

1958 EDITION

The

SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK

\$1



SCIENCE - FICTION HISTORY ————— 1957

THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK

1958 EDITION - Volume Two

"EDITORIAL"	PAGE 1
by The Editors	
"SCIENCE FICTION: 1957"	PAGE 2
by James V. Taurasi, Sr. & Ray Van Houten	
"1957 IN BOOKS"	PAGE 14
by Stephen J. Takacs	
"1957 IN SCIENCE FICTION"	PAGE 18
by Thomas S. Gardner	
"ANNUAL REPORT: 1957"	PAGE 23
by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.	
"THE TRANSATLANTIC FUND"	PAGE 26
by Robert A. Madle	
"HISTORY OF THE PAPA: 1957"	PAGE 29
by Daniel McPhail	
"SLICK SCIENCE FICTION"	PAGE 31
by Donald E. Ford	

"THE ADOPTION OF THE TERM 'SCIENCE FICTION'"	PAGE 33
by Sam Moskowitz	

"THE LONDONCON REPORT"	PAGE 42
'The 1957 World Science Fiction Convention'	
by John Victor Peterson	

Edited by the Editors of Science-Fiction Times.

Cover by ESMH - Interiors by Herman Von Tokken.

THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK, Volume No. 2, 1958, is published
by Science-Fiction Times, Inc., P. O. Box 115, Solvay Branch,
Syracuse 9, New York, \$1.00 per copy.

THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK -- Volume No. 2 - 1958

FIRST EDITION - Published July 1960

Second Printing - August 1960

EDITORIAL

ONCE AGAIN we present to you the science-fiction yearbook, a history of what has happened the year before. This year we look back at 1957 and see what happened in the science-fiction field of magazines, books, movies, and fandom.

You can compare this with the year 1956 that we published last year and see for yourself whether our field has improved or not. Perhaps in this recap you can see the signs of why it improved or why it didn't. Perhaps like us you really can't. Perhaps the eternal signs are just that there are just so many readers who will buy a science-fiction item. Just so many readers and no more! So -- when the field oversteps itself something has to give -- and usually it's the pro mags, or some of them. One thing that makes this rule -- if it is a rule -- hard to take, is that sometimes it isn't the bad mags, or books, that give way, but some of the better ones.

We can't see where the future of this field -- that since 1939 has expanded to numerous magazines and books -- will ever be different. As soon as some of the mags or books start making money because the field is down to about the right number of mags etc., along come some boys and put out new mags. Then the field once more becomes overcrowded and with a somewhat fixed readership we're back to lower and lower circulation for all the mags and books. Hence mags and books will fold. Around and around goes the circle. When will it stop?

Naturally the poor quality of fiction and unimaginative editors and poor artwork we've been getting lately hasn't helped things any.

Anyway here is the year 1957, enjoy yourselves!

SCIENCE FICTION:

by JAMES V. TAURASI, SR.

I T IS MOST INTERESTING to look back after a year and re-read what you wrote about s-f events. Writing a news-item as it happens, you use the facts available at the time --- months-later, perspective and further events can twist the significance of that same item around to such a degree that your original report sounds pretty foolish.

We've had that happen many times in SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES. Very likely, if s-f news reporting were a full-time occupation for us, and making a living didn't interfere so heavily, we'd be able to dig a lot deeper into a particular item, and the passage of time wouldn't do such disturbing things to our best work.

But things being as they are, we're very grateful for this yearly opportunity to second-guess ourselves on the year's s-f activity. Let's drag out the hot typewriter, look over 1957 as reported in S-FT, check the notes in our little black book, and draw as accurate a picture as possible of 1957 in science-fiction.

I N OUR LAST ACCOUNT, the history of 1956, it was shown that the second postwar boom had gathered great momentum. More and more s-f magazines came out, and none, not one, folded.

A foundation for this state of affairs was hard to find. The mags already on the stands were just about getting by. Things had started to look a little better for them, but there had been no significant rise in circulation, certainly nothing that would serve as a

beckoning finger for publishers out to make an easy buck or two.

The second postwar boom in s-f was a phony boom, and 1957 saw it crack. the influx of additional mags will, we believe, cause serious trouble not only for the poorer mags, but for some of the older and better ones as well.

The fact that American News Company ceased distributing accounts for a great deal of the difficulty, but not all of it, and perhaps not even the major part

1957

and RAY VAN HOUTEN

of it.

The First January issue of FANTASY-TIMES carried the first signs of the downward trend --- "DREAM WORLD - DEMAND FOR ONE MONTH". Paul Fairman, the son-in-law of that ill-fated publication, said that getting material in the "new field" was hard, hence the cut-back.

J. Harry Vincent reported that Fantasy Press had cut their book prices to \$2.50 per volume, another straw in the wind.

Another Vincent report stated that a certain s-f book publisher was not paying authors of the books they published, and was, further, withholding money collected on subsidiary rights. Our little black book records the identity of this "big fish in a little pond" robber-baron, but our legal advisor would have several litters of kittens in rapid succession if we were to publish it. Too bad, as the nefarious activities of schnooks like this should be publicized, we think, in order to protect not only authors who might be further victimized, but the field's more ethical competitors as well.

A sidelight --- this guy was at the equally lousy 1956 NYCON, and one very famous author was so mad that we almost had to restrain him from taking the law into his own hands. "That blankety-blank so-and-so is walking around here spending my money," he angrily stated. And that wasn't the only author who spoke (or shouted!) thusly. Some went

even further, such as to sue.

The Second January Issue was a sad one: it reported the deaths of F. Orlin Tremaine and Ray Cummings.

Actually Mr. Tremaine had passed away on 22 October 1956, but the news had just reached us. We had been writing to him once or twice a year, as he was a very sick man and we didn't want to bother him. Our last letter arrived too late --- it was answered by his sister-in-law, Mrs. DeWitt Tremaine, who gave us the sad news.

As soon as this delayed news was published in FANTASY-TIMES, however, everybody hastened to get it into print, and as usual most of the reports never bothered to credit their source. A newsman's lot is not a happy one.

Ray Cummings died on 23 January 1957, and though he had been in the s-f field before there were s-f magazines, he was only 69 when he died.

He was a very prolific author in s-f's earlier days, and was responsible for many ideas and situations which have come to be the literature's cliches.

"Willy Ley Slated For \$64,000 Question" stated another headline in the 2nd January Issue. But time was to tell us that he would never appear. S-F's own expert on just about everything was kept waiting week after week, to a point where he could wait no longer. He had, like all of us, work to do, and it didn't always keep him in New York.

The First February issue's headlines made it seem that the boom was

still going strong --- "OTHER WORLDS Changes Title And Goes Monthly"; "S-F ADVENTURES And INFINITY Go Six-Weekly"; "WONDER STORIES Back As An Anthology".

But a closer look, and subsequent events, proves otherwise.

They say that every deck has a joker, and s-f is no exception. Wise old Ray Palmer had pulled another slick one.

OTHER WORLDS became TWO mags, one of them NOT s-f. There was a world of difference (in theory, at least) between Flying Saucers From OTHER WORLDS and FLYING SAUCERS From Other Worlds.

Palmer's plan was to alternate the two types under the "same" title (which still required only one 2nd class entry at the Post Office), thus killing a whole flock of birds with one master stroke.

Thus he catered to two markets and whichever proved the best he could stick with. He was also free of the charge of using a s-f mag to further a crackpot cult -- he had learned THAT lesson well anyway. And he left the back door wide open to get out of science-fiction if the going got rough.

Which it did, and he did --- the OTHER WORLDS accent was dropped shortly thereafter and the SAUCERS continued to fly unobstructed.

INFINITY and S-F ADVENTURES were a different proposition entirely. These were both very good s-f mags. INFINITY had been the mag that started the whole upward trend in 1956, had enjoyed good sales for a time, and had won critical acclaim from many sources. All this, we suspect, led to the jump to six-weekly schedule, with the announcement that monthly publication would come soon after.

But that monthly jump proved to be a tough hurdle. It never did occur in 1957, and we're inclined to believe that Shaw and his publishers regretted the six-weekly deal before the year was out.

Ned Pines, once the leading s-f publisher, with the most titles in the field, had been forced to drop them all. In fact, of the dozens of pulps in all fields that he once owned, only a few remained. Other types of mags made more money, and that was that.

But the s-f boom was on, wasn't it, and maybe there's a buck to be made in the field again.

He tried an anthology, reprinting from his former s-f mags. Editing was good, interiors likewise, but they picked Powers for the cover artist, and his work just didn't carry out the general atmosphere of the magazine.

It came out as WONDER STORIES but carried on the volume numbering of THRILLING WONDER STORIES. Use of the original title was partly due to the urging of the editors of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES.

The issue was good --- the reprints from years ago were at least as readable as the majority of new material that was on the stands at the same time; the illustrations were tops, and most of them were also reprints. The cover struck a sour note.

This magazine was one of the last distributed by American News Company. Once ANC had made up its mind to quit the field, it didn't make the usual effort to keep up its normal service to publishers.

No "estimated returns" on the sale of WONDER STORIES was made to Pines, who thus had no basis for making future plans for the mag. As things stand now, further issues are planned when conditions become more "normal". When that will be is anybody's guess.

In the same issue we announced that the story on Lowndes' SCIENCE FICTION STORIES going monthly had been premature. The new target for monthly publication was given as Fall, 1957. This also was to turn out wrong.

"Ziff-Davis Moves Editorial Office" was a headline in the Second February Issue. This was to give Paul Fairman a dizzy feeling, for no sooner had they moved into their new quarters, than they moved back again to the old address!

Seems that the new offices at 1 Park Avenue, New York, were not yet ready for the entire staff, so Paul was shuttled back. At year's end he was still there.

In "The Time Stream", J. Harry Vincent reported that a new fan mag column was slated for OTHER WORLDS. This never had a chance. Later information revealed that the first one arrived too late -- and the mag was discontinued by then anyway.

Our little black book has a notation on this subject --- Paul Fairman had informed us early in 1957 that AMAZ-

ING's fan mag column was slowly being pushed out of the magazine. He told us that he had to think of his regular readers, and not just of "a few fans". This statement was given to us "off the record" and never appeared in SFT. However, Paul (or his publishers) must have faith in a few nuts instead, for he devoted a full issue later in the year to the flying saucer cult.

The boom still continued, or so many thought at the time, when Ziff-Davis announced a new s-f mag, AMAZING S-F NOVELS. It came out as AMAZING STORIES S-F NOVELS. Good format, excellent cover, fair interiors, poor story, good idea. It lasted one issue.

"No More Serials For AMAZING Or FANTASTIC" was another headline in the same issue. His readers didn't want them, stated Fairman.

In direct contrast to the impression of "boom" conditions given by the emergence of Z-D's new NOVELS, the same issue told that #3 DREAM WORLD was to be delayed. This bi-monthly mag never did come out on time. At best it was a poor quarterly. The agony was almost over, though --- soon it would be no more.

The first April issue brought out more anti-"boom" indications ---- "2nd SPACE S-F Delayed One Month". This, an unusually good s-f mag, was soon to see its last issue.

Featured also was a report on another of Gerry de la Ree's excellent articles in The Bergen Evening Record, this one on Frank R. Paul, "the dean of s-f illustrators". The issue also told us that Willy Ley was still waiting for the \$64,000 Question. Stated Mr. Ley: ".....The people who put this show on expected the contestants to be ready at a moment's notice and then to hold five consecutive Tuesdays open for them. I have tried to be as cooperative as possible and waited for twelve consecutive Tuesdays. But there are limits, now I have a few out of town lectures coming up and I must make two trips, one to San Antonio and one to Hollywood. I try to combine those two, but even if I succeed in doing it, it still knocks several Tuesdays out. This means that I've been 'postponed' for an indefinite time....."

The second April issue announced that well-known author John Victor Peterson would cover the 15th World

Science Fiction Convention in London for Fantasy-Times, aided by whoever of the staff that would be there. Johnny turned in an excellent report and took movies of the Convention. You'll get his reactions in the special World Convention section of this YEARBOOK. This issue also announced that Alfred Bester and Eric Frank Russell won as best authors of 1956 in FANTASY-TIMES' second Poll. The readers of FANTASY-TIMES voted Alfred Bester's "The Stars My Destination", from GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION, as the best novel of 1956. ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION supplied the best novelet and short story. They were "Plus X" by Eric Frank Russell and "Top Secret" also by Eric Frank Russell. The 3rd Poll was announced in this issue, but results were so poor and inconclusive that the quarterly poll system was dropped and an annual poll idea took its place. That Annual Poll was announced in the First January 1958 issue of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, and the results will be announced in the next YEARBOOK.

The First May issue proved a bombshell to the fan world. FANTASY-TIMES, which for almost sixteen years had come out on a regular schedule except for the war years, and who hadn't changed its name except for one issue in 1942 (that issue being called FANTASY-REPORTER) announced a change of name to SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, and a plan to go photo-offset if enough additional readers could be obtained. Reason for the change was the decline of the word "Fantasy" and the increase in popularity in the word "Science-Fiction". It was hoped that the changing of the title would bring in more subscriptions, as some might have been scared away by the word "Fantasy". The editors stated that FANTASY-TIMES once had 600 paid subscribers and now had only 500, and that another 500 would be needed before FANTASY-TIMES, now SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES could go photo-offset and eight large-size (8½" x 11") pages. As the year 1957 ended those added 500 subscribers had not yet come true, but SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES went photo-offset with its First 1958 issue anyway. BUT not large-size; it had to be a smaller size and only four pages. Had SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES reached as high as it could possibly go? Time would tell.

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES in its Second

May 1957 issue took the bull by the pointed horns and boldly announced that the science-fiction "boom" had cracked. "Two Mags Cut Pages Indicating 'Boomlet' Has Cracked" ran the headline. It told that SCIENCE FICTION STORIES had cut back from a recent advance of 16 pages, back to 130 pages again, when the 16 pages were dropped with the July 1957 issue; and that SATURN had also cut 16 pages making it a 112 page mag. This was the lowest number of pages for a digest-size science-fiction magazine. Before this that honor had gone to IF which had (and still has) 120 pages. The editors figured that if a mag is doing good it will not cut pages. SCIENCE FICTION STORIES continued to announce that it would soon go monthly, but this was still quite a time off. SATURN, soon after, began delaying issues as you'll see later in this report. Later events proved the editors to be almost right. Actually, as this report has already pointed out, the "boom" had cracked long before this, but, as usual, could not be seen at the time. The issue also announced that the days of the 25¢ science-fiction mags were over. The last fort in this price range had given up and increased its price to 35¢. SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY, long a 25¢ mag, had tried by cutting pages to retain its low price, but could not so was now selling for 35¢. In doing so it had added 32 pages. This brought it back to the 130 pages it had started out with. This shot in the arm proved of no value, the mag had less than a year to live, as our 1958 report will reveal.

