

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER  
An EMPRESS Publication  
Five cents the copy; six for 25¢.

Published weekly, at  
86-10 117th Street,  
Richmond Hill, N. Y.

Volume III, Number Two. Whole Number 54. December 3d, 1938.

### TO NELLIE

Sound now all men the brazen cymbals-crash;  
Festive strow ye the wall with glinted sands  
Nobly bedeck the barbicaneries;  
Launch on a myriad waves brightargosies.

Nuncios to be of ringing joyousment;  
Eftsoons make merry messengers be sent  
Loudly to chant the tidings and rejoice;  
Let there be made to heaven a happy noise;  
In chorus let there rin out clear and bold:  
"Empress' Nell today is one year old!"

---F. Stanislaus Prosody

### POHL PALIPTATES --

On this, the auspicious First Anniversary of Nell, lovely lady of stf, we, the close and good friends of Vance, politician extraordinary and crusader for the clean fine and good in the field, wish the little girl a most joyous festivity and many happy returns of the occasion. . . . Our customary news flashes will be largely dispensed with this issue, more because there is no news to give than as a tribute to the splendor of the date. Instead, we present a few impressions of the festered board. . . . Gathered round the groaning table this afternoon were many many eminents in science fiction, including the mighty magnificent, Donald A. Wollheim, Ghod of GhuGhu-ism; Cyrile Kornbluth, Guested of the strangely missing Firstanniversaryissue of Nell; John Michelist; Ickylonghair Gillespie; Lowndes from Connecticutcutkadawcut; Roger Charles Wilson (very rare second edition of the fan of the same patronym: the prototype RW himself) & your ever pleasing Moscow Correspondent, Fritz Moisha. Pohl. . . . Speer, Washington man of the NL, was strangely missing. Querulous querying of the Mitche Manitou Board revealed that Donald A. Wollheim's tie was out of order, but no more definite news of Speer could be obtained. And thus was spent another pleasant evening.

### HACK DEP'T --Donald A. Wollheim

Beginning in January, 1939, Ted Carnell becomes editor of the official organ of the SFA. Formerly titled Novae Terrae, the magazine will be called New Worlds, Vol. 1, No. 1. The reason being that former editor Hanson neglected the little duty of sending a copy to the postal authorities, t h e r e b y violating some obscure copyright law. Carnell, refusing to chance the possibility of taking the rap should the matter ever come to official attention, changed the name and volume of the publication. Mag to have colored covers, probably by Turner, and shall attempt to pattern itself after the style of the now defunct Imagination!. . . X marks the title of a new fanmag now being plotted by Michel-Wollheim Publications. It will bear the subtitle: "The Unpopular Science Fiction Review."

## BLOW-BY-BLOW

Philadelphia, Nov. 24; Robert A. Madle: "Speer dropped in this morning at one o'clock. JVB and I helped him bind some FAPA stuff, talked for awhile and Speer was off again--four o'clock. His destination was West Haven, Conn., and he desired to get there before dinner-time today for obvious reasons. He intends to drop in on your birthday party Sunday (I mean 'Nell's Party')."

Fantasy News, Nov. 27; Louis Kuslan: "Jack Speer was on his way to my house when a telephone pole got in the way of his car, thus stopping him effectively. . . . He's not injured."

Washington, D. C., Nov. 26; Juffus: "THE GORY DETAILS--I guess Nell's birthday party will have to struggle along without me, since it would have been exceedingly improper to go ahead with my light-headed plans after wrapping the car around a telegraph pole, even had it been thereafter in driveable condition. An exception to my dropping out of fandom will be the IPC which I shall continue on schedule; shall also distribute the Foo cards, much as a symbol of victory, maintain my subscriptions, and possibly do a column for CT, but I must suspend all correspondence, and will publish no fan mags. All promises, projects, etc., are hereby reneged on."

