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NEWS - And Not So New

The NBC Good News program of May 19 presented the premiere of The MGM Theatre of the Air. Joan Crawford was heard in "Dark World", a soliloquy by Arch Oboler ("Lights Out" author), in which a blind, paralyzed girl spoke from beyond the grave. . . . Donald A. Wellhelm, who said pseudonyms were juvenile, employs one of his own (Braxton Wells) in the readers' columns of the June IMAGINATION! . . . There is a goat in the Columbia picture, "No Time to Marry", called Shangri-la. . . . The name of a U. S. senator from Kentucky is Marvel (Willis Logan). . . . And there is a Metals Disintegrating Co. in Elizabeth, N. J.

Dale Hart: "Producer Loew is hoping to lure Man Mountain Dean from a political campaign meant to put him in the Georgia state legislature by offering the wrestler a part in 'THE GLADIATOR.' The picture, which went into production May 12, would embody a sequence wherein Joe E. Brown, the star, wrestles Dean for an entire reel."

"The Millvale Apparition", in the May Reader's Digest, tells of a ghost in a Croatian church in Pittsburgh, as seen by Maxo Vanka, famous muralist. The article is by Louis Adamic, retold from his book, "My America." . . . "Uriel for President" (Hale, Cushman and Flint, \$1.50), by Franz Borgman, is a book of cartoon drawings depicting the adventures of a backward Archangel who came to earth and ran for president. . . . Peter Holden, co-star of the stage fantasy, "On Borrowed Time", has signed a contract with RKO. . . . Tilly Losch, of "The Good Earth", will produce "I Married an Angel" in London this fall, playing the secondary title role herself. (This play was shelved---as a movie---by Hollywood after Rodgers and Hart had adapted it and written the hit tunes!) . . . Ray Bolger---the comic dancer in "The Great Ziegfeld"---will play the scarecrow in MGM's "The Wizard of Oz." Fred Stone played this role on the stage. Judy Garland may play the Little Girl. . . . Lunt & Fontanne's "Amphitryon 38" opened in London May 17th.

CONTEST ANSWERS (NEWS LETTER #24)

1. Samuel Butler; Stanley Link ("Tiny Tim") 2. Mephisto 3. Mandrake the Magician; Buck Rogers, 25th Century A. D., in the City Below the Sea, and the Doom Comet, etc.; Tiny Tim and the Mechanical Men; Flash Gordon on the Planet Mongo, and the Monster Men, etc.; Hal Hardy in the Lost Land of Giants, a.s.o. 4. Miracle, Science and Fantasy Stories, Strange Tales, Air &/or Science Wonder, Flash Gordon Strange Adventure Mag., The Thrill Book, etc. 5. Elmo Lincoln 6. Hugh (or Robert) Conway, Father Perrault, Mallinson, Chang, Lo-Tsen, Sondra 7. James &/or _____ (do not disclose, begs LA, just yet) 8. Brown, Wesso, Saffy, Thomson, Jackson, Paul, Sigmond, Marchioni, Winter, Dold, Bin-

THE CROW'S NEST

The simultaneous return of Fanfarade, The IPO Poll and Ye Fantastic Bookies make the June SCIENCE FICTION FAN a gala number. The ever-present Moskowitz contributes "So Many Memories"; James V. Taurani's Maganews, The Forecast and Fan Echoes continue. Editor Wiggins should learn to mention his As Others See Us contributors other than by their mere initials; this time Dan McPhail goes to town on Jack Speer. James Rogers' cover, which we liked, reminded us somehow of Tweel, dissimilar as his and Weinbaum's characters are.

The March issue of the New TESSERACT, which just arrived, is the second anniversary issue, containing 34 pages. The two pieces of fiction, Russell A. Leadabrand's "The Muckers" and P. A. Freeman's "Main Attraction", are rather interesting, both being out of the ordinary. Peter Duncan, assisted by Max Bart (or vice versa), has penned another of his wordy articles, in which Charles Fort is panned once more. Tessie's editor continues to add pages by needlessly double-spacing almost thruout.

A(and/or(?))BUSINESS

New York's Roxy Theatre presents on its stage Andriana Caselotti and Harry Stockwell, voices of Snow White and Prince Charming. The accompanying movie, "Kentucky Moonshine", has a scene wherein the Ritz Freres burlesque Snow Whatsername and the Seven Etceteras. . . A few scenes from the original "Flash Gordon" are also used in the 14th chapter of its sequel. Differences between the two pictures especially noticeable are: the change in Dale Arden's hair from blonde to brunette; the authenticity of the costumes in the former; the fact that Ming the Merciless (Charles Middleton) had his head shaven in the first, but saves himself a lot of bother by wearing a sort of skull-cap in the current opus. It wasn't nice of Universal to entirely forget Alax Raymond when its list of credits flashed on the screen. And according to Hoyle, Azura, who is empress of Mars in the picture, is really the Witch Queen of Mongo. Furthermore, we think Buster Crabbe too schmutzy an actor to adequately portray Gordon. So there!

William S. Bykora recently averred that the Fourth Eastern Science Fiction Convention (called the First National Science Fiction Convention) won't be worth while unless over a hundred people attend. It probably won't be worth while. . . Marie O'Flynn, feminine lead on The Witch's Tale, is, in private life, Mrs Alonzo Deen Cole, wife of the author of the eerie series. Cole sells recordings of translations of his tales to foreign countries for broadcasting, thereby making himself tidy, extra sums. The Witch's Tale will be seven years old this week, having begun on May 28, 1931. . . Interplanetary travel is its theme. "The Moon Colony" its title and William Dixon Bell its author. 'Tis published by Goldsmith and sells in your five and ten for a quarter. . . The Amber Ray has invaded New York. That's the name of a taxicab--or, to be exact, the top of a taxi.

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A cartoon rejected by a humorous publication showed Boris Karloff in a hospital viewing his new baby. "Never mind wrapping it--" he says to the nurse, "I'll eat it on the way home."

---Richard Wilson, Jr.