

the
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news
letter

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STARTLING STORIES

has been decided upon as the name for Thrilling Wonder Stories' long-awaited companion magazine. Priced at 15¢, its first issue, dated January, will appear during the last week in October. Featured is Stanley G. Weinbaum's book-length novel, "The Black Flame." Startling Stories will present many new departments, among them: Jack Binder's illustrated series on the lives of great scientists (first devoted to Albert Einstein), scientific crossword puzzles, Scientifiction's Hall of Fame (reprint department), and Thrills in Science. The cover, showing a couple of humans under glass bells cowering before a gigantic, evil robot, is painted by Howard Brown. "The Black Flame" is illustrated by Weeno. The magazine appears to be regulation pulp size.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S BACK YARD

From the editor-in-chief of Tomorrow, Douglas W. F. Mayer: "Many thanks for the last few issues of the SFNL. Their interesting and informative character was well maintained. I was glad to see you were able to make use of the news items I sent you, and wish I could send along a few now, but am afraid that things are rather quiet at present. However, here are one or two. FLASH: British fan-mag achieves professional recognition! Which, on interpretation, means that a write-up of TOMORROW appeared in the September 8th. issue of WORLD'S PRESS NEWS, the official weekly trade journal of the British magazine and newspaper press. A reproduction of the cover of the Summer issue was also featured. FLASH! New British fan-mag appears. The mag in question is THE SATELLITE, a 24-page, monthly, hectographed, NOVAE TERPAE-sized magazine published by the now Liverpool branch of the SFA. First issue, dated October, appeared September 10th., containing stories, articles and poems. FLASH! Leeds Branch publication, planned three months ago, will appear towards end of September. It will be a foolscap-sized, mimeographed news-sheet, published monthly, edited by Albert Griffiths, and entitled SCIENTIFICIONALEODENSIA. Subscription rates, 1/- per year to SFA members, 1/6 to non-members....That's all for the time being. Will write to you again when anything interesting happens."

F. D. R.'S PLAYGROUND

The Guy (Endore) who wrote "The Werewolf of Paris" also did the plot for the latest Astaire-Rogers musical picture, "Carefree" . . . Sinclair Lewis will have the title role in the stage version of Washington Irving's "Rip Van Winkle" . . . Ed Sullivan recently asserted that, "If I Were King," he'd give Walt Disney the post of Secretary of Fantasy in his Cabinet. . . . Alex Ssheroff now sports printed stationery for his Science Fiction Scout. . . . From Dale Hart we learn that MFK is seeking a 5-year-old boy of super-human strength to portray a baby Tarzan in the next Weissmuller-C'Sullivan picture devoted to the exploits of our ape-man. The muscular mite will not be Korak the Killer, however. The scenarists have arranged for Tarzan to

find the child in the jungle. . . Robert G. Thompson: "The daily comic, 'Li'l Abner,' right now is not scientificfictional but it supplies the information that a feud can be sold. I am now going to see how much I have to pay for the Wollheim-Sykora thing. I will willingly pay a dollar for the argument with Jack Speer thrown in----- 'The Ghost of Benjamin Sweet' is off the air. Since 'Mr Mergenthwinker's Lobblies' is the same, fantasy on the radio is no more."

WRIGHT WRONG

Air postal from Forrest J Ackerman re words in November 'Weird Tales' "The Eyrie": "I AM INNOCENT! Openote to Fandom at Random & Don & John in particular: That was Fannsworth Wright's idea---entirely---in billing me & Madge as the publishers of 'The Hyborian Age'. A crank on Credit Where Due, I want U all to know I regret that due to circumstances beyond my control Lany Co-op Pubs & the NY partners didnt get mentiond. If any of us 3 Angelenos, Russ should've got the honors, as Morojo & I regard it (the 'Age') more particularly as Russ' 'baby', he being the Howard-Lovecraft fan, we the sympatheticworkers. (Special aside to Wolly: Hope this doesnt put me in the Dawg House!)"

WORDS WITHOUT MUSIC

At the beginning of Volume Two Walter E. Marconette will change the title of his Scienti-Snaps, possibly to Science Fantasy Review... Hecht & MacArthur's "The Scoundrel" is coming up in Science Fantasy Movie Review. . . 'Weird Tales, now being published at 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York (as predicted by Fred Pohl), is Finlayless this month, and features two reprints: Everil Worrell's "Leonora" from an earlier issue and H. P. Lovecraft's "The Nameless City" from Shepherd & Wollheim's Fanciful Tales . . . In the Korda-Sabu-Kipling picture, adapted from the Mowgli stories, the animals will talk. The film, title undecided upon, will be in Technicolor . . . Strange Detective reappears, with fiction by Ray Cummings, Thorp McClusky and other writers of fantasy . . . Edgar Rice Burroughs will reap more royalties from "Tarzan's Revenge," Big Little Book ~~do-over~~ of the movie . . . 'Tis said that Marvel Science Stories has seen its last issue.

"About 8 days yet til completed (atrofyd at that) Ann Ish." --4e

DEP'T OF UTTER DELUSION (With apologies to the New Yorker)

"SCIENCE FICTION'S SKELET IN THE CLOSET:-Was the retitled COMMUNIST PARTY'S AGITATORS in SCIENCE FICTION. This club headed by WOLLHEIM & stooges received orders from the heads of the Communist party to convert the fan magazines into a field of propaganda." ---Sam Moskowitz in the August Science Fiction Fan, just received.

ALSO IN

with the Aug. Fan is the first ~~xxx~~ number of The Technocrat, edited by King Goddard, dated September-1938, and containing four pages. It announced the return to science fiction fandom of Morris S. Dollens via publication of a magazine called Colossus, to be duplicated by means of the blue-print process. . . . The middle initial of editor King Goddard is O. Not, of course, O for Olon.

B.W.