Vol. 16 - No. kl FIRST JUNE 1961 ISSUE

(#363) TEN CENTS

ACE DOUBLE SCIENCE FIGTION POCKET BOOKS GO TO 40¢

NEW YORK, 29 May, (CNS) - It was announced today that the famous Ace Science-Fiction Double volumes will increase in price from 35ϕ to 40ϕ starting with the July releases.

At this time no other changes are planned for this excellent series of science-fiction pocket-books, ably edited by long-time fan and editor Donald A. Wollheim.

THE COSMIC REPORTER by J. Harry Vincent

A profile on Ray Bradbury will appear in the October 1961 issue of Amazing Stories. It is written, as all these profiles are, by Sam Moskowitz. Sam's articles of this type are regarded as the classic example of what science-fiction articles should be like. We're all for them.

The September 1961 issue of Fantastic will present "Ship of Darkness" by A. E. van Vogt. This is one of their "classic reprints" from a small distribution source. This first appeared in Crawford's Fantasy Book in 1947, which had a very, very small newsstand distri-

(continued on page 2, column 2)

A Science-Fiction Times Review: .

ATLANTIS: THE LOST CONTINENT by Walt Cole

George Pal, who has a reputation of producing outstanding science-fiction films, has just had his latest film, Atlantis, The Lost Continent released.

In the science-fiction film field, there are just two men that have produced outstanding s-f films. One is Walt Disney and the other George Pal. Disney usually has a message that stands out like a sore thumb in his films while Pal has his message, if any, hidden deep in the plot of his films. In George Pal has a message that stands out too much. It is a warning to dictators that they never win. In this George Pal production, the people of Atlantis blindly follow the wishes of a dictatorial prime minister who wants to conquer the world and destroy all people except the Atlanteans. In this aspect, the Atlanteans scientists develop a giant crystal weapon; a weapon that shoots heat rays.

There are two central characters in Atlantis; Demetrios (a young Greek fisherman played by Anthony Hall) and the girl he loves Antilla (the beautiful Atlantean princess played by Joyce Taylor) and the story develops around these two. Unfortunately, there isn't much of a plot in this film since the story of Atlantis is so well known that the ending is obvious from the beginning. George Pal had just developed his own version.

We went to see Atlantis in the expectation that it would have been anoth-

er of George Pal's masterpiece of production. We were very disappointed after the ending of the film in which Pal had Atlantis and its population destroyed. Saved, of course were Demetrios and Antilla. Perhaps we expected too much. After all, George Pal is only human and to date his productions have been outstanding. Atlantis is not straight science-fiction and with the exception of the last film of his, The Time Machine, his plots did not develop from one or two characters. We will say, though, that the special effects of Atlantis outdistance the plot and is the highlight of the film.

We don't think Atlantis will be as big a hit as The Time Machine and it is doubtful that i t would be a film that will be a big money film. It is a short film, lasting an hour and a half, and we think that it will have a short run. The film opened on a Friday in the Capital Theatre in New York at the price of \$2.00 a head, which is over-priced. saw the film the day after it opened and we found the theatre half-empty. For all its faults, it still is better than a large percentage of films that have already been released during this first half of 1961; but we think that when the votes come in at the 1962 World Science-Fiction Convention, Atlantis will not even be mentioned.

SCIENCE-FICTION BOOKS by Stephen J. Takacs

NEW SCIENCE/FANTASY BOOKS RECEIVED:

MELMOTH THE WANDERER by Charles R: Maturin, Univ. of Nebraska Press, \$2.40, May 8, 1961.

MAN & THE MOON by R. S. Richardson and Chrles Bonestell, World Pub. Co.,-\$6.50, May 19, 1961.

SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS Coming Up Next In The Pros

AMAZING STORIES - August 1961:

Short Stories: THE HIGHEST FORM OF LIFE,

by John Jakes, THE GREAT IMPLICATION by Stanley R. Lee, THE SURVIVORS by T. D. Harm, Vignette: THE LEGACY by Dick Hank. Serial: T.H E MAN WHO HAD NO BRAINS by Jeff Sutton (Part on e of two parts). Features: EDITORIAL, THE SPECTROSCOPE, and ... OR SO THEY SAY. Cover by Ed Emshwiller.

FANTASTIC - August 1961:

Novelets: GOODBY, ATLANTIS by Poul Anderson, STRANGER IN PARADOXby Keith Laumer, and PASSAGE TO MALISH by Theodore L. Thomas. Short Stories: THE ROOT OF AMPOI by Clark Ashton Smith, ONE SMALL DRAWBACK by Jack Sharkey, REPORT ON THE MAGIC SHOP by Arthur Porges, and POLICEMAN'S LOT by Henry Slesar. Features: EDITORIAL and ACCORDING TO YOU.

