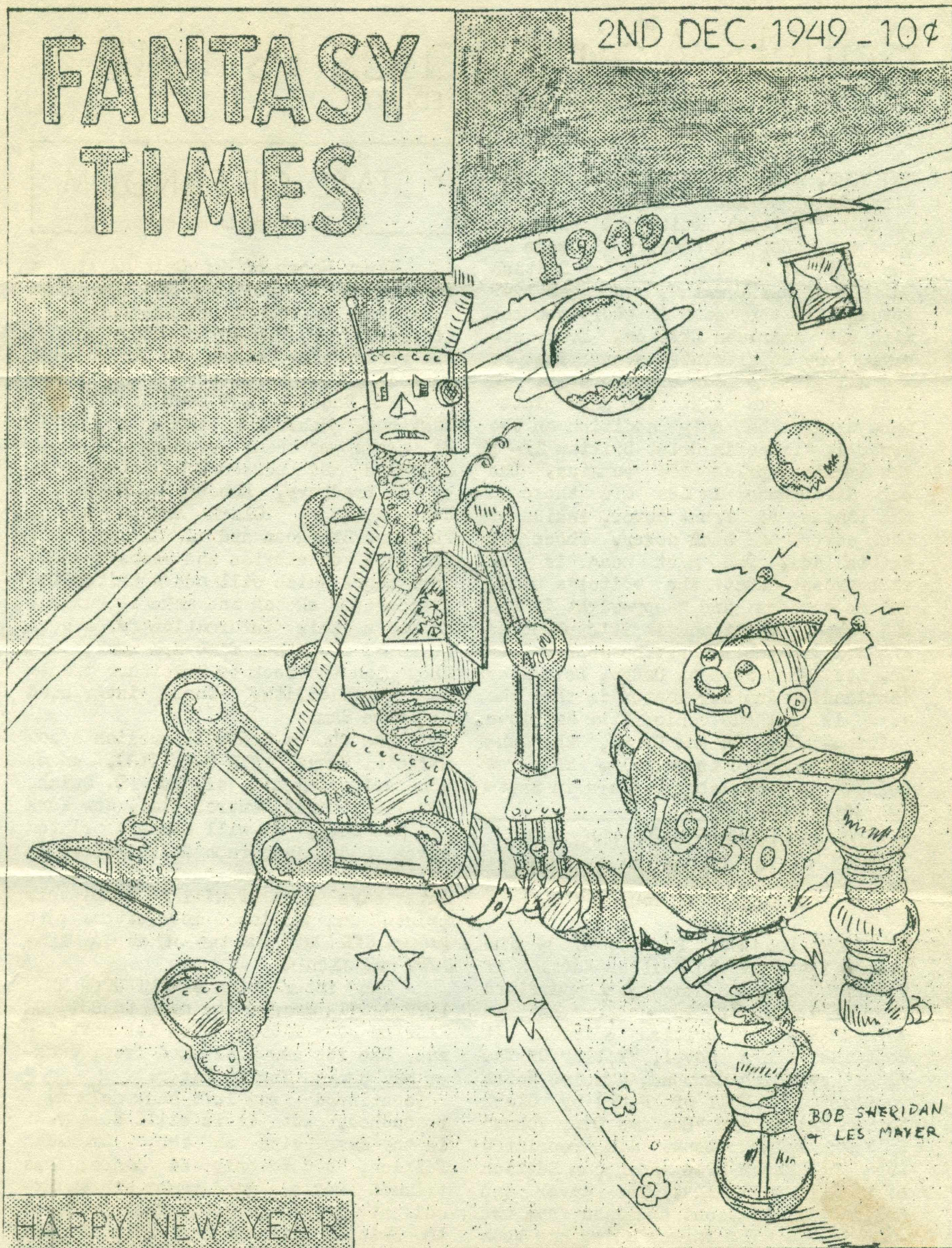


# FANTASY TIMES

2ND DEC. 1949 - 10¢



HAPPY NEW YEAR



# British Weird Tales Is Out

ISSUE IS SAME AS U.S. EDITION

by Lane Starnard

NEW YORK, December 22, (CNS) - For the first time since England started printing British Editions, one has come out that is exactly the same as the American Edition. The 1st British Edition of WEIRD TALES, November 1949 issue, is the same in every respect with the American Edition. Every story, every department, every feature and all inside Ads are the same. In fact it looks like the same plates were used. The only addition on the cover is "Price in Great Britain 1/-"; the American price 25¢ remains. The only difference in Ads are those on the inside of front cover, inside of back cover and back cover. These are British Ads. The mast head is the same except that the editor's name, volume numbers and "copyright in the US" are left out and in it's place is the British publishers: The Jenson Book Co. Ltd, East Street, Oadby, Leicester (England). Another factor is that the issue is just one behind the American Edition. Here in the U. S., the January 1950 issue is on sale. This, we believe is a big step forward in British Editions.

## 2ND BRITISH STARTLING HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED

by James V. Taurasi

NEW YORK, December 20, (CNS) - The second issue of the British Edition of STARTLING STORIES has just arrived from England. It is undated but is marked No. 2, British Edition. It contains the novel, "Valley Of The Flame" by Keith Hammond, "Twelve Hours To Live" (a Hall Of Fame) by Clark Ashton Smith, and "Shadows Over Venus" by Frank Belknap Long. All reprinted from the March 1946 American Edition of STARTLING STORIES. The cover and inside illustrations are also from the same issue. The Bergey cover has been  
(continued right hand column)

## STATE OF FANDOM

by The Fandom Reporter

Harry Moore of New Orleans states in a recent letter: "Why not embark on a program of 'Save British Unknown'? After all, they gave 'no material' as the reason for stopping. If authors rushed more, couldn't they continue?"

