



Science-Fiction Times



The World Of Tomorrow Today!

Established 1941

NO 409 & 410
DECEMBER 1963
30¢

THOMAS S. GARDNER, 55
& RAY VAN HOUTEN, 44
ARE DEAD

See pages 13 and 16

"NEW WORLDS" AND
"SCIENCE FANTASY"
TO FOLD IN 1964

See Page 2

"THE PROPHETS OF DOOM"

BY HUGO GERNSBACK

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*** MERRY CHRISTMAS ***

● "NEW WORLDS" AND "SCIENCE FANTASY" TO FOLD IN MARCH 1964

CARNELL TO EDITED NEW SERIES OF SHORT STORY PAPERBACKS

LONDON, England, 8 November, (CNS) - E. J. (Ted) Carnell announced the sad news today that his two magazines New Worlds Science Fiction and Science Fantasy would fold with the March 1964 published issues. This will also mean the end of Nova Publications, Ltd. These two science/fantasy magazines are the two main pro magazines of the field published in England. With them gone, the British field will be left without a professional s-f magazine of their own. Carnell's other s-f magazine, Science Fiction Adventures, fold a while back.

Two other science/fantasy magazines are published in England, they are Fantasy & Science Fiction and Venture Science Fiction, but these are United States reprints.

Carnell's two magazines have been held in high regards on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Their material have always been high. It was only recently that their prices was raised from 2/6 to 3/- an issue. For a time, issues were also distributed in the United States.

Ted has done an excellent job as editor of these two magazines, and it is sad indeed that circumstances prevent them from carrying on. We of Science-Fiction Times (and most readers) will sorely miss these British magazines.

In his announcement of the forth-

coming end of his magazines, Ted gave the following statements on it and his future plans:

"It is with regret that I announce that with the March (1964) published issues of New Worlds Science Fiction and Science Fantasy, these two publications will be discontinued and Nova Publications Ltd. will cease to exist. This decision has been forced upon us by a steady decline in sales during the past few years which stems directly from the lifting of the Import Ban and the subsequent intense competition with the paperback market, both home-produced and foreign-imported.

"Material is still required for the last few issues and authors should continue to submit their material to Nova Publications Ltd. until January 31st.

"Thereafter my own personal plans are that I shall become a full-time Literary Agent specialising in science-fiction, as I have been for the past ten years, but expanding my requirements into general fiction. I shall also be under contract to a major British paperback publisher to produce a new series of science-fiction paperbacks containing new short stories only, both in the science-fiction and weird-fiction field. This series being prepared but will not appear until Autumn 1964.

"All regular contributing authors

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Science-Fiction Times



The World Of Tomorrow Today!

Established 1941

December 1963 / Vol. 18 - No. 10 / Whole Nos. 409 - 410

● THE PROPHETS OF DOOM

BY HUGO GERNSBACK

HUGO GERNSBACK, the "Father of Science-Fiction" has been one of the most hard-hitting backers of having sound science in science-fiction. He stressed this in the magazines he published and has been stressing it ever since. We are most fortunate in being able to publish this speech, given before "The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Science Fiction Society" by Mr. Gernsback, on October 25, 1963.

Mr. Gernsback is the editor and publisher of Radio-Electronics, the leading magazine of the radio-TV-electronic industry. Many of his editorials in this magazine border on the science-fiction.

WHEN, IN APRIL, 1926, I launched the first issue of Amazing Stories, I called it "The Magazine of Scientific-fiction". Not a very elegant term, I admit, but I had the fixed idea, even in those early days of science-fiction, that Amazing Stories henceforth was to be known as a scientific fiction monthly, to distinguish it from any other type of literature.

Not content with that slogan, after a good deal of thought I added a second, more explanatory one: "Extravagant Fiction Today --- Cold Fact Tomorrow".

I carried both of these slogans on

the editorial page between 1926 and 1929, as long as I published Amazing Stories.

Later, for Vol. I, No. 1, of Science Wonder Stories in June, 1929, I wrote another descriptive slogan: "Prophetic Fiction is the Mother of Scientific Fact". I think this still means what it says. Science-fiction -- under any term or name -- must, in my opinion, deal first and foremost in futures.

It must, in story form, forecast the wonders of man's progress to come. That means distant exploits and exploration of space and time.

Contrary to the opinion of many

later-day, so-called science-fiction authors, the genre of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells has now been prostituted to such an extent that it often is quite impossible to find any reference to science in what is popularly called science fiction today.

The classic science-fiction of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells, with little exception, was serious and, yes, instructive and educational. It was not primarily intended to entertain or to amuse. These stories carried a message, and that is the great difference between technological science-fiction and fantasy tales. I repeat: Either you have science-fiction, with the emphasis on science, or you have fantasy. You cannot have both -- the two genres bear no relation to each other.

In 1961 I expressed my displeasure with the decadence of modern science-fiction in a talk which I gave before the "Eastern Science Fiction Association". I then stated: Once upon a time there was just the ordinary garden variety of scientific Science Fiction. Then, like atomic fission, science-fiction began to proliferate into a chain reaction and we witnessed such mutations as (to name only a few): Pseudo-Science Fiction, Fantasy-Science Fiction, Sexy Science Fiction, Fairytale Science Fiction, and, lately -- believe it or not -- even Computer (i.e., Analog) Science Fiction, and then the so-called psi deviations from psychic phenomena to spiritualism, including astrology.

Unfortunately, this state of affairs has degenerated lately with increasing momentum, chiefly because most authors know little about the incredibly vast future of science, nor have they the imagination to cope with coming events.

Also, let us admit that scientists as a rule are not good writers when it comes to inspiring literature and they are rarely hommes de lettres.

So the author, nine times out of ten, takes refuge in non-scientific fantasy. It is far easier to compose and probably reads better than a technical-science yarn that often is not easy to digest by the uneducated reader.

Often an author attempts to disguise his scientific poverty by using

pseudo-scientific terminology. This point was made recently in the New Scientist of London, July 18, 1963, by science reviewer R. S. R. Fitter, in commenting on the book "The Web of Life" by John H. Storer: "The book is written in extremely lucid and simple language, with none of the pseudo-scientific gobbledygook one associates with American scientific writing.

