

FANTASY TIMES

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY

THRILLING WONDER

STARTLING

Long Island 32

FANTASTIC STORY

QUARTERLY

WONDER

AIR WONDER

SCIENCE WONDER

WONDER QUARTERLY

(SEE PAGE 3)

2ND JANUARY 1950-10¢

Other Side Of The Pond

by Michael Corper

ENGLAND, January 9, (CNS) - This afternoon I had a telephone conversation with Mr. S. D. Frances, publisher of "Trembling World" (First of a series of twelve Astron del Martia stf books*.) From this conversation it appeared that we shall have to wait some time yet, before the second volume in this series is published.

Mr. Frances is of the opinion that, in years to come, stf will replace detective fiction as, in his view, this type of literature is practically finished, all possible plots having been exploited to the full. He thinks that, in the detective field, there is nothing more to say, however brilliantly a story might be written. However, it will take some time yet before the British public will pay stf literature the same respect as do USA readers, says Mr. Frances, and the market here must be built up. But he is convinced of stf finally conquering the public.

"Trembling World" was actually written by J. Russell Fearn.

I just received Science-Fantasy Review, No. 17, Winter '49-'50, published by Walter Gillings. It is now a quarterly, 36 pp., priced one shilling. Gillings has now been elected to the Council of the British Interplanetary Society, of which he has been a member since 1936.

Atlas Publishing and Distributing Co. Ltd., 18 Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4, who brings out the British Edition of Astounding, told me yesterday that the current reprint of Unknown Worlds is definitely the last.

* see 1st August 1949 Fantasy-Times.

The winner of the 1949 Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society's Amateur Award is no other than Fantasy-Times' west coast representative, Arthur Jean Cox.

SUPPORT THE NORWESCON

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

In the January issue of Popeye (comics), done by Sagendorf, Popeye has a visitor who eats him out of house and home; literally. It's a moon goon, which eats wood. (Popeye once made a visit to the moon and this is an ambassador who has come to repay the visit.

E. Mayne Hull is writing a juvenile novel.

Ward Moore's story in Amazing was his first science-fiction appearance in a pulp magazine; he's the author of the "best-seller", Greener Than You Think. Moore runs a column in a San Francisco newspaper about the Los Angeles area. Has one coming up soon called "Improbability", which will feature Aldous Huxley, H. F. Heard, possibly van Vogt, and others.

Time, January 23, 1950 issue, featured quite a long article on Calculation machines. Interesting cover by Artzybashoff. Considers probability that machines will outstrip man, etc.

In looking for an empty apartment, home-hunter and fan Bill Blackbeard of L.A. found what he felt was a good one; among its many features that make it interesting is the downstairs tenant: A. E. van Vogt (& wife).

The March issue of Coronet will feature 24 pages of Chesley Bonestell, "Mr. Smith Goes To Venus!"

"Dianetics" by L. Ron Hubbard will be published in the May issue of Astounding Science Fiction, as a 16,000 word article!!! Book will be published by Hermitage Press.

FLASH: The January 21st issue of The New Yorker contains nearly a full page dealing with a convention — the annual party — of the Hydra Club, "an outfit composed of writers of fiction of the Buck Rogers school". Article is very "satirical". And yet, of course, it's not bad publicity (inasmuch as the only bad publicity, almost, is no publicity). It mentions Sturgeon, Ley, Wandrei, Del Rey, Flother Pratt.

WONDER STORY ANNUAL OUT FEB.

(story on this page)

FANTASY-TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

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Whole No. 98

FANTASTIC STORY QUARTERLY NOW ON STANDS

by James V. Taurasi

Early this month, Standard Magazines, publishers of Thrilling Wonder Stories and Startling Stories, placed on the stands the first issue of Fantastic Story Quarterly and seriously entered the science-fiction reprint field.

This makes the fifth stf magazine they have published since 1936 when they took over Wonder Stories from Hugo Gernsback and put out Thrilling Wonder Stories. Two of these, Strange Stories and Captain Future have fallen long ago.

Drawing from the huge stock of Science Wonder, Air Wonder, Wonder, Wonder Quarterly, Science Wonder Quarterly, and early issues of Thrilling Wonder and Startling, this new magazine will bring to the modern readers science-fiction yarns, now almost unobtainable and fill a long felt need in the field.