Sam Sackett, 227 East 7th Street, Hastings, Nebraska, asks for help. He needs material of human-interest anecdotes and personal reminiscences of Ray Bradbury, Robert A. Heinlein, Henry Kuttner, Clark Ashton Smith, Theodore Sturgeon and A. E. van Vogt; the sort of stories and yarns and descriptions which will add a third-dimension to a sketch and make it human. He wants this information for a book he and a few other fans are working on. They plan the book to be either printed or multilith. Those interested write to Sam.

The Queens SFL will publish a new Official Organ, NEW YORK VIEW, under the editorialship of Lee D. Quinn, Box 1199, Grand Central Sta., New York 17, New York. It will boast a printed cover and mimeographed interior. It will come out quarterly at first. Later says Quinn it will be completely printed and published more often. The Queens SFL has two other OG, YADE JONG and JEDDARA.

The interesting BLOOMINGTON NEWS LETTER will change its name to SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER with its next issue. The its now published free, Tucker may charge for it later.

(continued from left hand column)  
retouched, but it is still Bergey. It is the same size as the American Edition, but only 64 pages; has trimmed edges, good paper and an excellent printing job. The price of the British Edition has gone down to 9d from 1/- of the 1st issue.



# FANTASY-TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY"

Vol. 4 - No. 23

NEW YORK - 2nd December 1949 Issue

Whole No. 96

## FUTURE Combined With Science Fiction Stories OUT MARCH 1st

NEW YORK, December 20, (CNS) - Robert W. Lowndes released the news today that Columbia Publications, Inc. will issue a science-fiction magazine, FUTURE COMBINED WITH SCIENCE FICTION STORIES and that the first issue will be on the stands on March 1st, 1950. "Doc" Lowndes will, of course, be the editor. The magazine will contain 98 pages and sell for 15¢, making it the lowest priced science-fiction magazine on the market today.

In 1943, Columbia with Lowndes as editor, published SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, and it is believed that this new magazine is the continuation of the 1943 magazine.

The cover of this new magazine will be by Earle Bergey and some of the interior illustrations will be by C. A. Murphy.

