

THE  
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NETTER

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WHEREIN WE SOLILOQUIZE SADLY

Imagination!, organ of the Los Angeles Science Fiction League-First Overseas Chapter Science-Fiction Association, Fanmag of th Future with a Future, monthly mimeographed mass of mirth and more, discussed and cussed as no other, edited by 4e Ackerman, Morojo, Russ Hodgkins, Shroyer and Yerke and all those other queer people inhabiting California, is, with its 14-page, October, 1938, Vol. .2, No. 1, First Anniversary Issue, no more. Wherefore we mourn; and, yes, weep, lest, like Anthony Mallare, "The Scoundrel," it find no abode of eternal rest.

The final issue is given over to fond farewells by the staff, in four and a half pages of Way Out West, one page of ads and seven of the last Voice of the Imagi-Nation. We let down our hair and run the following, an excerpt from an Ackermanote:

"Upon receiving advance pg of proof from that very unlucky #13 IMAGINATION! Dick Wilson dispatcht Speshdel Airvelope to the J with this to say: 'Re that quote from my article in Scienti-Snaps let me say that shortly after 'twas written I became reconciled to the simplified spelling and telescptions. In fact, I rather took a fancy to it and revelled in it. Not that I'd indulge in it to any extent myself, but it was nice to unravel, and it made the reading of whatever was written in it an interesting adventure. And now, before Madge emulates the Arabs and flees silently (tho it'd be more like her to flee noisily, and with wisecracks dropping where they may) into the night, I'd like to say:

"'Goodbye! And thanks for making the past year one of fantasy's pleasantest.'"

"Madge stirs momentarily from the charms of Morpheus to murmur 'Thanx Ric, U r regular...'"

Let that, e'en tho there are too many its in it, be our obituary.

NELL!

Proton of letter of Elmer Perdue found on page 7 of the 13th Madge: "On second thought, Madge, you'll find two sonnets enclosed. The second is entitled 'A Sonnet Found in a Madhouse.' But, if you accept it, it will also be 'A Sonnet Found in Imagination!' and Euclidean Logic (Things equal to the same thing. . . ) will then tell us what Imagination! is. Or will it? (Madge is jealous. Perdue's poem concerns another woman--Nell--obviously "NL", or Wilson's News Letter. . . .)" Yoo-hoo! Boys!

THE PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION,

extraed about in recent NL headlines, will be the Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference, of which Milton A. Rothman is Chairman, & Robert A. Madle Publicity Director, and will be held Sunday, October 16, at the Frankford Avenue Cafe, 1700 N. Frankford Av., Philadelphia, Pa. at 2 p.m.. The program will include a discussion on the purpose of science fiction, a marionette show sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, a fantasy knowledge contest and copious re-

freshments.

The New Yorkers will not hold a counter-conference, but will attend the Philadelphia affair. The Futurians will be out in force, provided Robert W. Lowndes is permitted to make a 30-minute speech on the aims of his group.

#### WE EMPTY OUR NOTEBOOK

In the department, "Collector's Item," in the August Science Fiction Fan, Bob Tucker speaks of Lafcadio Hearn's volume, "Fantasties and Other Fantasies," and particularly of one of Hearn's short stories in the book: "The Fountain of Gold." Coincidentally, we happened to pick up a copy of The Golden Book Magazine for October, 1934, to find that tale reprinted therein. This same issue contains Edward Bellamy's "The Parable of the Water Tank," which is an excerpt from that author's "Equality," the sequel to the famous "Looking Backward." Also to be found is an Indian fantasy by Mary Austin, "The Canoe that the Partridge Made," and "The Euclid of Liars," by Frank Buchner, a short biography of Baron Munchausen, together with one of the baron's famous exaggerations.

Note to whichever person used the pen-names of Azygous and Solitaire in the August SF Fan: "When it becomes necessary for certain snarling and scheming fans to fling their lies in the faces of decent people by using the pseudonyms of other fans, it is an underhanded and vicious attack upon those other writers who are not so pusillanimous (look it up)." --(Signed) David "Solitaire" Kyle.

John Chapman of the N. Y. News reports that Buster Crabbe is busy making a Buck Rogers serial "in which Buck cruises around Saturn and places." Two directors are shooting the picture at the rate of twenty-five scenes a day, or five times as fast as an "A" picture. Twenty-four reels will be completed in one month. "Saturn" is the Red Rock Canyon, in the desert, 160 miles from Hollywood. . . . Latest Nowlan-Calkins Big Little Book is "Buck Rogers, 25th Century A.D., in the Interplanetary War with Venus."

All science fiction fans flunking this Movie Quiz question will go stand in the corner: "Why is the 149-pound Joe E. Brown able to toss 320-pound Man Mountain Dean for a loss in 'The Gladiator'?" (Check one) Because he eats spinach every day; Because he goes to bed early every night; Because he doesn't drink coffee or smoke cigarettes; Because he has an injection of 'strength serum.'" (The real reason is trick photography. Dean was strung from above with invisible-to-the-camera piano wire.)

J. B. Priestley's London success, "I Have Been Here Before," is coming to Broadway's stage this week. Concerns what Robert G. Thompson calls "Tempovision." . . . The Society of American Magicians is campaigning for a National Magic Day, to be celebrated Halowe'en . . . Extraordinary news item contributed by I. Asimov: New Campbell mutant will be rearrangement of letters on cover. Those making up the word, "Astounding," instead of sloping cometically, as heretofore, will be henceforth all the same size! . . . The First Anniversary Issue of The Science Fiction News Letter, whose fate wavered when we contemplated returning to goocery hectograph in order to effect its publication, will now definitely appear, with Cyril Kornbluth as Assistant Editor. . . . And the fourth S-F Dividend will tread almost on the heels of the third, containing material by John B. Michel, Lost Angels and others. . . . MGM is making Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," which, you will remember, brims over with ghostery.

*Richard Wilson*