

FANTASY-NEWS

the weekly science fiction newspaper

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 25

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 1939

WHOLE NUMBER 77

XMAS Q&SFL MEETING SMASH HIT

TWO PRO EDITORS PRESENT AT ONCE

RAFFLE & SELLOUT

DOOR PRIZE AND PRESENTS GIVEN AWAY

At a prize meeting that should have been filmed for posterity, 28 sfans, editors, and authors had the time of their lives. Plenty of celebrities, a well rounded and arranged program, first rates and debates, motion pictures, raffles, and general discussion, all were presented at the December meeting of the Queens Chapter of the Science Fiction League.

Among those present were Mort Weisinger, editor of THRILLING WONDER? STARTLING? and STRANGE; Charles D. Hornig, editor of SCIENCE and FUTURE FICTION; Otto Binder, tap-noted sf author; and Henry Kuttner who has recently arrived from Los Angeles and who intends to take up residence in N.Y. to more conveniently pursue his writing career. Other fans present were James V. Taurasi, Mario Racic, Jr; William S. Sykora; Sam Moskowitz; Thomas Heguet, Erle Korshak, Julius Unger, Scott Feldman, A. Lincoff, Robert Studley, Dick Burns, Hyman Tiger, Conrad H. Rupert, Julius Schwartz, Herbert E. Goudket, Allen Moss, and the complete and unexpurgated Ladies Auxiliary.

After the minutes were read, apologies made for the non-appearance of Wadjong, mention of "The Feminine Fan" all girl fan mag to (Cont on Page 4)

WEIRD TALES ABANDONS
REPRINTS AND SERIALS.

MARGARET BRUNDAGE TO DO
INSIDE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The changes WEIRD TALES has been undergoing for the past 15 months are not finished yet. Serials, featured regularly except for short periods in late 1936-early 1937 for the past 18 years will be cut for good, after Thomas P. Kelley's "A MILLION YEARS IN THE FUTURE" winds up its four parts. Another novel, by Edmond Hamilton will probably be returned. The move is based on the belief that the better tales are shorter.

The Reprint Department featured for almost 15 years will be discarded. An occasional reprint will appear from time to time, but these will be only the most popular request such as "Shamblau" or "Revelations In Black," etc.

Margaret Brundage who drew those magnificent sides on WE's covers for so many years will return

shortly, this time with black and white interior illustrations.

WEIRD TALES has also procured another artistic "friend" in addition to Barnes Bok. He is Sudbury and might predict great things for him.

Coming in the Feb. issue is "Harrow In the Glen" by new author Gyle Irvine. It is illustrated by a marvelous Bok cover and concerns the Gaelic "little people", and a trip to purgatory and back. (Cont Page 5)

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(NO STAMPS PLEASE)

Boost Science Fiction Not Politics

GUEST EDITORIAL by Sam Moskowitz.

Fantasy News earnestly requests the whole-hearted support of all sfans for Jonny Guinta's Fan Mag Review Column in AMAZING MYSTERY FUNNIES. This department, is a special science fiction fan mag review, and very thoughtfully and capably done. It is the longest review ever to appear in a pro mag. In placing this department in a cosmic magazine, Guinta has opened a new field for the fan magazines. Many of the readers of the comics are of teen age and can easily be drawn into the sf world because of their interest in the sf comics that AMAZING MYSTERY FUNNIES features. Fantasy News, Space New Fandom, Fantasy News, Spaceways Fantast, and and Fantascience Digest were reviewed. The covers of "New Fandom" and Fantasy News" were reproduced in color by Guinta!

This review will be omitted in the next two issues while the editor awaits results. It will be resumed as a monthly feature if the fans will lend their whole-hearted cooperation! If you are a true fan, a fan who really believes in advancing sf on all fronts, and not in a petty limited field, you should write in to the editor of AMF and vote your approval of this feature.

