

# DECLER! no. 15

Degler! is published weekly by Andy Forter at 24 East 82nd Street, New York, NY, 10028 for apa L, apa F, and various omnipotent entities and in this case for the annual open meeting of ESFA, and maybe even a Boskone or three. Doom publication no. 180

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Welcome to Degler!, the friendly fanatical fansine; I hope that you'll come to treasure this thing as a monument to the crass insanity of fansine fandom.

Degler, as you're probably aware, was a brilliant wizard under the evil influence of the shadows of Mordor. He was also a fan, when he wasn't asleep. Degler had a wonderful dream of uniting all fandom and then conquering entire cities and putting them under the rule of fans. This was nice, but fans didn't especially go for Degler's ideas. It seems that many fans felt that Degler was Guilty, in fact almost Culty, by Association. In Degler's case it was guilty by association with a mental hospital.

And so this issue of Degler! is dedicated to the fact that it has been 15 years since Degler appeared at a fan gathering. According to New York's local historian, Ken Beale, he was unmasked at a 1951 WesterCon and hasn't been seen since. However, for more proof positive you can ask the Wizard of the Jersey Flats, ~~Sam Moskowitz~~ <sup>the MIT</sup> Sam Moskowitz. Or you can ask Donald Wollheim, if he comes to the gathering. His story may be a little different, but what can you do when he's got 30 years of fan-history to sift through for the memory.

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NEWSGAGGLE FROM THE WORLD-WIDE RESOURCES OF PHONE  
..... (heh) FANDOM

Ted White, famous fantabulous author of such books as Android Avenger, The Murder Machine, Frankenstein 2065 A.D., Invasion from 2500 (with Terry Carr), The Jewels of Elsewhen, and last and maybe least, When In Rome is mentioned, by name, in a book that he didn't even ghost-write. The title of this sterling piece of Americana is The Legend of Blackjack Sam, by none other than Lee Hoffman, a fellow New Yorker and proprietor of Science Fiction Five-Yearly, a pentannual journal of the best in fannish and other writings. The next issue of this

sterling publication (gee, I think I already used that word, huh?) is due out Real Soon Now, as we say in Functual Fandom (that's a subdivision, I think right alongside of Ayn Rand and Burroughs Fandoms). Anyway, Ted White, fearless crusading author for that great metropolitan monthly, The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction, fighting a never-ending battle for truth, justice, and the American way of life...uh, well, Ted White has his name and another part of his anatomy mentioned in Lee's book. I forget just what part. Incidentally, Rich Brown (alias rich brown), Mike McInerney, and even Jave Van Arnam have their names in the very same paragraph, along with Ted. The page is 101, and I forgot just which paragraph it was. And that's earth-shaking newsga-gle from the world-wide resources of phone fandom.

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#### LUNA CON INFORMATION:

The annual LunaCon will be two days long this year, placing it in a category with the WesterCon and a whole bunch of other conferences.

It will take place April 16th and 17th at the Hotel Edison's Seven Arts Room, just off 46th street. Guest of Honor will be Isaac Asimov, and the program will feature Dr. Asimov at his wittiest, tossing us a few of his funnier equations. The Good Doctor has also promised to bring along a few autographed DNA molecules to hand out to the kiddies.

The meetings will last from noon until late afternoon, at which time a break for dinner will be held. After dinner, there will be fan parties sponsored by the FISTFA group held in the...uh...Gold (or was it Floral?) Room. You'll have to pardon me; this is being typed at 12:30 pm, and I can't find the confounded slip of paper with the name of the room on it. There will be refreshments for all, although there will be an entrance fee. The EasterCon is not connected with the LunaCon, altho both are held in the

# NEW

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**SERIOUSLY...**

The New York Fanoclasts are bidding for the 25th World Science Fiction Convention. We have a club filled with enthusiastic members all eager to help put on a fine convention. We plan a relaxed, unpressured affair, with meaty program items, stimulating and controversial. Our Guest of Honor, who has accepted with pleasure, will, we promise you, give one of the memorable banquet speeches. All in all, we think you will be pleased with the NYCon III; and we would like the chance to prove that New York can put on a WorldCon that everyone will remember with genuine pleasure.

**AND DON'T FORGET**

YORK  
'67!

