

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

# Science Fiction Times

No. 460 November 1968

## Ballantine Sold

Ballantine Books has been sold to INTEXT (International Textbook Company) of Scranton, Pa in exchange for an undisclosed amount of INTEXT common stock. Ballantine had been owned by Ian Ballantine, several other executives of the firm, and Houghton Mifflin Company. INTEXT functions mainly at present in the areas of education, publishing, library services and book manufacturing. However it has recently formed a new division, INTEXT Educational Publishers, which is committed to the "acquisition of companies in the publishing field." Ballantine Books, the first such acquisition, will form the nucleus of the new publishing group.

Mr. Ballantine will continue as president and chief executive officer of Ballantine Books, and the present headquarters at 101 Fifth Avenue, New York will remain unchanged. However Ballantine Books' capitalization will be substantially increased by INTEXT, making it possible for them to expand their publishing program. Starting in February, Ballantine Books will begin publishing 15 titles a month, of which 2 will be science fiction originals. The increased capitalization will put Ballantine in a more competitive position, but won't change their sf policies.

Effective January 1969 distribution of the company's books through newsstand outlets, which has been handled by the Pocket Books division of Simon & Schuster, will be taken over by Curtis Distributing Company.

Ballantine Books was founded in 1952 by Ian Ballantine, and currently maintains an active list of approximately 1000 titles.

### CORRECTION

A typographical error in the October issue made it appear that Columbus received only 5 votes for the 1969 World Science Fiction Convention. Actually Columbus received 121 votes on the ballot. Sorry we did not catch this.

## Arthur Sellings

Arthur Ley, better known to fans as Arthur Sellings, died in September. He had been writing science fiction for 15 years, with his first appearance in Authentic Science Fiction #38 (October 1953, "The Haunting") His first U.S. appearance was in Galaxy Feb. 1954 with "The Boys From Vespis." 34 of his stories have been published in the sf magazines to date. With the exception of his paperback collection, Time Transfer and Other Stories (Compact, 1966), his three novels, The Uncensored Man, The Silent Speakers and The Guy Effect were all published by Dennis Dobson Ltd. His latest work was a collection, The Long Eureka (1968) also published by Dobson. His story "The Last Time Around," written for John Carnell's New Writings in S-F 12 is his most recent appearance. His next magazine appearance will be "The Legend and the Chemistry" (F&SF, Jan)

In addition to being a well known author, Arthur gave much interest and support to European fandom.

## Frank Owen

Frank Owen, 75, died at his home in Brooklyn on October 13 after a long illness. He was an author who also wrote under the pen names of Roswell Williams and Richard Kent. He was mainly known for his Chinese fantasy stories and many of his works were published in Weird Tales from October 1923 through the 1930's and early 40's. Several of his stories were also published in Oriental Stories. Best known to fantasy fans was his collection The Porcelain Magician published by Gnome Press in 1948. His other fantasy collections were published during his most active fantasy period from 1929 to 1938. The first issue of Avon Science Fiction & Fantasy Reader (Jan. 1953) saw Owen's last appearance in the sf and fantasy field with the publication of his short story "One-Man God."

## THE EDITOR GAME

Donald R. Bensen left Pyramid Books at the end of September to join Berkley Books as Executive Editor. No replacement has yet been named for Mr. Bensen. Thomas Dardis remains Editor-in-Chief at Berkley.

Larry Shaw has moved, in late October, from Lancer to Dell. His title will be "Senior Editor of Dell Books." Lancer is cutting back to one sf title per month; while Dell will be developing its science fiction and fantasy program. Taking Larry's place at Lancer is Evan Heyman, formerly of Banner Books.

And Elaine Landis has moved from Dell to the S. F. Book Club.

## HEINLEIN DONATES PAPERS

Robert A. Heinlein has donated his papers, manuscripts, novels and many first editions to the University of California Library at Santa Cruz. The core of the collection includes 156 manuscripts, several hundred sf novels by a variety of specialists and a general library of some 2000 volumes.

--J. Wood

## ULTIMATE TITLE CHANGES

Science Fiction Adventure Classics no.7, Winter, has just appeared. Previously titled Science Fiction Classics, this is an all Edmond Hamilton issue. Soon to appear will be an all Robert Silverberg issue of Science Fiction Greats (no.13, Winter 1969), previously Great Science Fiction.

## ANTHONY BOUCHER MEMORIAL ANTHOLOGY

At the instigation of many of Tony Boucher's friends, and with his widow's approval, J. Francis McComas will edit an Anthony Boucher Memorial Anthology. The anthology will consist of two bound volumes, one devoted to science fiction and fantasy stories, the other to mystery and detective stories. All stories will be donated, and J. Francis McComas will also edit the book without remuneration.

At the request of Mrs. Boucher, all earnings from this anthology will be divided equally between the Mystery Writers of America and the Science Fiction Writers of America.

## ANTHOLOGY SUBMISSIONS WANTED

David Gerrold is currently collecting material for an anthology of speculative fiction, to be titled The Third Generation. The anthology will focus on the writers of the next decade, those of the newest wave who will be watched in the next few years. The emphasis of the collection will not be on the stor-

ies so much as it will be on the writers themselves.

To be eligible the writer must have made at least one professional sale previous to this. There are no limits as to what one may or may not write about. He would like to see stories that are a bit dangerous, that are controversial or topical. Length is not important.

Write to: David Gerrold, 12615 Debby St., Van Nuys, Calif. 91401.

## ALGOL TO PUBLISH INTERNATIONAL SECTION

Algol, edited and published by Andrew Porter, will feature an international section in future issues, in line with an expanded interest in the international sf scene. Included will be the Market Report, carried over from SF Weekly, where the first three quarterly reports featured markets in the U.S., England, and other countries.

Andy requests that foreign fans and professionals write him with the names and addresses of paperback, hardcover and magazine publishers of science fiction in Europe and the Australasian areas for the International Market Report.

His new address is: 55 Pineapple St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201, USA.

## PHILCON PROGRAM

The Annual Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference, to be held November 9 and 10 at the Sylvania Hotel will have James Blish as Principal Speaker. Other participants include Robert Silverberg, L. Sprague deCamp, Joanna Russ, Fred Pohl, Ben Bova, Ted Thomas, Alexei Panshin, Hal Clement and Lester del Rey. For this conference they are giving a "theme" and having an sf potpourri.

The Hyborian Legion will have to leave its swords at home or bring them hidden in suitcases -- Philadelphia has just passed an ordinance which prohibits the carrying of swords, even for ceremonial occasions. The Boy Scouts and Masons are protesting.

## A 2001 MISCELLANY

There are now two records available. The first, "2001: A Space Odyssey," MGM Records SIE-1351 is taken from the sound track. The other is "Selections from 2001: A Space Odyssey and Anlara: an Epic of Space Flight in 2038 A.D." (Columbia MS7176, Ormandy/Bernstein, \$5.79)

Reorders for 2001 are coming in at the rate of 10,000 a week to New American Library. They have just ordered a fifth printing, which brings the total number of paperbound copies in print to 633,000.

Capitalizing on their mention in 2001, Howard Johnson's now has a "children's menu featuring 2001, preview ed-

ition" showing scenes from the movie with "text and drawings approved by MGM and Stanley Kubrick."

2001 has been chosen for showing at the Color Film Festival in Barcelona this fall.

Quote without comment...Stanley Kubrick is afraid to fly even in our biggest jets...Scientology HCO Ethics Order (from London Sunday Times): "No staff or current students are to see the film 2001: A Space Odyssey. The film produces heavy and unnecessary restimulation."

#### MOVIE AND TV MISCELLANY

Joan Harrison has left her post as executive producer of ABC-TV's JOURNEY TO THE UNKNOWN series and has been replaced by Norman Lloyd...There is a record available from the sound track of WILD IN THE STREETS (Tower SKAO 5099 \$4.79 list)...Diana Rigg will be playing Tracy (Mrs. James Bond) in the next Bond film, ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE...Paul Dehn is working on the screenplay for PLANET OF THE APES RE-VISITED, basing it on a film treatment by Pierre Boulle. Arthur P. Jacobs will produce the film, which will again star Charlton Heston...John Christopher's Pendulum has been bought for filming. Reginald Rose will write the screenplay for Titus Productions, with backing and release of the movie by Embassy Pictures.

