

SAMPLE COPY FANTASY-NEWS

the weekly science fiction newspaper

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 1.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24, 1939

WHOLE NUMBER 72

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES REPRINTS 'THE BLIND SPOT'

NEW STORIES SCHEDULED!!!

FEB & MAR ISSUES PREVIEWED!!!!

SPECIAL TO FANTASY NEWS:

Confirming a telephone conversation of Dec. 20, Miss Mary Gnaedinger, Editor of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, has released details of FFM that constitute the scoop of the year.

Beginning with the February issue, a new story will be featured in each number. The new stories will have to have the same or better literary standard of the old classics that are being reprinted. Eando Binder will be the first "new" author to appear in the pages of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES with a story in the Feb. issue titled: "Son Of the Stars", a space adventure yarn. Other new stories on hand are by Harry Walton and Stanton A. Coblentz. The magazine still remains essentially a reprint book featuring the classics published by the FRANK A. MUNSEY Company.

The Feb. issue will have, besides the new Binder feature, the famous "The Man Who Saved the Earth" by Austin Hall, a complete novelet, and a shorter novelet, "The Sky Woman" by Charles B. Stilson, an exciting instalment of "The Conquest Of the Moon Pool" and Parts Three and Four combined of "The Radio Man". Also a colorful and astounding little story from away back, "The Plunge Of the Knupfen", by Leonard Grover, and a weird story, "The Kiss Of Death" by Laura With-

HORNIG'S BLUE RIBBON NEWS

As told to Jimmy Taurasi (EXCLUSIVE) SCIENCE FICTION and FUTURE FICTION are now both being illustrated. Both will be dated March, and will hit the stands on Jan. 10th. SCIENCE FICTION will feature artist Paul on the cover, while the cover for FUTURE FICTION will be done by Scott.

The inside illustrations are by Finlay, Paul, Schneeman, Novick, and Biro. Finlay will have a single page illustration in SF and a double page spread in FF.

Jimmy Taurasi's new fan column "Fantasy Times" has been accepted, and will be published in the March issue of FUTURE FICTION. It will be written in Jim's inimitable style, and will feature some of the departments that have made Fantasy News so popular in the past. Watch for it!

FFM NEWS Cont'd:

row. Serials will be doubled up wherever possible, but most of them are so divided that they take up too much room if parts are combined. More stories can be presented if serials are published as they originally appeared.

The March issue will hit the stands on Feb. 7, and will begin "The Blind Spot" by Homer Eon Flint and Austin Hall; Apr. features "The Revil Of the Western Sea" by Fisher, and May "Darkness and Dawn". More details in future issues of FF.

FANTASY NEWS is published every week by the FANTASY NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY at 31-51 41st Street, Long Island City, N.Y.

Editor: Will Sykora

Associates: Jimmy Taurasi, Sam Moskowitz, Mario Racic, Jr.

Rates: 3 issues 10¢, 9 issues 30¢, 52 issues (one year) \$1.50.

(NO STAMPS PLEASE)

BOOST SCIENCE FICTION NOT POLITICS

Editorial by Will Sykora.

Several readers have written to us requesting that we publish news of such worthwhile fan organizations as the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, the Baltimore Science Fiction League, the Chicago Science Fiction League, the Los Angeles Science Fiction League, the Illini Fantasy Fictioneers, the Chicago Science Fiction Convention, etc. Fantasy News is ready and eager to publish news of these active fan clubs, but for some unknown reason, the publicity directors of these societies are either too inexperienced or too busy to devote time to writing and submitting acceptable news reports concerning the activities of their organizations.