If you want your fan mag reviewed, you must send two copies to John Guinta, % AMAZING MYSTERY FUNNIES, 215 Fourth Ave., N.Y.C. The editors of "New Fandom", Fantasy News, and Ad Astra have already dispatched copies. Fantascience Digest. (continued on Page 8)

FANTASY NEWS
FAN MAG REVIEW BY Harry Warner, Jr.
The SATELLITE 10 octave, nineed pp. 176 or 35¢ for eight issues. Good cover; fine contents; well reproduced. Worth having. 57, Beaclair Drive, Liverpool, 15, Eng.
SCIENCE FANTASY REVIEW: No. 11; 4 octave, nineed pp. News as usual. 14, Henley Ave, Litherland, Liverpool, 21, Eng. 4 issues 12¢.
LUNA: Vol. 1, no. 1. 12 legal pp. Fair material and mimecing. Excellent colored cover. "In the Days Of the Comet" very good. 50¢ year. Int'l Money Order, at 11 Northumberland St, Clavelly, Sydney, Australia.
SCIENTIRADIO by Millie Taurasi.

Edgar Rice Burroughs was heard over WABC on Tues. Nov. 28. Burroughs said he got his idea of Tarzan from nightmares of jungle life. His first stories were the Mars stories published under the pseudonym of Norman Bean, as a take-off on the words "normal being", because he wanted people to believe that he was, after all, quite human, and not as wild as some of his stories might seem. Normal was changed to Norman through a proof readers error Burroughs said his Tarzan books are as autentic as he can make them, though in one book he put tigers in Africa where there are none. In later editions lions replaced them. He has ideas for 12 new books and expects to write one a year. His next will be "Tarzan, the Magnificent" 25 Tarzan books have been written, and 30,000,000 copies sold all over the world.

Basil Rathbone was heard in "Barkely Square" over WABC last Wednesday night,

Wed. night at 9:00 P.M. over WJZ, thr Radio Guild presented a fantastic drama entitled "The Shrinking Mr. Pertwer", about a little man who discovered that suddenly he started shrinking two inches every time he went to sleep. It was a very humorous story, but in the end you felt sorry for him, for he shrank so small it was impossible to see him. (last item by RStudley)

AUGUST W. DERLETH AND DONALD
WANDREI IN N.Y. FOR WEEK'S STAY.

ASTONISHING STORIES AND SUPERSCIENCE
STORIES HAVE PRECARIOUS FUTURE.

August W. Derleth of Sauk City accompanied by Donald Wandrei arrived in N.Y. for a week's stay. They will visit various stf person-ages, and attend a get-together of New York's "Outsiders Club." Derleth is building a spacious new home in Sauk City which will form a good location for writing for WEIRD TALES. It is located opposite a graveyard on one side and a lonely stretch of woods on the other. Derleth writes under the pen names of Tally Mason and Eldon Heath. He is working on a book titled "The Life Of Zona Gale", famous authoress. The first volume in his Lovecraft Omnibus is ready. About one third has been paid for, and Derleth hopes to be able to break even on it. The second in the series will be out in about 18 months and will finish up the rest of Lovecraft's stories and also some of his poems and essays. There will be also a third volume including most of HPL's letters. Wandrei has been spending his time writing stage-plays, and has not been doing much fiction.

BE A FANTASY NEWS REPORTER.

Sam Moskowitz, ace reporter for Fantasy News since its 8th issue, broke all fantasy news gathering records, including his own, by sending in ten large sized pages of exclusive fantasyscoops in one week. Why don't you become a Fantasy News Reporter and give Moskowitz a run for his title. Full credit given for such item published. Please double space all contributions. Every reporter will recieve a printed PRESS CARD.

Tell your correspondents about Fantasy News, the science fiction newspaper that presents the news while it is news. Subscribe to FN now.

