



The Science Fiction Newspaper

Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 17 - No. 16

SECOND AUGUST 1962 ISSUE

(Whole #392) \$3.00 A YEAR

"SCIENCE FICTION STORIES" IS OUT

NEW YORK, 27 August, (CNS) - The first issue of The Original Science Fiction Stories to be produced by Science-Fiction Times, Inc., was completed today. It is the first issue to see print since Columbia Publications dropped it with the May 1960 issue. Last year Science-Fiction Times, Inc., produced a "ash can" edition of 4 pages for copyright purposes.

Science Fiction Stories is now an amateur magazine open to both amateurs and professionals who care to submit s-f stories. It is aimed at the new writer who is developing for a try at the pro, and for the pro who has an unusual story that for numerous reasons could not be published in a professional s-f magazine. No fantasy or weird is used.

The first issue, dated Winter 1962, Vol. 11 - No. 3 contains 52 pages 8½" x 11" mimeographed, plus a photo-offset cover. The contents are: Three stories: "Fishfood" by Arthur D. Graham, and illustrated by John Giunta; "Man of The Multinan" by Jack Donohue, and illus-

trated by Cinfa; and "The Wooing of Umpe" by H. B. Münn, and illustrated by Herman Von Tokken. Also three departments: "Editorial" by the editor; "The Last Word" a readers' department; & "Inside Science Fiction" by Sam Moskowitz. The cover is by John Giunta and illustrated "Fishfood".

Accepted for future publication are "Outcasts of Light" by Sam Moskowitz, "There Are Flowers on the Moon" by Aldo Giunta, "The Recruits" by William Blackbeard, and "Scapegoat" by Rem Roberts. Other stories are under consideration.

Science Fiction Stories sells for 50¢ an issue and can be obtained by writing to James V. Taurasi, 18-36 129th Street, College Point 56, New York, or to Science-Fiction Times' address.

Ray Van Houten is the editor and he states that he needs material if the mag is to be published on a quarterly basis. Science-fiction stories of any length and theme will be considered. A B. S. O. needed are serious science-fiction ar-

CELEBRATE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE S-F WORLD CONVENTION IN 1964

tists to illustrate the magazine. No payments can be made. All material must be submitted with a self addressed and stamped return envelope and should be sent to the Taurasi address. Ad space is available for future issues.

This marks the first time that a professional s-f magazine has been obtained by an amateur publishing house and continued as an amateur s-f magazine.

THE S-F MAGAZINE CRITIC

by Jay Kay Klein

Since its inception, Galaxy has been the most inconsistent of the science-fiction magazines --- sometimes publishing a story apparently just to fill space, and sometimes producing a scintillating gem other magazines are hard-pressed to equal. The August 1962 issue contains "The Dragon Masters", a story which demonstrates that Jack Vance has become one of today's outstanding writers.

Akin thematically to Brian Aldis' "Hothouse" series, "Dragon Masters" is a vivid portrayal of man's last redoubt, in a future enormously distant, almost at the end of history itself. The consequent atmosphere is one of science-fiction pervaded with strong elements of fantasy. Yet the setting and the plot are thoroughly believable, because the background of futurity is so well set forth that the reader is transported effortlessly into the world of yet-to-be.

Opening with a tantalizing glimpse of the setting and a mysterious figure, the story rapidly introduces more exotic details and mystery. The dragons are first met with a carved model, with a tithe of explanation. Then, with a shock we find that man has bred a species of extra-terrestrial lizards into a series of gigantic fighting dragons, utilized in combat as a panzer force. With more shock, we find the lizard progenitors of these fighting biological armored units were reasoning beings, man's adversary that has exterminated man everywhere but on an obscure planet lost somewhere in the galaxy. But not quite exterminated elsewhere, for even more

shocking, we learn the reasoning lizards in turn have bred men into a line of specialized fighting monsters. "Dragon Masters" is a modern masterpiece of "Sense of Wonder" writing.

With men against lizards, and a counter plot of men against men, and a sub-plot of men against superman --- all mingled with lizard monsters and human monsters --- a story of cosmic proportions emerges squeezed into planetary confines by the admirable writing of Jack Vance. Nor is the plot thud and blunder --- its advancement is as much cerebral as physical, with the protagonist, Banbeck, laying his plan of battle as precisely as Sherlock Holmes solving a case. The characterizations of men, and lizards, and supermen, too, along with the individualized shock troops are carefully drawn, self-consistent, and believable. The human antagonist, Carcolo, in particular, has a monomania for attack at any cost that could have been lifted from the career of George Custer, whose inept cavalry charges destroyed a union army but helped win the Civil War.

Fred Pohl deserves an accolade, too; for in addition to acquiring the story, he also wins credit as editor for presenting the outstanding illustrations of Gaughan. The drawings of lizard and human monsters really set off "Dragon Masters" as few interior illustrations in the last ten years has set off any story. The double-page map of the locale also spells out quality production all around. With nearly 200 pages an issue, Galaxy has room for great science-fiction. It is gratifying to see a big slice of that space so filled.

