

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES

PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN SYRACUSE, N.Y.

NO. 438

JANUARY, 1967

CHANGES AT SFT

This SFT looks very different from preceding issues. It's a mere skeleton of what we hope it will become. Because of the changes, very little contributed material was available, and perhaps that is a good thing. It left more room for emphasis on what is happening or expected to happen in s-f.

The most notable change is the new editor: James Ashe. His writing experience in electronics is hardly relevant to s-f, but he has been interested in s-f since about 1945. He brings a wide variety of skills to SFT.

Another notable change is the complete rethinking of the publishing and subscription schedules. The busy field of science fiction needs frequent coverage, so the publishing schedule has been revised from quarterly to monthly. The next issue will be out in early February.

Completist collectors please note that the issue numbering continues from James Taurasi's system: this is issue #438.

Look for more changes, some every month. As we gain experience and find correspondents, (if you're interested, please write to J. Ashe) we hope to develop a lively, meaningful, and interesting format.

The new SFT is aimed at four basic areas of the s-f field: writers, publishers, readers, and fans. We'll also print some

news about the fringe groups which border on 'true s-f'. We hope to have useful news from and for each group every month. That's another hint to you potential correspondents!

STAR TREK

In science fiction, or in any other field whatever, attempted breakthroughs from the average preadolescent level of our television fare are badly needed. Star Trek appears to be such an improved tv program. But perhaps it is not popular enough, and great changes are under way.

"The Committee", a collection of nine big-name sf writers, has sent out a form letter over Harlan Ellison's signature to many sf fans. The gist of this letter is that Star Trek has not achieved a sufficiently high Nielsen rating. It may be downgraded for more "mass appeal", or it may be taken completely off the air.

A letter to Harlan brought the early reply that, whatever happened, the new die would be cast by the time we went to press. Look for further details next month.

The complete roster of "The Committee" is: Poul Anderson, Philip Jose Farmer, Robert Bloch, Frank Herbert, Lester del Rey, Richard Matheson, Harlan Ellison, Theodore Sturgeon, and E. E. Van Vogt.

SO WRITE!

Write to your local tv station carrying Star Trek, write to sponsors, to tv columnists, TV Guide, and to anybody else you can think of. Tell them you watch it, that you like it, etc. If you can make meaningful comments about its performance and treatment, put that in too. Don't wait: DO IT NOW!

A CURIOUS PROBLEM

I want to find a gifted writer who can set something to words. If I'm very fortunate indeed, he'll write it up and give it to me because I can't buy it from him. I will print it in SFT, thereby making big names for all of us. I think it's very important.

It goes something like this. The unsettling errors we see in movies and tv shows labeled s-f are apparently put in there deliberately! I've been told this has some audience-holding effect; if things were shown as they really are, the audience would lose interest. If the show were technically accurate, it would educate the audience; who experience shows won't sit still for that.

But how does the ignorant audience know accurate from ignorant fantasy? Weren't the stereotypes we see in Time Tunnel, Lost in Space, and others, introduced by those shows and similar preceding ones? How are these falsehoods propagated so readily? The people who manage these shows, and the advertisers who pay for them, appear to be more capable and ambitious than most. Is there something I've missed that accounts for all that junk and makes it meaningful and necessary?

It's a curious problem. Let's all of us work on it. Maybe if it can be shaped up and expressed more accurately, it can be solved.

James Ashe

HOW WE'RE PRINTING SFT: NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

This is a fast operation. Material that looks good gets typed up. If it still seems usable a few days later, it is redone into a one column wide format. Come press time, we paste up these columns on page-size sheets, and make electronic stencils. We run off the pages, collate, address, and there it is!

What does this mean to contributors? Well, if you have a contribution, you can look at a recent issue of SFT and guess what I'll do with and to it. You know a photograph won't be very welcome because good electronic stenciling of photos is partly luck. Heavy line drawings, such as Atom's, will print very well. If you are an advertiser, this tells you that you can pretty well choose your format, and maybe you will prefer to make up your own personalized ad. Subject to our requirements! My best guess is that we'll be doing SFT in this way for at least a year, and any changes are likely to be to photo offset.

