



# Fantasy-Times

*The World Of Tomorrow Today!*



( Sixteenth Year Of Publication )

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10 Cents

## Another New S-F Publication Coming From Ziff-Davis: "AMAZING S-F NOVELS"

New York, 21 February, (CNS) - Paul Fairman announced today that Ziff-Davis Publishing Company is going to add another science - fiction publication to their already crowded list. They plan to issue, in the near future, a digest-sized s-f mag that will contain complete s-f novels only.

The first issue will contain an adaptation of the movie (soon to be released) by Columbia Pictures, "2,000,000 Miles To Earth". The original movie script was written by Bob Williams and Christopher Knopr. It is not known at this time what author will be chosen to do the novel version.

The new magazine will be called: Amazing Science Fiction Novels.

The magazine is planned as a quarterly, if Ziff-Davis can get the right novels for it. Number of pages and (concluded on page 4, column 1)

### 15th WORLD S-F CONVENTION NEWS

## NEW HOTEL FOR LONDON CON

by Ken Bulmer

Catford, London, 5 Feb, (CNS) - We were not happy with the Royal and have been trying to find a fresh hotel; this has been done. KINGS COURT HOTEL, Leinster Gardens (sic! - ed) London, W-1. This is just a minute or so from Hyde Park, Marble Arch and Oxford St., and Park Lane a few minutes more. The other way is Bayswater and Queensway, with a good shopping centre.

The hotel has been inspected by members of the committee, who report that it should prove the ideal venue. The management are very friendly (the con just beat out by 12 hours a rival bid from a travel agency to take over the entire hotel). The staff between them speak six languages with three more as standbys; they specialize in continental and good cooking, and charges are reasonable.

Bed and breakfast — the standard thing over here — is 20 shillings (\$2.80) per night. Luncheon is 4/6d (60¢) and dinner 6/6d (90¢). Hot meals are served up to 10:30 p.m. or so and snacks carry on later. The bar is open all day.

The hall can seat 400. It is long and narrow and can be partitioned off if necessary. There are several lounges, a cocktail bar and a T-V room. The committee have taken over the entire hotel, and there should be no embargo on all-night parties.

The hotel has facilities for cashing travelers' cheques and foreign currency. It can be very easily reached from two Underground (subway) stations, and busses pass at the end of the road. It is also fairly near Paddington Station.

As a matter of interest, the Farnborough Air Show will be held during the week prior to the con and those of the visitors who are air-minded can nip down there comfortably and see what there is on show.

There are rooms with four, twins, and singles, and no difficulty is anticipated in apportioning rooms in particular ways. The only thing to remember, of course, is that first comers will be first choosers. All bookings and requests for special treatment should go to the Secretary, Roberta Wild, 204 Wellmeadow Rd., Catford, London SE-6, England.

Dues for the World S-F Society are the normal \$1, plus another \$1 from those actually attending the con. We have had a fine response from the US fans and pros in joining, and we therefore hope that many more will join up and send in their dollar. We are running under the handicap of having no money spare this year, so every little helps.

The Journal is slated to appear in

February and all those desirous of obtaining advertising space should contact or send their stuff ready for photographing 1½ up to Harry Turner, 10 Carlton Ave., Romiley, Cheshire, England. Ads should be sent ready laid out as Harry at the moment is doing far too much work to take on the extra layout work involved, and we don't want to charge for it. Same size as previous two journals (Cleveland and New York).

Plans are shaping up nicely, and already we have had the flag\* sent over by Dick Ellington. He has also sent over material for the auction. All in all, Dick has done a tremendous amount of work for us, and all of us here appreciate it very much.

The plane business is being handled by Dave Kyle (c/o WPDM, Potsdam, NY) and interested parties should contact him for info.

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\*The flag mentioned is a huge one with a blue field and white lettering "THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY". It was flown outside of the hotel at the New York (14th World S-F) Convention, and in the Ball Room on the last day.

#### FANTASY-TIMES BOOK REVIEWS

by James Blish

POLICE YOUR PLANET, by Erik van Lhin. Avalon, 1956. 224 pp., no price listed (boards).

