

The Science Fiction Newspaper

# Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"



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SECOND JANUARY 1961 ISSUE

(#354) 10¢

## RAYBIN COLLECTS FROM GREAT AMERICAN

NEW YORK, 21 December, (CNS) - George Nims Raybin, Esq. has collected two claims in full against Great American Publications, Inc., the publisher of the now defunct Fantastic Universe and the U.S. Reprint Edition of New Worlds\*, for his clients, Sam Moskowitz and Belle C. Dietz. Only three claims were collected against Great American; those of the U.S. Government (which has a preferred claim but which only collected in part) and Mr. Raybin's clients who, as a result of his legal efforts, both secured payment in full.

\*Not to be confused with the British printed edition now being distributed in the United States and Canada.

### THANK YOU

Our thanks to the thousands of Christmas cards arriving from all over the world to the Science-Fiction Times office in College Point & Syracuse. They have all been placed on the Sci-Fi Xmas tree making it a gala Christmas indeed.

*James V. Taurasi, Jr.*  
James V. Taurasi, editor

## JOHN TAINÉ DIES AT 77

WATSONVILLE, Calif., 21 December, (CNS)- John Taine, science-fiction author, died here today at the age of 77. Mr. Taine, was the pen-name of Dr. Eric Temple Bell, retired professor of mathematics at the California Institute of Technology. He had been ill for more than a year.

He wrote 14 books and nearly 300 scientific papers in the field of mathematics. Under the pen-name of John Taine he wrote 13 science-fiction novels and numerous magazine pieces.

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland, he emigrated to the United States in 1902. He graduated from Stanford University in 1904, received a master's degree from the University of Washington in 1908 and a doctorate from Columbia University in 1912.

He taught at the University of Washington until 1926, when he transferred to California Institute of Technology, from which he retired in 1953.

His wife, Jessie, died in 1940; he is survived by a son, Dr. Taine Temple Bell, a physician.

Our thanks to Claire Beck of Calif. who sent in a clipping from the San Francisco Chronicle, from which the above information is taken.

JOIN THE SEASON

1941

20th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

1961

# MOSKOWITZ'S FATHER DIES AT 67

NEWARK, N. J., 28 December, (CNS) - The Taurasi household was shocked and saddened today to hear that Sam Moskowitz's father, Abraham Moskowitz passed away this morning in his sleep.

He died of Acute Coronary Occlusion and will be buried tomorrow, December 29th at Beth David Cemetary at Kenilworth, New Jersey.

Our deepest sorrows to Mrs. Moskowitz, Sam, Pearl, etc., from the editors and staff of Science-Fiction Times.

## SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS:

ARTHUR C. CLARKE, JOHN WYNDHAM, PHILIP JOSE FARMER AND OTHERS. IN ANNUAL "ALL STAR" MARCH 1961 ISSUE OF "FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION"

## FULL WRAP-AROUND COVER BY MEL HUNTER

NEW YORK, 28 December, (CNS) - Bob Mills editor of "Hugo" winning Fantasy And Science-Fiction announced today that his magazine will continue what has become an annual affair. The March 1961 issue will be an "All-Star" issue. It will contain an excellent cover by Mel Hunter (see page 3 of this issue for a reproduction of this cover). The contents of this issue will be: RETURN (novelet) by Zenna Henderson, THE BEETLE by Jay Williams, SATURN RISING by Arthur C. Clarke, STITCH IN TIME by John Wyndham, Science: "The Imaginary That Isn't" by Isaac Asimov, Books by Alfred Bester, PTOMETHEUS (novelet) by Philip Jose Farmer, FERDINAND FECHOOT: XXXVIII by Grendel Briarton and THE ONE WHO RETURNS by John Berry.

The number of pages (130) and price: (40¢) will remain the same.

## NEW WORLDS SCIENCE FICTION

February 1961 (January 1961 in England)

Serial: VENUS PLUS X by Theodore Sturgeon (part 1), STARTING COURSE by Arthur Sellings, THE EDGE OF OBLIVION by Peter Hawkins, THE SPIRIT IS WILLING by Richard Graham, STOPOVER EARTH by Dan Morgan, and

HIATUS by Frank Brandon. Cover by Sydney Jordan. Profile is of Theodore Sturgeon.