FLYING SAUCERS, which had been giving science-fiction ulcers since Ray Palmer began reporting them in AMAZING STORIES in 1947, would creep back and darken the pages of AMAZING STORIES once again. A whole issue of that rag would be turned over to flying saucers. The issue was announced as being the September 1957 issue, but later events proved this wrong. Fairman was unable to get what he wanted and the October issue contained the flying saucer cult, forcing SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES to refuse to acknowledge that issue as a science-fiction magazine. You'll find that this issue of the YEARBOOK lists only 11 issues of AMAZING STORIES for the year-1957. In an editorial note following

the announcement, the editors stated: "The editors of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES deplore the fact that a so-called science-fiction magazine must resort to such goings-on as 'Shaver Mystery', 'Dianetics', 'Flying Saucers' and other rot to fill their pages. We are of the opinion that a science-fiction magazine should publish science-fiction. If you 'guys' like this junk better than you do science-fiction, then why in hell don't you get out of the science-fiction publishing game and make your 'millions' publishing every sort of 'lunacy' that crops up every year?". In the same issue was the headline "Shasta Prize Novel Not To Appear??" It stated that the winner of the "Shasta Prize Novel Contest" of a few years back by Philip Jose Farmer, would not be published by Shasta. The winning novel, "I Owe For The Flesh" (retitled "The River Of Eternity") had a contract deadline for the hardcover edition by Shasta, for February 9th 1957. Bulk of the \$4,500 prize money due to Mr. Farmer was \$3,000 from Pocket Books, Inc., for paperback rights. In answer to a query from the SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, Mr. Freeman Lewis, executive vice-president of Pocket Books, Inc., stated: "We contracted with Shasta Publishers to issue a paper bound reprint of Mr. Farmer's novel and paid an advance of \$3,000 on signing the reprint contract. Shasta, by failing to publish their edition of the book within the time set forth in its contract with Mr. Farmer, violated that contract and Mr. Farmer informed them of said violation and the contract became null and void. Under the circumstances it was obviously impossible for Shasta to fulfill its contract with us for a reprint edition so that our reprint contract also becomes null and void. We have, therefore, asked Shasta to return the advance made to them by us. No contract for the book has been signed directly between Pocket Books, Inc., and Mr. Farmer, though such a contract may be signed in the future." In answer to SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES' request for further information and clarification from Erle Korschak of Shasta, in which SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES listed several specific questions which they felt should be answered, the following communication was received from Mr. Korschak: "Thank you for having called the

~~article~~ ~~Shasta~~ Prize Novel Not To Appear? to our attention, before publishing same. While this article has a number of inaccuracies, we fail to see how any objections to them on our part would do us any good." No other word of this seemingly odd affair has yet come to light.

The First June Headline read: "Fred Pohl to Edit New S-F Mag". Ballantine, successful with its line of science-fiction pocket books, was to publish a digest-size, 35¢, 128 page science-fiction magazine, with able Pohl at the helm. Star Science Fiction was its name. Pohl had done some pocket-book collections for Ballantine under the "Star" name so it was a natural. A unique plan for international distribution was announced. For the English speaking people overseas, a pocket-size edition was planned. This edition was to be distributed with their regular pocket-books going overseas. This pocket-book set-up never came about, and while the first issue was planned for August 1957, it was months later before it came out. Powers was picked as cover and (his first) interior artist. As we stated before, Powers has been doing all the covers of the Ballantine s-f pocket-books. His art work is described by some as modern. In many person's opinion it is not suitable for science-fiction. What really rocked the magazine publishing world was also announced in this issue. American News Company, the oldest and biggest of magazine distributors was soon to give up this phase of its business. Starting back when Munsey was in full force as publisher, many magazine publishers had been against the huge monster of a distributor that they claimed ANC was. Munsey, himself, was the first to set up an Independent magazine distributing system. In the years following him many, many independents had set up; tying themselves into nationwide chains of Independents. Thus year by year many publishers left ANC and either setup their own Independent systems or let one of the established systems distribute their mags. Big companies like Street & Smith Inc., had years ago left ANC. Time, Inc., publishers of Life and Time, big deals in this crazy field of printed words, left ANC a short time before. It still is not clear, but rumors had it and still

have it that the straw that broke the ANC's back was when Dell's mighty line of excellent comics pulled out. Anyway, ANC gave up. The load was put on the smaller houses, the mighty complex set-ups of Independent Distributing Companies. The INDS were not set up to take the extra load. It didn't break down, but boy did it crack. Newsstands were not getting mags, some magazines (not s-f) had even to go to the extreme to cease publication for a number of issues before they could get an Ind. to handle them. The mess caused some of the weaker and newer s-f mags to stagger in their schedule, give up altogether, or lose circulation due to improper distribution. As we stated at the beginning of this account, it was easy to blame all troubles on ANC's folding. Some, naturally, was true, most wasn't. But ANC did give up, and chaos took over. As the year ended, things were much better, regular distribution was beginning to come again, but it would take years before the Ind. could handle the load effectively. In the long run, tho, it probably is the best thing that could have happened to the publishing field. When the time comes that the Inds have had a chance to build up their set-ups, get enough trucks etc. to handle all the mags, the publishers will have a chance to pick and choose among them for the best distribution for his particular magazine. The field will be in a more healthy way. The stranglehold ANC had had over the field for so long is a thing of the past. Happy days are ahead for all -- if they can weather the present storm. As it how stands many readers either have to visit numerous stands and stores to get all their science-fiction magazines, or/and in some cases go without. What to do if you want a science-fiction magazine and your present stand(s) doesn't carry it. Write to the publisher and tell him, give him the address of the stand(s) and if possible the Ind. distributor(s) name and address that covers your area. The publisher will do his best to get his mag there. Naturally you can subscribe direct. Also, of course, this applies to non-sf mags also. This issue also contained sad, sad news that the wife of one of Science Fiction Times' editors had passed away due to a heart ailment. Mrs. Betty Van

due to a heart ailment. Mrs. Betty Van Houten, wife of editor Ray Van Houten died suddenly on May 16, 1957. Not a science-fiction fan, she had often helped produce SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES and had taken part in other s-f activities. Ray married her in 1946 and she came to the United States in 1947 as a "G.I. Bride". She was a native of Great Britain. Fandom House marked it's 20th Anniversary with this issue. Twenty years ago around June 1937, James V. Taurasi founded "Taurasi Publications" and published the first issue of COSMIC TALES QUARTERLY. Taurasi Publications became Cosmic Publications with that mag's second issue, changed names numerous times (United Publications, Fantasy-News Publishing Co., Fantasy-Times Publishing Co., etc.) with Cosmic always coming back after a short time. Finally, while overseas and beginning the first 12 issues of the Continental Edition of FANTASY-TIMES, Sgts. Taurasi and Van Houten decided to keep Cosmic Publications (This was in 1945). Late in 1948 William S. Sykora decided to bring in his planned revival of the weekly FANTASY-NEWS (Founded by Cosmic Publications in 1938) and a new name for the combined operations was sought. Fandom House was a natural. It was Fandom House ever since until December 1957 when it incorporated under the laws of New York State as Fandom House, Inc. Owners of the Corporation are Taurasi, Van Houten and newcomer Frank R. Prieto, Jr. But this caused the downfall of that famous name. When the news was published in the nation's papers, it came to the attention of Random House, Inc. and they strongly objected. Naturally never a money maker, being an amateur publishing house (tho it had not lost money since 1948) there wasn't any money (about \$3,000) to fight a possible law suit. Random House, Inc. could and would bring the question to court. Sadly the corporation was forced to look for a new name. As this is written a new name is awaiting approval of New York State. Next year, the whole story can be told. Ah! How many times has fandom been set back because of lack of cash!

The 2nd June 1957 issue of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES brought forth the sad news that J. Allen St. John, famous mostly

for his paintings and illustrations for the Burroughs' novels had passed away on May 23, 1957. He was in his 80s. For many he was the only one that really captured Tarzan in a picture. Write Forrest J Ackerman for that issue! "A sad salute goodbye to a man who for me, and many more I'm sure, gave a third dimension to the sense of wonder thru his wonderful drawings." Mr. St. John had had inside illustrations and covers in the science-fiction magazines. On the heels of ANC folding came the rumors that numerous s-f magazines had folded. This was the usual thing among certain fans, and also as usual they proved wrong. Certain pro mags were in trouble because of ANC, but they had not folded -- not at that time. That came later.

The news broke --- "DREAM WORLD INDEFINATELY DELAYED" --- BOOM went the "boom" and broke to pieces. DREAM WORLD brainchild of Paul Fairman and Ziff-Davis, delayed thruout its short life, folded. This was another case of a science-fiction publisher trying to publish a fantasy magazine. It was no go. DREAM WORLD never caught on. No one was satisfied with it -- nor its name. Each issue had been delayed a month, making it in reality, a quarterly instead of a bi-monthly. The "boom" without foundation --- the "boom" that should not have been --- was at an end.

In the same issue, Fandom House announced that it was taking orders for THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK (the 1957 edition). This one ad almost sold out the print order of 200 copies in one of fandom's most fabulous sales. Before the 200 copies were finished, it had oversold itself by 60 copies. Later that year a 2nd 200 copies (second printing) were published, and these sold out just after a review of it appeared in ASTOUNDING. There are no copies now available of THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK No. 1.

The proposed monthly schedule for Shaw's INFINITY and SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES didn't come about, but the masthead read "Monthly except-----". This confused many readers who wrote in asking why we hadn't announced that they had gone monthly. They hadn't, they were still six-weekly, but the Post Office wanted the masthead to read that

way, so-----. That issue of the "TIMES" also announced that Hugo winner Kelly Freas was to have a portfolio published by the publishers of Damon Knight's "In Search Of Wonder"; Advent: Publishers of Chicago. It came out as a 38 page booklet and sold for \$1.50. A swell memento to a great artist.

In the midst of the "boom" cracking as is almost always the case there will come an event that tries to prove the opposite. This news we were very happy to see. Robert W. Lowndes working on a low budget had proven he was a capable editor. His three mags: bi-monthly SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, Quarterlies: FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION and SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY were good magazines. The stories were average or above, the editorials among the best, the departments tops. Bob Madle's "Inside Science Fiction" is the best fan column in the business. Also, I suppose we will always remember that it was FUTURE FICTION, pre-war version of FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION that first published FANTASY-TIMES in early 1940. Lowndes announced that sales of FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION were good enough for the magazines to go from quarterly to bi-monthly. The first bi-monthly issue was to be #35, the February 1958 issue.

The same Second July issue of the "TIMES" also announced that B. G. Davis, President of Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, had resigned that position and would set up a new company. His vacated job was filled by William Ziff, son of the founder William B. Ziff, who passed away in 1953.

The First August issue had a headline that none expected: "LEO MARGULIES BUYS 'SHORT STORIES' AND 'WEIRD TALES'". Leo stated that he would continue SHORT STORIES immediately, while he'd wait for the "right time" for WEIRD TALES, since events had proven that "fantasy" magazines were not selling in the U.S. now. SHORT STORIES came out in digest-128-35¢ style and has been an excellent magazine ever since. With a few reprints and mostly new stories, it is the only all-different fiction magazine on the market. Each issue has at least one science-fiction story. Our only kick is that the "red sun" once part of the logo has been dropped. Come, Leo, that is

SHORT STORIES. At one time, a few years ago, after SHORT STORIES and WEIRD TALES had folded, we heard that it was up for auction. We sent our Legal Advisor to buy them. We wanted those two titles (and the fabulous bound issues of WEIRD TALES), plus the numerous copyrights to the many famous stories in both mags. We felt sure that with the title and copyrights we could obtain the necessary capital to reissue the mags. We laid careful plans for both mags (sorry they are still in the black book --- too "Top Secret" for release) and waited. It didn't go over and a certain gentleman got the titles, etc. In checking on this boy we found that he was only representing a certain printer that had a large bill against the mags. Their plan was to have the former owner reissue the mag or mags and hope that they would sell enough so he'd get his money. The former owner did finally issue SHORT STORIES on a bi-monthly (sometimes) schedule, but it never went over. With no cover painting or interior illustrations, the public just didn't take to it. It staggered in its schedule and finally gave up. Leo grabbed it.

The same issue carried some more--good news. Frank R. Paul, No. 1 s-f artist was back in the field again. He was to do a cover for Leo Margulies' SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION. Added spicing to the news was that Leo Morey, another old-timer artist of the s-f field was already doing interiors for Margulies. Two real s-f artists in one mag. It was too good to be true. Thomas S. Gardner, who had for years been writing annual reports on the professional magazines for (Fantasy) SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, announced that after his 1957 report (reprinted in this volume) he would have to retire from doing any more. Tom was after more knowledge. He was going back to school and obtain another degree. This would not allow him enough time to read all the stories published, and thus he would be unable to give his annual reports. Saddened by the loss of their capable reporter, the editors of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES went shopping for a new one. They found one just as capable and he did read all the stories in all the science-fiction pro mags. None other than Edward Wood. You'll see him in this

YEARBOOK next year with his first annual report, "1958 In Science Fiction".

The Second August issue carried more news of the "boom" gone bust. "INFINITY & 'S-F ADVENTURES' HAVE NOT GONE MONTHLY YET" read the black headline. As stated before in this report, plans were made by Larry Shaw to go monthly in the Fall of 1957 with both his s-f mags. In fact things looked so good, that the October issues were printed with the wording (big ones) that the mags were Monthly. By the time the rest of the issues were printed, that wasn't the case. The mags were still every 6-weeks, but nothing could be done with the covers, so they were used anyway. What laid ahead for these two mags were sad indeed, but most of that will be in the 1958 report. Needless to say as the year ended they were still 6-weekly. "STAR SF DELAYED BY ANC BREAK-UP" was the other headline on page one. STAR was to be a "Bad-luck" mag right down the line. This was just one of the many things that ended its life almost before it got started. More bad news was the headline "SATURN DELAYED ONE MONTH". The 4th issue of the Wollheim edited magazine was to be delayed one month. By now the "boom" was definitely gone, and the recession had begun in earnest. SATURN, never a big-deal in pro s-f mags was never to recover from its page cuts and delays. B. G. Davis who recently resigned from Ziff-Davis Publishing Co., bought out Mercury Publications and its ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE. The rest of the Mercury mags were to be retained by Ferman, but continued under the Fantasy House, Inc. house name. Now a most peculiar set-up was established. Bob Mills was retained as Managing Editor of ELLERY QUEEN. And, he still was editor and Managing Editor of Ferman's mags as before. Both publishers were located in the same office. Mad-house, but plenty. The set-up was to continue, and work well.

The First September 1957 was a gala issue of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES. It was the largest issue yet photo-offset by Fandom House, who had been the first to publish a complete photo-offset mag in the amateur science-fiction field, (the Second November 1941 issue). It was 8 pages 8½" x 11". It was to show the

readers what the publishers had in mind if and when enough readers could be found to subscribe to SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES. This was one of the largest ever circulated. Hundreds upon hundreds of sample copies went out. An all out effort was made to grab those few hundred readers necessary to make all future issues of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES this size, number of pages, etc. But returns were disappointing. We never received the number of subscribers necessary to put out our dreams into reality.

"BALLANTINE'S 'STAR S-F' DUE IN 30 DAYS" was the headline. STAR delayed before birth by ANC folding was finally to come out. A cut of the first cover showing a Dec. date line was featured along with complete news of the new mag. But it was more than 30 days before the issue finally came out. By the time it did the date line read January 1958. A picture of Frank R. Paul and his painting of the first full-colored painting of a satellite was another feature of the issue, along with a cut of Paul's latest satellite as it would appear on the Dec. 1957 SATELLITE SCIENCE-FICTION. The gala issue besides containing most of the regular departments carried special articles. "Life at 12½ to 1" by Harry Harrison telling of the easy and cheap way to live in Mexico while writing s-f for the U. S. markets; "The Art Of Book Reviewing" by Damon Knight; and a full-page super cartoon by one of the best of modern s-f artists, Kelly Freas titled "DEADLINE JOB: Teamwork, That's What Does It!", a real humorous and excellent layout were among the special articles. This issue introduced a new-reporter to the ever changing staff of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES: Dick Ellington, who took over the fan column, "State Of Fandom" with this issue. Also introduced was the new logo for SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, done by one of the better artists in the field, John Giunta.

The Second September 1957 issue was taken over completely by an excellent report of the 1957 World Science Fiction Convention, The Londoncon, as reported by the well-known author John Victor Peterson via Air-Letter from London. You will find the full report on this in a special section of this volume.

Although the "boom" was gone, new

s-f mags would still come out. The 1st October issue contained the news that James Blish, active fan, well-known author and book reviewer of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES was to edit a new mag called VANGUARD SCIENCE FICTION. This mag was also to suffer delays, but finally come out in 1958. Jim Blish taking over the editorship of a pro mag forced SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES to loose another good man. Like Tom Gardner giving up his annual pro mag reviews because of lack of time, so Jim Blish gave up reviewing books for S-F TIMES. As in Tom's case an excellent replacement was found. Gerry de la Ree took over James Blish's job. Gerry proved to be an excellent reviewer, one that the staff is real proud of, and one that give the "TIMES" editors the kind of headaches they like. Gerry started swamping them with reviews and is still at it. Try as they may the editors will never catch up. At year's end, over 20 reviews were on hand. It would take issue after issue of nothing but book reviews to print them all. But the editors will do their best to get as many of them to you as possible.