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Book publishers who fail to put prices on their books, and spell the author's name wrong (in two different ways) five chances out of five, deserve to be looked upon with suspicion, and Avalon turns out to have earned it. More about that in a moment. In the meantime, I reviewed this novel some time back, writing under another name, while the novel was appearing serially in one of Lester del Rey's magazines, and this is what I said:

"Mr. van Lhin...appears to be intent upon importing into science fiction a tradition quite new to the field, although very old outside, called naturalism. I happen to dislike this tradition intensely, but only as a matter of personal preference — it is a thoroughly respectable and important

# No More Serials For Amazing Or Fantastic

one and deserves to be explored.

"Briefly, Erik van Lhin has set up a social situation on Mars which, while it resembles in some respects the social hells in which the novels of Zola, Farrell, and other naturalists take place, is markedly a science fiction situation, depending upon a set of extrapolations rather than upon a simple transfer of present-day situations to the future and to another planet. Having done this, he then has proceeded to tell you in plain, flat terms just what this situation would mean for people who have to live in it. The result is gruesome, but...it is generally honest and thorough, with only as many stock situations as you would expect in naturalistic writing. Since most of even these stock reactions will be totally unfamiliar to most science fiction readers, the resulting story...is that rare object, a real shocker. Many readers will hate it passionately, for it has more plain squalor and less romance than any science fiction story I know, including 1994. But the squalor, the violence, the vice, and indeed all the elements of the story spring directly from a dreadful situation honestly imagined and honestly carried through, and if the result is dreadful it is a tribute to the man who wrote it that way. I cannot imagine anyone enjoying this story for its content, but as craftsmanship it is open to considerable admiration."

This is still my judgment on the novel. Now I must go on and say that Avalon, obviously unable to keep its stubby fingers off the work of an author who is one of the best s-f has, must be accused of doing POLICE YOUR PLANT considerable damage. The novel has been cut by about 25% in the book version, apparently at random; the names of characters have been arbitrarily changed, but Avalon's editor wasn't

New York, 21 February, (GWS) - Because the readers of Amazing Stories and Fantastic Science Fiction indicated that they do not care for serials, Paul Fairman announced today that when the present ones are used up, no serials will appear in either magazine. As in the past, only complete stories will be used.

Ever since Ziff-Davis took over Amazing Stories in 1938, serials has been a controversial point. From time to time they have been tried and each time dropped in favor of complete stories only. Ray Palmer solved the problem, when he was editor, by breaking up the serials into three, four or more complete novelettes. A good example of this was the John Carter novel, that appeared as four complete novelettes.

Before 1938, both under Teck Publications and Hugo Gernsback, serials were a must for each issue, and at times even two serials were used.

able to remember his own changes long enough to make them consistent; chapter titles which would disgrace a Tom Swift book have been foisted on the text; and so on. The whole disgraceful performance is epitomized by a dust jacket so cheaply turned out as to suggest to strangers that the very gifted Ed Emsh doesn't even know how to draw, and that in turn is encased in a patented plastic over-jacket which makes many copies of the book look like they had been stolen from the corner drug-store's lending library.

Had Avalon totally spoiled van Lhin's novel I would not have devoted so much space to reviewing it; I would have wept for a paragraph or so and passed on. But even the world's worst editor (and it looks like he's the man we're dealing with here, all right) is incapable of spoiling an honest novel totally. Even in its present shape,

POLICE YOUR PLANET is well worth your attention if you do not have the magazine version: It is still shocking, still unique in our field, still shows that the author meant to be completely honest and was more than skillful enough to bring it off. Not one s-f novel in sixty merits even that much of an accolade. It is saddening to think that a publisher with brains would have helped van Linn to turn his good novel into a classic, whereas Avalon instead has done its best to debase it. Happily Avalon's best was not good enough to turn the trick.

"AMAZING SCIENCE FICTION NOVELS"  
(concluded from page 1, column 1)

price has not been decided on as yet. The first issue will contain a colored photo from the movie, on the cover (Printed in four colors) and black and white movie stills for interior illustrations. At the present time it is planned to use novel adaptation of new s-f films for future issues also.

