



# Fantasy-Times

*The World Of Tomorrow Today!*



2ND MAY NUMBER 10¢



*A Fandom House Publication*



# 1948 In Science Fiction

by Thomas S. Gardner

## PART IX a - ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION

(The 1st six issues of 1948)

A reviewer is handicapped in the examination of ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION on two counts. First, stories rating B in ASTOUNDING would be rated A in other magazines, (relative basis), and second, there is a mental block in comparing ASTOUNDING with other magazines due to the long continued success of ASTOUNDING in publishing good material, and the story spectacle that most other magazines exhibit and have exhibited for years.

JANUARY: Asimov in trying to clear up the location of the Second Foundation has very cleverly succeeded in puzzling his reader to a greater extent than ever in "Now You See It--". My guess is that the Second Foundation is a secret group co-existing within the First Foundation, that has become almost a religion or lodge of a mystical significance to its adherents with emphasis upon the social sciences. What is your guess? (I almost believe that Asimov also does not know the exact location of the Second Foundation and is looking for an out!) An excellent story. I enjoy the type of story as Bade's "Advent". Even within the realms of our so-called civilized culture, there is a strong tendency for the development of the sacred cow attitude, and thus into a form of religion of many facets of our life.

FEBRUARY: A top story is Sturgeon's "There Is No Defense". A constant and deadly menace must be solved, but sometimes it is a job as one finds out in this story. A clever story is MacDonald's "Cosmetics". A great deal of psychology is bound up in the story -- problems that are the hardest to solve in any era. A clever and versatile story is Bade's "New Lives For Old". A story practically

realizable today -- at a price.

MARCH: The greatest disappointment of the year, the greatest farce so far in science-fiction, and utilizing a strictly phoney solution of a problem is Williamson's "---And Searching Mind". For a complete review and expose see the June 1948 FANTASY-TIMES. Layfayette's "Her Majesty's Abberation" is another good Old Doc Methuselah story. They have become a good habit in ASTOUNDING.

APRIL: Tenn's "The House Dutiful" is the best in this issue. I would like such a house -- even with all the implications! But I would not want any one else to have such a house with all the implications! (A selfish guy, am I? O.K. Read the story!). Chandler's "New Wings" is a sentimental, in spots, little action story.

MAY: Van Vogt brings to a close the Rull-human war in "The Rull" in a good, but personally I think, highly implausible manner. What do you think? This issue is packed with good stories, except for the serial which is good but a blunder. Hubbard's "The Obsolete Weapon" has a new twist that I liked, while "The Mechanical Answer" by MacDonald poses a problem that may have to be solved some day with the development of the mechanical brain.

JUNE: Russell's "Dreadful Sanctuary" begins in this issue and is the top serial of the year. This story is cram-packed with action, and in addition just enough super-science that it could be tomorrow morning rather than tomorrow in relative time. I thought I noticed quite a bit of symbolic logic in the sections devoted to the Normal Club. Asimov's "No Connection" struck me as being very funny. Also I disagree with several people with whom I discussed Merril's "That Only a Mother" was logically developed. A mutant, even if it were helpless with the I.Q. described would be an adjunct to the race.

(Mr. Gardner will review the last six 1948 issues of ASTOUNDING in our next issue)



# FANTASY-TIMES

*"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"*

Vol. 4 - No. 9 (#82)

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

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## AUTHORS ARTHUR J. BURKS & BASIL WELLS GOING TO THE "CONVENTION"

H. L. GOLD AND RALPH MILNE FARLEY MAY ALSO BE THERE

Arthur J. Burks, well known science-fiction author will be at the WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION. He wants to speak on "The Lost Races Of The Amazon". He recently returned from two years in Brazil. The subject sounds like it will be interesting.

Basil Wells will be there. One of the latest FPOI books is his "Planets Of Adventure".

H. L. Gold and Ralph Milne Farley both say they will try to make it.

Stirling Macoboy of Australia sent a lot of books to Ackerman to try and sell for him. If they can be sold soon he will come to the Convention. To get a visa, he needs to have some bank credit established in this country.