Frank R. Paul has had many admirers and friends in the field. He was given the honor of being the Guest of Honor at the First World Science Fiction Convention back in 1939. While many personalities in the science-fiction field have received well earned "Hugos", Mr. Paul who deserved one more than any other, never had the good luck to receive one. This was remedied by SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES on September 28th when Frank R. Paul was invited to dinner and was presented with a Plaque for his excellent work in the science-fiction field. He thought he was going to a small private dinner. Actually twenty-one friends and admirers of the famous Paul gathered at the dinner to honor him. The "Dean of Science Fiction Illustrators" was finally rewarded for his great work.

Deeper and deeper became the recession of the s-f pro mags. SATURN was delayed again. Was there a boom? Had there ever been one?

"RAY PALMER QUIT S-F!" is a headline no one ever expected to see in his lifetime. Palmer was a fixture in the science-fiction field. Good or bad as his mags may be, everyone said he'd al-

ways be around. But 1957 proved too much for the little fighter from Wisconsin. Having divided his mag OTHER WORLDS into two, one s-f and one flying saucer, he was seemingly all set for come what may. But the recession proved too much for him. He gave up and folded his last s-f mag, OTHER WORLDS. FLYING SAUCERS would continue as a bi-monthly, as would his other occult mag SEARCH. But s-f ----- Noooooooooo. After losing money right & left for years in the s-f field, he had had enough. He quit! He gave his all, and that was not enough. The trouble with Palmer was that he had become too preoccupied with the Shaver Mystery, Flying Saucers and other occult items, and what he considered science-fiction was the lowest form thereof ever seen in the s-f field. It just would not sell. In fact a fan mag would have trouble selling it. Make-up and illustrations sank to a new low. But lousy as his stuff was, Palmer had kept a promise he made to the editors of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES in 1949. There was never any Shaver Mystery as such in his s-f mag. Yes, he did publish a Shaver story, in fact reprinted one from AMAZING. Yes it was part of the Shaver Mystery, but in OTHER WORLDS he presented it as straight s-f, and as such who could object. They could say it was lousy, it was, but as presented it was just another bad s-f story. The great Palmer left the s-f field. He had no one to blame but himself. His mag was lousy, but, we all miss him. Lousy as his mag was, we wish he'd return. Maybe some day he will.

Good news for a change appeared in the First November issue. "SCIENCE FICTION STORIES' WILL GO MONTHLY WITH THE MAY 1958 ISSUE". At Last! After months and months of almost, not quite ready, any time now, Columbia would make SCIENCE FICTION STORIES a monthly. A great victory for one of the better editors in the s-f field, Bob Lowndes. Lowndes had and has many handicaps before him. He can't pay for stories the way he should; he has too many mags to handle. But through pure good editorship he finally did the impossible, he made one of his s-f mags a monthly. Good work, Bob, you have proven that if you're qualified for the job, you can still win.

J. Harry Vincent in his column "The

"Time Stream" took Fred Pohl's STAR SCIENCE FICTION apart. No he had no objection to the fiction content. The illustrations got him. A quiet, mild, young man, Mr. Vincent seldom lets out a roar in his column. He reports the news he gets in or is handed to him by the editors; he gives his opinions at times. But the Powers cover and interior illustrations in STAR got him. The covers was bad enough, but those interiors! They proved too much. He lashed out at Pohl (who had nothing to do with it) and Ballantine (who had all to do with it) and stated that he could not read the mag because the illustrations were so bad. Better they kill the mag than let it continue as is. A number of people took issue with his blasting, but none disagreed with him that the illustrations were lousy. One or two tried to justify them, but they were weak indeed in their arguments. The inside illustrations were down right terrible. How anyone in their right mind expected anyone to even tolerate them is more than we can see. The mag may not have been distributed right, as later events proved, but finally, as you'll read next year, it died without seeing a second issue. But even if it had the best distribution in the world and the finest stories in the world, the mag would not have lasted long with those (pardon) illustrations.

"FIRST ISSUE OF 'VANGUARD' DUE ON NEWSSTANDS DURING JANUARY 1958" was the heading of the Second November issue. The story gave details of the first issue and later issues, and announced that although Russia had sent up the first satellite instead of the US Vanguard project, the magazine name would remain. The 1958 report will tell how the mag was again delayed, but with a happy coincidence. It came out within a day of the launching of the first Vanguard satellite by the U.S.

Surprise news was that AMAZING STORIES would add pages in 1958, from 130 to 144, making it with GALAXY the second largest (in pages) s-f mag in the U.S. ASTOUNDING still remained first with 162 pages. The issue also reported the death of Lord Dunsany at the age of 79, on October 25. Dunsany, was always regarded as a writer of classic weird and fantasy. A great loss to the field. J.

Harry Vincent pointed out with pride in his "Time Stream" column that SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES art editor, John Giunta, one of the few men in the field to ever illustrate a whole interior of a science-fiction magazine, had become the first to do so with two s-f mags when he illustrated the complete interior of VENTURE SCIENCE FICTION. He also pointed out that other great artists had illustrated whole mags (some had also done the covers of those issues); among them, Frank R. Paul, Kelly Freas, Wesso, Morey, Marchioni and others. He also was pleased to report, as most of us were to read, that Bill Hamling had decided at the last moment NOT to introduce flying saucer columns in his mags, but to use science articles instead. Wonderful, Hamling. One of these days Hans will also see the light, and it'll dawn on him that he is supposed to publish a s-f mag and not an occult one. When that day comes, maybe the field will see the "Golden Age" of science-fiction. Until then --- it's up to the readers and fans to make it "hot" for these boys (and gals) who try to have their cake and eat it also.

The last issue of the year, underlined the fact that the "boom" was over. "SPACE S-F HAS FOLDED" was the black headlines. This unusual, interesting and above average s-f mag had lasted only two issues and then gave up. Along with it went the semi-fantasy mystery-magazine TALES OF THE FRIGHTENED, and other mags the company was putting out. In fact, the whole company liquidated. The issue also announced officially what had been known in rumor for a long time, that Ackerman's science-fiction magazine SCI-FI had died before birth. The company that was suppose to bring it out lost their shirts on a non-s-f mag and left Ackerman with the manuscripts and plans but no backer. What type of a mag the great Ackerman would have produced we don't know --- maybe at a future date? We have seen in the past that fans can produce good mags and fans can also produce darn lousy ones. Some fans with good ideas and a good knowledge of what a pro mag should be like to sell, forget these excellent ideas as soon as they sit behind an editorial desk and surround themselves with all the taboos

o f pro - fright and produce stinkers. While others, like Lowndes, outdo themselves and produce excellent pro mags and are great successes. Many fans have become successes in the pro field. Time will tell how some others will do.

In this issue of the "Times", Mr. H. L. Gold announced that Fritz Leiber would have a serial in Galaxy Science Fiction starting with the March 1958 issue, and that this serial would produce great controversy in the field and for the readers of S-F Times to get set to start a barrage of letters pro and con and for those that didn't like this type of ~~barfart~~ to get into bomb shelters. It was wasted advice. As this is written in April 1958, NO one has started blowing their tops pro or con. In fact the air

is disgustingly calm. The serial is such that no one knows it was ever published. Wha hoppen?

So ends the year 1957, as seen by Science-Fiction Times, and dark secret reports in the black book, tho to be fair not too much of the black book can be revealed at this early date. Maybe one of these days, years from now, when the effects will not hurt anyone (and we can't be sued) we'll be able to reveal more behind the cold headlines. Wha t happened in 1957? "Boom" went B-O-O-M! What will 1958 bring? Trouble, for the field, readjustment and the beginning of a better life for this limited field, we hope;

T H E E N D

1957 IN BOOKS

BY STEPHEN J. TAKACS

STEVE STILL operates the only complete science-fiction-fantasy-weird book shop in New York City. Situated on Third Avenue, between East 11th and East 12th Streets it is a paradise for readers and collectors of science-fiction and fantasy. Pocket-books, hard cover books, and magazines both current and old are to be found here. At times it becomes a meeting place for the City's fans and of those from out of town. The following are the books he had on sale during the year 1957. By no means as complete a list as Steve would like to present, it still is a good indication of about 90% of the books that came out during the year. This year Steve has added one important detail to this listing: the date the book was officially released. About that 100% listing - as they used to say in Brooklyn -- maybe Next Year.

ACE BOOKS

"Who Speaks Of Conquest?" by Lan Wright & "Earth In Peril", edited by Donald A. Wollheim, 35¢ - February 1, 1957.
"Eye In The Sky" by Philip K. Dick, 35¢ - February 28, 1957.
"Three To Conquer" by Eric F. Russell & "Doomsday Eve" by Robert M. Williams, 35¢ - March 27, 1957.
"This Fortress World" by James E. Gunn & "The 13th Immortal" by Robert Silverberg, 35¢ - April 26, 1957.
"Gunner Gade" by Cyril Hudd & "Crisis In 2140" by H. Dean Piper & J. J. McGuire 35¢ - May 29, 1957.
"First On Mars" by Rex Gordon, 35¢ - June 26, 1957.
"The Secret Visitors" by James White & "Master Of Life & Death" by Robert

Silverberg, 35¢ - August 1, 1957.
"Empire Of The Atom" by A. E. van Vogt & "Space Station #1" by Frank Belknap Long, 35¢ - September 2, 1957.
"Off On A Comet" by Jules Verne, 35¢ - September 2, 1957.
"Sargasso Of Space" by Andrew North (Andre Norton) & "The Cosmic Puppets" by Philip K. Dick, 35¢ - September 26, 1957.
"Starways" by Poul Anderson & "City Under The Sea" by Kenneth Bulmer, 35¢ - October 26, 1957.
"The Variable Man" by Philip K. Dick, 35¢ - November 27, 1957.
"The Mechanical Monarch" by E. C. Tubb, & "Twice Upon A Time" by Charles L. Fontenay, 35¢ - December 27, 1957.

ARKHAM HOUSE

"The Survivors" by H. P. Lovecraft & August W. Derleth, \$2.00 - April 5, 1957.

"Always Comes Evening" by Robert E. Howard, \$3.00 - December 17, 1957.

AVALON BOOKS

"Alien Dust" by E. C. Tubb, \$2.75 - January 8, 1957.

"The Infinite Frain" by Charles R. Long \$2.75 - April 1, 1957.

"Twice In Time" by Manly Wade Wellman, \$2.75 - August 29, 1957.

"Solomon's Stone" by L. Sprague de Camp \$2.75 - October 1, 1957.

"Trouble Star" by George O. Smith, \$2.75 - October 28, 1957.

"Wasp" by Eric Frank Russell, \$2.75 - November 26, 1957.

"Spaceways Satellite" by Charles Eric Maine, \$2.75 - December 30, 1957.

AVON

"The Gladiator" by Philip Wylie, 35¢ - January 15, 1957.

"The Ship Of Ishtar" by A. Merritt, 35¢ - January 15, 1957.

"The Face In The Abyss" by A. Merritt, 35¢ - March 7, 1957.

"Tomorrow Plus X" by Wilson Tucker, (title "Time Bomb" in cloth edition), 35¢ - April 8, 1957.

"The Metal Monster" by A. Merritt, 35¢ - May 9, 1957.

"From Outer Space" (formerly "Needle") by Hal Clement, 35¢ - June 11, 1957.

"The Space Plague" (original "Highways In Hiding") by George O. Smith, 35¢ - June 28, 1957.

"The Time Dissolver" by Jerry Sohl, 35¢ - September 6, 1957.

"Year 2018" (published in England as "They Shall Have Stars") by James Blish, 35¢ - October 9, 1957.

"The Planet Explorer" by Murray Leinster 35¢ - November 5, 1957.

BANTAM BOOKS

"Forbidden Area" by Pat Frank, 35¢ - January 2, 1957.

"Nineteen Tales Of Terror", edited by Whit & Hallie Burnett, 35¢ - January 2, 1957.

"The Shores Of Space" by Richard Mathe-

son, 35¢ - February 1, 1957.

"The Power" by Frank R. Robinson, 35¢ - April 1, 1957.

"Science Fiction Carnival", edited by Fredric Brown & Mack Reynolds, 35¢ - June 5, 1957.

"Pebble In The Sky" by Isaac Asimov, 35¢ - July 30, 1957.

"Pilgrimage To Earth" by Robert Sheckley 35¢ - October 7, 1957.

"Rogue In Space" by Fredric Brown, 35¢ - November 27, 1957.

BALLANTINE BOOKS

"Tales Of The White Hart" by Arthur C. Clarke, 35¢ - January 9, 1957.

"Slave Ship" by Frederick Pohl, 35¢ - February 1, 1957.

"The Frozen Year" by James Blish, 35¢ - February 26, 1957.

"Cycle Of Fire" by Hal Clement, 35¢ - April 1, 1957.

"Slave Ship" by Frederick Pohl (cloth), \$2.75 - April 1, 1957.

"The Case Against Tomorrow" by Frederick Pohl, 35¢ - April 29, 1957.

"The Frozen Year" by James Blish (cloth) \$2.75 - May 17, 1957.

"Cycle Of Fire" by Hal Clement (cloth), \$2.75 - May 17, 1957.

"The Green Odyssey" by Philip Jose Farmer, 35¢ - May 29, 1957.

"Sometime Never" (3 novels) by Wyndham, Peckham and Golding, 35¢ - June 28, 1957.

"The Green Odyssey" by Philip Jose Farmer (cloth) - \$2.75 - August 16, 1957.

"Occam's Razor" by David Duncan, 35¢ - September 26, 1957.

"Those Idiots From Earth" by Richard Wilson, 35¢ - November 29, 1957.

"Robots & Chandelings" by Lester del Rey 35¢ - December 27, 1957.

BERKELEY BOOKS

"Astounding Tales Of Space & Time", edited by John W. Campbell, 35¢ - February 19, 1957.

"The Big Book Of Science Fiction", edited by Croff Conklin, 35¢ - April 24, 1957.

"Strangers In The Universe" by Clifford Simak, 35¢ - September 19, 1957.

"Beachheads In Space", edited by A. W. Derleth, 35¢ - October 29, 1957.

BOUREGY & CURL

- "Across Time" by David Grinnell, \$2.75 - January 28, 1957.
 "City On The Moon" by Murray Leinster, \$2.75 - February 28, 1957.
 "Big Planet" by Jack Vance, \$2.75 - April 26, 1957.
 "Conquest Of Earth" by Manly Bainsler, \$2.75 - May 27, 1957.

DELL PUBLISHERS

- "Stories For The Dead Of Night" edited by Don Congdon, 35¢ - March 7, 1957.
 "SF: The Year's Greatest Science Fiction And Fantasy", edited by Judith Merril, 35¢ - June 28, 1957.

DODD, MEAD & CO.

- "Vanguard To Venus" by Jeffrey L. Field Castle, \$3.00 - August 21, 1957.

DOUBLEDAY

- "The Naked Sun" by Isaac Asimov, \$2.95 - January 9, 1957.
 "His Monkey Wife" by John Collier, \$3.75 - February 15, 1957.
 "Winds Of Time" by Chad Oliver, \$2.95 - March 22, 1957.
 "Dandelion Wine" by Ray Bradbury, \$3.95 - August 21, 1957.
 "Earth Is Room Enough" by Isaac Asimov, \$2.95 - September 24, 1957.
 "Doomsday Morning" by C. L. Moore, \$2.95 - October 24, 1957.

FANTASY PRESS

- "Island Of Space" by John W. Campbell, \$2.50 - February 25, 1957.

FARRAR, STRAUSS & CUDAHY

- "MACH I: A Story Of Planet Ionus" by Allen Adler, \$3.00 - September 16, 1957

GNOME PRESS

- "Coming Attractions", edited by Martin Greenberg, \$3.50 - February 28, 1957.
 "The Seeding Star" by James Blish, \$3.00 - March 26, 1957.
 "Colonial Survey" by Murray Leinster, \$3.00 - April 19, 1957.

