

# FANTASY-TIMES

SECOND AUGUST ISSUE

10¢



A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION



## WASHINGTON SFA TO BID FOR '50 CONVENTION

In a letter in the October 1949 issue of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, Louis E. Garner, Jr. stated that the WASHINGTON SCIENCE-FICTION ASSOCIATION will make a bid at the "Cinvention", THE SEVENTH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, to hold the 1950 World Convention in Washington D.C. He claims to have many fans and pros backing him up and promises the possibility of Hugo Gernsback, George O. Smith, Seabury Quinn, Willy Ley and others giving talks at the proposed convention. He further claims that E.E. Smith is

heartily in favor of holding the '50 convention in Washington D. C.

As far as this newspaper knows, this is the fourth unit that will make a bid at the "Cinvention", New York will have two units bidding for the 1950 site; the HYDRA-ESFA bid, and the QUEENS SFL bid; THE PORTLAND SFS will make the bid for Portland, Oregon with the LOS ANGELES SFS backing and there are rumors that the PHILADELPHIA SFS will back up the Hydra-Esfa bid, tho no "official" word has come in from them. There will probably be a few others that will make bids also. As stated before, FANTASY-TIMES wishes them all the best of luck and is ready, willing and able to support the lucky winner. -jvt

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"¡El Mundo De Mañana Hoy!"

Septiembre 1949

5¢





# FANTASY-TIMES

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"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 4 - No. 15 (#88)

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

2nd August 1949 Issue

## A Plea From Bradbury:

"Write today to the Columbia Broadcasting system. Send a postcard, letter, anything, but write and say, 'It's about time you've given us some science-fiction.'"

"At the present moment, CBS is cautiously considering such a program — a science-fiction series, with stories by A. E. van Vogt, Bob Heinlein, Jack Williamson — and — incidentally, Ray Bradbury. Letters will swing it."

"Each letter is counted as representing 10,000 listeners!"

"If CBS inaugurates such a series, NBC most likely will follow suit."

"Thank you, readers of Fantasy-Times!"

## SOME INTERESTING SIDELIGHTS ON THE MOVIE

### "MIGHTY JOE YOUNG"

an article by Arthur Jean Cox from  
information supplied by Ray Bradbury  
and Walt Daugherty

The man whose genius is almost directly responsible for "Mighty Joe Young", is Ray Harryhausen, a former member of the LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY. Ray was the First Technician on the picture and is the creator of Mr. Joseph Young, himself.

Ray constructs models. Models of giant gorillas and giant dinosaurs, of strange reptilian creatures. They are often very lifelike. Those of you who  
(continued on page seven)

## POPULAR TO ISSUE TWO NEW FANTASY MAGS

LOS ANGELES, August 27, (CNS) — It was announced today that the magazine, Popular Publications has been scheduling for a year, DOCTOR ZERO, would appear about the 25th of September. DOCTOR ZERO will feature a series, a la Doc Savage, of a scientist who was rendered invisible by atomic radiation and devotes his life to fighting crime.

Another magazine to be issued by the same company will be "The Merritt Magazine". No further information on this publication is obtainable at this moment, but it is believed that it will feature Merrittesque tales of fantasy.

—Arthur Jean Cox

~"JJ"~

## FANDOM HOUSE CLOSES PATERSON OFFICE

FANDOM HOUSE, publishers of FANTASY-TIMES, announced this week that it had closed down its Paterson office following the resigning of Ray Van Houten from the staff. All business formerly handled by the Paterson office, will in the future, be handled by the New York office, % James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Ave, Flushing, New York. Mr. Taurasi has also become editor of the "International Edition" of FANTASY-TIMES; a position formerly held by Mr. Van Houten. Mr. Van Houten has resigned his position in FANDOM HOUSE in order to use the time to write science fiction for the pros. He will, at a future date, return to FANDOM HOUSE.



## Fantasy Comics

by Lane Stannard

The Sept-Oct issue of TARZAN comics is now out featuring "Tarzan And The Sable Lion". This is issue No. 11.

PLANET COMICS has been changed from a bi-monthly to a quarterly. The readers' column has been dropped.

MARVEL TALES (comics) is out with issue no. 94 and still does a good job in presenting weird-supernatural comics. Its sister magazine, AMAZING MYSTERIES, that once contained good weird stories has now become a "true crime" comics.