ON PAGE 3 OF THIS ISSUE WE ARE PRESENTING A REPRODUCTION OF THE "WRAP-AROUND" COVER FOR THE MARCH 1961 "ALL-STAR" ISSUE OF "FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION".

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

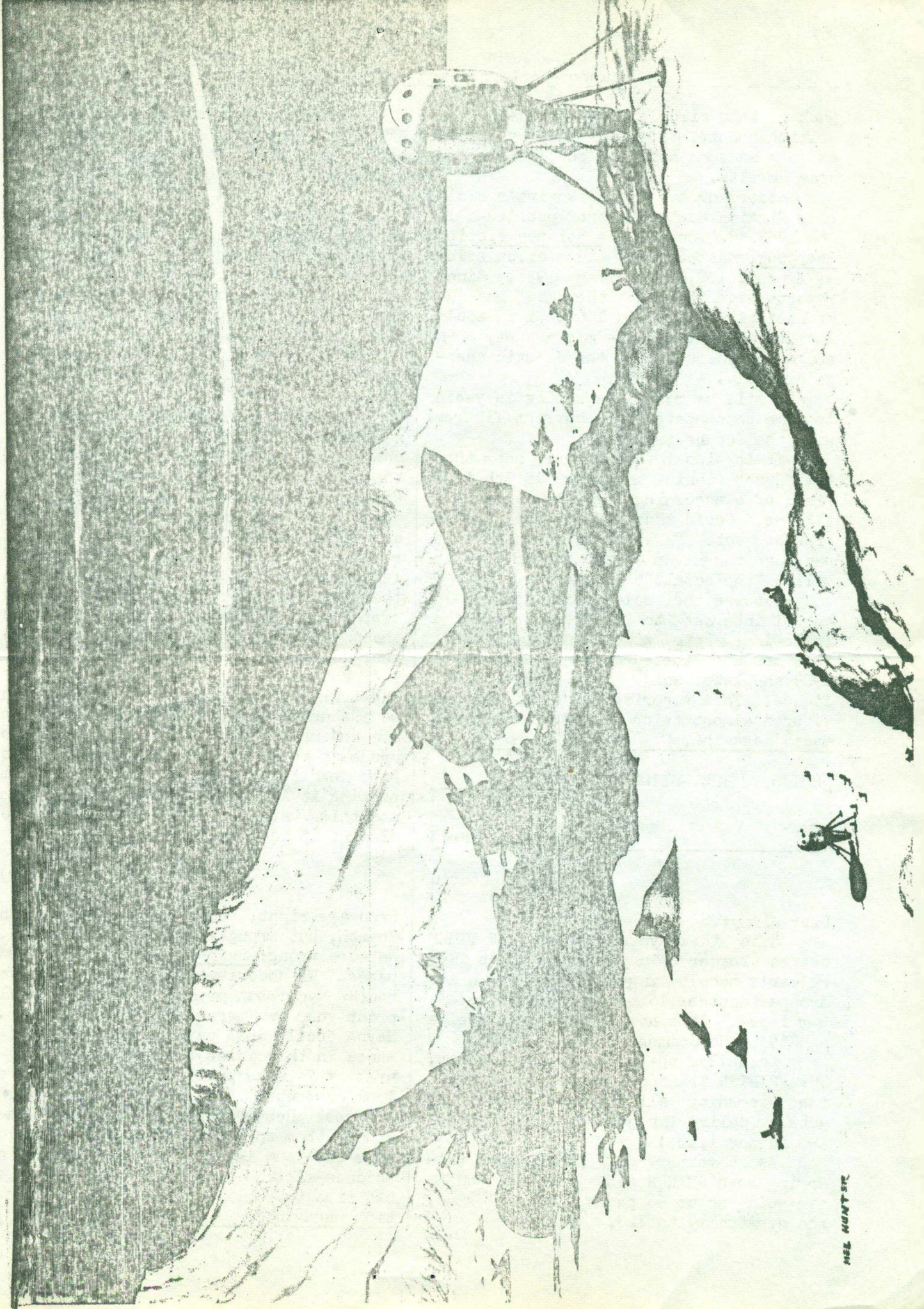
by The Editor

I TOOK an act of Congress to do it, but at last the circulation figures of the professional science-fiction magazines are now an open book. The first time published was issues hitting the newsstands near the end of 1960. According to the figures published they stand like this:

1. GALAXY MAGAZINE.....91,000
2. ASTOUNDING (Analog) SF F.....74,408
3. IF SCIENCE FICTION.....54,000
4. AMAZING STORIES.....48,018
5. FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION....47,574
6. FANTASTIC.....38,759

THIS WOULD seem to make the top magazine Galaxy, Astounding and If in that order, but this is not so. We have studied these figures over for weeks, and just can't believe the Galaxy and If figures for a number of reasons. Outstanding among these reasons is that if these figures were wholly true, both mags would be monthly instead of bi-monthly. Then why these figures? Are they false? Actually we think not, we know both Bob Guinn and H. L. Gold for quite a time, and they would not place untrue figures upon their mags; not with the U.S. Government anyway. If they are not false, then what? Well we don't know - the answer for sure, and Bob Guinn just smiles and says "no comment". But just think this over. Both Galaxy and If are distributed among the Countries of the British Empire.....but those copies are printed here in the U. S. (a reverse of the British Nova s-f magazines). We think (and can't prove, mind you) that the circulation figures of these two magazines also include those copies distributed among the British countries, while all the rest deal just with the U. S. Now we'll have to figure out how







much of this circulation is among the British countries. We'll let you know as soon as some sensible conclusions are come up with.

According to Sam Moskowitz's "Science Fiction Market Report" published in the 1957 edition of The Science Fiction Yearbook, Astounding had a circulation of approx. 100,000 during 1956. Since reports have it that the mag has increased circulation in 1960, it would seem to mean that the mag was way down and maybe accounts for the drastic change of title.

It will be most interesting in years to come to compare the current figures with the future figures.

It is also interesting to note that the "Hugo" winning magazine is 5th in a field of 6 according to the "official" figures. Could that "Hugo" vote be a protest vote "against" certain editors who have taken up with what is usually called "the occult"? We wonder.

Outside the science-fiction field but of interest to our readers are the following: Fate with a 58,725 figure. This mag was started by Ray Palmer in 1949 and later sold. MAD with a 48,550 figure. This surprised us greatly, we figured almost twice that for this great maaad magazine.

#### NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

Amherst, Wisconsin  
Dec 28, 1960

Dear Jimmy:

Note that your current SF TIMES states (rather triumphantly?) that "Ray Palmer's occult magazine SEARCH has dropped another 16 pages from its December issue, it's now 50 pages, pulp size and 35¢. No Comment."

Actually, the magazine is 64 pages. The PRINTER transposed pages 64 and 50, thus exceeding all his previous lousy jobs by delivering 30,000 defective copies in one issue!

As a matter of fact, early this Spring both SEARCH and FLYING SAUCERS are going up to 96 pages, digest size, and eventually to 128.

Further, our new magazine THE HIDDEN WORLD (rather, our new subscription book, since it won't sell on the stands) will contain 192 pages, pulp size, heavy slick cover, and will appear for the first time on a quarterly schedule beginning with the Spring 1961 issue. This will give the REAL story of the Shaver Mystery, from the very beginning, with all the fiction removed. It will sell for \$1.50 per copy, and \$6.00 for a one-year subscription.

Next, there will be sensational news from here. Announcement in the early spring.

Actually, we could now produce a real fan-type sf mag if it weren't for one terrible fact -- it won't sell on the newsstands, because the newsstands are firmly against sf. It seems sad indeed to me that occult (as you put it) and flying saucer type mags can succeed royally on the newsstands, where top sf falls flat on its face. I see where even the mighty Astounding (formerly) has dropped 40% in circulation. Maybe it's the new title, but I fear it is the further decline of sf itself.

But one thing is sure, Ray Palmer's publishing efforts are not failing; and we are not dropping pages. Rather, we are now making what you might be so crude as to call a "killing". Which is good news to my readers, because I am putting it ALL back into giving them something better! I'm not putting one dime of it into my pockets!