NEXT MONTH'S EDITORIAL

I'm sure the Worldcon voting last fall has left a good many fans with food for thought. Is that all it has achieved? Perhaps it has done more than that: maybe some individuals who might have done much for us have gone home muttering, "Well, if that's the way it's done....," "so now we know....," "waste of money...."

Responses to my requests for information clearly suggest that this Worldcon business is a big business. Do you have any comments out there? I'm interested in facts and ideas from anybody who feels they have something to offer. I'd particularly like to hear from George Scithers and John Boardman.

James Ashe

SFT NEEDS CONTRIBUTIONS

SCIENCE FICTION WRITERS! What are you doing? What are you trying to do? We are interested in your thoughts and opinions about science fiction. Are you a beginner? Or have you been at the top for several years? We want to hear from you.

SCIENCE FICTION PUBLISHERS! What's new in the field? We would like to know something about your publishing plans, and about material that has come out in the past month or so. And we'd like to hear about the publishing business too. Please write!

SCIENCE FICTION FANS! Fandom is important! I wonder is there any other social organization in the world in which barriers between different types of people are as low as they are in fandom. Remarkable things are coming of this intellectual ferment. Let's hear about all of this.

Perhaps you somehow feel your ideas don't fall into any of the above classifications. We'd like to see them anyway. Here are some notes for contributors:

1. We'll make a reasonable effort to return material not accepted, if it's accompanied by a SASE.
2. Our axe to grind is: sf is important! News about sf is publishable and worth reading. We aren't interested in other people's peeves, but if notable things are happening, look for some comment.
3. For example, coming editorial on the Worldcon voting this fall.
4. Irresponsible material not accepted. When we get over some of the immediate problems, we're going to include source or expert's name with everything we print. The inevitable loose ends and usable rumors will be sorted off into a department of their own.

SFT NEEDS ARTWORK

At this writing SFT hasn't a single cartoon or illustration to print in the coming issue. Maybe

we will make up something, just to show you how awful your work can be and still get published. Feeling bold? Send us some of your art work. If we print it, your name will be there too. If we can't use it, you get it back provided you sent us a SASE to return it in.

Preferred size for contributions is one column wide, or two columns wide. Or some sensible oddball variation like a zigzag, a wide flat one, an L, upper left and lower right corners, etc. Persons attempting such unusual variations must have the appropriate artistic license.

CORRESPONDENTS NEEDED

SFT needs correspondents knowledgeable in some department of s-f. Would you like to try your luck? Choose your field and write us a letter that shows you're an expert. I'll probably write back suggesting what I might like to have on hand for the next (February) issue of SFT. After that, we'll have to see what develops.

If you're worried about deadlines...don't. It gets finalized rather late in the month and if your work misses the deadline, it can always come out a month later. On the other hand, it's unworkmanlike to miss deadlines frequently, and will lower your popularity with the editor. Well, that's up to you.

SUPPORT NYCON 3

VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE OF TAFF
CANDIDATE

FAMOUS SCIENCE FICTION

Famous Science Fiction is Robert Lowndes newest reprint magazine. The first issue has been out for several months. It contains "The Girl in the Golden Atom" by Ray Cummings, "The City of Singing Flame" by Clark Ashton Smith, "Voice of Atlantis" by Laurence Manning, and others.

The second issue now out has the following stories: "The Moon Menace" by Edmond Hamilton, "The White City" by David H. Keller, "Seeds from Space" by Laurence Manning; and new stories "Dust" by Wallace West, "Rim Ghost" by A. Bertram Chandler.

Famous Science Fiction is published on a quarterly basis at 50¢ per copy at 119 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10003.