### **Classified Advertising**

NEEDED: The address, or agent, of Phyllis Sterling Smith. Contact: George W. Earley, 9 Hiram Lane, Bloomfield, Conn. 06002

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE OF SPECULATION: Contains the first installment of Michael Moorcock's Column, this long episode being the inside - and amazing - story behind New Worlds. Elsewhere in the 64-page issue is the 7000 word study of Brian W. Aldiss, entitled "A Man In His Time," by Richard Gordon. Long reviews, lettercolumn and Buz Busby's Plough column round out the issue. SPECULATION, 35¢ ea, 3/\$1.00. Peter Weston, 81 Trescott Road, Northfield Birmingham 31, UK

TANSTAAFL BUTTONS FOR SALE: 25¢ each, plus 6¢ per order for postage. Send orders to SFT, Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209.

WATCH FOR THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK, 1967. Sections include complete book listing, magazine index, films, tv, fandom. Available soon from SFT, PO Box 216, Syracuse, New York 13209.

JOIN StLOUISCON: Aug. 29 to Sept. 1, 1969. \$4 attending, \$3 supporting to: Box 3008, St. Louis, Mo. 63130.

## **On TV**

SF Series, 1968-69  
by David Charles Paskow

The first sf series to begin the new television season was the returning STAR TREK. With an episode entitled "Spock's Brain" the series was off to a less than memorable third start. In a silly plot that had Spock's brain taken from his body to be the life force for a computer (for Spock, an ideal "way to go!"), Kirk and Company reacted stereotypically. The only truly noticeable change was in Scotty who underwent a seeming "facelifting" semi-crewcut. Until he spoke, I failed to recognize him at all! Anyway, it was a hell of a (bad) way to start a third season. I live in hope, however, because I know the episodes can't get any worse.

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR, NBC's second fantasy series has the stock situation of a widow (Hope Lange) moving into a house inhabited by the ghost of a sea captain (Edward Mulhare). Mulhare plays the role of a captain who wants nothing to do with women, or at least wanted nothing to do with them until Mrs. Muir came along. Though basically a corny situation, the acting of Lange and Mulhare save it from being trite and sentiment is handled well. A very pleasant series.

Irwin Allen, whose previous "credits" include VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, LOST IN SPACE and TIME TUNNEL, returns this season with LAND OF THE GIANTS, a series concerning a group of sub-orbital travellers who are suddenly transported to a world in which their size is lilliputian compared to the "normal" inhabitants. The series has everything: integrated pilot team (Gary Conway and Don Marshall), a pretty stewardess (Heather Young), a spoiled rich girl (Deanna Lund), a business tycoon (Don Matheson), a resident coward/villain (Kurt Kaznar) and a boy and his dog. Episode One had Conway and Lund captured by a scientist. Now, according to Stoloff's law, the normal reaction of a scientist coming into possession of little people would be to run to the local equivalent of the AAAS shouting "Lookit what I found -- little people!" But no, our scientist seeks only to torment his captives. Though the effects are well done, unless the scripts improve (and judging from past performances of Allen's, I hold no high hopes), they will not be sufficient to tide the series over... I hope.

On Monday, September 23rd, THE AVENGERS started as a regular series on ABC. Steed and (especially) King were in fine form as they battled a fiend who subjected his victims to life and mostly death "games." Tara seems  
(Continued on Page 5)

## International News

### FROM ENGLAND

The Arthur C. Clarke-Stanley Kubrick film, 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY grossed \$5 million in the first thirteen weeks of its presentation. The paperback edition of the book published by Hutchinson in July was issued in October by Arrow Books.

The Roger Vadim production of BARBARELLA opened on October 17, and three days later started to run in over 100 key first run cinemas to the accompaniment of a "gigantic advertising campaign."

THE AVENGERS series of tv films, starring Patrick Macnee and Diana Rigg or Linda Thorson, has recently been sold to stations in Libya, Greece, Jordan & Turkey, bringing the number of countries showing this series to 89!

London Weekend Television is showing new productions of Le Fanu's HOUSE BY THE CHURCHYARD on November 3, to be followed by Frankenstein and Dracula.

I am writing this while listening to an episode of a new production of The Hobbit on BBC Radio 4. It is a very good production, having music and song settings specially composed by David Cain and played and sung by the Early Music Consort on an original collection of medieval instruments, including rackett, rebec, crumhorn, ophicleide, sackbut, shawms, and dulcian, under the direction of David Munrow. Allen and Unwin, who published Tolkien's fantasy in Britain, has just published for the first time over here, the complete Lord of the Rings trilogy in one paperbound book -- 1077 pages in a good binding, and well worth the 30s for which it sells.

--G. Bishop

### FROM FRANCE

Before the strikes in France, French TV had begun to show a cartoon serial, THE SHADOCKS. Plot and designs by Jacques Rouxel, music by Philippe Beetz and Cohen Solal. Shadocks are very stupid animals like wading birds who live on a planet which is always changing its form so many Shadocks fall into space, which is very uncomfortable. Their neighbors, the Gibis, are very intelligent for they all wear hats. They are like guinea pigs; and their planet, level as a plank, seesaws sometimes so that many Gibis fall out into space which is very uncomfortable. The Shadocks and the Gibis decide to leave their planets and to join the planet Earth which is between the two uncomfortable planets. It is an absurdly humorous story which Rouxel calls an "anti-sf-story."

2001, L'ODYSSEE DE L'ESPACE has been

shown in Paris since September 27. The novel was published at the end of October by R. Laffont. And Polydor will be coming out with an album of music from the movie.

After UN COURBEAU DE TOUTES LES COULEURS, MARIE LA LOUVE, CE QUE ME RACONTE JACOB, LA BRUME NE SE LEVERA PLUS and DELPHINE, a 6th story (LE MILLIEME CIERGE) by the wellknown fantastic author Claude Seignolle will be broadcast by the "Theatre de l'etrange" of the broadcasting station France Inter. Another drama is foreseen for the end of this year by the Theatre: LE CHUPADOR by Claude Seignolle. The works of Seignolle are translated and published in several countries, even in Great Britain and the States, but none in Germany for instance. Francis Morane plans to make a movie next year with his story LA MALVENUE. Nearly all his stories have been published in anthologies in the pocket book collection "Marabout" of the Belgian publishing house Gerard & Cie.

In August there was a great "Festival de la science-fiction" in Paris. 26 science fiction movies, from METROPOLIS to PLANET OF THE APES were shown. The idea for this festival came from the librarian of La Planete in Montpellier. The librarian has been planning for several months to organize an SF Week in Montpellier with the help of sf publishers and a movieroom. Possibly this project will be realized in 1969, but we need French authors the public will definitely come to see, and they are not numerous.

On October 12, French TV showed an excerpt from the Beate cartoon YELLOW SUBMARINE.

--J.P. Cronimus

### FROM GERMANY

Claassen in Germany will begin a new hardcover sf series in 1969, the only hardcover sf series appearing in Germany. The first titles will be: The Crystal World by J.G. Ballard, Croyd by Ian Wallace, A Fistful of Digits by C. Hodder-Williams, and Ezer ev a Venuszon (A Thousand Years on Venus) by the Hungarian writer Gy. Botond-Bolics. They also plan A Torrent of Faces by James Blish & Norman L. Knight; A Medicine for Melancholy, Something Wicked This Way Comes and The Golden Apples of the Sun by Ray Bradbury; A Cupful of Space by Mildred Clingerman, A Man of Double Deed by Leonard Daventry; Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? by Philip K. Dick and Voyagers in Time by Robert Silverberg.

I DREAM OF JEANNIE and BEWITCHED are running on Austrian TV.

--F. Rottensteiner

### FROM LATVIA

Richard Wormeer's Pan Satyrus has been published by Zinatne in the series "In the World of Fantasy." This one is a paperback, 216 p., costing 41 kopecks and the print run is 55,000.

--D. Bisenieks

## FROM RUSSIA

Znanie (Moscow) has prepared the 7th issue of the Science Fiction Anthology. It includes works of such well-known writers as Mikhail Yemtsev, Yereimei Parnov & Olga Larionova; and beginners such as Vladimir Shcherbakov and Grigori Silanovsky. It also contains translations from Poul Anderson and Robert Heinlein. Other sections contain interviews with Soviet scientists and sf writers, critical articles on sf, readers' letters, etc.

Nauka Press (Moscow) has undertaken the publication by Anatoli Britikow, a Leningrad literary scholar, titled The Soviet SF Novel, in which the whole course of development of Soviet sf is traced. It also contains an extensive bibliography compiled by Boris Lyapunov.