- "Two Sought Adventure" by Fritz Lieber, \$3.00 - May 27, 1957.
 "SF: The Year's Greatest Science Fiction And Fantasy", edited by Judith Merril, \$3.95 - June 26, 1957.
 "The Return Of Conan" by Bjorn Nyberg & L. Sprague de Camp, \$3.00 - September 6, 1957.
 "They'd Rather Be Right" by Mark Clifton and Frank Riddy, \$3.00 - October 29, 1957.
 "The Shrouded Planet" by Robert Randall, \$3.00 - November 26, 1957.

GRANDON CO., The

- "The Return Of Tharn" by Howard Browne, \$2.00 - June 28, 1957.

HARCOURT, BRACE & CO.

- "The Deep Range" by Arthur C. Clarke, \$3.95 - March 8, 1957.
 "Sea Siege" by Andre Norton, \$3.00 - October 4, 1957.

HARPER & BROS.

- "Far Money" by Jean Brant (autobiog), \$3.50 - January 9, 1957.
 "The Devil Must Pay" by Thomas Wicker, \$3.50 - January 9, 1957.
 "Fire, Burn!" by John Dickson Carr, \$3.50 - May 17, 1957.

HENRY HOLT CO.

- "Pawn Of Time" by Robin Carson, \$4.95 - September 9, 1957.

LIPPINCOTT

- "The Isotope Man" by Charles Eric Maine, \$3.00 - May 22, 1958.

PANTHEON BOOKS

- "In The Realm Of Terror" by Algernon Blackwood, \$3.95 - April 11, 1957.

PUTMAN

- "The Master" by T. H. White, \$3.50 - March 11, 1957.
 "The Hunger & Others" by Charles Beaumont, \$3.50 - April 26, 1957.
 "Take Me To Your President" by Leonard

Wibderley, \$3.50 - June 24, 1957.

PYRAMID BOOKS

"The Synthetic Man" by Theodore Sturgeon
35¢ - March 6, 1957.

"Hellflower" by George O. Smith, 35¢ -
October 31, 1957.

RANDOM HOUSE

"The Witches" by Jay Williams, \$3.95 -
June 12, 1957.

RINEHART & CO.

"The Third Level" by Jack Finney, \$3.00
- August 21, 1957.

SHASTA PUBLISHERS

"Empire Of The Atom" by A. E. van Vogt,
\$3.00 - January 9, 1957.

SIGNET BOOKS

"The Stars, My Destination" by Alfred

35¢ - March 21, 1957

"Operation: Outer Space" by Murray Leinster, 35¢ - April 8, 1957.

"Double Star" by Robert A. Heinlein, 35¢
October 9, 1957.

"The City And The Stars" by Arthur C.
Clarke, 35¢ - December 12, 1957.

SIMON AND SHUSTER

"No Blade Of Grass" by John Christopher,
\$2.95 - March 15, 1957.

"People Minus X" by Raymond Z. Gallun,
\$3.00 - June 24, 1957.

"Mind Cage" by A. E. van Vogt, \$3.50 -
November 8, 1957.

SCRIPNER'S

"Citizen Of The Galaxy" by Robert A.
Heinlein, \$2.95 - August 29, 1957.

WORLD PUBLISHING CO.

"Star Born" by Andre North, \$2.75 - Feb-
ruary 18, 1957.

1957 IN SCIENCE FICTION

BY THOMAS S. GARDNER

(Reprinted from Science-Fiction Times Nos. 287, 288, 289 & 290)

FOR QUITE a few years, the readers of Fantasy Times and later Science-Fiction Times, have enjoyed an annual report from Dr. Thomas S. Gardner on the science-fiction magazines published in the United States the year before. Dr. Gardner is one of those few individuals that reads each and every science-fiction story published in magazine form. While few, if any, reader will agree 100% with Gardner's opinions, all agree that they form a good base for what's what in the field.

This will be Dr. Gardner's last report for quite a while. He has a chance to obtain another M.S. and is going to school nights. This has cut down on the time he'll have to read science-fiction. While he's gone, we've obtained the service of another "read them all" science-fiction enthusiastic, Mr. Edward Wood. He'll be doing these annual reports, starting with "1958 In Science Fiction". We'll all miss Dr. Gardner's annual reports, but we'll enjoy Mr. Wood's own version of what happened the year before.

TO MANY PEOPLE 1957 is the year of the Sputnik, but to readers of science-fiction it should be the year of The Paper Dragon. Under the ferocious and magnificent display of magazines is less than one finds under the Chinese New Year's paper dragon -- mostly striving writers, editors, hot air, and stench! The number of magazines surviving seems far beyond a reasonable demand, the quality of the stories, verbal reports on sales, and cries of anguish from science fiction book dealers lead one to believe

that inflation has overcome commonsense. In spite of that a new one has appeared, Star Science Fiction, dated 1958! Only one has been reported to be discontinued, perhaps temporarily, and that is Other Worlds, (December 20, 1957).

To no one's surprise Astounding is still tops, and in spite of some weakness, Heinlein's "Citizen Of The Galaxy" is number one novel of the year. This is a story that should have a sequel. To my surprise the best short story I read during the actual year of 1957 was in

The Magazine Of Fantasy And Science Fiction, by Robert Sheckley, "Holdout". This little story is a gem in sociological, psychological, and historical concepts.

The British magazines, with the exception of Authentic which has been discontinued, are still publishing excellent material. The average for Nebula, New Worlds, Science-Fantasy, and even the defunct Authentic is considerably higher than the average of the American crop, and are even equal to our best five or six magazines. This is remarkable, and desirable, -- fewer and better magazines should be the goal, not more and crappier.

Now let's get down to brass tacks:

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues.

Still the best magazine of the year. Campbell is certainly to be congratulated. It is very hard to pick out the best, and one can do no less than read all! The articles are very good. I seem to notice slacking off of the esp gimmick -- for the better in some cases, as poorly used props are better than none. I notice that Garrett seems to have taken over the mantle of de camp in trying to write the SatEvPost story of tomorrow. A tough assignment at any time.

THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues.

Very good year with some excellent stories and articles. The editor apparently experimenting in an intelligent manner and the results are most interesting, and less "cute". Hope he is cured of being "cute" in selecting science-fiction and fantasy. I do notice a slightly different gimmick and that is the use of the religious motif in some stories. This has to be done well, or not at all. Sometimes, in our peculiar barbarian and unsane culture of the 20th Century, the use of this motif is a quicker mechanism to understand human relations than a more intelligent approach. So such stories can be tops in many ways. I like Zenna Henderson's stories about the people, they are so darn human, likable, and real; that it seems I may know some of them.

(Now, now, I don't believe it, just a bit of off-trail humor!). Leinster, the grand old master, wrote a real scream in "Anthropological Note". In my opinion, Leinster is one of the smartest writers in the field -- and once in a while he comes up with the darnest nonsense -- but not in this one! Heinlein's "The Menace From Earth" is very human, very believable! Incidentally I wish to recommend only twelve issues of Magazine Of Fantasy And Science Fiction for you to READ in 1957, I am limited by the fact that only twelve were published.

GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. I am happy to report that Galaxy improved a lot this year. Is it possible that editor Gold is getting back to the position he had a few years ago? I hope so. The covers of Galaxy are always clever, the articles good, the book reviews fair to middling, and the stories readable, and many are good. I am glad to see humor in Galaxy, e.g., Simak's "Lulu", and others indicate a growing appreciation that humor rightly placed in a story can enhance it a lot. Sturgeon's "The Pod In The Barrier" is an extraordinary story. It has to be read to be appreciated. Pohl and Kornbluth's "Wolfbane" is an interesting, unsatisfying, and incomplete story insofar as I am concerned, but I don't know how to charge it to make it more suitable to me! Why not read it and see what you think about it.

IF, six issues. A very good year for this magazine. The covers and make-up are good, and the stories are usually good. Clarke's "Ultimate Lelody" is in the old theme of a gadget type story that is quite good. Silverberg's "Hidden Talent" is well done. In fact among the three recent contenders for the newer authors, Silverberg, Ellison, and Garrett, I believe that Silverberg is leading the field. Biggle's "The Tune-smith" is quite interesting from the sociological standpoint. Phillips' "Captain Peabody" comes up with a good answer in attaining pecking order -- under unusual conditions! The question does one always have to determine pecking or-

der even if the one on top is boss? Theoretically? Fisher's "The Birds and The Bees" is a scream. A bitter, bitter story, in some ways is Phillips, "Game Preserve". Glad to see Phillips return to science-fiction.

THE FIRST WORLD OF IF, one issue. Excellent selections from the past years of If.

FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. I am sorry to say that very few stories are worth reading. Costello's "The Bredder" is a grim story, and a cut above the usual in Fantastic. Unfortunately the stories in this magazine have only the slightest passing interest to a reader.

AMAZING STORIES, 12 issues. Slightly better stories than Fantastic, but still of a low order. The cartoons in Amazing and Fantastic are excellent, and that may pay you to buy them! Piper's "The Edge Of The Knife" was suppose to be a controversial story - and fell flat! The editor mentioned that two other editors rejected it as being too hot to handle -- they were just being smart! The October flying saucer issue was a distinct flop - heard anywhere one wanted to listen. The question in my mind is, can anything improve these two magazines?

DREAM WORLD, three issues. This magazine had the perfect title -- and I have assumed would have sold on that basis alone. I think that the stories were trite, and that may have injured sales. Anyway the last issue is dated August 1957.

AMAZING STORIES SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL
 One issue. "20 Million Miles To Earth". This novel seems to be jerry-written, the hurried job is too apparent. No matter if it had been made into a motion picture, does a magazine have no more credibility rating than the movies?

SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES, 7 issues. Good to fair adventure stories, no pretense at being great, but most can be read at a rapid rate with pleasure. Galouye's "Gulliver Planet" is adventure

contrasting microcosm with a macrocosm, the later being man. Improbable, but has points of good plotting. A peculiar story is Silverberg's "Spawn of the Deadly Sea" - not credible in some ways, and full of thud and blunder in other ways. Jergenson's "This World Must Die!" raises an ethical problem that may well become real some day -- of course the final answer is any world that arbitrarily destroys another world will, and must eventually, be destroyed in toto by the other worlds inhabited by intelligent beings of any kind. Does Silverberg pick his own titles? If so he has good knack that is not always found among writers. Jorgenson (House name I have been told by several who say they are in the know) has a story "Thunder Over Starhaven" which is in the tradition of the old Planet Stories.

SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION, 6 issues. Not a bad magazine at all. The stories are well balanced, and most of the long novels quite interesting to read. The special articles by Moskowitz (two), have been very good, and should be continued. Christopher's "Year Of The Comet" was quite a story in many ways, but was weak in picturing ultimates that may not develop such as complete, decadence; and inspired, noble people in another land! Such contrasts are usually special grades of fertilizer. I was disappointed in Vance's "The Language Of Pao". It moved too slowly. Perhaps I was disappointed as I know Vance can do better.

SUPER SCIENCE FICTION, 6 issues. Adventure stories, mostly similar in type of plotting to the old Planet. Kudus to Asimov's "The Gentle Vultures". Figure this mortal problem out, readers, and see what you come up with. Mark's "One Women For Venus", Hummmmmmm! This magazine, just as Satellite, is worth reading after the big five. (Oh, yeas, who are they? Well, Astounding, Fantasy & Science Fiction, Galaxy, Science Fiction Stories, and fifth place tied by If, and Infinity. So you must read six!)

VENTURE SCIENCE FICTION, 6 issues. The stories are well plotted, the writers are good, the action is fast, and I despise the magazine! I simply do not care

for the mickeyspillane, shock, for shock sakes type of science-fiction. An excellent story, Sturgeon's "The Girl Had Guts", and for the first time in my life I became physically ill from reading a story. Others are of the same, to a different plus or minus degree, ilk. Frankly I care less or nothing if it folds up -- but it may sell millions. Other material has, look at the sales of THE Horror Comics!

SATURN, Science Fiction and Fantasy, 4 issues. These stories are not too good, far inferior to Satellite or Super Science. Great name writers also stink sometimes too. I doubt if collector's items are always worthwhile. In spite of the above, Saturn is better than about one-third of the magazines cited in this article. So if you have the time, and nothing else to do, why not try Saturn, perhaps you might like it better than I have.

SPACE SCIENCE FICTION, 2 issues. The stories are about the same in quality as Saturn with one exception, Jones' "The Star Dream". This is worth reading, for the gimmick at the end is strictly unworthy of such a weak ending. This seems like a contradiction, but actually the mixing of science and mysticism fails here, and becomes apparent only with the gimmick!

TALES OF THE FRIGHTENED, 2 issues. Short, weird type stories, sometimes fairly well done, but I doubt if this stuff can sell. Anderson's "Mr. Tiglath" is a good example of an interesting weird, but do people read weirds any more in the age of sputnik, atomic doom, and everything developing all at once?

FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION, 3-1/2 issues by date! I like this magazine, and find the stories quite good, and scrambling for fifth place with Infinity and If. Especially recommended is Thomas' "Mars Trail". Here is a story of real significance in getting along together, in addition to being a story that carries ones interest to the end. Nichol's "The Lonely Stars" might be a lesson in sanity -- if the human species were sane!

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, 6 issues. A very good magazine and number four in my opinion. The articles in Science Fiction Stories and Future are also quite good most of the time, and are often worth the price of the magazines alone. The stories are slightly below the quality found in the big three most of the time, and sometimes equal them. Quite often surpassing Galaxy! Russell's "Early Bird" is tops for the long trip story with technology catching up with the long trippers. You should enjoy Winterbotham's "The Return From Troy", where women are women with a vengeance sometimes. In fact why not read all the issues.

SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY, 4 issues. The stories in this magazine are more fluidly put together than in Future or SFS. The stories are very much like the better stories of the old Planet. I would like to recommend Jourden's "Children of Fortune" in which ethics is warped by society.

GALAXY NOVEL, 2 or 3 issues, I think. (The failure to put an imprint date where I can find it is a mistake.) Hubbard's "Fear" is in my opinion one of the World's great psychological horror novels. You won't loose by reading these novels if you have not done so before.

OTHER WORLDS (and recent titles: Flying Saucers From Other Worlds), 5 issues. This fiction magazine has been plagued from the start. I have heard that it has been discontinued. The closest to a good story is Fontenay's "The Heart's Wait". This story has human understanding.

FLYING SAUCERS From Other Worlds, 3 issues. To the believer this is a fact magazine, to the non-believer, a fiction magazine. As a fact magazine it is so loosely offered that anything goes. As a fiction magazine, not worth the effort.

SEARCH MAGAZINE, 6 issues. Almost every issue identical in theme, with individual variations of each proceeding issue. Strictly for those who believe in this stuff, and students of sociology.

The latter will get an idea of some of the things held over from the Neanderthal period.

INFINITY SCIENCE FICTION, 7 issues.

A very good magazine with good format. Recommended reading for the fighting fifth place. Del Rey's "The Band Played On" concerns the grim necessities of life if a carbage collector in the space age. Unsung heroes are heroes even though unsung. Vance's "The Men Return" has a good theme, but I believe Rog Philips could have done better with it. This is hersey I realize, but that is the way life goes. Clarke's series of stories about the Space Station are fine. I could go on Dickson's "The General and the Axe", etc., but if you read all the issues you will see what I mean.

IMAGINATION, 6 issues. Unfortunately

this magazine has uneven stories. A very few good, most average or poor, but excellent cartoons! The best story is Reinsberg's "Compete Or Die!" One trouble is that I have always believed that Imagination should be fighting for fifth place, but so far it has fallen down. What is the trouble?

IMAGINATIVE TALES, 5 issues. Excel-

lent cartoons and the stories are the same as Imagination. Silverberg's "Starship Saboteur" is a real problem today, not just tomorrow. Fanaticism has always tried to throw monkey wrenches into the gears. An ambathy type and interesting Hamilton, is "The Ship From Infinity". Hamilton, for good averages, and some-

times superb stories is close to Leinster, except that Leinster has more complicated plots.

FANTASTIC UNIVERSE, 12 issues. I have

been appalled at the general drop in quality of material in this magazine. The growing use of UFO controversy instead of good stories is unfortunate. However a few stories saved the year, e.g., Piper's "Lone Star Planet", for humor and de Kamp's stories, especially the collaboration with Bjorn Nyberg, "Conan the Victorious". However the short stories which I have admired in the past are getting pretty poor. Why?