MOVERS' DELIGHT

Brooks, C.W. (Ned) - 713 Paul St., Newport News, Va. 23605.
Cheek, Wayne - Box 722, Newport News, V. 23607.
Grant, Jim - 80 Bargates, Christchurch, Hants., England.
Groves, Jim - Room 416, Hotel Lafayette, 4th & Northampton, Easton, Pa. 18042.
Hamlin, Clay - Box 426, Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn. 37203
Jacks, Jerald - 1360 Emerson Ave., Palo Alto, Calif. 94301.
Jacobs, Lee - 5155 Marathon St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90038.
Mallardi, Bill - 369 Wildwood Ave., (3rd Floor), Akron, Ohio 44320.
Mercer, Archie & Beryl - 9. Cotswold Rd., Bedminster, Bristol 3, England.
Pardoe, Darroll - 11 Cheniston Gardens, London W8, England.
Thorne, Creath - 189B Baker-Park Hall, Pershing Group, Columbia, Mo. 65201.
Whitledge, Fred - 8375 Hillside Dr., Alta Loma, Calif.
Wood, Ed - 151 Calderon Ave., Apt. 341, Mountain View, Calif. 94040.

TRICON HUGO AWARDS

Best Novel - tie between DUNE, by Frank Herbert, and ...AND CALL ME CONRAD, by Roger Zelazny.

Best Short Story - "'Repent, Harlequin', Said the Ticktockman", by Harlan Ellison.

Best Professional Magazine - WORLDS OF IF.

Best Amateur Magazine - ERB-DOM.

Best Professional Artist - Frank Frazetta.

Best All-Time Series - "Foundation" Series, by Isaac Asimov.

WE READ IN PUBLISHERS WEEKLY:

Ace Books, which publishes a great deal of science fiction in paperback editions, recently polled some leading scientists to find out whether or not the reading of science fiction had proved to be a factor in their careers. Over 75% of those replying said that an early interest in science fiction had played a part in their determination of a future career, and an even higher percentage reported that they still read science fiction. Dr. Jules T. Simon, in charge of all nuclear fuels and materials research for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, wrote that he had been reading science fiction since he was seven, adding, "I believe that s-f attracts the more imaginative, inquiring child, the type who can make a success in the scientific field. God knows we need that type..."

Among other scientists replying to Ace Books' survey, Dr. John D. Clark, principal scientist of the Liquid Rocket Propulsion Laboratory, wrote that he had been reading science fiction since the second or third grade and that his reading "probably had considerable influence on my decision to get into the rocket business." Lt. Commander Joseph P. Kerwin, NASA astronaut, wrote that "really good science fiction can explore the nature of man and the universe better than any other contemporary form of writing. Long may it live!"

December 5, 1966.

WE READ IN RATATOSK:

Forry Ackerman is recovering from a heart blockage which damaged a ventricle. He is recuperating at home, on a strict diet and avoiding exertion.

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society celebrated its 32nd Anniversary in October, with guest speaker Ray Bradbury and a packed meeting room. Bradbury (a LASFS alumnus from the 40's) spoke on the shooting of the movie "Fahrenheit 451" and on his future writing and dramatic plans. He also played the taped narration he had done for the U.S. Pavilion at the NY World's Fair. The 8th Annual Evans-Freehafer Award for service to LASFS was presented to Bruce Pelz, and a new award was inaugurated with the presentation of the first annual "Forry" award, for service to the s-f field, to Ray Bradbury.

Boskone III, a local Boston convention held Oct. 1-3, had a total attendance of 68. It was considered successful in its two aims: to build up Boston fanac and to raise money for the Boston in '70 publicity push.

Ted Johnstone, local THRUSH agent, is collaborating on a novel with H.L. Gold.

WE READ IN VARIETY:

"Video's Losers' Row" - Others staging comebacks in series include Imogene Coca and Joe E. Ross of It's About Time, a series currently going through a format overhaul, with its fate in doubt... William Shatner, Star Trek, destination unknown.

The Invaders - Roy Thinnes in an action thriller about the invasion of our planet by alien beings Starts Jan. 10 on ABC.

