

# Science Fiction Weekly

the national fantasy news-review

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Brooklyn, New York May, 12, 1940

## MARVEL SCIENCE RETURNS!

### HOUSING FOR THE FUTURE

**A** NEW INDUSTRIAL ART EXHIBIT at the New York Museum of Art provides an extremely interesting glimpse into what the styles and materials of the world of the future might be like. As far ahead of the conventional ultra modern styles as the modern over the Victorian, and the entire exhibit is a raging delight to the eye. Science and art have been explored to their ranges and depths to provide the gorgeous splendor of the effects. Plastics and colored metals and artificial fabrics come into their own at last. Ingeniously contrived lighting of the very latest methods sets off the various rooms of the exhibit in a dazzling glow of exquisite colors. It is of note, incidentally, that only the very rich can possibly afford these wonders, though, speaking scientifically, the cost of the materials, and the whole of the exhibit, itself, through the magic of mass production, would be practically nothing.

### FUTURIAN NEWS

**M**AKING THEIR VACATION a bit early this year, Richard Wilson, Jack Gillespie, and Dirk Wylie set out last week on a motor-vagabond trip upstate. Just where they will go is unknown. Their plans call for just drifting via Dick's car from place to place, and camping out nights. Reports of their trip are meager, but indicate that the trip stalled for a few days at Delhi, New York, where the boys are besieging the Girl's State Agri. College.

Reports from the office of Red Circle Magazines confirm that Marvel Science Stories will again appear on the news stands. Robert O. Erisman, who edited it from the start, is now reading material for the forthcoming issue.

The reason for the decision to re-issue a science fiction magazine and to discontinue the sexy-fantastic Marvel Tales is not due to any preference for science fiction but to the strong campaign being pushed from a number of sources, and backed by the US Post Office, against magazines of the sadist-horror type, charging that they tend to be breeders of crime and encouragers of sexual outrages.

Science Fiction Weekly reported several issues ago that this campaign had compelled a shift in the nature of Popular's and Fictioneer's horror pulps, such as Horror Stories & Terror Tales.

The extension of this campaign has finally resulted favorably for science-fiction by this discontinuance of Marvel Tales, and the return of the well-liked Marvel Science Stories. It is not yet known just what will be done with Red Circle Magazines' other offending pulps, Uncanny Tales, Real Mystery, and Mystery Tales.

### OSFL MEETING

**T**HE MEETING EMERGED from obscurity promptly at 3, called to order by Jimmie Taurasi. Strange Stories slated for review, was dropped upon discovering that only five present had read it. No professionals were present.



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Brooklyn, New York. 5¢ per issue; 3 for  
10¢; 8 for 25¢. We will exchange with  
any other fan magazine.

Advertising: fullpage ads: 75¢. We  
will also exchange quarter-page ads, to  
be published whenever we have a full  
page of same to hand. In all such cases  
an extra page of reading matter is guar-  
anteed.

Statements or opinions published  
here do not necessarily reflect **views**  
of the editors. Our pages are open to  
orderly rebuttals at all times.

ASSOCIATES

Chet Cohen

EDITOR - IN - CHIEF

Dick Wilson

Robert W. Lowndes

Leslie Perri

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CITY DESK

QUEAKS FROM A WARPED EDITORIAL  
BOARD: Isaac Asimov is preparing  
a sequel to "Half-Breed", which  
was one of the best-liked stories printed  
in *Astonishing's* short history.  
Written in Asimov's best "sympathetic"  
style, it deals with the adventures of  
the colony of Earth-  
Mars half-breeds after they have emi-  
grated to the planet Venus to escape  
persecution. The title is "Half-Breeds  
on Venus."

The Toronto Science Fictioneers  
now lists twelve members with as many  
more on the immediate verge of joining.  
Director Ted White says his aims in  
forming the club are to further sci-  
fiction in Canada, to create a Cana-  
dian club equal to any in the USA, &  
to add Canadians to fandoms roster of  
"big names."

Sam Moskowitz has launched himself  
as a literary agent. Among his client  
is the up-and-coming young writer, John  
Victor Petersen.

Leo Morey has just been added to  
the *Astonishing - Super Science* art  
staff. His first work will appear in  
the August *Astonishing*.