The September issue of TRUE CRIME COMICS, now on the stands, contains material by science-fiction fans James V. Taurasi, Ray Van Houten, Sam Moskowitz and Aldo Giunta, none of which are science-fiction.

Dell Publishing Company has just published another issue of FLASH GORDON comics. No. 247 of their "four color series", this one is called "Adventures On Artico" and is drawn by Paul Norris. All new stuff that has not appeared elsewhere. Interesting.

"Adventures into the UNKNOWN", number 7 is now out continuing their presentation of the finest weird comics. Try a copy.

## The Fantasy Record

by Lane Stannard

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES has changed printers with their October 1949 issue; from Chicago to Kokomo, Indiana. This Oct. issue is FFM's 10th Anniversary.

### Coming in the 2nd September Issue

OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES -- a review of Jack Williamson's THE HUMANOIDS  
by Thomas S. Gardner

## The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

Science-fiction came insomewhat at the recent International Congress Of General Semantics held in Denver this July: For one, Francis P. Chisholm, director of the English Department at the Illinois Institute of Technology spoke at length on the world of the future -- "interplanetary travel, mechanical marvels, advanced medical discoveries" -- and ways of adjusting to it. Psychiatrist James Kelly lectured on the three societies which had tried to stop time-bidding, the Nazis of Germany, the present-day Communist society of Russia and the society of 1984.....

The illustration on page 91 of the September 1949 issue of FANTASTIC NOVELS is fantastically similar to the Wesso cover on the Volume 1, Number 3 of STRANGE TALES (January 1931).

Matt Weinstock, in the L. A.'s "science-fictional" DAILY NEWS, ran a paragraph on Ray Bradbury, billing him as a fellow who used to sell the NEWS on a street corner but who is now a big literary figure. He previously ran a squib on Edmond Hamilton....Incidentally, perhaps some of you have wondered what happened to Bradbury's novels about his Homecoming Characters. It turned out that Charles Addams found it financially unprofitable to do the illustrations for the book and Bradbury refused to have it published without him. He's waiting until a more satisfactory economical agreement can be worked out with Addams before publication.

Ray Bradbury has just sold "Jack-In-The-Box", a "Dark Carnival" story to CHARM.

The August issue of WRITERS' DIGEST features a leading article on Ed-  
(continued on page eight)



## Fantasy Book Notes

by J. Russell Mars

"Nineteen Eighty Four", the new fantasy by George Orwell, is currently high on the best-seller list.

Curiously, his previous book "Animal Farm", is a publisher's sell-out, available in the N Y book shops for 19¢.

Our West Coast representative, A. J. Cox, sends us a bundle of book information.

Says Mr. Cox: "Simon & Schuster recently revealed that they intend to publish only science-fiction novels of sociological import".

The S & S edition of "And Searching Mind", retitled "The Humanoids", is now available at book dealers at \$2.

"Williamson's next novel is to be 'Sectee Shock', his last serial in 'aSF'.

"A. E. Van Vogt's next book from Simon & Schuster will be 'The Voyage Of The Space Ship Beagle'.....the book is a novelized version of his 'Black Destroyer' series in 'aSF'. Definitely worth waiting for.....".

Cox also says that the Gnome Press has purchased book rights to two of L. Ron Hubbard's stories: "The Kilkenny Cats" and "When Shadows Fall", through the F. J. Ackerman Agency.

Also sold by Ackerman is the Italian book rights to David H. Keller's "The Solitary Hunter".

In addition, Prime Press has purchased book rights to "The Blind Spot" by Hall and Flint through the same agency.

Cox reports that Ray Bradbury has sold to Doubleday of N Y all his Martian stories, which appeared in various sf magazines. They will be tied together to

(Continued on Page Seven)

## Fantasy Forecasts

The December 1949 issue of THRILLING WONDER STORIES will feature a new novel by James Blish titled "Let The Finder Beware". This is the first novel TWS has presented dealing with ESP, telekinesis and parapsychology, and the editors are interested in finding out how it will be received.

The cover by Bergey illustrates this story.

There will be three novelets "The Shroud Of Secrecy" by Raymond F. Jones, "The Lonely Planet" by Murray Leinster and "Thirty Seconds --- Thirty Days" by Arthur C. Clarke.