THE COSMIC REPORTER (continued from page 1, column 1)

bution. If I remember right, only two or three stands in New York City had copies on sale, and these were months late.

This story has a very interesting publishing history. Rights for it were sold to Standard, but before it was published the Standard s-f magazines folded. Later Satellite bought it, and it never reached print there for the same reason. Sam Moskowitz picked it and does the introduction to it.

Farmer has sold his first story to Amazing Stories. Unlike some of his other works it is not a "sex" story, but I understand it is an outstanding one.

The July 1961 issue of Ray Palmer's Flying Saucers carries the correct Statement of ownership, circulation, etc. It states that circulation is approx.28,100 almost as much as Search. Which again we say Not Bad since the print order, we understand, is a little over 30,000. In the last issue, an old "statement" was published, and to top if off, it was for Search of 1960 and updated. It did not contain a circulation figure as none was required then.

Ray Palmer, who now prints his own mags, via offset, is improving with every issue, but why such large type?

NEW YORK, 31 May, (CNS) - Hans Santesson former editor of Fantastic Universe and the U.S. Edition of New Worlds, will have the first revival issue of The Saint Mystery Magazine out on United States stands July 13, 1961. It will be dated September 1961, digest-size, 128 pages, 35¢ and be volume 15, Number 1. It will be published monthly by Sales Publications, 320 5th Ave, New York 1, New York. All material for the magazine should be sent to Hans Stefan Santesson; 489 5th Avenue (Rm 623), New York 17, New York,

The Saint was one of the magazines that folded when Great American Publishing Co., went out of business. Leslie Charteris, creator of "The Saint" was, and still is the owner of The Saint Mag-He had only leased it to Great American. (Actually the last issue Great American published last year was without the permission of Mr. Charteris.) Now.a new American publisher has been found and the magazine has been leased to them. Leslie Charteris, was and still is the Editorial Director of the magazine.

An unusual factor of this magazine is the fact that at the time Great American folded, i t had a British edition While a new American publisher going. was being found, the British edition continued with only a very short gap: Hans Santesson is editor of both. Somew stories were being bought and used in the British edition by Hans while the U. S. publisher was being linned up. So the results is that some of the stories in the American edition may have already appeared in the British edition.

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION will celebrate its 12th Anniversary with one of their All-Star Specials. This will be the October 1961 issue. Same pages, same price, but Bob Mills is now collecting top-notch stories by the top authors of the field. Bonestell has done the cover.

NEW YORK, 5 June, (CNS) - It was announced today that Galaxy Novel, published by Robert Guinn (who is also the publisher of Galaxy Magazine and If) has folded. One more book will be out shortly: "Sin In Space" by Cyril Judd. The current one is "The Male Response", an original by Brian Aldiss, This is Beacon #305.

When Galaxy Novel first appeared, at the same time Galaxy Science Fiction did, it was digest-size. Later Bob Guinn tried pocket-book size. and still later he hooked with Beacon. Beacon took over the distribution and secmily advised the "sex" policy for this series. Sexy science-fiction, at this time appearantly didn't work, but actually more than that is involved. Bob Guinn could never give the novel the real pocket-book distribution it needed.

Reason for discontinuance: the usual - "Lack of Sales".

"SPACE WORLD" NOW A MONTHLY

Willy Ley's "Newsletter" To Be Published Bi-Weekly.

NEW YORK, 9 June, (CNS) - Even tho the current (August) issue of Space World still states it is published nine times a year, the magazine is actually on a monthly statis with that issue. The next issue will be dated September.

This issue also contains the first issue of Willy Ley's newsletter Spaceways. In the future this newsletter will be published seperately and come out on a bi-weekly schedule. It will not be on the newsstands; but by subscription only. Subs are \$5.00 for 13 issues (6 months). Address: Space Newsletter, 250 West 57th Street, Dept SFT, New York 19, New York.

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REVIEW OF THE SIX FAN MAGS NOMINATED FOR THE "HUGO" AWARD AT THE "SeaCon" 1961 World Science-Fiction Convention

by Edmund R. Meskys

The regular review is being delayed in order to present a special rundown on those fan mags which were nominated for

the "Hugo" this year.

This year, six fan mags will be on the Hugo ballot: Discord (formerly Retrograde), Fanac, Habakkuk, Shangri L'Affaires, Who Killed Science Fiction? (the first SaFari Annual) and Yandro. Thus, these six were judged to be the best by those fans who took the trouble to send

in nominations.