The tentative lineup for the first issue is as follows: "Dynasty Of The Lost", feature novel, by George O. Smith; "Nobody Saw The Ship", novelette, by Murray Leinster; "Miniature Menace" novelette, by Frank Belknap Long; "Imitation Of Death", short story, by Lester Del Ray; and "Battle Of The Unborn", short story, by James Blish.

The cover is based upon the Smith novel.

No news on what departments the magazine will contain has come in as yet.

The last issue of SCIENCE FICTION STORIES was dated July 1943.

## FANTASY-TIMES REPORTER VISITS SET OF "DESTINATION MOON" by Arthur Joan Cox

LOS ANGELES, (CNS) - Along with Forrest and Wendy Ackerman, FANTASY-TIMES' West Coast Correspondent visited the set of "Destination Moon" at General Service studios, 1040 North Las Palmas, Los Angeles.

We were directed by the studio guard to "Stage Four" but before we got there we encountered four space-suited fellows who were watching the filming of another picture being made at the studios. These men were, of course, the four stars of the picture. We stopped to talk to Warner Anderson who was dressed in a blue space-suit. (Each of the suits is a different color: Tom Powers has yellow; John Archer, orange, and Dick Wesson, green. The purpose of this is: 1) so they  
(continued on page eight)

SUPPORT THE NORWESCON IN 1950



# FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

## THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

The second issue of this mag dated Winter - Spring, 1950, will be on sale January 20th.

Featured story will be "The Exiles" by Ray Bradbury.

Five reprints will be included among the eleven short stories. (These are indicated by \* in the listing): "The Gnurrs Come From The Voodvork Out" by R. Bretnor, \* "Return Of The Gods" by Robert Coates, "Every Work Into Judgment" by Kris Neville, "A Rope For Lucifer" by Walt Sheldon, \* "The Last Generation?" by Miriam Allen de Ford, \* "My Astral Body" by Anthony Hope, "Gavagan's Bar" by L. Sprague de Camp and Fletcher Pratt, "World Of Arlesia" by Margaret St. Clair, \* "The Volcanic Valve" by W. L. Alden, "Not With A Bang" by Damon Knight and \* "Postpaid To Paradise" by Robert Arthur.

Cover will be by George Salter. Article will be "Recommended Reading" by the editors, who wish to call attention to the addition to the title, which reflects increased space devoted to science fiction.

## SUPER SCIENCE STORIES

The March, 1950, issue of SSS will be on sale Feb. 3rd.

Lead novel will be "Rogue Ship" by A. E. Van Vogt.

Novelettes: "World Without Darkness", a Professor Jameson yarn by Neil R. Jones, and "A Step Farther Out" by Raymond Z. Gallun.

Short stories: "Outcast Of The Stars" by Ray Bradbury, "The Ultimate One" by John D. MacDonald, "The Wheel Of Time" by Robert Arthur, "Final Enemy" by L.

Ron Hubbard, and "Exile Of The Eons" by Arthur C. Clarke.

Articles and features: "Fandom's Corner" by James V. Taurasi "The Science Fictioneers" by Fred Pohl, and the readers' column.

Cover will be by Saunders, who seems to be on the come-back road in stf cover-illustrating.

Interior illustrators will be Leydenfrost, Lawrence; Van Dongen, Paul, Calle and Bok.

The editors say: "The fiction lineup is one of the best we've had, we think. Super is rolling now, and we're putting out just about the kind of magazine we want.

"You can expect the quality to hold up about even with this issue for a while, and then we hope to show another spurt. You will see some changes in makeup which we think you'll like, probably with the May issue."

## STARTLING STORIES

Lead novel in the March 1950 issue will be "The Lady Is A Witch" by Norman A. Daniels, which cops the cover by Bergey.

Novelettes will be "Men Must Die" by Ward Hawkins, a Hall Of Fame Classic and "Encroachment" by Raymond F. Jones.

The two short stories will be "The Sign And The Message" by Ted Powell and "Appointment In New Utrecht" by Sam Merwin, Jr.

There will be the usual articles and features. Interior illustrators will be Finlay, Stevens, Astarita, Poulton, Orban and Napoli.

