

Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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SECOND JANUARY 1958 ISSUE

STILL ONLY TEN CENTS

2ND 'STAR' DELAYED

"David Versus Goliath"

New York, 28 January, (CNS) - Fandom House, Inc. died today after almost ten years of existence. The fatal blow was dealt by Random House, Inc. A new name will take its place and will be announced as soon as Albany okays it. Meanwhile Random House, Inc. has allowed us to continue using Fandom House, Inc. thus there will be no stoppage of Science-Fiction Times and other Fandom House publications as we wait for the new name.

Up to 1948 we were known as Cosmic Publications. In the Fall of 1948, a better name, Fandom House was chosen. On December 13, 1957, Fandom House became Fandom House, Inc. On January 6, 1958, we received the following telegram: "ON BEHALF OF RANDOM HOUSE, INC. WE DEMAND YOU IMMEDIATELY CEASE USE OF NAME FANDOM HOUSE, INC. WHICH USE WE HAVE ADVISED OUR CLIENT CONSTITUTES INFRINGEMENT OF ITS REGISTERED TRADEMARK RANDOM HOUSE AS WELL AS UNFAIR COMPETITION. TRUST WE MAY HEAR FROM YOU IMMEDIATELY THAT YOU WILL COMPLY WITH THIS DEMAND THUS OBVIATING NECESSITY OF ENFORCEMENT OF OUR CLIENT'S LEGAL RIGHTS. - WELL GOTSHAL & MANGES. We immediately got in touch with our legal advisor, George Nims Raybin. Mr. Raybin got in touch with Well Gotshal & Manges and informed them that we had been using the name for almost ten years and that we were an amateur publisher with no intention or money ability to give the mighty Random House competition. But in the end it proved of no worth; Random House was able and willing to go to court to end Fandom House. We were advised that such an action "win or loose" would cost us around \$3,000. This stopped us cold. While Fandom House hadn't lost a ny money since 1948, it hadn't made any either and we just haven't the \$3,000 plus to uphold

AT PRESS TIME

KUTTNER DIES

College Point, 5 February, (CNS) - Forrest J Ackerman telephoned the editorial office of Science-Fiction Times from California to announce the terrible news that Henry Kuttner passed a way from a heart attack on February 3, 1958. The Funeral is being held today. Mr. Ackerman is sending the "Times" more complete news, which will be published, possibly, in the next issue. We are all shocked at the sad news.

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES BOOK REVIEWS

by Gerry de la Ree

SEVEN FOOTPRINTS TO SATAN, by A. Merritt, Avon Publications, Inc., 1957, 187 pp., 35¢, (paperbound).

It stands to reason that this volume by A. Merritt may be the most widely read of all of the so-called modern day fantasies. In the 30 years since it first appeared, "Satan" has seen numerous hardcover, magazine, and pocketbook publications. The audience it has reached must number in the millions.

This is the third time Avon has re-issued the book in the last 17 years or so.

Despite some recent attacks on the abilities of the late Mr. Merritt, we were pleasantly surprised to find that the book is still very readable. It's been at least 15 years since we last read "Satan", and while we cannot hon-

(continued on page 4, column 1)

our famous well-known name, so we informed Raybin to tell them that we'd give it up and pick a new name.

-The Publishers

Red Bank, N.J., 1 February, (CNS) - We were informed today that the second issue of Star Science Fiction has been delayed due to poor distribution of the first issue. It is reported that many important parts of the U.S. never saw copies of that 1st issue. This surprised your editors as a Ballantine has such an excellent distributing set up for their Ballantine s-f pocket



FIRST ISSUE OF "STAR"

books.

The second issue is all set up, type set and in galley form, all ready for actual printing. The cover is done and plates made for it. No interior illustrations have yet been done.

The first issue was also long delayed in coming out, also because of distribution troubles. Even after the initial delay, there was another one before the issue finally "hit" the stands.

The second issue should have been on the stands in January. The first issue was dated January '58.

No date has yet been set for the issuing of the second issue.