In an exclusive interview with your Fantasy News Reporter, Fred Pohl, editor of Fictioneers, Inc. revealed that the fate of both mags rests entirely on the reception of their initial numbers. If a reasonable response is shown, at least one will go monthly. Here is complete information concerning the mags: Stories: "Chameleon Planet"-Polton Cross; "White Land Of Venus"-Fredderick A. Kummer; "Half Breed"-Isaac Asimov; "Life Stone"-Paul Edmonds; "Elephant Earth"-Gabriel Barclay; "Asteroid"-Lee Gregor; "After the Plague"-Norton Vaelge; Departments: "True-No Doubt"; Book Reviews; Movie Reviews; Music Reviews; Fan Mag Reviews; and readers' department. Any fan may contribute.

Theodore Eron, a new artist, shows considerable promise. Binder also does some insides.

The second issue of ASTONISHING has a big IF attached to it, but if it goes thru it will be dated Apr 1940 and feature "Space Beasts" by Clifford D. Simak with cover drawing by Jack Binder. The only other yarns slated are by Vincent, and Kummer, Jr.

SUPERSCIENCE STORIES: first issue dated Mar 1940, 128 pp. 15¢. The following will appear in the first number: Vincent, Long, Ayre, Gallun, Fearn, Rocklynn, and O'Brien. A new organization, tentatively called "Science Fictioneers" patterned after the Science Fiction League has a board of trustees including many well-known fans. If there is a second number it will be dated May 1940, and the feature cover story will be tentatively titled "Twice" by L. Sprague DeCamp.

VAN HOUTEN SAYS, the much delayed first mimeographed edition will be sent out with Fantasy News next week. Watch for this famous sheet crammed full of candid commentary(jvt

QBFL MEETING Cont'd.

appear shortly, Erle Korshak was called upon to present an appeal for the support of the Illini Fantasy Fictioneers to help them put over the Chicago World Science Fiction Convention next year.

TEN YEARS OF ASTOUNDING REVIEWED

James V. Taurasi, then announced that AZTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION would be ten years old with their Jan 1940 issue and that he would like some celebration of the event. He called upon Moskowitz to give a resume' of ten years of STOUNDING. It was finally decided to have a movie party the Sunday after the Jan. meeting.

AMATEUR STFILM TO BE PRODUCED

Racic brought up the possibilities of this chapter producing a 15 min. stfilm. Goudket pointed out that this had been tried unsuccessfully by two previous fan clubs. Sykora suggested that Goudket bring some scenarios that were written a few years ago. Goudket stated that whereas the members of the QSFL had all the equipment available, the cost of the production would run to nearly \$100, due to cost of film. Moskowitz suggested that some revenue could be raised by renting the film to other organizations, or by selling copies of it. But Goudket replied that this money could only be raised after the film was made. Sykora then suggested that the movie be made in sections and these rented out before the main film was complete. Goudket turned over all data to Racic on Monday evening, and it is now in Sykora's possession and will be presented at the Jan. meeting.

CELEBRITIES INTRODUCED

The notables were introduced at this time. Mort Weisinger of STANDARD told of a conversation he had with Leo Margulies at a football game, where they compared the crowd of 100,000 to the stf readers the cheering section to the stfans, and the players to the authors, artists, and editors. He remarked

the tremendous improvement in the QSFL since the last meeting he attended a year ago in the cellar of Jim Taurasi's home. He introduced Hank Kuttner as the nation's No. 1 Ghoul. Kuttner made some candid comments on the Est, saying he did not like New York, and when Mort asked him what he thought of New Jersey, Hank replied: "It's the place New Yorkers go to die." However, Kuttner expressed complete approval of the QSFL saying that he really enjoyed the gathering and promised that he and Mort would join up at the next meeting. Hornig was introduced and said there was not much new doing at BLUE RIBBON, except what is already known. Otto Binder was then called on and gave the longest talk he ever made at the QSFL. He explained the procedure used in putting out the comic mags, and how he and his artist brother, Jack, went about getting their stuff accepted. He mentioned that Manly Wade Wellman coined the word "SQUINKA" to represent the scenario or continuity of the comic strips. More details of the comics will appear in Fantasy News in the future.