Mir (Moscow) publishes translations of modern foreign sf (Library of Foreign Science Fiction series) as well as Soviet science fiction translated into foreign languages. Among the latter are Aelita by Alexei Tolstoy (in French, English, German and others) and Andromeda by Ivan Efremov (in English, French and Spanish). The Molecular Cafe by Ilya Varshavsky is soon to appear in English.

Molodaya Gvardia has started a new series, Library of Soviet Science Fiction. Its first publications include Self-Discovery by Vladimir Savchenko and The Sun Sets in Donomag, a collection of stories by Ilya Varshavsky. Among those prepared for the press are The Magic Boomerang by the Ukrainian author Mikola Rudenko and The Ugly Swans by the Strugatsky brothers.

--F. Rottensteiner

## Have You Read?

Adler, Renata. "Screen: Science + Sex= Barbarella" New York Times, Oct. 12, p. 43

Amis, Kingsley. "Dracula, Frankenstein, Sons & Co." (horror films) Observer, July 7, p. 6-12

"Asimov, Isaac" (biography) Current Biography, Oct. p. 8-10

Bernstein, Jeremy. "Chain Reaction" (2001) New Yorker, Sept. 21, p. 180-84

Hamblen, Charles F. "Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451 in the Classroom" English Journal, Sept. p. 818-19+

Harper, Jackie. "Sci Fi Fen Simply Out of This World" Sunday Star-Ledger (New Jersey), Oct. 6

Joachim, Ann. "Curl Up and Read" (sf

bibliog) Seventeen, Aug., p. 134  
King, Almeda. "Christianity Without Tears: Man Without Humanity" (Brave New World) English Journal, Sept. p. 820-24

"Maverick Enzyme" (Charly) Newsweek, Sept. 30, p. 96+  
Leonard, George B. "Visiting Day 2001 AD" (education) Look, Oct. 1, p. 37-40+

"Medical Menace" (Charly) Time, Oct. 18  
Schickel, Richard. "Fantasy of a Childless World" (Seventh Continent) Life, Sept. 13, p. 14

"Sex Odyssey, 40,001" (Barbarella) Time Oct. 18, p. 108+

Smith, Ron. "My Favorite Monsters" TV Guide, Oct. 12, p. 30-32

"Sports Editor Builds Home For Books" (Gerry De La Ree) Sunday Record Call Sept. 29

Shayon, R. L. "Orwellian Necessities" (The Prisoner) Saturday Review, Sept. 7, p. 54

Taylor, John Russell. "On Seeing 2001 a Second Time" New York Times, Sept. 22, p. D21

"Tyke Little Island" (Seventh Continent) Newsweek, Sept. 2, p. 67

"You're On Your Own" (bibliog. of fantasy, sf and adventure for children) Free Library of Philadelphia.

Zimmerman, Paul D. "Paradise Found" (Barbarella) Newsweek, Oct. 21, p. 100+

## ON TV cont. from p.3

to have gained some weight but, other than that, they're the same great AVENGERS.

Last, but far from least, JOURNEY TO THE UNKNOWN made its debut on ABC. A weekly terror anthology, the first entry was "Eve," based on John Collier's "Special Delivery," the tale of a boy who falls in love with a mannikin. It was an all around fine production job, under the auspices of Hammer Studios, who have produced such classics as the Christopher Lee-Peter Cushing HORROR OF DRACULA and the teleseries TALES OF FRANKENSTEIN. Good show.

And, speaking of good British shows, THE PRISONER wound up its run on CBS with the final, problem solving episode "Fall Out." Patrick McGochan, as The Prisoner, gained freedom by refusing for 10 these many weeks, to succumb to the system and give up his identity. At least, I think that's how he gained his freedom. For those who have followed the series faithfully, the final episode still left many questions, brought on by previous episodes, unanswered and McGochan, as producer (a la Arthur C. Clarke as Writer of 2001) is leaving interpretation to the confused viewer.

I'd better stop now or I'll miss the best series of them all -- DARK SHADOWS!



LOOKING SIDEWAYS  
by Samuel Mines

Every now and then I run into someone from the old days in science fiction and he says "What ever happened to you?" Which reminds me of the old joke about the new secretary who arrived late for work on her first day and the boss said sternly to her, "You should have been here at nine o'clock." "Why?" she asked with interest. "What happened?"

What happened to me was that after the Pines group of sf magazines were shot down in 1954, I went over to Collier's as an articles editor. All but the very young will remember what happened to Collier's next winter.

Having two groups of magazines shot out from under you may have been only a coincidence, but it made me wonder if someone wasn't trying to tell me something about the magazine field.

Of the old gang, some got jobs. The more determined of the full time writers like Will Jenkins (Murray Leinster) Ted Sturgeon, Ray Bradbury, Heinlein and others turned more fully to the burgeoning paperback field. Ike Asimov didn't have to turn anywhere, he was a universe already.

I considered going back to free-lance writing. I'd done it for a long stretch and it had undeniable appeal. But I chickened out. I had wife and child and mortgage and I really didn't think I was prolific enough to churn out the unceasing stream of stories that the free-lance life demands. As an editor I'd had plenty of experience with hungry authors, with top-quality writers rushing in with an unexpected reject from the Saturday Evening Post and offering it at our much lower rates for a quick check.

To help out in these emergencies I'd worked out a procedure with our accounting department so that I could get a story any day of the week, up to and including Thursday, read it immediately, and have a check for the author by Friday. At best, it was still hand to mouth.

So I decided to go to work. And I wound up as head science writer for a drug company -- Pfizer. After all, there was plenty of precedence. Clifford Simak and others are doing it for newspapers. And Jim Blish had actually preceded me at Pfizer. (Aside to Blish: Jim, I see you're reviving Cabell. Did you know I have 13 volumes of the limited Storisende edition, each book signed by the author personally? Any bids?)

I don't read a lot of science fiction now. I try to look at STAR TREK and Groff Conklin usually sent me a copy of his anthologies as they came out. But it seems to me that the plots

are coming around for the third or fourth time. And what with developments at Canaveral, fiction doesn't have the breakthrough quality it had in the fifties or earlier. Bias on my part? I don't know. Conklin said he felt the same way, and he read everything for his anthologies.

If there was ever a peak for science fiction, I think it came about 1952. Circulation of the magazines was high and rising, and the predictions were that science fiction was on its way to becoming an important literary form, a bridge for ushering the public into the future.

It didn't happen. It seems as if interest in science fiction declined in exact ratio to the rise of science fact.

The convention of 1952 was one of unbounded optimism. Jerry Bixby was my associate editor and we went out to Chicago with a load of books to give away as door prizes to promote our magazines. We had them stacked up on a table and were handing them out. At lunchtime we were trying to decide who went to lunch first and who stayed to watch the books. Then a light dawned. "For Pete's sake, Jerry," I said. "What are we afraid of -- that someone will take one?" So we went to lunch together.

Fan activity was getting hactic at that time. The letter columns in my three magazines: Startling Stories, Thrilling Wonder Stories and Fantastic Stories ran to an astonishing number of pages and, to some people, were the best part of the magazine.

At the convention editors were pursued by fans like rabid autograph hounds. It was considered a signal victory to lure a professional editor to the fan parties which were going on all over the hotel.

All of which is nice to look back upon. I'm glad to see so many new names on stories these days. A few of the old are left and I see some like Fred Pohl and Lester del Rey occasionally turning up on radio discussion panels where they muse about the world of the future. Nothing very new comes out of these discussions.

It makes me think there is a limit to speculation after all. In 40 years of science fiction so many possibilities have been aired and turned over and stirred again that they've boiled down to minor variations on standard themes. Maybe the next big breakthrough will have to wait until real contact is made with another world and, for the first time, we come face to face with beings from another planet -- and the speculation and imaginings will finally be resolved.

