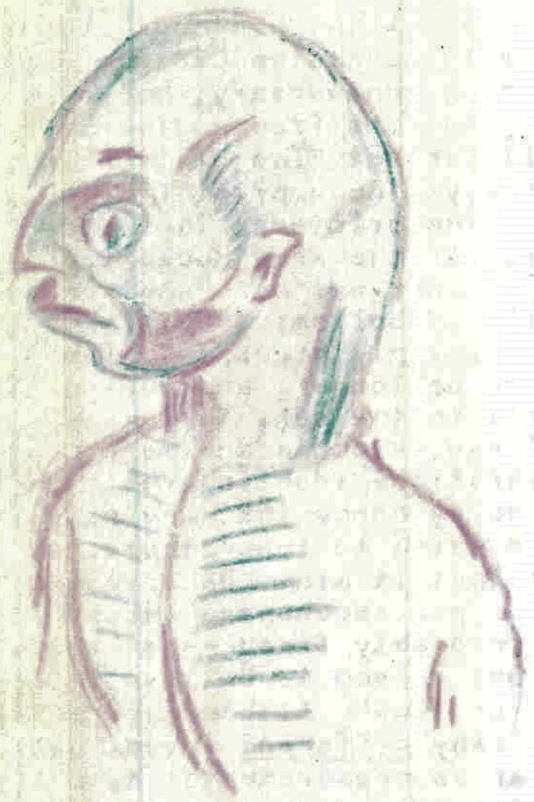


# EMBER '19

54 Donn Brazier, 1329 N. 33rd St., Milwaukee 8...  
#19.....26 October 1946.....#19



"Then Jurgen mounted this horse and rode away from the plowed field wherein nothing grew as yet. As they left the furrows they came to a signboard with writing on it, in a peculiar red and yellow lettering.

"Jurgen paused to decipher this.

" 'READ ME!' was written on the signboards: 'Read me, and judge if you understand! So you stopped in your journey because I called, scolding something unusual, something droll. Thus, although I am nothing, and even less, there is no one that sees me but lingers here. Stranger, I am a law of the universe. Stranger, render the law what is due the law!'

"Jurgen felt cheated. 'A very foolish signboard, indeed! for how can it be "a law of the universe", when there is no meaning to it!' says Jurgen. 'Why, for any law to be meaningless would not be fair.'" -- contributed by George Tullis.

## ODDS 'N' ENDS

Carlson sends the following official line-up as he has it for the forthcoming NFFF elections: Dale Tarr and Art Widner for pres.; Coslet for v-pres.; Carlson and Robert Peterson for sec-treas.; and the following listed for a place on the Directorates: Les Croutch, Elsie Janda, Rusty Hevelin, Boff Perry, Telle Streiff, Sandy Kadet, Paul Spencer, Phil Schumann, and Rick Sneary.

Several articles in NATURAL HISTORY are recommended by Al Lopez. Oct. '45 has a Willy Ley article "Inside the Atom" which is long, interesting, and well illustrated. April '46 has "Reaching for the Moon", about Radar contact. May '46 has a long de Camp article called "Lost Continents" in which he labels Atlantis, Mu, etc. as myths created by wishful, Utopia-bound dreamers.

" L'etrange voyage de Richard Clayton, par Robert Bloch, has appeared in #1 QUI?, new French periodical." -- Ackerman.

Richard Frank writes: "I'm one of about 14 editors on GRIT, a national weekly. The first two days of the week I work on our national edition; the third day I handle state news and the last two days I work on local copy. The paper is a tall old 'home' sheet with about 40 pages in our national and state editions and about 100 pages in the local number. (Williamsport, Pa.) We have a fiction section which is quite popular. I work only on the news end, though."

On 20 Oct. 46, Queens SFL meeting held, and big success with 30 present, including Baring-Gould, Searles, Nitka, Gardner, Taurasi, Sykora, Maddox, etc. This unit will send a joint delegation with ESFA to Philcon. -- Sam Moskowitz.

George O. Smith is working in Philadelphia; says Campbell is snowed under with work of reorganizing AIR TRAILS. -- Milt Rothman.



Robert Farnsworth, Pres. of the U.S. Rocket Society and not the "television Farnsworth", writes he will be at the Centracon in Chicago, Nov. 10; and, if it weren't for his wedding anniversary, he would be there on the 9th too. (Phil Schumann apparently suffers from anniversary trouble at the same time!) Bob is trying to sell Coronet "The Station in Space"; Ember has a copy and it reads fine. Bob says I can print it; would you like it? "Rockets", USSR journal, is now at the printers. The issue after next, according to Bob, will "blow the lid off the Army Rocket deal!"

PYRAMID NOTES: Harry Warner writes: "Another addenda to what Don Thompson says about the pyramid symbolism: I've always wondered how these calculations are considered so amazingly accurate, since those theories have been current for half-century or longer, and during that period the estimates of the distance of the earth to the sun, for example, have been revised several times in the light of new evidence and more careful means of measuring. And that statement about vibrations identical with the pitch of A is positively meaningless. There is no evidence that any note in the ancient world was used as a fixed point from which to tune others, like our modern A; and if there was one, the chances that it might be anywhere close to the present approximately 440 vibrations per second are exceedingly remote. Besides, even today the pitch is not irrevocably fixed -- it varies slightly in different countries, and there is some reason to believe that it has become materially lower in the last century or two." Al Lopez says: "All the references I gave about the pyramid mention many different investigating parties who come out with the same results as far as measurements go, but may have given different interpretations as to the whys and wherefores of the pyramid. I'll bet that whoever 'debunked' the pyramid measurements was one of these guys who stays at home and says: 'Why go and see it, I know that it is silly to conceive any engineering feat superior to modern works.' Besides, Thompson shows that he doesn't read too carefully, when he makes that remark about the moons of Mars. My astronomy book says that Swift was wrong by about 5 hours and 10 hours, respectively, for the two moons, not one hour."

