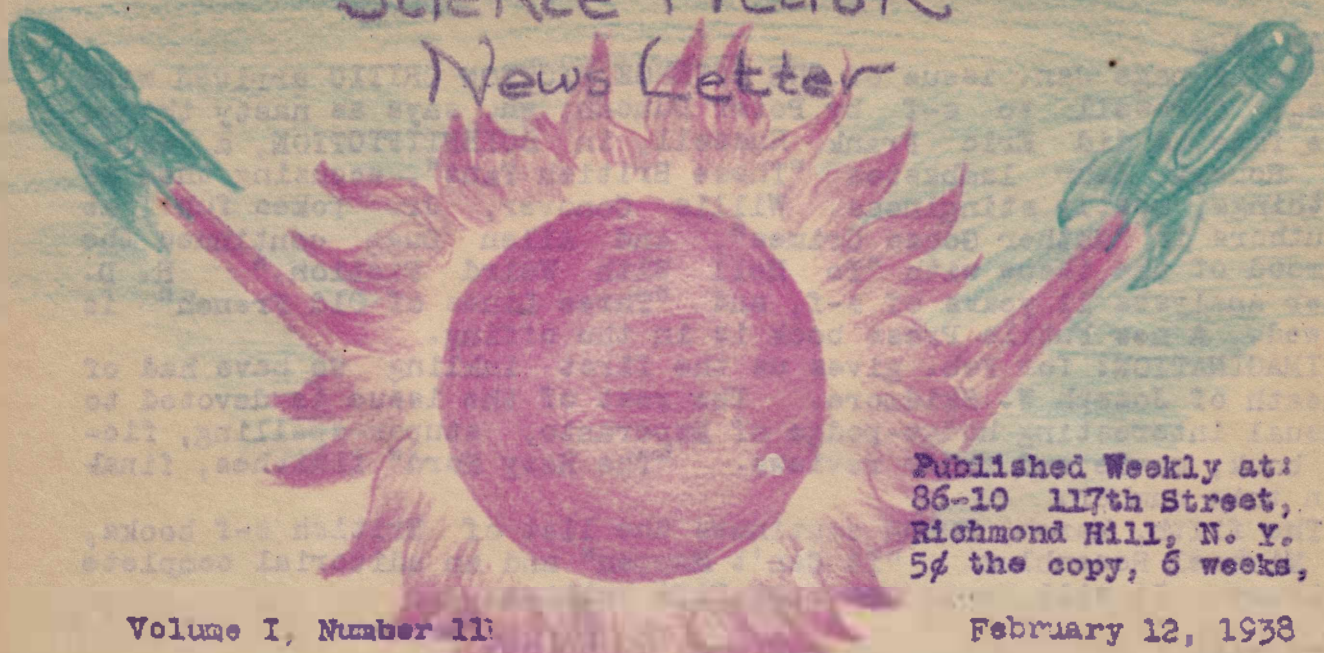


# Science Fiction News Letter



Published Weekly at:  
86-10 117th Street,  
Richmond Hill, N. Y.  
5¢ the copy, 6 weeks, 25¢

Volume I, Number 11

February 12, 1938

## THE SCIENTIFIC CINEMA CLUB OF NEW YORK

presented the First National film, "The Lost World", a 1925 re-lease, at Bohemian Hall Sunday, Jan. 30. In spite of the fact that over 200 circulars had been mailed advertising the showing, only a score of the regular fans attended. The majority of the audience, which included Jack Agnew, John V. Baltadonis and Robert A. Madle, who had come from Philadelphia especially for the occasion, viewed for the first time the movie version of the A. Conan Doyle story of a party of explorers who travel to a high plateau in South America where life exists as it did a million years ago. . . Since it is not in keeping with the High Ideals of Science Fiction, we shall forbear to mention the Harry Dockweiler was removed from the auditorium by a gaudarme for behavior unbecoming a gentleman. Frederik Pohl kept him company.

Chester Fein, President of the Washington Heights SFL, William S. Sykora and Herbert Joudket presided at a meeting following the movie, at which definite plans were laid for the formation of a science and/or science fiction club in New York City to replace the ISA and have as its first project the production of an amateur scientific film.