## GHOLY MANIFESTO --Robert W. Lowndes

His Gholiness Robin the Apostle, Archdeacon Infernal of all GhuGhuism, earnestly adjures all loyal GhuGhuists who may be interested to renounce GhuGhuism publicly and swear allegiance to Jack Speer's juvenilia known as FooFoo, that all may learn the literal truth of our gholly revelations, namely that there is no sin and all GhuGhuists shall be saved in spite of themselves. . . . Recent rumours to the effect that GhuGhuism is merely a Wollheimosity to capture control of fandom are quite absurd inasmuch as many of our staunchest supporters are not even readers, let alone fans. . . . With great pomp and ceremony, his gholliness has blessed NL and assured its continued success.

## "ANY SIMILARITY--"

"In 'Whipsaw', MGM movie of several yrs ago, principal protagonists were Ackerman & Palmer, portrayed by Spencer Tracy & Myrna Loy respectively if not respectfully.

## FURTHERMORE. . .

"Roman Holiday", speculating on the chances for success of a savant & a showman IF--!, as inspired by Jack Binder's picture-feature, they were stranded in the time of Caesarean operations, is shaping up between Barnes & Kuttner. . . 10th Anniversary TWS so far has scheduled contributions from Merritt, Campbell, Keller & Barnes-Kuttner. . . FOUND! 2 Angelenos who heard Welles' "Scare of the States" broadcast. They are Mr & Mrs (Mike & Corinne) Ellsworth, who admitted to the LASFL at its last meeting in Nov. the Awful Truth that they had accepted it as actuality. . . "Focus on Infinity" by Bloch sold Strange. . . Moore & Kuttner collabing again, this time on a futuristic piece for TWS. --fja.

## NICKNAMES

"Madge, Nell, and Sally," said Jack Speer disgustedly, referring to the alter egos of Imagination!, the News Letter & The Satellite. "Ain't we got no he-men?" Oh, yes, indeed! The Scientificodensian's editors call it "Leo," & Forry the J refers to the CPASF's Science-Fiction Advance as "Vance." . . . Who'll be the first to call Fantasy News "Fanny"?

"RELATING TO PHYSICAL FORCES, EFFECTS, OR LAWS" --Webster

With new professional fantasy magazines popping up all over the place the appearance of the latest isn't as thrilling as it might be. For unforgotten posterity we record the following: New York City saw its first issue of Dynamic Science Stories Tuesday, November 29, 1938. 112 pulp pages in size, priced at 15¢, dated Feb., 1939, published by Red Circle Magazines, sister to Marvel Science Stories, its first issue presents "The Lord of Tranerica," by Stanton A. Coblentz, "Mutineers of Space," by Lloyd Arthur Eshbach, "Quest of Zipantor," by Robert Moore Williams, "The Mercurian Menace," by Nelson S. Bond & "The Message from the Void," by Hubert Mavity. The cover is by Frank R. Paul, with interior illustrations by Paul, Binder, Marchioni & Wesso. We feel that we owe it to our readers to mention that Mr Eshbach's name is misspelled on the cover.

ACKERMANNOTATIONS (Slightly paraphrased)

In reading "The Sorcerer's Jewel" by Tarleton Fiske (Strange) I first began to suspect it was by Blich, then realized it was "Focus on Infinity"...! (See page 2.) ... Looking northeast out a window at Morojo's one sees, in noon: KRUPA! He leads an orchestra nightly at the Club Palomar ... In Glendale/Cal within a blk of ea-othe, stores named Wilson & Michel ... Henry Kuttner doing one about interplanetary test pilots titled "Suicide Squad" ... I've sold "The Blind Spot"; have own copy ofcourse, & couple dupes; but recently I read it for the first time. --Some fanmag may b receiving an article from me debunking TBS ... Mirta Forsto will pub Novacious (FAPA).

FOR THE COMPLETIST

Amazing Mystery Funnies, after a bad start, has picked up and is now devoted almost entirely to fantastic picture stories. Its third issue, dated December, features Bill Everett's "'Skyrocket' Steele," interplanetary yarn featuring an invisible living-dead man. "The Floating City," by one Pinajian, is one of a series of adventures of Dick Kent & Prof. Benton, this time dealing with a strange city above the Arctic. A. S. Van Eerde does "2038 A. D.," a page of futuristic cartoons. "Jay Douglas in a Prehistoric World" is a complete picture-tale by Robert Louis Golden. Science fiction, as such, is represented by Lloyd Dyoll's four-page story of interplanetary battle: "War Without Warning." Within a few issues, Amazing Mystery Funnies may develop into the first sci-comic magazine.