No effort is being spared to gather every bit of worthwhile news in the entire science fiction field. Already there are fifteen Fantasy News Reporters, of whom five are Aces. All of these will receive their specially printed PRESS CARDS very shortly. In order to receive his card, everyone of these reporters has had to have published at least one authentic news report in the columns of Fantasy News, while the Aces have had items in no less than 26 consecutive issues of this newspaper. However, all of these reporters have either received straight news assignments or else have been assigned regular departments. None of them have been officially designated by any of the above sfan groups. Any science fiction fan who presents satisfactory credentials from any of these fan clubs and also submits a report of real news value

FAN MAG REVIEW by Harry Warner, Jr.
OUTR! Vol. 1, no. 4. 12 lg, mimeod pp. Some good verse and articles. Needs pages though. And

good art work, too). 57 Lyndhurst St., Rochester, N.Y. 10¢

SCIENTIFICS: Vol. 2, no. 6. One of the best fan mags; mimeod the best. Colored cover; 16 lg pp. Especially good article by & about Merritt. A dime; 2709 E. Second St, Dayton, Ohio.

SCIENCE-FANTASY REVIEW: No. 12. 4 octavo, mimeod pp; news. Needs subs, at 4 issues for 12¢. 14, Henley Ave, Litherland, Liverpool 21, England.

OLD ITEMS by FN Reporters.

The third issue of Golden Atom is now completed and ready for mailing. It is by far the best yet.

Correction: The second GA was 18 lg pp, 16 mimeod, instead of 14 as stated in a recent issue of FN.

Important: The address is still 46 Lewis St, Rochester, for SFFandom.

(Also item about FFM included in story on first page) (lbf)

The New York Daily Mirror will run SUPERMAN every week in the Sunday comic section starting with Sunday, Dec. 24th. (bs)

"Gulliver's Travel's" the full length color cartoon starts locally in the PARAMOUNT THEATRE on Wed. (th)

BE A FANTASY NEWS REPORTER:

The following is a facsimile of our printed PRESS CARD. So far, we have 15 reporters, five of whom are ACES. Send in an item to get a card!

PRESS

This Certifies that _____

is a FANTASY NEWS reporter

Editor.

will be appointed a Fantasy Reporter, will receive his official PRESS CARD, and will have the privilege of using the columns of Fantasy News.

ASTONISHING STORIES OUT THIS WEEK.

Ass hit the local stands this week on Dec. 21st. It was distributed by the Interborough News Company, a local distributing agency.

The colorful red, yellow, blue and green cover depicts a woman lifted high in the air by a spear-head plant passing through the belt of her breeches. In the foreground, a man in a space suit brandishes a flamépistol in an effort to save her. The scene is from "Chameleon Planet" by Polton Cross, a rather good story of weird adventure on an ultra-speed planet out in intergalactic space, though the plot is a take-off on "Evolution Satellite", a story by J. Harvey Haggard which appeared in the Dec. 1933 issue of Hornig's Wonder Stories. It is drawn by Jack Binder.

"White Land Of Venus" by Kummer is another weird adventure yarn this time on Venus, in which two seekers after a lost cargo of "Solum" find a lost earth ship in the white land, recover the solium and rescue the girl from the malignant "kathals".

"Half Breed" by Asimov is a human interest story about social outcasts, results of an odd biological union between terrestrials and martians. Without known parentage, they are cast into orphan asylums from which one is rescued by a scientist seeking atomic power. His invention is perfected by the rescued "tweenie", and as a reward a mate is secured for the tweenie from another asylum, resulting in the founding of a race of supermen combining the good characteristics of both races. An off-trail stuff plot but rather old-stuff to grandma who read "Over the Hill" to the poor house.

"Elephant Earth" in which elephants supplant mankind is a "Man Who Awoke" type of yarn. After some by-play with intelligent elephants the latter ship the man off to Venus in a space-ship too light to carry an elephant. On Venus our hero meets a girl who is apparently the survivor of a lost

(Cont'd next column)

ODD ITEMS by FN.Reporters.

Instead of the standard cover that FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES has used in the past, a new style cover will be used beginning with the March 1940 issue. It will be purely decorative, the decorations for this issue being drawn by Finlay. Subsequent decorations will be by Paul, and possibly other very well-known artists. Scenes from stories will not be illustrated on the cover. (sb)

The next issue of Cosmi-Scienti-Tales will feature a hitherto unpublished short story of H.P. Lovecraft's "What the Moon Brings", and will also reprint his little known short "Nyarlathotep". Other excellent material by Moskowitz, Taurasi, Roberts, Frome, Warner, and a sensational article by the poison-pen of science fiction, Peter Duncan, titled "David R. Daniels". (sm)

ASTONISHING Cont'd.

