

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWSPAPER

# Science Fiction Times

"The World of Tomorrow Today!"

16th YEAR - Vol. 12 - No. 275

SECOND JULY 1957 ISSUE

STILL ONLY 10 CENTS

## FUTURE S-F WILL GO BI-MONTHLY

New York, 19 July, (CNS) - Robert W. Lowndes' Future Science Fiction will go bi-monthly from quarterly with issue #35. The next issue, #34, will come out with the December 1957 dated Columbia magazines, still on the quarterly schedule. Issue #35 will appear with the February 1958 Columbia magazines, and will be the first on the bi-monthly schedule.

The magazine will remain the same; 128 pages, digest-size, and 35¢. At the present time, there aren't any plans to change the number system of the magazine. It will continue to be numbered only, without any volume numbering or dates.

Thus, Future has come back from the cellar that it found itself during the last science-fiction recession. At that time it changed from a bi-monthly to "one shot" schedule, while her sister magazine Science Fiction Stories took over Future's volume numbering and bi-monthly schedule. Up to that time Science Fiction Stories had only seen two experimental "one-shot" issues.

Robert Lowndes also explained that conditions were not yet ripe to change Science Fiction Stories to a monthly at

## B. G. Davis Resigns As President Of Z.-D.

WILLIAM B. ZIFF, JR. NEW PRESIDENT

New York, 15 July, (CNS) - Mr. B. G. Davis, president of the Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, publishers of Amazing Stories and Fantastic Science Fiction, and founded by the late William B. Ziff who died in 1953, has resigned that position. He will continue in the publishing field, but there was no announcement of his plans. Mr. Ziff's son, William B. Ziff, Jr. has become the new president. No change of plans in the magazines published by Ziff-Davis are planned at present.

(concluded on page 2, column 1)

this time. He stated that he "hoped" the change would occur in the near future, and that it would not happen in 1957. Chances are that in early 1958, if conditions are right, SFS will go monthly.

A Fandom House Publication



## DAVIS RESIGNS AS PRESIDENT OF Z-D (concluded from page 1, column 2)

Art Editor Herbert Rogoff is no longer with the Ziff-Davis organization. His main job, editing the comic GI JOE, is no longer there, as GI JOE has been sold. Paul W. Fairman, editor of Amazing and Fantastic has assumed the position of art editor for those magazines also.

Virgil Finlay will do the December 1957 cover for Amazing Stories.

No plans are underway for a second issue of Amazing Stories Science Fiction Novel, until the complete returns of the 1st issue come in. Normally, a Distributing Company, will give spot returns shortly after a new mag comes out, but, in this case, Amazing Novel was distributed by American News, which is no longer in that branch of business and thus Z-D will not know how the mag made out until all returns are in. The mag is still listed as a quarterly.

Fairman's non s-f mag, Pen Pal has folded with its second issue.

### THE TIME STREAM

by J. Harry Vincent

I think it's about time that someone made a stand to stamp out of science-fiction, the screwy cults that have slowly crept into them and will in time strangle science-fiction as we know it. Then we'll have nothing more but occult magazines under the pen-name of science fiction.

A new kid came into our plant the other day and discovered that I read science-fiction. Naturally we began to talk over our supposed mutual field. To my horror I found that this kid didn't know a thing of s-f, didn't read it, or liked it. He was actually a flying saucer fan. To him flying saucers was science-fiction. The "other" stories he had tried to read now and then, were imitations, they didn't have any news or reports of flying saucers in them; they were not "true" science-fiction.

Who is to blame for this? The professional magazines take a good part of that blame! Take a look at a recent

issue of Fantastic Universe. Cover, editorial, and three articles on flying saucers! This is a science-fiction magazine? Now Imaginative Tales and Imagination will have regular columns on flying saucers. This is science-fiction? Amazing Stories dropped their fan mag review column, that wasn't good enough for the mag. But they'll have one complete issue devoted to flying saucers! Maybe the fan column wasn't science-fiction, eh? No wonder the editors and publishers are crying that the s-f (so called) magazines they are publishing don't make too much money for them. No wonder the average reader is getting slowly disgusted with the field. Someday a bright young man is going to put out a science-fiction magazine that will sell untold number of copies. He will be the bright boy of s-f. He will have discovered the secret formula that every publisher is looking for. He would have dared to actually publish a science-fiction story in a science-fiction magazine!