DEBENDA: News from Texas via Dale  
Hart reads as follows: "Having  
been kinda inactive for the last  
ever-so-long (even the gendarines didn't  
know where I was at odd times), I now  
find it possible to resume relations, of  
a sort, with fandom. ~~///~~ I extend a pub-  
lic apology to the people who haven't  
been 'done right by'. Give me another  
chance, all. ~~///~~ Farmags from Texas!  
Enigmatic, a four page folder, will hit  
the FAPA mailing soon. Another, a  
large magazette, should be out within a  
month. Details later. ~~///~~ Fan popula-  
tion here increases! Daniel Cole Bur-  
ford's in Houston. Don Wollheim tipped  
me off, so I buzzed around and  
got acquainted. Dale Harding Exum, who  
is not a nonny for me, is in Houston, al-  
so. We exchanged letters when he was in  
Dallas; and, after he moved to Houston,  
I went down and got personally acquaint-  
ed. ~~///~~ Exum's sister is an artist of  
considerable ability. Furthermore, she  
is willing to illustrate for the fan  
mags. Editors who are interested may  
get in touch with me if they'd like to  
see samples of her work. ~~///~~ Several of  
the local fans plan to attend the Chicon  
Everything is tentative at present, but  
there's a lot of loose talk flying a-  
round."

Walter Earl Marconette has just  
placed his first two illustrations with  
*Astonishing Stories*. They are for Lee  
Gregor's "Acceleration", probably to  
appear in the October number. ... Editor  
Pohl of *Astonishing* and *Super Science*  
*Stories* sends out a desperate plea for  
science fiction poets to come to his  
aid. Pohl is widely known as one of the  
foremost proponents of science fiction  
poetry, having formed and headed the  
Science Fiction Poet's Guild some years  
ago, and readers have shown that  
they want poetry. But it seems that  
little of it is being written - - -  
wherefore the plea for more to be sub-  
mitted. ... The *New Yorker* magazine has  
finally gotten around to accepting and  
slating for publication the long-awaited  
article on science fiction fandom. It  
will most probably appear in one of the  
July issues of that periodical. Article  
has been done differently than was ori-  
ginally planned.



# CITY DESK

**T**HE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION was sent to the Philly Conference of October 1959, but, either was not received in time, or, for reasons best known to themselves, the conductors of the Conference decided not to publicize it. The communiqué reads as follows: -- "Greetings! Texas sends her regards to this Philly Conference. // We tender inevitable regret that a representative cannot be here to speak for us personally. But this will serve. A telegram is not being sent because it couldn't say enough. // We hope that this conference accomplishes great things. More -- we are sure that it will. // However and this unpleasant matter cannot be ignored, the work of this meeting can be made less great if democracy does not prevail in the business procedure. Since democracy was suppressed at the World S.F. Convention, this dictatorial business can happen again if certain persons are given enough rope. You that hear this communication being read -- see that everyone gets to speak if they desire. See that no one is shouted down. See that what the majority wants gets acceptance. See that voting is freely conducted. Make this a conference of freedom and tolerance -- a conference expressing the spirit of science fiction and of the fans. // Texas would like to state how she stands on certain things that may come up for vote -- A general fan organization is favored to take the place of New Fandom. Speer seems to have an excellent idea. No objection is raised if present New Fandom "officers" are elected to hold office in this new club. -- We would prefer late July as a time to hold the Chicago Convention. -- We would like a vote to be taken as to what would be on the program of the next convention. // We felicitate those who will make the Chicago Convention a reality. Our thanks to Reinsberg, Korshak, Meyer, Tucker, and the others. // You may wonder if this truly represents Texas. Johnston, Hart, Charpentier, and J. Pohl the four fans who represented Texas at the past World Convention, are especially to be associated with these views, since they were the ones immediately available when this was written. Hart

was empowered to express the thoughts of Texas. All the ex-members of the TCSTL he could contact approve the tone of this --- further, they want to stress the matter of democratic procedure. Houston, Texas, gave blanket approval via telephone. // So you may remember that a few who are actually speaking are Johnston, Hart, J. Pohl, Charpentier, Wilkinson, Moskowitz, Nelson, Phillips, McMasters, Kaminski, Baines, Reid, Ellis and Whitenton, Jordan, Reynolds, and Young. (An interesting fact is that Texas has its Pohl and its Moskowitz.) // To conclude: May what you do here be a real credit to yourselves and to science fiction! (signed) Dale Hart."

**F**.E. HARDART WRITES: "I found the article very amusing wherein someone seemed obsessed with the idea that I had collaborated with Sam Moskowitz, or he with me (they seemed undecided which) in the production of "The Devil's Pocket" appearing in the June issue of Astonishing. This is, of course, a ridiculous supposition and Sam, being a gentleman, and not a stealer of other people's "thunder", will be prompt to deny this, ending the debate before it has well begun."

