

Science Fiction News Letter



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HEY, LOS ANGELES!

APRIL SHOWERS in NY were showers of revivals, various groups being enabled to see once more such fantasy films of yore & yoresterday (& today!) as *The Adventures of Chico*, *Aus den Wolken Kommt das Glück*, *Berkeley Square*, *Crime Without Passion*, *Dracula*, *The Dybbuk*, *Elephant Boy*, *Flash Gordon's Trip to Mars*, *Frankenstein*, *The Ghost Goes West*, *The Golem*, *Her Jungle Love*, *Lost Horizon*, *The Man Who Lived Twice*, *The New Audioscopiks*, *Non-Stop New York*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *The Tender Enemy*, *Wajan*, and *The Werewolf of London*. Then there were the plays, *On Borrowed Time* and *The Star-Wagon*; also the revivals of the plays, *The Dybbuk* and *R. U. R.* (Shall we count the puppet show of *Pinocchio*?)

Wanna play a'more?

THE PASSING SHOW

The April and May SCIENCE-FICTION SCOUTS arrived simultaneously. The former presents another epic by Roy St. John Le Clair Wollheim, "Little Llewellyn--Space Flyer", and a list of works of the so-called "profligate" Sam Moskowitz which are to be published in the fanmags. This 5th issue was published in 2 editions, the first of which was quite a mess. The May number presents Jack Speer's "The Case of the Comic Magazines", dug out from under the ruins of Alex Osheroff's STF. Prize of the issue is Alex's "Mutterings", a delightful editorial. A poem, *Space*, by Chester Fein, fills it. Taurasi took over the cover with the usual disastrous results.

The April, "Extra", issue of SCIENCE FANTASY MOVIE REVIEW contains a review of the film, "Wajan", tale of Balinese Witchcraft, by this person, illustrated with cuts by W. E. Marconette, the editor.

The 7th PSFS NEWS is already here, with more news of local (Philadelphia) interest. Minutes, editorial, treasurer's report, etc.

HELIOS has not improved, as is shown by the March-April issue. 'Tis as messy as ever, which makes whatever good material is present struggle like the deuce for your interest. One story, "A Witch Women's (sic) Curse", by Fred Lawrence, is all. The rest is artillary. Another of those "carlctures" (there's an "a" in that word, Mr Moskowitz) is to be found: "Panparade", by "Donald Duck Liverwurst"; need we comment on its sickening quality? William S. Sykora has "Stf. Flashes" herein, which identical column appears in the current FANTASCIENCE DIGEST. Ballyhoo, we call it. . . From the ridiculous to the sublime:

The March-April SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR has a well-drawn cover by Editor John V. Baltadonis depicting the tragedy of future war. The regular features, the Editorial, Fantaglimmerings, The Eternal Wander-

er, Fan Magazine Review and The Readers Say are all, as usual, quite interesting. Donald A. Wollheim contributes "Tubby Tales", an article tracing Ray Cummings' character, Tubby, from 1920 to date. Edward J. Carnell's column of English news is now called "Long Distance". Sam Moskowitz writes "They're Grend --- But They Have Their Baults" and calls Gillespie and his drunkards. Mr Moskowitz is a liar. Louis and Gertrude Kusan speak harshly of the Moskowitz-Wollheim feud in "The War of the Dolts", in rhyme. The whole issue is wonderfully neat.

In the May IMAGINATION! is to be found Donald A. Wollheim's "Defense of Michelism". Facing this is "New Attack on Michelism", by Frank Freyor (Fred Shroyer). The former has its points, but the latter is funnier, and will be remembered longer. "Voice of the Imagination" doubles to 4 pages; we don't mind a bit. Shroyer takes apart "The Golden Blight" in his Resurrection with beautiful humor. 3 1/2 pages of ads cut down on the content somewhat this month. Page 20 says that: "Futura Fantasia" (you put acute accents over the i's, our Corona isn't capable) "is Coming!" It has all the earmarks of being --- heaven forbid! --- a fanmag in Esperanto.

There is a striking cover by James Rogers on the May SCIENCE FICTION FAN. The outstanding thing about this issue is the absence of Wollheim's "Fanfarade" from its pages. Also missing is the column of Ye Olde Booke Collector, which heightens our belief that Yobs, Daw. To make matters worse, Jack Speer's IPO Poll is missing for the 3d consecutive time. It is to be hoped that the Poll hasn't been given up. Remaining: an article by Robert W. Lowndes in which he prattles about Michelism; an article by Sam Moskowitz in which he prattles about nothing in particular; "They Always Come Back, with which Robert A. Madle makes a rare appearance. Sam Moskowitz As Others See Us's Jim Blish, and James V. Taurasi continues his Magarews.

The publishers of UNIQUE seem to have forgotten that we have a subscription.

A sample 4 pages of the temporarily abandoned AMERICAN FANTASY MAGAZINE was distributed to those that asked. The cover boasts a nice emblem designed for the AFA by Taurasi. The rest is an Olon F. Wiggins editorial and ads. Dated March, 1938.

The April number of SOLOR contains a Bob and Koso story in which the wee Martian marries Princess Solor, which is also the title of the story. . . QUEER TALES, a Taurasi output, has its first issue with the June number. Contains 2 poems, "The Black Which" and "The Little Sunbeam," by Wm. Hornspit, who is believed to be Daw. A story by Q. T. Kenvidon is "The Sword of M'Zog the Mighty." Another poem, by Robert W. Lowndes, "The Flower Demons", completes the issue. Some, or all of this material would have seen print in THE PHANTAGRAPH, had that magazine continued publication. . . Both the above are FAPA magazines and will be in a future mailing.

WE HEAR

From J. Michael Rosenblum, via JVT: Susan Ertz's "Woman Alive" was recently produced in England as a play; the Leeds SFL is printing a bibliography of fantastic books; the BULLETIN of the Leeds Chapter will hereafter be published quarterly. . . "The Flying Yorkshireman", published by Harpers at \$2.50, is a collection of 5 novellas, first of which, by Eric Knight, tells of a Briton named Samuel Small who learns to fly. . . The first issue of the new Variety Story Magazine contains "Priestess of Doom", by John H. Knox, a weird tale, and "Wings Over the Pacific" by Art Brown, a story of 1944. There is also a yarn by Lester Dent (Doc Savage's author) which begins atfally, but peters out into a conventional explanation. . . A Buck Rogers card game sells for 10¢. . . V. T. Harlin's "Fragments of Man's Early History" now deals with Lost Atlantis. . .

---Richard Wilson, Jr.