

The Science Fiction
NEWS LETTER

An Express

Publication
Published Weekly at
85-10 117th Street
Richmond Hill, N.Y.

5¢ a copy, 6 for 25¢

Vol. II No. 11
Whole Number XXXVII 27
August 13, 1938.

WHEREIN WE STEP ENTIRELY ASIDE TO LET THE READERS PASS

THE BROOKLYN REPORTER

It is with the very greatest of pleasure that we welcome to the unofficial staff of The Science Fiction News Letter that fantasy fan, commentator, author, poet, bon vivant and good ShuShuist, Friederich Georg Hans Gehrhardt Ehrich Otto Heinrich Kurt von Machden und von Pohl. Mr Pohl (just call him Fred) 's first contribution goes thuswise: "Last Sunday was formed the Futurian Science Literary Society of New York, an stf club designed for metropolitan fans with progressive leanings. It will take over the Science Fiction Advance, and may affiliate with several other fan groups . . . Stanton A. Coblenz's new 60,000-worder, which is scheduled for publication in Marvel Science Stories, was rejected by Astounding Science-Fiction because it was 'a rehash of "In Caverns Below"' . . . Amateur science fiction bards who yearn to become professionals would do well to join the Science Fiction Poet's Guild, with which John W. Campbell, Jr. of Astounding is co-operating in an attempt to re-establish stf verse in newsstand magazines . . . One of science fiction's bigwigs will lose much surplus poundage when he discovers that a fan who has sworn a vendetta against him is meditating spilling the beans about 'Alfred Justin Moore' and The Affair of the Treasury "

Z-113

From our old stand-by, Robert G. Thompson; "The Bungle Family, title characters of Harry J. Tuthill's comic-strip, are now entertaining an uninvited guest who is invisible, and seems to be from another planet, although we will have to wait for a fuller confirmation of the latter. This is the fourth adventure, as far as I know, that G. Bungle has had with unusual phenomena which us fans term 'Phantasy.' In the first, he traveled into the future and back in a rocket, in the second a ghost handed him gold, and in the third a scientist reduced him to about half his normal size. All except the first have already been mentioned in the NL." (Further developments have shown the invisible visitor (invisitor?) to be an English-speaking Martian, yclept Z-113. Bungle's trip to the year 7324 was mentioned in the first Atom. He was also mixed up with a little foreigner named Doodle who was possessed of a literal magnetic personality, and was capable of performing all sorts of tricks with his "big stuff.")

"THREE COMRADES"

Forrest J Ackerman's pet Marsian, Bar Kastik was second prize winner in the Atom-Sci Scientific Contest. His favorite scientificinematiccontest: my favorite scientificinematic is one the kind so commonly composing the bulk of big imaginative-movie newstems in the Science Fiction News Letter. A picture indisputably 'different', positively phantasy without wandering far afield to make a wonder story of it. 'Is it METROPOLIS? No. 'Mysterious Island'? No! 'Just Imagine Invisible Man, King Kong'? NO! Nor Frau im Mond, Herr der Welt, Wells' 'Kings to Thumb' nor M'sieu Arkonay's cherche (undoubtedly) of Coal Black & the 11 Giants. Rather, it is.. 3 Comrades! That Remarque-ably beautiful blend of science-adventure (when one the characters, I have forgotten which, says, in an inconsequential speech I cannot quote verbatim as it was entirely unanticipated, but it went approximately like this: 'Let's go away from here--Tibet, Timbaktu or'--then that thrilling, memorable moment immortal in scientificinematicconceptions when he concludes--'Mars!'). So, I proclaim 3Com (not to be confused with the CCC) to be my foremost favorite fantascience film for its pregnant prophecy of that day to come when melankolix may go millions of miles away--to Mars!--to gafia (get away from it All). & in addition to its magnificent obsession (er, pardon please, had 2 other pictures on my mind: 'Green Blite' & 'White Bananas')--in addition to its manifest spirit of s.a. (Y must I always be misunderstood? Science-adventure not sex-appeal) the supernatural spirits at the finish: 4 figures, 2 phantom, fleetingly flanking the living fellows; then, fadeout. G'bye, now; this's where I came in--in case I got in" (The exact phrase that made such a deep impression upon Mr Kastik was spoken by Robert Young, as Gottfried: "Anywhere," he said. "South America, San Francisco . . . Mars." "Three Comrades" is a Metro-Goldwyn-Tayer picture--and we'd like to know why "Goldwyn" is always italicized.)

WELL, ALMOST ENTIRELY

We are reminded, somehow, by the above, by the picture, "One Way Passage," co-starring William Powell and Kay Francis, wherein the two, in love, vow to meet and drink together in one year. Each knows this to be impossible. She is dying of an incurable disease. He is sentenced to imprisonment---perhaps the electric chair---in the penitentiary. One year later, two glasses at the same bar, lifted by unseen hands, touch . . . and shatter in spiritual toast.

NEWEST

John Giunta, who drew our letterhead this week, announces his new (and first) magazine: Amazing Wonder Tales. It will contain "Satan's Holiday," by Louis Maurino, "The First Sciencefiction Fan," by Robert G. Thompson, "Doctor X," by Giunta, and articles and departments. Address 1355 - 80 Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Price will be 10¢.

"SUPERSTITION SCOFFERS

"As Morajo, Fojak & Pogo recently left an LA theatre after seeing a revival of Werewolf of London & instalment 3--'Magiqueen'--of Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars they encountered a ladder atop which an employe was changing the marquee to read Tarzan & the Green Goddess. Fearlessly--deliberately--the 3 defyd bad luck & filed in follow the Leader (Fojak) fashion underneath the symbol of superstition. . . . Sworn to this 31st day of Augusto, 51 EE. Morajo, Handymaiden to Pogo. HI Priestess of ALL FOO!" (Or, don't we have the goofiest correspondents?!)

IN THIS WEEK

June-July Science Fiction Collector (No. 20).

Robert Young