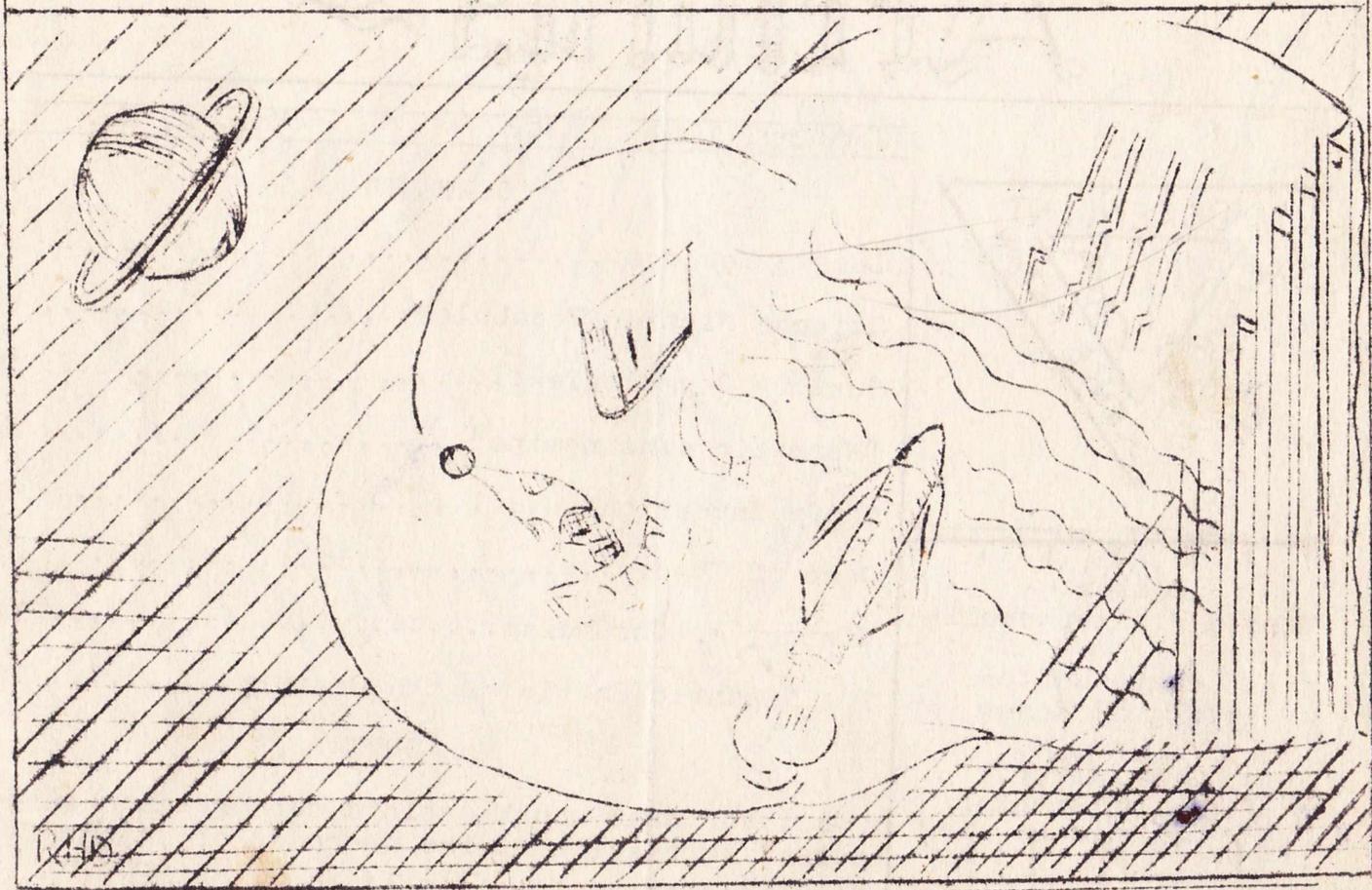


ARCTURUS



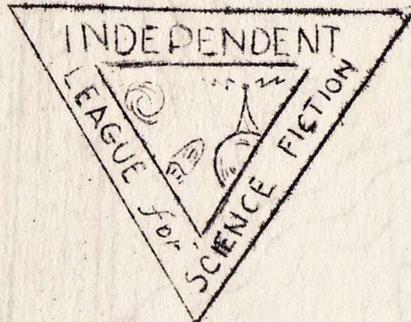
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Arcturus ~

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Vol. 2, No. 1



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Art Editor
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THE COVER

Our cover this month depicts our artist's surrealist impression of the progress of sciencefiction..... by Drucker



RHDrucker

A LEAGUE MESSAGE

It seems about time that the entire matter of the estrangement between two factions of the Headquarters Chapter be explained in detail so that the other members of the League may have no misconceptions as to the rights and wrongs involved.