The movie stars William Hopper and Joan Taylor, and the film is described as a "King-Kong" type, where a huge animal from another planet roams on Earth.

And, of course, Paul Fairman is the editor of the new magazine.

Ziff-Davis now leads the parade with four science / fantasy magazines: Amazing Stories, Fantastic Science Fiction (both monthlies), Dream World (bi-monthly) and Amazing Science Fiction Novels (proposed quarterly).

SLICK SCIENCE FICTION

by Donald E. Ford

Time, January 14, 1957:  
In the SCIENCE column there is a discussion on the "time dilation" from speeds in excess of the speed of light. (The theme of Hubbard's "To The Stars" a serial in Astounding a few years back.) Time picked this discussion from Nature mag. by Dr. Frank S. Crawford, Jr. who says that mu mesons have extended their life, by earth time, 15 - 20 times longer. He attributes this to speed given them by cosmic rays hitting atomic nuclei high in the atmosphere.

Quite an interesting discussion.

MAD, #32, April 1957:  
The Ideal Women as seen by various types magazines. This is a humorous 2 page bit by Freas the artist. Astounding is one of the mags used. Jean Shepherd has an article on his "day people" & "night people" and creeping meatballism. Whole issue is better this time, I thought.

Playboy, February 1957:  
"The Traveling Salesman" by Robert Bloch. Salesman was created due to the mass thoughts of so many people who believed the stories they told about the traveling salesman. He's doomed to enact out all the jokes told & hates the life he leads. Good story, I liked it. Editorial page has photo of Bloch & Vampiria comparing cigarette holder techniques at the San Francisco Con.

Case & Comment, Nov-Dec, 1956:  
"Man & Law In Space" by John Charles Hogan. If a corp. decides to sell a space platform will they need a bill of sale (on a chattel) or a deed (real property)? If Russia should capture our satellite could they claim it as "Lost" property & as such salvagable? The present rules & regulations on air traffic will not be adequate. A "Code of Space Navigation" will have to be set up. These facets are discussed in this lawyers magazine, along with other interesting angles concerning with the problems man will have when he gets into space.

By the time the legal eagles get through, man will wish he'd stayed home.

FANTASY-TIME'S CLASSIFIED ADS

2¢ per word, including name, address & zone number. 25 words minimum, remittance with copy. NO STAMPS PLEASE!

WANTED

WANTED: WEIRD TALES, ARGOSY, BLUE BOOK, prior 1942; GOLDEN FEEBEE, MAGIC CARPET, ORIENTAL STORIES. FN, FFM, prior 1948. Karl Gottschalk, 153 First St., Hoboken, New Jersey.

International Correspondence Clubs (four clubs): Writers; Artists; Hobbyists; Science Fiction Fan. Reply stamp (your country) requested. CHANEL MONAGHAM, 236 Columbia Place, Los Angeles 26, California, USA.

THE FANTASY RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

(Waimers, N.Y.) THE SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES OUT IN THE US DURING JANUARY, 1957:

NAME	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	SIZE	DATE ON STANDS	SCHEDULE
Fantastic Universe S F	Mar.	35¢	128	digest	Jan. 8, 1957	Monthly
First World Of If	#1	50¢	160	digest	Jan. 8, 1957	"one shot"
ASTOUNDING Science Fiction	Feb.	35¢	162	digest	Jan. 8, 1957	Monthly
Amazing Stories	Feb.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 10, 1957	Monthly
Fantastic Science Fiction*	Mar.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 10, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Venturo Science Fiction	Mar.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 10, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Galaxy Science Fiction	Mar.	35¢	144	digest	Jan. 14, 1957	Monthly
Science Fiction Stories**	Mar.	35¢	144	digest	Jan. 15, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Super Science Fiction	Apr.	35¢	128	digest	Jan. 15, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Imagination Science Fiction	Apr.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 23, 1957	Bi-Monthly
Fantasy And Science Fiction	Mar.	35¢	128	digest	Jan. 30, 1957	Monthly
Infinity Science Fiction***	Apr.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 31, 1957	Bi-Monthly

\*Going Monthly. \*\*Going Monthly. \*\*\*Going "six weekly".