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1957 IN S-F

by Thomas S. Gardner

In Four Parts --- PART ONE

TO MANY PEOPLE 1957 is the year of the Sputnik, but to readers of science-fiction it should be the year of The Paper Dragon. Under the ferocious and magnificent display of magazines is less than one finds under the Chinese New Year's paper dragon -- mostly striving writers, editors, hot air, and stench! The number of magazines surviving seems far beyond and reasonable demand, the quality of the stories, verbal reports on sales, and cries of anguish from science-fiction book dealers lead one to believe that inflation has overcome commonsense. In spite of that a new one has appeared, Star Science Fiction, dated 1958! Only one has been reported to be discontinued, perhaps temporarily, and that is Other Worlds, (December 20, 1957).

To no ones surprise Astounding is still tops, and in spite of some weakness, Heinlein's "Citizen of the Galaxy" is number one novel of the year. This is a story that should have a sequel. To my surprise the best short story I read during the actual year of 1957 was in The Magazine Of Fantasy And Science Fiction, by Robert Sheckley, "Holdout". This little story is a gem in sociological, psychological, and historical concepts.

The British magazines, with the exception of Authentic which has been discontinued, are still publishing excellent material. The average for Nebula, New Worlds SF, Science-Fantasy, and even the defunct Authentic is considerably higher than the average of the American crop, and are even equal to our best five or six magazines. This is remarkable, and desirable, -- fewer and better magazines should be the goal, not more and crappier.

Now let's get down to brass tacks:

● ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. Still the best magazine of the year. Campbell is certainly to be congratulated. It is very hard to pick out the best, and one can do no less than read all! The articles are very good. I seem to notice slacking off of the esp gimmick -- for the better in some cases, and a poorly used props are better than none. I notice that Garrett seems to have taken over the mantle of de Camp in trying to

BOOKS, OLD AND NEW, FOR SALE

EDDISON, The Worm Ouroboros, Boni 1926 1st \$7; Mistress of Mistresses, Faber 1st 1935 \$5; SMITH, E.E., Skylark of Space, Buffalo 1946 1st \$6; Skylark of Space, Hadley 1947 2nd DW \$5; A.E. vanVOGT, The Weapon Makers, Hadley 1947 1st \$10.00.

BOOKS AT \$3 EACH: BURROUGHS, The Mad King, Grosset 1926; deCAMP, Lest Darkness Fall, Prime 1949 2nd DW; KELLER, The Eternal Conflict, Prime 1949 1st Boxed, Uncut #163; The Lady Decides, Prime 1950 1st Boxed, Uncut #180; MERRITT, The Ship of Ishtar, Borden 1949 Mem. ed. DW; The Black Wheel, New Collectors 1947 1st. SHEPHERD, The Abyss of Wonders, Polaris 1953 1st Boxed #246. STEVENS, The Head of Cerberus, Plaris 1952 1st Boxed #245.

BOOKS AT \$2.50 EACH: BLACKWOOD, Shocks, Dutton 1936 1st DW. CUMMINGS, The Man Who Mastered Time, Burt n.d. DERLETH, Dark of the Moon, Arkham 1st 1947 DW. GERNSBACH, Ralph 124C 41 Plus, Fell 1950 DW. GOLD, Galaxy Reader of SF, Crown 1952 1st DW. KELLER, The Homunculus, Prime 1949 1st DW. STURGEON, A Way Home, Funk & Wagnell 1955 1st DW. WHITE, Lukundoo and Other Stories, Doran 1927 1st.

BOOKS AT \$2 EACH: BISHOP, The Curse of Yig, Arkham 1953 1st DW. BLACKWOOD, The Doll and One Other, Arkham 1946 1st DW; Tales of the Uncanny and Supernatural, Nevill 1949. BOND, Exiles of Time, Prime 1949 1st DW. delREY Marooned On Mars, Winston 1952 1st DW. FRIEND & MARGULIES, My Best S-F Story, Merlin 1949 1st DW. From Off This World, Merlin 1949 1st DW. HEINLEIN, Tomorrow The Stars, Doubleday 1952 1st DW. LATHAM, Five Against Venus, Winston 1952 1st DW. ROBESON, Quest Of The Spider, St. & Smith 1933; The Land Of Terror, St. & Smith 1933. C.A. SMITH, The Dark Chateau, Arkham 1951 1st DW. TALNE, Forbidden Garden, Fantasy 1947 1st DW. WELLS, Planets of Adventure, F.P.C.I. 1949 1st DW. H.G. WELLS, The War In The Air, Grosset 1910. WOLLHEIM, Flight Into Space, Fell 1st DW; Every Boys Book of SF, Fell 1951, 1st DW.