THE FOLLOWING tables summarizes my count for the past few years taken from my discussion:

YEAR	TITLES	NO. OF ISSUES
1957	26	161½
1956	20	118
1955	21	117
1954	27	150
1953	38	185
1952	28	149

THE CONSTANCY of issues for the past six years is somewhat amazing with a low of 117 and a high of 185, an average of 146.6 per year. This emphasizes Moskowitz's excellent analysis in the 1957 issue of THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK* that there exists a hard core of readers who keep the magazines going!

*Published by Science-Fiction Times, Inc
now OUT OF PRINT.

THE END

ANNUAL REPORT:1957

BY FRANK R. PRIETO, JR.

FRANK R. PRIETO, JR., is the facts-and-figures expert of the SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, INC., organization. He handles the "Science Fiction Record", a monthly report of what s-f mags hit the stands in the U.S., with details as to price, size, pages, etc.

Future historians of science-fiction will depend on Frank's running report of the magazines, upon which this yearly summary is based, as the only record extant of magazine issues published as to when they actually went on sale, and not according to cover dates.

THE YEAR 1957 WILL go down in s-f history as the year of the Big Change, for this was the year that The American News Company gave up the distribution of magazines.

This amounted to catastrophe ----- magazines were delayed, or were never distributed at all in many areas of the country.

In one case with which I'm personally acquainted, the following happened: The August issue of SUPER SCIENCE FICTION, GALAXY S-F for September and November, IMAGINATION for December, F & SF for November, SCIENCE FICTION STORIES for November, FUTURE S-F #34, S-F QUARTERLY for November, SUPER SCIENCE for December, VENTURE for November, STAR S-F issue #1 (which I believe carries either a November or December date, never came out in Warners, New York.

Of these issues, I have all but the issue of STAR, but they were all bought

elsewhere and not at my usual check-point here in Warners.

The issue of AMAZING STORIES for October is considered in my tabulation as a non-s-f magazine, as it is devoted entirely to flying saucers.

The following months were pulp-size -less in 1957: January, March, May, August, October and November. In 1956: March, July and October. In 1955: April, July and December. In 1954: April.

The following are the statistics for 1957 and the previous three years:

TITLE CHANGES IN 1957

OTHER WORLDS SCIENCE STORIES to: Flying Saucers from OTHER WORLDS.

(One change in 1956; two in 1955; none in 1954)

SCHEDULE CHANGES DURING 1957

INFINITY S-F and SCIENCE FICTION

ADVENTURES went from bi-monthly to every six weeks.

(One change during 1956; three in 1955; none in 1954)

NEW MAGAZINES IN 1957

AMAZING STORIES SCIENCE FICTION NOVELS

quarterly

SPACE SCIENCE FICTION

bi-monthly

WONDER STORIES

one-shot

STAR SCIENCE FICTION

quarterly

FIRST WORLD OF IF

one-shot

(six new titles during 1956; one in 1955; none in 1954)

PAGE CUTS IN 1957

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES

from 114 to 130

SATURN SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

from 128 to 112

(None in 1956; none in 1955; 10 in 1954)

PAGES ADDED IN 1957

SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY

from 98 to 130

(None in 1956; 1 in 1955; 10 in 1954)

FOLDED IN 1957

Flying Saucers From OTHER WORLDS

SPACE SCIENCE FICTION

DREAM WORLD

AMAZING STORIES SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL

(None in 1956; 6 in 1955; 10 in 1954)

PRICE CHANGES IN 1957

SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY went from 25¢ to 35¢. This is the last pulp left in the s-f field now that Flying Saucers From OTHER WORLDS is gone.

MAGAZINES BEING PUBLISHED IN 1957

MONTHLY

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION (John W. Campbell, Jr.)

AMAZING STORIES (Paul W. Fairman)

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION (Anthony Boucher)

FANTASTIC UNIVERSE SCIENCE FICTION (Hans Santesson)

FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION (Paul W. Fairman)

GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION (Horace L. Gold)

(5 monthlies in 1956; 6 in 1955)

SIX-WEEKLY

INFINITY SCIENCE FICTION (Larry T. Shaw)

SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES (Larry T. Shaw)

BI-MONTHLY

IMAGINATION SCIENCE FICTION (William L. Hamling)

IMAGINATIVE TALES (William L. Hamling)

IF, WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION (J. L. Quinn)

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES (Robert W. Lowndes)

SUPER SCIENCE FICTION (W. W. Scott)

SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION (Leo Margulies)

SATURN SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY (Donald A. Wolheim)

FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION (Robert P. Mills)

(13 in 1956; 8 in 1955)

QUARTERLY

SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY (Robert W. Lowndes)

FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION (Robert W. Lowndes)

STAR SCIENCE FICTION (Frederik Pohl)

(2 in 1956; 5 in 1955)

IRREGULAR

GALAXY NOVEL (Horace L. Gold)

ONE SHOTS

WONDER STORIES (James Hendryx, Jr.)

FIRST WORLD OF IF (James L. Quinn)

PROPOSED FOR 1958

One monthly for sure;

Two bi-monthlies for sure;

One bi-monthly maybe;

Two Monthlies maybe.

EDITORIAL CHANGES IN 1957

Leo Margulies buys SHORT STORIES and WEIRD TALES.

Ray Palmer buys half-interest in a distributing company, and changes its name to Wisconsin-International Sales Co.

THE TRANSATLANTIC FUND

BY ROBERT A. MADLE

THE TRANSATLANTIC FAN FUND is one of the many "wonders" of science-fiction fandom. Like fandom's "Marshall Plan" of 1949, when the Convention voted \$300 to send s-f mags and books to England and Australia; like the FANTASY VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION which supplies mags and books to fans in the armed forces during time of national emergency; like the World S-F Cons, run by fans to the credit of the entire s-f field. TAFF is one more example of how fans of science-fiction differ from addicts of any other literature you can name.

And Taff is no "pie-in-the-sky" chimera --- hundreds of dollars of fandom's cash have been collected and disbursed under its administration. Readers of other types of stories form clubs and occasionally engage in sporadic activity, but we believe that no other segment of the publishing industry can boast of the copious, sustained, concentrated, variegated and straight - to-the-point support as that afforded to the publishers of science-fiction by s-f fans in pursuit of their literary interests.

In 1957, Robert A. Madle was the FAFF delegate. He traveled from his home in Maryland to London, England, expenses paid, where he attended the World Con and visited with many British fans. He is the administrator of the 1958 TAFF, which was won by Ron Bennett of England, who will attend the SOLACON.

-The Editors

WHAT IS THE TRANSATLANTIC Fan Fund?" This question has been asked of me several times by s-f readers who has read brief statements concerning it in my department, "Inside Science-Fiction".

Mistakenly I had assumed that most fans (active and fringe) had heard something about TAFF and that the so-called TRU-fen were completely aware of its inner workings. How wrong I was!

Realizing the need for a brief his-

torical presentation of TAFF for general consumption, I have written one for "In-Side S-F" which should appear in an upcoming Lowndesazine. The article was written entirely from memory, so if one or two facts concerning TAFF's beginnings son't jibe exactly with what you have heard, chalk it up as editorial prerogative (in other words, I wasn't sure). The following few paragraphs will again delve into the TAFF story --- a story which should be of interest to all fandom.

It all started with Forrest J Ackerman. Forry, through his years of active fanning, had developed a large number of overseas correspondents. During WW TT, when it appeared that Anglofandom was doomed to extinction, Forry helped keep it alive with numerous contributions of books, magazines, paper, money, even mimeo stencils. And, it is rumored, the British fan wanted to repay Forry by bringing him to England for a visit.

Forry, however, wanted it the other way. He wanted American fandom to bring an English fan to America for a world convention.

Thus was created the "Big Pond Fund", which was one of the projects of the 1947 Philcon.

Several years elapsed before Forry's dream materialized: Ted Carnell, one of the two most famous English fans (Walter H. Gillings is the other), made it to Cincinnati for the 1949 Con --- and the die was cast.

In 1951 Shelby Vick started a campaign to bring Walter A. Willis of Ireland to the New Orleans Con. In 1952, Vick's campaign bore fruit when Willis made it to the Chicon. Walt had entered fandom in 1949 and had proved to be a prolific writer for the fanzines, and an excellent one to boot. When Walt returned to Ireland, he wrote up a lengthy report of his trip, "The Harp Stateside". This interesting document appeared in many installments in various fanzines and was only recently published complete in pamphlet form.

With the publication of "The Harp Stateside", another fannish tradition was born: it is now expected that the TAFF delegate will write up his trip so general fandom (or at least those who

contributed to the fund) will be able to read about it.

Immediately following the 1952 Chicon, Donald E. Ford, an old fakefan who has been around for many years, started a campaign to bring an English friend of his to the 1953 Philcon. However, the friend, Norman Ashfield, informed Don that he wouldn't be able to attend, and Don wrote to Willis stating that the money collected here in the States would be turned over to any other British fan who might want to make the trip.

Ford's letter arrived just about the time of the 1953 English Coroncon, and the timing was quite appropriate. Inspired by Ford, Willis, Carnell, Ken Slater and several other Anglofens got together and came up with the organization known as the Transatlantic Fan Fund.

The first election (winner to attend the 1954 San Francisco Con) saw Viné Clarke winning. Viné, an extremely popular fan because of his intense activity in all phases of fandom, reluctantly turned down his chance for personal reasons. This enabled a new election to be held --- with the winner to cross the Atlantic for the 1955 con.

H. Ken Bulmer, fan and professional writer, was elected. Ken and his charming wife Pamela quit their jobs and were off for America in a tramp steamer.

Success! The first TAFFman had made it to America.

Now it was America's turn to respond and send someone to the 1956 Cytricon, held annually in Kettering. In a race replete with some pretty peppy campaigning, Lee Hoffman shaded Forry Ackerman. Lee, however, turned down the TAFF trip as she had just married Larry Shaw and they were going to spend their honeymoon in England --- and she preferred to go as a bride rather than as the TAFF delegate.

It was too late for Forry to make arrangements, so the fund was held over to the following year, 1957.

In 1957, Forry Ackerman's nominee, one fakefan named Robert A. Madle was elected to attend the Loncon.

See the following publications for accounts of this journey: Future Science Fiction, February 1958; Scurvy and JD, published by Lynn Hickman; and Stellar,

published by Ted E. White.

Not only did I win the trip, and shock a certain segment of fandom to its very foundations, but I picked up all the marbles, for I was also awarded the honor of administering TAFF from this side of the Atlantic. (Now you know why I'm writing this article!)

Which brings TAFF completely up to date, except to report that the winner for 1958 is Ron Bennett of England, who

will be eligible to make the trip to the SOLACON in Los Angeles. It will take a lot of fandom's money to get Ron to LA. and at this writing, an account of money collected is not available.

So --- was there enough money in the fund to pay Ron's boat-fare? Did he make it across the stormy Atlantic?

Read next year's installment and find out!

HISTORY OF THE FAPA

BY DANIEL MCPHAIL

THE FANTASY AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION was the brain-child of Donald A. Wollheim way back in 1937. Don had been a member of a number of press associations, where printing (not s-f) was the hobby, and members published just for the love of publishing. Don figured that this would be a good idea for science-fiction fandom and that in time it would do away with the subscription fan magazine. He was right in the first surmise, but dead wrong in the latter. While in 1937 most fan mags exchanged with one another (about 50 were published then), and most of their publishers were fanatic fan mag collectors, such is not the case today. Today there are just as many fan mags as ever, and most are subscription mags.

The FAPA has continued strong for over 20 years, and is today in better shape than ever. A long list of active fans are waiting to get in.

We picked Dan McPhail to do the annual report on FAPA as he was best fitted to do the job, having been one of the charter members, and is still today one of the leading lights of the organization. His PHANTASY PRESS is one of the better mags which FAPA circulates.

-the editors

IN MID-SUMMER OF 1957, the Fantasy Amateur Press Association celebrated its 20th anniversary, making it the oldest national organization in science-fiction. It got off to a shaky start in 1937, and at the end of that year had only 21 members; but it has grown through the years and its alumni number in the hundreds, including many prominent names in science-fiction.

The annual August elections ended-

the administration of President Vernon McCain, Vice-President Bill Evans, Secretary-Treasurer Bob Pavlat and Official Editor Richard Eney. An active campaign brought some 76% of the members to the polls and they elected Ted White to the Presidency for the 1957-58 term. In doing so, they passed over two former presidents, Marion Bradley and Rick Sneary, as well as Don Wilson. In the race for veep, Bob Pavlat defeated a n

unusual duo, Andy and Jean Young, who ran jointly for the one position, as well as Ray Schaffer, the running-mate of Mrs. Bradley. The Secretary-Treasurer's post went to Bill Evans in a landslide victory over Jack Harness, while incumbent Richard Evans was unopposed for Official Editor, except for a few write-in-votes.

Indicative of the rising costs of these times, was a proposal to ballot for an increase in dues, which was later passed. Final work was also completed on a comprehensive revision of the Constitution, which clarified many vague points and brought it more in line with actual needs. Charter member Jack Speer did the major work of the Constitutional Committee.

Members were very active in 1957, producing a total of 2512 pages, as compared with 2325 pages in 1956. One of the quarterly mailings totalled 669 pages. There were 53 separate publications issued during the year, plus other material, with nine fanzines having at least one issue in every mailing. Dual-members Jean and Andy Young were the activity leaders, being responsible for 214 pages published, closely followed by Lee and Larry Shaw, Ted White and G. M. Carr.

An event of great importance in this organization is the Annual Laureate

Awards, termed the "Egoboo Poll". Honors for 1957 went to Harry Warner for best fiction, Jean and Andy Young, best poetry, William Rotsler, Art, Robert Bloch, humor, and William Danner, outstanding editor. Warner also copped 1st place in mailing comments and articles, and his magazine, HORIZONS, was judged the best publication.

Ted White produced the largest single issue of the year, a 52-page edition of Stellar, and there were many examples of fine workmanship. An unusual item was a 48-page FAPA MEMORY BOOK, produced by charter member Dan McPhail with the aid of Ron Parker. It featured many of the original group that launched the club, including founder Don Wollheim, Ted Camell, Robert Lowndes, Bob Madle, Sam Moskowitz, Michael Rosenblum, Jack Speer and Jimmy Taurasi. Artist Morris Scott Bellens, who had designed the FAPA emblem, pictorially symbolized the changes that have occurred during FAPA's 20 years. Research into the formative years of the club was presented, detailing many facts and figures, as well as reprints.

--
FAPA now has members in 21 states, the District of Columbia, Belgium, Canada, England, Japan, Northern Ireland and Scotland, with California having the largest number.

SLICK SCIENCE FICTION

BY DONALD E. FORD

DONALD E. FORD is one SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES reporter that you might say came in the back door. He wrote us a letter in 1951 suggesting that we activate a column to report on the then numerous s-f items which were appearing in a great many "general" magazines. We thought it a fine idea, and asked him to do the honors -- which he has been doing ever since. This year he has been invited to do a special report for this YEAR-BOOK, which we're sure you'll find interesting.

-the editors

SCIENCE FICTION IN THE SLICKS dropped off in 1957. Not only that, in many cases you had to dig for it: there wasn't a label on it any more.

Hollywood dropped the label "science-fiction" on their movies, and the slick magazines followed.

As an example, I completely missed "No Blade Of Grass" by John Christopher in SATURDAY EVENING POST.

During 1957, the principal source of s-f in the slicks was PLAYBOY. The editor is aware of s-f, and sounds like an old fan in his editorials. Bloch, Bradbury and Beaumont have the inside track with him. Other authors have appeared, of course, but he gives these three boosts in his editorials whenever they appear.

TIME and LIFE are the two main mags for articles of a s-f nature slanted toward the general public. The curious

"mechanics" mags also have articles, but not so many as before. The Sunday Supplements often feature items of interest, but few ever rise above the comics level.

