

GERNSBACK Hugo

(1884 - 1967)

Luxembourg-city

Addendum:

Trademark

US Registration	305558
Date of application	26 April 933
Owner	GERNSBACK Hugo



Goods monthly publication

Public recognition

The New York Times ¹ (1967)

Hugo Gernsback Is Dead at 83; Author, Publisher and Inventor

"Father of Modern Science Fiction" Predicted Radar-Beamed TV in '28

Hugo Gernsback, an inventor, author, editor and publisher who has been called the father of modern science fiction, died yesterday at Roosevelt Hospital. He was 83 years old and lived at 263 West End Avenue.

Mr. Gernsback described radar 35 years before communications experts bounced a radar signal off the moon in 1946 and sponsored New York's first television broadcasts, in 1928.

Although described by some as a sensation-seeker — Life magazine once called him the "Barnum of the space age" — the debonair Mr. Gernsback was honored by the radio industry in 1953 in recognition of his "first 50 years of inspiring leadership in radio-electronic art"

At his death Mr. Gernsback held 80 scientific patents. He was editor, in chief of the monthly magazine Radio-Electronics and editor in chief and publisher of the magazine Sexology and its Spanish edition Luz; chairman of the board of Gernsback Publications, Inc. and president of the Sexology Corporation and of Sexologie Magazine, Inc.

Since 1908, he had initiated the publication of more than 50 periodicals, ranging through humor, economics, photography, aviation and crime detection.

'One to Foresee for All'

In "Ralph 124C 41+," a novel he wrote and serialized in 1911, Mr. Gernsback described what he and colleagues subsequently classified as radar, the direction finder, space travel, germicidal rays, microfilm, two-way television, night baseball, tape records, artificial silk and wool, stainless steel, magnesium as a structural material and fluorescent lighting. He also described the wireless transmission of power and electronic weather control, which are yet to be realized.

The title of his prophetic novel was a numerical pun: "One to foresee for more than one-for all."

Mr. Gernsback was born in Luxembourg, the son of a vintner. He studied science at the Ecole Industrielle there and at the Technikum in Bingen, Germany.

¹ *The New York Times*, 20 August 1967

In 1904 he came here to exploit his invention of an improved dry battery and founded the Electric Importing Company, which he described as the world's first radio supply house.

*Mr. Gernsback established his first magazine, *Modern Electrics*, in 1908. Since then he had published *The Electrical Experimenter*, *Radio Amateur News*, *Science and Invention* (a successor to *Electrical Experimenter*) and *Practical Electrics* (later called *The Experimenter*).*

In 1925 he founded radio station WRNY here and three years later, with the help of Pilot Radio Corporation engineers, started television broadcasts. The images - barely larger than postage stamps - were picked up on crude scanners owned by 2,000 amateurs in the New York area.

Among Mr. Gernsback's inventions were the Hypnobioscope, for "sleep-learning" and the Osophone, ¹ an early bone-conductor hearing aid.

*In 1927 he began publishing *Amazing Stories*, one of the first magazines devoted entirely to science fiction. In that year he also established the first of a number of biological-sexological magazines, *Your Body*.*

Surviving are his widow, the former Mary Hancher; three children of two earlier marriages, Harvey Gernsback of North Plainfield, N. J., Mrs. Bertina Baer of New York and Mrs. Jocelyn Neichin of Monsey, N. Y.; seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Mr. Gernsback's family said yesterday that his body would be given to the Cornell University Medical School for scientific purposes.

Luxembourg Embassy in Washington ²

(16 April 2021)

Vol. 10 Luxembourgers in the United States: Hugo Gernsback

Hugo Gernsback was a Luxembourg-American inventor and publisher who played a major role both in fostering the amateur radio movement and in creating the American science fiction tradition.

Gernsback was born in 1884 in Luxembourg City, to Berta Dürlacher and Moritz Gernsbacher. He emigrated to the United States in 1904.

*Gernsback was an entrepreneur in the electronics industry, importing specialized electronic equipment from Europe and helping to supply many of those who wanted to make their own radios and transmitters. In April 1908 he founded *Modern Electrics*, the world's first magazine about both electronics and radio. In 1913, he founded a similar magazine, *The Electrical Experimenter*, which became *Science and Invention* in 1920.*

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Luxembourg, Let's make it happen ²

(undated)

Top 5: Inventions and innovations made in Luxembourg

It is true that his name is not familiar to most ears, but nevertheless, we owe a lot to Hugo Gernsback (formerly Gernsbacher), who was born in August 1884 in Bonnevoie. He attended the "École industrielle et commerciale" in Luxembourg in 1896 before moving to Brussels two years later. In 1904, at the age of 20, he left Europe for the United States, and changed his name to Gernsback. In 1906, he invented the wireless telegraph, which was the origin of the walkie-talkie.

In addition, he founded a science fiction publishing empire. His publishing houses were home to more than 50 newspapers, illustrated magazines, humorous journals, weeklies and monthlies devoted to technology and popular science.