Earth expedition.

"Asteroid" by Lee Gregor (Milton A. Rothman) is a rather good yarn of alien life on an asteroid visit by a terrestrial mining ship. Ignorant of the existence of intelligent life, the terrestrials snuff it out, unknowing, by their operations. The tenuous asteroid beings futilely attempt to destroy the earthmen who are exterminating them. The story is good and rather off-trail, though the attempts at "poesy" like "fear was a sibilant whispering in the ether" are rather overdone and somewhat inane.

The other yarns in the book are all readable, though none are particularly outstanding. An odd characteristic of the mag is the tendency to feature stories of strong-willed women superior to the men giving the mag a rather effeminate outlook, psychologically peculiar.

The illustrations are certainly different, though not well done by "unkowns" such as Eron, Dan, Lasker, and even Binder's are below par.

The departments and most of the readers column are by Wellheim, Mitchell, Pohl, Wilson, Lowndes, Dockweiler, all known members of the Brooklyn Communists' group of Brooklyn Communists.

ASTOUNDING - UNKNOWN FACTS

by Jimmy Taurasi, Ace.

The January issue of ASTOUNDING does not contain the Analytical Laboratory. The issue was printed too soon for results of the earlier to come in, but the results of both previous issues will be analysed in the Feb. issue.

"Gray Lensman" was rated first in the December issue (so far) with "Discord In Scarlet" second. "Gray Lensman" was rated first in the Nov. ASTOUNDING, "Power Plant" second, "Spaceway Tactics" (article) was third, followed by "Habit" and "Misfit" which tied for fourth place.

Sturgeon has two yarns "Dern Fool" and "He Shudders" coming up soon in UNKNOWN. Sturgeon plans to visit the QUEENS SFL in the near future.

Cartier has done a real honey of a cover for the Feb. UNKNOWN. This issue will be the first to boast the new name UNKNOWN FANTASY FICTION.

It looks more and more like the final showdown as to cover artists for UNKNOWN AND ASTOUNDING.

Rogers will probably be steady for ASF and Cartier for UFF.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL MY FRIENDS

from

JULIUS UNGER
science fiction field
1349 50th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racio, Jr.

MGM has purchased for Robert Montgomery "White Chapel", a story by Leo Birinsky and Kurt Siodmack, the latter author of the book and film F.P. 1. This is Montgomery's third in the weird film cycle, his others being "Night Must Fall" and "Earl Of Chicago".

"The Golden Key" is the name of a new Russian fantasy puppet film, on the style of and by the makers of "The New Gulliver", and has both puppets and real persons in the story.

The bluebird used in the technicolor version of the Maeterlinck fantasy, "The Bluebird" was actually a yellow bird made up for the part, because it was impossible to obtain a bird sufficiently blue naturally to reproduce on the film.

the makers of the sfilm "The Invisible Man Returns" are trying to secure the musical rights for an appropriate theme song called "The Little Man Who Wan't There".

ODD ITEMS by Tom Hoguet

Last Sunday on the Gulf Theatre of the air there was a play entitled "Smilin' Through" starring Norma Shearer, Basil Rathbone. It was a revival of an old play and motion picture. The story was that of a man whose rival shot at him, missed and killed his wife-to-be, and ever after that she appeared always on the night of the full moon in the role of a ghost.

In the Woolworth Five and Dime at 42nd Street in N.Y.C. there is a beautiful full color running model of a city of the future complete with future cars as portrayed in numerous sf yarns, and different level highways, transatlantic strato ships, and future buildings. It is well worth seeing. It is situated directly above the soda fountain.

"Tower Of London", the new Universal film starring Basil Rathbone and Karloff wasn't a chiller at all. It only had a few medieval tortures in one scene. "The Hunchback Of Notre Dame" with Charles Laughton is at the Radio City Music Hall.