

THE SCIENCE FICTION WORLD

Published by
Dale Tarr
232 West Fifth
Anderson, Ind.

No. 2 September 1945.
Your comment on
this issue will
be appreciated.

THE GOATHERD

Before we take up either of the two little goatgetters on our agenda I'd like to request all you puzzle-loving readers -- if there are any -- to write in and tell us whether you've enjoyed them or not and also let us know what kind you prefer.

(1) In our first problem you are a zoologist and have finally rounded up the last remaining specimens of the hermaphroditic Titan bear. Your bag is five purple ones and nine dark green ones. As the name indicates any one bear can both sire and bear young but the two colors will not crossbreed nor can one bear both sire and bear its own cubs.

Just as you get them enclosed in the stockade your camp is attacked by Titanian savages and it is necessary to leave. Without lights it is impossible for you to distinguish between the two colors of bears and you may only have time for one trip from the pens to your space freighter. What is the minimum number of bears you must remove to insure propagation of at least one species? If you have time for more than one trip how many bears will you have to bring out to insure the propagation of both species?

(2) You're taking a trip to the moon (240,000 miles) and your ship operates on four fuel tanks simultaneously. These tanks are sealed with enough fuel in each to take care of its part of a one hundred and sixty thousand mile trip. It is possible to change tanks during flight. What is the minimum number of tanks necessary to the trip?

(3) Just for extra fun we'll throw in a quiz.

Who authored "Cosmic Engineers"?

Who authored "Sinister Barriers"?

Name the five directors of the N F F F and the cities in which they live.

Who edits Wonder Stories?

Name three current cover artists.

Name one story by M. Schere.

Who were the chief characters in Ross Rocklynne's The Men and the Mirror?

Name a novellette by Jack Williamson.

Hope you like 'em, fen. See you next time. GOATHERD.

STARLIGHT by Monte

The two sat down upon the mountain ledge
And talked. The night was clear and cool,
And one by one, sometimes in twos and threes --
-- Sometimes in clusters -- stars appeared
Until the satin blanket of the sky
Was gaily set with many brilliant jewels.

Kim Panzy turned his eyes aloft
And said, in thoughtful mood,
" Why is it, Hugh
That most men like me less than they like you ?"
Now Hugh Mann knew without conceit t
That what Kim said was true.
Still, he couldn't put his finger on a phrase
Which, by itself, would tell Kim what he wished to know.

" Well, Kim," he said at last, " the answer lies
In attitudes perhaps."
Kim didn't understand and said as much.
Hugh poked a finger at the sky and spoke.
" You look across the distance
And you say " How great.
Perhaps sometime man may negotiate
The fiery firmament".
I see not but the distance but the time."
Kim stared a moment then his eyes grew light.
" I see. You mean I must have faith in man."
Hugh shook his head.
" No, Kim, you struck into the question's core but yet
You missed the point. Faith's not enough.
In your regard the sum of man is great
But you neglect what went to make the total."
Kim hung his head.
" Then every man is great ?"
" Each man has greatness in him. Treat him so."
Hugh paused.
" Be forward looking and have other men
Beside yourself within each forward thought.
In dreaming, dream not only of yourself
But dream of other men."

Kim looked above again and in his mind
He saw not starfilled space alone but ships and men.
Commerce he saw and ever greater things.
And then he ceased to visualize himself
As someday being great. In all his dreams
He thought of man and he embodied man.
Mankind was great.
Kim Panzy was a man.

SUBVERSE by Jess Watt Yummean

Lil fanpub, gun wi gle
 Cums sout wi stuffa troshus c ?
 Tammany troshus fanzeenz now
 Lil fanpub fluncsen ow !

OVER THE DESK by The Editor

Well, fen, I hope you like this little effort. I'm going to try to make it bigger and better and the obly way I can do that is to receive material -- good materoal -- ffrom you other fen.

So how's about a prize fanzine ? You send in your work subject to my acceptance and I'll pay a prize to the author of that peice which gets the widest acclaim from the readers . Anything goes which has good fanappeal although I anticipate a demand for articles which should run up to about a thousand or so words.

The next issue od S F WORLD will be a full fledged fanpub Regular mimeo paper and anything else possible. Also starting next issue there will be a subscription price of fifteen cents per copy. In the event that enough subscriptions are forth coming each author in an issue will receive some compensation. At least, ffrom subscriptions, we'll try to work in a second & third prize. The big prize will be cash -- possibly half a cent a word for articles.

May I hear from YOU ?

TOPIC OF THE DAY

From the first announcement of the development of atomic power two opinions have been widely broadcast concerning it. The first was vague but roseate for popular appeal; the second tended either to deprecate its importance to future generations or to throw obstacles in the way of its immediate development.

Charley Tanner has called my attention to a David Dietz newspaper article in which Dietz remarks on a 1940 process for the reduction of U235 which was very slow. Dietz further concludes from the size of the factories which housed the US atomic bomb production facilities that that slow process of reduction must have been merely duplicated hunfrods of times, which is a feat impossible to the ordinary commercial peacetime economy. As Tanner commented -- that sounds likely.

But the reduction of U235 is not the whole story ! What about the working of the bomb itself ? They were surely unable to install a cyclotron in the Hiroshima devastator. We may be far enough along actually to warrant my going out on a limb and predicting the existence of commercially feasible atomic power -- with or without U235 -- in the next 15 years.

The release of such a development is not altogether in public hands : the time of release will be subject to a mixture of statesman's caution and behind the scenes chicanery.

TOPIC OF THE DAY -- continued from p 3

Currently the navy is busily engaged in denial of something grown old to them -- the proposition that the battleship is finally passe. The effectiveness of the atomic bomb is the cause of the current argument. The navy has claimed a new gun -- automatically radar controlled -- which will down airplanes at a distance of 50000 feet.

The truth is that the radar gun cannot be the answer. Discounting the need for a colossal armament on the battlewagon to turn back ~~of~~ an air attack of a respectable size we are faced with the incompetence of a great ship ~~in~~ against remote controlled, television operated groups of bombs and the difficulty of preventing overlap in the reaction of a radar defense.

Incidentally, the Chicago Sun, which is an excellent news paper, carries a number of rather good feature writers, one of whom, Kennesaw Landis, had a short article on the development of the bomb in a recent issue.

Battleships and large navies are due for a final blackout. Atomic power means the development of large aircraft and rocket ships capable of handling troop movement. There will be no beachheads for an air attack; there are no practical physical limitations to an air offensive. All the factors combined, apart from destroying the legend of strength of the battleship, render them obsolete with the passing of the need for navies.

What is the defence against the atomic bomb? What will be the next great weapon to be invented? Science Fiction has given us the answer in the disintegration ray. Possible the secret of the atomic bomb is the method of releasing -- let's say -- a cloud of neutrons at a particular moment. A sufficient number of incident neutrons will cause a self propagated explosion of U235. Perhaps along such a line or certainly in further general atomic research lies the neutron blaster or the disintegrator.

Coming next issue :

A two page article on the retreat of revealed religion in the face of popular advance. This article clearly shows that the people lead and the church follows reluctantly. It deals with past and present theological positions in science -- in law -- and in morals. Don't miss it !

ADDENDA

Did you read the excellent article entitled Rocket to the Moon in the current Mechanics Illustrated? By Willy Ley. Color pictures, too. The magazine cover is being widely reproduced by newspapers with favorable comment.

Neither the first nor second part of World Of A has come up to Stan in my opinion. I've liked several Vanvugt stories better.