December 28, 1966

WE READ IN RALLY:

A Carleton University Speculative Fiction Organization of Sorts (ACUSFOOS) has come into existence. Announced by Richard Labonte, 971 Walkley Rd., Ottawa 8, Ontario, Canada. Of the title he says, "Carleton University, because that is where we are; Speculative Fiction, because we want to include not just sf but all types of imaginative literature, whether it be fantasy, sword & sorcery, weird or modern-experimental; and Of Sorts, because we don't want to take ourselves too seriously." Fanzine Hugin & Munin.

WE READ IN DEGLER!:

The Ace releases for January are:

Dune by Frank Herbert, 95¢

The Monster Wheel Affair by Dave McDaniel, 50¢

The Best from F&SF; 12th Series edited by Avram Davidson, 50¢

Anarchaos by Curt Clark, 40¢

The Planet of the Double Sun by Neil R. Jones, 40¢

Sword of Rhiannon (reissue) by Leigh Brackett, 40¢

Contraband from Otherspace by A. Bertram Chandler/Reality Forbidden by Philip E. High, 50¢

NYCON 3 FLYER

Received Oct. 25. Reports the selection of Lester del Rey as Guest of Honor. Attending memberships are \$3.00 and those interested are urged to purchase theirs early in order to obtain material that accompanies the Progress Reports. The #1 Report was to have been published on Nov. 1, but has not been received as of Dec. 30. Also included in the flyer are advertising rates for the Progress Reports and the Program & Memory Book.

B I B L I O M A N I A

DECEMBER PAPERBOUND BOOKS

- Asimov, Isaac - Second Foundation (reissue) Avon S237. 60¢
 Boulle, Pierre - Garden on the Moon (trans.) New American Library - Signet Book P3031. 60¢
 Campbell, John W - Invaders from the Infinite. Ace M-154. 45¢
 Carter, Lin - Man Without a Planet/ John Rackham - Time to Live (orig.) Ace G-606. 50¢
 Davenport, Basil, ed. - Invisible Men (reissue) Ballantine U2842 50¢
 Davidson, Avram - Enemy of my Enemy. (orig.) Berkley F1341. 50¢
 Gordon, Rex - Utopia Minus X (orig) Ace F-416. 40¢
 Laumer, Keith - The Monitors (orig) Berkley F1340. 50¢
 Leinster, Murray - Wailing Asteroid (reissue) Avon G1306. 50¢
 Long, Frank Belknap - Lest Earth Be Conquered (orig.) Belmont B50-726. 50¢
 Maddock, Larry - Agent of T.E.R. R.A. #1 - The Flying Saucer Gambit. (orig) Ace G605. 50¢
 Merrill, Judith, ed. - Year's Best SF, 10th Annual Edition. Dell 8611. 75¢
 Moskowitz, Sam - Doorway Into Time and Other Stories From Modern Masterpieces of Science Fiction. McFadden 50-311. 50¢
 Norman, John - Tarnsman of Gor (orig) Ballantine U6071. 75¢
 Robeson, Kenneth - Fantastic Island (Doc Savage) Bantam E3269. 45¢
 Russell, Eric Frank - Sinister Barrier (reissue) Paperback Library 52-384. 50¢
 Sturgeon, Theodore - Starshine (orig) Pyramid X-1543. 60¢
 Tucker, Wilson - Wild Talent. Avon G1301. 50¢
 Van Vogt, A.E. - Empire of the Atom. McFadden-Bartell 60-267. 60¢

DECEMBER HARDCOVER BOOKS

- Del Rey, Lester - The Infinite Worlds of Maybe (juv.) Holt. \$3.95.
 Duke, Madelaine - Claret, Sandwiches and Sin. Doubleday. \$3.95.
 Laumer, Keith and Rosel George Brown - Earthblood. Doubleday. \$4.50.