The first issue dated Spring 1950 features "The Hidden World" by Edmond Hamilton from the first issue of Science Wonder Quarterly. The magazine the modern in make-up has an air of the old time stf mag, that goes well with the stories in it. Cover and illustrations are new and there are two new stories in it. Contains 160 pages and is priced at 25¢.

Fantasy-Times wishes Fantastic Story Quarterly a long life filled with outstanding success.

SUPPORT THE "NORWELCON"

Wonder Story Annual

NEW YORK, January 27, (CNS) - Sam Merwin, Jr., today announced that the reported annual that Standard Magazines is putting out will be titled Wonder Story Annual, and will be on the stands early in February 1950. It was reported earlier that this mag would contain about 196 pages and sell for 25¢. It will contain mostly, if not all, reprints from the early Gernsback Wonders (Science, Air & Quarterlies).

This will be the first science-fiction annual to appear since the famous Amazing Annual came out over twenty years ago, and the third in the whole fantasy field. Street and Smith published an Unknown Annual, From Unknown Worlds in 1948.

NEFF ELECTION RETURNS

RICK SNEARY ELECTED PRESIDENT

MOORHEAD, Minn., January 16, (CNS) - K. Martin Carlson, official "teller" of the 1949 election of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, announced today that Rick Sneary had been elected President of the organization for 1950. The positions of five Directors for the 1950 term were successfully filled - by Art Rapp as Director Chairman, and

(continued on page 8)

FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

This is an alphabetical listing of all fantasy pictures that played in New York City during the year of 1949. To the best of my knowledge and judgment it is complete.

It hasn't been an easy task compiling this list, because there are so many pictures that lie on the borderline. In those cases, I have used my own judgment as to whether the picture should be included or not.

For instance, the British film, "Blanche Fury", received reviews that implied it was a story of the effects of a horrible curse ...supernatural ... weird; I saw it a few months later, and it was only an ordinary melodrama, with only the slightest trace of fantasy. I have not included it.

In another case, the film, "Blue Lagoon", was the story of two children who are shipwrecked on an island, to grow up there. Many stories of this type are included in the "Checklist", but the picture is not, in my opinion, a fantasy, so it is not included either.

One of the pictures that is included, regarding which a query might arise, is "Bomba, The Jungle Boy". However, it follows the Tarzan theme, and is written by Roy Rockwood, author of many juvenile sf, books.

"Africa Screams" is not included, as it contains only one fantasy scene, featuring an ape a la King Kong.

Which brings us to the list. I count only twenty-four pictures --- let's hope next year is richer!

1. "Alias Nick Beal" - Paramount - Ray Milland.

2. "Black Magic" - United Artists - Orson Welles.

3. "Bomba, The Jungle Boy" - Monogram - Johnny Sheffield.

4. "Boy With Green Hair" - RKO - Pat O'Brien.

5. "Chips Are Down" - French.

6. "Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court" - Paramount - Bing Crosby.

7. "Corridor Of Mirrors" - British.

8. "Daughter Of The Jungle" - Republic - S. Leonard.

9. "Free For All" - U-I - R. Cummings.

10. "Ichabod And Mr. Toad" - RKO Walt Disney cartoon.

11. "Iron Crown" - Italian.

12. "It Happens Every Spring" - 20th Century - Ray Milland.

13. "Magic Horse" - Russian cartoon.

14. "Mighty Joe Young" - RKO - Ben Johnson.

15. "Miranda" - British.

16. "Night Unto Night" - Warner Bros - Ronald Reagan.

17. "Place Of One's Own" - British.

18. "Portrait Of Jennie" - RKO - Jennifer Jones.

19. "Return Of October" - Columbia - Glenn Ford.

20. "Samson And Delilah" - Paramount - Lamarr and Mature.

21. "Secret Garden" - MGM - Margaret O'Brien.

22. "Siren Of Atlantis" - UA - Maria Montez.

23. "Tarzan's Magic Fountain" - RKO - Lex Barker.

24. "Unknown Island" - Film Classics - Philip Reed.

advertisement

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FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Columbia's first serial of 1950 will be "Atom Man Versus Superman", which starts January 17, with Sam Katzman producing.

The first fantasy film release in the new year was Film Classic's "The Flying Saucer". It was produced, directed and written by Mikel Conrad. To show how talented he really is, he also stars in the picture.

As a n adventure picture, "The Flying Saucer" is okay, but stf fans won't be missing much if they don't see it. There are supposed to be 900 feet of authentic flying saucer film in the picture but actually the total time for these parts of the picture equals about one minute.

