

# FUTURIAN OBSERVER

No.2

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## TWO PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINES RELEASED IN USA

Frederik Pohl, internationally famous fan, is now editing 2 new stf magazines for Fictioneers Inc., one of the largest publishing houses in the U.S.A. The names of these two are to be **ASTONISHING STORIES** and **SUPERSCIENCE STORIES**, respectively, and Pohl intends to make these two the best on the field. They will be essentially fan's magazines in so far as they will cater for the more mature minded readers. There may be some difficulty, at first, in getting top-notch material, but we can expect something after a few issues.

**ASTONISHING** will sell for an extremely low price of 10 cents, which should work at approx. 9 pence. It will be 112 pages, bi-monthly, and the first issue dated February, 1940. Material includes **CHAMELEON PLANET** by Polton Cross, a sequel to **WORLD WITHOUT CHANGE**, in the February '39 TWS. **HALF BREED** by Isaac Asimov, and **ASTEROID** by Lee Gregor. Other material from:- Edmonds, Kummer Jr, Barclay, and Vaeth. Illustrations by:- Binder, Dan Eron, and Lakker. The readers section is titled **VIEWPOINTS**. The entire magazine strikes a modernistic note, and is attempting to reach a very high standard.

**SUPERSCIENCE STORIES** will sell for 15 cents, and will have trimmed edges. It will be 128 pages, bi-monthly and the first issue is dated March. Authors appearing in the first issue include:- Thornton Ayre, Harl Vincent, Fearn, Gallun, and F.B. Long. Whichever of these two magazines proves to be the more popular, will become monthly.

Watch "OBS" for further information about these magazines.

### OTHER PRO NEWS!

**CAPTAIN FUTURE**:- **CAPTAIN FUTURE** is a quarterly publication put out by the publishers of **THRILLING WONDER STORIES** and **STARTLING**. TWS has with the January issue become a monthly. But to get back to **CAPTAIN FUTURE**, the first issue is dated Winter and is obtainable at fifteen cents per copy, every issue of the magazine will carry a booklength novel of the adventures of **CAPTAIN FUTURE**, who is

### PRO NEWS CONTINUED

known as the "Wizard of Science".

The **SCIENCE-FICTION QUARTERLY** is put out by the publishers of **SCIENCE FICTION**, and is obtainable only by sending 35 cents direct to the publishers.

**PLANET STORIES**, is to be another quarterly which is obtainable at the US newsstands at twenty ¢ per copy.

### EDITORIAL NOTICE.

(Yes, another one.)

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of our pals amongst the readers who have so kindly offered us support, advice, and helpful criticism. You may be sure that all suggestions have been carefully noted and in those instances where a strong tendency prevailed for us to change our policy, we have done so.

Since you disapproved of our small type print we have enlarged it to the style now in use. Do you want us to continue using the larger type? Please let us know. Again many asked for news about the professional magazines. This we are giving, but it won't be news to our American subscribers who form the majority. Therefore, don't expect too much pro news in the future, unless of course, it's all OK with you U.S. fans.

And in closing, what do you think of the coloured paper?

----The Editors.

**BERT F. CASTELLARI & WILLIAM VENNEY**

## POISONAL COLUMN

This column is to be devoted each month, until further notice, in pointing out some of the peculiar things done by fans of this country. For obvious reasons we have chosen an editor for a start, his name is Vol Molesworth. We hope he does not mind if we tell the readers a few tales about him. They are all true, and we defy any one to deny they aren't.

Could some kind person enlighten us as to the gentleman's correct age? Poor chap! He doesn't seem to know himself! The best we can get is an approximation! He told us he was fourteen when we asked him last week. Strange to say he said he was sixteen when we asked him a fortnight ago and this week, wonder of wonders, he turns out to be fifteen! It's so utterly alien that we think Vol's constructed a time machine or compounded a time drug or something in that line. Anyone know?

We have been told by this worthy that he has decided to adopt the abbreviation of VOMOSWOTH, for use. We suggest that he should go a little further. Why not eliminate the "Vo" and the "swo" Vol, and shorten it to "Moth". Then if you like you could cut some more off this and eventually eliminate the "Moth". (Fly spray would do the job admirably!)

Vol is responsible for what is known as Molesworthian Mythology. It's a most intriguing affliction of his. We are always being startled when we're told of some new mag that has appeared. Usually nobody has heard of it before, the news-stands

To Voltaire goes the privilege of having been in more feuds than any other given fan.

The rest of this paragraph is no longer legible: Kim Huett

feud between Bert F. Castellari & THE Vol. For several months there was a lull, but events reached a climax which terminated in the Eric Russell-Vomoswoth feud which is still going strong. Yet despite this, THE Vol is making arrangements for a feud with Bill Veney, this ought to be interesting!

We're going to talk about a really interesting young hooligan next time. It hides under the handle of A. Ghutney Ghoull. Or perhaps I'll oblige you with just a few intimate jottings on various fans!

## SUPPORT AUSTRALIAN FAN MAGAZINES !

ULTRA:- The third issue presents an excellent array of material from Hoy Ping Pong, Edward H. Russell, Vol Molesworth, and William D. Veney. Only 6 pence the issue from :- Eric F. Russell, 274 Edgecliff Rd, Woollahra, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

LUNA:- Eric F. Russell cops the leader article in the current issue. Other splendid material from Veney, Castellari, and others. 5 pence from Vol Molesworth, 11 Northumberland St, Clovelly, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

## ---CORRECTION FLUID CAPERS!

Two terrible errors squeezed into our first issue. The first was on page 2, column one, line nine. "contracts" should read "contacts". The other one is in the same col. on line twenty-seven. "No stfans", when corrected should read "No stfan mags".

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