

S-F Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

No 341

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FIRST JULY 1960 ISSUE

10¢

Swedish S-F News

SWEDISH EDITION OF
"GALAXY" TO FOLD

by Sture Sedolin

I 19 Army Camp, Boden, Sweden, 30 May - (CNS) - One more foreign edition of Galaxy Magazine is to fold. This time it's the Swedish one. It will fold with its 19th issue, out early in June 1960. Editor Henrik Rabe stated that the staff had been thinking of folding the magazine for some time, and now it happens that the third 196-page, bi-monthly issue will become the last one. The reason is the usual: science-fiction hasn't enough readers as yet in Sweden, and as the magazine couldn't pay for itself, they had to fold it.

The Swedish edition of Galaxy was started in September 1958, although it was scheduled for August 1958. It started as a monthly 132-page magazine, and remained monthly up to December 1959. Then it changed to a 196-page, bi-monthly schedule (see S-F Times #326). The change was in order to survive, but I think that most people here don't buy a magazine costing 70¢ when they can get a real "book" for only 40¢.

The contents of the Swedish Galaxy was mostly reprinted from the U.S. edition, but had also some Swedish originals, while also reprinting some "classical science-fiction".

The Swedish Galaxy was published by Illustrerare Klassike, publishers of the Swedish edition of Classics Illustrated. Editor Henrik Rabe will remain editor at the company, and will edit some other
(concluded on page 2, column 1)

SANTESSON LEAVES
GREAT AMERICAN

NEW YORK, 18 June, (CNS) - Hans Stefan Santesson left Great American Publications, Inc., on 15 June 1960. At the time he left, he was editor of The Saint Mystery Magazine. What apparently happened was that Great American's habit of folding mags right and left caught up with them and there wasn't enough work for Hans.

Hans went over to Great American when Great American bought out King-Size Publications, last year. Along with Hans went Fantastic Universe and The Saint Mystery Magazine. While GAP kept the Saint digest and monthly, they transformed Fantastic Universe from a bi-monthly digest to a lusty pulp-size monthly. But Fantastic Universe failed, not before Hans was "editing" the U.S. reprint edition of the British New Worlds. New Worlds also folded leaving Hans with only The Saint Mystery Magazine. While this was all going on Hans was also editing other GAP mags, but they were folding faster than new ones were being added. The last gasp of science-fiction at Great American was plans for a one-shot 50¢ pulp-size "Summer Science Fiction". Here speed was better, it folded before it reached the printers.

Hans became a science-fiction editor in 1956, when Leo Margulies left King-Size and started his own company. At that time Hans was conducting a book column for Fantastic Universe. He took-
(concluded on page 2, column 1)

SWEDISH "GALAXY" TO FOLD
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

mags for the firm.

This leaves Sweden with only one pro-magazine again, Hapna, now in it's 7th year. Hapna is still monthly, 100 pages and selling for S. Kr. 1:75 (35¢). Hapna recently reprinted the first part of James Blish's OKIE-series.

HANS SANTESSON LEAVES GREAT AMERICAN
(concluded from page 1, column 2)

over the editorship of the two King-Size mags, Fantastic Universe and The Saint.

CANADIAN SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

by Roger Dard

The issue of The Star Weekly, Toronto, Canada, for March 26, 1960 is of some interest to s-f fans. The lift-out novel in this issue is "Standstill Planet", by John Russell Fearn, 12 pages, full color cover illustration by Don Sinclair and a photo and biography of Fearn inside. The story is billed as "First Publication anywhere".

The regular magazine part of The Star Weekly for the same date, also contains an illustrated article, 4 pages, "Human Satellite Around The Sun", showing scenes from a recent Soviet movie, plus Soviet s-f art, in full color, drawn by one Andrei Sokolov.

SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

AMAZING SCIENCE FICTION STORIES
August 1960

Novelet: JACK OF NO TRADES by Charles Cottrell. Short Stories: FOR EVERY ACTION by Algis Budrys, FEE OF THE FRONTIER by H. B. Fyfe, THE HABIT by A. Bertram Chandler, GETTING REGULAR by David R. Bunch and MADE IN ARCHERUS by Neal Barrett, Jr. Plus Serial: OMEGA! by Robert Sheckley (1st of two parts).

FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION STORIES
August 1960

Novelet: THE WORLD-TIMER by Robert Bloch. Short Stories: RATS OF LIMBO by Fritz Leiber, THIS ONE'S ON ME by Eric Frank Russell, THE CRIME OF MR. SAUER by Arthur Porges, THE HOUSE by Frederic Brown, IMPRESSIONIST by Robert F. Young. Serial: THE CRISPIN AFFAIR by Jack Shark-ey (conclusion). Article: SHIEL & HEARD "The Neglected Thinkers of SF" by Sam Moskowitz.