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES REVIEWED

FFM was reviewed in place of PLANET STORIES previously announced by popular request. Every story with one exception was rated as good. Three ratings were possible: Good, Fair, or Poor, the members voting their choices. The illustrations were highly approved. A motion was passed favoring the present standard cover style. Moskowitz informed the gathering that he and Julius Schwartz had made many suggestions to Farnsworth Wright the first day the mag was announced to the public, and stated that all but the one of having an illustration on the cover have been carried out. Moskowitz pointed out that the success of FFM proved that the fans wanted reprints. Mort objected strenuously and showed the incalculable harm that reprint mags have wrought in the pulp field. He said that 60% of the pulp mags on the stands today are composed
(Cont'd. on Page 5)

WEIRD TALES Cont'd.

Also in this number is Manly Wade Wellman with "Song Of the Slaves" a story of the slave trade. Malcolm Jameson's "Train To Flushing" is also lettered on the cover. Other exceptional tales to appear shortly include "Khosru's Garden" by E. Hoffman Price, another of his popular orientl rug stories, laid in America, tho, concerning a party of humans lost in the maze of a rug. Edmund Hamilton has a novelet which will cop a Finlay cover, called "City From the Sea" concerning the raising of a weird city and the attack of its people on America. Donald Wandrei has a short-"Chrytal Bullet"; Robert Bloch has a very unusual yarn, partially humorous, which shows every sign of being a weird "fan" story, titled "The Ghost Writer", illustrated by Bok. Maria Moravsky, regular contributor to STRANGE STORIES has crashed WEIRD TALES with "Beyond the Frame" beautifully illustrated by Bok; Clark Ashton Smith is to have a short tale "The Coming Of the White Worm" (originally published in the Fantasy Fan) illustrated in extremely bizarre fashion by Bok; also a large variety of excellent poems by Smith are scheduled.

Hannes Bok, sensational new WEIRD TAKES artist, is trying his hand at writing weird fiction. His first effort is already being read by Farnsworth Wright, editor of WEIRD TALES.

Wright has also asked to see H.P. Lovecraft's short-shorts "Nyarlathotep" and "What the Moon Brings". The former originally appeared in the second issue of Nils Frome's Supramundane Stories, and the latter is scheduled for Giunta's Cosmic-Scienti-Tales. He will also probalby ask for a look at Robert H. Howard's short-fantasy, "The Garden Of Fear" which appeared in the second number of Crawford's Marvel Tales. Other yarns in WT soon are "The Golden Spider" by Seabury Quinn, and "A Canto For Dante" by Henry Hass.

QSEL MEETING Cont'd.

rinment of new stories and the subsequent unemployment of deserving authors. He suggested that a law be passed requiring these pubs to display the word "Reprint" prominently. He thoroly convinced the assembly and arrangements were immediately made to have him submit an authoritative article discussing the evils of pulp publishing in an early issue of "NEW FANDOM".

A motion made by Will Sykora that the Secretary send a letter to FFM requesting them to prominently print the word "Reprints" on the cover was passed by an overwhelming majority. Sykora also promised that NEW FANDOM would make a thoro investigation of these problems and bring before the eyes of the science fiction fan field. (sm)

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES OUT TWO WEEKS
EARLY IN NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

FA arrived on the Newark stands only two weeks after the previous Jan 1940 number. Now we have the unique situation of having both numbers on the stands at once. There is an error on the back of the mag which states Vol. 1, no. 5. Inside, the correct Vol 2, no. 2 is found. The following yarns are in this number. The cover story-The Prince of Mars Returns-Phil Nowlan; Termites Invade New York-Bertrand L. Surtleff; Lancelot Biggs Cocks A Pirate-Nelson S. Bond; Thunor Flees the Devils-Russell Storm; Mystery Of the White Raider-Thornton Ayre; Let War Gods Clash!-Don Wilcox.

