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CORRESPONDENCE

New York City, Krum 14, 3 A.M. Donald A. Wollheim: "I have just observed your reference to the cover of the Nov. OVER TERRAE as being 'DaDaist'. Now I wish to correct that objection, as a lover of DaDaist Art, and a respecter of Surrealist Art, I cannot sit idly by while you confuse one with the other. Dadaism is not Art. Dada describes itself as 'The Enemy of Art'. Dada follows no known rules and no set ideas, Dada represents nothing at all. A DaDaist picture portrays nothing, has no conceivable or intended significance, conscious or sub-conscious. On the other hand a Surrealist picture does intend to convey an idea, has a definite meaning, and purpose. Also uses definite symbols and suggestions to convey those ideas. . . . The cover by Mr. Dobby carries a definite meaning. It is clearly and obviously intended to represent Science-Fiction and that is what it does represent. The Face, with the mouth open as if astonished, the eye wide gazing down upon the space ship. The ear in the other corner listening and absorbing the tale of the ship, and waves emanating from the head of the seer. Hands to do, and stars and suggestions of many possibilities and hints elsewhere are to be found also. The entire cover very clearly represents science-fiction in the abstract."

Los Angeles, 9 Jan '38. Morojó: "Might interest U to record in NL that-- 'MOROJO takes great delight to debunk Donald A. Wollheim's info (see 11 Dec 37 NL) that the '1st wkly sci fic pub was conctd by Geo. F. Clark'. . . I shan't make any positiv asertion as to who pioneered such a project, as it is possibl someone who has not yet made a voice known antedated even ACHARD, but I can say with authority that such a sheet was circulated by the J Long before the Ex-Ed of BR popt to prominence. Forry carboncopyd a 'pass-on' pub for a period of W in late 1931, which he distribd free to a scientificircle of fan friend. Succinctly, the sheet was called STF NEWS & speaking of 'stf news' there is some more stf news! . . . Bob Madle & Jack Agnew in naming their new magazet 'The Meteor' hav (probabty all unwittingly) repeated the title of the Club Organ of the Boys' Scientificion Club founded by Forry. '46' says altho he has forgotn the date of its issuance (yr & no. unfortunately were omitd), let # must've been made at least lust-um ago. Haktoed. Vol 1 featured autografasimiles of RAY CUMMINGS & EDMOND HAMILTON, so 'scientificismatures' in recent fanmags r no innovation but an unconscious duplication of an early inspiration by Ideachuckman..!"

Comanche, Oklahoma, January 5, 1938. Jack Spear: I had a sweet time figuring out how you wrote 'Observation' in the Mentator--you know the one that goes 'I never knew a viridous cleap that did not wrattle in its sleep.' I can just see B. A. and A. whoever they are

getting together and discussing this: 'We gotta have a poem. A poem.' 'But what'll it be about?' 'Let's write about sleeps.' 'Sleeps?' 'Yes, sleeps.' 'But sleeps has been thought of before.' 'Well, we can spell it different.' 'What can the leap do, though?' 'Let him snort.' 'Or snortle.' 'Yes, snortle! Everybody knows that gleaps snortle.' 'Snortle doesn't rhyme with gleap, though, does it?' 'It doesn't have to.' 'Something's gotta.' 'Where does the leap snortle?' 'Something to rhyme with gleap?' 'Gleap--' 'Sleep! In his sleep, of course!' 'Hooray! Everybody knows that gleaps snortle in their sleeps.' 'Awful.' 'Punk.' 'Putrid.' 'I'm ashamed.' 'I never knew a gleap That wouldn't snortle in his sleep.' 'You need an extra syllable.' 'I never knew a pink gleap That wouldn't snortle in his sleep.' 'Still need a syllable.' 'I never knew a purple gleap That wouldn't snortle in his sleep.' 'Too common.' 'I never knew a virtuous gleap That wouldn't snortle in his sleep.' 'That's too easy.' 'Make it "virtuous," then. I'm getting sleepy.' 'Okay, virtuous it is. Got that?' 'I never knew a virtuous gleap That didn't snortle in his sleep.' 'Check?' 'Check. G'night.' Then by the time he's home it's become 'I never knew a virtuous gleap That didn't snortle in his sleep,' and 'his' becomes 'its' by the time he's prepared to type it, at which time he drops a U in 'virtuous.' I don't know why I went to all that trouble, do you?"

HERE WE GO GATHERING NOTES IN JANUARY

Two fantasy films opened this week. The 20th Century-Fox "Tarzan's Revenge", with Fern Horrie and Eleanor Holm in the leads, was unanimously thumb-downed by the critics. Instead of carrying on from where M-G-M left off, this picture begins all over again. No Jane is present. A lady named Eleanor is there instead. The ape-man isn't as voluble as he should be by this time. He says: "Ho Tarzan. you Eleanor", and not much more. . . . Walt Disney's first full-length cartoon, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" arrived and was met with open arms and hearts by all and sundry. It lived up to, and surpassed, all expectations. A positive must for every child and adult.

The Feb. All-American Fiction is worth your 15¢--twice. In it are Joel Townsley Rogers' "Beyond Space and Time", a novelet of tomorrow; and Theodore Roscoe's "Midnight Keep", a unique time travel short novel. . . . The business management of United Publications has been vested in Jack Gillespie. . . . "Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars" with Buster Crabbe, is finished. . . . The NYC Revival of "The Lost World", by the SCC, has been postponed to Jan. 30. . . . The play, "Father Malachy's Miracle", has been placed on the nix list by the Catholic Church. . . . Fu Manchu is a New York night club. . . . Lawrence E. Watkin's fantasy, "On Borrowed Time", will be on the stage very soon. . . . From Jack Speer: "Popular Photography magazine had a page of book magazine covers last month, including one for Weird Tales, with the characteristic style of printing the mag title. Cover photo showed a somewhat shoul-der-dance very muchly hanged, and fairly horrible as those things go, and, underneath, the inscription: 'A very happy new year to you!'" . . . The Witch's Tale for Jan. 20 will be heard over the CBS at 11.15 P.M., EST; title: "The Dead Bring Death." Eddie Cantor's program for Jan. 9 burlesqued "Snow White." . . . In the near future THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR will feature a science fiction test for its patrons, with oil paintings by John V. Baltadonis as prizes. . . . Morcio's new note-paper has her name in gold, at the top left adjacent to a tiny snapshot of her boyish-bobbed self. . . . Henry Hesse is selling his collection and has disposed of many rare items at extremely low prices. He is not, however, leaving the field just yet.

Richard Wilson.