BRITISH FORECASTS

SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES
No. 15 (July 1960)

Complete Short Novel: THE FIRST RETURN by Ian Wright. Novelette: THE DEDICATED ONES by Nelson Sherwood, Short Stories: ORIGINAL SINNER by Brian W. Aldiss, and MESSENGER BOY by Jim Harmon. Cover by Jarp.

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Dave Cohen, Box 4940, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

(Please mention you saw it in "Science-Fiction Times" when answering Ads)

JOIN THE PITTCON

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

Victoria, Australia
9 June

Dear Mr. Taurasi,

In No. 335 you ask readers their opinions on what the mags need. Here's my view.

1. SF has rejected literature, not vice-versa. cf. Conklin's review in GSF of THE BIG HUNGER in Wollheim's Prize SF for an example.

2. This is not necessarily bad but will be a disadvantage to fans wanting SF to become 'literary'.

3. Most plots are written out cf. New Frontiers 1 p. 10.

4. The highest ever circulation was that of FSM ie. reprints of STARTLING stories.

5. Conclusion: we need a return to the TYPE of story published in SS, TWS, PS '47-'53 and ASF '38-'49 (approx. dates only). The writing should be better, of course, but I think that is not as important as a return to SCIENCE-FANTASY q.v.

A correction to 335a: F&SF has been distributed fairly widely since March (limited from Jan.)

ASF from Jan. semi-limited.

Last FU widely distributed.

IF not sighted to this date.

SF Stories (limited extremely).

This is mainly to correct the statement that IF is distributed AT ALL in Melbourne, and if it isn't distributed here it's distribution is not general.

Thanks for an interesting magazine.

John M. Foyster

(It has often been said that a good s-f story may be somewhat badly written, but the best written story may be lousy s-f. In our opinion the science in the yarn should be the story. A good editor looks for a good science-fiction story well written. Many editors have told us that they can't get the stories they want, and must buy what they can get. -the editor)

Lee, Maine
May 26, 1960

Dear Timesers:

Fantasy seems to be doing better

than science-fiction in mainstream writing. McCall's just ran a Jack Finney story-characteristic Finney, too. Made-moiselle ran an excerpt from the new-critics', A Fine and Private Place - a Bronx cemetery goes Village, with two beat ghosts, a recluse who likes to live in mausoleums; and a raven you feel you know like a brother.

I feel that there is a certain amount of fallacy to this idea that fantasy-humor won't sell, just because so many zines fail, they slant too hard to one thing. Fantasy or poetry should be dabbed in for variety, not run solid - not because people don't like it, but because a good fantasy story has overtones and aftertones you want to savor, whereas a lot at once, especially if too similar are like mince pie on top of mince pie for three meals a day - it would stop being enjoyable. Yes?

Alma Hill

(Too much of anything will spoil it, but in our opinion, a science-fiction magazine is no place for a fantasy or weird yarn or poetry. The two just don't mix. No one can say that Unknown wasn't one of the finest mags of fantasy published; yet it didn't sell enough copies to stay alive, and the same has been true of all fantasy-weirds in this country. It is hard enough to sell science-fiction, and the only way to sell fantasy is to include science-fiction in the same mag. AND as we stated above, this should not be done. We buy a s-f mag to read only s-f, not fantasy and/or weird. But do not get us wrong, we like good fantasy and weird, but not in a s-f mag. What to do?

-the editors)

Manchester, Conn.
April 29, 1960

Dear Mister Taurasi:

In reference to your request for info about improving S-F I say this to would-be writers: get to know some science very well then learn the language of several others as well. I'm in the process of learning the science of electric accounting machines and their applications, specifically the I.B.M. method.

My source of information for this is the poem by Isaac Asimov entitled "The

Foundation of Science Fiction Success". I think anyone that follows that advice will get to be a known writer faster than he would if he experiments.

I hope this letter helps someone and if you can use it go right ahead.

yours,
Greff B. Schuyler

(It takes more than just good s-f to improve the situation. While it is true that many s-f editors are having a very hard job getting passable s-f today, that is only one phase of the trouble. Illustrations, covers and departments are in bad shape, but worse of all is that you cannot get your mag on the stands. How do you get good material to the readers if some distributors and some newsstand owners will not handle anything that doesn't sell a "million" copies. -the editors)

PERTH, Western Australia
June 18, 1960

Dear Jimmy:

Somewhat belatedly (due to my having been ill most of this year), I'd like to disassociate myself from my colleague Graham Stone's somewhat patronizing remarks concerning the Ziff-Davis magazines entering Australia first, upon the lifting of the restrictions. Graham said that the lifting of the restrictions had been somewhat spoiled by the fact that the first magazines to arrive here were FANTASTIC and AMAZING.

