind it which might be interesting: I discovered the st-  
(continued on page seven)



# FANTASY-TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 4 - No. 8 (#81)

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

1st May Number

## NEW WORLDS IS OUT

### Los Cuentos Fantásticos Discontinued

MEXICO, May 1, (CNS) - Mr. Antonio Held of LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS confirmed the many rumors that had been floating thruout the fantasy field last month that Mexico's first science-fiction magazine had folded. In a letter to FANTASY-TIMES, Mr. Held stated that LCF will no longer be published after number 14, now in print. As yet, FANTASY-TIMES has not as yet received number 14.

Mr. Held stated that the magazine printed 3000 copies of LCF at a cost of about \$1,500 (Mexican pesos) and received a return of about \$1,325 (Mexican pesos). The money in publishing LCF was spent as follows:

Paper - \$425.00; Printing Shop - \$650.00; Translations - \$150.00; Cuts, including cover - \$125.00; office, employee, and general expenses - \$125.00 making a total of \$1,475.00 (all in Mexican pesos). The magazine sold only 2500 copies and brought in \$1,325 Mexican pesos; thus it was operating at a loss. Because of this loss LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS was discontinued. We shall miss this magazine.

### THE NORWESCON REPORT

PORTLAND, Oregon, May 2, (CNS) - The PORTLAND SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY celebrated their second anniversary on Saturday, April 23 with the NORWESCON, the first NORTHWEST SCIENCE-FANTASY (continued on page three)

REVIVED BRITISH MAGAZINE REACHES U. S.

by Arthur Jean Cox

At last, NEW WORLDS #4 (see cover) the revived British science-fiction magazine, has reached this country.

It has a fairly competent cover done by Dennis; much better than anything which they have done previously. It is a simple, stereotyped cover, showing a rocket ship streaking into outer space. Most of the cover is blue with NEW WORLDS in red and below that is "Fiction of the Future". The magazine cost one & sixpence.\*

The lead story is a novelette by John Brody, entitled "World In Shadow". The short stories are "The Circosians" by Norman Lazenby; "Edge Of Night" by John K. Aiken; "The Rebels" by E. R. James; "Position Line" by A. Bertram Chandler. There is an excellent two-page article on "The Shape Of Ships To Come" by Arthur C. Clark. The illustrations are by Dennis and White and look acceptable - they are of the ASF small-cut size and style. John K. Aiken's "Cassandra", a sequel to his popular "Dragon's Teeth", is promised for the next issue.

WRITERS' JOURNAL of New York attests that NEW WORLDS is purported to be the first instance of payment by a magazine on a royalty basis. It pays for material on a flat rate based on a print order of 12,000 copies and an additional sum for each 1,000 copies sold above that number.

\* 35¢ in Canada and the U. S.

SUPPORT THE CONVENTION

# FRITZ LANG, PIONEER OF SCIENCE FICTION MOVIES

an article by Arthur Jean Cox

LOS ANGELES, Calif. April 26 (CNS) - Fritz Lang, the producer of such eminent science-fiction films as "Metropolis" and "Woman In The Moon", and many other movies, spoke at the Los Angeles Campus of famed University of California, April 22nd. Mr. Lang appeared in conjunction with the showing of his 1930 film "M", which, though not fantasy, is well known to sf fans for its weird atmosphere. "M" was shown as a part of a cinematic art course being given there.

Mr. Lang is a sophisticated German in the cartoonist's sense of the word: A strong, wiry man he wears sport clothes and a monocle. He speaks with a noticeable accent, pronouncing "th" as "z". He came to this country in 1936.

One of Lang's first films was "Metropolis", a movie depicting a story taking place in a megalopolitan city of the future. It is a huge city of towers and arched highways (along which move 1928 automobiles and over which fly 1928 airplanes). The story concerns the conflict between the rulers of the city, those who live in towers, and the workers who live underground and who keep the city running. The original version of the film was about four hours in length.\*

"Woman In The Moon" ("Frau Im Monden") was one of the first rocket-to-the-moon films made, and the first full-length one, according to this writer's knowledge. Hermann Obert and, I believe, Willy Ley were technical advisers in the making of the film.