Hence the overwhelmingly large percentage of magazine and book editors can no longer buy true science-fiction stories as they did in the twenties. There are just not enough science-fiction authors today who can deliver adequate material with science-motivated content.

Let us state here without quibbling that I have never had, nor do I have now the slightest quarrel with fantasy literature. In fact, I personally do like it, particularly if it is of the adult type, say the Edgar Allen Poe variety. What I detest is the parading of pure fantasy stories as science-fiction and their sale as such to gullible readers. I consider this an out-and-out fraud.

It was particularly humiliating to me when I read the 1962 volume of the "Hugo Winners", which the publisher, on the cover, lightheartedly labeled "Nine prize-winning science fiction stories". Well, in my book it should have read "Eight fantasy tales, plus one science-fiction story".

I do not envy the editor who had to edit the book because the selections had already been made by the World Science Fiction Convention. So he had no choice.

It is also an incontrovertible fact that true science-fiction today is still avidly sought out and read by our country's industrial leaders, engineers and technicians because it still gives them invaluable ideas of events to come. Science-fiction, believe it or not, is still a powerful force that stimulates thinking men whose destiny is tied up strongly in the future.

It also makes me sad when I see the constantly-recurring scribbling of the many prophets of doom who have recently become fashionable in their endeavor to write off genuine science-fiction as passe. Such bankruptcy of intellect can always be traced directly to the inability of such writers to comprehend the

status and message of true prophetic science-fiction. This fantastic lack of imagination often is as ludicrous as it is pathetic.

I quote only one recent writer -- there are dozens of others everywhere -- in the science-fiction fan magazine Inside, June 1963. Curiously, too, although the writer of the 5000-word opus quotes and lists the names of practically every "science-fiction" author, he forgets even to mention perhaps the most outstanding true science-fiction personality -- with 31 books published in the U. S. -- Arthur C. Clarke! Let us proceed with Inside's forecast:

The Future of Science Fiction

"A question which naturally arises is, What of the future of science-fiction? If it evolves through the discovery and working out of its congenital possibilities, what remains. What would be the next developments?

"Personally, I do not see much of a future for science-fiction. There are several reasons for hesitating to make such a statement -- one of which is that the detective story seemed to be dead in the 1880's -- but they are all general and negative. I see no specific and active reasons for supposing it has any very lively future.

"In tracing out this general line of speculation, we quite naturally arrive at the thought that there will come a time when all possibilities are exhausted. Then science-fiction will be "completed". There will be "nothing new", regardless of clever variations. It will have realized everything that is in it as a literary organism and will sink willingly, as it were, into extinction. Actually, it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to foresee a time in which there will not be published occasional stories of the marvelous, the fantastic, and of future science; but it is not so difficult to believe that there will come a time, probably in our personal futures, in which there will no longer be a "field" -- only a "genre"."

So much for one prophet of doom. The quoted statement brings to mind a long

list of great unimaginative non-believers in the world's future. Nor are they unknown; some of them are quite famous in their own right -- not as prophets, but as scientists and other highly-placed celebrities.

Arthur C. Clarke, in his epoch-making book, "Profiles of the Future", calls their deficiency "Failure of Imagination". Here are a few of those he mentions:

There was famed philosopher Auguste Comte, who in his Cours de Philosophie (1835) stated this about the heavenly bodies:

"We see how we determine their forms, their distances, their bulk, their motions, but we can never know anything of their chemical or mineralogical structure....the stars serve us scientifically only as providing positions with which we may compare the interior movements of our system."

Let us not forget world-famed Lord Ernst Rutherford, who, perhaps more than any other mortal, was responsible for our insight into modern atomic science. Yet up to his death in 1937 he constantly ridiculed the idea that we would ever be able to harness the energy locked up in matter. Sad to relate, the first atomic chain reaction occurred only 5 years after his death!

Next listen to the great American astronomer Simon Newcomb (1835-1909) who wrote a celebrated essay that ended thus:

"The demonstration that no possible combination of known substances, known forms of machinery and known forms of force, can be united in a practical machine, by which men shall fly long distances through the air, seems to the writer as complete as it is possible for the demonstration of any physical fact to be."

Not to be outdone by such a posterous prophecy, the British Professor A. W. Bickerton (1842-1929) wrote the following masterpiece, which I quote verbatim, in a paper published in 1926:

"This foolish idea of shooting at the moon is an example of the absurd length to which vicious specialisation will carry scientists working in thought-tight compartments. Let us critically

examine the proposal. For a projectile entirely 't o escape the gravitation of the earth, it needs a velocity of 7 miles a second. The thermal energy of a gramme at this speed is 15,180 calories. ...The energy of our most violent explosive -- nitroglycerine -- is less than 1,500 calories per gramme. Consequently, even had the explosive nothing t o carry, it has only one-tenth of the energy necessary to escape the earth.... Hence t h e proposition appears to be basically impossible."

Lest you think that such recorded foolishness is rare and isolated, rest assured that it is commonplace. All one has to do is to read our newspapers and magazines f o r the latest examples of total decay of imagination.

It is a measure of our times that just as the poor, misguided, unimaginative scientists whom we quoted failed to look into the future, so the present-day science-illiterate author cannot possibly comprehend the myriad o f technical wonders still to come.

He cannot understand --nor extrapolate into future terms -- that each new invention and discovery automatically opens the door t o a host of new ideas that proliferate countless others.

And a l l of these are excellent spring-boards for novel, true science-fiction stories, never dreamt of before.

If these are often termed derisively "gadget stories" by the technologically illiterate, t h e more power to those far-seeing authors who have the imagination and the intellectual gifts to read the future aright so they can point out to their most modest and less fortunate brethren t h e direction in which the world is heading. Given enough such outstanding authors, true prophetic science-fiction could very well stage a massive comeback -- it could become the renaissance of Jules Verne, H. G. Wells type of technological science-fiction so badly needed 'in our present idea-impo-
verished world.

Let me give a single example of what is coming in the next decade. You might call it educated-guess science-fiction, because as yet it is not in ex-

istance, although w e have practically all the scientific and technical elements now.