BOOKS AT \$1.50 EACH: ASIMOV, Pebble in the Sky, Doubleday 1950 1st DW. L.B.; The Stars Like Dust, Doubleday 1951 1st DW L.D.; The Currents of Space, Doubleday 1952 1st; The End of Eternity, Doubleday 1955 1st. CERR, Famous Ghost Stories, Fandom 1944 DW. CUMMINGS, The Shadow Girl, Swan 1946 1st DW. DRAKE, A Hornbook for Witches, Arkham 1950 1st DW. HEINLEIN, Famer In The Sky, Scribner's 1950 1st DW LD. JUDD, Gunner Cade, S.&S. 1952 1st DW. KELLER, Tales From Underwood, P.&C. 1952 1st DW fair. KLINE, Maze of the Moon, Grosset 1930 good. LEIBER, Cather Darkness, P.&G. 1950 1st. MILLER, The Titan, Fantasy 1952 1st. MUNDY, King of the Khyber Rifles, Burt 1916 DW. SMALL, The Avenging Ray, Doubleday 1930 1st DW fair. TEMPLE, Four-Sided Triangle, Fell 1951 1st DW. H.G. WELLS, Seven Famous Novels, Knopf 1934 1st.

BOOKS AT \$1 EACH: BERRY, Born in Captivity, Hamilton 1952 1st DW. BLISH, Jack of Eagles, Greenberg 1952 1st DW L.D. BURROUGHS, Thuvia, Maid of Mars, Grosset 1920 good, Tarzan and the Jewels of Opar, Grosset 1918 good. GARNER, Resurgent Dust, Hamilton 1953 1st DW. GREENBERG, Five SF Novels, Gnome 1st DW L.D. HEINLEIN, Beyond This Horizon, Fantasy 1948 1st DW L.D. HEUER, Men of Other Planets, P.&G. 1951 DW L.D. KANER, The Sun Queen, Kaner 1946 1st. JONES, Son of the Stars, Winston 1952 1st DW. LESSER, Earthbound, Winston 1952 1st DW. MARSTEN, Rocket to Luna, Winston 1953 1st DW.

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● THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. Very good year with some excellent stories and articles. The editor is apparently experimenting in an intelligent manner and the results are more interesting, and less

"cute". Hope he is cured of being "cute" in selecting science-fiction and fantasy. I do notice a slightly different gimmick and that is the use of the religious motif in some stories. This has to be done well, or not at all. Sometimes, in our peculiar barbarian and unsane culture of the 20th Century, the use of this motif is a quicker mechanism to understand

We're Still Living in the Stone Age Of Space Era, Writer-Inventor Feels

10,000-Passenger
Gravitators
Seen in 2133

By PAUL PHELAN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

The fuss over the report that the Russians sent a man in a rocket 186.4 miles into space may have excited some persons. But not Hugo Gernsback.

To Mr. Gernsback such a feat would be only the beginning, and 175 years from now will cause about as much excitement as a little boy pedaling his three-wheeler does nowadays.

"In 2133 A.D. huge space ships called Gravitators will fill the skies," Mr. Gernsback said. "They will carry not one person but 10,000; their 100,000 tons will move at an average of 2500 miles an hour at heights of 600 miles, and they will be capable of interplanetary travel."

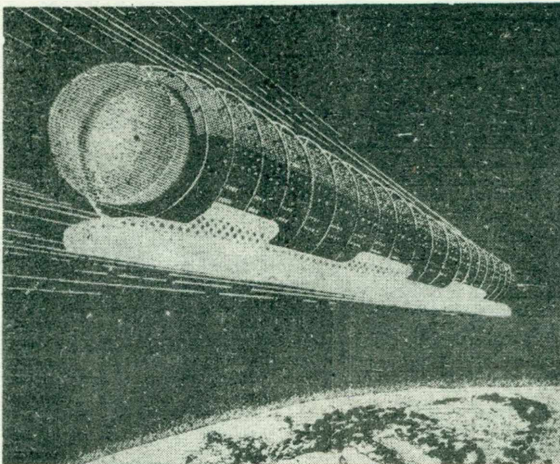
Any Speed.

