

Spring

BOOKLIST

1945

The organ of the British Fantasy Library, published quarterly, by the Librarian:
Ron Holmes, 67, Linside Road, Belle Vale, Liverpool, Lancs.

TO ALL MEMBERS Within this mailing goes the very best wishes for the season from
Nigel, Ron and myself.

While this issue reaches you about Xmas, it is really intended to start off the
New Year. At the time of going to press, about one half of our listed members have
not subscribed for next year, those will be notified by the time extended to this
paragraph and will find that I have omitted to enclose the new Catalogue with this
mailing. But we love you just the same.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS NOT EXPIRED WITH THIS ISSUE. DO YOU STILL LOVE US?

C.A.T.D. NOTICE To avoid disappointment to many members, we have decided to extend the
magazine chains by ordering duplicate subscriptions to the more popular titles. So
if you have asked for any particular magazine, and been told it is not available,
please apply again to the Current Issue Dept., and each title receiving at least
two votes will be re-ordered at once. There are still some vacancies for the new
magazine "Fantasy Book" which is expected any time now.

DO NOT DELAY.

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the Library - though we feel we must add that donations for it fall short of the
required figure by three shillings. On the way over is the 'Shasta' "Checklist"
which is donated by our friend 'Bill' Boyd.

LUCY THIRTEEN. Well, well, well. During the last three months the figure has crept
up to the gigantic sum of seven. We throw up our hands in despair and disgust and
with pleasure we announce that the priceless Volume goes to Dr. Gibson for his most
noble gesture of being FIRST.

MEET THE BOYS. This time a breath of rotting seaweed from that 'Arendia' of the north
- or the place where Oldham goes on Whit week -- T. MOULTON of Blackpool.

Born Ashton-under-Lyne, 1910, troiked to Blackpool 1913; lived here ever since.
Hope to reside in U.S.A in 1950. Have the best wife in the northern hemisphere.
Expecting our first-born son. Started reading Fantasy about thirty years ago.
Collected magazines since discovering a copy of Wonder in 1934.

We hope that little Moulton has seen the light by now, and we wish to extend
our congratulations and best wishes. We would also like to inform our friends that
the Holmsian 'slan' is now back with us again.

ADVERTISEMENTS. Appearing for the last time until Operation Fantast passes away.
All adverts to Ron Slater in future boys.

FOR SALE. Lead Soldiers, in glorious technic flour and just in time for Xmas. These
must be included in your 'Plans for Slans'. Prices from 2/6d to 4/- per doz.
R. Henry; 9 Sedgemoor Road, Liverpool. 11.

LIBRARY SURPLUS. Bags for sale or exchange. Oulands. Shadow. 5/34.
Fantastic Ads. Jan/47. The Wond. Fall/46 Amazing Mar/31 Jul/32 Apr/34 Jan/39.
Astounding Dec/33. Astounding 'B'. Apr/47. Warlord of Mars. 'Immortals' by Forley.
Hiroshima by Hersoy. 'Inexperienced Ghost' by Wells.

LIASON DEPARTMENT. This is rather a superfluous announcement, but we must not omit
to officially announce that we now have a new department run for the benefit of
avid collectors, which deals with the buying and selling of items of Fantasy. It has
been running now for two months or so, and is considered to be a roaring success.
Those who have not heard of it should write at once to Capt. A.F. Slater, Riverside
South Brink, Wisboch, Cumb.

BOOK REVIEWS. This section is devoted to the reviewing of books in the Library by
prominent fans. We hope it will help our members in the selection of their reading
matter.

ONE OF OUR BROTHERS Neil Bell. The chief character is Adrian Koster, blind son of the millionaire colliery owner. He is persuaded to make a visit to his father while flying over Bourds the plane crashes and Adrian is killed. A few days later a nun is staggered to see the body come to life again. He lives for a short time, and the main message he has for mankind is that there is nothing greater than Brotherhood. A wave of revivalism crosses the world as a result of this revelation from the grave. His early tutor, now a newspaper editor, reveals that Adrian's vision of Heaven was a reshuffle of the ideas that he had given to Adrian, and his doctrine of Brotherhood of man, nearly an extension of his communistic tendencies. The pendulum swings back, and the threat of war soon appears again.

(Condensed) by E. Brown and A. Busby.

MR. CIGGERS GOES TO HEAVEN D. Massie. I am fervently enthusiastic about this book. It tells of how a very mid-victorian Mr. Ciggers awakes after death in court, or rather for being what he was - snobbish, insincere and all the rest of it. He is condemned to live in Victorian (a portion of Heaven) where everything is so outrageously Victorian. As he learns his lesson, however, he moves on by a series of stages until he finally emerges a much sadder but wiser soul. The whole thing is based on very sound psychological practice and cynically satisfying.

Ron. Holmes

THE LAST WORD So we come to the end of the first year of the BRITISH FAN LIBRARY. During this time we have almost doubled the original number of books in the catalogue, and added as many illustrations from the new department of the C.I.D. We have struggled through hobs, and we rest a little on ourselves. For the new year, we intend to continue as before, ideas are lurking about in the background waiting for an 'out'.

Stay with us Fan, those who are working with us, keep it up and the drinks can carry on soaking.

We wish to particularly thank the following fans for their most generous co-operation: - "Bill" Boyd, C. Shute, Harry Turner and H. Loby. For generous help and assistance 'printing of Catalogue', the 'Xmas card' and 'for donation of Books', respectively.

To those, too many to record, who have helped in a minor, but most substantial way, we offer our sincere thanks.

And now on to 1948. The immediate future - see the announcement overleaf. This represents some nine years research on my part, and should be an item worthy of anyones collection. Later, a new 'Handbook' for publicity purposes. We now have several Lady members, and we hope to organise the female side of the organisation too. In fact we are just getting warmed up.

LET US You should know something about the man behind the Fan, so here we go with the first of three-low-downs of the 'Brains' of the B.F.L. Ron. Holmes.

It all started when as a neuroesthonic child, I tried to escape this painful life by absorbing U.S. Pulp Fantasy. My name was soon as a member of the Science League by fans, and I was eventually whisked up into a whirl of activity as Secretary of the Liverpool S.F.A. That was in 1937, then followed ten hectic years of fanning, meetings, Conventions, London-Linchester-Leicester-Leeds and so on. Rising in experience via editing several fan-rags, news hunting, auctioneering, and generally getting to know fan..... and myself. I can never be too thankful for Fantasy, and Fantasy fans meeting then made the difference between frustration and happiness..... but I must warn those who take the road of active fanning, your life is not your own.

WANTED PUBLICATION. Right at the moment we need good souls with steady hands who will duplicate for us, and cut down the time spent on the typewriter (which is fantastic). Some people have typists and duplicators, so if you have a typist would help on the duplicators. Then we are temporarily in need of artists who can illustrate on stencill.

A volunteer to take over the project of compiling and printing a new edition of 'Directory of Anglo-Fandom' is needed.