On Friday, November 6, there were present at a meeting of the Headquarters chapter, the following members: Irving L. Kosow, R. Henry Drucker, Louis N. Heynick, George R. Hahn, Herman H. Levántman, Donald A. Wellheim, William S. Sykora, David A. Kyle, Frederik G. Pohl and Harold W. Mirshenblat. At this meeting, for the first time officially, Mr. Sykora, as spokesman for those who were members of the ISA (International Scientific Association) as well as of the ILSF said that this group believed that the meetings as they were being run at the time were of no value, and that they would never be of any value unless the chapter became a branch of the ISA.

While this was the first official utterance of the kind, the idea

had already been made known to the non-ISA members, and these had agreed that while the meetings were not being run well, the remedy did not lie in their becoming members of the ISA. Instead, now that it had been brought so forcibly to the attention of the chapter, steps could be taken to make the meetings of some real value.

Mr. Sykora was asked then, why, if he had noticed a deterioration in the quality of the meetings, he had not said something previously, with an eye to remedy the defect, instead of bringing it up at a time when he thought the only remedy was that of joining the ISA. He stated, then, that he had joined the ILSF only so that he could induce the members to vote the chapter into the ISA. (Mr. Sykora, it might be added, is president of the ISA.)

Asked what would be the next step of the ISA members now that their proposal had been refused, he refused to make any statement, but the non-ISA members understood that the ISA members would resign from the ILSF, and consequently a statement to that effect was published in ARCTURUS (see November, 1936 issue). The members included in this statement were Messrs. Wellheim

(please turn to page 5)

Sykorra, Kyle, Michel and Pohl. Subsequently Mr. Hahn and Mr. Dockweiler also left.

However, previous to the publication of this statement in ACTURUS, on Sunday, November 8, the ISA members held a meeting at which they illegally adopted a chapter constitution - illegal because no other members were notified of the meeting, and none others were present except Mr. Leventman who happened to be present at a meeting of the New York Branch of the ISA. At this meeting, and so empowered by the illegal constitution, they voted to have all the dues they had paid to the chapter treasury returned except the 10¢ apiece for ACTURUS. This Mr. Pohl, as treasurer refused to abide by unless he was instructed to do so by Mr. Kirshenblit as head of the opposing group. This resulted in some rather heated discussion, with Mr. Pohl as the unfortunate buffer. Finally, without giving his reason for so doing, he returned the money to Mr. Kirshenblit for inclusion in the chapter treasury.

Previous, even to this Mr. Pohl had announced his intention of continuing his membership in the chapter. Also, the editor was in re-

ceipt of a letter from Mr. Wollheim in which the latter condemned the statement that he (Wollheim) and the others had resigned as "yellow" and "cowardly". He also demanded that they be supplied with ballots. We are leaving it up to the members ---should these members be given ballots? Your answers will determine both this and the status of the members in question. Are they still members, or are they to be considered as having resigned? It may be added that Mr. Wollheim was rather put out by the fact that the editor answered his letter in kind, listing some of the affairs that Mr. Wollheim had been involved in, which might be considered "yellow" and "cowardly", for instance, when he and Mr. Sykorra walked in on a meeting of the New York SFL, at the time undergoing reorganization, and resolved that meeting into one of the NYBISA, with the aid of a dozen or so thugs. But this is ancient history and need not be recounted here.

The Headquarters chapter now includes Mr. Kosow, chan., Mr. Drucker, Mr. Pohl, Mr. Leventman, Mr. Heynick, sec'y, and Mr. Kirshenblit, treas. One meeting of the chapter was held for reorganization, and the meetings now show promise of

(Please turn to page 8)

SCIENCE FICTION VOCABULARY



Drucker

MARCHIN' PRINCESS

CURICUS COSMOLOGIES

V.

by

HAROLD W. KIRSHENBLIT

We now leave the Greeks, for, at about this time, they began to become a little too accurate for our purpose. We head back to the Orient - to India, specifically - where we find the "Aryabhatiya" of Aryabhata, an Indian work on astronomy and mathematics, which shows the influence of Greek learning. (This is about the year 480 A.D.)