**ER, NOT SO SERIOUSLY...**

The New York Fanoclasts, that friendly, jolly, warmhearted group of oafs, remain quite insistent that they are, for some reason, bidding for the 25th World Science Fiction Convention for New York City. You can get in touch with most any of our representatives at this get-together, and most any of them will tell you the same thing. NEW YORK IN '67 is about what they will say. If you keep at them, however, they will tell you all sorts of wonderful things about New York City and why it should hold the 25th WorldCon. Some of these wonderful things may even be true...

**THE EASTERCON/LUNACON, April 16th and 17th!!!**

in the same hotel, both are fannish activities, & members of one group are members of the other. And vice versa.

Stop Press: hurricanes have killed 42 in the vicinity of Jackson, Mississippi; Tom Dupree, well-known supporter of New York in '67 and spirit duplicatorist fan lives in Jackson, and fear for his safety has been expressed by members of the new York fan community. As of today, Friday, there is no word on whether or not Tom is safe. We sure hope so, though.

Reprint Department::::::::::By Richard A. Lupoff (Degler! is just an 8 page reprint zine, I guess)

At The Mountains of Madness by H.P. Lovecraft:::

Inspired by Symmes' pioneering novel Symzonia Poe wrote The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym (1837) which trails off as the travellers enter the enigmatic point of approaching a great abyss near the South Pole.

Jules Verne wrote a sequel (The Ice Sphinx, 1900), burroughs referred to "a book written about 1830", hollow-earth cultists have kept up a barrage of Symzonian "non-fiction" that is still unabated... and in 1931 H.P. Lovecraft tried his hand at sequelizing Pym. Like Verne, Lovecraft rejected the hollow-earth element in favor of polar adventure, introducing artifacts and even a few survivors of the ancient aliens who pervade his works.

The story is told in typical Lovecraftian fashion, all after the fact, all infused with a post hoc terror and mystery of outlook that belies the "scientific" identity of the narrator, and all quite smothered by a maddening verbosity that makes the book almost unreadable.

Foo!

(New York in '67!)

Beyond the Golden Fire by Allan 'edneste

This book, unlike its predecessor, A Journey to Other Climes (1909) makes much less sense than I would have thought the author to have. Briefly, it is the story of a flight by the author's astral body beyond the atmosphere of the Earth and to the far reaches of the solar system, where the astral body sees many amazing and interesting things, which it proceeds to tell about with nauseous detail.

The book is a hefty one; 527 pages of small type make this a tedious chore to wade through. Further, the at times amusing text in the previous book has given way to long passages of verbiage that excite not the slightest bit of interest from me. The book itself is interesting graphically; there are a number of interesting woodcuts or etchings scattered through the text. They serve to illustrate some of the more far-fetched scenes that the author describes. I would say save your money, except that then you will be without the sequel to the first book, and it would break up a set. On second thought, do save your money.

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JOIN NOW:

The 24th World Science Fiction Convention, Tricon  
\$2 or \$3 to:

24th World SF Convention//P.O. Box 1372//Cleveland  
Ohio//44103

The Tricon will be held in the Hotel Sheraton-  
Cleveland September 2, 3, 4, and 5, 1966.

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BOSKONE\* March 12 & 13\*Next convention  
LunaCon/EasterCon April 16 & 17  
Disclave May 13 & 14  
Midwescon June 24 & 25  
WesterCon July 2, 3, 4

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This has been DeZler! #115, published by Andrew Porter, a member of the Eastern Science Fiction Association, The New York Lunarians, The New York FISTFA, the Fanoclasts, The SF Club of New York, The National Fantasy Fan Federation, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, and the Claude Degler Science Fiction Readers Association.

# ALGOL

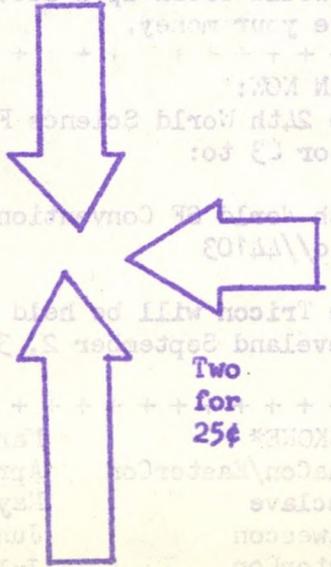
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