Sam Moskowitz reports that Hugo Gernsback's amazing "Ralph 124C41 Plus" will be translated into German and run complete in Utopia Sonderband, #52. It has also been sold to Fawcett Publications (Crest?) for pocket-book publication.

### NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

after hours  
1054 E. Upsal St.  
Philadelphia 50, Pa.

Gentlemen:

We would like to alert your readership to the 4th issue of our magazine, after hours, which we believe will be of special interest to all "sci-fi" fans as well as professionals.

With the assistance of Forrest J Ackerman we have created an Out-of-This-World Folio that is unique and is sure to make the issue a much sought after collector's item. We think you will find the scenes from scientific films alone worth the price of the magazine (concluded on page 3, column 2)



## 15th WORLD S-F CONVENTION

# I.F.A. Award Will Be Made At Londoncon

by E. J. (Ted) Carnell

London, 11 July, (CNS) - The London Publishers primarily interested in science-fiction have agreed to sponsor an International Fantasy Award Trophy for the best novel published during 1956 and 1957, and Leslie Flood, the secretary of the I.F.A. is already in touch with the adjudicating panel who officiated at the 1956 Award.

This trophy will be presented at a special luncheon to be held at the Convention Hotel on Monday, September 9th, which makes two special luncheons to be held during the Convention period. This year's Trophy will be similar to those previously presented, having a very handsome Ronson Global Lighter included on the plinth.

The fantasy film chosen by the Programme Committee to be shown at this year's Convention is "Mr. Wonderbird" a 70-minute animated fantasy made in France, which won an award at the recent Vienna Film Festival. The English speaking version which we shall see has Peter Ustinov's voice used for the leading character, Claire Bloome's voice as well as many other well known-British actors and actresses. This film was chosen specifically because it would be new to the vast majority of delegates both British and American, never having been generally released in either country, although it had one showing in London at a special cinema during the Film Festival week.

The London Planetarian will not be opened in time for the Convention but the Senior Lecturer will be attending the Convention and giving a short humorous discussion on the work in progress, and it may be possible for delegates to have a preview at the Planetarian soon after the Convention closes.

One American magazine publisher has already donated \$100.00 towards this year's convention expenses, and unlike last year where the money was used on cocktails, this amount of money is being devoted entirely for use on the electronic equipment to be used in conjunction with the Convention in general. Thus making the entire proceedings technically perfect. For instance, a central control room covering microphones, loudspeakers, tape recorders, power outlets, P.A. system, room radios, and even the main telephone switchboard, will be incorporated in this one control.

## NOTES TO THE EDITOR

(concluded from page 2, column 2)

(50¢), and the article that accompanies it -- SCREAMOSCOPE IS HERE! -- a howlingly funny treatment of fantastic film fare. There is a 3,000 word slightly hysterical historical study of science-fiction by Mr. Ackerman, as well as one of his inimitable s.f. short-shorts.

The cartoons are all orbited towards planets and other s.f. paraphernalia, and no one over 21 will want to miss our double page spread on Madeline Castle, who is, incidentally, a genuine sci-fi reader. There is also, in addition, an original fantasy story by Arthur Porges that is a shocker.

Watch for us on the national news stands the first week in September....

Sincerely,

James Warren, editor

Galaxy Publishing Corp.  
421 Hudson Street  
New York 14, New York

Dear Mr. Prieto:

I notice in the Fantasy-Times und-



er the heading of the Fantasy Record where you list the different magazines and when they come out, that the last couple of issues have been incorrect.

Galaxy comes out each month on the third Tuesday of the month. It is predated two months in advance, therefore, the February issue would come out on the third Tuesday in December, the March issue on the third Tuesday in January, etc. This is a national release date and to the best of our knowledge it is released on this date coast to coast. Material is delivered to the stands one to two days prior to release date. Thought it might be of interest to you.