"Dragon Masters" fairly shouts for a sequel, and I hope Jack Vance will produce one to equal the original.

SCIENCE FICTION FAN MAGAZINES

by Edmund R. Meskys

THE HOWARD COLLECTION No. 2 (Spring 1961)
36 7" x 5" pages, published semi-annually.
by letterpress at 60¢ per copy by Glenn
Lord, P. O. Box 775, Pasadena, Texas.

This publication is more to be compared with one of the Arkham House Chapbooks

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than with a typical fan mag, both in appearance and content. It is commercially printed by letterpress which, together-- with the fact that Glenn must pay royalties to the Howard Estate for the reprinted material, explains the high cost.

The major items in the issue are indexes. No. 1 features a 13 page index of all of Howards known verse, including much never before published, while No. 2 has a 16 page fiction Index plus a one page addenda to the verse index. This last index includes not only his detective, sports and western-stories published in regular magazines, books, newspapers and amateur publications.

Each issue prints some heretofore unpublished Howard verse, letters, short fiction and/or essays. Much of this was written for a round-table chain letter called "The Junta which Howard participated in, and of which only one copy had ever been made.

Also present are poems by friends of Howard written in his vein, articles about him reprinted from his home town newspaper and other items of biographical and bibliographical nature of interest to scholars of Howard.

In the 2nd September issue, Ed Meskys will review Loki, No. 3.

THE SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE RECORD

by Lane Stannard

SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES OUT DURING JULY 1962 IN THE UNITED STATES:

- July 5: FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION - 130 Pages - 40¢ - Aug. - Digest - Monthly.
- July 9: AMAZING STORIES - 130 pages - 35¢ - Digest - Monthly - Aug.
- July 16: IF - 130 pages - 35¢ - Sept. - Digest - Bi-Monthly.
- July 17: ANALOG: 178 Pages - 50¢ - Aug. Digest - Monthly.
- July 19: FANTASTIC: 130 Pages - 35¢ - Aug. - Digest - Monthly.

During July 1962, five science/fantasy

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magazines came out-- containing 698 pages and costing \$1.95.

THE COSMIC REPORTER

by J. Harry Vincent

ACE TO PUBLISH PAPERBACKS BY BURROUGHS (Reprinted from "The Gridley Wave")

Ace Books, Inc., are first to hit the stands with a series of ERB novels in paperback editions. Although Burroughs pb novels have been available to readers in Britian for the past several years, Ace is the first U.S. pb publisher to make available, at low cost (40¢) per copy, any of the famous books since Dell published CAVE GIRL and TARZAN AND THE LOST EMPIRE 13 years ago. The first two titles scheduled for early September release are AT THE EARTH'S CORE and THE MOON MAID. These will be followed in October by PELLUCIDAR and THE MOON MEN. Playing it smart, Ace decided to split the bulky MOON MAID trilogy up into two books, adding an extra title to their Burroughs list and extra coin in the till. TARZAN AND THE LOST EMPIRE is scheduled for November publication and THUVIA, MAID OF MARS will be the first Ace title in the Mars series. Copyright to the first three titles of the Mars series is still controlled by Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., so it is unlikely that they will be published in pb editions in the near future.

Roy Krenkel has done excellent covers for most of Ace titles mentioned, although the cover for the MOON MAID is by Ensh. There is the possibility that Ace will reprint some of the early St. John illustrations as interior illos in some of the titles.

Please note that the number after your name on the address sticker is the last issue you have coming to you. Please re-subscribe at once, so as not to miss any issues. Rates are \$3.00 a year for 24 issues, or \$1.75 for six months and 12 issues.

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THE ORIGINAL SCIENCE FICTION STORIES

50 pages mimeographed, each story illustrated with an electronic-cut stencil. One of the finest looking amateur magazines out. Cover by John Giunta via photo-offset. The finest amateur science-fiction stories obtainable. Edited by Ray Van Houten, Published by James V. Taurasi, Sr., Production Adviser, Frank R. Prieto, Jr. Art Editor John Giunta.

50¢ per copy. Order yours now from Science-Fiction Times, Inc., 18-36 129th Street, College Point 56, New York.

WANTED . WANTED WANTED WANTED WANTED
Science-fiction stories on any theme of any length written by amateurs or pros for publication in Science Fiction Stories. We hope to eventually publish Science Fiction Stories on a quarterly schedule. In order to do this we MUST have a large inventory of good stories on hand. Your story may be one that we can use! Gain the experience of writing fiction by writing and submitting your stories to us. You pros who have a pet idea that no professional mag will publish, try us, we have only one policy --- GOOD STORIES! We cannot pay for any material published other than a copy of issue your material appears in. Please send stamped addressed return envelope with all submission in case we can't use it. ALSO NEEDED are a number of serious artists to illustrate future issues. Send us your samples now! Science-Fiction Times, Inc., James V. Taurasi, Sr., 18-36 129th St., College Point 56, N.Y.

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Walter R Cole per
1171 E 8th St
Brooklyn 30 NY