If one can believe that the increase in s-f titles is due to an expansion of the field, then a paradox arises. The movies considered that labeling a movie "science-fiction" was the kiss of death at the box office. Collier's ran s-f quite often, and a few years back had a sensational cover of New York being bombed, the Russians attacking us, etc. This caused repercussions on their editorial staff; Collier's still continued s-f for a while (we had the "Lomokome Papers" and others) and then they stopped using s-f altogether.

Collier's is dead, so is BLUEBOOK, another source of many s-f stories (Nelson Bond used to have 6-8 stories a year in it.)

Throughout most of 1957, I seemed to detect a n attitude in the public's mind of equating s-f and flying saucers. A similar attitude I well remember prevailed in the '30's. Not with saucers then, of course, but the same idea that s-f readers are screwballs and something to laugh at.

However, in the Fall of 1957, two unrelated events took place that may change the s-f picture in 1958. The first was the smashing success of "The Curse of Frankenstein". True, it's a horror picture, but in Hollywood, horror and s-f pictures are often synonymous, and I expect "science-fiction" to come back into their advertising due to event No. 2, which was the launching of the Russian space satellites.

After that, s - f didn't seem so crazy after all. In efforts to buck up the morale, the armed forces released more news of their missile and satellite projects. Every magazine, newspaper and Sunday Supplement had articles on this subject in issue after issue. Satellites, space ships, trips to the moon, escape velocity, orbit, etc., are a l l household words in the U. S. This is bound to have an impact on the magazine field. The slicks will probably decide it's no longer taboo to label a story "science-fiction".

As for having a n y effect on the field, I feel that the slicks offer only an intangible thing. Few s-f stories in the slicks are really better than what appears in the regular s-f mags. Most are inferior, and have plots and ideas

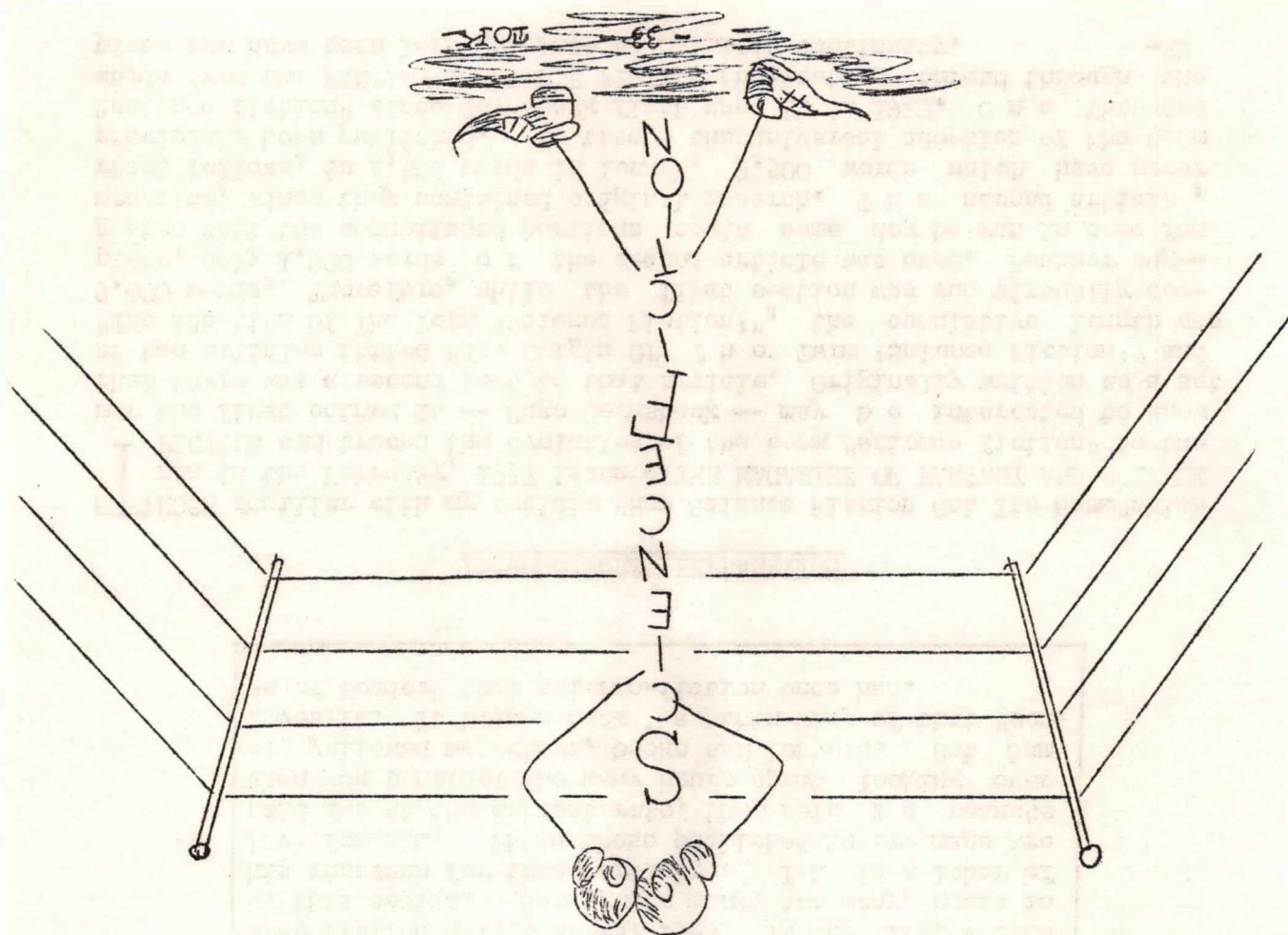
that would be instantly rejected in the regulars. Some of the writing is better but not a s large a percentage as one might expect. I feel that the greatest service such stories in the slicks render is to get occasional readers interested enough in science-fiction to move them to buy a magazine devoted to it.

I look forward to seeing stories appear in the slicks with themes from the s-f mags of the '20's: rocket ships, etc. Since T-V is surfeting the public with westerns, this would be a natural to feed the public in lieu of more of the same. Also, the general public hasn't read such stories, and they'd be quite new and aring to them.

It's hard to confine this article to the slicks alone, since I feel that the movies, T-V, and the slicks interlock in the sense that they all tend to reflect the public's moods, tastes and desires. What one of these media do, the others usually imitate.

So, in summing up for 1957, s-f in the slicks was on the wane. Several mags folded and less material was used in the ones remaining. The trend is toward more articles in proportion to fiction. The increase in s-f was noted in the various men's mags, which is the main source today.

For 1958, I predict a rise in s-f in the slicks, and anticipate an increasing deluge of articles connected with the missile program, the defense program, and the advance planning of the Air Force, which d o e s include space ships.



BY SAM MOSKOWITZ

THE ADOPTION OF THE TERM "SCIENCE FICTION"

THE ADOPTION OF "SCIENCE BY SAM

SAM MOSKOWITZ, the fan, the author, the editor, the science-fiction researcher. Of all that Sam is, as a researcher he is the most famous. His wonderful series of pure science-fiction articles now running in Satellite Science Fiction and being reprinted in Carnell's Science Fantasy are about as good as these articles can be. Many of you will remember his excellent and most asked for article, "Science Fiction Market Survey 1956" in the first volume of this series. Sam spends many, too many, hours in his research for these articles. It is a labor of love for him. While those published in pro mags are paid for at the current rate, that rate is peanuts when you consider the many hours spent looking over old yellowed magazines, books and letters. But Sam loves it. It brings back a thin wisp of that "sense of Wonder" that science-fiction once had.

INTRODUCTORY EXPLANATION

THOSE familiar with my article "How Science Fiction Got Its Name" which ran in the February, 1957 issue of THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION and traced the evolution of the term "science fiction" to the man who first coined it -- Hugo Gernsback -- may be interested to know that there was a second part to that article. Originally written as a set of two articles titled "The Origin Of The Term 'Science Fiction'" and "The Adoption Of The Term 'Science Fiction'", the cumulative length was 9,000 words. Therefore, while the first section was run virtually complete, only 1,000 words of the second article was used. Boucher suggested that the unpublished portions could some day be run in some fan magazine, since they contained original research. The second article, which follows, is 4,500 words in length, 3,500 words which have never previously been published. It traces the universal adoption of the term "science fiction" since Gernsback first used it in 1929. One Thousand words from the FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION publication thread through the piece and have been left in-place to maintain continuity. -SM

THE TERM FICTION" MOSKOWITZ

When Hugo Gernsback used the term "science fiction" for the first time in print in his editorial in the first, June, 1929 number of SCIENCE WONDER STORIES, it was accompanied by no great fanfare and promotion such as was accorded his coined word, "scientifiction", three years earlier. Since Gernsback did not beat the drums for the general adoption of the term "science fiction", how and under what conditions did it come to be universally accepted?

First, "science fiction", (without the hyphen) was used throughout all of Gernsback's science fiction magazines as a matter of policy. At that time he had had more such types of magazines than any other publisher, following SCIENCE WONDER STORIES with AIR WONDER STORIES, SCIENCE WONDER STORIES QUARTERLY, SCIENTIFIC DETECTIVE MONTHLY, in addition to a group of booklets called SCIENCE FICTION SERIES and an attempt at paper bound books known as SCIENCE FICTION CLASSICS.

In department heads, announcements, flyers, readers columns, book reviews and editorials, all references to the genre were standardized as "science fiction" with one exception. Apparently there was a member of Gernsback's promotion staff who had not been fully indoctrinated. Research has not fully unmasked the culprit, but in the "house ads" which SCIENCE WONDER STORIES ran for its companion magazine AIR WONDER STORIES, the term "scientific fiction" was always used! Conversely, the house

ads run by AIR WONDER STORIES for SCIENCE WONDER STORIES always used the approved term, "science fiction"!

Inventing new terms was all very well, but dissemination and popularization of the term was in the final analysis up to the readers. What was their line of thinking?

The most vocal and proselytizing of the readers were the active letter writers and fans. Therefore, the appearance of the first true science fiction fan magazine in history, THE PLANET, published in New York, July, 1930 by The Sciencemen could be expected to reflect their sentiments.

Allen Glasser, editor of THE PLANET used "science fiction" primarily throughout his journal, with an occasional lapse into "scientific fiction" in the text of the articles, apparently under the impression that it was grammatically more precise. Gernsback's old "scientifiction" was sometimes used and it was not uncommon to have all three terms incorporated into the same article. To add to the confusion, "science fiction" was at times hyphenated and at other times not. Since "science fiction" was the newest of all terms, its preference in most references was of the utmost significance.

Past children continued to live with Gernsback however. Farnsworth Wright, editor and publisher of WEIRD TALES, contracted to run a series of ads in Gernsback's SCIENCE WONDER STORIES forefronting the fact that he published good in-

terplanetary yarns as well as weird stories. Then, as now, advertiser's copy was sacrosanct. If Gernsback noticed the fact that the advertisement WEIRD TALES ran in the April, 1930 issue of SCIENCE WONDER STORIES appealed to readers of the "scientific fiction type of stories", he chalked it down as a belated victory and a previous educational job too well done!

For the record in 1929, another magazine entered the field of tales of space and time. This was ASTOUNDING STORIES OF SUPER SCIENCE, the first issue of which was dated January, 1930. Here was recorded the first major use of the term "super science" as a title for the genre. Would ASTOUNDING now attempt to popularize it?

The fourth, April, 1930 issue of ASTOUNDING supplied the answer. In the first readers' column in that magazine titled "Readers' Corner", Harry Bates, ASTOUNDING's initial editor and the man who later went on to write the story upon which the motion picture "The Day the Earth Stood Still" was based, handed Gernsback a quick decision. The words "science fiction" were used exclusively in his introductory notes!

But it was a pyrrhic victory. Virtually every letter in the "Readers' Corner" also used "science fiction" in their context. Since most of the readers in the other important periodical of the type, Gernsback's former AMAZING STORIES, were still using "scientifiction", only one conclusion could be drawn. While ASTOUNDING STORIES was the first non-Gernsback magazine to adopt the term "science fiction", it also adopted a good many of Gernsback's readers!

AMAZING STORIES, which since Gernsback's departure had shown, under the guidance of its ancient, white-bearded editor T. O'Connor Sloane, a tendency to swing away from the term that had become synonymous with it, "scientifiction", towards "scientific fiction", continued this trend. A new column, "In the Realm Of Books", handled by the late science fiction collector C. A. Brandt, carried the sub-title, "Mostly Scientific Fiction", which began in the September, 1929 issue of AMAZING STORIES.

Though "scientifiction" still appeared on the spine of AMAZING STORIES,

in blurbs to a few of the stories and on the editorial page where AMAZING STORIES still referred to itself as "The Magazine of Scientifiction", decided movement away from its use was clearly evident. A full page advertisement ran in the September, 1929 issue of that magazine offering six issues for \$1.00, subtitled the publication "The Magazine of Scientific Fiction".

In the readers columns, letters continued to refer to the genre as "scientifiction". It is possible that other terms were re-edited to read that way, but this is to be doubted for two primary reasons. First, AMAZING was already pulling away from the editorial use of the term itself. Secondary, the first time "science fiction" was used in the pages of AMAZING STORIES was by editor Sloane himself in the heading to a letter in the Discussions column on page 568 of the September, 1930 issue. This innovation was repeated in the heading of another letter from author R. F. Starza in the following number, with the slight difference that this time the term was hyphenated! The November number of AMAZING STORIES found the expression in the context of a readers letter. From that point forth, its appearance in the readers columns of AMAZING STORIES became increasingly frequent.

Though the depression and the conservatism of its editor, Sloane had put AMAZING STORIES into a steady decline, together with its companion AMAZING STORIES QUARTERLY, they still represented the ranking publications in the field. Partially because they were the first of all science fiction magazines and partially because the majority of leading writers of the day continued to write for them. Therefore, their adoption of the term "science fiction" was of considerable consequence.

This process, however, was a gradual one. The July, 1930 issue saw them add the sub title "Scientific Fiction" next to AMAZING STORIES on the contents page. Oddly enough, the editorial page which faced it still bore the legend "The Magazine Of Scientifiction". The August, 1930 number saw the words "And Other Scientific Fiction" tacked onto the "In Our Next Issue" department on the contents page, which announced forth-

coming stories.

Throughout 1930 and 1931, the terms "scientific fiction" and "Scientifiction" were used indiscriminately on the cover and in story blurbs. Then abruptly, there was a breach in the dike. For the blurb of the story "The Stone From The Green Star" by Jack Williamson in the September, 1931 issue, Sloane used "science fiction" for the first time in any story heading. In addition, the announced stories "In Our Next Issue" ended with the line: "And Other Science Fiction". This reverted to "And Other Scientific Fiction" again with the next number, but only temporarily. With the February, 1932 issue it swung back to "And Other Science Fiction" and remained that way.

The September, 1931 AMAZING STORIES used "Science fiction" on its cover for the very first time as did the Fall-Winter, 1932 edition of AMAZING STORIES QUARTERLY.

The book review department "In The Realm Of Books" jettisoned the sub-title "And Other Scientific Fiction" for good with the February, 1932 number of AMAZING STORIES.

The really major change came when the November, 1932 editorial page of AMAZING STORIES bore the sub-title "The Magazine Of Science Fiction" in place of "The Magazine Of Scientifiction", which it had carried since its introductory number in 1926! Oddly enough, the contents page which sometimes faced the editorial page, still carried the words "Scientific Fiction" beneath the title of the magazine.

"Scientifiction" was used on the spine of the magazine for the last time the next month. This upset another tradition, since it had shared the limelight with the magazine's title in that spot since the third issue.

With its January, 1933 number, AMAZING STORIES instigated a series of symbolic and impressionistic covers by Sigmond. Some modern editors of science fiction could have saved themselves a lot of grief if they could have communed with the spirit of T. O'Connor Sloane and found out what happens to a science fiction magazine's circulation when it puts abstract art on the cover too many issues in a row. To balance the new,

natty title logo, the words "Scientific Fiction" were carried on the cover in very large letters. The March, 1933 issue, however, found the artist in tune with the times and "Science Fiction" was substituted for the duration of the disastrous experiment of "futuristic art for a futuristic magazine".

Dr. Sloane finally got around to the sub-title on the contents page with the May, 1933 issue, changing that to "Science Fiction", and then lived happily with the term ever after.