Yours truly,  
GALAXY PUBLISHING CORPORATION  
Robert M. Guinn, Publisher

(Thanks for the letter, Mr. Guinn, we have investigated the matter, in Warners, NY; Paterson, NJ; and New York City, the three cities where Science-Fiction Times editors have their offices and found that Galaxy & most of the other mags (s-f and non s-f) do not all come out on the same day, or in some cases the same week. Mr. Taurasi reports that some issues of Galaxy will hit one stand a week earlier, while another stand, only a few blocks away, will get his copies one week later. We list the mags on the day they hit the stands in Warners, NY. It might be of help to you to spot-check stands throughout the US and see how close they actually come out to the announced date.

-Frank R. Prieto, Jr.)

Loveland, Ohio  
May 26, 1957

Dear Jimmy & Ray:

Frankly I don't think much of your change in title. Fantasy Times is easier to say and has been around so long that the idea of the change leaves me cold. To me your reason set forth hardly justifies it at all. It's your mag; but I still don't like the new name.

Sincerely,  
Donald E. Ford

(It hurts us too, Don; believe me, but what must be, must be. -the editors)

Eddyville, Iowa,  
June 29, 1957

Editors:

James Blish is a fine reviewer, but I think to give Merritt some consideration, some of his short stories should be reviewed. Some of them are very different from his long novels.

Fan-atically yours,  
Frank Bergquist

848 Park Place  
Brooklyn 16, NY  
May 21, 1957

Dear Jimmy and Ray:

My gruff, kindly old jousting instructor taught me that nothing is so futile as to argue with reviewers -- and now that I'm a reviewer myself, I can see why -- but I am too weak to resist the temptation offered me by the letters in the First May 1957 issue.

I agree with Mr. Forrest that Elvers' personality was so odd that it was no surprise to find him claiming himself to be an alien at the end of THE FROZEN YEAR. Surprise was not what I was aiming at; it had to be clear from quite early in the book that there was something drastically wrong with Elvers, otherwise my climax would have been not only 'surprising' but 'utterly unbelievable'. I agree, too, that Elvers as a Martian strains the laws of probability -- and there are plenty of other good reasons why he can't be Martian, too, which I list. I never said he was a Martian; he said he was, but how can you believe anything he says? (The fact that the dogs ate him but not the other people is indeed a piece of evidence on the other side, just as Mr. Forrest figured out. If that is "too subtle", Mr. Forrest should have missed it, no?)

The problem of alien morality is treated in the book; most of Mr. Forrest's points are made on page 130, and elsewhere. As for Julian's admission to his wife, that is a matter of taste and judgment. I would not have bothered to put Julian through so elaborate an education, only to have him wind up in the same moral attitude as a 15-year-old Esquire article!

Mr. Metcalf has caught me fairly in a bibliographical blunder on van-



Vogt's EMPIRE OF THE ATOM; I welcome the correction\*. Since he does not specify the errors he claims to have found in THE FROZEN YEAR, I can't argue with him there -- except to agree that the book did contain many typos, most of which I caught in galley and corrected; somehow, though, my corrections (concluded in right hand column)

did not show up in the paperback edition. I screamed blue bloody murder about this, and hence most of the typos (though not all of them, alas) were corrected in the hard-bound edition.

Best,

James Blish

\*and I continue to insist that EOTA is a criminally bad book.

## THE SCIENCE - FICTION RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

(Warners, NY) Science/Fantasy mags out in the U.S. for June 1957:

NAME	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	SIZE	DATE ON STANDS	SCHEDULE
If - Worlds Of S F	Aug.	35¢	120	Digest	June 3, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Astounding Science Fiction	July	35¢	162	Digest	June 4, 1957	Monthly
Satellite Science Fiction	Aug.	35¢	128	Digest	June 10, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Amazing Stories	July	35¢	130	Digest	June 10, 1957	Monthly
Fantastic Science Fiction	July	35¢	130	Digest	June 10, 1957	Monthly
Dream World*	Aug.	35¢	130	Digest	June 10, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Amazing Stories S F Novel**	-----	35¢	130	Digest	June 10, 1957	Quarterly
Science Fiction Quarterly***	Aug.	35¢	130	Pulp	June 10, 1957	Quarterly
Galaxy Science Fiction	Aug.	35¢	144	Digest	June 12, 1957	Monthly
Infinity Science Fiction	Sept	35¢	130	Digest	June 12, 1957	6-weekly
Fantastic Universe S F	Aug.	35¢	128	Digest	June 16, 1957	Monthly
Imaginative Tales	Sept	35¢	130	Digest	June 20, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Fantasy And Science Fiction	Aug.	35¢	130	Digest	June 25, 1957	Monthly

\*Last issue for the time being. \*\*1st issue, see S-FT #267

\*\*\*1st issue at 35¢ & 130 pages, see S-FT #271.

