

◇ FANTASY-NEWS ANNUAL ◇

10¢

--- THREE YEARS OF SCIENCE FICTION NEWS SERVICE ---

10¢

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 1

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 1941

WHOLE NUMBER 150

'THRILLING WONDER', 'CAPTAIN FUTURE', 'STARTLING', 'UNKNOWN', 'ASTOUNDING' LINE UP!

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION

The August issue of ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION out July 18th, (3rd Friday of the month), has Nat Schachner's "Jurisdiction" for the cover story. The cover is by Rogers. The yarn is a novelet and a feature of the issue. "Biddiver" by Theodore Sturgeon, "A Meteor Legacy" by Raymond Z. Gallun, "Klystron Fort" by William Corson, are the short stories. Part II of Heinlein's "Methuselah's Children" completes the fictional line-up. Willy Ley has an article, "Prelude To Engineering". The artists whose work appears in the issue are: M. Isip, Kolliker, Kramer, Osban, Rogers, and Schneeman.

Dr. E. E. Smith's 108,000 word novel and sequel to "The Grey Lensman" will be the cover story of the November number. It will appear as a 4 part serial. Isaac Asimov's "Night Fall" is coming up soon.

UNKNOWN WORLDS

The August issue of UNKNOWN WORLDS (first number with the new name) will hit the stands July 27th. The feature yarn is "The Land Of Unreason" by L. Sprague deCamp and Fletcher Pratt. Clive Cartwell has "No News Today", Nelson (next col.)

S. Bond has "Pressides", and Anthony Boucher, well known detective story author, has "On a Limb".

CAPTAIN FUTURE

Edmond Hamilton's Captain Future yarn for the Summer issue of CAPTAIN FUTURE will be titled "The Magician Of Mars", illustrated on the cover as usual. Eando Binder has "Memos On Mercury, Will Garth has "Martian Menu". The reprint yarn is Laurence Manning's popular "The Man Who Awoke." E.K. Bergey did the cover.

STARTLING STORIES

STARTLING STORIES' cover painting for the July number will illustrate popular Jack Williamson's yarn "The Gateway To Paradise". Maria Moravsky will have "The Calling Of the Harp". "Crossroads Of the Universe" is by William Morrison. The reprint yarn will be "The Man Beast Of Torea" by Ralph T. Jones chosen by well known sfan and FANTASY NEWS reporter James V. Taurasi. Jack Williamson will be interviewed in the "Meet the Author" department. The cover has been done by Rudolph Belarsky. The usual features such as Mort Weisinger's "The Ether Vibrates", (cont. on p. 12)

FANTASY NEWS is published every week by William S. Sykora.
 Address: P.O.Box 84, Elmont, N.Y.
 Editor: Will Sykora
 Associates: Jimmy Taurasi, Sam Moskowitz, Mario Racic, Jr.
 Rates: 3 issues 10¢, 8 issues 25¢, 32 issues \$1.00. (NO STAMPS PLEASE)
 Ad Rates: Full page \$2, $\frac{1}{2}$ page \$1, $\frac{1}{4}$ page 50¢, column-line 2¢.
 NOTE: Please make all checks and money-orders payable to Will Sykora

 BOOST SCIENCE FICTION

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

It is said that as we grow older, time seems to pass more rapidly. Apparently we have more varied interests, more things to do, more to worry about, more responsibilities, so many more things to consider and so limited the time to make decisions and carry them thru to satisfactory completion. Years ago we could barely stand the 30 odd long and wearysome days between issues of the Gernsy AMAZING. Now they seem to come so thick and fast that we barely have time to glance through one before another is on the stands. And the way time has sped on to oblivion during the past year one would think we were a thousand years old.

According to cosmic standards, only the twinkling of an eye has past since the printed FANTASY NEWS ANNUAL of slightly more than a year ago, yet vast changes have occurred not only in the world as a whole but in the science fiction world as well. Two conventions have become history, the FAPA and NEW FANDOM have faded, and a new club, the National Fantasy Fan Federation has begun to shed new light over the stf horizon.

We present this THIRD ANNIVERSARY NUMBER more with hope than with promise. It would be easy to boast of our three years of publication, no mean achievement in the publication of a science fiction weekly newspaper. Beginning with this issue we are again resuming weekly publication, and no effort will be spared to keep it that way.

VOICE OF FANDOM by Our Readers.
 London, England: A few days leave, and a few hours for pounding out thanks to my many American friends who haven't forgotten me during the past months.

FANTASY NEWS arrives at sporadic intervals, and usually with large gaps between numbers. I thought you might like to know that in case you still mail me regularly. However, I don't mind the gaps so much, just as long as I receive some of the news. Sorry I'm no longer in a position to send you up-to-the-minute news of publications, but you know I'm no longer on the inside of the publishing racket.