/The item in question was published as a speculation; not presented as fact. While "The Devil's Pocket" was mentioned, the speculation did not begin and end with that particular story. To date, no denial or comment has been forthcoming from Newark, although Mr Moskowitz is a subscriber to Science Fiction Weekly.7

**Y**OUR FANNAG REVIEWER SAYS:  
Line Forms to the Right For FANTAST, Volume Two, Number One (May, 1940). Sam Youd, 244 Desborough Rd., Eastleigh, Hants, England. -- (50¢ for six issues or 10¢ per copy). -- This issue narrowed down from editorial expectations due to international fallings-out, but is slick stuff nonetheless! Cover by Turner. Features: "How to Write an SF Story" (Julian F. Parr), "The 'Messiah' Complex" (Osmond Robb), a poem, "The Ilk of Ezra Pound" (John B. Michel), and a round-robin story, the first installment of which is by the popular "Fantasy-cynic." Don't miss this issue!



THEIR OWN PETARD by H. C. KORNIG

FROM "THE LITTLE PEOPLE" in Fantastic Adventures, March, 1940: "Fitting an arrow to the spider-silk string, he took careful aim, let fire. It impaled the side haunch of the moose and buried itself completely, splicing the heart itself."

(Called to my attention by a long-distant correspondent. Thanks, the Unclover.)

(That one is a rip. There's a feat of archery that should have them cheering for hours. It's comparatively simple to saw to halves together with a bow and arrow; but to saw them apart - ah, that's something else again.)

A Rabbit Trick.

From "The Little People" in Fantastic Adventures, March, 1940: "Dr Bolton stooped, opened the loop, and closed the mouth of the netting-sack. His eyes gleamed as though he had bagged prize game. He held it up before his eyes, counting the squirming forms within."

"Eight men and one of their girls" he said. "They managed to rescue the other girls, the little scamps."

"The Big People! They have come! A trap fell! Nine of our people were captured and taken away!"

(Now the illustrator gets in his good work. Take a look at the picture illustrating the story. It shows a cage in which there are fifteen people apparently ten men and five girls. That's what I call speedy work. It's high time Margaret Sanger paid a visit to "The Little People".)

From "The Tides of Time" in Thrilling Wonder Stories, April, 1940. "He and the other four co-ordinators leaped to the return to duty. They were Rude, a dwarf; Storm, a Greenie; Albert Early, a man."

(Let's all get together, now - - and sing a snappy chorus of "The Little Man Who Wasn't There.")

From Captain Future, Volume I Number I.

"Tell the truth", Otho hissed, his voice threatening."

"We can make you talk, you know," hissed Otho ominously, his eyes blazing."

Volume I, Number 2:

"Cole Rorer!" hissed Otho wildly. and "What happened to you on the Legion of Doom ship, Chief?" Otho hissed, eagerly."

(Hisssing in all shades and tones. Otho, the synthetic man, puts on a good act. Try then, yourself. It's a good trick in any man's language. I suspect the anthroid got his lessons in the art of sibilance from Captain Future. Note the following from Volume I Number I.

"Too late", Captain Future hissed."

**A**DDENDA: Your editor seems to have come in for quite a bit of criticism from the staff because of ~~yo~~ rather mild review by the regular fanmag reviewer we published last week on Snide. Here are some of the comments they think should have gone in: "Snide is the floating kidney of the stf movement." (Michel). "Astounding? Amazing? Astonishing? Thrilling? Startling? Weird? N O! Snide!" (Wollheim). "God bless Damon Knight for absolutely the best single piece of work I have ever seen produced in fandom." (Kornbluth). "Snide? I didn't read it." (Cohen). /Michel-Wollheim-Kornbluth, pinch-hitting for Wilson-Perri, away on vacations or special work, expressed, we hope, the same type of comment as our regular staff-members would. / ... S. D. Gottesman's "Trouble in Time" has just won an acceptance. ... Coming up is the new stf artist John Forte, around one of whose samples a 1500 word short is being written for th Super - Science Brief department. ... James V. Taurasi, Former Secretary-Treasurer of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, will not withdraw from that organization (by the simple expedient of allowing his membership to expire) as he announced several months back. This prominent semi-professional scientific-tionist will celebrate his fifth year of fan activity this coming July. Good luck, Jimmie!

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comment

Whether you're gammer or whether you're goffer;

Cooperate with the IFF-ers. (H.G.)