

# SCIENCE-FANTASY

No 13

REVIEW

JAN'40

## THE BLIND SPOT.

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES' readers have been pressing for 'The Blind Spot' by Austin Hall & Homer Eon Flint and we are now informed by Miss M.C. Gnaedinger, Editor, that the March issue of FFM (due out in USA on Feb. 7th) will contain the first instalment of this eagerly awaited for story. Printed in its original form, with little or no attempt to synopsise it, illustrations will be by Virgil Finlay (who at last seems to be coming into his own).

Another serial, 'Darkness & Dawn' by George Allan England also asked for by readers is due to commence in May, while classic novellettes will run at the same time at these yarns.

This news from FFM tends to confirm the opinion of those who enjoyed the early issues. This mag is with the usual Munsey thoroughness, going to be a topnotcher in the sf & fantasy field.

## TALES OF WONDER

Has appeared on scheduled time and despite smaller bulk is holding up to its usual standard quite well considering war conditions. We are hoping that past support for this magazine will continue undiminished for, although many fans have criticised Editor Gillings policy, it is a British Effort deserving of all the support we can give. The present issue contains stories by US sf masters Stanton Coblentz, Murray Leinster, who says he wrote 'The Mad Planet' and 'Red Dust' for fun, C.A. Smith. Future numbers promise more by British Authors.

To Editor Gillings we offer our best thanks for publishing our letter..

## BACK ISSUE JEMS.

One of our correspondents suggests we publish details of outstanding back numbers of the professional sf mags. Here is the first one.

AMAZING STORIES June 1931 is a truly fine issue containing many excellent stories. The best is 'The Power Planet' by Leinster, about an artificial world built by man and mid way between the sun and Earth converts the solar power into energy transmitting it to the mother planet. War breaks out on Earth and the aggressors send out a war rocket to capture the power plant and prevent energy being sent to the defending nations. The story of how the menace is overcome is masterly.

'The Incredible Formula' by P. Ernst tells of a scientist who invents a compound capable of making dead people 'live' so that corpses do all the work. The results and the denouement make a fine yarn.

'Free as the air' is another Keller story which ranks with his best and still retains its topicality, while the 'Beautiful Bacillus' by Patrick Dutton and 'The Time Flight' by M.J. Breuer will delight nearly every fan. We say 'nearly' because no matter how good some yarns are there are still readers who think opposite.

If you haven't read AS June '31 you should beg, borrow or obtain a copy by less obvious means - it's well worth reading.

## ON THE WAY UP:

More Gleanings, by Ron Holmes.

More Back Issue Jems

Letters on Federal Union.

Our readers wanted your friends to subscribe.



## SCIENCE-FANTASY REVIEW

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Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the eds.

ON THE SOAPBOX

R. Lane, Manchester

Could you print the dates of some really good back numbers, with may be some details of stories? If we are going to have to rely on current issues, such a column might be useful in obtaining good reading.

Maybe this item will be of use to Wayfarer. I can strongly recommend the 6d Penguin 'Last and First Men' by Olaf Stapledon, and also 'The Starmaker', by the same author. The first is a history of the human race from our time, told by one of the last Neptunian Men. A most enthralling tale.

The second I saw in a library. The story of what a sort of cosmical mind, or maybe spirit, sees in the universe, from a human-like race to life in stars - from rocket ships to artificial planets. It tells of strange creatures and worlds, of planets manoeuvring like rocket ships in battle. Need I say more? (Thanks for the suggestion which is undoubtedly a good one. Some issues of sf mags stand out above all others, perhaps our readers have ideas on this subject. Re Issue No. 9 this is now out of print - sorry).

BILL TEMPLE: London

Yes, Federal Union must come - these wars are a nuisance! (With which we heartily agree, only we're not so polite. Regarding Bob Silver's identity - you might be right - or wrong!)

Harry Manson:

I think you are doing a pretty good job in times like these.