Add my regrets along with hundreds of others at the news of UNKNOWN going large size. Out of all the trials and tribulations magazine fiction has gone through, none have affected me so bitterly as hearing about this. I have never been an advocate of the large issues; they are so cumbersome and look like issues of "Sob Romances", or something. In any case, Army kit isn't designed to cart 'em round. My pack (the big 'un that goes on the back), comfortably carries half a dozen of the small size without any interference from the Sergeant Major.

Luckily UNKNOWN is no longer issuing subs. I can now comfortably let my present one expire, with but few pangs of regret -- but if ASTOUNDING goes the same way, I think I'll turn stf in. That's a threat I've often made in the past, and I thought the present war and its circumstances would force me to, but it hasn't to date. With AST looking like bric-a-brac from the past, I'll cheerfully chuck in. Dammit, it isn't modern!

Thanks for sending the old news-sheet, anyway, and if I can ever repay you I'll certainly be glad to.

Cordially
 Ted Carnell

May 25, 1941.

(Don't chuck up stf, Ted. I doubt if you really can, anyway. We're sending FN to most British fans.

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racic, Jr.

STFILM HISTORY

One of the most fascinating branches of the science fiction hobby is the careful study of the history of the scientifilm. Even a superficial examination of the available historical material will reveal how vast this field really is. A more careful study, however, leads to the sad conclusion that many of the most fantastic films, and especially the serials, have passed into the oblivion of time, and can only be resurrected from the memories of those who saw the pictures when they were released to the theatres. This brief resume, therefore, while a continuation of that published in FANTASY NEWS' First Anniversary, is woefully incomplete, and an appeal is therefore made to all readers to rack their memory for details of stfilms they remember seeing years ago (especially during the First World War Period) giving special attention to those fantastic serials starring Pearl White, Antonio Moreno, Harry Houdini, and others.

RADIO-MANIA: Date of release not known. Directed by R. Wm. Neil; a Herman Holland presentation, distributed by W.S. Hodkinson. The scientist role is played by Grant Mitchell. The plot: Arthur Wyman, radioist, installs a huge radio outfit with which he hopes to establish communication with Mars. He makes several attempts, and to assure himself that he has spoken to someone on the planet, he prepares a formula which will turn clay into gold and coal into diamonds. He soon becomes a millionaire, but after all it turns out to be a dream, and he destroys the radio in despair. However, he does actually invent a tickless alarm clock. The Martians were depicted as very laughable creatures, who had ears nearly a foot long.

ALONG THE MOON BEAM TRAIL: Period not known. Produced by (Next Col.)

FAN MAG REVIEW by Harry Warner, Jr. FMZ Digest: vol. 1, no. 4. Eight large, pink, mimeod pp of reprints of outstanding stuff from recent issues of fanazines. The only thing of its kind in the field, and invaluable both for the material it contains, and as a guide to material used by present-day fanazines. A nickel; 1426 W. 38th St, Los Angeles, California.

Fanart: vol. 1, no. 1. 14 large sheets, mimeod on one side only, almost exclusively full page illustrations by leading fan artists. Most of them excellent, and if you like pretty pictures, you'll enjoy it. A dime; 2409 Santee Ave, Columbia, South Carolina.

Fan-Atic: vol. 1, no. 3. 25 lg, mimeod pp. The most improved fanazine of the year, and now well worth the dime it costs. From C.A. Beling, La Roche Ave, Harrington Park, N.J.

Starlight: vol. 1, no. 1. Absolutely superlative. 52 large, beautifully mimeod pp, swell illustrations, and fine material. This is absolutely tops, for the price of 15¢. 1149 Bush Ave, Martinez, Calif.

SCIENTIFILMS Cont: Major Herbert Hawley. The plot: Two small children arrive on the moon via an enchanted aeroplane. After a short stay on our satellite, they are chased by a pterodactyl to another planet. This planet is the counterpart of our Earth ten million years ago. Out of a cave in which the children established themselves they scan the surrounding landscape. Soon a scaly monster approaches them. Up to the mouth of the cave he crawls, followed a moment later by a trachodon. From afar, a tyrannosaurus stalks a duck billed dinosaur. A terrific battle of the giants ensues, and the picture ends with the victory of the tyrannosaurus. Nothing more is known of this film. It seems to be an amateur effort.

EVOLUTION, the story of our world: An IDEAL production released circa 1933. The story is based on the planetesimal hypothesis (Cont. P.4.)

SCIENTIFILMS Cont: The picture shows the formation of the planets, the cooling of the Earth; and the birth of life; and goes on to show various stages in evolution. With the passage of millions of years, we finally see the ultra-modern Radio City.