It is taken from an article I wrote a few weeks ago entitled Microminiature Color Television. The idea deals with microminiaturized TV cameras s o small that they can go through the hollow opening of a large-sized hypodermic needle. Before y o u scoff at that, electronic technicians will tell you that transistors have already shrunk into the microscopic, so minute that they cannot be seen by the naked eye. How small can a TV camera shrink? No one knows.

Next we combine the X-Ray with the electron microscope a n d the TV color camera. This should give u s enlargements of 300,000 diameters upwards.

The hardly-visible microscopic TV camera can now be introduced through the hypodermic needle into practically every inaccessible part of the human anatomy.

Just imagine a 300,000-diameter enlargement of, say, an internal incipient cancer, or other disease! For all practical purposes, the entire human body will have become as transparent as if it were glass or plastic.

How many science-fiction plots can this single idea engender?

In technology, the probing micro-miniature TV color camera will literally have thousands of new uses. Coupled with the X-Ray and the electron microscope, such futuro TV camera-probes will ferret out points of weaknesses and practically all potential failures, not apparent otherwise.

Take only one example: Our present-day rockets, missiles and our various satellites. Today's percentage of failure is intolerable. Its cost is well-nigh astronomical now. Often failures occur once the space vehicle has been placed in orbit. But most occur before they are off the ground.

Almost all these potential failures could be anticipated and overcome with miniature color TV probes on the molecular level. They would be cheap at any price. Does this give you any ideas?

I thank you.

T H E E N D



MONSTER-TIMES

The Monster Fan Newspaper

Edited by James V. Taurasi

This month the "Monster-Times" section will be used as a Monster-Times Readers' Column.

Our letter is from Calvin T. Beck of Castle of Frankenstein.

October 25, 1963

Dear Jimmy:

Regarding the Oct. '63 SFT. Asa retraction and some corrections seem to be in order, then heré goes:

First: As Dr. Yackula himself chortles about things he seems to forget, then goes to blame others should they say same. Our "esteemed" rival admitted a number of issues ago that some unnamed French mag served as inspiration for the birth of FM.

((As we understand it, a French movie magazine had a whole issue devoted to Monster and Horror films, this gave Forrest J Ackerman the idea of editing the First Monster magazine, Famous Monsters of Filmland. Famous Monsters of Filmland is the FIRST Monster magazine.-ed))

Next:

Everyone is certainly entitled to their opinion -- but if we have special reasons for feeling that CoF is unique, it's not only because we began the pioneer movement away from the sick-joke/lamppon category in which the fantasy-macabre arts were in danger of staying mired. For, without even mentioning CoF's first issue (Feb. 1961), this "sercon" approach goes back to 1959's JOURNAL OF FRANKENSTEIN. And don't forget, '59 was a year in which our whole field seemed to be doing MAD mag takeoffs. Having initiated the sober approach, we

seemed to have let it catch fire--it almost appears to be tried out by others sometimes.

((No comment, everyone is entitled to their own opinions. -ed))

Next bit:-- Inasmuch as part of the SFantasy field has gone pictorial, it hardly seems fair to tag all of it under the 'term' monster. If various mags like using this appellation in their titles, it's their business, of course. However, the pictorial mag trend has been with us now more than a dozen years, and thanks to TV, it's the reason why mags using mostly text are now fewer than ever (or struggling to survive). Whether the SFantasy field's oldtimers like to admit it or not, CoF and the "monster" titles are its most obvious and direct offshoot. And whether we care to approve of it or not, tempus fugit.

((Castle of Frankenstein is nothing more than a monster magazine, and a poor one at that, in my opinion, and will so be listed only in the Monster-Times Department of Science-Fiction Times. As editor you can call it what you care to, but as a reader, we call them as we see them. -ed))

Final item: as to whether or not it may have been one of my milestones in becoming a STF reporter ten years ago, what you probably are confused by over the period of years you're trying to recall is that most likely the reports or "hot beats" you picked up around '54 were hardly my responsibility any more than yours. Had you first checked with me before blaming me for irresponsible

reporting when I was around 23 years old, you might have found that the collapse of the SFantasy field at that time had much to do with why I could hardly keep up with all the jobs that I "almost" got. The Raymond publications (on which Del Rey, Harrison and, almost, Fletcher Pratt served) are good case in point.

Also, in connection with the first of Jim Harmon's many stillborn publications, I am attaching a photo-copy of an i.d. card Jim drew up for me a number of weeks after he gave me the assignment of contributing editor to the then planned X-SCIENCE FICTION. On it you'll find Jim's full signature. Of course, the mag never came out, and so was the case with other companies. I'd daresay that in view of such events, it would be hard to pin-point who should be blamed for "starting" or "publishing rumors..." But it's quite obvious that it's hardly the little guy - the potential staffer - who should be dinged out. After all, he's hardly in control of a mag's fate.

Of course, many other things happened throughout 1953-54-55. But at this late date, it's hardly that interesting any more....and, besides, I don't wish to run out of photo-copying paper. — So...end of report....

((Yes, we will gladly retract the statement we made about you and your reports to Science-Fiction Times in the early 50's -- we were carried away in our zeal. —ed))

Sincerely yours,
Calvin T. Beck

(A final word on this interesting letter. We think very highly of Forrest J Ackerman and his publisher Jimmy Warren — but in all honesty, we like to give the "devil" his due. For anyone to work hard, to come up with a new idea and then have someone else try to beat him out of credit due him strikes us the wrong way. Forry's Famous Monsters of Filmland is the first monster mag, and in our opinion, still the best. When another monster mag comes out that is better, we'll be the first to say so. We do not consider the monster magazines - science-fiction, and only remotely connected with fantasy. But we do consider

them as good stepping stones to the reading of science-fiction. A good majority of the monster fans we've met do read science-fiction or are mighty interested in it. This was the factor that interested us into combining Monster-Times into Science-Fiction Times and it has worked out very well so far.

We have never allowed any editor or publisher to "tell" us what to call their mag, or how to review it. We are in this business to call the shots as we see them and as honestly as we can. This we will continue as long as we are editor of this magazine. The only way anyone can get a good review in Science-Fiction Times is to put out darn good items. —editor)

● S-F MAG REPORT

by Lane Stannard

OCTOBER 1963

October 3, 1963: FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION, Nov., 40¢, 130 pages, digest, Monthly.

October 3, 1963: MAGAZINE OF HORROR, Nov. 50¢, 130 pages, Digest, Bi-Monthly.