Some of these popular fan mags raise the question of just what a fan mag is. Unfortunately it is as futile to try to answer this question as the one of whether Ray Bradbury's Martian stories are science-fiction or fantasy. As a result of considerable argument some time in the past which never came to any conclusion, any non-professional publication produced by a fan or former fan of science-fiction and distributed among science-fiction fans is considered by some to be a fan mag regardless of content.

As a result some publications which have a negligable connection with s-f are generally considered to be fan mags and have even gained sufficient popularity to be nominated for the Hugo. Also, perhaps 2/3 of today's fan mags have at least a passing mention of some topic, not related to s-f. In line with Science-Fiction Times! policy the former normally would not be reviewed here and the non-s-f as ects of the latter would be ignored, but will be included in this special column for the sake of complete coverage.

DISCORD ("a journal of opinion") is published at six week intervals by .. Redd Boggs, 2209 Highland Place, N. E., Minneapolis 21, Minn. This superb and immaculate little (14 page) magazine is available for "letters or sound tapes of comment or by trade /for other fan mags/ but not by subscription. However, the latest (12th) issue announces that he is considering the acceptance of subscriptions. The body of the magazine is written almost exclusively by Redd and lately has been dealing largely with science -fiction. Before that it devoted a fairly large portion of its pages to matters of "contemporate significance". The previous issues are discussed fast and furiously in the letter column where it is quite common to find letters by James Blish, A. J. Budrys, Marion E. Zimmer Bradley, Robert A. W. Lowndes, Jim Harmon, Bob (Wilson) Tucker, and Donald A. Wollheim. (MEZB is also co-editor of the magazine and has recently started to write a fair portion of the contents.)

I quote from #10 without comment this example of the interesting theories discussed therein: "I note the comments on Campbell with interest. I'd like to make my own suggestion which is that JWC suffers intensely from frustration. editor of a single pulp magazine for over two decades, growing older with no chance of getting out of that rut, writhing with the desire of making his mark in this turbulent world of science advance, twisting this way and that and unable to excape his predicament, it is not strange that he embraces every wild idea that comes along in hope somehow that it will lead him to the fame that constantly eluded him. Dianetics, psionics, the Dean Drive, the IES, the fight with the patent office, his self-discovered theories of social science -- all the product of his social imprisonment. Does anyone remember that he took over Air Trails magazine for several issues some 15 years ago and tried to turn it into a science-hobby magazine? The experiment failed then, but I think with Analog he is again making the attempt." I wonder what Mr. Campbell's reaction to this theory advanced by Mr. Wollheim is. (This is a sample of the anti-Campbell attitude found fairly generally in the fan press today.)

FANAC is a news magazine published irregularly by Walter Breen, 1205 Peralta Ave., Berkeley 6, Calif., which has recently seen its 73rd issue. As Science-Fiction Times publishes news of the world of professional science - fiction and occasionally carries news of s-f

fandom, Fanac stresses fandom and occasionally gives professional news. It was published until recently b y Terry and Miriam Carr but due to personnal difficulties they had to suspend publi-Of course, since cation in February. this year's Hugo's are awarded for performance in 1960 it is Fanac as published by the Carrs which will be voted up-Therefore I recommend that you send 50¢ to Walter and ask him to send you some of the Carr issues. (The Carr s charge 50¢ for 5 issues while . Walt charges that for only 4 issues but sends them by First Class Mail.) If insuffi-Carr's issues are cient copies of the left, Walt will apply the rest of the money to a subscription to his mssues. Walt has only published two issues thus far, so it is difficult to tell just what his style is and how his future issues will compare with those of Carrs.

The Carrs had been working on the 3rd anniversary issue when the disaster struck and they still hope to eventually publish it. When and if they do, it will almost definitely be reviewed in

this column.

Fanac has attained tremendous popularity — enough to win the Hugo in 1959 — because of its popular informal and unpretentious presentation, its frequency of appearance, and its rapid dissemination of news of the doings of fandom. One simply had to get it if one wanted to be an active fan and know what was going on in fandom! A complete file of Fanac will be absolutely essential to someone who would want to write a history of science-fiction fandom from 1958 to 1960 (and perhaps beyond).

HABAKKUK is a monster sized fan mag (116 pages plus cover for the latest --5th -- issue!) is available at 50¢ the copy (or for letters of comment and usual trade) from Bill Donaho, 1441 8th St., Berkeley 10, Calif. Of all the nominees, this has the least relationship with science-fiction. A cartoo n and a column refer to it in passing, and four letters some article(s) in its pre-But I did find the whole vious issue. magazine (except for a horribly boring column by Ennic Reardon) interesting as it discussed various mundane (i. e. non science-fictional) topics. The biggest

debate in this issue (which is the only one I have seen) is a great pro and con discussion of "beatniks" which presents every imaginable viewpoint. The non-sterotyped statements on this and other-topics has certainly revealed a very strange and fascinating world to me.