THE MIRACLE MAN: Mayflower film, directed by George Loane Tucker in 1919. Cast: Rose, played by Luicime (Betty) Compson; The Patriarch, by J.J. Dowling; Clair King by Elinor Fair; Tom Burke, by Thomas Meighan; Mrs. Higgins, by Lucille Hutton; Richard King, by W. Lawson Butt; The Dupe, by J.M. Dupont; and The Frog, by LON CHANEY. Plot: A quartet of tricksters led by Tom Burke operate in the neighborhood of San Francisco. The Dupe is an expert pickpocket; Rose is a decoy using somewhat scientific methods; the Frog a contortionist collects alms by his convincing study of a limbless freak. A report comes from a country village of a Patriarch who claims to be a faith-healer. To his cottage come sufferers of all kinds. The quartet, thinking that here is an easy mark for their confidence game, also come, but find that the healing is genuine. They try to get the old man's money, but instead they are converted and one by one secede from the conspiracy. One of the "miracles" occurs when the Frog is "cured", but they are stupified when a genuine crippled boy is cured before everybody. The film was remade in 1932 by PARAMOUNT with Boris Karloff, Silvia Sydney, and Chester Morris.

THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE: Pathe American, 1915. Directed by George B. Seitz. Serial of 15 episodes. Cast: Elaine, played by Pearl White; Craig Kennedy, by Arnold Daly; Butler, by Creighton Hale; The Clutching Hand, by Sheldon Lewis. Based on a Craig Kennedy scientific detective novel. Miss White's golden hair was supposed to be fire and dust proof. Several other Craig Kennedy novels were also serialized among them "The Master Mystery" with the great magician Houdini.

SCIENTIRADIO by Joe Skiffington.

"The Strange Adventures Of Mr. William Pertwee" an extreme introvert are heard fortnightly over station WEAJ (NBC) at 9:30 P.M. This characteristic causes the hero to have many adventures in pseudo-science, invisibility at one time and diminished size at another. An altogether humorous story spattered with fantastic sequences.

"The Eye Of Sheba", starring Paul Lukas, was heard on "The Inner Sanctum" program, Sunday evening WJZ, 8:30 P.M. EDST. Next week H.C. Brandon's "I'll Eat You Last" will be aired. "Raymond", the keeper of the inner sanctum is really Raymond Edward Johnson, who formerly played in many of Arch Oboler's weird air dramas.

NBC's new program, "Forecast", is designed to present new program material ostensibly for the approval of possible sponsors. The first of the series was heard in place of the Lux Radio Theatre on Tues. July 14 at 9:00 P.M. Local station WABC. The first of the series starred Marlene Dietrich as "Scherzade", famous heroine of the "Arabian Nights" fantasies. For realism and sheer artistry, the drama could hardly be surpassed. The second of the series featured Mischa Auer in a humorous detective farce, Mon. Jul 21.

"Great Moments From Great Plays" on the Philip Morris program, revived for the Nth time the play, "Death Takes a Holiday". The presentation was nothing special. Featured were Wm Johnstone and Naomi Campbell. Next week, (WABC (Columbia 9 P.M. Fri) "Blind Alley", a psychological drama.

Fletcher Pratt spoke for the "Fight For Freedom Committee" on WEAJ the evening of July 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Sprague deCamp were the featured couple on Dr. Henry Lee Smith's "Where Are You From" program, WOR, July 2nd.

Every Saturday at 1 P.M., WABC presents "Let's Pretend" a program of fairy tales. "The King Of the Golden Mountain" aired on July 26th.

THE DAWN OF THE AGE OF ROCKETRY

by Thomas S. Gardner.

An old European legend relates that once there was a boy who herded sheep. His friends and the other shepherds told him that if a wolf came about, he should cry: "Wolf! Wolf!" and they would come and kill the wolf. Well, the boy got bored with watching the sheep, and decided to have some fun; so he cried in a loud voice, "Wolf! Wolf! Help me!" They came running with their bills and hooks to slay the animal. But lo! when they got there, they found the boy rolling on the ground in laughter for it had been so funny to see them running for nothing. The shepherds were very wroth and went away muttering. Soon after, a lean, grey, hungry wolf loped out from a gully toward the boy and his sheep. This time he cried "Wolf! Wolf!" in dead earnest, but no one came. The shepherds heard him, and said to one another, "It is only that foolish boy who wants to laugh at us again. We will not be fooled a second time". And the wolf at the boy up, and carried away a sheep for his supper.

Thus it is with writers who tell the public about rockets and their use as a means of propulsion. That has been going on now for several years, and no one has yet seen a rocket ship outside of the movies. However, they forget that the same thing happened for hundreds of years before the airplane was developed. At the risk of being called another crier of "Wolf! Wolf!", the writer will describe what he believes has made rocket ships a possibility within a very few years--before the end of the Second World War.

Every invention must depend upon the application of basic principles before it is a success.

