

# THE MINNESOTA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER SIX

The sixth issue of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society (Minn-Stf) NEWSLETTER is written and edited by Jim Young (1948 Ulysses St. N. E.; Mpls., Minn.; 55418) and published by Ken Fletcher (1501 Breda Ave.; St. Paul, Minn.; 55101). This is an approximately monthly publication. Minn-Stf NEWSLETTER Six is JMY PUB #47-Kept Press printed.

## THE NEXT MINN-STF MEETING:

The next meeting will be a very important one. This will be a Constitutional Convention (not to be confused with a work shop, or even a Minicon) and it will probably decide the future history of the club. We may be joining the University of Minnesota under the auspices of the Student Activities Bureau.

I urge you all to attend. Please make an effort to make this one.

The meeting will be Saturday, June 15th, at room NE4, in the Mechanical Engineering building. The convocation will begin at 12; it'll probably last to four or so.

At this meeting, some other name than NEWSLETTER (hopefully) will be developed for this publication. (At the May 11th meeting, three names were developed for it: "Rune", "Glacial Times", and "Somewhat Vaguely". None of these names were passed as official titles because of the fact that there were five people in attendance. Come to the June 15th meeting and voice your opinion.)

At the Constitutional gathering, pamphlets describing how the SAB works, and what is necessary to become an acknowledged group under SAB will be passed among the members.

## ANTHONY BOUCHER DIES OF CANCER

Anthony Boucher died in Oakland, California April 29th. He was 57.

Mr. Boucher, (who's full name was Anthony Parker White -- although he had his name legally changed to Boucher) was the editor of THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION from its start in 1949, until 1957, when he retired the post due to ill-health.

In editing F&SF, he exerted as much influence as Campbell with ASF and Gold with GALAXY. He was an important man, and a good man.

## SF WEEKLY FOLDS UNDER

SF WEEKLY, a weekly science fiction newsletter ended publication this week with its 229th issue. Andrew Porter, the editor and publisher, listed several causes; primarily, he didn't have time, and the publication was expanding too rapidly for him to control it.

Porter was said to have started weekly science fiction amateur press associations with SF WEEKLY's fore-runner, DEGLER. When DEGLER reached its 140th issue, Porter turned it into the newszine, SF WEEKLY.

Subscribers to SF WEEKLY will either have their money refunded, or be sent copies of SF TIMES or Porter's general fanzine, ALGOL.

## NEW FANTASY MAGAZINE FROM GALAXY PUBLICATIONS

Galaxy Publications will issue their new fantasy magazine, **WORLDS OF FANTASY** in June or July. This is to be an all-fantasy magazine and will be edited by Lester Del Rey. As far as the editor can tell, the magazine will be issued without schedule (as **INTERNATIONAL SF** has been) until it becomes an established magazine, or until it folds.

ROBERT W. LOWNDES, HEALTH\*KNOWLEDGE PUBLICATIONS, PUT MAGAZINES ON NEW BIMONTHLY PUBLISHING BASIS.

Robert W. Lowndes, editor of **MAGAZINE OF HORROR**, **FAMOUS SCIENCE FICTION**, **STARTLING MYSTERY**, and **WORLD-WIDE ADVENTURE**, announced in the latest issues of the magazines that all of the magazines would be published bimonthly, and that subscriptions would be taken for these magazines.

While these magazines are basically reprint magazines, they do take original work and publish it. (Right now, all of the magazines are about half-and-half original and reprint material.) Lowndes' editorial judgement is much better than the people at **AMAZING** and **FANTASTIC**, in the editor's heavy-handed opinion, and all of the magazines are much more enjoyable than any but the most recent **AMAZINGs** and **FANTASTICs**.

**MAGAZINE OF HORROR** and **STARTLING MYSTERY** are available at Shinder's, on the corner of Hennepin and 5th, downtown Minneapolis. (Price is 50¢ per copy.)


 MAGAZINE REVIEWS.
 

**AMAZING**. (50¢.) June, 1968.

This is probably the last issue of **AMAZING** to be edited by Harry Harrison. In the next issue someone else will take over the job. With this issue however, you get something GOOD.

You get a short-novel by Samuel R. Delany. It's a segment of the soon-t-be published Delany novel, **NOVA**. This novella is entitled "House-a-Fire."

This story is one of those things that you can't talk about without giving the plot away. All I can say is that this is the first issue of **AMAZING** that has any reason to be sold since 1965.

**IF**. (60¢.) June, 1968.

In this issue, the headliner stories are **ROGUE STAR** (part two of a serial by Pohl and Williamson), **SLEEPER WITH STILL HANDS** (by Harlan Ellison), and a new science column by Lester Del Rey called "If...and When."

The serial isn't finished yet, but I'm liking it more and more. Williamson evidently wrote this (while Pohl worked out the plot with Jack) and it shows that Williamson's writing style has improved tremendously since the early fifties. The writing is evocative, the plot is good. I'll wait until I get the last installment for final judgement.