No science fiction buff can avoid a wild excitement at the thought. This.  
(Continued on Page 13)

## Calendar of Events

### November

- 1 WSFA Meeting at home of Alexis Gilliland, 2126 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington D.C. 20037, at 8pm
- 1 ValSFA Meeting at home of member. For info: Dwain Kaiser, 1397 N. 2nd Ave, Upland, Calif. 91786
- 2 Cincinnati Fantasy Group Meeting at home of member. For info: Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. John's Terr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45236
- 2 PenSFA Meeting at home of member, at 8:30pm. For info: Mike Ward, Box 45 Mountain View, Calif. 94040
- 3 Albuquerque SF Group Meeting at home of member. For info: Gordon Benson, Jr, P.O. Box 8124, Albuquerque, N.M.
- 3 ESFA Meeting at YM-YWCA, 600 Broad St, Newark, N.J., at 3pm
- 8 PSFS Meeting at Central YMCA, 15th & Arch Sts, Philadelphia at 8pm
- 8 BSFS Meeting at home of member. For info: Jack Chalker, 5111 Liberty Heights Ave, Baltimore, Md. 21207 (ph: 301-367-0685)
- 8 Little Men Meeting at home of member at 8pm. For info: Alva Rogers, 5967 Greenridge Rd, Castro Valley, Calif.
- 8 Nameless Ones Meeting at home of member at 8:30pm. For info: Wally Weber, Box 267. 507 3rd Ave, Seattle Wash. 98104
- 9 Minn. Science Fiction Society at apt of Frank Stodolka, apt. 246, 1130 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis, Minn. (ph 825-6355) at 12 noon
- 9-10 PHILCON at the Sylvania Hotel, Broad & Locust Sts, Philadelphia, Pa  
★ For info: Tom Purdom, 4734 Cedar Ave Philadelphia, Pa. 19143
- 10 NESFA Meeting, at Philcon
- 15 WSFA Meeting, see Nov. 1
- 15 ValSFA Meeting, see Nov. 1
- 16 Lunarian Meeting at apt. of Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave, Bronx, N.Y. at 8pm. Guests of members and out of town fans
- 16 Cincinnati Fantasy Group, see Nov. 2
- 16 George Price Circle Meeting at home of George Price, 1439 W. North Shore Ave, Chicago, Ill. 60626 at 8pm
- 16 PenSFA Meeting, see Nov. 2
- 19 Fanatics Meeting at home of Quinn Yarbrow, 369 Colusa, Berkeley, Calif. at 7:30pm
- 22 BSFS Meeting, see Nov. 8
- 22 Little Men Meeting, see Nov. 8
- 23 LONDON MINICON. GoH: James White.  
★ For info: Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Ave, Surbiton, Surrey, UK
- 23 Minn. SF Society Meeting, see Nov. 9
- 24 NESFA Meeting at home of member. For info: NESFA, P.O. Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, Mass. 02139
- 24 OSFA Meeting, in Auditorium of the Central St. Louis Library, St. Louis Mo. at 2pm. For info: Ray Fisher,

- 4404 Forest Pk, St. Louis, Mo. 63108
- 24 OSFiC Meeting in Toronto. For info: Peter Gill, 18 Glen Manor Dr., Toronto 13, Canada
- 29 WSFA Meeting at home of member. For info: Alexis Gilliland, 2126 Pa. Ave NW, Washington, D.C. 20037
- 30 Omicron Ceti 3 Meeting at home of Estelle Sanders, 131 Edmunton Dr, N. Babylon, L.I., Apt.G-11, at 8:30pm
- 30 Cincinnati Fantasy Group Meeting see Nov. 2
- 30 PenSFA Meeting, see Nov. 2

### March 1969

- 22-23 BOSKONE IV at the Statler-Hilton, Park Square, Boston, Mass. GoH: Jack Gaughan. Reg. fee: \$2.00. For info: NESFA, P. O. Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, Mass. 02139

### April

- 4-6 BRITISH SF CONVENTION, at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford. GoH: Judith Merril. Reg fee: \$1 overseas. U.S. agent: Sam & Florence Russell, 1351 Tremaine Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90019
- 11-13 LUNACON/EASTERCON, at the Hotel McAlpin, Herald Sq., New York. GoH: Robert A.W. Lowndes. Advance membership: \$2.00. Progress rept.#1 from: Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx N.Y. 10453

### July

- 4-6 FUNCON II at the Miramar Hotel, Santa Monica, Calif. GoH: Randall Garrett; Fan GoH: Roy Tackett. Membership \$3 attending, \$1 supporting. Send to: Ken Rudolph, Box 1, Santa Monica, Calif. 90406

### Meetings held every week:

- Colorado Fantasy Society  
Sat. at homes of various members, Denver area. For info: Caz, Box 550 Evergreen, Colo. 80439 (ph.674-4246, local from Denver)
- C/SFS  
Sat. at homes of various members, at 7pm. For info: Bob Gaines, 336 Olentangy St., Columbus, Ohio 43202
- Fellowship of the Purple Tongue  
Sat. at home of Phil Harrell, 3021 Tait Terr., Norfolk, Va., at 2pm.
- LASFS  
Thurs. at home of Tom Digby, 330 S. Berendo, Los Angeles, Calif. at 8pm.
- MoSFA  
Monday at 7:30pm in Brady Commons, Univ. of Missouri at Columbia campus
- Western Pennsylvania SF Association  
Sun. at 2pm. For info: Peter Hays, 1421 Wightman, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217

He's much too modest to mention it, but our eminent reviewer, J.B. Post, has a son, Jonathan Edward, born October 14.

## **S F Forecasts**

F&SF -- January 1969

### Novelettes

A MEETING OF MINDS by Anne McCaffrey  
SANTA CLAUS VS S.P.I.D.E.R. by Harlan Ellison

### Short Stories

BLACK SNOWSTORM by D.F. Jones  
UNIDENTIFIED FALLEN OBJECT by Sydney Van Scyoc  
HOW I TAKE THEIR MEASURE by K.M. O'Donnell  
THE LEGEND AND THE CHEMISTRY by Arthur Sellings

### Features

A BROOK IN VERMONT (verse) by L. Sprague deCamp  
FILMS: CHARLY by Samuel R. Delany  
SCIENCE: DANCE OF THE SATELLITES by Isaac Asimov

Cover by GAHAN WILSON for "Santa Claus vs. S.P.I.D.E.R."

GALAXY -- January 1969 (partial)

### Novelettes

FOEMAN, WHERE DO YOU FLEE? by Ben Bova  
ORGANLEGGERS by Larry Niven

### Short Story

DUNDER BIRD by Harlan Ellison and Keith Laumer

Cover by MORROW

### NOVEMBER ACE RELEASES

Blish, James and Norman L. Knight. A Torrent of Faces (reprint) A29 75¢  
Brunner, John. Catch a Falling Star (exp. of The 100th Millenium) G761. 50¢  
Harmon, Jim. The Great Radio Heroes (nf, reprint) A27. 75¢  
Jackson, Shirley. The Sundial (reissue) H96 60¢  
Panshin, Alexei. The Thurb Revolution: Anthony Villiers #2. G762 50¢  
Sutton, Jeff. The Man Who Saw Tomorrow / Clifford D. Simak. So Bright the Vision. H95 60¢  
Swann, Thomas B. Moondust. G758 50¢

### NOVEMBER LANCER RELEASES

Howard, Robert E. Conan the Conqueror (reissue) 73-572 60¢  
Howard, Robert E. Conan the Wanderer (collection) 74-976 75¢  
Martin, Jay. Fondle With Care (Gerry Ransom) 73-803 60¢  
Williams, Robert Moore. Zanthar at Moon's Madness. 73-805 60¢

BEYOND IMAGINATION cont. from p.11

Doubleday, Nov. \$4.50

This is listed as juvenile and would probably be of interest to collectors.