Thus the airplane was a complete failure as long as the helicopter principle was used. Even today, with motors thousands of times more powerful than the ones fifty years ago, the helicopter is still not a practical method of flight. The first big advance in the airplane took place with the application of Bernoulli's principle to plane surfaces as is used in flight. Observations on birds fully confirmed this. The principle states that if a fluid, gas or liquid, moves rapidly over a surface, the pressure on the surface decreases according to a mathematical relationship. The rapidly moving air above the curved wing surface of an airplane causes a partial vacuum on that surface, and the atmospheric pressure below the plane exerts a lift. That is the fundamental principle of the successful airplane.

However, even with the use of the Bernoulli principle, to guide inventors, the airplane had to wait upon the gasoline motor that delivers a high horse power output per pound of weight. Today, our engines are much better--because they deliver an even higher ratio of power output per pound of engine weight. Once the gasoline motor was developed the success of the airplane was assured.

The same thing has happened in the development of rocketry. Like all inventions, it had to wait upon something--in this case, the proper fuel mixture. As every reader of science fiction knows, powder rockets were tried, the hydrogen-oxygen rocket has been discussed, and a great deal of work has been done on the use of the liquid-oxygen-gasoline fuel mixture. Let me refer the reader to Willy Ley's articles in *ASTOUNDING* and *THRILLING WONDER*, and to P.E. Cleator's (*Con. on P. 3*).

THE DAWN OF ROCKETRY Cont'd: book, "Rockets Through Space", or even David Lasser's "Conquest Of Space", which may be obtained at any large public library.

It is sufficient to say that their most promising fuel lacked the elements that make any fuel mixture practical. They lacked the element of safety. It is impossible to keep oxygen liquid at ordinary temperatures at any pressure! Therefore the rocket plane would have to have a complete liquid oxygen refrigerating plant or fill up with liquid oxygen in giant vacuum bottles called Dewar flasks and used it while it is evaporating away. Now liquid oxygen if mixed with any combustible material such as cotton, charcoal, the dust from hair, etc., becomes such a good burning agent that it explodes violently. Also since it cannot be kept liquid except at a low temperature, giant forces are exerted on any container that literally blows it to pieces if closed tight. The engineering difficulties actually forbid and prevent such a fuel mixture from being practical. Thus any motor that is liable to blow up in your face, and has a greater chance of blowing up than not, is not going to be used, in spite of all the enthusiasts in the world. Liquid hydrogen is even worse than liquid oxygen so that could not be considered seriously at all.

Therefore it looked as if rocket propulsion was a failure. Rocket engineers insisted on using rockets as the sole or primary means of propulsion. The truth of the matter is, we need data on rockets far more than we need rocket ships that blow up. The only logical thing is to use the rocket as a secondary or auxiliary motor in conjunction with the gasoline motor on planes. That is the coming step in rocketry.

But it has not solved the fuel problem. The author was somewhat discouraged in 1938 due to the fuel problem in rocketry. The rocket investigators held on to the impractical liquid oxygen-gasoline system. However, in 1940 (next Col.)

an announcement from a University in the East of a new rocket mixture. New? The materials have been known for a hundred years or more. No one had the idea of putting them together before. What do you think of them? A fuel mixture composed of a gas that can be kept liquid at ordinary temperatures by the application of pressure in a steel cylinder alone (the same gas is shipped every day in the liquid form), and the use of a liquid that is quite stable! ---the gas, nitrous oxide; the liquid, carbon disulfide. And to cap it all, calculations of the heat involved in the reaction, gases released, and temperature of the burning mixture show that it is as efficient as the famous liquid oxygen-gasoline mixture! There you have it, --- a practical, safe fuel, that is not too expensive and is manufactured in huge quantities every day for other industrial purposes. The feed valves that can be used are used all the time in oil burning furnaces and several other devices. This fuel is being investigated seriously, and I am sorry to say that the "rocket engineers" missed it. We may expect now practical rockets on planes along with gasoline motors within five years.

Another mixture that shows promise as a safe, low power fuel, is liquid hydrogen peroxide, and also mixtures of hydrogen, calcium carbide, water, and manganese. The latter two are not as powerful as the nitrous oxide-carbon disulfide mixture, but are cheap, easy to handle, and may be used as auxiliary power sources.

The author believes that interplanetary flight will have to wait for the development of atomic sources. Chemical fuels are not practical--and no matter how much one wants something, if it is not efficient, practical, and relatively safe, it will not be used.

Mr. Gardner has a long technical article on the thermodynamics of rocket mixtures being considered by INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY. Other articles have appeared elsewhere on various phases of Chem.

ABOUT SPACEWAYS

by Harry Warner, Jr.