WEIRD TALES, however, had its own problems. Circulationwise the magazine was in danger of becoming ghostly as some of its stories. It needed new readers desperately and the only conceivable source were the science fiction magazines. Fearful of factionalism, Wright had through the years, clung tenaciously to his own rhetorical invention, "weird-scientific", to describe his taste to describe his tales of galactic explorations and future inventions. Now, with every other science fiction magazine using "science fiction", he realized that while the term "weird-scientific" might be close to his more mystical minded readers, it was frightening off would-be science fiction purchasers.

When ARGOSY turned down Otis Adelbert Kline's "Buccaneers Of Venus" because Edgar Rice Burroughs had submitted "Pirates Of Venus" to them, Farnsworth Wright was offered a chance at the story. Kline had become one of the hottest literary properties in the country by expertly imitating the style of Edgar Rice Burroughs in "The Planet Of Peril" and "The Prince Of Peril". Angered by the imitation, Burroughs wrote a Venus story of his own, with unhappy consequences for Kline.

A contributor to WEIRD TALES since its first, March, 1923 number, where he had "The Thing Of A Thousand Shapes", Kline was partial to Wright. To WEIRD TALES "Buccaneers Of Venus" was the lure needed to attract thousands of science fiction readers, but in order to attract them, Kline's story had to be called "science fiction". Breaking precedent, Wright did just that, announcing "Buccaneers Of Venus" in a ludicrous face-saving bit of double talk on Page 573 of the October, 1932 issue as "A stupendous

weird-scientific story by a master of science fiction". This appears to be the earliest official use of the "science fiction" term in America's oldest fantasy magazine.

"Weird-Scientific" was subsequently used in WEIRD TALES but it was as though Farnsworth Wright had tacitly agreed that the genre was known as "science fiction", but he reserved the right to call it something else if the spirit so moved him.

Farnsworth Wright left WEIRD TALES in 1939 and died a short time later as the result of an experimental brain operation which he had agreed to in the forlorn hope of correcting his worsening palsy condition due to Parkinson's Disease.

After his departure, the term "weird-scientific" was completely discarded by WEIRD TALES, except for a house ad which had been running for over fifteen years offering the book The Moon Doom by A. G. Birch, as a subscription premium.

Clayton Publications, publishers of ASTOUNDING STORIES, founded early in 1933 and ASTOUNDING STORIES, along with several other titles were purchased and revived by Street and Smith later the same year. As a leading publisher, adequately financed, Street and Smith could have pioneered a new term and possibly made it stick. However, F. Orlin Tremaine, new editor of ASTOUNDING STORIES, decided to stick with "science-fiction", using it in November 1933 issue of that magazine, and continuing to use it in hyphenated form for the entire time he remained editor.

Though the term "science fiction" obtained recognition in the field, no magazine carried it as the title or as part of the title of the publication.

The first publications to break the precedent were not professional journals, but semi-professional efforts published by the fans of science fiction themselves.

Among those fans were Jerry Siegal and Joe Shuster, who were to rise from their initial humble efforts to become the author and artist, and coincidentally, the creators of the comic-strip character "Superman". They published out of Cleveland, a mimeographed fiction

magazine titled pure and simply SCIENCE FICTION. The October, 1932 date of the first issue (the magazine lasted five numbers) lost them the distinction of being the first publication to use "science fiction" in the title by one month. That honor accrues to the SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST, a printed, monthly combination science fiction fan magazine and trade journal, whose first issue was dated September, 1932.

As an additional bit of irony, two of the original publishers of SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST, Julius Schwartz and Mort Weisinger now edit the Superman comic group, while its originators, Siegal and Shuster, no longer have any connection with it.

Long years were to pass before science fiction publishers were to dispense with the idea that to call a spade a spade might frighten off prospective readers. Eventually, ASTOUNDING STORIES with John W. Campbell, Jr. in editorial control, changed its title to ASTOUNDING SCIENCE-FICTION with its March, 1938 number and became the first newsstand publication to use "science-fiction" in its title. The hyphen was kept in the logo until November, 1946 when it was unceremoniously dropped.

One year later, Blue Ribbon Magazines, rang up another "first" by publishing the initial newsstand magazine called simply SCIENCE FICTION. That initial number dated March, 1939. Though there was a long hiatus during and after World War II, publication was resumed under the slightly altered title SCIENCE FICTION STORIES.

It is far from unlikely that Blue Ribbon's brazen use of the naked term "science fiction", as the full title for their entry into the realm of fantastic literature may have been inspired by Hugo Gernsback. Louis Silberkleit, publisher of Blue Ribbon was a friend of Gernsback. The first issue of SCIENCE FICTION carried a full-page guest editorial by Gernsback. Even though Gernsback had left the science fiction field when he sold WONDER STORIES to Standard Magazines in 1936, he had been extremely reticent about making any public statements up to this time.

To add credence to the possibility that Gernsback may have influenced Sil-

berkliet to make bold use of the SCIENCE FICTION title was the fact that Charles D. Hornig, youthful editor who had worked under Gernsback on WONDER STORIES, was employed to handle the publication, possibly upon recommendation of his former boss. As a dyed-in-the-wool science fiction fan and thoroughly sold user of the term "science fiction", Hornig would have been all in favor of the idea.

Today "science fiction" is so commonly used as part of the title of science fiction periodicals, that when Blue Ribbon magazines, now Columbia Publications, revived the magazine title SCIENCE FICTION, and put a blurb on top of the cover "The Original", active science fiction fans as well as casual readers referred to the magazine as "The Original Science Fiction Stories", believing that this meant no reprints. It came as a shock to many, when they awoke to the realization, that the line actually meant was that it was the first fantasy periodical to be titled simply "SCIENCE FICTION"!

We have learned, then, of how "science fiction", as the term of an entire genre of literature came to be accepted by the market most integrally concerned with it. But what of the non-science fiction mediums? How were they influenced to use it?

Primary credit for this next step of indoctrination belongs to the writers magazines such as THE AUTHOR & JOURNALIST, WRITER'S DIGEST, THE WRITER, etc. Editors, publishing in the tradition of Verne and Wells, called their medium "science fiction" when sending editorial requirements to the writers magazines. They were published as received. That is the way the entire publishing field learned to refer to this new branch of magazine publishing.

A typical early use of "science fiction" in an article outside of the science fiction field was Allen Glasser's "The Wane of Science Fiction", which appeared in the June, 1933 number of THE AUTHOR & JOURNALIST, and written at a time when the depression almost swamped the science fiction periodical field.

The same number carried an article by famed science fiction writer Ralph Milne Farley (pen name for Roger Sherman Hoar, former United States senator),

which used the word "science fiction" in its context.

To lend an old-home-week atmosphere Willard E. Hawkins, editor of THE AUTHOR & JOURNALIST WAS A FOLLOWER OF THE GEMME, having written science fiction himself.

Even earlier was the Jan-Feb., 1933 issue of an amateur printed publication dealing with dime novels and other nostalgic literature published by Ralph P. Smith of Lawrence, Mass., called HAPPY HOURS MAGAZINE. That little periodical featured an article in that number titled "Science Fiction in the Dime Novels".

Acceptance of the term, even publication of any quantity of science fiction material was much slower in the book world. Pocket Books, Inc., broke the ice when they permitted Donald A. Wellheim, a former editor and writer of science fiction, to talk them into publishing THE POCKET BOOK OF SCIENCE FICTION in 1943.

A similar welcome in the canons of hard-cover book publishing had to wait until after the war, when Crown issued THE BEST IN SCIENCE FICTION edited by Groff Conklin, a real estate expert who took to science fiction as an avocation. The words "Science Fiction" had not discoverably been used in a hard cover book before that time, 1946!

The virility of the term "science fiction" is no better illustrated than in the manner in which it has taken hold in foreign nations. In England, Scotland, Canada and Australia, "science fiction" is quite frequently part of the title of fantasy magazines. The expression is equally popular in France where one publication was titled simply SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE and where FICTION continues to spread the gospel by drawing for the main part from THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION for its content. That "science fiction" will remain the approved designation of space literature in France seems to have been assured by the publication in recent months of a magazine titled SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION, but bearing no kinship to its American namesake.

The ill-fated Dutch magazine PLANET ran the subtitle "science fiction" and still does the Swedish periodical HAFNA! The German usage of "Utopische Romane" (Utopian novels) to describe tales of

space and time has bowed to science fiction, largely due to the missionary work of the fan groups of that country.

There seems no question that "science fiction" is today the approved name of tales of space and time all over the world.

The other terms died slowly. They died hard, but they died.

Phil Strong, author of State Fair, edited a mixed collection of weird, fantasy and science fiction tales which appeared in hard covers in 1941 under the title of The Other Worlds. In his voluminous notes preceding the stories, he used "scientifiction" throughout in quotes.

Walter Gillings, A British enthusiast, produced a near professional fan magazine titled SCIENTIFICTION, The British Fantasy Review which was launched in January, 1937 and ran for seven issues.

After purchasing WONDER STORIES from Gernsback, Standard Magazines changed its title to THRILLING WONDER STORIES and slanted towards a younger group of readers. This policy bore fruit so that in time THRILLING WONDER STORIES began ST-ARTLING STORIES, which in its first issue, dated January, 1939, ran on its spine the slogan: "The Best In Scientifiction". This it continued to do up until January, 1953, when trimming the pulp edges necessitated redesigning the publication and the slogan was dropped.

That marked the end of the prominent usage of "scientifiction" anywhere, except for a technicality. An abbreviation of "scientifiction" had been devised which achieved widespread usage -- it was "SIF" -- (pronounced stef). The peak of its prominence was marked in 1940 and 1941 when F. Orlin Tremaine, then editing COMET magazine, sprinkled the term liberally throughout the magazine, both cover and interior. It has remained in declining usage among science fiction lovers until today.

However, the abbreviation of science fiction, "SF", is beginning to make inroads and may eventually supplant it. This trend received tremendous impetus when Dell Publications brought out during the first half of 1956, The first of an annual series of paper backed anthologies of the best science fiction of the past year edited by Judith Merrill, titled

simply SF. Beginning in 1955 England saw the publication of the first of a number of hard-cover anthologies entitled "sf" (lower case).

"Super Science" as an appellation for science fiction was never a strong contender as "the" term. However, it has established itself as a permanent reference for the more far-fetched forms of "space opera" dealing with movements of entire solar system and disruptions on a galactic scale in the grand tradition of Edward E. Smith. A brief period of prominence was inaugurated when Popular Publications, fetching about for new titles during a boom in science fiction, turned out SUPER SCIENCE STORIES for a number of years under the editorship of Frederik Pohl, starting with the March 1940 number. Today Crestwood publishes SUPER SCIENCE FICTION.

"Fantascience stories", a term which can be traced back no further than Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore publishers, who in the jacket blurb of John Taine's novel Before The Dawn, published in 1934 referred to that work as a work of "Fantascience".

The science fiction fans used it frequently such as in the heading of feature columns entitled "Fantascience Filmfare", in the fan magazine IMAGINATION and as the title of another prominent science fiction fan magazine, FANTASCIENCE DIGEST, which expired in 1941. Its publisher, Robert A. Madle, currently writes "Inside Science Fiction", the popular column appearing in SCIENCE FICTION STORIES.

The term "scientific Fiction", like an old soldier, merely faded away, until today, its user as well as the term assume an antiquarian aspect.

If there is anything left to argue about it is probably whether science fiction should be joined with a hyphen. When Hugo Gernsback reentered the science fiction field briefly with SCIENCE-FICTION PLUS in 1953, the hyphen was deliberately inserted in "science-fiction" everywhere in the magazine to establish a different style. Production costs on this slick paper experiment with five-color covers and no ads sank it after only seven issues, so whether or not it would have caught on is a matter of conjecture. As recently as its May 12,

1956 number, SATURDAY REVIEW was still hyphenating "science-fiction".

For better or for worse, whether one likes it or not, accounts of high interplanetary adventure, jaunts into the future or past, visits to other di-

mensions or the acquisition of superhuman physical and mental powers are tales of "science fiction". In the foreseeable future, no other term is likely to replace it.

THE END

THE LONDONCON

BY JOHN V.

THE BIGGEST EVENT of science-fiction fandom each year is the World Science Fiction Convention. This fabulous gathering of fans from all over the world (mostly U.S. in reality) is the showplace of science-fiction and its allied fields; fantasy fiction & weird fiction. At these gatherings editors, authors, artists, and publishers mix with well-known fans, almost-known fans and unknown fans. Here all discuss their literature and have one happy, happy time. The fans actually run these gatherings, pay for them and direct them. They are the one event each year that all who follow science/fantasy try to get to and take part in.

In 1957, London England was the host city, the first time the World Conventions have left North America. For that year well-known author John Victor Peterson acted as a reporter for Science-Fiction Times and sent in the happenings via Air Letters. His report was most enjoyable and informative. This was Peterson's first job as a reporter, altho in the past he had aided both Fantasy-News and Science-Fiction Times in numerous ways. We think you'll enjoy this commentary of the 1957 World Science Fiction Convention -- THE LONDONCON. --the editors

(Reprinted from Science-Fiction Times, Second September 1957 issue, #279)

THE FIRST DAY

LONDON, 6 September, 1957, (CNS) - A pre-convention press conference was called in the bar at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Ted Carnell. In readying myself to go, I had the radio on in my room and heard the taped interview held with John W. Campbell, Jr., (Guest of Honor at this Convention) upon his arrival at London Airport. The interview was prefaced with news of the fact that the 15th World Science Fiction Convention was being held at the King's

Court Hotel, etc. It took about 5 - 8 minutes of BBC airtime. The meat of it being that Campbell felt that reaching the moon was strictly a matter of economics and that given the funds, we could reach the moon within 24 months.

At the press conference, Ted gave the floor to Dave Kyle who presented Arthur C. Clarke with last year's trophy for "The Star". Ted then introduced John W. Campbell, Jr. who said but little then. John Brunner then took over and answered various questions from the press regard-

REPORT

PETERSON

ing the program. JWCjr advised the press that it would be strictly an informal session as in a regular scientific meeting with people meeting face-to-face, person-to-person, discussing the things with which they are personally concerned -- not something you can program. He said "we have no message". He went on to say that there are no journals of speculation - of speculative thinking - of disciplined imagination - and that the s-f mags come closest to that. Ted mentioned some of the more notable s-f authors present such as John Wyndham, Arthur C. Clarke and John Christopher. The press asked what is the average circulation of s-f magazines. Ted Carnell said he sells about 20,000 copies per issue. JWCjr says he sells about 95,000 per issue and that his recent poll showed that each issue is read by 1.9 persons. The press then asked where all the ideas for s-f stories come from and JWCjr said that he has frequently given a single idea to six different authors and received six entirely different stories. Ted then mentioned that s-f writing requires a certain background knowledge and a definite technique -- all of which calls for authors in a specialty. Then the press asked if s-f authors used their own names and a discussion resulted during which JWCjr mentioned Heinlein's departure from his "future history" with the Anson MacDonald yarns. He also mentioned the two-headed Robert Randall (saying one head - Silverberg - was here). Further that Will F. Jenkins periodically writes s-f under the

name of Murray Leinster (incidentally, we're in Leinster Gardens). Finally, JWCjr mentioned that John R. Pierce writes s-f under his own name but articles under the name of J. J. Coupling (because Bell would not take kindly to his publishing of extrapolated science under his own name). Then the press asked: What is Psionics? Campbell mentioned Rhine and "psi" and said that he had struck on the "-onics". JWCjr said that psionics is the science of phenomena for which there is no explanation and that the old name "magic" is the closest correlation. He went on to say that s-f is by and for amateurs. He said his own hobby is s-f and that he makes his living by it. He said that an amateur spent 20 years on a curious problem and charged it off to entertainment, not losing a nickle, while a vommerical outfit can't afford to do that. The press asked what is the usual membership of a convention. Dave Kyle said that last year's (1956) was around 1,200, with over 800 attending. The press asked how the word got around about the conventions. Brunner explained about fan mags and clubs. The press inquired as to whether any authors otherwise prominent wrote s-f and Arthur C. Clarke said that almost every well-known writer has penned at least one s-f yarn. Campbell said that flying saucers are no longer used as a story basis and went on about Ike Asimov's "duck".