I wonder if you would print an appeal, a sort of sf s o s, in your columns. Can any of your readers supply me with ASTOUNDING STORIES Feb 1935 in good condition? I will buy or exchange. I have quarterlies and monthlies from 1928 onwards.

(HM should communicate with Science Fiction Service of 15 Houghton St., Liverpool who can probably help him.

C.R. FOSTER, Hexham.

So far, being incurably lazy, I haven't bothered you with any comments, but I may as well take the opportunity here to compliment you on a nice bit of work. SFR, as a news magazine, is fine and fills a previously vacant place in the British fan-field. Keep up the good work and give us all the news you can.)

(Reader Forster suggests also that we insert sub renewal forms when subs expire. We already do this & if we omitted his - we apologise for the error.)

H.J. ELLIS, Barrow-in-Furness.

Once again you've put out a very good issue. Everything went down well. Regarding Ron Holmes 'Gleanings' I think his former style is best; you know, the one he used to call humorous (my, my!) Also I wish the Soapbox was ten times bigger.

I hope plenty of fans will write in about Federal Union etc. After the war, the politicians and others are almost certain to try and keep such ideals suppressed as far as possible and they must not be allowed to succeed. This issue involves us all. The world cannot be made safe for democracy or anything else in its present state of petty nationalism. And surely, sf fans above anyone else will realise this.

(Daladier is supposed to have mooted F.U. And that's a reason why some others say it is not quite right.)



"Gleanings".

by Ron. Holmes.

First of all I would like to thank those readers who have written to ask me to return to my old style of reporting. Secondly I have a few corrections to make. The Ed. of Planet Stories is not CDHornig as I mentioned but Malcolm Reiss, and the mag is printed by the same people as the Jungle Mag. I will make no further comments as we will print a review of PP in the next S-FR.

FPohl is Not editing another Sfn mag- but Two! Astonishing Stories, (hitherto known as Incredible), and Super-Science Stories. The publishers have a scheme on foot to have a club, similar to the SFL, no name has been selected yet, but the advisory committee has been selected and the plans are well under way. The first issue of the latter is dated for Jan. and will have a cover by Jack Binder, 15¢, 128 pages and trimmed edges.

Both of CDHornig's mags, Science and Future Fiction's, have been held up for a month at the printers, I wonder if this hold-up will mean the death of the Quarterly.

It is with regret that I announce the death of Fantaseer, the NY fanmag edited by WGroverman, and also of its editors retirement from active fandom. It seems that even the Yanks have their troubles too.

But with its death there is the re-incarnation of another fanmag. "Outre", Edited by FJLitz. The first two issues saw the final of this mag the third iss. became part of another fanmag, but No. four will appear shortly and commence a new series. This mag is all-weird, and I gather the editor is badly in need of material, so there's a chance for amateur writers to "sell" their stuff.

Stunning Scientifan is printed quarterly, is large sized and has 42 pages, sells for 20¢ in England and is printed by JJFortner, at 1836

39th Ave. Oakland, Calif., U.S.A. The first issue includes stories by WLHambling, Hoy PingPong, Dale Hart, RWLowndes and Cliff Jorgenson. Articles by Yogi, Moskowitz, Hornig, Ackerman, HWarner and Tuckerologist. Very neat issue, amateur in arrangement and format. Looks good, fans!

The English fanmag Futurian will probably appear again, tho its ed. has been sentenced to the army. The date of publication is uncertain in the issue is planned out. It will contain a Poem by RIFarley, article on BIS Rocket by Art Clarke, (How original) Biography of RForster and the return of some depts, and also another large readers section. It will be mainly duplicated as before.

You will remember I mentioned a new fanmag entitled Horizons some time ago. The first issue has reached us and it is mimeoed with cover by Marconette, with 12 pages. It contains one story only, "Thunder of the War God" by Jayne Ellis, which is an excellent fan story about a robot rebellion. The second iss. will contain two, "-As the crow flies" by Hoy Ping Pong, and "Blacklist" by RWLowndes. (Some contrast.) The third iss. will print another story by JEllis entitled "The Time Spiral", and in the same issue is a short by ALWidner about the first space flight and the strange monsters the travelers meet. The Ed. of this mag is H Warner Jnr.