When Jack Speer said in "Up To Now", his history of sf fandom, that Spaceways helped usher in some sort of "new era" is fanazines, I was quite pleased. Since the whole story of just how all this happened has not been told, it might of interest to the readers of FANTASY NEWS to know the details of the association of Spaceways with the beginnings of the "new era".

Of course, this does not mean that without Spaceways, the fan field would be radically different from what it is today. That change was bound to come. It was the reaction to the reaction--after the collapse of Fantasy Magazine, fandom became so small and closely knit it resembled a Wednesday Afternoon Sewing Circle. The fanazines for a year or so reflected it. When new blood started to seep into the field and older fans began quitting, then (those who had not been dragged down with FM, that is) the newer fans were not interested in the "personals" so much. After the intimate nature of fanazines that came as a reaction to the near professional attitude of Fantasy Magazine, the Science Fiction Critic, and others, the change back to a wider view of things was inevitable.

Anyway, when James S. Avery and the writer thought of putting out a fanazine, we were unknown in fandom. We had written letters to to pros, had some published, read some fanazines, corresponded, and all that. But we had not the slightest interest in the full details of, for instance, what kind of beer Madle*and Baltadonis* drank while reading ASTOUNDING, and we did not give a hoot in hades when a fanazine reported that so-and-so had hit the jackpot with a slot machine. Feuds interested us even less. All we knew of them was the little we had garnered(next C.)

*prominent strans of Philadelphia.

from fanazine and the letter sections of the pros. The one thing we did notice was that when fans started arguing bitterly, they pretty regularly dropped out of the field. If they happened to be publishers of fanazines, the fanazines went with them. We noticed such feuds usually resulted from science fiction, religion, and politics. We did not want our projected fanazine to collapse. It would not be a fanazine if there were nothing in it about stf. But But we thought - and it was a revolutionary idea at the time! - that it was thoroughly possible to fill a magazine without letting politics, religion, and similar controversial subjects get mixed up with it. Maybe that would keep said fanazine going, we hoped.

Well, a few other ginks like us happened to be in much the same state of affairs at the time. I believe Spaceways was the first fanazine to come out with a definite announcement of refusal to publish "controversial" stuff. But that change was just simply bound to come. And any time fandom becomes too absorbed in itself in the future this writer is not going to worry. As long as new blood continues to come in from the outsiders, a balance will be assured.

One thing might be mentioned to clear up any possible misunderstanding. I am very positively not opposed to controversial material. That would be ridiculous; a very large proportion of a normal person's time is occupied with "controversial" things, and you can not ignore them and lead a sane life. Whether we like it or not, we have to have definite ideas about politics and whether there is something beyond death. What is objectionable is tossing them into publications designed to talk about science fiction, and sold as (Con.P.11)

SCIENCE FICTION & MUSIC

A Criticism and a Forecast.

by Robert R. Rogers, I I I.

The relationship between music and science fiction may be a bit obscure at first, but is in reality rather close. There are two broad classifications of music - popular, and classical - with innumerable shadings from one to the other. Roughly, the difference between the two is that popular music seeks everlastingly for diversity and quick appreciation by the average listener, while classical music seeks popularity through perfection of form and content. In the case of popular music, the full depth of the piece is quickly plumbed, and it is soon on the scrap heap in favor of a newer tune. Going along from the semi-classical to the classical, we find that music to endure. Classical music, three hundred years old, is still very popular today. This is because it approaches perfection of form and content rather than mere novelty through new twists and edges, remaining unafraid to utilize the simplest melody as a foundation. Of course, a listener may become tired of a piece in time, but the period of time is longer the greater the piece.

Today, in science fiction, as in music, there are two main divisions. The popular form may be considered typified in AMAZING STORIES, while the classical may be considered typical of ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION. Opinions differ, and this discussion may not coincide with the opinions of others, but without disagreement there can be no discussion.

AMAZING may be said to represent popular science fiction. As in popular music, there is the same search for the new angle, the new character, the new twist. Having once read a story, there is no enjoyment in any subsequent (next C.

rereading. Unreal people, unreal in the sense that they have only a remote connection with ordinary people who do now and will in the future populate our world, move woodenly through shallow plots. Most of the yarns are mere plot outlines and the action is geared at high speed for quick, light, easy, non-thought-provoking reading. Of course, a large proportion of active readers want just out and out adventure or trick plots mainly to pass a few dull moments on a train or bus, but others like to think about or analyze a well developed plot situation or characterization.

