

The Voyage of the
SF 52
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THE VOYAGE OF THE

SF 52

Volume 1 Number 3

Published Monthly

All contributions are welcomed.

All letters will be printed or answered by mail.

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THE VOYAGE OF THE SF52 is published about monthly by Richard Lupoff. The address until June 10, 1952, is Bordentown, New Jersey; Bordentown Military Institute. Thereafter and until further notice it will be 186-19 Aberdeen Road, Jamaica, New York.

Copies sent free to contributors and fanzine publishers who wish to exchange.

When SF52 started I thought that it was just about as low as a fanzine could get, just being typed and carboned. But a look at Rog Philips' Club House, in the latest AMAZING STORIES shows that some fellow up in New York, known only as Mr. U., is putting out a weekly, of which he hand writes every copy., called BEGINNING: THE FUTURE. I personally think that it's just about impossible to keep that up for long, but my hat's off to him for doing such a job.

Incidentally, since several of SF52's readers are fanzine publishers, let me say that anything which appears in SF52 is open for reprint. I would appreciate it if anyone who does so would give us some credit and send a copy to SF52, but even that's not necessary.

We're making progress as far as contributors is concerned -- The first ish was strictly a one-man job; Number two had help from Klaus Kaufman, and with this ish we add Gregg Calkins to the crew.

Starting with this issue you'll notice that the mail and editorial sections are combined. The reason is that the subject matter of the ~~xxx~~ two is often so close.

The first letter of the month leads into an up and coming feud. As the radio commentators say, 'But I'm getting ahead of myself, read the whole story for yourself.'

From
Gregg Calkins, 761 Oakley St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Well, I didn't mean to scare you off entirely with that missive of mine. If, as you say, I almost caused the end of SF52, I'M sorry, because I didn't mean to sound so harsh.

But, before we go any further we'll look at the second ish of your fmz. 'Twas some sort of improvement over #1, and the green cover looked good. Peter Prim was quite the thing. Best in the ish, in fact. I got a chuckle out of it, anyhow. Time Machine wasn't as good as the two bits youssed in the first one. The poem was good to begin with, but lost out after the first stanza. The Balled-Up Point Pen was good, and so was FanTypes. Kaufman would have done well to stay in bed. The TWS review was okay, but one point -- YOU are the guy who pulled the bonor, not TWS. That's not THE moon. It's A moon, granted (or a planet, more likely) but not ours. And the star doesn't look distorted by an atmosphere any more than the sun looks distorted to us. Explanation? Simple. That's a class A giant white star, and the body the ship is on is about the second or first primary. See? (((With this I'm gonna argue? Okkay, professor, you've made your point, now sit down.)))

From

Klaus Kaufman, 1 Water St., Newburgh, New York,

Just recieved the March issue of SF52. Your mag has certainly improved. I didn't have any trouble with the reading(((As anyone familiar with carbon paper knows, the quality of reproduction varies among the several copies made, so I can't take credit for that.))) and found the issue very interesting.

Rocket mail was ~~xxxxxxx~~ fairly interesting. However, don't feel discouraged about the mail. I think all the more of your for publishing on a typewriter. Ya! Ya! Ya! Welcome Aboard was interesting, but this business of moving, etc. will make it neccesary to be telling us new addresses all the time. (((Right. See page 1))) Peter Prim was...well, now should I put it,.UGH! Time Madhine was a great improvement over the two gory tales in the last issue. An Editor's Nightmare was good; I enjoyed Great Inventions of Man. Yuk! Yuk! YUk! Your review of TWS was good, but why didn't you mention Moment without Time? You cad. (((An oversight, nothing deliberate)))

From
Lee Hoffman, 101 Wagner St., Savannah, Georgia.

Sure thing, I'll be glad to trade Q for SF52.
Yours is the second carboned fmz I've seen lately.
Art Rapp's Stf Habba No is the other. Enjoyed my
copy of SF52 very much. I don't review fanmags in
Q, but I quite often plug 'em. Since # 19 is al-
ready on stencils I'll have to wait for #20 to
plug a SF52 for you. (((Thanks, Lee, but don't
forget that our small facilities make for a
small circulation.)))

Gregg Calkins is wrong to imply that SF52 would
be a futile gesture. So long as the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~
~~xxx~~ pleasure you get is greater than the trouble
of putting it out, it won't be futile. Also
Gregg suggests that you back off and wait a year.
Why do that? Think of how much progress you can
make in a year of activity, compared to a lesser
amount you'd make being inactive.(((I think that
Gregg just wants me to hold up SF52 and gradually be-
come more active in the field.)))