Two covers have been received from Mary Gnaedinger of POPULAR PUBLICATIONS, "The Eye Of Balamok" from a recent FANTASTIC NOVELS and the cover from the October 1946 issue of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES depicting the story, "The Island Of Dr. Moreau". Both are done in oils; the latter being on canvas. Other interior artwork is due to follow. John Giunta has obtained a number of his originals (interiors) from WEIRD TALES, which he will send to the Convention. He is now working on some of his originals which were used as covers for FANTASY-TIMES, and as soon as they are in shape they too will go to the Convention. All of these are for the auction to be held at the Convention, and which will help

meet expenses.

So far, the HYDRA CLUB, PSFS, and the WASHINGTON DC group have said they wanted to put on some entertainment. All other clubs are invited to arrange some entertainment for the Convention.

Tucker's interesting BLOOMINGTON NEWS LETTER has turned over its front page to the Convention. The article will have photos. The issue it appears in should be out by now.

All science-fiction fans should join the "Convention Committee" and thus help put on fandom's greatest event of 1949, THE SEVENTH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, better known as the "Convention". Only \$1 makes you a member. Write to Don E. Ford, 129 Maple Ave., Sharonville, Ohio, or to New York Representative, James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Ave., Flushing, New York,

## SAIR MAGS COMING

Los Angeles, May 12, 1949 (CNS) Forrest J Ackerman received today a telegram from Robert Sair of the Canadian SAIR PUBLICATIONS that his two science fantasy magazines, SUPERNATURAL STORIES and AMAZING ADVENTURES are ready to roll and will go into print immediately. These two magazines will constitute the first Canadian Publications of their kind. "Furthermore," says Sair, "I plan to go into the science-fiction pocket-book publishing." But Robert Sair has even bigger plans for later on, which as yet he is not revealing. -Arthur Jean Cox

SUPPORT THE CONVENTION



# The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

**FANS SELL STORIES:** Members of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society have sold stories to the new Canadian sf magazines (see page 2). Two of the stories, the first two of a series, are by L. Everett Evans, winner of the LASFS 1948 Non-professional Writers' Award. The other was "Quest For Beauty" by Harold Scott (Kenneth Bonnell, former secretary of the LASFS). All these stories were sold by the Ackerman Agency.

**WRITERS' JOURNAL** for May reveals that James Blish has just sold the following novelettes: "Okie" to **ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION**, "There Shall Be No Darkness" to **Standard Magazines**, and "The Hounds Of Hades", to **Columbia Publications**.

Occasionally, a reporter receives information which puts him in an unusual position. As in this case, publication of the material has not been expressly forbidden and yet it is suspected that publication of that material may seriously effect those concerned.

Besides which, even a reporter to a fan magazine, who love to make predictions, often like to avoid going out on a limb, if they can. Admittedly, the information comes to us third-hand but it's accuracy has been checked with other sources and seems to be correct.

So, we will compromise. We will be vague, and perhaps the magic of what is to happen will be accentuated rather than tarnished.

## PREDICTION:

The November 1949, issue of **ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION** is going to be the most unique single issue of that magazine ever published.

From the above, if you are sharp, you may deduce what is to happen even if the clue is meagre

But: A Jingle--

The core of the matter is that  
Campbell was mistaken;  
(Though on the Hornigs of a  
dilemma,  
I'm sure he's not forsaken)  
They said he dasn't do it; a de-  
cade o'er  
had passed--  
Though the doctor had a future, this  
ed  
had had a past!

It is interesting to note how the editors of **SUPER SCIENCE** go about changing titles of various stories for publication. Chris Neville's story, "Random Factor", was changed to "The Hand From Space"; "Venus Transport" to "Spaceman, Beware"; and William F. Temple's "Realm Of The Id" to "The Brain Beast".

## FLASH:

THE 1949 **WESTERCON**, SPONSORED BY THE LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, WILL BE HELD JULY 3rd IN OR ABOUT LOS ANGELES. More Information later.

The May issue of **MAGAZINE DIGEST** has an article on the new Tarzan, Lex Barker.

If you will inspect closely the bottom band on the cover of the June 1949 issue of **ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION**, you will notice that once beneath the name "Philip Latham" there was another name; R. S. Richardson. Latham, as you probably know, is the alias of Richardson.

I finally found out what "De Campo", the title of Heinlein's sequel to "Universe" and "Commonsense" means. It's a musical term, meaning "back to the beginning".

The "Masters Of Fantasy" series - appearing in **FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES** are not written by the editorial staff of the magazine but by Ackerman.