Mr. Gernsback, 73-year-old inventor and pioneer publisher of technical and science-fiction magazines, outlined the details of the Gravitator in his current yearly "Forecast," an annual pamphlet that looks far ahead with scientific predictions.

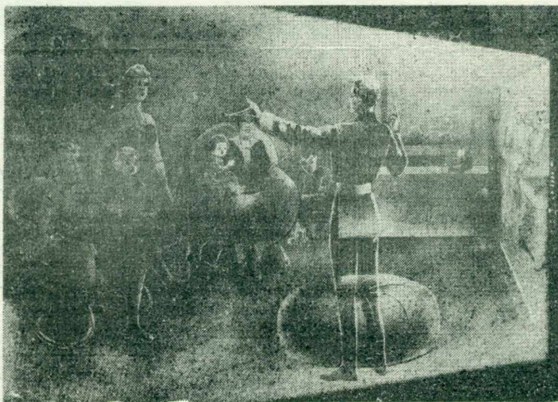
"Gravitators will replace all aircraft in 2010 A.D. when gravitation is conquered," says Mr. Gernsback. "Gravitation, an electromagnetic phenomenon, as forecast by Einstein, can be neutralized by surrounding any body with a counter-gravitational field. This will make it weightless. Hence a 100,000-ton Gravitator ship, once energized and become weightless, can fly at practically any desired speed. Atomic fusion and cosmic energy on board are used to energize and propel the ship."

Fly Sweepers.

Mr. Gernsback also foresees that with increased space travel there will be a need for a World Spasweep (Space-Sweep) Authority to prevent spacewrecks. These spacewrecks will, of course, be remnants of hundreds of futuristic spatniks sent aloft as



Speaking of manned rockets, as Russian rumors have done—here, man, is a rocket! Hugo Gernsback, inventor and science-fiction publisher, in his annual pamphlet of predictions, says this monster, with 10,000 persons aboard, will be winging through interplanetary space within 175 years.



And by 2133 it will be possible to have three-dimensional TV singing commercials—pleasant thought! At least science-predictor Hugo Gernsback says this TV-Phantomcast will make it appear the TV personalities have stepped out of the set right to your elbow!

human relations than a more intelligent approach. So such stories can be tops in many ways. I like Zenna Henderson's stories about the people, they are so darn human, likable, and real, that it seems I may know some of them. (Now, now, I don't believe it, just a bit of off-trail humor!). Leinster, the grand old master, wrote a real scream in "Anthropological Note". In my opinion, Leinster is one of the smartest writers in the field — and once in a while he comes up with the darndest nonsense—but not in this one! Heinlein's "The Menace From Earth" is a very human, very believable! Incident-

ally I wish to recommend only twelve issues of Mag. Of Fantasy And Science Fiction for you to read in 1957, I am limited by the fact that only twelve were published!

● GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. I am happy to report that at Galaxy improved a lot this year. Is it possible that editor Gold is getting back to the position he had a few years ago? I hope so. The covers of Galaxy are always clever, the articles good, the book reviews fair to middling, and the stories readable, and many are good. I am glad to see humor in

Galaxy, e.g., Simak's "Lulu", and others indicate a growing appreciation that humor rightly placed in a story can enhance it a lot. Sturgeon's "The Pod in the Barrier" is an extraordinary story. It has to be read to be appreciated. Pohl and Kornbluth's "Wolfbane" is an interesting, unsatisfying, and incomplete story insofar as I am concerned, but I don't know how to change it to make it more suitable to me! Why not read it and see what you think about it.

(continued in the next issue)
NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS: P. O. Box
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EACH year Hug o
Gernsback puts out
a science-fiction
Christmas Card, act-
ually a small-size
s-f magazine. Each
year we try to give
it the excellent
review it deserves.
This year the job
is easy, we are
just reprinting an
outstanding article
by Paul Phelan that
appeared in the
January 8th, 1958
issue of THE NEW
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AND THE SUN. Our
thanks for their
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satellites since the first one in 1957.

The out-of-this-world sanitation corps will continuously patrol all space from Mercury to Mars.

"It will locate all space wrecks by radar and volatilize them by cosmic-ray blasts," Mr. Gernsback predicted.