## **Fanzines**

DIONYSOS 2 Rudy der Hagopian, Tredjellangatan 45, 413 03 Göteborg, Sweden (in Swedish)  
EUROPEAN LINK 5. Jean Muggoch, 15 Balcombe House, Taunton Place, London NW1. Bi-monthly. 1/6 News  
FANTASY COLLECTOR 118. Camille Cazedessus, P. O. Box 550, Evergreen, Colo. 80439. Monthly. Rate varies according to mailing. Advertisements  
LOCUS 9. Charles & Marsha Brown, 2078 Anthony Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10457. Bi-weekly. 8/\$1, 16/\$2. News  
MOR-FARCH 2. Peter Roberts, 87 West Town Lane, Bristol BS4 5DZ, U. K. North Am. agent: Richard Labonte, 971 Walkley Rd, Ottawa 8, Ontario, Canada. 25¢ ea, 5/\$1  
NEWFANGLES 15. Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd, Mentor, Ohio 44060 Monthly. 10¢ ea. Comics news  
OSFAN 41. Hank Luttrell, 2936 Barrett Sta. Rd, Kirkwood, Mo. 63122. 15¢ ea, 12/\$1.50. OSFA o/o  
PLAK-TOW 9. Shirley Meech, Apt. B-8, 260 Elkton Rd, Newark, Del. 19711. Irreg. 10/\$1. Star Trek  
PSYCHOTIC 27. Richard Geis, P. O. Box 3116, Santa Monica, Calif. 90403. Monthly. 25¢ ea. General  
SCIENCE FICTION TIMES 88. Hans Alpers, 2850 Bremerhaven 1, Weissenburger Str. 6, Germany. Monthly. \$1/year. News (in German)  
SPECULATION v.2 no.7. Peter Weston, 81 Trescott Rd, Northfield, Birmingham 31, U.K. Irreg. 30¢ ea, 3/\$1.00 Sercon  
SPOCKANALIA 3. Devra Langsam & Sherna Burley, 250 Crown St, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225. Irreg. 75¢ ea. Star Trek  
SZYGY v.1 no.2. Peter Hays, 1421 Wightman St, Pittsburgh, Pa. 6x/yr. 50¢ ea, \$2/year  
TOLKIEN JOURNAL 9. Ed Meskys, Box 233, Center Harbor, N. H. 03226. Irreg. 50¢ ea, \$2/membership. Tolkien Society of America o/o  
TOMORROW AND... 2. Jerry Lapidus, 54 Clearview Dr, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534. 8x/year. 25¢ ea. Univ. of Chicago SF Society  
TNFF v.28 no.3. Don Miller, 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, Md. 20906. NFFF o/o  
TRISKELEON 1. D. E. Dabbs, P. O. Box 3923, Bryan, Tex. 77801. Star Trek.  
TRUMPET 8. Tom Reamy, 6400 Forest Ln., Dallas, Tex. 75230. 60¢ ea, 5/\$2.50  
VECTOR 49. British Science Fiction Assoc, c/o 10 Lower Church Lane, St. Michael's, Bristol 2, England. Irreg  
WSFA JOURNAL 60. Don Miller, 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, Md. 20906. Monthly. 35¢ ea, 3/\$1, 7/\$2, 12/\$3. WSFA o/o  
WARHOON 24. Richard Bergeron, 11 E. 68 St, N.Y., N.Y. 10021. Irreg. 35¢ ea



## ***Bibliomania***

### **NEW HARDCOVERS**

- Blish, James. The Vanished Jet (juv) Weybright & Talley \$4.50
- Brett, Leo. Power Sphere. Arcadia, Sept. \$3.50
- Caidin, Martin. Four Came Back. McKay Sept. \$5.50
- Cante, Floris. Ronnie's Adventures With Old King Cole (juv fty) Van-tage \$2.75
- Cook, W. Paul. H. P. Lovecraft: a Por-trait. Mirage, Sept. \$2.95
- Creasey, John. The Blight (Dr. Pal-frey) Walker. \$3.95
- Derleth, August. The Beast in Holger's Woods (juv fty) Crowell, Oct. \$3.95
- Fairman, Paul W. The Forgetful Robot (juv) Holt, Oct. \$3.75
- Feagles, Anita. Thor and the Giants (juv) Young Scott. \$3.95
- Howard, Robert E. Etchings in Ivory (prose poems) Glenn Lord. \$1.25
- Hughes, Ted. The Iron Giant: a Story in 5 Nights (juv, reprint) Harper. \$2.95
- Joslin, Sesyle. The Night They Stole the Alphabet (juv fty) Harcourt, Sept. \$3.95
- Kafka, Franz. The Metamorphosis (re-print, trans) Schocken. \$4.50
- Kilian, Crawford. Wonders, Inc. (juv fty) Parnasus, Sept. \$4.25
- Knight, Damon, ed. One Hundred Years of Science Fiction. Simon & Schuster Oct. \$6.50
- Lear, Edward. The Scroobius Pip, com-pleted by Ogden Nash (juv, fty, po-etry) Harper. \$3.95
- Leichman, Seymour. The Boy Who Could Sing Pictures (juv fty) Doubleday.
- L'Engle, Madeleine. A Wrinkle in Time (juv, reissue) Farrar. \$3.25
- Lewis, C.S. That Hideous Strength (re-print) Macmillan, Sept. \$5.95
- Lynch, Patricia. Brogeen Follows the Magic Tune (juv fty, reprint) Mac-millan, Oct. \$4.50
- McCutchan, Philip. The Screaming Dead Balloons. John Day, Sept. \$4.50
- McKee, David. Mr. Benn-Red Knight (juv fty) McGraw-Hill \$4.50
- McKenzie, Ellen Kindt. Taash and the Jesters (juv fty) Holt, Sept. \$4.50
- Mannes, Marya. They. Doubleday, Oct. \$4.95
- Norton, Andre. Fur Magic (juv fty) World, Oct. \$3.95
- Postgate, Oliver and Peter Firmin. Saga of Noggin the Noq #1: King of the Noqs (juv fty, reprint) Holiday House \$2.95
- Saga of Noggin the Noq #2: The Ice Dragon (juv fty, reprint) Holiday House, Oct. \$2.95
- Roberts, Keith. Pavane (fty) Double-day, Oct. \$4.95
- Rudolph, Marguerita. I Am Your Misfor-

tune (juv, folktale) Seabury, Sept. \$3.50

- The Science-Fictional Sherlock Holmes (rebound) Council of Four. \$4.00
- Silverberg, Robert. Hawksbill Station. Doubleday, Oct. \$3.95
- Simak, Clifford D. The Goblin Reserva-tion. Putnam, Sept. \$4.95
- Sloane, William. To Walk the Night (re-print, large type ed.) F. Watts. \$7.95
- The Tolkien Papers (proceedings of fes-tival) English Dept., Mankato State College, Mankato, Minn. 56001. \$1.25
- Treece, Henry. The Dream Time (juv cavemen, reprint) Meredith, Oct. \$3.95
- Valens, E. G. Cybernaut (juv. verse) Viking, Sept. \$3.50
- Wells, Geoffrey H. A Bibliography of the Works of H. G. Wells, 1893-1925 (reprint) B. Franklin. \$15.00
- Williams, Jay. The King With Six Friends (juv fty) Parents Mag. Press \$3.50
- Wolfe, Louis. Journey of the Oceanauts; Across the Bottom of the Atlantic Ocean on Foot (juv) Norton, Sept. \$4.95

### **NEW PAPERBACKS**

- Aldiss, Brian W. ed. All About Venus Dell 0085-1, Oct. 60¢
- Anthony, Piers. Sos the Rope. Pyramid X1890, Oct. 60¢
- Anthony, Piers and Robert Margroff. The Ring. Ace A19, Oct. 75¢
- Baum, L. Frank. Land of Oz (juv, re-print) Airmont CL181, Oct. 50¢
- Bradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451 (reissue) Ballantine 70002, Sept. 50¢
- Brunner, John. Father of Lies / Bruce Duncan. Nearer Image. Belmont B50-081, Oct. 60¢
- Into the Slave Nebula. Lancer 73-797, Oct. 60¢
- Burroughs, Edgar Rice. Outlaw of Torn (reprint) Ace A25, Oct. 75¢
- Carter, Lin. Thongor at the End of Time. Paperback Library 53-780, Oct 60¢
- Christopher, John. The Long Winter (re-issue) Fawcett R2001, Oct. 60¢
- Creasey, John. The Depths (Dr. Palfrey) Berkley X1613, Oct. 60¢
- Cross, Gene. Nude in Orbit. Corinth NB1883. 95¢
- DeCamp, L. Sprague and Lin Carter. Conan of the Isles. Lancer 73-800, Oct. 60¢
- DeCamp, L. Sprague and Robert E. Howard Conan the Freebooter (collection) Lancer 74-963, Oct. 75¢
- Garner, Alan. Moon of Gomrath (reprint sequel to Weirstone of Brisingamen) Ace G753, Oct. 50¢
- Harrison, Harry. War With the Robots (reissue) Pyramid X1898, Sept. 60¢
- Heinlein, Robert A. Farnham's Freehold (reissue) Signet T2704. July. 75¢