Jones' novelet is the second in the "Peace Engineers" series. Editor Sam Merwin feels that it may be an important one, as he says, "It looks promising, as does its sequel", which is apparently on hand.

Four short stories, as well as the usual departments, will complete the issue: "A Blade Of Grass" by Ray Bradbury, "Skin Dupe" by William Morrison, "Thicker Than Water" by Cleve Cartmill and "The Colorful Character" by L. Sprague de Camp.

Interior illustrations by Finlay, Stevens, Astarita and Napoli.

"A solid issue" says Mr. Merwin.

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, November 1949 will be on sale 20 Sept.

Lead novel will be "Queen Of The Ice Men" by S. M. Tenneshaw. Novelets: "My Name Is Madness" by Henry Gade and "The White God Of Chichen Itza" by Gilbert Mead.

Short stories: "The Insane Robot" by Craig Browning, "Lunar Holiday" by Peter Worth, "The Bio

(Continued on Page Seven)

## Fantasy Films, Radio & Television

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Some time in October M G M will send a location crew to Equatorial Africa to film "King Solomon's Mines", H. Rider Haggard's greatest adventure story. Deborah Kerr will star in it. Maybe, Errol Flynn will appear in it too.

In the story there is a tall tribe of Ruanda, all of whom were seven feet tall. MGM will attempt to have them in the picture.

A.F. Films of NY have a short film entitled "Fact & Fantasy" which deals with five different subjects such as perpetual motion space flight, etc., all in a humorous fashion. The film costs \$35, or can be rented from: A. F. Films, 1600 Broadway, NY 19 NY.

(Thanks to AJCox)

Nearly everyone has heard of, or seen, the RKO short subject series, "This Is America". Well, RKO is now looking for movie footage of preternatural manifestations; such as vampires, werewolves, zombies and haunted houses. The film is needed for a "This Is America" series dealing with American superstitions to be called "Hoodoo".

Inflation has finally reached "Tarzan". Elephants that used to work in the jungle pictures for \$25 a day now get \$150!

Some time this year Walt Disney will produce "Mr. Ichabod And The Toad". The characters will not be as fearsome in the movie as in the story because of the children who will see the picture.

A double bill recently show-

ing in a NY theater consisted of "The Devil's Hand" and "The Devil's Daughter". It is my guess that these are two old French films. "Devil's Hand" originally appeared as "Carnival Of Sinners" and "Devil's Daughter" appeared under a different title, too.

"Siren Of Atlantis"; the stinker based on the novel, "L'Atlantida" by Pierre Benoit, is now playing at the NY Globe after a turn in some North Jersey theaters. Maria Montez plays the title role.

There is talk that the hilarious fantasy of the Grecian era "The Boys From Syracuse" will be remade, this time in Italy. The original stars of the picture, Allan Jones and Irene Hervey, are being paged for the new version.

Sol Lesser has engaged a new jungle mate for Tarzan. Her name is Vanessa Brown, former contract actress of 20th Century - Fox. Miss Brown, the 11th actress to play "Jane", replaces Brenda Joyce.

Another adventure-fantasy is on the way, with a film company all ready to go to South America to make "The Valley Of The Mists". Willis O'Brien, the technical genius behind "Mighty Joe Young", "King Kong" and "Lost World", will have a big hand in the production.

The troupe will move into the Yucatan jungle, in territory never before filmed, for a six-month's stay. Story, which Richard Landau is writing, will be shot in secrecy. Film, in technicolor, has no release date set as yet.

"Quick", a new pocket-sized news magazine, makes a prediction  
(Continued on Page Seven)



## FORECASTS

(Continued from Page Five)

logical Barrier" by Anthony B. Ott and "Sleepwalker Of Sandwich" by Lee Prescott.

Cover by Robert Gibson Jones illustrates the lead novel; interiors by Julian S. Krupa, Leo R. Summers, Henry Thiede and Bill Terry.

AMAZING STORIES for December 1949 will be on sale 11 Oct.

Lead novel will be "Moon Of Battle" by J. J. Allerton. Novels: "The Mystery Of Element 117" by Milton K. Smith and "Pillars Of Delight" by Stan Raycraft. Short Story will be "The Elixir Of Peace" by Robert Moore Williams.