He also foresaw the Space-sweepers battling meteoric showers such as the Persids, the Leonids, and the Orionids, reducing them to microscopic dust, no longer a menace to space travel.

Getting down to earth Mr. Gernsback also made some rather unearthly predictions. Traditional TV will be replaced by TV Phantomcasts wherein a person will appear to step out of a television receiver and appear in three dimensions several feet from the set.

Going to work on a futuristic apartment Mr. Gernsback predicted, among other things: Pneumatic inflatable furniture (to save space when not in use); Use of miniplants and miniflowers (never grow more than three inches high); Infra-red heating; use of powerful radiation to kill microbes, germs, viruses, in the rooms; and percentage-gravitated bedrooms to reduce body weight to as little as 17 pounds, giving maximum rest because little weight is exerted on the bed.

THE TIME STREAM

by J. Harry Vincent

Mr. Davis, formerly of Ziff-Davis who recently bought Elery Queen from Mr. Ferman, has changed his company name to "A Davis Publication" and has returned the Mercury Publication seal to Mr. Ferman. Mr. Ferman, who has been using Fantasy Publications Inc. since he sold the name Mercury Publications will use the seal and change his name to Mercury Press. Mr. Davis soon to issue a new magazine, Jack London Adventure Magazine. 128 pp digest & 35¢, and bi-monthly. Each issue will have a London story.

BOOK REVIEWS

(continued from page 1, column 2)

estly say that it made as much as an impression this time as it did then, we still heartily recommend it to any of the younger readers who haven't come across the book before.

It's a fast-moving story of intrigue which takes place on the Long Island estate of a self-styled Satan, a mental and physical giant whose power reaches into all corners of the earth. James Kirkham, a famed explorer, is kidnapped and taken to Satan. His adventures in the secret-passaged castle and his battle to overthrow Satan make for some entertaining reading.

There is nothing pretentious about the story, which is perhaps the reason for its lasting success. It's a simple adventure story with an element of fantasy. It's corny in spots, outdated in others; but the overall yarn is good enough to offset the minor faults.

SCIENCE FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

● VENTURE SCIENCE FICTION, May '58
THE DARK BACKWARD by Edmond Hamilton, COSMIC CASANOVA by Arthur C. Clarke, GROUND LEAVE INCIDENT (short novelet) by Rog Phillips, FLEEGL OF FLEEGL by Gordon R. Dickson, A WORLD NAMED MARY by Robert Warner, BUY JUPITER! by Isaac Asimov, THE COMEDIAN'S CHILDREN (novelet) by Theodore Sturgeon. (Departments): VENTURING by The Editor, SCIENCE: "The Big Bang" by Isaac Asimov, and BOOKS "On Hand ... Offhand" by Theodore Sturgeon. Cover by M. S. Dollens ("Night On Titan") from the novel-let by Theodore Sturgeon, "The Comedian's Children". Interior illustrations by Giunta and Schoenherr.

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BRITISH: 9d per year, 15s0d per year, PERMANENT SUBSCRIPTION: 3 Pounds 10s0d, from H. M. JOHNSON, 16 Rockville Road, Broad Green, LIVERPOOL 14, ENGLAND.

AUSTRALIA: One Shilling per copy Ten Shillings for 12 issues, One Pound for 24 issues. PERMANENT SUBSCRIPTION: 5 Pounds, from ROGER DARD, Box S1387, GPO PERTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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ADVERTISEMENTS: \$20 per full page; \$10 per half page; \$6 per quarter page; & \$3 per 1/8 page.

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FANTASTIC NOVELS, A Check List, Compiled by Roger Dard. Foreword by August Derleth. 12 pages, printed. 35¢ from James V. Taurasi, 18-36 129th St., College Point 56 New York. (NO STAMPS PLEASE!)

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WANTED

WANTED: These magazines were lost in recent flood of S-F Times collection: AMAZING STORIES: March 1930, Dec. 1928, April 1936, Feb. 1936, Dec. 1935, Oct. 1935, Dec. 1934, Nov. 1934. PLANET STORIES: Summer 1944 and Spring 1944. Must be in good condition with full front and back covers. FANDOM HOUSE INC., P. O. Box 184, Flushing 52, New York.

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