Harry Warner says a local aircraft plant has received a contract for utilizing atomic propulsion in airplanes. The experimental work will not be done at Hagerstown, but probably at one of the bomb project plants. The plane, it is thought, will be radio-controlled, as the radiation-shielding problem appears too great to tackle at the present time.

The Dec. Amazing contains a letter from Kaempfert a science editor of the N.Y. Times, lauding the mag for the fine material contained in The Best of Science Fiction. Mr. K attributed most of the stories to Amazing and announced that he had been quite entranced and had decided to buy Amazing Stories regularly. Al Lopez called EMBER's attention to this and commented: "I'll bet he got an awful shock after reading his first issue. At any rate I sent him a rather sharp letter straightening him out as to where the Best of Science Fiction got most of its stories!"

STUDENT'S CORNER: in the last few weeks EMBER has received notes from the following readers who have listed their studies in school: Al Lopez with advanced courses in the theory of calculus, engineering analysis, plus half a dozen courses in advanced electronics; Milt Rothman with atomic physics, analytical mechanics, mathematical physics, and "introduction to the theory of functions of a complex variable"; Donald Ritchie is taking courses toward mathematical physics major; Paul Klingbiel has embarked on a course of study at U. of Chicago that begins with English, Social Science, Humanities and physical science, and follows a year later with "observation, interpretation, and integration", German, Physics, and biological science with work done on the side to include calculus, differential equations and art.



3

Last week August Derleth was made a Knight of the Golden Quill. A news photo shows him receiving the honor before the shrine of Anubis, and with candles dripping down the necks of wine bottles in the foreground. The account mentions Derleth's 18 hour day, with a schedule of 5000 to 15,000 words per day besides his publishing house, book reviews, civic affairs, & time out for dancing and hiking. Derleth does not use a dictaphone -- just a typewriter. On his mysteries he is quoted as saying that he himself never knows 'whodunit' until half way thru the book, and that readers who know by the second chapter amaze him.....

ESFA meeting Oct. 6 at Slovak Sokol Hall in Newark. Manly Wade Wellman to move from Westwood, NJ, to North Carolina in the spring. Wellman has recently sold a Nostradamus tale to TWS. A J.C. Williams in Westwood is trying to crash the pros. -- Gerry de la Ree.

A full page of Emberanda from R.S. Richardson: AIR TRAILS: There should be a big change over in the contents of Campbell's magazine soon if the sort of stuff has got me working on is any criterion. Air travel is going out and space is coming in fast. Just got an acceptance on an article called Forty Steps to the Moon. This really should be our kind of a magazine. Writers may be interested to know that checks are fast and fat. SPACE NAVIGATION: Samuel Herrick, red-headed professor of astronomy at UCLA is conducting for the first time in the history of any university, a course in Space Navigation. Has ten pupils in the charter class. Dr. Herrick is an expert on orbit theory and celestial navigation, so his course should be A-1. METEOR SHOWERS: Annseen in Pasadena, Oct. 9, the shower when the earth met the Comet Jacobini-Zinner was a big success. The sky looked like the fireworks display on July 4th at the Rose Bowl. Meteors were most numerous around 7:45 ST. We counted 90 meteors in 10 minutes, which was much less than some experts claimed to have seen. People on our block were shouting at each other and the kids had a grand time. As usual in Southern California, some people began quoting scripture and claimed the end of the world was at hand. MOON ROCKET: Dr. Zwicky over at Cal-Tech plans to launch rockets that will disintegrate about 100 miles or so up, which will give us definite information on meteors. Also, by using 'shaped' charges he plans to give some rockets the velocity of escape in the general direction of our satellite. All this was scheduled for some time in October.....

IN case LIFE readers didn't recognize him as a fantasite, the Dr. M. Doreal who rated pgs 77-78 of the 14-Oct 46 ish, in an article entitled "Atom Bomb Haven", is a strictly-from-fantasy guy. He was at Denvention; his name has appeared in Amazing's letter columns; he recently issued a rather good mimeoed catalog of 279 books for sale..... It's a cent-a-word sale for Tigrina with a story and article in the Halloween issue of TEEN AGER..... MADEMOISELLE for Oct. has Bradbury's supernatural "Homecoming" and is jam-packed with other fiction, features & photos of a fantastic nature, including "Amorous Ghost", "The Witches Are Tired", "Seeing Things: 195C", "That's the Spirit", etc. ---- 4E Ackerman.

AN AND PRO.. SPARK #2 from Spellman. Paul Carter writes some interesting thoughts about superman stories, and arrives at ODD JOHN as the best example..... THINK, Vol X No 10, has an article on rubber by Thorp McClusky, author of numerous weird tales. The back of the mag tells of Thorp that he is national authority on driver training and traffic safety, and was associated with MOTOR.