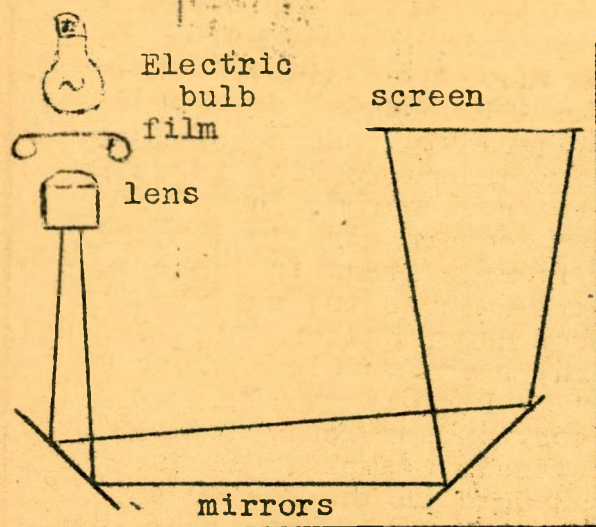
In ASTOUNDING, however, we have apparently real people, plausibly living and working in an apparently real world. The stories seem to contain more "meat", and there is more drama in the struggle for existence as in, say "Doom Ship" by Harry Walton (AST, Jan 41) than in, say "Ben Gleed, King Of Speed" by Don Wilcox (AM, Dec 39). One story in particular stands out as a classic example. It is "Locked Out" in the Feb 40 ASTOUNDING. The main character, having been locked out of his spaceship, is ashamed to signal his companions for fear they will make fun of him. This is a wonderful piece of realistic writing. Then too, there are the sociological studies presented by Malcolm Jameson in his war spaceship yarns, Kurt von Rachen with his series, and Robert A. Heinlein with his magnificent saga of the future of the earth. By assuming some unique fact to be true and basing a logical plot on this or a series of similar facts, ASTOUNDING'S authors seem to hold unquestioned leadership as creators of classical science fiction.

After all, people do not always win out against (Cont. P. 11.)

SOLUTION SATISFACTORY

by Leonard Grunbery.

Living in an apartment doesn't leave much room for hobbies. A science fiction hobby takes plenty of space and as I have over 500 copies of science fiction magazines the problem was well nigh insoluble. I built a seven foot tall bookshelf, but found it only a drop in the bucket. In the basement I still have three trunks full of carefully wrapped mags. Also to be considered are the effects of deterioration to the mags when displayed on shelves. Seeking a solution I thought of microfilming. Many important records of the U.S. gov't are now microfilmed to save space..



The cost is really not great. Using the best film available in 16 mm. with magazine load the cost per 160 page magazine comes out to 10¢*. With cheaper film the cost can be brought much lower. The largest item was the purchase of a second hand movie camera capable of taking single snaps, at \$20.00.

Setting up the apparatus was not hard. To determine the field of the camera I took off the casing, held the shutter open, and with a piece of waxed paper for a screen behind the lense, I sighted on a

piece of oaktag ruled with the dimensions of the different sizes of mags. After recording the height, I have only to duplicate it and center the camera with a plumb line to get the perfect focus. The camera is held on a tripod made from a music stand. After that, the only labor is turning the pages and snapping the shutter. The viewer I made is very simple. It consists of a square box with a projection lense and two mirrors to reflect the image back to the upper face onto a ground glass screen the size of a magazine. This was the most space arrangement possible. A 60 watt bulb gives plenty of light. For projection on walls or ceiling (to read in bed), the ground glass screen is removed and the bulb changed to 100 watts. This gives good results in a dark room.

The final film collection will fit onto one shelf of my bookcase. Thus I think I have found the solution.

* \$3.00 per 50ft magazine and 24 frames per ft; 2 pages per frame.

MORE ODD ITEMS by FN Reporters.

Lloyd Arthur Eshbach, well known science fiction writer, sold his first story at the age of seven-teen! It was "The Valley Of the Titans" published in the old AMAZING. The yarn was held for two years before publication... "Telegraph Plateau" by Harl Vincent, which appeared in the Nov 33 issue of ASTOUNDING STORIES, was written for THRILLING ADVENTURES... The pre-publication title of Vincent's yarn "Valley Of the Rukh" published in the Feb 35 number of AMAZING was "Rukh's Nest", and it was intended as an Arabian Nights fantasy... Abner J. Gelula's old yarn in WONDER called "Vengeance Of a Scientist" was originally titled "Super X"... Nelson S. Bond has sold "Luxury Liner" and "Sinecure" to THRILLING WONDER, "The Remarkable Talent Of Egbert Haw" to BLUE BOOK, "Crisis" to PLANET, "The Ghost of Lancelot Biggs" to WEIRD, and --- THE LOBBIES ARE RETURNING! --- ARGOSY is readying a series based on the adventures of Mr. Mergenthwinker (2-1)

HUBBARD MAKES MURDEROUS ATTACK ON SHEA!

PERPETRATOR OF WEIRD LITERARY CRIME SEEKS REFUGE IN U.S. ARMED FORCES!