FAN PUBS RECEIVED

Tomorrow, Autumn, 1938

The Scientifictionaleodensian, Nov.

Fantasy News, Nov. 27

"Hollerbochen Comes Back, or The Voyage of the Neuralgia," by Ray Bradbury, a 4-paged LASFL pub embodying, in addition to the title tale, "Shame on Fandom," by Louis Bremmer, & "Fantasy Fiction's Foremost Fan," by Art(thur K.) Barnes. The pamphlet also advises that Jack Speer is the \$1 prize winner in Imagination!'s prize contest.

The Science Fiction Love Letter, Nov. 27

The S-F Dividend #5

the latter two of which are herewith mailed.

(P. S.:) The Satellite, Dec.



## SCIENTIFICTIONA

The Bizarre series, publishers of A. Merritt's "Three Lines of Old French," will shortly have for sale Dr David H. Keller's "The Thing in the Cellar" ... Doc Lowndes reports that Dynamic Science Stories has been on the Connecticut newsstands for a fortnight & some ... We are happy to correct an error regarding the title of one of the Lone Star Publications: the title of their fanmag is The Texan Fan, not the Texas Fan ... We are unhappy to report that neither "The Bat Whispers" nor "The Death Kiss" (NL #53) is the least bit unorthodox--save for one of the characters, who was named Gulliver. With the duo, however, we saw New Universal's latest fantastic cartoon ---"Ghost Town Frolics" ... One Sara E. Collins, actress, is first to sue CBS--for shock resulting from the Wellescare. She asks \$50,000. ... J. B. S. Haldane, scientist, has written a fantasy for children for grown-ups (like "Ferdinand"; also unlike "Ferdinand," which isn't fantasy): "My Friend Mr Leakey," pub'd by Harpers. Mr Leakey, formerly of a world of magic, lives with an octopus, a dragon, a snake, a beetle, a jinn & a magic carpet ... The Shadow is scientifictional this halfmonth. Its issue of Dec. 15 features "Double Death," which has to do with an invisible black ray which degravitizes steel.

## SILVER SCREEN STUFF

Further news on the Atlantistory: Titled "The Lost Atlantis," the Columbia picture is now in production, being made with the cooperation of Yale University & the Smithsonian Institute. Blurb from Columbia's publicity dep't.: "The camera's magic brings to vivid, spectacular life the ancient legend of a continent that vanished beneath the waters of the turbulent Atlantic! Huge beasts lash their way across the face of the earth...great monsters stage epic under-sea battles!" ... Now being produced at Monogram with the aid of the American Museum of Natural History is Fred Jackman & Trem Carr's "Wonder World," written by Harry Host, who did the story for First National's "The Lost World." Ballyhoo follows: "Man Against Prehistoric Monsters in the Greatest Thrill Spectacle of the Year. The story of a gold-hunting expedition in the Southwest which accidentally stumbles on a lost world; and the clock turns back 25 million years. SEE the battle to death between giant brontosauri! SEE human beings carried away by winged monsters! SEE the bloody struggle between man and dinosaur! SEE giant tigers, the terror of all living things!" --ck, hw, Col., Monogram and nl

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AFTER A PARTY

We have received, and we are grateful for, the following:

- (a) The Science Fiction Love Letter, Volume O, Number x :John B. Michel & Donald A. Vollheim
- (b) The S-F Dividend #5 :Morajo & Forrest J Ackerman
- (c) Sixteen hickory nuts :Dale Hart
- (d) One kiss on Nell's virgin brow :Robert A. Madle
- (e) The Sunday Worker, Vol. III, No. 49, containing J.B. S. Haldane's "Is There Life on the Planets?" :?

## PERTINENT FACT DEP'T

The gentleman who runs the cigar store on the corner of 117th St. & Jamaica Av. does not handle The Necronomicron Monthly. Jack Gillespie asked him.

*Urgonized P.S.: What do we find on p. 1, too late to do anything about it, but "rin" for "ring" + "palpitates" for "palpitates"? We feel awful ....*

*Richard Wilson, Jr. + assis - tance galore!*