**GALAXY**. (60¢.) June, 1968.

This issue of **GALAXY** contains the first installment of Fritz Leiber's **A SPECTER IS HAUNTING TEXAS**. It's a satire, something in the zany vein of Henry Kuttner and C. L. Moore.

**THERE IS A TIDE** (by Larry Niven) is not exactly one of the Flatlander series...is nonetheless Larry Niven and properly exciting. It's a good think piece and action yarn -- but not really a great story.

**DREAMER SHOEMER**, by Brian W. Aldiss turned me off. That does not mean that you would be turned off by it; I, personally, dislike the story.

The rest of the magazine hasn't been read yet, but I might mention Willy Ley's **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** -- it gives you information in a very interesting way.

ANALOG. (60¢.) June, 1968.

The big news in this ANALOG is still the Poul Anderson novel, "Satan's World". It isn't another "High Crusade", but it's fun.

"The Royal Road" by Christopher Anvil is part of a series; for some reason I don't think I read the previous portions of the series. As a consequence, I found the beginning (an explanation of what had happened previously) interesting; it "normally" would've bogged down the plot, I suppose. This is a mildly amusing piece, and interesting.

The shorts are all mild. I think that's what makes the present-day ANALOG story not quite as good as even late-fifties or early sixties ASTOUNDINGs and ANALOGs: all the stories are "mild" any more. No matter how much violence they may have in them, few of them are full of ideas, or trying to do new things with SF. Campbell seems to be trying to change from the drastic story-quality slump that began after ANALOG returned to the digest sized. He was the man who started "the new thing" in science fiction; he ought to be able to continue to do it.

MAGAZINE OF HORROR. (50¢.) May, 1968.

The headliner in this issue is one of the "King Kull" stories by Robert E. ("Conan") Howard. (If you happen to have bought the Lancer King Kull book, this story isn't in it.) Plenty of adventure here.

Also, there's a two part serial, "The Psychological Invasion" by Algernon Blackwood. "...Rich and strange"; that's about the only way I can describe it.

As was said earlier, this is mostly WEIRD TALES reprinted. There are files in the magazine (some of them very nice) and one new short story. The stories are all pretty good un-UNKNOWN fantasy.

FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION. (50¢.) July, 1968.

Serials seem to be dominating the current group of magazines.

In F&SF this month, the serial is Piers Anthony's SOS THE ROPE. (Not S.O.S., as was previously reported, but "Sos". It's a name.) The first installment gives us some skullduggery plotting to form an empire of some of the scattered tribes of people left on the Earth after nuclear holocaust. There seems to be some conflict-to-be with "Crazies"; people who are evidently scientists, fighting to maintain and preserve some civilization.

Isaac Asimov seems to have started writing fiction again; he had a short in ANALOG a month or so past, and there's a short-short by him in this F&SF. Funny... or then again, maybe it isn't...

Another somewhat funny short-short is "The Sublimation World", by former Minnesotan, John T. Sladek. This is a wacky takeoff on the work of J.G. BARRY. (Mr. Ballard being somewhat wacked in the rear end, here.)

There are two short-stories in this issue which somewhat concern Hippie-type peopless: One is "The Psychedelic Children" (by Dean R. Koontz) and the other is "Beyond Words" (by Hayden Howard).

Both are saying things I think you might enjoy thinking about. Take it from there.



# Editorial

# Comment

With this issue, the Minn-Stf is cracking down on who receives the NEWSLETTER. Unless you are marked below as having nothing to worry about, this will be the last issue of the Minn-Stf NEWSLETTER you'll receive.

Unless...

Unless you do something. You don't have to do very much; you can either attend a Minn-Stf meeting (hopefully the constitutional convention) or drop me a note. A post card saying that you're interested in continuing to get the NEWSLETTER will be sufficient. You'll be able to keep in touch with Minn-Stf then, wherever you may be. (Sound like an ad? Maybe it is...)

The reason of course is money. It costs money to put out the NEWSLETTER. About half of the cost is mailing expense. Therefore, we're going through the mailing list, checking those who have attended the Minn-Stf meetings, and finding out who's interested enough to warrant continuing their sub to NEWSLETTER.

This has to be a purely editorial type judgement. It's not going to be too much to keep someone off the list...unless he sends me notice that he'd like to receive the NEWSLETTER.

That's not going to be too tough is it, if you're interested?

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## CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE MAILING LIST OF MINN-STF MEMBERS.

FRED HASKELL: 4370 Brookside Court; Apt. 206; Edina, Minn.; 55436.  
DAVID FANT: 1469 Hythe; St. Paul; 55116.

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  - ( ) This is the last issue of the NEWSLETTER you will receive unless you do something.
  - ( ) You're being sent the Minn-Stf NEWSLETTER FOR TRADE.
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