

The Incredible, Once-in-a-Lifetime Munsey/Popular Publications Auction – Part 2!

As part of the Windy City Pulp and Paperback Convention's Saturday night auction (beginning at approximately 8:00 p.m., following the Guest of Honor presentation), we will be presenting more material from the Munsey and Popular Publications archives. These lots will be mixed-in with the other lots during the auction. Please note that the listing below is subject to change and does not necessarily represent the order in which items will be auctioned. While we have endeavored to describe these lots carefully, bidders should personally examine the lots they're interested in and raise any questions prior to the auction; the convention is not responsible for errors in descriptions.

Purchase of any of these items at auction does not transfer copyright permissions or grant reprint permissions.

When carbon letters are mentioned in connection with lots containing author correspondence, these are usually carbon copies of letters coming from various editors at Munsey or Popular Publications, replying to the author.

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1. REX STOUT - Munsey check endorsed by Stout for his novel, *The Great Legend*, from 1914.
2. JAMES FRANCIS DWYER - Munsey check (and copyright notice also) both endorsed by Dwyer for his novel, *The White Waterfall*, from 1912.
3. MODEST STEIN - Munsey check endorsed by Stein for his cover painting for *The Radio Planet* from 1926.
4. RAY CUMMINGS - Munsey check endorsed by Cummings for his novel, *Tama of the Flying Virgins* from 1930.
5. CHARLES WILLIAMS - Munsey check endorsed by Williams for his cover painting for **Edgar Rice Burroughs'** *The Girl from Farris's* from 1916.
6. HAROLD LAMB - Munsey check endorsed by Lamb **for his first short story**, "Somewhere in the Pacific," from 1916.
7. P.J. MONAHAN - Munsey check endorsed by Monahan for his cover painting for **Edgar Rice Burroughs'** *Carthoris* (published as *Thuvia, Maid Of Mars*) from 1916.
8. MRS. GERTRUDE BENNETT (FRANCIS STEVENS) - Munsey check endorsed by Bennett (who wrote under the pen name Francis Stevens) for her story, "The Elf-Trap," from 1918. We believe this is the only signed Francis Stevens/Gertrude Bennett item ever offered for sale!

9. ROGER SHERMAN HOAR (RALPH MILNE FARLEY) - Munsey check endorsed by Hoar (who wrote under the pen name Ralph Milne Farley) for the novel, *The Radio Beasts*, from 1924.
10. RUDOLPH BELARSKI - Munsey check endorsed by Belarski for his cover painting for **Edgar Rice Burroughs' *The Synthetic Men of Mars*** from 1938.
11. TALBOT MUNDY - Munsey check endorsed by Mundy for his short story, "The Fire Cop," from 1911.
12. JOEL TOWNSLEY ROGERS - Popular Publications check endorsed by Rogers for his famous novel, *The Red Right Hand*, from 1944.
13. T. VON ZASTROW & WILLIAM SCHAUFFLER - Popular Publications checks endorsed by Von Zastrow and Schauffler for their columns, "I Flew for Germany" and "I Flew for the USA" in the September 1934 issue of *Battle Aces*.
14. FREDERICK DAVIS - Popular Publications check endorsed by Davis for the column, "File 13" from the April 1935 issue of *Operator 5*.
15. JOHN NEWTON HOWITT - Popular Publications check endorsed by Howitt for an *Operator 5* cover painting and partial payment for a *Spider* cover painting, from 1936.
16. Three cover proofs, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*, February, April and June 1953.
17. Four cover proofs, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*, February, April, June and August 1952.
18. Four cover proofs, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*, January, March, May and July 1951.
19. Bound volume (February – March 1922) of *Munsey's Magazine* from Frank A. Munsey's own collection – bound in leather, with marbled endpapers and the page edges trimmed with gold leaf. Authors include Sax Rohmer and H. Bedford Jones.
20. Two bound volumes (June – September 1923 and October 1923 – January 1924) of *Munsey's Magazine* from Frank A. Munsey's own collection – all bound in leather, with marbled endpapers and the page edges trimmed with gold leaf. Authors include Sax Rohmer (3 stories) and L. Patrick Greene.
21. Bound volume (October 1925 – January 1926) of *Munsey's Magazine* from Frank A. Munsey's own collection – bound in leather, with marbled endpapers and the page edges trimmed with gold leaf. Authors include Sax Rohmer and Loring Brent.
22. RICHARD TOOKER - A collection of seven letters and two telegrams between Tooker (3 signed letters) and editors of *Famous Fantastic Mysteries* (4 carbons) regarding publishing his novel, *The Day of the Brown Horde*.
23. L. SPRAGUE DE CAMP – A collection of three letters (2 signed by De Camp and 1 carbon) concerning rights to his story, "Invaders From Nowhere" from *Super-Science Stories*, together with the original Assignment of copyright to De Camp, signed by Henry Steeger.
24. AUGUST DERLETH – A collection of three letters between Derleth (1 signed letter) and Kenneth White, editor of *Adventure* (2 carbons), regarding reprinting Henry St. Clair Whitehead stories in an Arkham House collection.