Harold Shea, popular fantasy hero, created by L. Sprague deCamp and Fletcher Pratt, was subjected in the August UNKNOWN to an assault with intent to kill by L. Ron ("Golden Egg") Hubbard, author of the lead novel, "The Case Of the Friendly Corpse". The red-haired adventurer-author caused his competitor's character to be seized and swallowed by a gigantic snake into which a magic wand carried by one of his minor characters turned.

Shea's creators, however, with fiendish snickers, have announced that they are taking suitable steps to rehabilitate their hero, and obtain revenge for this bit of outrageous literary impertinence. They are working on a story which will tell what really happened to Shea in the College Of the Unholy Names, site of the crime. (This institution, is headed by the President J. Klark, believed to be the astral body of Dr. John D. Clark, well-known Philadelphia fan.)

"Just wait", sneered Pratt, "till you see what we do to Hubbard's characters!" They explained that, as the explorer and bear-hamer is now Lieut. Hubbard, USN, he probably would not have time to reply in his turn. "

"You see", leered de Camp, "we're altruists. That means we believe in doing unto others what they would like to do unto us, and doing it first!"

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR FEMININE FAN

A bridal shower for Miss Frances Helen Sykora was given on Friday, July 19 by Mrs. Wm Sykora. Miss Sykora, sister of FANTASY NEWS editor, Will Sykora, will wed Mr. Mario Racic, Jr. Scientifilm Editor on the staff of this newspaper, on September 7 in St. Joseph's R.C. church, Astoria.

ODD ITEMS by FANTASY NEWS REPORTERS

THE NEW EDITOR of ASTONISHING STORIES and SUPERSCIENCE NOVELS will be Alden H. Norton, at present editing Battle Birds, Dare-Devil Aces, G-8 and His Battle Aces, and other mags for Fictioneers, etc. FICTIONEERS, Inc. will continue to publish the two stf mags, but will change the name of SSN back to SS Stories. The rate will be 1¢ per word and up. Stories of from 4000 to 6500 words are needed and must be of a high standard. Mr. Norton replaces Frederik Pohl, well known stfan, who has been relieved of his duties.

SCIENCE FICTION and FUTURE FICTION will combine with their October issue. The Oct number will be called SCIENCE & FUTURE FICTION. Robert W. (Doc) Lowndes will edit the new combination. SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY will be continued. Charles D. Hornig has severed his connections with BLUE RIBBON Magazines and has returned to California.

FANTASY TIMES, a new fan mag and digest of stf news, is being published by James V. Taurasi, FANTASY NEWS Ace reporter, and staff member. The first issue dated Sep arrived around July 17.

NO MORE MEMBERS are being accepted by the National Fantasy Fan Federation according to messages recently received from Arthur L. Widner, organizer, and Louis Russell Chauvenet, candidate for President of the Federation. This action has been taken pending the election of permanent officers. All new applicants will be considered by the official executive board.

GRAPH WALDEYER has repeated at THRILLING WONDER with a 5000 word short.

ELLIOT DOLD has(Cont. P. 11)

ODD ITEMS CONT:

THE FEATURE NOVEL of the October UNKNOWN, the first of the large-size issues, will be "The Land Of Unreason" by L. Sprague de Camp and Fletcher Pratt. This novel will be revised and somewhat enlarged for book publication by Henry Holt & Co. and appear sometime next winter or spring. The same authors have "The Incomplete Enchanter", a book based on the Harold Shea stories, appearing on or about September 25th. Pratt's monumental "The Nav A History" will be reissued shortly as a low-priced reprint.

ANTHONY BOUCHER, whose real name is A. P. White, was a recent visitor to New York. He is the popular detective-story author and fantasy fan. Mr. White, who lives in Los Angeles, recently sold an article on Nostradamus' prophecies to UNKNOWN WORLDS, and is now working on a "whodunnit" in which the characters will be science fiction fans and writers. He says that his characters will not (with one or two possible exceptions) be fictional portrayals of real people.

The L. Sprague de Camp's will pass the latter half of August at Middlebury, Vermont, where de Camp has received a fellowship at the Bread Loaf Writers Conference.

L. (for Lafayette) Ronald Hubbard, the Scarlet-Thatched Satyr of Seattle, has received a specialist's commission in the U.S. Navy, where he will be in charge of magazine publicity. It is feared that he will not be able to do much science fiction and fantasy writing until after the war is over. Mr. Hubbard comes of a traditionally Navy family; his father is commander of the USS Astoria (a heavy cruiser), and Hubbard himself served a stretch in the Marines years ago.

A NEW BIOGRAPHY OF EDGAR ALLAN Poe is just being finished by Arthur Hobson Quinn.

E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM, 74 year old writer of mysteries, is writing his memoirs.