**FANTASY PUBLISHING CO., Inc.**, give members of the **NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION** members 50% discount on all books they publish. **HOUSE OF STONE**, book dealer, gives 20%.



## THE OTHER SIDE OF THE POND

Through the International Edition of "FANTASY-TIMES", Fandom House has received many requests for and propositions regarding back issues of the US sf mags. Even if our policy provided for it, we could not begin to take care of all of them ourselves.

We are therefore passing them along to our readers in the belief that some amicable exchanges may result. The editors and publishers of "FANTASY-TIMES" assume no responsibility for any items mentioned herein. Please apply direct to the person concerned, not to "FANTASY-TIMES".

Owen D. Plumridge, 4 Wide Way, Mitcham, Surrey, England, wants: "aSF": Feb, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Oct of 1941; all of 1942 except Jul, Aug, Oct; all of 1943 except Jan, Jul; 1944, Jan, Feb Mar. Will exchange Nos. 1, 2, 3 of post-war "Fantasy"; Nos. 1, 2, 3 of "New Worlds"; "Opener Of The Way" by R. Bloch @ \$2; "Best Supernatural Stories Of Lovecraft" @ \$1; also many H.G. Wells volumes. He undertakes to answer all letters.

Ron H. Greaves, 47 Moorpark Rd, Turvesgreen, Northfield, Birmingham 31, England, wants copies of US monthlies, and offers in exchange British reprint editions of "aSF", also Nos. 1,2,3 of "New Worlds".

Walter Van Norcott, 41 St. John's, Worcester, England, wants "aSF": 1930, Jan, Feb; Apr, Oct; 1940, Jan, Mar; May, Jul; Aug, Dec; 1941, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Nov, Dec; 1942; Jan, Feb; 1943, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May,  
(Continued on Page Six)

## Fantasy Book Notes

by J. Russell Mars

Fantasy Press of Reading, Pa., is delivering their latest book, Stanley G. Weinbaum's "A Martian Odyssey And Others" priced at \$3. Although this firm has been in business since 1947, this is their first collection of single-author stories. Twelve short stories that include the Van Manderpootz and "Ham" Hammond yarns.

Mentor Books (The New American Library, N. Y., 35¢) have put out another non-fiction book of interest to the sf. fan. The title is "Life On Other Worlds" by H. Spencer Jones. The book has 160 pp and 12 pp of astronomical photos. The book gives a fine outline of the universe and the possibility of life in it besides our own.

This is the latest of a number of books published by Mentor that will be of interest to the sf. fan. Preceding titles included: "Birth And Death Of The Sun", "Biography Of The Earth", and "The Limitations Of Science".

The Spring 1949 issue of "Fantasy Commentator" is now ready. If you would like a copy of this very excellent literary fan journal, send 25¢ to A. Langley Searles, 7 East 235th St., NY 66 NY.

Have you read Sam Moskowitz's "Fantasy Book Reviews" column in the bi-monthly magazine, "FANTASTIC NOVELS"?

If you are a pursuer of material on witchcraft then keep your eyes open for a new book from John Day of NY due about the middle of June. The title will be "The Evening Wolves" and the author is Marie McCall. Witches in early New England.

From the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
(Continued on Page Six)



## Fantasy Films Radio & Television

by Lester Mayer, Jr.

This June RKO will reissue two old Tarzan films starring Johnny Weissmuller. Both were made in 1943. They are "Tarzan Triumphs" and "Tarzan's Desert Mystery".

An old horror film about the circus, called "Freaks", starring Olga Baclanova, Wallace Ford, and some Barnum & Bailey headliners, is now being recirculated.

One of the screen's top boogie-men, Lon Chaney, has now turned writer. The actor has penned his own horror scripts which he plans for early production. It will be new-style horror, he said --- no more killing without reason. The "scare" films now must have a moral.