25. GEORGE BRUCE – A collection of documents relating to Bruce’s stories “Annapolis Ahoy!” and “Navy Blue and Gold” from *Argosy*, including signed letters from Bruce and Roy de S. Horn, two carbons, an original copyright assignment to Bruce and an assignment of movie rights from Munsey to Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Corporation.
26. JACK WILLIAMSON – A collection of two letters (1 signed by Williamson and 1 carbon) between Williamson and Popular Publications regarding his stories “Star Bright,” “Non-Stop to Mars” and “Racketeers In the Sky” in connection with a Fantasy Press collection.
27. ROBERT BLOCH – A collection of two letters (1 signed Bob Bloch on Gustav Marx ad agency stationery from 1951 and 1 carbon) requesting release of rights to several stories.
28. PERLEY POORE SHEEHAN - Agreement between the Frank A. Munsey Company and Jesse L. Lasky Feature Play Co. from 1917 for the purchase of motion picture rights to the story, “Whispering Chorus,” by Sheehan. Also includes a letter from Sheehan authorizing the deal, signed by Sheehan.
29. PERLEY POORE SHEEHAN - Agreement between the Frank A. Munsey Company and The Vitagraph Company of America from 1920 for the purchase of motion picture rights to the story, “Three Sevens,” by Sheehan.
30. ALFRED BESTER - Signed letter from Bester from 1951 regarding reprint permission for “The Unseen Blushers” in a Shasta collection.
31. ELLERY QUEEN - 1943 letter from *Ellery Queen Magazine* about reprint rights signed with initials “E.Q.” by Frederic Dannay.
32. ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE - Typed letter from Albert Payson Terhune on his letterhead, signed by him, from 1923 about movie rights for his story “In the Name of the King” from *Argosy*.
33. ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE - Hand-written letter from Terhune on cheap paper signed by him from 1911 (?). Return address has hand-written “Sunnybank.”
34. ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE - A collection of eight letters concerning the sale of motion picture rights to “The King from Boston” by Terhune (most from 1915), including a hand-written letter from Terhune (signed) about dramatic rights from 1911 and a second letter (typed) signed by Terhune from 1915 (the remaining letters are composed of 5 carbons and one original letter from Munsey’s lawyers answering some copyright questions). The 1915 letter from Terhune to editor Robert Davis at Munsey closes with, “May you lie where rose-leaves shall fall upon your tomb!”
35. JOSEPH “CAP” SHAW - Letter from Shaw from 1947 concerning the rights to Raoul Whitfield stories, signed by Shaw, together with a carbon letter from Albert Gibney of Popular and a photostat of the assignment of rights.
36. JOHNSTON McCULLEY - 1927 letter from McCulley requesting assignment of book rights for his novel, *The Further Adventures of Zorro*, signed by McCulley, together with the original assignment from The Frank A. Munsey Company.
37. JOHNSTON McCULLEY – Collection of documents relating to assignment of copyrights (in connection with movie deals) from Frank A. Munsey Company to

