

The GRIDLEY Wave

CONTACTING THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

A WHITE CHRISTMAS AT THE BURROUGHS MEMORIAL COLLECTION

Just before Christmas, Roy and Dela White arrived in Louisville with a truckload of gifts for the Burroughs Memorial Collection. It turned out to be a magnificent and totally unique collection of 1,344 items consisting of important letters to or by ERB; the "Memory Books" of his daughter Joan with many rare photos of the family and selected friends (for example, an autographed photo of Enid Markey, the screen's first "Jane"), many clippings related to ERB's life and affairs, a radio script of the first Tarzan broadcast of 1932 featuring Joan as "Jane" and her husband as "Tarzan," 389 pieces of sheet music, many of them signed for Joan by composer or donor, and a cache of original paintings including two by J. Allen St. John, two by Boris Vallejo and no less than 130 Mahlon Blaine originals and onion skin preliminary drawings.

This is a mind boggling collection and will take several years to absorb into my memory banks. There are some unpublished poems from ERB to Joan, some original cartoons and several humorous typewritten or handwritten flights of fancy, most of them framed as a collage for exhibition purposes.

As a former opera singer for over 30 years, I was bowled over to find a concert program from Rosa Raisa who created the title role in Puccini's *Turandot*. ERB had invited her to sing for "The Breakfast Club" where he was program chairman. Eddie Gilbert (ERB's recently deceased brother-in-law) mentioned in his last interview for *The Burroughs Bulletin* that ERB was fond of opera, but this is the first tangible evidence I've found to support his assertion. There's also a letter from Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. thanking ERB for sending him an autographed copy of *A Princess of Mars*. As a bonus, the Whites also included enough Tarzan comics to flesh out our collections of *Tip Top* and *Sparkler* and complete our *March of Comics*. These are things to treasure and ponder for years to come, so I'm sure you'll agree that the Whites have given us the best White Christmas ever.

We have been promised a new wing for the Ekstrom Library

which will allow the Burroughs Memorial Collection to expand and shine. I hope this happens before I sail down the River Iss, but if not, your kids and grandchildren will be able to see the ERB Memorial in its new habitat. According to the Julian calendar, last Saturday night (January 13) was New Year's Eve, so I was able to toast the Whites and all the ERB fans for the second time in the same millennium. Cheers!

... "Ye Editor"



JOSEPH P. KENNEDY
PRESENTS

EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

TARZAN AND THE GOLDEN LION

with JAMES PIERCE, EDNA MURPHY, HAROLD GOODWIN, DOROTHY DUNBAR, BORIS KARLOFF

Directed by J. P. McLean

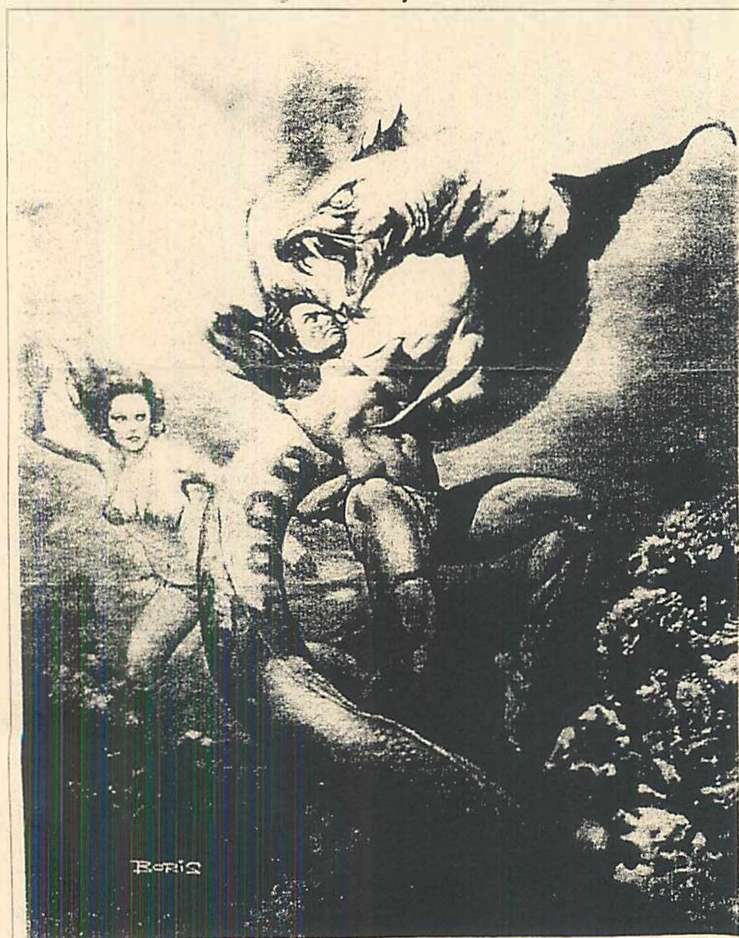
Distributed by
**GREATER
FBO**
FILM EXCHANGE OFFICES

Tarzan and the Golden Lion Exploitation Campaign Book, 1927
(12 pages, size: 16"x 28"). See White Christmas Sampler overleaf.

White Christmas Sampler

A.C. McClurg & Co.
PUBLISHERS

Beasts of Tarzan by J. Allen St. John, 1916. Color original for McClurg postcard. Size: 16"x22".



Tarzan and the Forbidden City by Boris Vallejo, 1977. Size: 18"x24".



The Mad King by Boris Vallejo, 1979. Size: 16"x26".