Orson Welles has been missing from the screen for a year now, but he has four films which will be released soon. One of these is "Black Magic" which certainly sounds like fantasy (AJCox)

Ray Bradbury is currently writing a series of radio plays, in which Vincent Price is anxious to star. All they need is a sponsor. (AJCox)

The latest Russian film to be released in the US is "The Magic Horse", a full-length animated cartoon based on an old folktale. This should be interesting to seekers of the unusual in films. The story concerns a not-too-bright peasant boy who acquires a magic horse, two great stallions, and a feather from the fire-bird. Various adventures follow. The villain of the piece is a Tsar, and the picture is photographed in a pleasing form of color. (AJC)

Walt Disney is seriously considering doing a film on nuclear fission for his "True Life Adventures" series. His primary interest is to show what the atom

## FORECASTS

The August 1949 issue of **THRILLING WONDER STORIES** will be on the stands around the first of June.

Lead Novel will be "Fury From Lilliput" by Murray Leinster. Three stories share novella honors: "The Lion of Comarre" by Arthur C. Clarke, "Project Spaceship" by A. E. Van Vogt and "Amphiskios" by John D. MacDonald.

Short stories for the issue are: "Free Land" by William Morrison, "Salvage", the first in a new series by Cleve Cartmill, "A Date To Remember" by William F. Temple, "The Neo-Geoduck" an Oona and Jick story by Margaret St. Clair, and "The Naming Of Names" by Ray Bradbury.

Also included in the issue will be the regular departments: "The Reader Speaks", "Science Fiction Book Review" and "The Frying Pan".

The cover, a symbolic illustration of "Fury From Lilliput", has been done by Earle Bergey.

Interior illustrators are: Stevens, Astarita, Napoli and Finlay.

Good news for some TWS readers: Sam Merwin, Jr., editor of their favorite mag, tells us that the Oona and Jick story mentioned above is the last one currently on hand.

means to the future of humanity, but he will also delve into its destructive powers. The chief problem facing Disney now is the matter of financing the project.

The latest Abbott & Costello picture, "Africa Screams", now showing locally, may be described as partly fantastic in nature. It contains all the ingredients necessary to an A & C picture, such as cannibals, a domesticated lion, snapping crocodiles, etc., plus an enormous gorilla (a la King Kong) about fifty or sixty feet tall.



THE OTHER SIDE OF THE POOL  
(Continued from Page Four)

Jun; Oct, Nov, Dec; 1944, Jan,  
Mar, May, Oct; 1945, Oct.

"WONDER STORIES QUARTERLY",  
1929, Fall, VINL. "AMAZING STOR-  
IES QUARTERLY", 1928, Spring,  
Fall, Winter; 1929, Winter; 1931,  
Spring; 1933, Fall, Winter.

"WEIRD TALES", 1930, Jan, May  
Jun; 1931, Jan; 1932, Mar, Apr;  
May, Oct; 1933, Jun, Jul, Nov,  
Dec; 1934, Jan, Feb, May, Aug,  
Sep, Dec; 1935, Jul, Nov.

He offers various copies of  
Hewnes "Fantasy", "Tales Of Wonder"  
(a large selection of this mag)  
Temple Bar's "Fantasy", the first  
two issues of "Weird Story Maga-  
zine", "Futuristic Stories", BRE  
of "Science Fiction", "Unknown",  
and "ASF", plus many fantasy  
books, including a rare copy of  
David Lasser's "Conquest Of  
Space".

Mr. Van Norcott's brother,  
who he said has been bed-ridden  
for some years, would like variou  
copies of "Operator #5",  
"Spider" and "Jungle Stories".

George L. Charters, 3 Lancas  
ter Ave., Bangor, Co. Down, North  
Ireland, wants to know if he can  
obtain or borrow an index of "AS-  
TOUNDING STORIES". If required,  
he would return same within a  
month.

Sgt. E. R. Harmer, RAPC,  
7668026, c/o 48 Rwd Base Pay Of-  
fice, Benghazi, Cyrenaica, MLE 6  
North Africa, wants a subscrip-  
tion to "ASF" placed for him. In  
return he will place a one-year  
subscription to any one of the  
following British publications:  
"London Opinion", "Lilliput",  
"Railway Magazine", "Wide World",  
"Illustrated", "Stamp Collecting",  
"Civil Engineering", "Leader Mag-  
azine" or "Picture Post". For an  
additional subscription to "TMS",  
he will send one-year subs to any

FANTASY BOOK NOTES  
(Continued from Page Four)

c o m e s "The Devil's Tramping  
Grounds" and other North Carolina  
mystery stories by John Harden.  
Price is \$3.