The reporter asked Mr. Lang when he intended making more pictures along the line of the above. The director was very embarrassed. It seems that he has many times since, regretted making "Metropolis", regarding it as one of

\* It was based on a novelette by Theo von Harbou, his wife.

the follies of his youth. And as for the others:

"For months, I have been trying to convince producers to let me make a moon rocket picture. And — despite the fact that the Navy expects to be on the moon in seven to eleven years — I can't do it. I can't persuade them." He spread his hands.

"M", filmed also in Germany, is the story of a psychopathic killer who butchers little girls. It stars Peter Lorre in his first film role.

## 1948 IN SCIENCE FICTION (continued from page one)

"The Mad Planet" is featured. If you wish to be bored, read Robbins' "The Terrible Three". Especially mention should be made of Holloway's "Environment". This is an adventure story, but very good in some respects. The psychology of life in the raw is well treated.

(continued next issue)

## THE NORWESCON REPORT (continued from page two)

CONFERENCE. A total of 24 persons from Oregon, Washington and California attended the Conference which was held at the home of Don Day and lasted from 1 PM Saturday until 6 AM Sunday.

The most distant visitor to attend was Forrest J Ackerman who came from Los Angeles. Mrs. Carr and her son Eric came down from Seattle, Mark Walsted from OSC at Corvallis and the newly-formed EUGENE (Oregon) SCIENCE-FANTASY SOCIETY was represented by a delegation consisting of Roscoe Weight, President; Norm Hartman, Treas. and Dennis Frazer. The balance of the 24 were from Portland and vicinity.

Ackerman arrived at 6:40 AM Saturday and was met a while later by Don Day who had been up until 2 preparing for the meet. Gil Williams and Joo Salta arrived during the morning and

(continued on page seven)



## Fantasy Book Notes

by J. Russell Mars

Shasta Publications has just signed a contract with the publishing firm of Moussalt's Uitgeverij of Amsterdam for the publication of L. Ron Hubbard's "Slaves Of Sleep" in a Dutch-language edition.

Coming from Fantasy Publishing Co. of Los Angeles is "Planets Of Adventure" by Basil Wells. Three dollars for 15 short stories, 8 of which are brand new.

Donald A. Wollheim of the Avon Publishing Co., Inc., of NY, writes:

"You will be interested to know that we are scheduling for publication early in September 'The Fox Woman And Other Stories' by A. Merritt. This is the long-awaited book of Merritt short stories and fragments. It will contain the fragments of 'The Fox Woman', 'When Old Gods Wake' and 'The White Road' (first appearance of the last-named item), as well as 'The Women Of The Wood' (a different variant from the more familiar 'Woman'), 'The Last Poet And The Robots' (the original version), 'Through The Dragon Glass', 'Three Lines Of Old French', 'The People Of The Pit' and 'The Drone'. This will be a 25¢ pocket book.

"You may also be interested to know that our book #206 'The Palace Of Pleasure', to appear June 1st, is a reprint of a French romantic novel fantasy of the 18th Century...all about witches, djinns, fairy queens, and romance. To the best of my knowledge, it has never before been published in this country.

'The Hugh Walpole terror-fantasy novel 'Portrait Of A Man With Red Hair' is due on sale any day now. Avon Book #204."

Pocket Books of NY have issued Al Capp's "The Life And Time Of The Schmoo" in their usual 25¢ reprint format. The number is 621.

Willy Ley's next book will be "The Conquest Of Space", to be issued in the fall by Viking Press of NY. The book will be illustrated by Chesley Bonestell.

The New Collectors' Group of Denver is planning to issue Dr. David H. Keller's novel, "The Eternal Conflict" in the near future. It will be illustrated by Malin Blaine.

"Prevalence Of Witches" by Aubrey Menen is a recent selection of the Book Find Club.

The Associated Fantasy Publishers will have a booth at the American Booksellers Association Convention to be held in Washington, D. C., May 15 to 18. Melvin Korshak of Shasta informs us that his schedule calls for his stopping at the Algonquin in NY from May 9 to 13 before proceeding to the convention.

As a service to our readers, we are going to publish each issue a list of books produced by different fantasy publishing houses. The list will be as complete as we can make it and will cover one publisher each time.

We hope the listing will be of value to the fan as well as the collector. If you like the idea (or dislike it) please let us know.