Herbert, Frank. The Santaroga Barrier. Berkley S1615, Oct. 75¢  
 Kafka, Franz. The Metamorphosis (reprint, trans) Schocken. \$1.95  
 Kalnen, Ray. The Day the Universe Came Corinth NB1889. 95¢  
 Knight, Damon, ed. Metal Smile. Belmont B60-082, Oct. 60¢  
 Panshin, Alexei. Anthony Villiers #1: Star Well. Ace G756, Oct. 60¢  
 Peake, Marvyn. The Gormenghast Trilogy (reprint, Titus Groan 73007, Gormenghast 73008, Titus Alone 73009) Ballantine. 95¢ ea  
 Rackham, John. Proxima Project / Laurence Janifer & J. Treibich. Target: Terra. Ace H91, Oct. 60¢  
 Sheckley, Robert. Status Civilization. Dell 8249-1, Oct. 60¢  
 Silverberg, Robert. Time Hoppers. Avon S372, Oct. 60¢  
 Somers, Bart. Beyond the Black Enigma (reissue) Paperback Library 53-785, Oct. 60¢  
 Stone, Graham. Australian Science Fiction Index 1925-1967. Aust. SF Assoc \$3.00  
 Van Vogt, A. E. The Beast (reissue) Macfadden 60-343, Aug. 60¢  
Far-out Worlds of A.E. Van Vogt (collection) Ace H92, Oct. 60¢  
 Wallace, Ian. Croyd (reprint) Berkley X1616, Oct. 60¢  
 Wellman, Manly Wade. The Solar Invasion. Popular Library 60-2346, Oct. 60¢  
 Williams, J. X. ESP Orgy. Greenleaf AB419. 95¢

## ***They Sought Adventure***

by Richard P. Brisson

SWORDS OF LANKHMAR by Fritz Leiber  
 Ace H38, 1968. 224 p. 60¢

SWORDS AGAINST WIZARDRY  
 by Fritz Leiber  
 Ace H73, July. 188 p. 60¢

ETCHINGS IN IVORY by Robert E. Howard  
 Glenn Lord, Box 775, Pasadena, Tex.  
 vi, 26 p. \$1.25

To certain adepts Fritz Leiber is a name of power used to conjure up rat empires, black walled cities, grisly horrors, and the most delightful pair of bravados that ever sword-slashed their bloody way through an heroic fantasy. Ace Books has seen fit (and rightly so) to publish the entire saga of Fafhrd the Northerner and his sword-mate, Gray Mouser.

Swords of Lankmar, the first of the series, is an expansion of "Scylla's Daughter," which first appeared in Fantastic when it was publishing some good fiction. Our two rogues are hired by Glikkerio Kistomerces to ensure the safe delivery of a fleet of grain ships and certain other items -- notably the person of the Demoiselle Hisvet

and her entourage of trained rats. One thing leads to another, and the Mouser finds himself magicked down to ratsize and fighting for his life amidst the rat kingdom of Lankmar Below as the rats plot and connive to conquer Lankmar Above. No less harried is Fafhrd who is busily fighting his way across Nehwon in the company of his ghoulfriend, Kreeshkra. Anyway, sorcery and swords prevail, our heroes save the day and Leiber carefully leaves the way open for further adventures among the denizens of Lankmar ratdom.

Swords Against Wizardry offers a collection of four loosely linked stories that trace the twain's adventures from northern Stardock to Quarmall in the southlands. "In the Witch's Tent" is inconsequential as it serves only as an introductory piece. "Stardock" concerns itself with the overly long climb up said mountain in search of the Snow King's family jewels. The story could have benefited from some judicious pruning, though one must necessarily be held by the rigors and dangers of mountain scaling and think twice before going out to conquer the nearest peak. Such was the detail and depth devoted to the pair's perilous journey. "The Two Best Thieves in Lankmar" show us in Leiber's inimitable style how to fence hot goods. "The Lords of Quarmall" is the gem of the collection in which each hero is hired, unbeknownst to the other, by Hasjarl and Gwaay, two heirs to the throne of Quarmall. Each plots to kill Quarmall and subsequently gain control of the subterranean kingdom. To tell more would ruin the story; suffice it to say that the ending is ingenious and Fritz has nearly outdone himself.

Leiber has his own special language and literary devices, all of which are used to the hilt in these tales. The joy of reading a Nehwon story is in savoring every word and detail, delighting in every twisty plot turn, despising the perverse scoundrels who pepper the book, relishing the swordplay, and marveling at the magnificent sorceries which Leiber unfolds in each adventure. By all means available, be you cutpurse or assassin, use your ill-got gains to secure these volumes of heroic fantasy. Sheelba and Ningauble will curse you if you don't -- a fate even the hardest of barbarians wouldn't survive!

For Robert E. Howard fans there's a small collection of prose-poems offered by Glenn Lord. The introduction by Don Fryer informs us that C. A. Smith was one of Howard's literary fathers. Considering that Fryer is to CAS as Lord is to REH, it isn't surprising. Let's face it -- it's just a vicious circle. HPL influenced CAS, CAS influenced REH, and full circle back to HPL. Let it

(Continued on Page 15)

## ***Beyond Imagination***

On SF and Fantasy Collections  
by W. R. Cole

The usual practice in book publishing is the initial publication of a hard cover edition with the paperback usually published 8 to 12 months later. But in the last several years we have noticed a departure from this practice. A soft cover edition is published first and a hard cover edition is subsequently released. This practice predominates in England, although it is also carried on in the U.S.

In SFT #448 (Nov. 1967) we reviewed John Carnell's New Writings in SF 10 and commented on the printing history as recorded in the paperback edition. In the ensuing months we have been advised by Mr. Carnell that the New Writings Series has been contracted for by Corgi Books with Dennis Dobson Ltd. publishing the hardcover editions after the paperbacks are released. Therefore effective with New Writings #10 the Corgi editions are to be considered as the first editions.

### NEW WRITINGS IN SF 11

Edited by John Carnell

9 stories 190 p.

Paperback: Corgi Books GS7803, 3/6 1967

Hardcover: D. Dobson, 18s 1968

Perfection is a state of mind, and therefore subject to interpretation. In the case of the New Writings series, which we have followed since they were first introduced in 1964, the ten previous anthologies have been, for the most part, good. Then along came no.11 which we found to be very disappointing.

The lead story, "The Wall to End the World" by Vincent King, presents a feudalistic and superstitious city of the future. A promising idea we found quite dull. A method of testing a mental disorder by narco analysis is the basis of John Rackham's "Catharsis." While interesting to a slight degree, it could just as easily have been published outside the sf field.

There are, though, several stories that really stood out. One is "Bright Are the Stars That Shine, Dark Is the Sky" by Dennis Etchison (the shortest story in this collection, dealing with a space veteran's reminiscences of the early days of space travel). What could happen when our civilization is completely computerized? An impossible electrical failure happens and Jon Schultz is declared dead. But is he? This is the context of H. A. Hargreaves "Dead to the World."

How can a blind culture exist, and most important of all, survive? Read Jack Wodham's "The Helmet of Hades." This final story (also the longest) is

unique in its plot ideas and was, by far, the best story in New Writings no. 11.

One final note. The most outstanding feature of this anthology was the superb cover art on the paperback edition, depicting the assembly of a space station. We attempted to obtain information on this cover but have been unsuccessful to date. Can any of our readers offer any assistance?

### NEW WRITINGS IN SF 12

Edited by John Carnell

6 stories 188 p.

Paperback: Corgi 552 078786 3/6 1968

Hardcover: D.Dobson 18s 1968

John Carnell has bounced back. After a rather dull no. 11, his latest ranks as the best of the series. This collection has only six stories, as compared with nine in no. 11, but the two novelettes by James White and Colin Kapp more than make up the difference.

In New Writings no. 7, James White began a new Sector General series, with the latest title being "Vertigo." This time the hospital staff is faced with the problem of saving the life of an alien astronaut in space. Colin Kapp's story, "The Cloudbuilders," is futuristic in content but mediaeval in text, or as John Carnell phrases it "mediaeval futurism." A very well presented story.

John Rankine is back with another Dag Fletcher story, "Worm in the Bud." This time Fletcher is faced with the problem of saving the headquarters asteroid of the Inter-Galactic Organization from being destroyed. What if a spaceman who is assigned to a space trip lasting at least thirty Earth years falls in love? Arthur Sellings solves this delicate problem in "The Last Time Around." David Rome's "They Shall Reap" is a rather unusual story. It deals with an alien invasion of Earth, but rather subtly.

"Visions of Monad" by M. John Harrison is a typical modern British sf story complete with abstractions but very little else. Mr. Carnell indicates that this story shows a J. G. Ballard influence. All we can hope is that Mr Carnell can be influenced into leaving this type of story out of his future collections. It has very little to offer, story-wise.

### LOOKING AHEAD

#### THE SECOND IF READER OF SCIENCE FICTION, edited by Frederik Pohl

Doubleday, Nov. \$4.95

Fred Pohl has selected what he considers If's 10 best stories published in the last two years.