## "THE DEAD BRING DEATH",

the Witch's Tale postponed from Jan. 20, was heard Feb. 3 over the MBS. Alonzo Deen Cole created and acted the role of an exciting new weird-fiction character: Dr. Cathedral O'Ryan.

## PROJECT

On Monday night, Jan. 31, Jack Agnew, John V. Baltadonis, Robert A. Madle, Mario Racic, Jr., James V. Taurasi and your scribe met at JVT's home and came to the conclusion that a real science fiction fan magazine is a thing to be desired. It was decided that if at least 50 of the fans in the country, or in the world, would forget their petty animosities long enough to get together and lend financial aid to such a worthy plan, the outcome would be a magazine equal, if not superior to any of the three newsstand s-f publications. The contribution would not be large. \$2, it is believed, should be more than ample. Watch these columns for further developments.

## THE FAN MAGS

The 22-page Jan. issue of THE SCIENCE FICTION CRITIC arrived with a 9-page farewell to s-f by Peter Duncan, who says as nasty things of the fans as did Eric Frank Russell, in SCIENTIFICTION, a while back. Robert Bahr lambastes "Those British Fans", accusing them of many things, mostly stinginess. Willis Conover, Jr. pokes fun at the authors in "Mother Goose Crimes", and Allen Dugg continues the evil mood of the issue with "To Hell With Weird Fiction." R. D. Swisher analyses 11 years of s-f, and "Three Lines of Old French" is reviewed. A new Futile Press book is in the offing.

IMAGINATION for Feb. gives us the first inkling we have had of the death of Joseph W. Skidmore. The rest of the issue is devoted to the usual interesting hodge-podge of Esperanto, stupor-spelling, fiction, book, movie and radio reviews. "The Hazy Hord" finishes, finally, in this number.

The fifth, March, SOLOR continues the list of British s-f books, by J. Michael Rosenblum. "It Can't Happen" and an editorial complete this issue. It will be in the next FAPA mailing.

## THE NEW PLAY

"On Borrowed Time", which opened Feb. 3, tells of an old man who chases Death up an apple tree and keeps him there by means of magic so that he may take care of his orphaned grandson. While the Grim Reaper is tread, there is---as in "Death Takes a Holiday"---not a fatality in all the world. The cast includes Peter Holden, Dudley Digges, Dorothy Stickney and Frank Conroy (as Death, or Mr. Brink). While this fantasy had its preliminary showing in Boston, Richard Bennett took the part played by Mr. Digges in New York.

## JOTTINGS

Weaver Wright is really Forrest J Ackerman. . . J. B. Priestley's play, "Time and the Conways", closed after showing 4 weeks. It took only five days for "If I Were You" to meet the same fate. . . The first issue of Robert G. Thompson's TALES OF TIME AND OTHER DIMENSIONS will be distributed thru the FAPA. Articles, as well as fiction, will be present. . . "An astrologer predicts that 'if the planets keep in their courses' in 1938 'there will be some disturbing influences released. We'd be more disturbed if the planets didn't keep in their courses. (For which credit is due some newspaper or other, identity unknown.) . . . Wise words from Dale Hart: In the opinion of an archaeologist, pieces of mended pottery now being unearthed in Palestine suggest that there were economic depressions in ancient times. Or that domestic servants were much the same as they are now. . . "Frankenstein", "The New Gulliver", "Amphitryon", and "White Zombie" were all recently revived in NYC. So was the Pete Smith 3-dimensional short, "Audioscopiks." Fred Allen's "Town Hall Tonight" of Feb. 2d burlesqued the ban which was placed on the opera "Faust." . . That Peter Lorre spook-skit we spoke of in NL #9 was taken from a Coronet yarn, "Picture Man", by Lee Falk, co-author of "Mandrake the Magician", we learn from Variety. . . A picture using the come-on phrase, "More Thrilling than 'Frankenstein'", is "The Mystery of the Black Doll", a Universal production. . . Boris Karloff, guest star on C. McCarthy's program Jan. 30, did a dramatic sketch called "The Evil Eye", adapted from Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart."

*Richard Wilson, Jr.*  
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