Far from feeling that their prompt arrival here upon the lifting of the embargo spoiled the effect, I feel that it was fitting that the Ziff-Davis magazines were the first upon the Aussie market! There are two reasons for saying this: (1) my own unofficial popularity poll conducted among Australian fans shows that the Ziff-Davis magazines rate highest of all the prozines. The reason is, I believe, that Z-D are striking a happy medium between the extremes of juvenile hack work in the lesser magazines, and the philosophical mumbo-jumbo of magazines like Astounding (sorry! I mean ANALOG), and GALAXY. (2) During the period when American magazines were cut off from the Australian market, and at a time when it was not always easy to even get a direct mail subscrip-

tion, Ziff-Davis could always be relied upon to iron out difficulties of subscription, or subscription errors which cropped up. A letter written to Ziff-Davis always gets a quick, courteous, airmail reply. To a Stateside fan, there may be nothing remarkable in that, but to a fan isolated by thousands of miles from New York City and other publishing centers, it is most important. Other publishers are not so considerate to their overseas readers! It is impossible to get a reply from MAD, and on one occasion, it took me over 12 months of constant letter writing, to wring a reluctant reply from GALAXY concerning a loused-up subscription. So as one grateful reader and subscriber to both FANTASTIC and AMAZING, I say more power to the boys and girls at Ziff-Davis!

If you have the space to print this letter, Jimmy, I'd like to mention that having been ill for so long I have not been able to attend to my correspondence, so if anybody has not had a reply to their letters--whether personal letters, or concerned with Science-Fiction Times business -- would they please accept my apologies, and rest assured that their letters are now being attended to.

Yours,
Roger Dard

(Sorry to hear of your illness, Roger, We hope that you are 100% well now. We are keeping our eyes on the Z-D twins, they have showed remarkable improvements since Miss Goldsmith became full editor. And more improvements are on the way. We are very pleased to see U.S. mags again allowed in Australia. Let's hope that before long all mags will be allowed to appear wherever the publishers want them to. -the editors)

THE DARD COLUMN

by Roger Dard

Fans of MAD magazine's Jack Davis, may be interested to know that Davis illustrated a pocket book western for Avon Publications a couple of years ago. This book, "Yucca City Outlaw" by William Hopson has plenty of typical Davis illos running through it. It's a fairly off-

beat western story, too.

Fantastic, Amazing, Galaxy, and Fantast-
ic Universe now sell on all Australian
newsstands. A few copies of MAD have
appeared too, but not consistently so,
whereas the first named magazines ap-
pear regularly.

The daughter of Eric Frank Russell, (pop-
ular British author), Mrs. Colin Met-
calfe, is now residing in Western Aus-
tralia. Mrs. Metcalfe, and her husband,
live in Melville, about 10 miles from
Perth.

AT PRESS TIME -- S-F FORECASTS

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION September 1960

THE WORD TO SPACE by Winston P. Sanders;
A DAY IN THE SUBURBS by Evelyn E. Smith;
GOODBYE (short novelet) by Burton Raffel,
BUTTON, BUTTON by Gordon R. Dickson, THE
MAN ON TOP by R. Bretnor, Science: TOOLS
OF THE TRADE by Isaac Asimov, Books:
WALDEN TWO by Damon Knight, THE NRACP
(novelet) by George P. Elliott, TWO IN
HOMAGE by Kit Reed, and DOCTOR ROYKER'S
EXPERIMENT by Joseph Whitehill. Cover
by EMSH "The Word To Space".

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THE PITTCON

by Lane Stannard

THE PITTCON, the 18th World Science Fic-
tion Convention, will be held September
3, 4 & 5, 1960 at the PENN-SHERATON HO-
TEL, Pittsburgh, Pa. It is a must for
all readers, professionals and fans of
science-fiction. James Blish is the
Guest Of Honor this year, and he will
speak on "A Question of Content" at the
Banquet, Sunday night. The first Fan
Art Exhibit will be held at this Conven-
tion by a group headed by Bjo Wells.
Lynn Hickman will moderate a fanzine ed-
itors' panel. Philip Jose Farmer will
ask "Is The Science Fiction Fan a Victor-
ian?". Don Ford, current Transatlantic
Fan Fund (TAFF) representative, will re-
port on his trip to Britain's Easter
Convention. Hal Clement will be another
Pittcon Speaker -- subject still to be
announced. Another Pittcon "first": there
will be an Information Center, next door
to the Display Room, where you will be
able to get answers to your questions
about Pittsburgh, the Convention, chang-
es in the program, special meetings, and
all the things you never can find out --
until too late. One of the highlights
will be the Masquerade. There will be
six classes for which there will be
prizes. 1- Most Beautiful costume, 2-
Most Humorous, 3- Most original, 4- Most
monstrous, 5- Most bizarre, and 6- Best
group. There will be two meals served
at the Banquet. Beef A La Mode Jardiniere
at \$5.40, or Half Broiled Chicken, Maitre
D'Hotel at \$4.85. Along with either
main dish comes: Coupe Fresh Fruit, Split
Pea Soup, Au Gratin Potatoes, French-
Green Beans, Hearts of Lettuce, Sliced
Tomato, Roquefort Dressing, Royal Ha-
waiian Coconut Pie, Rolls and Butter, and
Beverage. Prices includes tip and tax.
Registration Fee is only \$2.00. This \$2
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