However, there is also some stereotyped, pseudo-intellectual, and pretentious material in the magazine. Fortunately it does not ruin the magazine as a whole, which is still worth the 50¢.

And there is a very strange article -- "An Inquiry Into The Theory and Pracice of Doublethink" -- by Art Castillo which runs on for some 30 pages and has about 150 footnotes. Although it brings up a number of individually interesting points, I can see no point to the arti-As soon as I find the cle as a whole. time I do intend to re-read the article and find what, if anything, the author is leading up to. Much of it is written in extremely connotative and emotionally terms which are specifically designed to arouse the ire of those readers who can easily get excited.

SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES is published 4 to 6 times a year by Bjo and John Trimble, 2790 W. 8th St., Los Angeles 5, Calif. for the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (which meets every Thursday evening in their home -- guests welcome.) Usually about half of the periodical is given over to material on science-fiction and half to accounts of the zaney and amusing doings of the LASFaS. issue also contains much well drawn, stencilled, and Gestetnered artwork a n d has a special annual calender and 50 page artwork suppliment with the December issue. It costs 25¢ copy, or 5 for \$1 for all issues including the December special issue, b u t that one costs 75¢ for non-subscribers.

The current issue, #55, is unusual in that several of the regular LASFaS features are missing and there is a heavier than usual emphasis on s-f. The first and best item is "Sword and Sorcery", a 5 page transcription of a speech given by Fritz Leiber at the 1961 Fanquet. This is about the type of story called "sword and sorcery" (in analogy to "cloak and dagger") which deals with fantastic epic adventures. Examples

are the Conan stories, stories by J. R. R. Tolkien, T. H. White, L. S. dd Camp, and Cabell, and even his own Grey Mouser and Fafhrd stories. He also dwells o n parody of fantasy, parody of anything, and Mad with much insight.

Also in the issue are an account by Bjo of a visit with Phillip Jose Farmer and John Myers Myers: (author of Silverlock and other fantasies), several well written book reviews, a story by Redd Boggs, a portfolio of artwork and illustrations by California artists, a letter column discussing a proposal to change the date on which the World S-F Convention is held, whether turning literary is responsable for the death of science-fiction and other topics, and a special item which just can't be described in less than a page.

The next publication — WHO KILLED SCIENCE-FICTION. —is simply beyond description and is my personal choice for the Hugo this year. This 107 page multilith publication has art by Emsh & Freas and contributions by Poul Anderson, Isaac Asimov, Alfred Bester, James Blish, Robert Bloch, Hannes Bok, Anthony Boucher, Ray Bradbury, Marion E. Zimmer Bardley, A. J. Budrys, J. W. Campbell and 60 others (for a total of 71 fabulous.contributers).

It is almost a major tragedy that this publication is not generally available but in order to get all these people to contribute their articles the publisher (Earl Kemp of Advent Press) had to announce that only contributers and the 35 members of the Spectator Amateur-Press Society would or could get copies of this almost book. You have seen ads in the pages of Science-Fiction Times PLACED by people who wanted copies. Copies have changed hands at prices greater than five dollars.

The final nominee is YANDRO, published by Buck & Juanita Coulson, Route 3, Wabash, Indiana, which was reviewed in the First March 1961 Science-Fiction Times. This magazine, whose 100th issue just appeared, sells for 20¢, \$2 a year. Thespecial commenorative issue runs. 52 pages plus cover plus an ll unnumbered page section of full page art work. For a description of an issue of this magazine

please refer to the First March 1961 issue of Science-Fiction Times.

So there you have it -- the six fan mags niminated for the Hugo. These are so different from each other that every one will like at least one and some (myself included) will like all of them. Before voting be sure you have seen at least 3 so that you can make a fair judgement.

You must be a member of the SeaCon, the 1961 World Science-Fiction Convention, to be held in Seattle, Washington over the Labor-Day Holidays. It costs only \$2 to join, \$1 more if you attend. For this you get Progress Reports, the Program of the convention (a real collector's item) and the right to vote for The Hago vote who is to get the Hugos. must be in by August 1st, so if you haven't joined as yet, send your \$2 right now to: SeaCon, % Seattle Science-Fiction Club, Inc., P. O. Box 1365, Broadway Branch, Seattle 2, Washington; or send it to Science-Fiction Times and they will forward it for you.

The End

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