The plot is juvenile. Receiving reports of discs seen in Alaska, the U S government sends an agent to investigate. After many false leads he finally finds the saucer. The Russian agents who try to steal it are captured. One of them, seeking to escape, wrecks the disc. Period.

Twentieth Century - Fox's "Whirlpool", just released, is based upon Guy Ehdore's fantasy, "Methinks The Lady". Gene Tierney stars as a kleptomaniac. While in the act of stealing, she is caught by an unscrupulous hypnotist who blackmails her. He then hypnotizes her into doing a robbery for him. She is led to believe that she is a murderess. Naturally everything works out well in the end.

A TV version of "Escape" began on Thursday evening, January
(Continued On Page 6)

Book Notes

by J. Russell Mars

The December 24th issue of "The Saturday Review Of Literature" was devoted to "Science-Fiction & Fantasy - 1949". The lead review, covering a large number of books, was done by Fletcher Pratt. The cover was taken from the Ley-Bonestell book "The Conquest Of Space", which is reviewed inside by Robert A. Heinlein. This issue of the SRL is a must for collectors and fans.

With the entrance of the large publishing houses into the science - fiction field, a number of interesting changes in book production have come about.

First is the opening of new, larger distributing channels, which should bring many new readers to fantasy. Second is the general lowering of prices that has been effected, not only in the books of the big houses, but also in those of the smaller publishers, who had to drop in order to compete. And lastly is the selection of new material instead of reprints, the standby of the small publisher.

It seems to this reporter that the above advantages tend to offset the bad point of a rather poor selection of material.

F. Orlin Tremaine, editor of "Astounding Stories" during the "golden age" of stf, informs us that the University of Vermont has officially adopted his book "Short Story Writing", as a textbook, with other state universities expected to follow suit.

PLEASE NOTE: that there are two movie columns in this issue, one on this page and one on Page 4. That on Page 4 is a special FANTASY-TIMES recap of 1949 fantasy films, compiled by our movie columnist, Lester Mayer, Jr.

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

OTHER WORLDS

Issue Number 4 of this newcomer to the fantasy field will be dated May 1950 and will be on sale March 3rd.

Featured story will be "Dear Devil" by Eric Frank Russell, honored with a cover by Malcolm Smith.

There will be one story of novelette length, "Colossus" by S. J. Byrne.

Short stories will be: "War Of Nerves" by A. E. Van Vogt, "Portrait Of Narcissus" by Raymond F. Jones, "---And All For One" by Jerome Bixby, "The Scissors" by William Wallrich, "The Mute Question" by Forrest J. Ackerman and "Atomic Error", also by Mr. Ackerman.

Articles and features will be "Destination Moon", again by Forrest J. Ackerman, "News Of The Month", Letters and Personals.

Interior illustrators will be Mrs. William Wallrich, Malcolm Smith, Bill Terry, John Grossman and Bill Kroll.

A change from previous policy is that the artist's name is now included with the art work.

It is interesting to note that two more fan artists and three fan articles are presented in this issue.

Miss Beatrice Mahaffey is now Managing Editor of "OTHER WORLDS". Miss Marge Sanders Budwig assists as Associate Editor.

FANTASY FILMS RADIO & TELEVISION

(Continued From Page 5)
5th at 9 o'clock over CBS-TV.

Recent radio listeners were startled to hear an announcement

of the Air Force's denial of everything said in an article in "True Magazine". The article claimed that the flying saucers are real, and that they come from another planet whose inhabitants have been observing Earth for the past 175 years. This announcement caused such a sensation that the complete edition of "True" was sold out. I located my copy at the sixth store I visited.

The author of the article, Donald Keyhoe, later spoke on "WE, The People" (Jan 6th). He sounded very sincere and the evidence and facts he presented to back up his claims seemed convincing, although controversial. He had with him a pilot, George Mormon, who claims to have chased a disc in his plane. Altogether, very interesting, and I imagine that we haven't heard the last of all this.

The following is a list of fantasy pictures scheduled for showing at the Museum Of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd St, NYC. Two daily performances are planned, at 3 and 5:30 pm.

February 20 to 26: George Melie's: a) "The Conjuror" (1899); b) "A Trip To The Moon" (1902); c) "Merry Frolics Of Satan" (1906).

May 29 to June 4: "Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde" (1920) with John Barrymore.

