

Oct '78

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Tuesday, Oct 3, was an unusual sort of day... I bought a RexRotary M4 at a junk sale for \$25, and then had dinner with Horrible Hank Reinhardt. What's more, Hank insisted on picking up the check, in spite of my best efforts - he's bigger than I am, you know.

Whether the M4 will work out as well as the other old relic I met on Tuesday remains to be seen... It seems to be in good shape, though whoever used it last over-inked it and made a mess. This stencil is being typed to try it out. I can't really tell whether this machine is older or newer than the one I have been using for several years, they look just alike and my older one has had the serial number plate removed. The 'new' one does have the narrow screen and 4-hole stencil clamp, unfortunately. But that won't interfere too much with using it to run illos in a different color.

Hank was up this way on a business trip - little does his company know that he spends most of his time on the road promoting the writings of Maurice Walsh... He said he expects to be back in SFFA vry soon, as the fans ahead of him on the w/l will either drop off or find themselves quite unable to respond to the OO and so be dropped anyway. I pointed out to him that it would be simpler and quicker just to convince the OE to 'lose' their acknowledgements as well as some minacer's submission, but Hank says he is an honorable man and prefers to give them all a chance to face him in person.

I wasn't at Iggycon this year, but if I had known Phill Harrell would be there, I think I would have gone... I just had a long letter from Phill, he is no longer in El Paso, where he went after a brief visit to Norfolk on the DSC weekend back in the summer. After Iggy, he got a job as a 'live-in councillor' with the juvenile division of the Arizona Dept of Corrections. His address is 8910 West Monroe, Peoria, Ariz-85345.

The rest of this test sheet will be taken up with a sample entry for the forthcoming IT GOES ON THE SHELF --

CREATION, Anonymous, Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society, Brooklyn, 1927. 5x7, gold-stamped blue binding. In Arabic. 564pp, 12 color plates and three illos in the text. I am not sure that the Jehovah's Witnesses weren't propounding some rather more bizarre doctrine to the Arabs in 1927 than their current rather bland line... The three b&w illos seem to be cosmological. Most of the color plates are appropriately religious copies of old masters, but one looks like the last day of a worldcon and an even stranger one may be of the Mad Arab, Abdul Alhazred. It shows a demented-looking fellow bedded down on the floor of a garret room in Victorian nightcap. There is a large square black stove in the middle of the small room, and if he were to stretch out his legs they would be in the stove. He had a quill pen in his mouth and a writing board on his knees, and is surrounded by ponderous tomes. The artist is Karl Spitzweg. An open umbrella is suspended from the low sloping ceiling above him. From the position of his right hand, I judge that he is either gesturing to an invisible audience, or has just caught and is squashing a bedbug...

'Killer tomatoes' attack helicopter

OCEANSIDE, Calif. (AP) — Production of a motion picture about a giant man-eating tomatoes has been temporarily halted after a helicopter used in the filming crashed while trying to land in a tomato patch.

The pilot and two actors aboard received only minor injuries Tuesday while shooting scenes for "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes."

The actors were Jack Riley, 43, who played Mr. Cerlin on the Bob Newhart television show, and George Wilson, 32, who was acting in his first film. Pilot Tom Watts escaped injury.

The \$30,000 helicopter was attempting to land in the tomato patch when its tail section touched the ground, causing the craft to overturn and burst into flames, officials said.

The film, to be released in October by Four Square Productions of San Diego, was described by spokesman David Hirsch as: a musical comedy horror story about growling hybrid

tomatoes that, among other things, "bubbles up out of the ocean depths and eat swimmers."



Offering to Satan denied

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Rumors that millionaire Ray Kroc donates part of the profits from his McDonald's hamburger chain to a San Francisco satanist church are "the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard in my life," the 76-year-old owner of the San Diego Padres says.

Kroc might sell his soul for a penny, but he insisted "I'm a God-fearing, God-loving man" when asked Tuesday about the rumor circulating in America's Bible belt.

And McDonald's officials, fearing born-again believers will shun the golden arches, are mounting an effort in southern cities to quash the allegation about the firm's founder and senior chairman.

Doug Timberlake, an officer at the Oak Brook, Ill., headquarters of Kroc's hamburger empire, said he appeared Monday before the Birmingham, Ala., Baptist ministers association.

Timberlake said the rumor that Kroc contributes funds to the Church of Satan, a San Francisco-based cult founded in 1966, apparently began spreading shortly after Kroc appeared on the Phil Donohue television talk show in May 1977 in which religion was not discussed.

New Type Camera Won't Use Film

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — A new electronic handheld camera that could revolutionize photography because it doesn't require film or photo flash and has no moving parts is under development by the RCA Corp. here.

RCA says the camera, which is still in the design stage, is rugged, light-weight and so sensitive that it can take excellent quality photos — color or black-and-white — without a flash in any light, even on a dark, moonless night.

The retail price of the camera and equipment will be competitive with conventional photo gear.