October 10, 1963: GALAXY, Dec., 50¢, 194 pages, Digest, Bi-Monthly.

October 10, 1963: AMAZING STORIES, Nov., 50¢, 130 pages, Digest, Monthly.

October 10, 1963: ANALOG, Nov., 50¢, 96 pages, Large/Size, Monthly.

October 15, 1963: WORLDS OF TOMORROW, Dec., 50¢, 162 pages, digest, Bi-Monthly.

October 24, 1963: FANTASTIC, Nov., 50¢, 130 pages, Digest, Monthly.

Seven science/fantasy magazines came out in the United States during October 1963 costing a total of \$3.40 and containing 972 pages (876 pulp-size and 96 large-size).

No Monster Magazines came out in October

DID YOU MOVE? DID YOU TELL US? We cannot send you Science - Fiction Times unless we know where you are. About a 6 weeks notice would be appreciated — But TELL US! —publisher

● PAPERBACK NEWS

by A. Silverberg

SCIENCE/FANTASY PAPERBACKS COMING OUT IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 1963

* First time in paperback.

ACE BOOKS: November 1963:

WHEN THE SLEEPER AWAKES by H. G. Wells, reissue, 40¢.

STARBRIDGE by Williamson & Gunn, reissue, 40¢.

THE RITES OF ONE, and CASTAWAY'S WORLD, both by John Brunner (both in one volume) 40¢*.

LORD OF THUNDER by Andre Norton, reprint, 40¢*.

BACK TO THE STONE AGE by Edgar Rice Burroughs, 40¢*.

METROPOLIS (from which the movie was made) by Thea Von Harbon, reprint, 40¢*.

December: Unannounced.

AIRMONT: November: (no books).

December: INVADERS FROM RIGEL 1 by Wallace West, reprint, 40¢*.

AVON: November 1963:

(correction) PILGRIMAGE, The Story of The People, by Zenna Henderson, reprint, 50¢ (prob.)*.

December 1963:

FUZZY SAPIENS, sequel to LITTLE FUZZY, original novel by H. Beam Piper, 50¢ (prob.)*.

BANTAM: November 1963:

THE SENTINEL STARS by Louis Charbonneau, novel, 40¢*.

December 1963: (no Books).

BERKLEY: November 1963:

S-F OMNIBUS, edited by Conklin, reissue, 50¢.

December 1963:

THE MILE LONG SPACE SHIP; orig. collection, by Kate Wilhelm, 50¢*.

LANCER: November 1963:

GREAT S-F ADVENTURES, original an-

thology from the American magazine, S-F Adventures, edited by Larry Shaw, 60¢*.

December 1963:

THE DUNWICH HORROR (Part 1 or 2) by H. P. Lovecraft with Derleth*.

MONARCH: November 1963:

DOOMSDAY WING by George O. Smith, 35¢, orig. novel (Title may be changed)*

December 1963:

THE MARELIN PLAGUE, novel of science/fantasy, orig. by A. Bertram Chandler 35¢*.

MACFADDEN: November 1963: No books (according to them).

December 1963:

VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, reprint, the classic by Van Vogt, 50¢.

PAPERBACK LIBRARY: November 1963:

IMPACT 20, original collection by William Nolan, 50¢*.

December 1963:

AFTER WORLDS COLLIDE, reprint by Wylie & Baumer, 50¢*.

PYRAMID BOOKS: November 1963:

RAIDERS FROM THE RINGS, reprint novel by Alan Nourse, 40¢*.

MAN OF TWO WORLDS (original title: "Renaissance") reprint, novel by Ray Jones 40¢*.

December 1963:

SKYLARK OF VALERON, 3rd in Skylark series, reprint novel by E.E. Smith, PhD. 40¢*.

SWORDS AND SORCERY (highly recommended) 50¢, anthology of Conan type stories, edited by L. Sprague de Camp, with interior illos by Finlay*.

SIGNET: November 1963:

PUPPET MASTERS, reissue of Heinlein's early novel, 50¢.

December 1963:

STARSHIP TROOPER, reissue of Heinlein's last "Great" novel (in my opinion) 50¢.

NOTES TO THE PUBLISHERS:

Ballantine, which is not listed this month, has relinquished its place as leading publisher of s-f in paperback to Ace & Pyramid. ((Editorial Note: Ballantine is putting out the second print-

ing of the first 10 Tarzan novels in November of 1963)). Pyramid for December has two great books, buy them. Any publisher not listed (a) has no books coming out in this period, or (b) withheld information from me. I will not list the monster books or horror books coming out.

Apologies to James Blish; the error was a typo, and not conscious on my part. I hope to see you in Oakland, Calif. How about you out there?

Last minute item: Lancer is negotiating for an 80,000 word novel by Philip K. Dick.

ADVERTISE IN "SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES" and get the most for your money. \$10 a full page, \$6 a half-page. Classified ads 2¢ per word, or 1¢ per word for s-f fan clubs or s-f fan mags. Try It and see!!

NEW LOGOS FOR "AMAZING" & "FANTASTIC" LESTER DEL REY TO TAKE OVER BOOK REVIEWS

Starting with the January issues of the Ziff Davis twin science/fantasy magazines, Amazing Stories and Fantastic, they will have new, modern logos. We asked editor Cele Goldsmith the reason for this change and were told it was part of the general plan to keep the magazines always improved and always modern. New interior cuts for the departments are also in the works.

Lester del Rey will take over the Book Review column starting with the March 1964 issue of Amazing Stories. With his vast connection with the field this should be a big improvement.

ALDOUS HUXLEY DIES AT 69

Novelist Aldous Huxley, well-known in science-fiction circles for his famous "Brave New Worlds", died on Friday, November 22, 1963, of Cancer. He was 69 years old.

C. S. LEWIS DEAD AT 64

C. S. Lewis, literary historian and s-f writer, died at his home in Headington, Oxford, England, November 22, 1963, at the age of 64. "Out of the Silent Planet" published in 1938 was almost a classic.

THE COSMIC REPORTER Continued from page 2

will be notified individually regarding this new project and all manuscripts should be sent to my home address; 17 Burwash Road, Plumstead, London. S.E.18, England, for the time being.