Oct. 9 to 15: Thomas Burke: "Limehouse Nights".

December 18 to 24: "The Golem" (1920); "Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari" (1919).

December 26 to 31: "King Kong" (1933).

January 1 to 7, 1951: "Thief Of Bagdad" (1924), Douglas Fairbanks.

January 8 to 14: "Mr. Truett Finds Out" (1940); "I Walked With A Zombie" (1943).

January 15 to 21: "Invisible Man" (1933).

1949 In Science Fiction

by Thomas S. Gardner

PART II -- Famous Fantastic Mysteries

Greetings, editors of Famous Fantastic Mysteries. For the first time in years I can say you have improved, not enough for I am an exacting taskmaster, but some. Let us see how much.

February 1949: Jack London's classic "The Scarlet Plague" is one of the outstanding world's end type of story. I do not have the original, but I believe it has been cut, to the detriment of the story. If you have the original you can check. I. M. Gillmore's "Angel Island" has some excellent psychology in it. The plot is not clear as to where, whom, and what are the flying girls. Also the peurile necessity by some minds of the death of one of the girl in child-birth is self-evidence of civilization as compared to just a culture in the anthropological meaning of the term.

April 1949: Edison Marshall's "Dian of the Lost Land" was good adventure. Is there a sequel? E. B. Mason's "Black Butterflies" was very exciting and, I have heard there is a sequel. If true bring it on.

June 1949: Now here is where I depart from many fans and readers. I thought M.P. Shiel's "The Purple Cloud" was simply lousy on all counts. For such shame that good paper should be wasted..... S. Mullen's "Mirror Maze" has some good fantasy in it, and some settings worthy of a longer story.

August 1949: Vivian's "The Valley of Silent Men" in spots is excellent, but the first part in Longon is over written. St Clair's "Counter Cham" should not have been written, much less printed!

October 1949: Collins' "The Starkenden Quest" is not too good. Part of it seems unnecessary, and part is good adventure-fantasy. There are no shorts.

December 1949: Edison Marshall's "Ogden's Strange Story" is an excellent,

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unbelievable story of compressed and forced phylogenetic evolution in one individual who is thrown back to the elemental functions of living by a traumatic injury to the brain. It is a sociological study, and perhaps a warning against over-sophistication. It is slow sometimes, but moves in spots well. John Buchan's "No-Man's-Land" is a terrible, and powerfully written story of the Pict-survival legend in Scotland. It is not as well treated as Machen did. Fitz-James O'Brien "What Was It" is only fair, but has historical interest. St. Clair's "Jamiesson" is a theme often treated in weirds. It is not too good.

The year is better but can stand improvement. If a classic is printed without cutting it may have historical interest even if it is not too good, but if cut, it cheats twice. I believe there were less cutting this year than

last. Perhaps some reader who has everything can check on this. If so, congratulations to an awakening debt to the readers of FFM.

Thomas S. Gardner will review the 1949 issues of Planet Stories, in the next issue of Fantasy-Times. -ed

NFFF ELECTION RESULTS
(continued from page 3)

Ed Cox, Len Moffatt, Ray Higgs and one of the editors of Fantasy-Times, James V. Taurasi. All will serve for the year 1950. The President position was unopposed with only Mr. Sneary running. Nine fans ran for the five Director positions, the four losing candidates were: Jim Harmon, Bob Farnham, George D. Mills and Charles L. Riddle.

No figures have been given out yet.

QSFL TO HOLD THIRD NY CONCLAVE ON
FEBRUARY 12th

The Queens SFL will hold its Third Science-Fiction Conclave on February 12 1950 at the Malin Studios, 215 W. 42nd Street, New York City. This is the site of the first two Conclaves held in 1948 and 1949.

Guest speaker will be Arthur J. Burks, and the silent movie "Lost World" will be shown, plus auction and odds & ends. The hall will open at 11 AM and the program will start at 2 PM.

The Conclave Committee is asking fan editors to publish special issues of their magazines and donate them to the Conclave to be sold during the meeting. Fan editors will get in return a copy of all mags submitted.

For detail information write to Sykora, Bx 4, Stein, Sta., Long Is. City.

SUPPORT THE NORWESCON

Join the "Norwescon Committee" and make the 8th World Science-Fiction Convention the best yet held. Membership is \$1. "Norwescon", P.O. Box 8517, Portland 7, Oregon.

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