Aryabhata sets the positions of the heavenly bodies as follows: 1. the orbit of the fixed stars, 2. Saturn; 3. Jupiter; 4. Mars; 5. the Sun; 6. Venus; 7. Mercury; 8. the Moon; 9. the Earth, situated, as Aryabhata says, "in the center of space, like a hitching post." The planets all move with the same speed, but the nearer ones seem to move more rapidly because the orbits are smaller. "The mean planet moves with its mean motion on its orbit, the center of which is the

center of the earth. The true planet moves with its (mean) motion on an eccentric circle, the center of which does not coincide with the center of the earth." (The matter of eccentric circles was taken up in our last article on Greek cosmology). The sphere of the earth, being quite round, situated in the center of space in the middle of the circle of asterisms, surrounded by the orbits of the planets, consists of the four elements - earth, air, fire, and water. "As a man in a boat going forward sees the stationary moving back, just so, at Lanka, a man sees the stationary asterisms moving backward (westward) in a straight line." This passage indicated that Aryabhata believed in a rotational motion of the earth. An interesting, though fallacious explanation of the eclipses of the heavenly bodies is given in the following passage: "The moon consists of water, the sun of fire, the earth of earth, and the earth's shadow of darkness (!). The moon obscures the sun, and the great shadow of the earth obscures the moon." The last sentence is very decidedly correct, but it was evident that what was meant was that the moon, being of water, puts out

the fire of the sun, thus rendering that body invisible to us.

Turning our faces westward once more, we make a short stop in the sixth century. We have the writings of some obscure priest of the time which tell us that "The heaven is a tent or a tabernacle, not a sphere. '....It is he that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in'. The scripture says that it has a top, which a sphere has not, and it is also written: 'The sun had arisen upon the earth when Lot came unto Zoar.' The earth is flat, and the sun does not pass under it at night but travels through the northern parts 'as if hidden by a wall; the sun goeth down and hasteth to his place where he riseth.'" Another churchman, Kosmas, pictured the world as a tabernacle, oblong in shape, filled with water above the firmament, whence came the rain

(continued from page 5)

becoming very interesting. Discussions on topics of scientific and science fiction interest are to follow the business portion of each meeting.

It is evident that all that was needed to make the meetings of the Headquarters Chapter of real value to the members was a purge, and with that little matter attended to we can hope to go on to bigger and better things.

Olson F. Higgins announces that his Denver chapter of the ILSF has added another member to its roster. This gives the chapter a total of five members. The new member is Albert Jones, of 502 24th Street, Denver, Colorado.

In order that this issue be mailed to the readers promptly, a deadline was set which unfortunately excluded "London News Reel" and "Real 'Em and Deep."

 NARRATIO SINE NOMINE

by

 ELTON ANDREWS

A shrill, coruscating, tremulous sound as of some titanic song-bird resounded through the passages. In one of the portals at the end of a passage a human figure appeared. Another man, the author of the sound, observed this apparition and stalked majestically in his direction.

Quietly, solemnly, he proffered the documents to the man in the doorway with a low injunction to affix his signature to one. The man cast a hesitant glance at the other missive, then resignedly complied. With a soft, exultant cry, the bearer of the papers snatched back the one document, handed over the other and sped back whence he had come.

The man withdrew into the interior of his chamber. He held it for an apprehensive moment, then, struck by a thought, ripped it open and scanned the few lines the paper within bore. The message was short,

cryptic. It was

"Report Headquarters tonight. Come prepared."

