



Published weekly
at 86-10 117 St.
Richmond Hill NY

5¢ copy - 6, 25¢

Volume I No. 15

March 12, 1938

COLLECTORS' ITEMS

Flash Gordon, in the person of Buster Crabbe, faces you from the cover of Look, for March 15. The Universal picture, "Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars", is pictorially serialized within. . . The April Popular Science tells of a new rocket ride being built for an international exposition. The riders take seats in a car, built like a rocket ship. Colored chemical vapors come from the exhaust in a fiery stream as specially prepared motion pictures flash upon the domed ceiling of the planetarium, giving the patrons all the thrills of a ride thru space. A drawing of the exhibit tops the magazine's cover. . . The play, "Father Malachy's Miracle", closed after its March 5th performance, having had a long and successful run. This play and "Amphitryon 38" have been put out in book form, at \$2 each, by Random House. . . Boris Karloff will do two more pictures for Warner Bros., the first of which is "The Return of Dr. X". . . Louis Kuslan is seeking formative members for The American Fantasy Association. . . The Los Angeles SFL offers Dr. Keller's "The Television Detective" as a booklet, practically unadulterated. . . "The Adventures of Chico" is an independent motion picture telling of a 10-year-old Mexican boy who makes friends with wild jungle animals. . . Broadway may see a play by Emmet Lavery, called "Aladdin's Lamp." Those concerned refuse to divulge any of the plot. And a new play by John Crosby is called "Amazon World." There may shortly be an American version of "Freud's Theory of Dreams", by Floryan Esobieniwsky. "Tony, Inc.", announced as being read by several producers a while back, has evidently been shelved. It dealt with a man who commercialized his D. T.-ish monsters.

OBITUARY

Jiggs, the 9-year-old chimpanzee, who played in the Weissmuller-Tarzan pictures, died of pneumonia on March 1. He also appeared with Dorothy Lamour in "The Jungle Princess." His latest picture was "Her Jungle Love."

ANENT THE 1939 S-F CONVENTION

Donald A. Wollheim brought up a very uncomfortable subject the other night. "Where," asked he, "will we house all those that come to New York in 1939 for the World's Fair Science Fiction Convention?" Hotel rates, he pointed out, will be doubled, or worse, for the duration of the Fair. NYC fans, of course, will do more than their share of accommodating out-of-towners, but what will become of the rest? Even the Park Department is liable to be charging a dollar a night for

the use of its benches. Solution(?): James V. Taurasi, who is a junior draughtsman and a land owner, could put up a batch of temporary dwellings, charge a reasonable admission, and still make money hand over fist. (10%, Jim, for the idea.)

FAN MAGAZINES THIS WEEK

Robert Bloch is to be found in the March issue of IMAGINATION! with, for some reason or other, "A Charming Interview", in which the Weird Taler interviews himself Ackermanishly. The issue also contains another reply to Donald A. Wollheim's last "Phantaflexion" in COSMIC TALES, called "Anent Atheism & Stf", by Erick Freyor. The Fantascience Filmart features an interview with Jameson Thomas, star of "High Treason"; words with Charles Willard Diffin, Amelia Reynolds Long, T. Bruce Yerke and Perry L. Lewis. Mrs. Allis Kerlay reviews the play, "2001", Fred Shroyer, in his new column, "Resurrection," outlines the plots of old stf. volumes, Ryner the Great writes a hilarious "Advice to Amateur Magicians" and there is, of course, the ever-resent (and ever-interesting) "Way Out West", by Russ Hodgkins. It is interesting to note that this issue of the Los Angeles SFJL organ published a form letter from Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., announcing the new book, "The Lad and the Lion", while the current JEDDARA, the Queens SFJL organ, publishes a letter from Edgar Rice Burroughs.

The third BSFS NEWS is out with more informal minutes of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society meetings, by Ossie Train, an editorial, and a column called "BSFS News Flashes!!! From Here and There." The 4-page pamphlet is hectographed in alternating red and green.

NOTES

Jack Gillespie called to our attention the fact that there is a new horror program on the air which is as awful as Old Nancy says "The Witch's Tale" is. It is called "Lights Out!" and is presented over the NBC Red Network every Thursday, at 12.30 A.M., New York time. There is no sponsor and a refreshing lack of Shurbery. At 12.30 exactly the announcer says, in a sepulchral voice, "Lights Out!", and the spine-chilling play begins without further ado. When the play has finished, again come the words "Lights Out!" and the program is over. It is all very mysterious.

Prof. J. B. S. Haldane of London University has written a book called "The Last Judgement" in which "the author projects himself about 40 million years into the future and reviews from his post on Venus the course of events leading up to the end of life on the earth." In the year 5 million, says he, the human race was perfectly adjusted and the life of the individual was about 3,000 years. By the year 3,000,000, because of the increasing tidal friction, the length of the day had doubled. "An expedition reached Mars successfully in the year 9,723,841, but reported that colonization was impracticable. Half a million years later the first successful landing was effected on Venus, but its members ultimately perished because of the intense heat and the shortage of oxygen in the atmosphere." Published by Harpers at \$1, the book was condensed in the Jan. Reader's Digest.

The latest picture magazine, HA!, satirizes picture magazines. Many of the pictures are fantastic and pseudo-scientific. For instance, there is a photo captioned "HOLY MOSES: Having completed the Triboro Bridge and laid out the World's Fair, Robert L. (Meccano) Moses has started work on this set of bridges across the Atlantic Ocean. One span will run from New York to London, the other will go right around the world. There are also several scientific cartoons... The effects are gotten by double exposure and superimposition.