Scheduled for immediate publication in Astounding, is a two-part serial "If This Goes On" by Robert Heinlein, and another serial by Ron L Hubbard entitled "Blackout". Both of these stories are about the present War. Note the author of the first story as the subject of Ackerman's article in "Stardust".

By now, all readers should have read their copies of ToW, if not it might interest them to know that it consisted of 96 pages, and out of 4 stories-3 where re-prints. With that morbid statement I wish all my readers a Very Happy New Year.



"STARDUST"; The Magazine Unique !!!  
By W. Lawrence Hamling.

Science Fiction's only Semi-Pro magazine, STARDUST, will be large size, 8" x 11" and printed on heavy slick paper. Illustrated with zines and half-tones, will have on the first issue, an astronomical cover, of the gaseous nebula in the Constellation of Orion. (Courtesy of Yerkes Observatory). Lineup for 1st iss. The Quest of the Gods, by R.M. Williams, (sequel to 'Robots Return' Sept '38 Ast. S.F.) "Retirement" by L.S. Le Camp, in the authors best satirical style. "The Martian Enigma" by C.S. Geier, of a Martian writing to a Sfn Editor..and what hapened when the Editor laughed. "Sex in Stfn" by C.D. Hornig. "Watch your G's" by R.M. Farley, about space accelerations. "Einstein in Reverse" by M. Jameson, about a problem Einstein forgot. The contents run to 15,000 words and the mag will start bi-monthly with the prospects of a monthly appearance. Second iss. will feature :-

"Liederman's Generator" by R. M. Williams, sequel to 'The Man who looked like Steinmetz...June '38 TWS. "The Time Translator" by A.R. Long. "The Cosmic Snare" by C. S. Geier. "Advance Vision" by F.J. Ackerman, a prediction of the future of the new Californian author, Robt. Heinlein. "Poisoned Soil" by Willy Ley. Illustrated article on "Alkali Disease" translated from a French Pro-Mag. Plus Editorial, reader's section and other regular departments.

We thank Mr. Hamling for this information and would like to mention that the subscription to this mag is 20¢ per issue, 3 for 50¢ or 7 for \$1. All subs to be sent to the above at 2609, Argyle St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A. We wish this new project every success, but we have yet to find the perfect system to send money to U.S.A. Ed/

Bombs are dropping! Propaganda is dropping! Everything but prices are dropping! But is SPACEWAYS dropping in on you? Every two months it appears, 25 large mimeed pages, and sells for 1/3 per three issues, in Eng. Since export of cash is now forbidden, I'm agreeable to trading its value. Harry Warner, Jr., 303 Bryan Place, Hagerstown, Maryland, U.S.A. Advt.

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### FAN GOSSIP.

W.F. Temple, the winner of the 50 Dollar Bonus for producing the most popular story in the issue, "The Four Sided Triangle" has recently committed matrimony, we hear. We hasten to tender our congratulations to the happy couple and express a sincere wish that "Bill's" work is not hindered by this happy event.

C.S. Youd, of Hants., has won \$10 for the second best short War story in the Feb. issue of LILLIPUT. We presume that being a pacifist does not prevent an author reading a War Story. But when we remember his article in the Aug. "Satellite" we have improved.

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### BOY' FRIEND LIBRARY. 4d.

Captain Justice in the Land of Monsters, is the latest Stfn novel of this series, by Murray Roberts, No. 697. About the further adventures of this famous character amid pre-historic scenes at a "Hot Spot" in the Antarctic. After many adventures our friends return to civilisation with a captive assortment of pre-historic monsters, which are liberated by a rival Prof. who wishes to destroy the evidence of the lost land. A good yarn ending with CJ chasing monsters all over the sky in his airship. Almost a replica of "The Lost World" by A C Doyle