Cordially,  
Ray (Palmer)

(you are right, there are 64 oages in Search, but wrongly numbered in the end. We were wrong: Search has not reduced pages. We understand also that you have bought your own printing press and will print your own magazines in the future. Maybe occult does pay, you'll see elsewhere in this issue the circulation figures of Fate as published. We'll be looking foward to your circulation figures when you publish them and announce them to our readers. It would seem that now is a bad time to publish a science-fiction magazine ---- or is it a bad time to publish a GOOD science-fiction magazine?  
-the editor)

## THE COSMIC REPORTER

by J. Harry Vincent

Robert Guinn has agreed to be present and will answer questions magazinewise at the 161 Lunacon to be held on April 9th, 1961. We had a long talk with him and while he leaves the picking of science-fiction stories, etc to H. L. Gold and hasn't too much to say on the actual science-fiction story-wise, he does know magazine publishing and distribution and will be most happy to discuss with the Lunacon attendees any phase of this interesting business. We think this should help the fans better understand what gives with the mechanics of publishing and the many problems this "rat-race" presents. More complete news of the Lunacon will be presented at a later date.

We highly recommend a new science-fiction book recently out. "The Science-Fictional Sherlock Holmes", with stories by Poul Anderson, Gordon R. Dickson, Anthony Boucher, Mack Reynolds, August Derleth and others. And, an excellent introduction by Anthony Boucher. They are reprints from science-fiction magazines and all have a somewhat Sherlock Holmes theme. Being a follower of both Mr. Holmes and science-fiction, I found this book delightful and entertaining and recommend it for your bookshelf. 137 pages and a very good black and white cover jacket by Walker. For further details write to THE COUNCIL OF FOUR, 2845 South Gilpin Street, Denver 10, Colorado.

Always believing that science-fiction magazines should have inside illustrations, we are very happy to see the return of inside illustrations to New Worlds, as stated before, and most happy to see Atlas use inside illustrations in the British Reprint Edition of Fantasy and Science Fiction. We have often kicked to Bob Mills that he should use inside illos in Fantasy and Science Fiction, but outside of some experiments none have appeared. We think it would really help Fantasy & Science Fiction if a regular policy of using inside illos

was started.

Otto Binder, once one of the best science-fiction writers in this field has seen and now editor of Space World, the fact magazine on satellites and outer space doings, has a daily illustrated column going in the newspapers. It is called "Our Space Age" and is distributed by Columbia Features, Inc. It appears in the Journal-American in New York City, and is illustrated by Anderson. The first appeared in the January 2, 1961 issue of the paper. Congratulations, Otto.

Even tho, the editors of Science-Fiction Times increased the run of their recent 19th Anniversary issue, it sold out soon after the PITTCON. Since then about 100 orders have come in for it and a second printing is in the works. Holding it up is the fact that some of the stencils are missing and will have to be retyped. This will be done in the very near future. To those of you who ordered a copy and have not received it, please be patient and you'll soon get one. The solution is to subscribe to Science-Fiction Times and thus be sure to get all the special issues as they come out.

Be sure to join the 19th World Science Fiction Convention, The SeaCon, to be held in Seattle, Washington, over the labor day Holidays of 1961. \$2 will make you a member and you'll receive membership cards, all issues of the Progress Report and the usually excellent Program Booklet. It'll cost you \$1 more if you attend the great affair of 1961 Fandom.

Send your \$2 (or \$3 if you wish) to:

SEACON, %Seattle S\*F Club, Inc.,  
P. O. Box 1365, Broadway Branch,  
Seattle 2, Washington.

## NOTICE

## NOTICE

## NOTICE

## NOTICE

"1960 IN SCIENCE FICTION" by Edward Wood will be published complete in the 2nd Feb. 1961 issue. Ed gives you a complete review and comments of what 1960 had to offer s-f magazine-wise. An annual habit with most of our readers. -the editor



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SWEDEN: 50 ore per copy, 10 kronor per 20 issues, 12 kronor and 50 ore per year. Permanent Subscription: 75 kronor, from STURE SEDOLIN, P. O. Box 403, Vallingby 4, SWEDEN.

James V. Taurasi, Sr., editor;  
Frank R. Prieto, Jr., production and circulation manager.

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