PAPERBACK FORECAST

Recommended for January is Berserker, an original by Fred Saberhagen. Ballantine, 60¢

ALSO NOTED ON THE NEWSSTANDS

- Conklin, Groff, ed - Seven Come Infinity. Fawcett D1752. 50¢
 Robeson, Kenneth - Murder Melody (Doc Savage) Bantam F3296. 50¢
 Sheckley, Robert - Mindswap. Dell 5643. 60¢
 Steiger, Brad - World of Weird. Belmont B50-727. 50¢
 White, Ted - The Sorceress of Qar. Lancer 73-528. 60¢

RECOMMENDED DEALERS

- Able-Man Book Shop - 9324 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, Mich. 48212.
 DeVore, Howard - 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn, Mich. 48125.
 Held, Claude - P.O. Box 140, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225.
 Krueger, Kenneth - 56202 Abbott Rd., Hamburg, N.Y.
 The Magazine Center - P.O. Box 214, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.
 Witter, Richard - P.O. Box 415, Staten Island, N.Y. 10302.

BUY AND READ SCIENCE FICTION
TIMES REGULARLY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- 6 - WSFA Meeting; at home of Miss E. Cullen, 7966 W. Beach Dr., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012. 8 pm. (phone RA3-7107)
- 8 - ESFA Meeting; at YM-YWCA, 600 Broad St., Newark, N.J., at 3 pm.
- 13- FISTFA Meeting; at apt. of Mike McInerney, Apt. 5FW, 250 West 16th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10011.
- 14- BSFS Meeting; at home of Dave Ettlin, 31 West North Ave., Baltimore, Md., at 7:30 pm (phone 837-2876)
- 20- WSFA Meeting. (See above)
- 21- Lunarians Meeting; at home of F. Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y., at 8 pm.
- 26- COSFS Meeting; at the Columbus (Ohio) Public Library Auditorium, 96 S. Grant St., at 7:30 pm.
- 27- FISTFA Meeting. (See above)
- 28- BSFS Meeting. (See above)
- 29- OSFA Meeting. Meeting places vary. Write Jack Steele, 609 W. Kelley St., DeSoto, Mo., 63020, for info.

February

- 10-12 - BSFS Regional Conference, at the Emerson Hotel, Baltimore, Md. Party Fri. night, short program on the afternoon of the 11th, non-hotel banquet in the evening, resumption of party on Sat. night. \$1 charge at the door. Write Jack Chalker, 5111 Liberty Heights Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21207.

March

- 5 - Open ESFA Meeting.

April

- 1-2 - Boskone IV, Statler Hilton Hotel, Boston. Reg. fee \$2. Write to: Leslie Turek, 56 Linnaean St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138.
- 28- Eastercon.
- 29-30 - Lunacon.

June

- 23-25 - Midwestcon, North Plaza Motel, Cincinnati. Reg. fee \$1.00. Write to: Lou Taba-

kow, 3953 St. Johns Ter.,
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236.

July

- 1-4 - Westercon XX, at the Sheraton West, 2961 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif. 90004. GoH, Marion Z. Bradley. Membership \$2.00. Write to: Bill Ellern, Westercon XX, P.O. Box 75192, Los Angeles, Calif. 90005.

August

- 4-7 - Annual convention of German fandom. Foreign visitors welcome. For info., write Reinhard Horschberger, 1 Berlin 12, Schlueterstrasse 49.

And don't forget Nycon 3, the 25th Annual World Science Fiction Convention, held over Labor Day Weekend in New York City. Attending membership \$3.00. Write Nycon 3, P.O. Box 367, Gracie Square Sta., New York, N.Y. 10028.

Meetings held every week:

- ESSFSCCNV - every Friday during academic year, at 8 pm, in Finlay Hall, 133rd St. and Convent Ave., on CCNY campus.
- LASFS - every Thurs. at 8 pm in the Silverland Playground Gymnasium, Silverlake & Van Pelt Sts., Los Angeles.
- MITFS - every Fri. at 5 pm in Room 1-236, MIT (call 617-UN4-7933 for info.)

For something a little different, try a button from the U-Store, 28 St. Marks Place, New York, N.Y. 10003. How about:

Frodo lives
Let's grok
Stamp out reality
Go go Gandalf

Roughly 200 different buttons available. Write for a catalog!