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Road name

Luxembourg-Kirchberg (2002) ³

¹ see invention N° 25 above

² [Vol. 10 Luxembourgers in the United States: Hugo Gernsback](#)

³ *Ons Stad*, N° 116, 2017, page 51

Stamp

De Luxembourg au Nouveau Monde (2004)



The Author

- Autorenlexikon ⁴
- Claudia Vila Verde ⁵

The many faces of Hugo Gernsback, Blog in 7 instalments (2018)

The Composer

"Rôt-Weis-Blo", Marche (around 1902) ⁶

Documentary film

"Tune into the future", Eric Schockmel (2020) ⁷

Exposition (Centre de littérature Mersch)

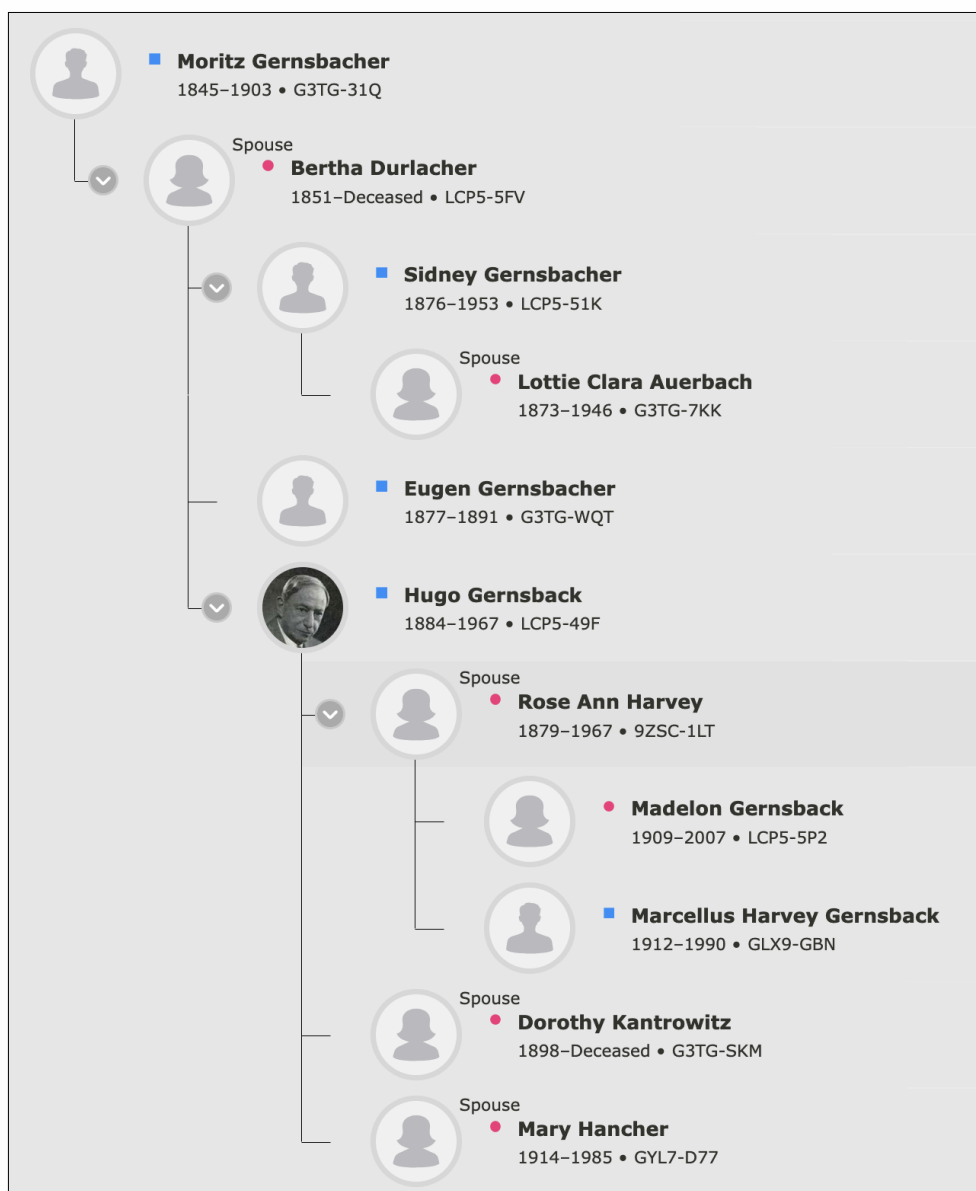
2020? Catalogue

⁴ [*Dictionnaire des auteurs luxembourgeois*](#)

⁵ [*Centre national de littérature*](#)

⁶ [*played by the Musique Militaire on 3 August 1902 on the Place d'Armes, Luxembourg*](#)

⁷ [*d'LetzebuurgerLand, 13 March 2020, page 15*](#)

Family Tree ⁸⁸ [FamilySearch database](#)

The Inventor (personal note)



Hugo GERNSBACK (1954)
(Brazil immigration document)

Many authors refer to Hugo GERNSBACK's inventions and/or patents but only Steve DAVIDSON appears to have studied GERNSBACK's patent portfolio, and commented on it.⁹

In this context it is important to point out that there is no evidence of Hugo's dry battery cell which he is supposed to have invented and patented around 1904, and on which he is supposed to have built up his professional career in the United States.

His 1906 patent, although entitled "battery cell", only describes and claims mechanical means, such as straps and spacers, for safely transporting battery cells. There is no evidence that he actually invented a new type of battery cell.

GERNSBACK is the inventor mentioned in a total of 36 patents (2 in France and 34 in the USA). He sold his first two US patents to US companies and in 1908 he started patenting components and accessories for assembling amateur radio stations.

Placing Hugo GERNSBACK next to Henry TUDOR and Guillaume KROLL in the list of "Top 5: Inventions and innovations made in Luxembourg"¹⁰ is not supported by GERNSBACK's patent portfolio.

⁹ [*Steve Davidson, Amazing stories \(2015\)*](#)

¹⁰ [*Top 5: Inventions and innovations made in Luxembourg*](#)