"At this early stage it is not possible to reveal my plans publicly but as far as the authors are concerned, the new project will give them many additional advantages as well as increased revenue.

"Unfortunately, from the point of view of new writers, unless they are already proficient in the art of story writing, it will be far more difficult for them to have stories accepted in the new series but, as in the past, I will continue to help those who show promise."

"MAGAZINE OF HORROR" DELAYED BY PRINTER

by Robert A. W. Lowndes

Events made a fabricator of me barely a fortnight after my last letter, but too late to get a change of copy out to you. We're still having difficulty with our printers, so the third issue of Magazine of Horror is dated February, 1964; and the fourth will have to be dated May 1964. We still want and hope to make this book a bi-monthly, but a July 1964 issue is something I'd better not predict yet.

Meanwhile, here's the lineup for the third issue: "The Seeds of Death" by David H. Keller; "Lucella Miller" by Mary Wilkins-Freeman; "The Place of The Pythona" by Arthur J. Burks; "The Repairer of Reputations" by Robert W. Chambers; "The Door" by Rachel Cosgrove Payes; "One Summer Night" by Ambrose Bierce; "They That Wait" by H. W. Chibbett; "A Vision of Judgement" by H. G. Wells; "The Seeking Thing" by Janet Hirsch; and "Jean Bouchon" by S. Baring-Gould.

The introduction takes up a ques-

Please turn to page 12

PAPERBACK REPORT

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

OCTOBER 1963

TARZAN AND THE LOST EMPIRE by Edgar Rice Burroughs, F777, 50¢, 159 pages, Ballantine Books (Authorized Edition).

THE CHESSMEN OF MARS by Edgar Rice Burroughs, F776, 50¢, 220 pages, Ballantine Books (Authorized Edition).

A LIFE FOR THE STARS by James Blish H-107, 45¢, 143 pages, Avon Books.

FEAR AND TREMBLING, edited by Alfred Hitchcock, 2495, 50¢, 192 pages, Dell Books.

SKYLARK THREE by E. E. Smith, F-924 40¢, 207 pages, Pyramid Books.

THE FURY FROM EARTH by Dean MacLanghlin, F-923, 40¢, 192 pages, Pyramid Books.

THE PERFECT PLANET by Evelyn E. Smith, 72-679, 50¢, 144 pages, Lancer Books.

ESCAPE TO EARTH; edited by Ivan Howard, L92-571, 50¢, 173 pages, Belmont Books.

TALES OF THE FRIGHTENED, edited by Michael Avallone, 90-297, 40¢, 128 pages Belmont Books.

ANTHEM by Ayn Rand, DL985, 50¢, 123 pages, Signet Books.

DOOMSDAY WING by George H. Smith, 388, 35¢, 124 pages, Monarch Books.

THE HAMELIN PLAGUE by H. Bertram Chandler, 390, 35¢, 126 pages, Monarch Books.

GREAT SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES; edited by Larry T. Shaw, 72-697, 50¢, 174 pages, Lancer Books.

THE DREAMERS by Roger Manwell, F2597 50¢, 165 pages, Bantam Books.

THEY WALKED LIKE MEN by Clifford D. Simak, 50-184, 50¢, 176 pages, Macfadden Books.

THE RITES OF ONE by John Brumer, 129 pages, plus CASTAWAYS WORLD by John Brumer, (both in one volume) 127 pages, F-242, 40¢, Ace.

THE SENTINEL STARS by Louis Charbonneau, J2686, 40¢, 156 pages, Bantam Bks.

STAR BRIDGE by Jack Williamson and

James E. Gunn, F-241, 40¢, 255 pages, Ace.


LORD OF THUNDER by Andre Norton, F-243, 40¢, 174 pages, Ace.

METROPOLIS by Thea Von Harbou, F-246 40¢, 222 pages, Ace.

BACK TO THE STONE AGE by Edgar Rice Burroughs, F-245, 40¢, 221 pages, Ace.

During the month of October, 21 paperbacks came out, costing \$9.25, and containing 3,730 pages.

ADDED PAPERBACK NOTES: This is not science-fiction, but a good number of s-f readers started out reading The Shadow Magazine in the early 30's. After over a 20 year run the magazine folded when Street & Smith dropped all their pulps, but Astounding Science Fiction in the early 50's. The early Shadow novels, and some of the others in the later years were written by Walter B. Gibson, under the pen-name of Maxwell Grant. In October, Belmont Books issues a paperback of a new Shadow novel, "RETURN OF THE SHADOW" by Walter B. Gibson, that has all the charm and personality of the better Shadow novels. Shadow fans of old will love this new novel; those who have never read one, will find this one most enjoyable. We recommend it highly. THE RETURN OF THE SHADOW by Walter B. Gibson, 90-298, 40¢, 141 pages, Belmont Books. Walter B. Gibson edited the only two issues of Fantastic Science Fiction in the mid-50's, a large-size s-f magazine. —Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

 SCIENCE FICTION FORECASTS
Coming Up Next In The Pros

IF - March 1964

Novellettes: IN SATURN'S RINGS by Robert F. Young, and THE CITY THAT GREW IN THE SEA by Keith Laumer. Short Stories:—GUARDIAN by Jerome Bixby, ALMOST EDEN by Jo Friday, and WHAT CROUCH DID by Jesse Friedlander. Serial: (Conclusion) THREE WORLDS TO CONQUER by Poul Anderson. Special Features: MIRACLE ON MICHIGAN (editorial), HOW TO HAVE A HIROSHIMA by Theodore Sturgeon, and HUE AND CRY by The Readers. Cover will illustrate "Guardian".

Novelet: LAST ORDER by Gordon Walters.
Short Stories: MINNESOTA GOTHIC by Dobbin Thorpe, THE WORD OF UNBINDING by Ursula K. LaGuin, and A THESIS ON SOCIAL FORMS & SOCIAL CONTROLS IN THE U.S.A. by Thomas M. Disch. Serial: (First of Two Parts) THE LORDS OF QUARMALL by Fritz Leiber and Harry Fischer. Features: EDITORIAL and FANTASY BOOKS. Cover by Emsh, "The Lord of Quarmall".