TIME TUNNEL

Someday we will discover that the general public is learning something about science. How will this happen? Why, one day an s-f writer will survey the available tv fare and he will discover that without anybody's noticing, the scientists have become just like people, and can solve problems.

The unreal characters operating the Time Tunnel wouldn't get by in my lab as anything above very junior grade technicians. All they do is kick the acting cast from one era to another and then try to guess where they came out. Anyone with some actual experience can easily guess what a disorderly and phenomenally busy place the Time Tunnel lab would really be, if part of the staff were adrift in the Time Stream.

Yes, it makes a much better picture than the setup I see on the screen. The Tunnel is replaced by something closely resembling Wonnug's setup. If it goes on the fritz, you don't think there are little skyrockets jumping around inside! A large, brightly lighted room with several crash projects going on, a broken door opens into the Theory Lab, several heated discussions inside. The staff looks like they just climbed out of bed, three days ago. The VIP Senator walks in getting everybody's attention, and the phone rings. Somebody says, "It's Leadass again. What'll we tell the Power Co. now?" and everybody forgets the Senator. I'd like to see some life in it! Oh well.

ZIP!

Someday those Zip code numbers may actually speed up our mail deliveries. They are now required for all bulk mailings. Do we have yours? Look on the address sticker. If your Zip number isn't there, please send us a postcard with the complete, correct address. Thank you!

IT'S ABOUT TIME

25 December, 7:30pm on several local channels.

Two spacemen orbited Terra so rapidly that they broke the time barrier. I heard it go: it sounded like a large teacup dropped on a concrete floor. As a consequence of this remarkable fracture they returned to Terra some considerable time before they departed.

After landing, they are faced with two problems. The major matter is the local inhabitants, and their reactions to modern technology. This modern-primitive conflict was illustrated in the current problem by the introduction of the mother-in-law problem. You know how primitives had to discover the wheel, fire, etc. Well, now they find out about mothers-in-law. Imogene Coca, speaking Basic English, makes an excellent and expressive million-BC primitive housewife.

The other problem, receiving a weak honorable mention, is how to get home again.

THE PASSING PARADE

Fandom's perennial bachelor, Ed Wood, is engaged to Miss JoAnn Schmidt of Dayton, Ohio. They plan to be married in April.

Joni Markwood and Myron Rapkin were married on December 18. Their new address is 1911 $\frac{1}{2}$ Riverview Dr., Endicott, N.Y. 13760.

Previously computed odds were comparable to Uncle Sam's inviting tourists into Fort Knox, but it seems to have happened anyway. Jim Ashe, writer, engineer, and etc., has bought a television set. He had been told by a responsible party whose initials are rumored to be H.E. that there is some good s-f on the air. But as he made the purchase (\$20) he is said to have muttered, "If this doesn't work out, it'll still make a big dam flower pot."

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B O O K R E V I E W
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RETIEF'S WAR by Keith Laumer.
Doubleday, 1966. 208 p. \$3.95.
Originally published in *Worlds of If Science Fiction Magazine* in a 3-part serial (Oct, Nov, Dec, 1965). A review by JoAnn Schmidt.

Reading this book you ask yourself the question, "Is it science fiction?" The answer is, "No". You then ask, "Is it fantasy?" The answer is a qualified yes. It is fantasy of a special type. It is a satirical fantasy which satirizes another satire. I refer, of course, to the Ian Fleming-James Bond series of swashbuckling, mystery spy thrillers.

Retief, the protagonist, is a member of the Corps Diplomatique Terrestrienne. He is the second secretary and consul at the CDT Embassy on the planet Quopp. The CDT is an interesting organization; bumlbers, yes-men, idiots and moronic liberals seem to be the mainstay of its personnel roster. The apparent purpose of the CDT is to institute and manage a sort of galaxy-wide Marshall plan to bring underdeveloped planets up to snuff so they can join the planetary federation. This situation is paralleled by our government's foreign policy, state department and U.N.