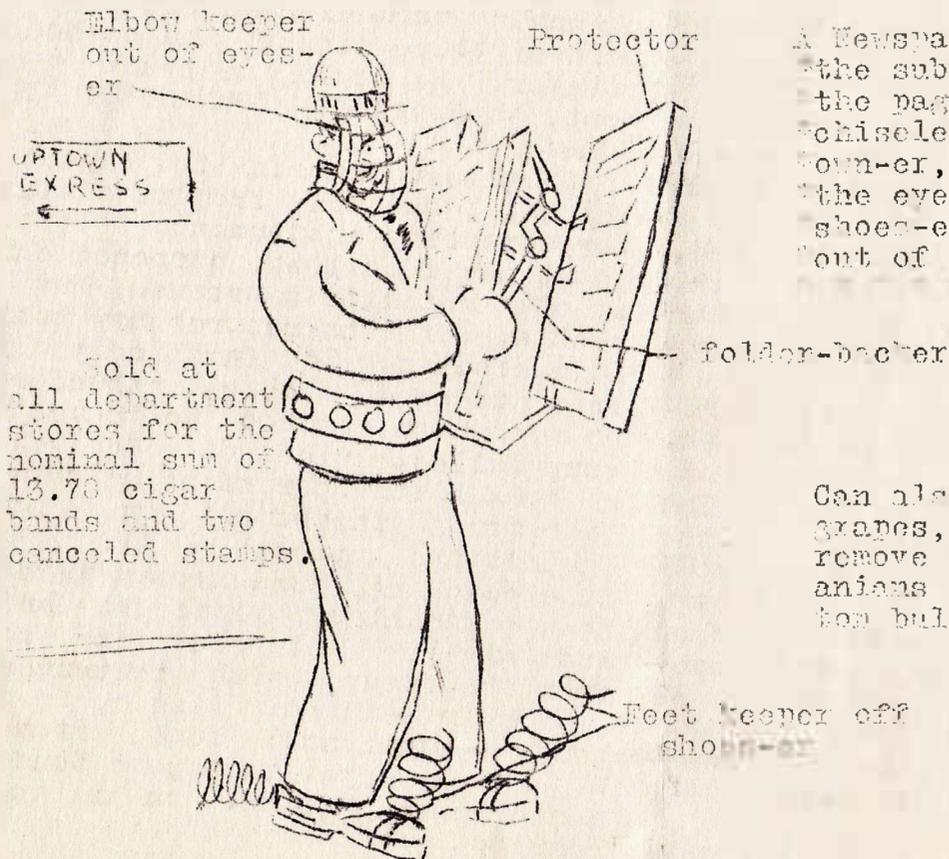
The signature it bore was prefaced by a military title. The man blanched upon discovering the import of these lines, and seemed to stagger. He stood awe-struck a moment, then cried, "Oh, God! It's COME!"

He almost ran to the closet in the wall, and drew from it a sinister appearing instrument. It was about two feet long, composed chiefly of a metallic substance, but had sections of a thick, rubbery tubing. He manipulated it fumblingly and from it arose a deep, thunderous roar, which seemed to cause the very walls to vibrate. Satisfied, he ceased its operation and hurried over to an instrument on a stand, against the opposite wall. A subdued clicking sound issued from it, then a momentary silence, broken suddenly by a torrent of speech from the figure at the instrument.

"Hello — Mary? Listen, it came today — just now! Yeah, from the Major! He says that next Sunday I can play my bazooka on his amateur hour!"

GHUFY INVENTIONS

KADROCKER



A Newspaper folder-backer in the subway, without tearing the page-er, protector from schisellers who won't buy their town-er, elbo-keeper out of the eyes-er and feet off the shoes-er, to take the peril out of subway riding.

Sold at
all department
stores for the
nominal sum of
13.78 cigar
bands and two
canceled stamps.

Can also be used to peel
grapes, distill whiskey,
remove fleas from Tomer-
anians (but not from Bos-
ton bulls or New York cops)

Pat. pending

THE GAME OF THEORY

ARCTURUS presents to you this month a novel form of entertainment, invented specifically for the Science Fiction Fan, and especially suited for his peculiar talents.

Each month we will print on this page a series of related phenomena taken from a purely hypothetical universe. These phenomena, as we shall present them, will be at odds with observable phenomena in our own universe. The idea of the game is that the reader must divorce his mind of all the theories and laws of this universe and then proceed to invent new laws and theories to fit the unusual phenomena of our hypothetical universe.

All observations that are made are to be regarded as accurate, and for each set of observations, it will be clearly stated what the observation point is. That is, if observations are to be assumed as having been made from inside the system itself, this will be definitely stated.

Gradually a series of laws will be built up for our hypothetical

universe, and eventually we shall have a complete new universe.

Anybody can play this game. No great background in science is necessary - merely the usual general grounding that every science fiction fan has already acquired painlessly from his readings in science fiction.

The following rules will hold throughout the time that the game will be going on in these pages:

1. From the information given, you are to formulate a theory, this theory to embrace all facts given in this article.
2. Your theory must not conflict with any law or theory already accepted, unless you can prove that these laws or theories are fallacious.
3. You may send in as many entries each month as you have theories.
4. It is not necessary to cut anything out, or even to buy ARCTURUS. Merely send in your answers, giving your name and address.
5. Each month, the best answer will be published, as the accepted theory. The other players are then given an opportunity to break down this theory. If

they fail, after two month's time, the theory becomes a law, and may only be broken down in exceptional cases, as, for instance, that given above.