The editor comments, "The short story by Merwin is indubitably a masterpiece".

The new quarterly stf mag to be published by Standard will be titled: FANTASTIC STORY QUARTERLY.

The next (number 12) issue of AVON-FANTASY READER is scheduled to appear on January 15th.



## BOOK NOTES

by J. Russell Mars

Following on the heels of "Something About Cats" by H. P. Lovecraft, Arkham House has issued "The Throne Of Saturn" by S. Fowler Wright for \$3. It contains Mr. Wright's short stories published for the first time in America. The stories are: Justice, Brain, Proof, Automata, Rule, This Night, Appeal, P. N. 40, The Rat, Choice, Original Sin, and The Temperature Of Gehenna Sue plus an introduction for this volume by the author.

The Fantasy Publishing Co., Inc. of California is readying the following books for early 1950 publication. "Murder Madness" by Murray Leinster for \$2.75. "The Stellar Missiles" by Ed Earl Repp for \$2.75. "The Rat Race" by Jay Franklin for \$3. "The Omnibus Of Time" by Ralph Milne Farley for \$3.50. "After 12,000 Years" by Stanton A. Coblentz for \$3. All together a very interesting collection.

From England comes a book to interest the rocket addict. Titled "Dawn Of The Space Age" it is by Harry Harper and is priced at \$2.75 by one American book seller. With 12 pages of illustrations and such chapters as "The Moon As An Airdrome" and "Problem Of Life On Other Planets" it should please the rocket crowd.

It may interest readers to know that the latest book from Fantasy Press of Reading, Pa. is their largest to date. The book "The Incredible Planet" by John W. Campbell, Jr. has more wordage and more pages (344) than any of their previous efforts. The small publishing houses seem to be steadily giving better value for the collectors' dollars. Let us hope that it is a trend that will continue.

Donald A. Wollheim, Avon science-fiction editor, sends in the following information on the coming Avon Pocket-sized books. "A new edition of "Seven Footprints To Satan" by A. Merritt is scheduled to appear soon. It will have

## OTHER SIDE OF THE POND

by Michael Corper

### THRILLING WONDER STORIES (British)

The first British Edition of THRILLING WONDER STORIES has come out over here. It contains the novel, "Fury From Lilliput" by M. Leinster; Novelettes: "Amphiskios" by John D. MacDonald; "Project Spaceship" by A.E. van Vogt and short story: "Free Land" by W. Morrison. All are reprints from the August 1949 American edition, as is the cover. It is published by Morrison & Gibb Ltd., London and Edinburgh. Price is 9d.

\* \*

### ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION (British)

The December 1949 British Edition of ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION is now out containing: Novelettes: "Opening Doors" by W. H. Shiras; "Throwback" by L. Sprague de Camp; "Customs Declarations" by R. Graham; Short stories: "The Glass Bye" by E. F. Russell; "Fire proof" by Hal Clement; all from the March 1949 issue. The cover by Alejandro is also from the March '49 issue. Further reprints come from the May 1949 USA edition: "Prophecy" by P. Anderson and "The Conroy Diary" by R. Lafayette. The British ASTOUNDING is published by the Atlas Publishing and Distributing Co. Ltd., 18 Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. Price 9d.

A new cover and format than the original 25¢ edition. In addition to the novels by Ray Cummings and Jack Williamson we have scheduled for our pocket-sized book list, we are now contracting for titles by Stanton A. Coblentz and Ralph Milne Farley."

Coming in the next issue:

The first part of  
"1949 IN SCIENCE FICTION"  
by Thomas S. Gardner



# FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Rights to the film biography of Harry Houdini, the greatest magician who ever lived, have been bought from his estate for a reported \$50,000, by a new outfit backed by several Los Angeles businessmen.

Burgess Meredith, the screen actor, is now rehearsing for a play, "Happy As Larry". It will be a fantasy and will open at the Coronet Theatre on Jan. 12th.