Bullock apparently never saw any mimeod artwork cut
by Redd Boggs or Jack Weidenbeck or any of the
other dozens of persons who can turn out mimeod
artwork that compares favorably with photo-offset
as far as linework goes. It isn't the mimeograph
that's at fault when you see poor artwork, 99 times
out of 100, it is just a bit of poor stencil cut-
ting and/or mimeoing. Those machines will do won-
ders when you know how to handle them. Most folks
misuse the machinery.

Time Machine was good, Plenty good,
The poem An Editor's Nightmare seemed a mite
common to me, but not bad.

Ball Point Pen was fine stuff.

FanTypes, hahah.

And Then Came The Cawn, rather ordinary, but not
at all bad.

All in all very enjoyable,
But mass production or not, if you enjoy it,
stick with it.

(((Can anyone help love'n' Lee)))

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This is a column of opinion, It is the opinion of the author, not the magazine or the editor.

s c h n o r k e l

by gregg calkins

New on the newsstands is the second issue of Paul W. Fairman's new magazine, IF. For those of you who haven't seen it, it's a digest-sized 35-cener, and well worth it. The second issue has a cover that is nothing short of terrific, with one minor flaw in it. Item: one of the space-clad-man's hands is bare. It sure looks cold out there, Paul.

IF has two new departments, wholly unique in the s-i pro field, and well, with notice. These are the guest editorials, all by faneds, I presume, since the first two have been; and Personalities in science-fiction. The stories have shown top-notch quality so far. IF measure up to about the calibre of SS-TWS, which is a little under ZING, and far above PLANET and AMAZING, and the like. Recommended!

In the field of acti-fandom the latest drive is for WAW with the crew in 52. Incase you haven't caught up with this one yet, here are the facts: the Chicago convention hopes to have one Irish fan fan in attendance this year, although they don't know it yet. A group of fen and fanzines are binding together to raise money and bring Walter A. Willis over for the convention. Willis, the bard of Belfast, does a short column for numerous fanzines, among them CONFUSION and SCIENCE-FICTION DIGEST, and a long one for that peer of fanzines, QUANDRY. The drive is on. If you're interested, please contact Sgelby Vick, Box 493, Lynn Haven, Fla.

Recommended in the field for those who have been doing without it are QUANDRY from Lee Hoffmann, 101 Wagner St, Savannah, Ga., and well worth the dime, and SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSLETTER, from Bob Tucker, PO box 702, Bloomington, Ill. Both are great, and Tucker's photo-offset for 15¢ is the best news buy in the ifield.

Are you attending the CHICON II this summer?
In case you aren't planning to, let me say that
it will, and I mean for sure the arrangements are
all made, be held over August 30, 31, September 1.
and that nearly everybody'll be there...won't you?
Convention membership is \$1, to be sent to the
Convention committee, PO box 1442, Chicago, 90,
Ill, for that you get all the club bulletins and a
deed to a genuine moon crater. The convention is
planning to go to the U.S. Bureau of Lands for
the right to do this, and I've heard a radio
commentator to the effect that the committee has
already caused quite a stir in Washington already.

The trend in PLANET seems to be toward Ray Brad-
bury. Seems the readers want more. For my money
it would be quite a shock to see Bradbury in ~~PLANET~~
PLANET. In fact, for my money, he's shocking where-
ever he is. Maybe he's a literary genius, but
I never could abide those morbid and pointless
stories he writes, and his MARTIAN CHRONICLES
were almost too much for me.

Heinlein is more the s-f type. Take his great
GALAXY serial, The Puppet Master, for instance.
Jealous reviewers have clutched their ulcers over
this one, occasionally, and ~~it~~ called it poorly
written and hard to read, but believe me, it's
the fastest, most exciting reading you'll get
from the pro's in many a day. And if you've ever
read Heinlein's MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON you will
know that Heinlein has one of the most powerful
forms of writing of any s-f author past or
present. As for the future-- we don't know, but
it'll have to strain.

DEFINITION OF A STF PULP

by Klaus Kaufman

A pulp is a magazine. It is of quite large dimensions, as any collector will tell you, and is quite hard to store away.

The cover of a pulp is usually of this nature: upon a planet a girl stands, bedecked in a palm leaf, behind her a handsome, space-tanned hero protects her, ray gun in hand, and from behind a hunk of rock a monstrous creature springs, commonly known as a BEM.

Sneaking away from the newsstand, turning the cover to our breasts we make our way home. After bolting the door we settle down to a grand evening of entertainment.

Opening the pulp we discover a 24-page readers' section, wherein we find such brilliant statements as:

"The Feb. is. stunk & ' & ? . @ , . ? @ 1 :) ' * & % "

"My comments on the story I Married A BEM?????"