6. The judges will be the members of the Editorial Staff of LECTURUS.

7. All entries should be addressed to Louis N. Heynick, 805 New Jersey Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.

This month, we shall observe a few phenomena of the hypothetical universe, having to do with its astronomy. All answers to this month's problem should be confined to the astronomy of this universe, which, for sake of convenience, will be called Hypothus.

For this, our first problem, we will endeavour to be quite simple. A number of hints will be given, but this will not be done in the future. Much of this month's required answer will become law immediately, as for instance, the age of the universe, Hypothus.

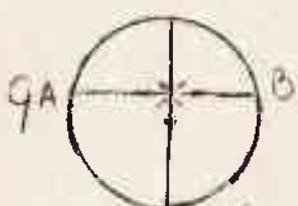
The facts:

- 1. Hypothus is spherical in shape.
- 2. It is made up of 128 galaxies each exactly like every other one in Hypothus. (Hint - 128 is

the same as 2⁷).

3. A time unit will be given as the time between the existence of Hypothus as a single mass, and its division in two. At the present time, Hypothus contains 128 galaxies. 729 (3⁶) time units ago, there were only 34 galaxies and 243 time units before that, Hypothus contained 32 galaxies.

4. Hypothus is made of 128 galaxies, one of which we shall call Galaxos. Galaxos is situated so that its base is halfway from the center of Hypothus, and halfway also from the central axis of Hypothus, thus



CROSS SECTION THRU AB

HYPOTHUS

Its base is perpendicular to line through its center from the center of Hypothus.

5. Galaxos is cubical in shape as is every galaxy in Hypothus but they differ in size according to their distances from the center. We find that a galaxy

(cont'd on following page)

The distance of ~~Galaxos~~ base from the center of Hypothus is 3 distance units, has an edge of length equal to $\sqrt{3}$.
6. Hypothus is given as having a radius of 1000 distance units.

With the information given, it is now possible to answer, partly by calculation, and partly by some theorizing, the following questions:

1. How old is Galaxos?
2. Give a history of Hypothus, from its earliest beginnings to the time when Galaxos was formed.
3. Explain the divisions of Hypothus, and describe the manner in which they occurred.
4. What form of matter must Hypothus have been composed of, to give it its spherical shape, and why is it that the galaxies are cubical in shape?
5. What is the volume of Galaxos and why do the volumes vary with the distance from the center of the universe?

As will be readily seen, there is more than a little mathematical work entailed in working out an answer to this month's problem. This was necessary, in order to crystallize the form and size of the uni-

verse, Hypothus. All observations given, are naturally to be taken as having been made from some point outside Hypothus, and there need therefore be no compensation made for relative motion, time, or size.

Future problems will give much more opportunity for theory and require less mathematics to bring their results about.

Answers should be sent in as soon as possible. These should be as complete and comprehensive as it is possible to make them.

(History of ChuGhuism cont'd from page 14)

And there arose within these minds a great revelation, and lo! the Holy Ghible was conceived. (Copies obtainable for a nominal sum.. Adv't.)

And ye who do believe in the Sacredness of ChuGhu, and kick in to the High Priest, and do accept the Ghible shall ever more be sanctified. Ye shall possess everlasting life and the Sacred Virgins.

Join now and become a saint! Low rates for quantity conversions.

NOTICE

George R. Hahn resigned from the ILSF on December 5, 1936.

A HISTORY OF GHUGHUISM

by

ARTHUR L. SELIKOWITZ

'Twas Midsummers day of the year of common reckoning, 1935, that there came unto the thought of three Holy Men the vision of the Sacred Egg.

For the Holy Men were tramping the Far Places of the Earth, and their minds turned towards the great Mysteries of the Why and therefore. And as they talked, their souls grew holier, and as they walked, so did their soles. Came a time when both kinds of Holiness became overpowering, and they lay them down in a deep trance and ditch. And there simultaneously appeared to them a vision of the Sacred Egg, longitudinally rent. And lo! it floated upon the Time Stream, and a Voice, which, while soundless, yet conveyed the sense of a bass note, spoke: Oh, Dark One, with the Glasses, Thou shalt reign upon the Earth as the personification of GhuGhu, and Thou shalt indeed be but a form of GhuGhu almighty. And Thou,

Oh, Less Dark One with the glasses, Thou shalt indeed be the Prophet, and shall spread the word of GhuGhu throughout the universe. And Thou, Oh Least Dark One with the Glasses, shall be the High Priest, and shall rule temporally over all men. Arise ye, and scam.