Then the First Session began at 9:00 P.M. as programmed. JWCjr was introduced. He said he has to be a professional prop-

hed since he buys s i x months ahead of publication. Said he's taken no part in Conventions because of his position and because he could not be able to handle the details and feels the fans do it well enough. Dave Kyle came o n and said he felt he had no right to look back and introduced America's fan representative, Bob Madle, giving background since 1936. Bob briefly gave his thanks, says he's here five days and feels he's already covered a full convention. Ted wound up with a tale of how he went out to London Airport on a motorcycle t o get John W. Campbell, Jr.

Adjournment 9:30 P.M. (and t o the Bar).

THE SECOND DAY

LONDON, 7 September, 1957, (CNS) - The Convention Luncheon, scheduled for 1:00 P.M. did not begin until 2:00 P.M. due to delay and confusion in seating the attendees. Had the tables borne numbers and the attendees been issued cards with table and seat numbers, the whole procedure would have been expedited. At 2:00 P.M. Peter West took a picture of the assemblage. I must mention here that the main hall is about 100 to 120 feet long by 15 to 20 feet wide. At 2:05 the luncheon began. Seated at the main table were David & Ruth Kyle, Roberta Wild, Arthur C. Clarke, Ross Campbell, John Wyndham, John W. Campbell, Jr., Ted Carnell, John Christopher, Robert A. Madle, Rory Faulkner and Forrest J Ackerman. The meal priced at 13/6 (\$1.90) consisted of Caneloupe Melon, Chicken Soup, Roast Duck with Orange Sauce, Roast New Potatoes, Green Peas, and mixed fruit. The "eating" began at 3:00 P.M.

Ted Carnell then introduced John Wyndham, Committee President, who proposed a toast to Her Majesty The Queen, then John said, to gales of laughter, "Now You may smoke!"

Shortly thereafter Ted read a cable from Earl and Nancy Kemp of Chicago, expressing their regret at not being able to attend. There was then a 15 minutes gap during which individual conversations were held.

At 3:40 P.M., Ted introduced Arthur C. Clarke, the Guest of Honor at the 14th World Science Fiction Convention, w h o,

with d u e apologies to Poul Anderson, addressed the assemblage as "Gentle Beings". Arthur said he was here by miscalculation, having expected t o arrive after the ceremonies had been begun and thus avoid any "work" in connection with the preparations. He went on to say that he was pleased a s last year's Guest to propose this year's. To him last year's convention seemed not a year past b u t either 5 minutes or 5 years. He stated that he felt he could introduce John Campbell much better than any other s since he doesn't rely on John for income, being less emotionally attached than Isaac Asimov, for example. He said that John publishes more good s -f than any other magazine and that his influence on the field is enormous. Stated that John differs tremendously from Hugo Gernsback. Gernsback being a technologist with John being a scientist (not a gadget man). Said that John was the first s-f writer to delve i n t o quantum physics. Said further that John Campbell and Edgar Rice Burroughs are at opposite poles. Clarke said he still remembers the names of characters in John's stories (quoted some) and said he doesn't remember the names of characters in his own yarns. Clarke said that John in his alter ego Rf Don. A. Stuart had written "Twilight" and "Night " which had inspired his (Clarke's) "Against The Fall Of Night". Clarke said that his first dealings with John had been when he Clarke, was a Flight Lieutenant on a radar station 5 miles from Stratford-on-Avon. He had sent a story to John and received a request from Street & Smith for a certified copy o f signature for their files. He took a cycle and went straight down the main runway of the airfield, heading f o r Stratford where he went to the Commissioner o f Oaths and swore, certifying that Clarke was Clarke. The story was "Rescue Party". He then proposed a toast to John W. Campbell, Jr.

Ted Carnell then introduced John.

John said that the document which Street & Smith had required was t o the effect that t h e story was an original composition freeing S&S in the event that the story had been plagiarized. He mentioned that not too long ago a New York book publisher had put out a detective novel and sent i t to Anthony Boucher for review just before the book was to be re-

leased. Boucher recognized it as a complete steal.

John went on to say that an editor can help authors quite a bit. An editor has a unique opportunity to study how not to write a story. He stressed the importance of the power of negative thinking. Said he has read at least 200,000 lousy manuscripts, many from well-known writers which, if published, would have been sheer humor but deadly to the authors. He said that the main fault with many writers is lack of organization, and the message is no good if the story is not entertaining. He said that many dozen of fans continue to write asking for a revival of Unknown with great intensity of interest. But, unfortunately, the number of people who bought Unknown were not enough to make it an economic success. It would, therefore be futile to consider reviving it. Said Horace Gold thought he had found the flaw that made Unknown an economic failure and had brought out Beyond only to have it fail. John said that s-f cannot be defined on the basis of what it has been because then it isn't. He touched upon many things such as the fact that his present great interest in philosophy; that rocketry and atomics were okay for s-f in 1940 but not in 1950; that mankind's greatest need is not for more physical powers but how to integrate the achievements he has made. He said that you can't build the fifth floor of the building without beams on the first floor. He said that social sciences require a discipline, noting that physical sciences have a rigid-non-human discipline. Scientists must move into social sciences.

John said that Astounding is the interaction of many minds, not his alone. He considers his office as a clearing house where many people's ideas are passed around. He feels that it has turned out quite successfully and hopes to continue.

Arthur C. Clarke then called on Bob Madle to propose the next toast. Bob went back to the very first convention, mentioning that there had been 16 kids present and that Donald A. Wollheim had named it the First Science Fiction Convention. It was decided to hold the First World Convention three years later. That and all conventions since until this one have been primarily U. S. Con-

ventions, this being the 1st truly World Convention. Bob then proposed a toast to that committee.

Ted then introduced John K. H. Brunner who told about how David A. Kyle had introduced the British fans to the difficulties of putting on last year's Convention to the British Committee last Easter at Kettering. Brunner said please don't waste time telling the committee how much you appreciate what they have done and are doing but to get on enjoying the Convention.

Ted introduced Forrest J Ackerman who proposed a toast to absent friends. Forry started by mentioning H. G. Wells and Olaf Stapledon; then mentioned Eric Frank Russell, Edmond Hamilton and Leigh Brackett, Robert Bloch, Isaac Asimov, Bob Tucker, Tony Boucher and others.

Rainer Eisfeld, a 16 year old fan from Germany, was then introduced. Rainer spoke very precise English, stating that there was a very strong science-fiction club in Germany, consisting of approximately 1,000 fans. He brought forth a gale of laughter when he said "You know Germans like to be organized". He says that youth is the main element in German fandom, that they are treating s-f seriously, feeling it the best means of worldwide understanding. The German S-F Convention is being held next week at Hamburg. He said that Forrie Ackerman is going and invited all to come who might wish to do so. He ended by saying that he "wishes all to be our friends as we are yours".

Ted then called upon Lars Helander of Sweden. Lars, a good looking blond boy of 18, said that he was the only Swedish fan present. He expressed regret at the absence of others. Said he was not the official representative of Swedish fandom. Said that the Convention is much in the news in s-f fandom circles in Sweden.

Then Ted called upon Sam Moskowitz. Sam said that he was pleased and surprised to find eight of those who attended the First World S-F Con were present, namely: Robert A. Madle, John W. Campbell Jr., Harry Harrison, David A. Kyle, Forrest J Ackerman, Oswald Train, John Victor Peterson and himself (Sam). He reviewed the costs of the 1st Con, stating that the banquet had been \$1.00 a plate, which

many had considered to be "highway robbery". Said that 32 had attended the banquet, 29 being paid with Guest of Honor Frank R. Paul and with 2 deadbeats (unknown). Said that 200 persons had attended. He said that at that First World Convention, three persons had come from LA by train, namely: Forrest J Ackerman, Myrtle Douglas and Ray Douglas Bradbury. He said that the 1st Con had cost about \$236.00 while the 14th has cost over \$7,000.00.

Ted then introduced Pete Daniels from Lancashire, England. Pete said he doesn't like to say "Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen" since the Chairman just has to be one or the other. He discussed in a very humorous vein what troubles he had encountered seeking advice as to what to say at the Convention; then said, "It's nearly time for tea, and, with all due respects, Mam, let joy be unconfined!"

Ted then read a telegram regretting that illness prevented the attendance of Peter Hamilton of Nebula Science Fiction.

The Luncheon then ended and the BBC and ITV came into the hotel and set up television cameras. The Luncheon ended at 4:35 P.M.

Adjournment then until the Evening Session.

During the Luncheon an announcement was made that both BBC and ITV would take movies of the main celebrities and of those who would be costumed for the ball. At about 6:00 P.M. BBC set up its camera and floodlights in the lounge and began shooting. ITV came in at about 8:00 P.M., made films for about an hour and then left. BBC stayed on all night, finally stopped at 6:00 A.M. The continued work of BBC hampered the convention proceedings to a considerable extent since their work went on in the lounge and the Con activities were being conducted in the Main Hall. Drinking was curtailed to a considerable extent because the mobile bar was in the room adjacent to the TV set-up and so many people were milling around that the waiters had definite need for telekinesis!

Judges for the Fancy Dress Parade, of the evening session, were Peg Campbell, Barbara Silverberg, Mrs. Eric Frank Russell and Tom Voardman, Jr. Winners were: 1. Franklin and Belle Dietz as The Denebians.

2. Norman Weedall as The Executioner.
3. Dave & Ruth Kyle as The Honeymooners.
4. John K. H. Brunner and Marjorie Keller as the Krishnans.

There were many other fine costumes, and the judges took a long time to reach their decisions. The winners were filmed extensively by BBC.

Things continued to run late.

THE THIRD DAY

LONDON, 8 September, 1957, (CNS) - At 2:45 P.M. The Cheltenham Science Fiction Circle, headed by Knight Grand Master Eric Jones & Knight Armourer Robert Richardson, presented The Ceremony Of St. Fantony, an extremely colorful production in which the following were vested with The Order of St. Fantony: Ken Slater; Walter Willis, Terry Jeeves, Bobbie Wild, Bob Silverberg, Frank Dietz, Ellis Mills, Bob Madle, Boyd Raeburn, Eric Bontcliffe & Rory Faulkner.

The next item scheduled was a programme of amateur 8mm cine films. It was delayed considerably because the projector couldn't be made to perform. The films, presented by Mad Productions & the Cheltenham S-F Circle, were hilarious although highly amateurish. The delays, added together, forced cancellation of the scheduled Grand International Tea-Drinking Contest.

At about 5:20 P.M., Dave Newman introduced Harry Powers who presented a demonstration of hypnosis his subject being Eric Jones, Sylvia Margulies, Harry Clements and others. The demonstration was extremely convincing.

Adjournment, then until the evening-session.

The Sunday evening program began at 8:15 P.M. with John Wynham and Bobbie Wild on the stage. Bobbie announced that John W. Campbell, Jr., was to receive the Award for the Best American Professional Magazine: ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION, and asked John Wynham to present the trophy; a bronzed spaceship on a pedestal. John Campbell briefly voiced his appreciation. Bobbie Wild then stated that THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION had been a close second, and tied behind that had been INFINITY SCIENCE FICTION and GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION. Bobbie then announced that Ted Carnell's NEW WORLDS SCIENCE FICTION had run away with the Award for The

Best British Pro S-F Magazine. John Wyndham presented a bronzed trophy to Ted. Finally Bobbie announced that SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES had won the Award for the best Fan Magazine, beating Hypen by two votes with Inside a close third. John Victor Peterson accepted a silvered trophy on behalf of the editors of the "Times", stating that while he was not directly affiliated with Science-Fiction Times, he had been a personal friend of James V. Taurasi and Ray Van Houten since the 1st World S-F Convention, and of Frank R. Prieto, Jr., for several years. He indicated that Science-Fiction Times, now 16 years of age, was the oldest magazine in the fan field.

It is curious to note that all of the men in the Awards ceremony are known in science-fiction circles by the first name or John. They were, as noted above, John Wyndham (John Baynon Harris), John W. Campbell, Jr., John Carnell (Edward John or "Ted" Carnell edits under that name), and John Victor Peterson.

Inasmuch as voting had been very close on the awards other than that for New Worlds, the trophies had not been engraved. The trophies will be airmailed to John W. Campbell, Jr., and the editors of Science-Fiction Times for subsequent attachment.

Following the Awards ceremonies was a taped program called "Taperama" and then a truly spectacular and beautiful animated fantasy film entitled "Mr. Wonderbird", Special Award Winner of The Venice Film Festival, was shown. This film has not yet been released either in England or America. It will unquestionably be widely popular since it combines fantasy and science-fiction in a splendid way.

Sunday evening wound up with an auction wherein Sam Moskowitz assisted Ted Tubbs in a highly efficient and entertaining manner.

THE FOURTH AND LAST DAY

LONDON, 9 September, 1957, (CNS) - The Monday morning business session opened promptly at 11:00 A.M. Two amendments to the by-laws were proposed and unanimously adopted. Nominated for Directors of The World Science Fiction Society were Arthur Kingsley, Belle C. Dietz, and David

Newman. Voting was carried on and Forrest Ackerman and Bobbie Wild tabulated the votes. The results were as follows: Belle C. Dietz: 21; David Newman: 16; Arthur Kingsley: 15. The first two were therefore Directors for a term of 3 years.

Ted Carnell then announced that there had been only one bid for the site of The 16th World S-F Convention, that of "South Gate in '58", and introduced Forrie Ackerman. Forrie made a most entertaining speech wherein he said we'd no doubt go into an "If World" if South Gate doesn't get the site, and went on to name the curious results which would occur. Forrie introduced Rory Faulkner who said that preparations were well underway to make the 16th WGF Con a howling success. It was moved that South Gate be selected and carried unanimously. Thereupon Ted played on the rostrum a sign reading:

LOS ANGELES
CITY LIMITS

The meeting was adjourned until 2:15 P.M.

There was a delay in starting the afternoon program. Finally at 2:35 P.M. it was announced that a program change would be made and that Bob Madle, Forrie Ackerman and Sam Moskowitz would have a round robin of questions and answers to determine which of the three was the best authority on science-fiction. Sam stated that similar contests had been held in 'smoke-filled rooms' at previous cons. It seemed that an argument had developed on the plane as to which of them was the best all-round s-f specialist. The questions were extremely difficult, such as Forrie's question to Bob Madle as to what magazine appeared in 1931 and ran two issues, dates of those issues, cover artists, cover stories, editor and publisher; which Bob answered almost without hesitation. Bob led the game by one point right through the third round, at the end of which the score was 8-7-7. Then Bob missed a question and the game ended in a three-way tie: 9-9-9.

At 3:35 P.M. Sam Moskowitz presented a summary of the Science-Fiction Market Survey of 1956 which appeared in full details in The Science Fiction Yearbook, 1957 edition. At 4:15 P.M. Sam introduced

ed John W. Campbell, Jr. for a talk on "Psionics". John said that he felt a question and answer session would be best and asked Eric Jones to join him. Eric brought a psionics machine to the stage and a discussion of the same resulted. Eric Frank Russell joined them briefly to mention the devining of buried electric cables being done now in this country with a metallic devining rod. The matters discussed have been for the most part previously covered in editorials and articles in Astounding.

At the opening of the evening session Bobbie Wild presented Peg Campbell with a Scots Guard (model) on behalf of the ladies of the Committee. Dave and Ruth Kyle were presented with something for their home, and Frank & Belle Dietz were also given a present.

Ted Carnell said a formal goodby to all present, then Harry Harrison presented Dave Kyle with a scroll from the people on the flight from America expressing

their appreciation for his splended efforts in making the flight possible.

A further auction was then held with Ted Tubb doing a hilarious and masterful job.

A private party was then held for the Committee members and those from the States who had added the Committee, while a second showing of the amateur films was given in the Main Hall. At the private party Ted Carnell showed movies which he had made both in the States just after the 14th WSF Con and after his return to England.

The party broke up shortly before dawn and your correspondent practically collapsed.

Despite delays, an awkward hall, etc., I feel that the Convention was a howling success. The official paid membership was 766 and the official attendance figure was 268.

T H E E N D