WORLDS OF TOMORROW - February 1964

Complete Short Novel: LORD OF THE UFFTS by Murray Leinster. Novelettes: ALPHA, BETA, LOVE by Bill Doede, and LITTLE DOG GONE by Robert F. Young. Short Stories: WHEN THE STARS ANSWER by T. K. Brown III THE TRANSCENDENT TIGERS by R. A. Lafferty. Special Articles: THE PROVENANCE OF SWIFT by Lyle G. Boyd - We know that no Martian has ever passed as a man on the Earth. Question is, do Martians know it? and A MESSAGE FROM LOKI by James Blish. Features: EDITORIAL by Frederik Pohl. Cover by McKenna, from "When The Stars Answer."

THE COSMIC REPORTER
Continued from page 10

tion from Dr. Keller on the distinction between the horror story and the terror story -- a question to which readers are invited to contribute; and we have instituted a letter department, which will be handled much in the manner of the old "Eyrie" in Weird Tales (relevant excerpts, rather than full letters) and is being kept short. In future issues, the appearance of the letter department will depend upon material available and space; we will not crowd out a story in order to get correspondence in, and we won't run correspondence just for the sake of having letters. For the most part, I think, the readers' role, rather than space problems, will be the deciding factor. Many helpful letters to the editor - helpful because they list stories in order of preference, but do not say much more -- aren't really suitable for the department; we intend to report to the readers on the five best-liked

stories in each issue, but lists do not make very generally interesting reading, and we feel that this is what those readers who did not want to see a letter department at all objected to.

We are keeping careful lists of all stories suggested to us for reprints, along with the reader's name and address, so that the first one who suggests a story that we can use will be thanked publicly and receive a complimentary copy of the issue containing the story. Meanwhile, we hope those who are as impatient as we are (and no reader could be more impatient) with the delays will bear with us.

"SCIENCE FICTION STORIES" ABOUT READY

Latest news of Science Fiction Stories is that it is now completely illustrated and mimeographed. The photo-offset cover and back covers are at our Syracuse - offset printing plant and should arrive in New York in about a week. The Publisher, James V. Taurasi, Sr., estimates that it should be in the mails just before Christmas.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

2¢ per word (1¢ per word on Fan Mags and Fan Clubs)

WANTED

WANTED: The following fanzines in fine condition: CENTAUR #1; FANTASY COMMENTATOR #1, all issues of Volume 2; MACABRE (Brennan's) #1, THE GHOST #1,4,5; READER AND COLLECTOR, most; ERBANIA #1; LEAVES, any; XERO #1-7; GOLDEN ATOM #1-8. All quotes appreciated. Glenn Lord, Box 775, Pasadena, Texas 77501.

FOR SALE

The 4th issue of THE HOWARD COLLECTOR, a deluxe printed journal devoted to Robert E. Howard, is now ready. It contains a new memoir by Tevis Clyde Smith; two stories and two poems by Howard; etc. Very limited printing; 60¢ each. Glenn Lord Box 755, Pasadena, Texas 77501.

A few copies of our first issue of SCIENCE FICTION STORIES is still available, at 50¢ per copy. 50 pages, mimeographed with photo-offset cover. Second issue - out soon, 50¢. James V. Taurasi, Sr.; 119-46 27th Avenue, College Point 54, NY. ADVERTISE IN "SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES"!!!!

● THOMAS S. GARDNER DEAD AT 55

WAS A SCIENCE-FICTION FAN AND AUTHOR
WHO BECAME A SCIENTIST

INVENTED ANTI-TB DRUG, SYNTHESIZED VITAMIN B - CREATED PSYCHO ENERGIZER DRUGS -
ADVANCED SCIENCE OF LONGEVITY

by S A M M O S K O W I T Z
(Special to Science-Fiction Times)

THOMAS SAMUEL GARDNER, PH.D., 55, died November 11, 1963 at his home, 155 Jackson Avenue, Rutherford, New Jersey, as the culmination of a long illness and shock. A research chemist at Hoffmann-La Roche Laboratories in Nutley, New Jersey, he first began to develop physical symptoms of chemical poisoning more than six years ago which were only recently correctly diagnosed. Last Spring, chemicals he was working on in the laboratory blew up knocking him unconscious and resulting in severe burns and bruises. He never completely snapped back from that accident.

Dr. Gardner first became prominent in the science-fiction world as the author of "The Last Woman" published in the April, 1932 issue of Wonder Stories. This story dealt with one aspect of longevity, a study which was to become a lifetime obsession of the author. It was republished in the anthology "From Off This World" edited by Leo Margulies and Oscar J. Friend in 1949.

The same magazine printed in its April 1935 issue "The Insect World" which was noteworthy because it gave a view of the earth as seen by a completely alien race with different motivations and values. A sequel, "World of Singing Crystals" gained the cover of the March, 1936 Wonder Stories, while a third story in the series "In The Days Of The Giants" appeared in the April-May-June, 1941 Cosmic Tales, an amateur fiction publication issued by James V. Taurasi.

Other science-fiction by Dr. Gard-

ner also appeared in Science Fiction, Comet, Uncanny Tales and the British Tales of Wonder reprinted "The Insect World" in its Autumn, 1941 issue.

Dr. Gardner first began reading science-fiction in Science and Invention in 1923. Up until a few years before his death he bought and read every story in every science-fiction magazine published both here and abroad, as well as all original material in hard cover and soft cover books. This comprehensive range of reading superbly qualified him to do an annual review of the science-fiction magazines each year for Science-Fiction Times which he did from 1947 to 1957 inclusive.

When Hugo Gernsback started the first science-fiction magazine Amazing Stories in 1926, he expressed the hope that young men would be inspired to go on and take up a scientific career as a

result of reading science-fiction. He was frequently scoffed as for entertaining this notion, but Thomas S. Gardner was an important affirmation of his contention. A novelette by David H. Keller, M.D., "The Boneless Horror" (Science Wonder Stories, July 1929) suggested Queen's Bee Royal Jelly as a food that might greatly prolong life. The idea fascinated Gardner so that he determined to get a scientific education and specialize in the field of gerontology or longevity.