This issue we present the  
second list of books which have  
been produced by a limited edit-  
ion publisher specializing in fan-  
tasy. This issue's publisher is:  
FANTASY PUBLISHING CO., INC.,  
8318 Avalon Blvd., Los Angeles 3,  
Calif.

This firm started later than  
most but has made up for lost  
time with some fine books.

OUT OF THE UNKNOWN by Van Vogt  
& Hull, 1948, \$2.50 (two editions)

THE SUNKEN WORLD by Stanton A.  
Coblentz, 1948, \$3.

PEOPLE OF THE COLET by Austin  
Hall, 1948, \$2.

DEATH'S DEPUTY by L. Ron Hubb-  
ard, 1948, \$2.50.

THE RADIO MAN by Ralph Milne  
Farley, 1948, \$2.50.

THE WORKS OF F. P. SHIEL by A.  
Reynolds Morse, 1948, \$6.

THE COSMIC GEOLDS by John Taine  
1949, \$3.

PLANETS OF ADVENTURE by Basil  
Wells, 1949, \$3.

one of the following: "Electronic  
Engineering", "Amateur Photograph-  
er", "Aircraft Production" or  
"Automobile Engineer". Please  
apply to Sgt. Harmer before ar-  
ranging subscription.

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Cover by John Giunta. Masthead by M. Adrien Simon of Le Harve, France.

An "International Edition" of FANTASY-TIMES 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. James V. Taurasi, 157-03 32nd Ave., Flushing, New York.

FOR SALE: FANTASY-TIMES, Jan.1st, Feb.1st, Feb.15, Mar.1st, Mar.15, Apr.1st, Apr.15, May.1st, all of 1949. 10¢ ea. Only a few of each on hand. FANDOM HOUSE, % James V. Taurasi, 157-03 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.

TRADE: The following paper bound editions, all mint, for copies of FANTASY COMMENTATOR, any issue up to number 20. The letters nc after a title means that it has no cover.

GARDEN OF FEAR, Howard, nc; CREATOR, Simak, nc; BIRTH AND DEATH OF THE SUN, Gamow; NO PLACE TO HIDE, Bradley; SELECT SCIENCE FICTION, only copy produced; DRACULA, Stoker; CREEP SHADOW CREEP, Merritt; AVON GHOST READER, nc; THE SHMOO, Capp; GREEN MAN, Sherman; METAL MONSTER, Merritt; SAINTS CHOICE, stories by Kuttner, Long, Brown, etc.; AVON FANTASY READER, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, reading copies bound together. Write to: J. Russell Mars, Box 577, Packanack Lake, New Jersey.

SCIENTICARTOONS

by Lane Stannard

BUCK ROGERS returns to New York, after years of absent, when the new daily paper THE NEW YORK COMPASS, picked it up as one of their daily cartoon strips. The New York fans haven't seen the daily strip for years, the Sunday strip has been published right along in the JOURNAL-AMERICAN.

ACTION COMICS, July 1949, brings Tommy Tomorrow in "Mission To Mars!" one of the best stf cartoon strips published in cartoon mags today.

Alley Oop, long known for his time-traveling, is now interested in a rocket ship and a trip to the moon. Daily and Sunday in numerous newspapers.

Pick up the current issues of MARVEL TALES and AMAZING MYSTERIES, cartoon mags published by the publisher of MARVEL SCIENCE STORIES. They contain some darn good weird fiction.

Also read the current issues of PLANET COMICS and UNKNOWN comics.



# IT'S SOONER THAN YOU THINK

Did you plan to go to the Philcon?

And did the time slip by, day after day, until  
it was suddenly too late?

And did you plan to go to Toronto?

And did the same thing happen all over again?

Well, then---

If you have made the same well-intentioned plans  
about the Cinvention, may we call your attention  
to the fact that---

## IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK

The plans for the Cinvention move on apace; fan  
after fan has sent in a dollar for membership  
in the Cinvention Committee, and before you know  
it, it will be time for the Big Confab. Sept-  
ember isn't far away---

## IT'S SOONER THAN YOU THINK

And so---

Why not give up this procrastinating pose?  
You intend to join the Cinvention Committee, and  
you intend to come to Cincinnati.  
So why don't you slip your buck into an envelope  
right now, before you forget it, and send it to

Don Ford  
Box 116  
Saronville, Ohio.

(This space donated by Fandom House)