And they arose and scammed, and they repaired unto the Holy City, even unto Brooklyn, and thy discovered unto this world the persons of the Devil, the Archangel, the Chief Saint, The Chief Cherub, and the Keeper of the Sacred Virgins. And the Chief Inquisitor appeared and the Archbishop and then followed a multitude of Saints. And the Bishoprics of the Bronx, of England, of New Jersey, and of Philadelphia, were established, by order of GhuGhu almighty.

Time passed, and the ranks of the Believers swelled enormously. And there were those who doubted. So GhuGhu almighty sent unto Earth his only begotten son, and He was GhaGha, conceived by budding even as is the Sacred Yeast, which doth make the Holy Water. And GhaGha appeared with an egg behind each ear. And lo! the people believed. Yea, and lo! Yea, and lo!

(please turn to page 13).

THE COLOSSAL, STUPENDOUS, GIGANTIC BATTLE OF THE CENTURY

by

Don Q. Joto

There once were two mites,
Who fought for their rights,
In the phylum that's called proto-
zoa. Moba was one (zoa.
To all fights he would run.
Para Mecium was not a bit slower.

Mr. Moba was feared;
He had all the boys skeered,
All amoebae would flee from his
But Para was bold; (pathway.
His feet were not cold
And he met the amoeboid one halfway.

It started like this:
There was nothing amiss,
And the water was smooth and unruf-
Mr. Moba got drunk, (fled
Inhibitions were sunk,
And it was not too long ere he
snuffled.

Para Mecium was by,
With a light in his eye,
He turned to Mr. Moba and bubbled
"Did you snuffle at me,
You microscopic flea?
When I finish with you, you'll see
doubled.

Mr. Moba grew tart,
With a violent start,
At the way in which Para had spoken.
To speak thus to him,
Was the acme of sin.
He determined to do this poor bloke
in.

So they squared off, these two,
Moba full of home brew,
Para Mecium with self-righteous ire
Both determined to show
By a single good blow
That the other was just a flat tire.

But they swung not a one,
For like out of a gun,
U. Glona came rushing upon 'em
"Stop this fight!" was his shout,
"Let no trichocyst out;
I know how to do fights, I've done
'em."

Bewildered, they paused,
To see what had caused
This dramatically timed interruption.
U. Glona stepped in,
And thrust out his chin,
To prevent any further eruption.

The flagell to broke
 The long silence; he spoke;
 And the two gave him all their at-
 His stigma glowed bright (attention.
 As he pictured the fight -
 Big enough to cause Rickard to
 blench in-

A. Deba let out
 a victorious shout-
 "Yes, I'll do it if this ugly lout
 I'll fix him so friends (will
 won't know which are his ends.
 It will show his true colors, this
 bout will."

A dull color suffused
 Para's body, not used
 To hearing itself so maltreated.
 With a hoarse battle cry,
 He said; "And so will I!
 I'll take the rope ring, and he'll
 eat it!"

'Tis the night of the fight,
 And beneath the huge light,
 All of Prototown seemed to be here.
 There's the mayor Si Nura,
 His spouse, Poro Spora
 And that big gangster, Stylo Nick

Kor.

D. Fluggio, R. Cella,
 Tinophrys (nice feller)
 And many who need not be entered.
 Sar Codino, Mast O'Phore,
 Spore O'Zoc, Infus Sore;
 All the families are well repre-
 sented.

At the ringside sits Tri
 Panosome; he's the guy
 Who will tell to the fans that are
 How, by "Alek-like blows (not he
 That are hung from the toes,
 They will tear up the ring that
 we've got here

Comes announcer U. Glona,
 (His face somewhat cleaner)
 Attired in sartorial perfection;
 He waves his one arm,
 Hears some boos (but no harm)
 And proceeds with his voiceless ej
 ction.

He gives them his spiel
 And he tells of the feel-
 Ing, the grudge that they hold for
 He goes on to say (each other
 That 'twill be quite a fray
 Very well worth the uncommon both

He gives out the weights,
 And divisional dates
 (That's the birthday, you know, of
 (each boxer)
 Then he swims out the ring,

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