Born in Kingsport, Tenn., he enrolled in the Tennessee State Teachers College, receiving his B.S. there in 1931. He obtained his Masters from the same school in 1936 and finally his PH.D. in 1947 from Ohio State University, and did Post-Graduate work at MIT. He worked his way through college; a favorite mode of employment being dishwashing because it usually meant he got his meals free. At the time of his death he had been attending special courses for years and lacked only five points of obtaining a degree as a Doctor of Medicine.

He worked for a period as a research chemist at The Tennessee Eastman Corp., Kingsport, Tenn. and while there his scientific papers began to attract attention. Research results on plastics research appeared in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, The Journal of Polymer Science and The Journal of Chemical Physics. He was a duPont Post-Doctoral Fellow in Cellulose. During this same period his article on the use of Sodium Thiocyanate and Yeast Nucleic Acid in extending the lifespan of white mice appeared in the October 1946 issue of The Journal of Gerontology, then only a year old. Ignored at the time, but nevertheless of interest to science-fiction readers were his articles on rocket fuels. Gardner was a charter member of The American Interplanetary Society in 1930. His first important technical article on the subject in the July, 1942 Journal of The Tennessee Academy of Science, titled "The Rating of Rocket Fuels. It mathematically accomplished just that by utilizing the heat capacities of the discharge gases. A second article in the series, published in The Journal of The American Rocket Society, may have

been the first post-atomic paper on the rating of rocket fuels using atomic energy as a primary heat source.

As a result of his unusual promise he was offered a post with The Hoffmann-La Roche, Inc., Clifton, New Jersey, as a research chemist in 1946. An internationally renowned pharmaceutical firm, Hoffmann-La Roche employs between 200 and 300 research chemists at all times.

Within a year he had developed a method for synthesizing folic acid or Vitamin B₁₂, then the most expensive vitamin to manufacture. His work reduced the cost of its manufacture immediately by 90%.

Teamed up with Dr. Gardner on most of his research was Edward Venis of Leonia, New Jersey. His name appears with Gardner on many technical papers as well as on a number of patent applications.

The two succeeded in duplicating synthetically a natural drug used in the treatment of bronchial asthma for centuries past by the Egyptians which was marketed under the trade-name of Knellin. They also were able to produce a soluble form of Vitamin K, which aids in the clotting of blood. However, they approached within a hair of lasting fame when they came up with the first important anti-tubercular drug in 1951, called Nicotinaldehyde Thiosemicarbazone. They obtained the first patents on this drug. A major story was set to break in The Saturday Evening Post, when another team in their own laboratory came up with an even better drug a few weeks later and theirs was pushed into the background.

However, the Gardner-Venis development is currently being used in Europe for it is effective on the TB strains that have developed resistance to other drugs. It is not presently in use in the United States because improper dosage can produce toxic side effects.

The Gardner-Venis drug in greatest use today is best known under the trade-name of Marplan. Gardner is credited with literally creating the field of psycho-energizer drugs of which Mayplan was their ultimate refinement. These drugs are given to patients who are depressed and to old people who are barely able to function mentally and physically. The drug not only greatly increases

their energy but dissipates depression. Experiments in the use of the drug on normal people results in the ability to do two or three times their daily work without tiring. The drug is unusual inasmuch as it has a half life of 30 to 40 days and its effect is continuous over a long period of time. Though no one has ever died from its usage, its perscription to normal people is strictly curtailed for fear of possible side effects.

Before he became ill, Dr. Gardner was considered the brightest star on Hoffmann-LaRoche's research lab team and was seriously considered for promotion to the top research spot. When the explosion occurred which is believed to have hastened his death, he was working on a compound related to the anti-TB drug he had made earlier. He was attempting to reproduce a substance made in France for testing purposes in the United States which was known to be experimentally dangerous.

The reason he was striving for a medical degree was to enable him to move completely in the field he loved the most, gerontology. He hoped to establish a foundation for research on aging and several times appeared to be on the verge of gaining the necessary funds. A scientific paper published in 1948 on the use of the ingredients found in large quantities in Queens Bee Royal Jelly to lengthen the life of fruit flies, an average 46.6% received widespread publicity in 1950-51 when with the aid of Edward Wenis he succeeded in more than doubling the life span of a guinea pig by feeding it diet supplements. A two-page feature article on the subject appeared in the July 23, 1950 issue of Parade, a newspaper Sunday Supplement; a second feature appeared in the same magazine on June 10, 1951. As early as 1947 The New York Daily Mirror had allotted a page to Queen's Bee Royal Jelly, the same year that Time Magazine covered the findings in its September 29th issue. A feature article on Gardner's aging experiments also appeared in the September 25, 1948 number of The Nation under the byline of New York physician Martin Gumpert. It was Gardner's hope that this publicity would aid him in creating interest for the estab-

lishment of a Gerontology Foundation.

Throughout all this effort Gardner's interest in science-fiction as a hobby never diminished. He was, for many years, a member of "The National Amateur Press Association". He served as Director of "The Eastern Science Fiction Association" for six months beginning on April 6, 1949 and was long an active member of the group. He contributed feature articles to the science-fiction fan magazines as early as 1934 when he was a "regular" of Fantasy Magazine and later of New Fandom, Fantasy-News, Spaceways, Cosmic Tales, Fantasy Commentator and many others. He was a member of the Convention Committee which presented The First World Science Fiction Convention in New York in 1939..

He leaves behind a widow Mrs. Blanche Leavitt Gardner; a daughter, Cecile; a sister and two brothers.

The End



BARSOOMIAN TIMES

edited by Herman Von Tokken

Ballantine Books, publishers of the Authorized Tarzan and Martian paperbacks of Edgar Rice Burroughs will devote their entire March 1964 list to the publication of the last ten Tarzan titles: TARZAN AT THE EARTH'S CORE, TARZAN THE INVINCIBLE, TARZAN TRIUMPHANT, TARZAN AND THE CITY OF GOLD, TARZAN AND THE LION MAN, TARZAN AND THE LEOPARD MEN, TARZAN'S QUEST, TARZAN AND THE FORBIDDEN CITY, TARZAN THE MAGNIFICENT, and TARZAN AND THE FOREIGN LEGION. Ballantine now has the first 12 Tarzan in print, the first ten of which have come out in second printing in November.

The Wall Street Journal of Monday, October 21, 1963 gave an excellent review of the Burroughs revival in the "Reading For Pleasure" column by Edmund Fuller, under the sub-title: "Return of Tarzan".