- McCulley for his stories “Wench Caravan” and “Senor Vulture,” comprising one letter signed by McCulley from 1938, two original copyright assignments, three signed letters from Republic Productions, three carbons from Munsey Company and one signed letter from Munsey’s lawyer.
38. FRANK L. PACKARD - A nice group of letters between Bob Davis and other Munsey editors and Packard from 1915 through 1925, regarding Munsey’s interest in buying 200,000 words a year or more from Packard at 2 to 4 cents a word. Among these letters are two letters from Packard signed by him as well as eight original letters from Munsey editors to Packard that Packard signed and returned to them.
 39. JAMES FRANCIS DWYER - Hand written signed letter by Dwyer from 1916 together with a carbon of the Munsey letter replying to it.
 40. CLARENCE MULFORD - 1924 letter from Mulford to Bob Davis asking about motion picture rights for *Hopalong Cassidy Returns*, signed “Mul”, together with a carbon letter and the original assignment of rights to Mulford. The lot also includes carbons of several letters from 1950 from Popular Publications suggesting a Hopalong Cassidy pulp magazine and two original letters from Doubleday & Company.
 41. T.S. STRIBLING - 1927 letter signed by famous mystery writer, T.S. Stribling, regarding rights to his story, “East Is East,” together with the original copyright assignment he requested.
 42. FRANK FOWLER (BORDEN CHASE) - A three page typed letter from 1942 by Fowler (who wrote as Borden Chase) describing his time in Hollywood writing a script for the film, *Destroyer*, starring Edward G. Robinson, along with info on the strip *Sally Forth*. Includes the carbon of a letter to Fowler from Albert Gibney from Popular Publications.
 43. OSCAR FRIEND – A file of documents concerning Friend, including papers relating to the bankruptcy filing of Friend in 1932 (letters or carbons from the Bankruptcy Trustee and publishers and a copy of the notice of bankruptcy sale), a letter signed by Leo Margulies (on behalf of Service for Authors, Inc., discussing the circumstances behind publication of Friend’s novel, *Hawk of Hazard* and story “The Mississippi Hawk”) and other letters (including eleven signed by Friend) and carbons relating to these stories.
 44. ELLIS PARKER BUTLER – Letter signed by Parker re: book rights for “Redhead and Whistle Breeches” along with Munsey carbon and letter from The Bancroft Company, Publishers.
 45. AGATHA CHRISTIE – A small file of documents concerning *Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine* reprinting stories that Popular held the copyrights on, including works by Agatha Christie (consisting of a carbon, internal memo and copyright assignment), and a letter signed by Bruce Cassiday of Family Digest re: reprinting a Christie story. Nothing signed by Christie.
 46. JOHN D. SWAIN – A small file of documents relating to sale of movie rights to Swain’s story “The Last Man on Earth” to Fox Film Corporation, including copies of the assignment, five carbons and letters and two telegrams, none signed by Swain.
 47. JAMES B. HENDRYX - A file of documents mostly about film rights for the novels of Hendryx, including a group of documents about the sale of Hendryx’s first novel, *The*

Promise (filmed as “Broadway Bill”), to Yorke Pictures in 1916, but for which writing credit was given to Fred Balshover. Includes three letters signed or countersigned by Hendryx, a telegram from him to Bob Davis, a signed contract between Hendryx and G.P. Putnam’s Sons for *The Texan*, over 25 carbons or letters from other than Hendryx, and original contracts or assignments for *The Promise*, “Out of the North,” and many more stories (seven of which are signed by Harry Steeger). Two of the contracts are between Munsey and Fox Film Corporation.

48. CORNELL WOOLRICH - A **four page hand written letter** by Woolrich on Hotel Marseilles stationary from 1952, defending himself from charges that he resold several of his stories from the 1930’s pulps to 1950’s digest magazines as new stories. Includes several other documents related to the situation in which Woolrich was threatened with criminal charges, including a letter from Woolrich’s lawyer settling the matter, and several letters and carbons between Popular and The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction. An explosive and never before revealed part of this famous author’s career!
49. GEORGE ALLAN ENGLAND - A **near 1” thick file** regarding the rights to his stories and novels, including over 20 letters from England signed by him. Four of England’s letters to R.H. Titherington of Munsey are signed by England as “The Governor” and a handwritten note by Titherington on one states:

G.A.E. signs himself thusly in his letters to me because for many years I have joshed him about his three campaigns as the Socialist candidate for Governor of Maine. The first time he got about 5,000 votes, the second time about 1,500, and the third time just two – his own and somebody else’s (unidentified).

The file begins in 1915 and covers much the rest of England’s career. Among other material are several film contracts and a Munsey list of all England stories purchased by them between 1906 and 1924, with prices paid and rights bought. Of particular interest is England’s constant fight over reprint rights to his fiction. To quote a 1924 letter from England:

It is the good old story of Esau selling his copyright for a pot of Kellogg’s Bran. “No father to guide him” and of course he sold for what he could get, in the dear, dead days. --- This lachrymose talk about magazines believing in authors and helping them is bunk. The fact is, magazines are no better and no worse than all other employers. The whole game, which as a socialist I have known for many years, is to get all you can get for as little as you can.

50. THE COURT OF LAST RESORT – A massive, **4” thick** file of letters and other documents – **nearly 850 pages in all!** – regarding this famous teaming of author, **Erle Stanley Gardner**; publisher, **Harry Steeger**; and detective, **Raymond Schindler**, to investigate men wrongfully imprisoned and their efforts to correct such mistakes. Made into a book and later a TV show. This file includes many long letters (many of the Gardner letters are on onionskin and are thus very fragile, while many others are on his stationary; **over 30 are signed by Gardner** while **over 50 others** dictated to his secretary are not.) about the work done by the group until Schindler’s death. Many of Gardner’s letters are four to five typed pages long. Includes excerpted newspaper stories covering

the group's successes, letters from prison wardens, letters from prisoners asking for help, and much more, including over 15 letters signed by Steeger, over 45 letters signed by Schindler and 7 telegrams from Gardner. Also included are a telegram to Steeger **from Walter Cronkite** from 1958, and **a 36 page carbon manuscript by Gardner** circa 1948 regarding the case of Clarence Boggie! An incredible treasure trove of true crime material!