The first firm to be listed is: FANTASY PRESS, P O Box 159, Reading, Pa. Their first book was published in 1947 and fine fantasy books have flowed from this firm ever since.

SPACEHOUNDS OF IPC by Edward Smith, Ph.D., 1947, \$3.

THE LEGION OF SPACE by Jack Williamson, 1947, \$3.

(Continued on Page Six)



## Fantasy Films Radio & Television

by Lester Mayer, Jr

A deal is being arranged for Chester ("Boston Blackie") Morris to star in a series based on the life of Henry Houdini, but whether this means movies or radio I wouldn't know. Houdini, considered the greatest magician that ever lived, had several stories published in the old WEIRD TALES.

Tele-station WPIX has just completed arrangements to show another group of British films over their Channel 11. Among them are "The Man In The Mirror" Edward Everett Horton, and "Juggernaut" with Doris Karloff.

Within a week of each other, the year's two most important fantasy productions, so far, had their world premieres in NY. The first, "Portrait Of Jennie", I reported in my last column. The new picture is "A Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court".

This is the third time "Yank" has been filmed. The new version now at Radio City stars Bing Crosby, and the emphasis is placed on the musical angle. The plot is too well-known to repeat here. Public and critics alike received the picture warmly.

How is this for censorship trouble? The forthcoming British movie, "Miranda", is about a mermaid. It ends on an unusual note --- Miranda sits on a rock, holding in her arms her newborn son, a merbaby. However, American audiences won't be allowed to see this ending. It seems that in one part of the picture Miranda and an English doctor engage in some love scenes underwater and the censors are afraid that the audience will think that the doctor is the baby's father! Oh, well!

On April 24, CBS-TV began broadcasting a new fantasy series for children --- "Mr. I. Magination".

Sometime during April Republic Studios started filming an interplanetary movie, "King Of The Rocket Men". Only drawback is that it will be a twelve-part serial. Thanks, Jean Cox!

Frank Capra, well-known movie director, made a statement to the press lately, in which he bemoaned the fact that increasing costs and a decreasing box-office were forcing Hollywood into an economic and artistic depression. Five pet pictures of his projects were turned down by studio executives because they were deemed not sufficiently "commercial".

One of these was the Eric Knight fantasy, "The Flying Yorkshireman", which was vetoed as a screen subject on the grounds that it lacked audience appeal.

Broadcast over the radio numerous times, Nelson Bond's "Mr. Morgenthwinker's Lobbies" was at last televised over WNBT, Sunday, April 17.

"The Madwoman Of Chaillet", drama critics choice as the best foreign play of the past season, is now available in book form. I reviewed this famous fantasy hit in my column a few months ago.

### THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!

#### TELEVISION DETECTIVE

Archdale John Jones, a Plymouth, England, man now living in New York, is the world's first television detective. His wife, Val Lewis, a prominent fashion designer, is his chief assistant.

Mr. Jones has reunited more than 100 British people with long lost members of their families in America through the aid of television. The cost is borne by the Dumont Company as a public service.



## FORECASTS

James H. Schmitz, promising newcomer, has done the feature story, "Agent Of Vega", in the July, 1949, issue of "astounding SCIENCE FICTION" on sale June 21.

Novelette for the issue will be "Eternity Lost" by Clifford D. Simak. Short stories will be: "Convergence To Death" by M. C. Pease; "The Animal Cracker Plot" by L. Sprague de Camp; "Trip One" by Edward Grendon; "Secret Weapon" by Alfred Coppel; and "Adaptation" by John Beynon.

Article is "Talking On Pulsars" by C. Rudmore. The cover is by Rogers and shows the Brookhaven Atomic Pile.

Interior illustrations will be done by Rogers, Cartier, Orban and Quackenbush.

In regard to a 1949 "UNKNOWN ANNUAL", John W. Campbell, Jr., editor of "aSF", said: "Probably not".

Donald A. Wollheim, editor of "AVON FANTASY READER" tells us that the contents of #10 will be: "A Witch Shall Be Born" by Robert E. Howard; "Vengeance In Her Bones" by Malcolm Jameson; "The Mentalicals" by Francis Flagg; "The Costak And The Doshes" by Miles J. Breuer; "Storm Warning" by Don Wollheim; "The Statement Of Randolph Carter" by H. P. Lovecraft; "Bimini" by Bassett Morgan and "Omega" by Amelia Reynolds Long.