"Dear Zing, well knock me for a loop or call me Flash Gordon. Yuck! Yuck! Yuck!"

"Did you read the latest is. of TGR? I liked the story KHMI by SP best, how about you?"

"Just dropped a line (heavy, ain't it) to tell you (who else) about the Feb. (not Jan.) is. of HFO (no, not GHEW)."

After hacking our way through the reader speaks(?) we find the lead novel. It is called Into the Stratosphere of Planet KJHNUIJNHGBYUIRF by Jason C.W.H. Harryton. The picture on the cover, a scene from the lead novel, needless to say has no resemblance to it. You finish the fifteen page novel and head for the three five-page novellots. After reading a few short stories we discard our shredded mag. By the way, we discover they are having a contest for the most shaped edges. After an evening of horror we wake up heading for the corner newsstand for another stf pulp. Gee whiz, my letter got published.

W H O-I S-G H U
dedicated to Gregg Calkins

I've heard of

A chap named Ghu.

Who is he?

I wonder, who?

Is he handsome,

Strong, and tall,

Or is he short,

And fat withall?

He must be great,

For every dope

Of his wants says

Great Ghu, I hope....

Has he wings,

Fly like a streak?

I hope he has

No eagle beak.

But best of all

Ther thought occurs

To me: could great Ghu be a she?

The bombs had fallen, the rubble had been cleared away; peace had been restored, and with it a surprising degree of civilization. There had been some radiation sickness, but not as much as had been anticipated. The world ////////////////////////////////////// was back on its / feet when the / T H E / first hints / first started to show/ N A T I V I T Y...II / As time passed//////////////////////////////////// it became more and more obvious what had happened. All forms of life suffered an evolutionary setback. Bird eggs hatched out fish. Dogs bore not canine puppies but rodents. At first the governments tried to keep it quiet, but such a widespread and cataclysmic change could not be kept under wraps for long.

Then, about three fourths of a year after the bombs, the whole world waited in anxiety as Mrs. Mary Edwards entered National Memorial Hospital to be delivered of her first-born...the first child known to have been conceived since the war.

And then, although the authorities tried to keep the news from the public, word spread over all humanity that man would at last have peace.

In fact, man would be replaced on Earth by the very symbol of peace and humility, for as they say in the nursery rhymes... Mary Ha d A Little Lamb...

SF52's Prozone Review...The Magazine of
FANTASY and SCIENCE FICTION

Edited by a distinguished pair--Anthony Boucher and J. Francis McComas, F&SF had a none-too-ostentatious beginning three years ago when it appeared as a quarterly known merely as THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY.

After four quarterly issues it became a bimonthly. The current name was adopted with the second issue. It has steadily improved since its inception, and it is known as one of the top few in the field.

Cover art--The first issue had an unoutstanding photo-cover. Since then there have been covers by George A. Sayer (mostly semi-abstracts) both alone and in conjunction with Dirone Photos; by Chesley Bonestell, one of whose paintings also became the F&SF trademark, and the cover of the F&SF Anthology; and by the EMAN complex. In covers as in all respects, F&SF goes progressively better.

Inside art--None only an occasional face in and F, F&SF's second trademark.

Editorials and features--F&SF has no editorial as such, but each story is introduced. There is also an excellent book review department, but there are no other features such as fact articles, letters, or fanzine reviews.

Stories--The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction publishes a mixture--I daresay quite a good mixture--of new stories and reprints, although the balance, which was originally in favor of the reprints, is now the other way. With one exception, Joan Brown's Body, all stories are rather short, and all good.

Several new authors, including Idris Seabright have been introduced, and that delightful place, Gavagan's Bar exists in the pages of F&SF.

SF52's

PROZINE PREFERENCE POLL

This is the place

where you tell me

what you like or dislike. In the space provided at the right, please mark your favorite prozine with a 1, your second with a 2, and so on. I will tabulate the results and publish them in the next issue of SF52.

Four magazines are left out, being either only recent comers or soon-to-comers:

IF Rocket Fantastic, and Space.....

Amazing Stoies	(0)
Astounding Science Fiction	()
Avon Fantasy Reader	()
Avon Science Fiction Reader	()
Future Science Fiction	()
Famous Fantastic Mysteries	()
Fantastic Adventures	()
Fantastic Story Magazine	()
Galaxy Science Fiction	()
Galaxy Science Fiction Novels	()
Fantasy & Science Fiction	()
Imagination	()
Other Worlds/	()
Planet Stories	()
Science Fiction Quarterly	()
Startling Stories	()
Thrilling Wonder Stories	()
Wonder Story Annual	()
Two Science-Adventure Books	()

Joe Hoffman
101 Wagner St.
Sarasota, Fla.

11/11/57