The planet Quopp is a mechanistic horror or a mechanic's delight, depending on your point of view. The inhabitants of Quopp are all metallic, machine-like creatures. These creatures are born (hatched from eggs) not built. There are as many kinds of Quoppina as Mr. Laumer's imagination can devise (and he has a very fertile imagination).

As the story begins, the many different varieties of Quoppina are happily living in a sort of anarchical, free enterprise system. The idiotic CDT ambassador, Longspoon by name, is trying to change this. He installed a sort

of planetary government, headed by Premier Ikk and enforced by Voion (one species of Quoppina) police. Instead of a democratic society, Ikk and his Voion favor a dictatorship. Encouraged by the dastardly Groaci (the inter-galactic villains or the equivalent of Thrush) they prepare to clean the Terrans off the planet.

Retief, the dashing hero, disguises himself as a native and escapes from the city into the jungle. There is a hot pursuit, mainly because Ikk and his minions have discovered that Retief has purloined a shipment of contraband Groaci guns. Retief unites the warring tribes to form a native army opposing the Voion. He rescues the Terrans in Rum Jungle, captures the Voion leader, General Hish (who is a disguised Groaci), and saves the beautiful princess Fifi (there had to be a beautiful female in the story somewhere).

He then returns to the city and thru an intricate and interesting series of double double-crosses and blackmails, gets Ikk out of power, the Groaci off the planet, Ambassador Longspoon out of trouble, and the free enterprise governmental system into operation. He gets Fifi too; so what more could he ask?

The book is interesting reading if you like fast-moving, slapstick satire. It tends to drag in parts because of the similarity of Retief's jungle adventures (one jungle battle is very like another). The story line is easy to follow; it is the simple formula of hero + heroine vs. the villains. As a satire, the story comes off very well.

All in all, the book is worth reading, not as s-f or fantasy; but for the humorous, satirical value.

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES

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YOU SAID IT...

Here's where you readers can put in an oar too. I hope that next month I will have some letters to print here. How about it?

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

MIMED WANTED: Good registration, tube inking, cheap. Write Myron Rapkin, 1911 $\frac{1}{2}$ Riverview Dr., Endicott, N.Y. 13760.

FREE TAPE RECORDERS: Sorry, I'm not handing them out. I'm asking for them! I am developing a sizable tape recording lab on as near a zero budget as I possibly can. The electronics are no problem, but the tape deck mechanisms present real difficulties. I need the decks from several VM #710 series recorders, and can scrounge a couple handy parts from the chassis if that comes too. Other machines, if I can get them, can be swapped for VM's or possibly rebuilt into something usable for the project.

If you know me, if you've met me, or if you're just feeling friendly, please send me a junk tape recorder! Keep the tubes, pull out the loudspeakers, the plugs and jacks, retain the microphone and meter if any, strip out any attractive electrical parts, and ship the hulk off to me, cheapest way. I'll think a nice thought about you, and my wife will put your name on the NFFF Tape Bureau mailing list... but no cash. Thanks. James Ashe, R. D. 1, Freeville, N.Y. 13068.

SUPPORT STAR TREK

SPECULATION

Just as we were finalizing this SFT, a copy of Speculation arrived from England. This well-organized and carefully done zine is presently running a study by Alexei Panshin on Robert Heinlein. Look for a review next month.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ENDS WITH ISSUE # _____.

Name _____ Start # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

My interest in science fiction is

What would you like to see
in SFT? _____

Publisher _____

Writer _____

Fan _____

Reader _____

Other _____

Subscription rates are \$3.00 per year (12 issues) or Special
5/\$1.00.

(January 1967)

PASS ME ON TO A FRIEND WHO IS NOT A SUBSCRIBER!

Name _____ Start # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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What would you like to see
in SFT? _____

Publisher _____

Writer _____

Fan _____

Reader _____

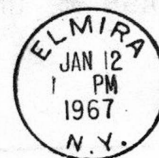
Other _____

Subscription rates are \$3.00 per year (12 issues) or Special
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(January 1967)

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