The first issue of Gold Key's Korak Son Of Tarzan comic came out in November dated January 1964, 12¢, 32 pages. Excellent cover. Two Korak stories, plus a non-Tarzan serial complete the issue.. The stories and art work is very good -- and well in keeping with the Burroughs books. Recommended.

RAY VAN HOUTEN DEAD AT 44

by James V. Taurasi, Sr.

"SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES" EDITOR'S ASSISTANT AND "SCIENCE FICTION STORIES" EDITOR
DIES OF BRAIN TUMOR - WAS 44 YEARS OLD IN OCTOBER

RAY VAN HOUTEN, associated with Science-Fiction Times since 1941 died in New York Hospital on Friday November 29, 1963 of a Brain Tumor. It all started about three months ago when he began sleeping at odd times without reason. After awhile it became more and more pronounced. He fell asleep while driving home from work 2 months ago and crashed into two cars. Fortunately no one was hurt. Then he fell asleep on the job and could not be awoken. After this he went to St. Joseph Hospital in Paterson. There they couldn't find what was wrong with him. Only a few weeks ago he was removed to New York Hospital for tests. The final test proved he had a Brain Tumor that could not be operated upon. A few days later he was dead.

Last March he informed us that he had plans to sell his home this Fall and probably buy a trailer and roam around the country at will. He had a great fondness for outdoor life. At that time plans were made for him to continue as editor of Science Fiction Stories, with Frank Prieto, Jr being promoted to Managing Editor. Ray was to pick the stories for publication, Frank was to arrange them for actual publication. Ray was to continue as Advisor to the Editor on Science-Fiction Times. He finished the editing of Science Fiction Stories shortly thereafter and turned it over to us for illustrations and publication.. All this has been done, and the cover is now in Syracuse being photo-offset. We expect to have Ray's last fan effort

in the mails in about two weeks. Who the next editor of Science Fiction Stories will be has not been decided on at this time.

Ray started reading science-fiction in the very early '30's and by 1936 was in charge of the SFAA (Science Fiction Advancement Association). This he fused into New Fandom in 1938 to give it a firm base of members. He was on the committee that produced the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939 for New Fandom. He was a writer for our weekly Fantasy-News at that time. He also published fan James Blish's short novel in a fan magazine for The First World Science Fiction Convention. At that time he was well-known thruout fandom for his paper, "Van Houten Says" which was well quoted around fandom at that time and satired upon. Kornbluth in rebuttal once wrote a short article titled "Van Kornbluth Says". At that time Kornbluth was fighting New Fandom's presentation of the World Convention.

Early in World War II Ray was drafted into the United States Army and was given a "soft" job of driving a truck in New York City. He tired of this and asked for service overseas and received it. He ended up with a Sgt. rating. We met by accident in La Harve, France, and found we were working on the same floor in offices right across the hall from one another. Naturally we published the "Overseas Edition" of Fantasy-Times for 12 weeks (12 issues) until we were sent home. Ray, tho, had worked for

Fantasy-Times before he went overseas.

On return he became a full editor of Fantasy-Times and has worked with us on this and other amateur magazines ever since. Many of the ideas that made Fantasy/Science-Fiction Times twice a Hugo Winner were his. Numerous times when personal troubles prevented us from producing it, he took over and did the whole job himself. Highlights were the dropping of all pulp mags by Street & Smith except Astounding. He produced the Extra that scooped even some of New York's daily papers, and many other similar items.

He tried to get going what finally became annual Hugos long before the World Conventions started given them out, but the field refused to cooperate. His idea was to have a Board of Editors, Publishers, and Fans do the final deciding, but it was too sophisticated an idea for the field.

His greatest work for science-fiction came during the Korean War. As Director of the Fantasy Veteran's Association he mailed, during the whole time of the conflict, almost a million magazines, books and paperbacks to fans and readers of science-fiction in the Armed Forces Overseas. This he did almost completely by himself, while at the same time working on the Fanvet Annual Conventions, and doing a big share of work on Science-Fiction Times.

He edited the first Science Fiction Yearbook, and did a good share of work on the second edition.

The last amateur job he worked on was Science Fiction Stories. When we bought the title from Columbia Publications, he took over and produced two issues of the finest amateur fiction, the science-fiction field has seen.

He tried hard to be a science-fiction author and before the War sold a short to Planet Stories. This was reprinted in their "all-reprint" magazine after the war called Tops in Science Fiction. Numerous other shorts were "sold", but never published because the mags folded before they got around to it.

He tried hard to be a publisher and printer of science-fiction magazines, and/or paperbacks. He came close, but

because he wanted the whole say in editing and publishing the mag, he could not get backing. A few publishers showed great interest, but would not give him a free hand. He believed that Gernsback's ideas of science-fiction stories were the best in general, and refused offers to produce a s-f mag similar to that already being published. He stated numerous times to publishers that he refused to be just another "follow-the sheep" editor. He had ideas that were basically different from mags now being published, and given the chance, might have put new life into the field.

He studied printing under the G.I. Bill after coming home from overseas at the end of World War II, and became a first-class Pressman. He worked on many newspapers in the Paterson-Newark area.

He leaves a widow, Connie, two step-daughters, and a mother.

The End



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

by James V. Taurasi, Sr.

This issue is about three weeks late because of the sad events that happened this month. Twice I was all set to close the issue, and twice when the sad news hit, Frank Prieto and I decided to hold up the issue and include it. Some material we had planned for this issue, had to be left out, and will be in our next issue. We expect to have our next issue, January 1964, out by January 15, 1964.

One extremely sad event should be mentioned here briefly. The murder of our President, Mr. Kennedy. He has gone down in History as the President during who's term, the first American went into space thus fulfilling one dream of science-fiction — space travel. His placing the goal of a trip to the moon by 1970, was to me, also a dream come true. Newspapers, radio and TV have well covered the events of the tragedy, but I felt that the science-fiction aspect should be mentioned here.

It leaves us now only a small space to wish our readers, from the entire staff of Science-Fiction Times: A MOST

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SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES

"The World of Tomorrow Today!"

James V. Taurasi, Sr., editor & publisher

Frank R. Prieto, Jr., assistant editor

John Giunta, art editor

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ONHSO



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