SCIENCE FICTION & MUSIC Cont: the unknown, and all heroes are not six feet high or higher and named O'Brien. Most villains are evil, broken-bodied monsters. Most conflicts among men do not come about because of inherent meanness, but because of the impact of different systems and modes of thought. This is epitomized in the newest serial "Methuselah's Children". In other words, people have to live, work, and be amused, and the drama inherent in these situations is far greater than that in the umpteenth dimension, facing a horde of sky-blue-pink zygys, with a rocket pistol in one hand and a luscious blonde in the other. Like classical music, classical science fiction will live on and be enjoyed years hence because of the sheer audacity of its concept and its perfection of story form, while popular science fiction, like popular music is for the moment only, replete with transparent, though novel, plots, and populated with wooden characters with obvious motives and shallower minds.

ABOUT SPACEWAYS Cont: as such. When you want to connect "touchy" things with stf, one of two things should be done. You should give your publication, large or small, away gratis; or you should advertise it as what it is. The hypocrisy of advertising and selling a publication as a "stf fanazine", and filling it with remarks on "Das Kapital" or discussions of Swedenborg's books, or pleas for us to stay out or enter the war, is the thing I object to. Let us have our controversial material by itself, and make it possible to buy a fanazine and read something about science fiction.

MORE ODD ITEMS Cont: and his two invisible companions, the Lobblies, who can see into the future. Mr. Bond has also written a new ballad for PLANET called "The Ballad Of Venus Nell". (Titles of all yarns may be changed at the editor's whim.)

ELLIOT DOLD has accepted a membership in the Cometeers.

PRO LINEUPS Cont: "Thrills In Science", Scientific Cross Word Puzzle and Review of Stefan Magazines will complete the issue.

THRILLING WONDER STORIES

THRILLING WONDER for August has Edmond (Save the Earth) Hamilton's "The Son Of Two Worlds" illustrated on the cover by artist Rudolph Belarski. Harry Walton, popular Queens SFL member, and editorial staff member of **POPULAR SCIENCE Monthly**, has a short yarn, "In the Ancient Way". "Pettigrew Lives Again" is by Don Tracy; "Masters Of Chance" by William Morrison; "Space Chore" by Manly Wade Wellman; "Appointment In Space" by John Broome. C. P. Mason, who has written stories in the old Gernsback **WONDER** under the pseudonym of Epaninondas T. Snooks, D.T.G., has an article entitled "Time Table For Earth".

The Time Stream by Sam Moskowitz.

Fred Pohl, member of the **Futurian Society of N.Y.** and well-known Stefan, has been released from his position as editor of **ASTONISHING STORIES** and **SUPER SCIENCE NOVELS**. Allen H. Norton will be the new editor... Some time ago Jimmy Taurasi received an anonymous letter from the Middle West stating that if he wanted to write to the Denver Chamber of Commerce he might discover reasons why the Denvention would not be held. Your reporter wrote instead, and his letter was referred to Wiggins by the Denver Chamber. Wiggins replied directly to the writer making accusations of attempted sabotage and threatening an expose unless your reporter attended the Denvention. This being financially impossible, the writer could not attend the Denvention. The anonymous letter was actually received and is now on file if anyone cares to see it. The writer wrote to the Denver Chamber, not from any desire to injure the Denvention in any way. Unconfirmed reports of Denvention indicate 100 or so attended.

-----pictures crowded out of this issue-----

CONTEST

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

READ FANTASY - NEWS FOR ACCURACY!

As announced in **FANTASY NEWS** Number 144, we inaugurate with this Annual Number a new policy of **ACCURACY IN THE NEWS**. If a news report is not accurate and cannot be confirmed at the source, it will not be published as straight news in this newspaper.

All straight news items will be clearly designated as such henceforth. All advertising, editorial, and feature material will also be clearly identified. All conjectural reports or rumors will be clearly marked "uncon. med report".

A **PRIZE OF ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) CASH** will be paid to anyone supplying written, documentary proof, or other clearly authoritative evidence of the inaccuracy of any item published as straight news, not editorial, advertising, or feature copy or copy clearly marked "unconfirmed report". Henceforth, all news in **FANTASY NEWS** will be confirmed AT THE SOURCE, or it will not be published as straight news.

IN ORDER TO WIN you must show proof of the inaccuracy of any straight news items in this newspaper. Typographical errors or other errors due to mechanical defects will not count.

In this issue, the following is published as straight news:

Everything on Page One; all copy marked "Odd Items" or "More Odd Items"; everything on Page Ten, "The Time Stream", and all "Pro Lineups".

FOR ACCURATE, AUTHENTIC, NEWS OF SCIENCE FICTION PROFESSIONAL & FAN FIELDS, READ FANTASY NEWS.

BOSS: SCIENCE FICTION and read FANTASY NEWS.

GET A PRESS CARD! BE A FANTASY NEWS REPORTER! WANTED: PRO MAG REVIEWS.