There is an autobiography of Phil Nowlan with photo; and a auto-bio. of Shurtleff. Prize story contest skipped. Back cover "Life On Pluto." Willy Ley has Koch's hoax "The Sea Serpent." The next issue will feature a sequel to the "Golden Girl Of Kalender" by F. Orlin Tremaine; "Life on Neptune" by artist Paul. The nearest approach to this event occurred when Will Sykora happened to pick up a copy of the Dec. 1938 issue of ASTOUNDING in a second hand book shop three weeks before newstand date.

MOVIES AND RAFFLE ACCLAIMED

The room was than nite dark and two entertaining fantasy films were shown. One was a cartoon titled "Visions Of 1960", the second was a film version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" called "Old Scrooge".

As another feature of the special program, free tickets were distributed for the drawing for a door-prize, and raffle tickets were sold for 5¢ each. This was one of the biggest fun-makers of the evening.

THE WINNERS!

1. Mario Racic, Jr. who chose "Museum Of Mankind", a book.
2. Tom Hoguet-Amazing Annual and Third Anniversary Issue of Fantasy Magazine.
3. Dick Burns, who picked a pile of old Pearsons, Cosmopolitans, Scoops, and Astoundings, all containing stf.
4. Connie Ruppert, who took the book, "The Man Who Could Work Miracles" by Wells, s still from "Metropolis" and a still from "The Bride of Frankenstein".
5. Will Sykora, who grabbed up a small pile of "Practical Electrics" and "Experimenters" containing stf.
6. Bob Studley, who picked a pile of fan mags containing copies of Cosmic Tales, Helios, Wierdand Fantasy Fiction, Science Adventure Stories (complete set), etc.
7. Dick Burns (again), who chose three books, two by Verne and one called "The Lightning Conductor".
8. Tom Hoguet (again), who procured the First Anniversary issue of Fantasy News, the only one left.
9. Sam Moskowitz, who picked a pile of old Science and Inventions.
10. Door prize - won by Julie Schwartz who got a large pile of Radio News containing Stf.

GUEST EDITORIAL Cont'd.

Stunning STFan, Golden Atom and others should do the same immediately! The review nd publicity you get is worth it, and a cit may be made of your cover. So fans and fan editors COOPERATE. Help a fellow fan get some place.

ADVERTISE IN FANTASY NEWS!

FANTASY NEWS

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racic, Jr.

The latest (Jn 1940) MOVIE STORY features the story and scenes from "the Invisible Man Returns".

Humphrey Bogart who plays the title role in "The Return Of Dr. X" is in New York City for a vacation.

"Gullivers' Travels", the full length fantasy cartoon is to have a Spanish version.

The movies at the Queens SFL were obtqined from Mogull Bros., a film shop and library in the same block as STANDARD PUBLICATIONS on 48th Street. The cartoon, "Visions of 1960" shows a typical day in the life of an office worker in 1960, with labor saving devices galore. The fantasy film "Old Scrooge" has several sequencez of double and triple exposures in which the ghost of Marley shows Scrooge scenes of the Three Christmases.

REVIVALS: In New York City, "The Crime Of Dr. Crespi", "Transatlantic Tunnel", "Peter Ibbetson", and "Dr. Maniac" (originally "The Man Who Lived Again").

We would like to learn of film revivals in other cities. FN Reporters get busy!

BRAND NEW STF BOOKS JUST RECEIVED!

For sale: When Worlds Collide- Balmer and Wylie; Green Rust-Bdgar Wallace; Call Of the Savage-Kline; Ru, the Conqueror-Gregory; Sugar In the Air-E. C. Large; The Great Amen-Burks. Ransom For London-Fletcher. The Young Men Are Coming-M. B. Shiel. All books have jackets. Any of the above for 75¢ each, or all 8 books for \$5.00 postpaid.

JULIUS J. UNGER

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BEG PARDON

The officers of the FAPA are Pres.-M. Rothman; V. P.-J. Speer; Secy-Treas.-R. A. Madle; Off. Ed.-J. Agnew. JVT ran for pres. and not for off. ed. as reported in our last issue, and was defeated on the second ballot altho he won on the first. Sorry.