#### TALES OF THE SUPERNATURAL

Edited by Henry Mazzeo

(Continued on Page 8)

## Cinefantastique in Review

by Frederick S. Clarke

Roger Vadim's long awaited film of Jean-Claude Forest's "adult" science fiction comic strip, BARBARELLA, received saturation bookings in over one thousand theaters throughout the world for its multiple premier engagements October 9th and 11th. In an attempt to capture the youth market and cash in on the success of recent science fiction blockbusters like 2001 and PLANET OF THE APES, Paramount is pushing BARBARELLA as the adventures and sex-ploits of a space age flower child. There seems little doubt that the film will be one of the years biggest money-makers, repeating the science fiction success story of recent Hollywood films, despite the considerable ill-will and condemnation it has evoked from critical circles.

Most critics miss the point BARBARELLA is making, probably because they are too busy pretending shock at the film's brutality, unabashed nudity, and uninhibited sexual philosophies. Barbarella's world of 40,000 AD is a logical projection of the thoughts and aspirations of the younger generation, a weaponless, warless, loving society. In contrast to this idyllic world of the future, Vadim uses the evil city of Sogo as a representation of our own times, the mathmos is our society, thriving on evil and eventually devouring us. Unfortunately critics often become emotional about violence and perversity and forget that to depict something is not necessarily to profess it.

Renata Adler of the New York Times, generally well disposed to science fiction, wasted no time in expressing her dislike for the film. In the first edition following the film's triple premier at the Forum, Loew's Cine, and Murray Hill theaters, she wrote her review in blood: "...the movie...rapidly becomes a special kind of mess...the audience catching all the pointless, witless modernistic allusions feels in on something chic, and laughs. Then it is clear that there is nothing to be in on -- except another uninspired omnispoofof." Sam Lesner, nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Daily News, baring his conservative prudery and sounding awfully like the Catholic Legion of Decency and the PTA sermonized: "It is the Sodom and Gomorrah of science fiction, a long, long dirty, distressing joke about sex..." Both Time and Newsweek were condescendingly flip in issues immediately following the film's release, although Paul Zimmerman of Newsweek comes close to praising the film in his highly critical yet perceptive review: "...Vadim

carries it all off with such humor, style and detachment that "Barbarella" becomes something of an intergalactic put-on, all satire and supersonic camp ...his best work to date."

The bad reviews are not entirely undeserved. With its alien monsters, mod spaceships, mad villains, and positronic rays, BARBARELLA should be in sixteen chapters with cliff-hanger endings. The film exhibits all the simplemindedness of a Flash Gordon serial, and none of the charm. The blame for this cinematic anachronism owes to co-author-director Vadim, who has produced a self-indulgent, nonsensical film in the kinky, campy tradition of that pre-tentious flop CASINO ROYALE.

If you find some delight in the original Jean-Claude Forest comic strip, then BARBARELLA may not disappoint you, for it is largely the same sad stuff, and neither sex nor nudity makes it in the slightest way "adult." Transforming the meager elements of the original strip, essentially unchanged or added to, into a 98 minute motion picture results in a severe case of anemia. You will discover the madcap action, incredible scientific gimmickry, and stylized characters soon wear thin, and attempts to inject interest via sex, nudity and brutality succeed only momentarily.

Jane Fonda's wooden acting, and that of her supporting cast, fails to provide needed depth to a script that has none. As a comedy/farce/satire (take your pick), BARBARELLA is strangely humorless. David Hemmings as Dildano, a bumbling revolutionary leader, provides the only genuine comic performance. Milo O'Shea, given an academy nod for his performance in ULYSSES, is so hammy as the Concierge it hurts, and John Phillip Law's off-key portrayal of Pygar, the blinded angel, while somewhat touching, is out of place here.

Roger Vadim is responsible for writing and directing at least one memorable fantasy film in the past, BLOOD AND ROSES, a beautifully surreal version of Sheridan Le Fanu's Carmilla. His flair for the fantastic is obvious in BARBARELLA, however in scripting and direction it often runs against the grain of the film's comic intentions.

While the opening credits unwind, Jane Fonda convincingly performs a zero gravity strip. The effect is economically produced by having Miss Fonda peel while lying on a transparent floor underneath which is placed a highly detailed backdrop. A camera filming from directly overhead creates the illusion of weightlessness. Other visually exciting effects are utilized in the Black Queen's chamber of dreams, where kaleidoscopes of hue and pattern dance in the background, this created by the mixing of colored dyes and oils. Space

and stars are uniquely depicted 'using' liquid suspensions, and while visually less exciting than the traditional matte effects of 2001, it is also far less expensive.

Despite a budget in excess of 3½ million dollars, it seems obvious that BARBARELLA was not given production values equal to its pretensions. Special effects are designed with cost, not quality in mind. The imaginative production design of Mario Garbuglia is not followed through with meticulous care or sufficient funds. BARBARELLA'S ambitious sets appear cheap and stagey, miniatures and mock-ups of spaceships and other hardware are all too obvious, and the small amount of process work required is painfully amateurish. Seeing an unconvincing miniature of Barbarella's spaceship glide along blatantly visible piano wires, or a supposedly vicious attack force of the Black Queen's airships comically suspended from strings is hard to take. Producer Dino De Laurentiis was evidently more interested in bringing in the picture as cheaply as possible than in providing needed technical perfection or even competence.

BARBARELLA'S costuming by Parisian designer Jacques Fonteray, stylishly futuristic without being either grotesque or comical is a good bet for an Academy nomination. Ditto the music and songs by Bob Crewe and Charles Fox, particularly the closing tune "An Angel Is Love." The score is excellent rock music, and well worth obtaining on Dynovoice album (DY31908 \$4.79), however as an integral part of the film the rock beat and incessant electric guitar seem out of phase.

None of this is to deny that BARBARELLA has its moments, however after watching Jane Fonda remove her clothes during the opening credits, you've really seen the best this film has to offer.

BARBARELLA Paramount. 10/68. 68 min. A Dino De Laurentiis Cinematografica S.p.A. (Rome) - Marianne Co-Production. Directed by Roger Vadim. Screenplay by Roger Vadim, Terry Southern. Cast: Jane Fonda, David Hemmings, John Phillip Law, Milo O'Shea, and Anita Pallenberg.

#### LOOKING SIDEWAYS cont. from p.6

as we have said so often, is the ultimate adventure -- to voyage into space, to see things no man has ever seen before.

But when that happens, who will read science fiction? More likely the colonists of the future, perched on some forbidding rock millions of miles from Earth, will turn wistfully to the romantic 18th century novels of Jeffrey Farnol and try to recapture the flavor of the earth when it was young.

## *Lilliputia*

by Marylou Hewitt

With all the excitement of the New York City school strike, I seemed to have little time this month for reading. Perhaps if our teachers and administrators stopped their bickering, and got down to the business of teaching our children, they could make some use of this textbook.

#### ENGLISH: TARGET I THE SPACE VISITORS

By Ralph F. Robinett & Paul W. Bell  
Harcourt, 1968

The Space Visitors is the latest approach to teaching language arts to culturally disadvantaged seventh-grade students. Its main objectives are improving students' reading, composition and oral English skills. At the same time, this original sf tale, filled with action, suspense and humor was written at the fourth to fifth grade reading level, although interest level is much higher.

The story itself concerns a delegation from outer space looking for a perfect language. They have experienced many difficulties in communication throughout the universe, and are hoping English might be just what they are looking for. It does not take the visitors long to discover that English-speaking people also have many communication problems, and many times are not able to make themselves understood at all.

This book is highly recommended for use in schools all over the country. I can only hope it will not be long before teachers of English are made aware of its potential.

#### THE STARLIGHT BARKING

by Dodie Smith  
Il. by J. & A. Grahame-Johnstone  
Simon & Schuster, June.  
156 p. \$3.95  
Age level: 8-12

Pongo and Missis, stars of One Hundred and One Dalmatians are back again with this delightful adventure during the dog days of summer. One beautiful morning our heroes discover that in all of England only dogs can be awakened. They are also gifted with special communication and are able to travel by soaring a few feet above the ground. Every dog knows the day is enchanted, but no one seems to know why. When the secret is finally revealed at midnight, man's best friends are confronted with the choice of staying on earth with their masters or going to live with Sirius, the Dog Star. Dodie Smith has again delighted younger readers with this most amusing adventure with an unusual twist.