During the month of January 1957, 12 science/fantasy magazines came out. All were digest-size, costing \$4.35 for the month, and containing 1,644 pages.

NOT SCIENCE/FANTASY, BUT OF INTEREST:

Fate	Feb.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 1, 1957	Monthly
Fate	Mar.	35¢	130	digest	Jan. 31, 1957	Monthly

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Science fiction, fantasy, and weird books, magazines. Free Catalog., Gary de la Rue, 277 Howland Ave., Riverton Edge, New Jersey.

\$1.00 each- 10 for \$7.50: Castle - SATELLITE E ONE, Cox - PURPLE PROPHET, Crane - HERO'S WALK, Fletcher - WELL OF THE UNICORN, Judd - GUNNER CADE, Karp - ONE, 10 Fanu - UNCLE SILAS, Maine - TIMELINER, McCann - PREMIER RISK, McIntosh - BORN LEADER, Moore - GREENER THAN YOU THINK, Pungborn - WEST OF THE SUN, Pratt - UNDYING FIRE, Sohl - COSTIGAN'S NEEDLE, van Vogt - SLAN, Wolfe - LIMBO, Wylie - GLADIATOR. Books in fine, unopened condition. Send for the complete bargain list. Science-Fiction & Fantasy Publications, 127-01 116th Ave., S. Ozone Park 20, New York.

Finney, Charles; THE UNHOLY CITY, 1st Ed, akin to "Circus of Dr Lao", fine, \$2. These books, mint, d/j: Koller-LIFE EVERLASTING - \$2.50, HOMUNCULUS - \$1, SOLITARY HUNTERS - \$2, Mallon - KINSMEN OF THE DRAGON - \$1.50, Hubbard-SLAVES OF SLEEP - \$1, Merrett & Bok - THE BLACK WHEEL - \$2.50, Coblentz -

WHEN THE BIRDS FLY SOUTH - \$1. Glenn Lord, Box 775, Pasadena, Texas.

BACK ISSUES OF FANTASY-TIMES FOR SALE:

Some are in short supply, one or two copies only on hand. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. Most of these were located when the editor moved and once gone - - - That's It!

AT 25¢ per copy: 13 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 20 - 21 - 22 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 30 - 31 - 45 - 59 - 63 - 74 - 78a - and 84.

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At \$1.00 per copy: 200 (special).

CLASSIFIED ADS continued

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236 - 238 - 239 - 240 - 241 - 242 - 243  
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and 264.

Send money with order, check alternate  
numbers if possible. NO STAMPS PLEASE!  
FANDOM HOUSE, P.O. Box #2331, Paterson,  
23, New Jersey.

PLUS: Vol. 1 - No. 2, Nov 1949 "Tiempo-  
De-Fantasia" (Spanish Edition). 10¢ ea.  
#11, Dec. 1949 "International Edition"  
of FANTASY-TIMES. 10¢ per copy.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

Chicago 37, Ill.  
15 Feb 1957

Dear Ray:

I had meant to enclose a short note  
with my renewal a short while ago.  
Haven't said anything since my letter  
to you printed in F-T #242.

You and Jimmy must have noticed  
that no magazine that started 1956  
failed during the year. That is the  
first time this has happened since 1949.  
Of course this makes my guess in the  
above letter foolish. Really I had  
thought that Other Worlds, Galaxy SF  
Novels & maybe SFQ might go under. Pal-  
mer's magazine is very hard to locate  
on the stands in Chicago. GSM only  
came out twice during the year.

I must agree with Gardner that the  
present boomlet is on very shaky foun-

FANDOM HOUSE

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(serving science-fiction since 1937)

dations. If the field were really e-  
volving from a strong base, the rates  
would be much better than they are. If  
one takes into account, the expanding  
population, the inflation of the dollar  
etc, the payment for authors is very  
low indeed.

Keep up the good work with Fantasy  
Times. It is needed.

I'll stick my head out. I don't  
think Dream World, Space Science Fic-  
tion, Saturn et al, or Super-Science  
Fiction will last out the year. Who  
cares?

Best of luck,  
Ed Wood



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