Scheduled sales date is May twentieth.

RAYMOND J. VAN HOUTEN  
Printing & Publishing

Books, Color, Magazine & Offset  
409 Market Street, Paterson 3, NJ

## THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!

### PERPETUAL FAILURE

Charles S. Padgett, "a thin, shy man of 65", has invented a perpetual motion machine which he describes as a "Gravity Multiple Displacement Motor". This mechanism works under water and is powered by a system of alternating weights and bouys. Mr. Padgett has been working on this machine since 1933. Upon inspection of the diagrams, it becomes apparent to anyone who has studied high school physics, more particularly, pneumatics, that there are flaws in his machine; and even if it could work as set up, it would be a "closed system" and one would be unable to get power out of it.

Padgett says that he has a way of circumventing this last, but refused to discuss it for fear of "spies". He has not yet made a model but expects to have one finished by July 1, 1949.

Arthur Jean Cox

### FANTASY BOOK NOTES

(Continued from Page Four)

THE FORBIDDEN GARDEN by John Taine, 1947, \$3.

OF WORLDS BEYOND (non-fiction), a symposium, 1947, \$2.

THE BOOK OF PTATH by A.E. Van Vogt, 1947, \$3.

THE BLACK FLAME by Stanley G. Weinbaum, 1948, \$3.

TRIPLANETARY by Edward E. Smith, Ph.D., 1948, \$3.

BEYOND THIS HORIZON by Robert A. Heinlein, 1948, \$3.

SINISTER BARRIER by Eric Frank Russell, 1948, \$3.

SKYLARK THREE by Edward E. Smith, Ph.D., 1948, \$3.

DIVIDE AND RULE by L. Sprague de Camp, 1948, \$3.

DARKER THAN YOU THINK by Jack Williamson, 1948, \$3.

THE SKYLARK OF VALERON by Edward E. Smith, Ph.D., 1949, \$3.



THE NORTHWEST CON REPORT  
(continued from page three)

continued the preparations. The Eugene contingent arrived shortly before 1, closely followed by a steady stream of others.

The afternoon session was called to order shortly after 2 PM by Chairman Don Day and after a few words of greetings, author John de Courcy presented the principal item of the afternoon's program, a humorous demonstration of the "first practical" "Matter Transmitter".

Following the demonstration a buffet supper and gab session occupied the attendees until 7 when at a short business session, the formation of a Northwest S-F Society was discussed. It was decided to refer the matter to the Associate Members of the PSFS and other interested parties.

Next on the evening's program was a talk by Ackerman on "Twenty Three Years of AMAZING STORIES" in which he recalled some of the high spots of the earlier years of the magazine.

Next was the auction, featuring ridiculously low prices, due largely to the large amount of material for sale. Best price was for a Bok original which brought around \$15.00.

The NORTHWEST CON received a good writeup in the OREGONIAN, a Portland newspaper of Tuesday April 26, which took the form of an interview with Forrest J Ackerman. It stated in part:

"....is the rumor that a big publishing house which recently announced it was dropping some of its pulp titles is readying a "slick" scientific fiction mag, with color and cover girls."

NOTICE OF INTEREST

Franklin M. Dietz, Jr., of P. O. Box 696, Kings Park, L.I., New York is acting as agent for Ben Abas, who edited and published the Dutch sf magazine, FANTASIE EN WETENSCHAP. Anyone interested in this magazine should write to Mr. Dietz.

THE COSMIC REPORTER  
(continued from page one)

ory in this magazine one evening and called to congratulate the agent and the author on the sale; they were both very surprised as they had not even known it was to be published. The manuscript had been sent to the magazine some five months before and no reply received, despite enquiries made by the Ackerman Authors' Agency. They had never received acknowledgement nor payment. This was alright, as some magazines pay only on publication but what was definitely not alright were the changes made in the story by the editors. The editors practically wrecked the entire yarn by adding one sentence to the end. You can only appreciate what I mean by reading the story and realizing that the last sentence was not put in by the author, in fact, is bitterly resented by the author -- it definitely leaves a bad taste in the mouth. A good demonstration as to how a story may be wrecked by changing it very little.