A musical comedy fantasy, entitled "Seven Days Wonder", is in the process of being written. It is about a South Seas island witch doctor who inflicts his magic on New York.

Cole Porter's forthcoming play, "Out Of This World", will be a musical version of "Amphitryon 38". This fantasy, which was first produced around 1938, deals with the old Greek gods, at about the period of the Trojan Wars. The god Jupiter descends from above and attempts to seduce the wife of a general. The French musical version, which I saw, was hilarious. The planned version sounds promising.

"The Family Theater" program (Wed. 9:30 p.m., ABC) of Nov. 30, featured Washington Irving's classic, "Rip Van Winkle".

Universal-International has just released a mild little comedy-fantasy with the title of "Free For All". It's about a timid, small-town druggist who invents a formula that converts water into gasoline. This discovery tends to throw the oil indus-

tries of the world into a turmoil. The Picture is worth seeing.

The King brothers, very important Hollywood producers, are off to Washington, DC, to try to get cooperation for an atomic energy picture titled "1965". Picture would feature an actual atom attack on the United States, including Washington, DC.

Paramount has completed arrangements with Jesse L. Lasky to distribute his adventure-fantasy; "Valley Of The Mists". The film, which goes into production after the first of the year, will combine animation with live action.

Columbia Pictures will re-issue "Here Comes Mr. Jordan", one of the greatest fantasies ever made. Many times it has been chosen as one of the ten best pictures of all times.

Clifton Webb is going to play an angel to an unborn child in a yarn by Harry Segall, author of the above-mentioned "Mr. Jordan". Story is about a young stage couple to have no time to have a child. The unborn baby insists on being theirs, despite the angel's trying to discourage him. Finally the baby gets born without the angel's help.

"The Medium", a modern American operetta about a spiritualist, will be presented sometime soon in Cleveland with an all-Negro cast, as the opening attraction of a brand-new theater.

Still some good fantasy pics being shown on television. A Bela Lugosi oldie, "White Zombie" was shown recently. Even though it is a grade "Z" production and over 15 years old, I enjoyed it. Reminded me of the type of story in the old WEIRD TALES.







**"DESTINATION MOON"**  
(continued from page three)

won't blend with the colorless background of the moon; 2) so they'll be easy to identify from a distance.)

Soon, the call came for the actors to be back on the set so we ~~made~~ moved over to stage four, where we were greeted by Bob Heinlein. As it became evident a little later, RAH was under a good deal of strain. The set was quite hectic and there was a profusion of confusion. The telephone rang for him incessantly; it seemed the various engineers and others desired to visit the set as well as Naval Officers. Also, he was expected to O.K. each scene of the picture as it was put on film. Not only that but the set itself was a huge one, for it took quite a bit of room to house the model of the crater Harpolpous, it covering nearly 21,000 square feet. Therefore, being inside the set was almost being outside and it was plenty cold. There were no chairs except one which was marked, "Irving Pichel, Director" and this was occupied by a little, cigar-smoking midget who was not Irving Pichel. Bonestell, who also showed up that afternoon, was anxious to make another film with Heinlein about space travel -- this one a short, black-and-white film; he felt a great deal could be done in black and white. "Nothing doing", said RAH. "I've had enough movie making to last me at least five years. I won't be making another one until then!"

Within a very few minutes we have encountered George Pal, Irving Pichel, the Publicity Man, Bonestell and others. A little later, the Henry Kuttner's showed up as guests of Bob Heinlein, very much interested in what was going on; Mrs. Kuttner was as beautiful as ever and HK seemed to be his usual, silent self.

Forrest asked Tom Powers why it was that a person who was as nice as he seemed to be always played a "Kid-slapping meany" on the screen. Powers explained it as being, "The most beautiful case of miscasting," he'd ever

seen. For thirty-five years he had played the sophisticated, suave leading man of drawing-room comedies and buxom romances on the stage; six years ago he came to Hollywood and they said, "Here's a gun!" It was a state of affairs which he very much deplored for among other things, he knew nothing "about that kind of person". He elaborated on this a bit more and explained that he hoped playing General Thayer in this movie would change the stereotype of him that Casting Directors carried in their minds.