## Reviews

STAND ON ZANZIBAR by John Brunner.  
Doubleday, Sept. 507 p. \$6.95

Words fail when one has to describe one of the most important, if not the most important, pieces of fiction in or out of science fiction, to be published recently. In the overpopulated world of the twenty-first century Mr. Brunner gives us both a panoramic view and close-up views of the people in close quarters. The title of this book, by the way, comes from the fact that if present population trends continue, the island of Zanzibar (640 sq. miles) will be needed to pack the Earth's population elbow to elbow by 2010 A.D. Overpopulation is one of the basic evils from whence most others flow.

Focusing primarily on Norman House, Afram (Afro-American) VP of General Technics, his roomie Donald Hogan, and assorted people who come into their lives, Mr. Brunner takes us through a truly nightmarish world which is our own writ large in the future. And it is a believable and consistent (at least as much as is our own) world. Donald becomes a spy who must check the validity of the claim of an Asiatic geneticist that he (Sugaiguntung) can produce supermen. Norman becomes involved in the economic development of Beninia, a strange African country that is peaceful. Shalmaneser, an imaginative computer, and Chad Mulligan, drop-out sociologist and well known author (Hip-crime Vocab, You're an Ignorant Idiot, You:Beast, etc.) at times dominate the stage. Other characters come and go, live and die, when Mr. Brunner is "tracking with closeups."

Some readers may not like the McLuhanisms which clutter up the story. Some readers may not like the invented slang (I found myself starting to use it before I had finished the book) but at least it is carefully thought out and believable. Most readers will not like the price -- even in these inflationary times seven bucks is a high price to pay -- but the book is worth every penny of it. If poverty really is your thing, there are public libraries. This is a book for every fan to read: it has ideas, often casually thrown out, which could be the bases of many novels; it has power and anger in the writing; it is, in short, the best thing I have read this year. If some of the situations seem a bit contrived and the secret of Beninia ("...brotherly love out of an aerosol can?") comes like a god from the machine, these flaws (if that is even what they are) are not noticeable in the context of the total book. Maybe not the book of the decade but damned well the book of the year.

--J.B. Post

DAUGHTERS OF THE DOLPHIN by Roy Meyers.  
Ballantine 72001, August. 224 p. 75¢

Ballantine Books is now apparently back in the active science fiction field with a return to its former policy of issuing original science fiction novels of true "novel" length every month. The present novel is a sequel to the author's Dolphin Boy (Ballantine U6100, 1967, 75¢) and concerns the further adventures of Sir John Averill who, in the manner of a displaced Lord Greystoke, was raised by dolphins. Discovered by members of our air-breathing world and dubbed "triton" (not to be confused with Marvel Comics' water-breathing in-human). At the conclusion of Dolphin Boy, Triton chose the sea over the above-water land of his birth.

In this sequel, the air-breathing world once again imposes itself upon Triton in an attempt to both master the mystery of Triton's life and duplicate it. The attempt to duplicate Triton's abilities provides Triton with longed-for companionship in the form of two feminine "experiments."

Some of the technical aspects of Triton's survival, hinted at in Dolphin Boy, are explored further and more satisfyingly in Daughters of the Dolphin. At the same time we gain further insight into Triton's character as the responsibility for the continued survival of his charges begins to take its toll. In all, a competent job.

--D.C. Paskow

THE TWO-TIMERS by Bob Shaw. Ace Science Fiction Special H79, Aug. 191 p. 60¢

According to the profile on the author, this is Bob Shaw's third sf novel. I have only read one other, Night Walk (Banner Books B60-110) a highly competent adventure. This present novel is also a highly competent piece of work.

Basically the novel deals with the problems which arise when a man is informed that the life he has been living is not, in reality, his. A book with a similar theme, The Man With My Face, about a man who came home one day to find that someone had taken his place completely /even his own dog didn't recognize him/ was made into an excellent suspense movie with the same title) With a plot such as this, it is critically important that the characters be drawn true-to-life; if one character fails, the whole book fails.

In a review of John Christopher's Pendulum (SFT 457), I said that the author, Christopher, writes with a pen dipped in nightmare. Add 'frustration' to 'nightmare' and you have my summation of Bob Shaw's writing talent as displayed in The Two-Timers.

--D.C. Paskow



THE MASKS OF TIME by Robert Silverberg  
Ballantine U6121, May. 252 p. 75¢

Robert Silverberg, after a brief absence from the publishing scene, has returned stronger than ever; first with his Ballantine original Thorns, followed by To Open the Sky based on a series of novelettes published in Galaxy, and now The Masks of Time.

"Cult" novels seem to be popular in describing future societies, societies which are usually on the verge of collapse. Some writers are utterly unconvincing in their depiction of such societies; Robert Silverberg is masterful in his description.

The scene is a world tense with the war jitters. This is heightened by a belief that with the new century will come the end of the world. Into this situation comes a "prophet" -- Vornan 19, claiming to be a visitor from the future.

This is a "typical" situation for many writers. What Silverberg is able to do with it proves that even typical plot situations can be given new life in the hands of an atypical writer.

--D.C. Paskow

OPERATION MALACCA by Joe Poyer. Doubleday, July. 208 p. \$4.50

Joe Poyer is an extremely competent technical science fiction writer who has just recently blossomed in the pages of Analog. From 1965 he has been appearing regularly and Operation Malacca is an expanded version of the novelette bearing the same name which appeared in the March 1966 issue of Analog.

Author Poyer uses the current experimentation with dolphins as aids in scientific studies (the 'Malacca' of the title is the Strait of Malacca which has "...Sumatra to the south, Malaysia north.") The hero is Charlie the Dolphin (as opposed to Charlie the Tuna) whose ability to talk provides many exasperating moments for the human protagonist, Dr. Mortimer Kielty.

I could say more but I honestly feel that if I did, I would be cheating the prospective reader of much enjoyment. Let's hear more from Joe Poyer!

--D.C. Paskow

PLANET RUN by Keith Laumer and Gordon R. Dickson. Berkley X1588, July. 143p 60¢ (Hardcover: Doubleday, 1967. \$3.95)

This collaboration by two of science fiction's new (well, semi-new in the case of Gordon Dickson) old pros is just the thing for a lazy Saturday afternoon. Far from being a "serious" novel and, at the same time, not quite a space opera, Planet Run falls comfortably and rewardingly in-between.

Planet Run is not quite a space opera because the authors give their main character substance; though in the case of Captain Henry who is well over a century old, solid characterization is a necessity. Still, there are occasional lapses into stereotypy and situations which, at their best, are clichés. But these lapses are never frequent enough to prove disturbing.

Planet Run is not a "serious" novel, for it does not deal with any really ambitious themes of conscience or morality. There are, however, insights to be gleaned from the juxtaposition of Senator Bartholomew and Captain Henry. I would not, however, get carried away in attempts at interpretation. Read the novel first and foremost for enjoyment; there will always be time for interpretation later.

--D.C. Paskow

DO ANDROIDS DREAM OF ELECTRIC SHEEP? by Philip K. Dick. Doubleday, 1968. \$3.95

Earth had its holocaust a while back and the powers that be are urging everyone to leave Earth for a colony in the stars. To get people moving they make the offer of a free android to everyone who will leave. Every now and then one of the "slaves" escapes and comes to Earth; and when this happens it is Rick Decard's job to hunt them down and "kill" them. Until now a simple empathy test would reveal whether one was human or android. Then the company comes up with a new model that can pass the empathy test.

The book is mixed up with the usual Dick drugs and religion. Also the usual Dick double takes that leave the reader's mind spinning. However there is a certain deadliness about the book that is sure to get it nominated for a Hugo. He makes serious what Sheckley makes funny. There are several rather bitter allegories such as a society in which animals decide a person's status. If a person can't afford an animal he gets an electric one...

The book as a whole is an obvious product of a hard-working imagination that for some reason makes itself disturbing in spite of a tongue-in-cheek sort of narrative style.

--D.T. Malone

THEY SOUGHT ADVENTURE cont. from p.10

die peacefully fellows, don't beat it to death. All of the poems contain a theme common to many of Howard's pieces that of reincarnation in a dream sequence. All are fragmentary pieces and quite poetic at times, though a bit repetitious. Unfortunately, quantity and quality cannot justify the price and this is recommended only to staunch Howard fans.

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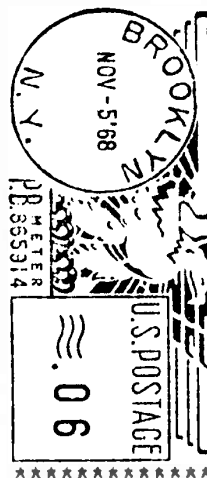
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