Coming up in the "Masters Of Fantasy" series in FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES is a rather nice picture and text on Ray Bradbury.

The May issue of THE WRITER has an article by Martin Gardner entitled, "Humorous Science-Fiction". Very short and not very definitive. Also sports two articles by Mona Farnsworth and Dorothy Mellwraith, editor of WEIRD TALES.

The title of Heinlein's story, mentioned in "Future History" in the last issue of FANTASY-TIMES is "Word Edgewise", not "World Edgewise".

According to Campbell, Isaac Asimov's story "And Now You Don't", the long-awaited sequel to "Now You See It..." will contain four logical solutions to the problem of the location of the Second Foundation. Only one of them is correct, though.

WANTED: Canadian editions of SUPER - SCIENCE, ASTONISHING, SCIENCE FICTION, James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Ave. Flushing, New York.



FANTASY - TIMES  
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 4-No. 8 (#81) 1st May Number

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BOARD OF EDITORS

James V. Taurasi, Ray Van Houten,  
J. Russell Mars and John Giunta.

ADVISORY STAFF

Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, science, Lester Mayer, Jr., movie and radio; and Arthur Jean Cox, west coast.

CORRESPONDENTS

Alvin R. Brown and Milton A. Rothman

COVER: Our cover this issue shows the cover of #4 NEW WORLDS, reproduced on stencil by Herman Von Tokken.

An "International Edition" of FANTASY-TIMES, printed in English and Spanish, is published for fans outside of the United States.

THE FAN MAG COLLECTOR

This column is FREE to our readers who want to collect or sell fan magazines. The editors reserve the right to reject any item.

WANTED: DREAM QUEST #1; BURROUGHS BULLETIN #5; FANTASY-TIMES #3, James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32 Av., Flushing, NY.

FOR SALE: FANTASY-TIMES, Jan. 1st, 1949, Feb. 1st, Feb. 15, Mar. 1st, Mar. 15, Apr. 1st, Apr. 15 all 1949. 10¢ each. Only a few of each left. FANDOM HOUSE, c/o James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Avenue, Flushing, New York.

WANTED: The FANSCIENT No. 2. Will pay

cash or give 2 future issues for each copy. Wanted to complete sets for our subscribers. The FANSCIENT, 3435 NE 38, Portland 13, Ore.

WANTED: FANTASY COMMENTATOR #1 & #3, the original editions, not the reprint. In return I will offer the reprints for those two issues, the KAY-MAR TRADER 7/48, BLOOMINGTON NEWS LETTER #6, FANOMENA 3/48, OTHER WORLDS 5/48, A-MEN (esfa), FANTASY-TIMES 11/10/46, 11/47, 5/48, 7/48, 12/15/48, 8/48, 9/48 10/48, 11/15/48, 12/1/48, 1/1/49, 2/1/49 2/15/49 and 3/1/49. Also, THE STY TRADER #1, SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES 11/47, FANSCIENT #3, 4, 5, 6, and FANTASY ADVERTISER 1/48, 6/47, 7/48, 5/48, 3/48, and LOKI #1. Will also throw in Gilling's FANTASY REVIEW, any two issues, except No. 1. Dave Kishi, 171 West-End Ave, New York 23, New York.

CINVENTION NEWS

The CINVENTION is going to have three guests of honor. Ted Carnell, editor of the British pro mag, NEW WORLDS will be the fan guest of honor, L.A. Eshbach, who once edited a fiction magazine (semi-amateur) GALLELION and a well-know stf author, will be the author guest of honor. The artist guest of honor has not as yet been picked.

Miss Betty Sullivan will be the Official Hostess of the CINVENTION.

Material for the general auction has already started to arrive. All items for this auction are donated free.

The banquet will be held the 3rd night at the Hotel Metropole at \$2.50 per person. Dr. David H. Keller will be the Toastmaster. Any masquerading or costumes will be worn at the banquet as there will be no official masquerade ball.

Membership in the "Cinvention Committee" is only \$1. Send your \$ to Don Ford, Box 116, Sharonville, Ohio or to Taurasi, 137-03 32 Av, Flushing, N.Y.

Duplicated in the U.S.A.