During June, 13 s/f magazines came out. 12 were digests and one was a pulp. The digests cost \$4.20; the pulp cost 35¢, making a total of \$4.55. The 12 digests contained 1,592 pages and the pulp 130 pages, making a total of 1,722 pages.

Not science/fantasy, but of interest;

Fate	July	35¢	130	Digest	June 3, 1957	Monthly
Fate	Aug.	35¢	130	Digest	June 27, 1957	Monthly

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2¢ per word including name, address and zone number. 25 words minimum, remittance with copy. NO STAMPS PLEASE!

#### PERSONALS

International Correspondence Clubs(four clubs): Writers, Artists, Hobbyists, science-fiction fan. Reply stamp (your country) requested: Chanel Monaghan, 236 Columbia Place, Los Angeles 26, California, USA -sft-10

All personal mail (magazines; books and letters) to James V. Taurasi, Sr., must be sent to his new address: 18-36 129th

Street, College Point 56, N.Y. -sft-5

#### WANTED

WANTED: Fanzines containing material by or about Robert E. Howard or his writings and copies of THE FANTASY FAN, editor Charles Hornig. Frank Bergquist, Eddyville, Iowa. -sft-2

WANTED: Amazing Stories Annual: James V. Taurasi, 18-36 129th Street, College Point 56, New York. -sft-2

WANTED: Fate, March and April 1957 issues. James V. Taurasi, 18-36 129th St College Point 56, New York -sft-1

ADVERTISE IN "SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES"!



## SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES BOOK REVIEWS

by James Blish

THE STARS MY DESTINATION, by Alfred Bester. Signet, 1957. 197 pp., 35¢.

Like many another reader, I was disappointed in this novel when I read it in Galaxy. It seemed to be derivative of THE DEMOLISHED MAN, brilliant but brittle, and almost lacking in the emotional richness which made Bester's first novel so rewarding.

I was wrong. THE STARS MY DESTINATION is a better novel than THE DEMOLISHED MAN; and its flaws, which are few, consist mostly of superficial and unnecessary echoes of the earlier book.

The new novel turns out to be one of those rare stories that cannot survive being bitten into eighteen-odd postage-stamp size instalments, with a month's lapse between each bite. It must be read through at one sitting, or its fundamental strength -- narrative drive -- is lost. (del Rey's NERVES is another example; luckily for Lester, it never had to be cut up.)

I still regret the decision which was responsible for the "synaesthesia" section in Chapter 15. The seizure is quite unnecessary to the plot, and serves only as an excuse to include a number of typographical tricks -- evidently because it was thought that readers would expect such tricks of the author of THE DEMOLISHED MAN. (I

## SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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BRITISH: 9d per copy, 15s0d per year; from H.M. JOHNSON, 16 Rockville Road, Broad Green, LIVERPOOL 16, ENGLAND.

AUSTRALIA: One Shilling per copy, Ten Shillings for 12 issues, One Pound for 24 issues. PERMANENT SUBSCRIPTION Five Pounds, from ROGER DARD, Box S1387, GPO PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

James V. Taurasi, Sr; Ray Van Houten; and Frank R. Prieto, Jr, Editors.

ADVERTISEMENTS: \$10 a full page, \$6 a half page, and \$3 a quarter page.

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION  
(founded 1937)

suspect, furthermore, that the decision was not Bester's; he is too sure-handed an artist to do an unnecessary thing for a silly reason.)

This will almost surely be the best science-fiction novel of 1957. If it isn't, then we are in for a golden year indeed.

## FANDOM HOUSE

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