## FANTASY BOOK NOTES

(Continued from Page Five)

make a novel.

Also "The Children That Time Forgot", which appeared in PLANET STORIES. It will be retitled "Frost And Fire". This is also a novel.

For the information of our readers: the Avalon Co., Newark, NJ, publishers of "Life Everlasting" by David H. Keller, has dissolved.

Ready for delivery from Prime Press is "Three Hundred Years Hence" by Mary Griffith. This is the second in this firm's series of reprints of American Utopian novels. It was originally issued in 1837. The Prime edition has an introduction by Nelson F. Adkins. Price \$2.50.

## FANTASY FILMS RADIO & TELEVISION

(Continued from Page Six)

in its issue for 8 Aug, to wit: that studio heads will order their story departments to be on the lookout for pseudo-scientific magazine or book stories for the screen, because of their growing popularity.

## "MIGHTY JOE YOUNG"

(continued from page three)

have seen both "King Kong" and "Mighty Joe Young" have already realized, of course, the superiority of the work in the latter. Ray is almost directly responsible for that. He puts naturalness into his strange creatures. Joseph Young, for example, had living hair, embedded in a rubberoid material, covering him.

Each movement of Joseph Young -- each fragment of movement -- had to be filmed separately. Ray would place Joe in a certain position and then the First Cameraman would take a shot. Next, Ray would move him, or part of him, just a fraction of an inch -- click!, goes the camera. Another fraction of an inch -- click! Another -- click! Ad infinitum! Meticulous, tedious work.

It took three years to make "Mighty Joe Young". The first year was spent in planning, in talking out stories and making sketches -- hundreds of them. It was originally planned that the scene of the action would be laid in the Grand Canyon. Dinosaurs would be in the picture, suddenly brought to life after being dust and fossil for millions of years -- and Joe Young. The action of the story would be laid around attempts on the part of Arizona cowboys to capture the gigantic gorilla. "MJY" kept the cowboys, but little else.

"Mighty Joe Young" is based on an original story by Merriam C. Cooper, co-producer (who also made "She" and "The Last Days Of Pompeii"). It took one and a half million dollars to make (but they expect to gross three million on it). John Ford and Merriam C. Cooper, also made "King Kong" -- Joe's predecessor.

With the help of Harryhausen, the two men are planning other fantasy movies. They're currently discussing making a picture, laid in Mexico, showing a fight between a dinosaur and a bull.

For some years now, they've been  
(continued on page eight)



FANTASY - TIMES  
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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BOARD OF EDITORS: James V. Taurasi,  
Ray Van Houten, J. Russell Mars and  
John Giunta.

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radio; and Arthur Jean Cox, west coast.

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NOTE: Make all checks, money-orders,  
etc. payable to James V. Taurasi.

OUR COVER this issue shows the cover  
of #9 LES AVENTURES FUTURISTES, re-  
produced on stencil by Ray Van Houten.

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THE FAN MAG COLLECTOR.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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WANTED: The first issue of THE ARKHAM  
SAMPLER, James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd  
Avenue, Flushing, New York.

THE COSMIC REPORTER  
(continued from page four)

GAR RICE BURROUGHS, INC.

Incidentally, in case any of you  
are wondering, "The South Gate In '58"  
boys are serious. They really want  
the World Convention in 1958.

"MIGHTY JOE YOUNG"

(continued from page seven)

planning to make a film showing a  
great cavern beneath the United States  
— a graveyard for whales. It would  
be the story of a boatload of men who  
harpoon a whale and are dragged, throu-  
gh a subterranean inlet to a cavern  
miles below America.

These will be some pictures to  
look forward to — if they are ever  
made. Sometimes slip-ups occur. At  
one time, Cooper was planning to pro-  
duce, "The Eagle Man". There was  
great excitement about it and for  
months men went walking around the MGM  
lots with rubberoid wings attached to  
them — but somehow, it just never  
materialized.

At any rate, you're bound to see  
the work of these three men — John  
Ford, Merriam C. Cooper and Ray Harry-  
hausen — in the science-fiction pic-  
tures of the future.

In The Next Issue:

THE  
CONVENTION  
REPORT

Read It In The  
1st Sept. 1949 Issue.



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## BOOK BARGAINS

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