During the five hours we were on the set, only two short scenes were filmed but quite a few still pictures were taken by LIFE and MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED photographers, much to Power's disgust. The first shot taken was of Powers passing another of the men while carrying stuff from the ship. (They were stripping it to cut down the mass.) "I've got an upper bridge we could throw out", he says laughing. He was reprimanded for laughing, as it wasted oxygen.

The space suits the men wore looked very realistic, if one didn't examine them too closely. However, the actors nearly smothered in them when they had their helmets on; which is exactly the opposite of the function they're suppose to serve. So when you see the actors someways off, the glass visor is removed from the helmets; it's in, in the closeups, though.

The End

---

Another article on "Destination Moon" by Arthur Jean Cox, will appear in the next issue of FANTASY-TIMES. -ed

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# The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

A. E. van Vogt talked on Wednesday, December 14, before a convention-size assembly of the members of the UCLA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY --- spoke on general semantics, "his hobby".....

He was asked various questions about his writing. Here is a partial list of stories he has coming up: 1. A 20,000 worder, "Rogue Ship", in the next issue of SUPER SCIENCE; 2. "The Sound", second in the Green Forrest trilogy in the February issue of ASF; 3. "The Wizards Of Linn", a three part serial starting in the April issue of ASF; 4 & 5. "Automaton" and "War Of Nerves" in OTHER WORLDS. He is very fond of "Rogue Ship" -- "The idea came to me in a flash" -- considers it an ASF-type story but sent it to SSS because "they wanted one from me" and because ASF takes few stories of that size. "The Wizards Of Linn", he said in answer to a question, will depart from the I, Claudius pattern entirely; the previous Linn stories were but background for the WoL. "As the reader reads the "Wizards Of Linn", he will suddenly realize the background of the story, the reasons for this and that, "and so forth. He also answered another question by saying that the "Wizard Of Linn" is not in any way historically connected with the Wizard of Linn mentioned in his March '42 novelette, "Recruiting Station". In fact, he had forgotten about the previous Linn-ians, entirely. Told us that he also was co-authoring a book on Hypnosis (with Charles B. Cooke) and was co-authoring a book on Freud with an Australian psychiatrist. Said that he thought that "Players Of A" was better written than "World Of A": "There weren't so many casual mistakes." In response to fan-press statements that there was no g.s. in WoA, he said that he felt the opposite was true: It was put into the pattern of the story and g.s. formulations were

FANTASY - TIMES  
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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(suggested by Les Mayer)

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(serving fandom since 1937)

added here, and there to the ends of sentences and paragraphs. In PoA, he took into account criticisms of the first novel and stuck g.s. in gobs into it; he seemed less satisfied with this last method.

"Rebellion On The Moon", by Robert Heinlein appeared in the December 1949 issue of the AMERICAN LIAISON MAGAZINE, a short story with three beautiful illustrations (in color) by Al Meunchen, whose work is very similar to that of Fred Ludeckens. Story tells of a Colonel Towers who, to put it awkwardly, decided to take over con-  
(continued on back cover)



# RARE!!

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BIDS CLOSE TWO WEEKS AFTER APPEARANCE OF AD

JOHN MASSO, Jr., 119 Jackson Ave., Pen Argyl, Pa.

THE COSMIC REPORTER  
(continued from page nine)

trol of the earth -- he's commander of the Lunar Military Establishment on the moon and is in position to do it; however, a young junior nucleist under his command destroys his plan at the cost of his own life. Sounds like "hell" here, but the story is excellent. AM is sold only to members of the American Legion by subscription. Most libraries carry it tho. (NOTE: It is sold on most New York newsstands??? editor).

Well, the SATURDAY EVENING POST science fiction binge is off, if we are to believe Mildred I. Reid, writers' authority (Digest). The SEP editors have decided to run no more stories such as "Green Hills Of Earth", "Doomsday Deferred", etc., because of too much critical letters received about them.

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