

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER
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FANTASY-FILM FESTIVAL

"Was browsing thru a trade publication known as the Boxoffice Barometer last week, and ran across a section devoted to listing the productions of the movie companies for the coming year. List same below, as given in magazine:" (...Bob Tucker writing...)

"'Invasion' (Para) 'Classed as one of the studio's most important projects, this tells of an attack on the U. S. by some anonymous foreign power. Budgeted on a high scale, the production will include acting talent comprising virtually the entire studio's roster.'" (Which corroborates the FJA-Nell scoop; the ban Fantasy News spoke of evidently has been lifted.)

"'The Flying Yorkshireman' (RKO) 'A straight comedy, in which Eddie Cantor plays a wealthy retired Englishman, who, coming to the U. S., is so impressed with a sermon that he learns, "thru Faith", to fly. Minus an airplane, without artificial aids of any kind, he soars from coast to coast in...a series...of adventures.'" (The original of this script was a yarn of the same title in the magazine: Story.)

"'Water Gypsies' (United Artists) 'Fantasy, based on Charles Lamb's fairy tales.'" (No ref., but we think Kingsley.)

"'Dark Tower' (WB) 'Boris Karloff-Claude Rains mystery-thriller.'

"'Return of Dr X' (WB) 'Sequel to the Dr X thriller filmed some years ago, this is another contribution to the horror cycle.'

"I left out the Tarzans, Frankensteins, etc., because I already saw them mentioned." (And we omitted "The Lost Atlantis", "Wonder World" & "Knights of the Round Table" for the same reason.)

And Forrest J Ackerman adds: "3 real thrillers of the pseudo-science & weird sort newly announced, being "Mandrake the Magician" with Henry Hull at Col., Karloff in an eerie opus of medieval horrors entitled 'Tower of London', &--Para plans to produce the supershocker of the yr in DR CYCLOPS, whose subject matter, cast et al is said to be so secret that only 6 people on the lot r in on it! To be directed by Schoedsack of 'King Kong' fame, it is to be 'packed with technical & story tricks.'" Whereupon we wonder whether "Dark Tower" and "Tower of London" are one & the same. Some will recall that "Dark Tower" was the title of a play within the Edward G. Robinson hypnotic-influence WB pic of 3-4 years ago: "The Man With Two Faces."

We add our bit: N. Y.'s Casino Theater on Feb. 17 opened to the Continental Production, "Gottes Muehlen Mahlen Langsam" (The Mills of the Gods Grind Slowly), also called "Gottes Muehlen", or simply "The Mills of the Gods". As in some of the best weird tales, you may accept the obvious, prosaic explanation, or the supernatural one. In this case fantasy fans will choose the latter, whereby the gods visit the sins of the father upon his sons. (A German film.)

Universal is dickering with Dr Sigmund Freud, whom they would have do "The Psychology of Horror" for Karloff & Lugosi.

SCIENTIFICTIANA

Fantasy on wheels: American News Co. trucks are dashing about N. Y. with large, colorful posters attached to them ballyhooing Street & Smith's new pet: Unknown. While The N. Y. Post's trucks advertise Samuel Hopkins Adams' "The World Goes Smash"...Recently published by Dutton at \$2.50 was "The Tales of Algernon Blackwood"--stories of the supernatural and uncanny... A newspaper clipping reads "A Holiday Treat! With S. F.'s Top Show: 'Topper Takes a Trip'--but S. F. stands for San Francisco, not Science Fiction... London's New Theater opened Feb. 22 to J. B. Priestley's new play, "Johnson Over Jordan", which deals with the adventures of Johnson's ghost after its former body's funeral...The cover of the May D'Journal shows a facsimile of the Cosmic-Empress Fantasy-Letter, of July 9, 1939--the amalgamation, it seems, will take place after the World S-F Convention this summer.

"THE FLYING WOMBAT"

is the name of the Auto of Tomcro as featured in the film "The Young in Heart" (With Roland "Topper" Young). They say, "It thinks for U!" fja

MARQUEE MERRIMENT

Filmarte revival theater in H'wood advertises "Dr Jekyll & Duck Soup"! *(This not also a revival, we notice...hell.)* do

FLUSHING PAPERS PLEASE COPY

Fopah Unforgivable: When Ray Bradbury, at an LASFL meeting, askt: "Say, how did Fantasy News ever become named 'Nell' anyway?" j

JIM AVERY:

"I meant, by my question concerning French speaking fans; are there enough to warrant publication of a fan mag in this country? I fully understand that M. Gallet is creating a pro mag...but I suggested that I might publish a fan mg in French, as sort of a supplement to Gallet's. Doc Lowndes' mag is a half way approach to it, but, of course, it's no more French than I am. But I mean a fan mag having title and contents in French--readable F, that is. It might be called Fantasie Revue or L'Affiche Fantastique."

HEY, FERRY!

"Noticed you ran quite an article on Esperanto. According to an article in a local newspaper they are opening night classes in the public schools in London for the purpose of teaching Esperanto."

--Ray Pauley

JACK SPEER:

"Not exactly stf, but in line with the 'lost empire' theme, the Kali worshippers who were the villians of 'Gunga Din' were the remnant of Alexander's province below the Indus."

ON HAND

Fantasy-News, Feb 26, V2#10
The Futurian News, Feb 23, V1#5
Le Vombiteur, Feb 25, V2#3

FIVE FAVORITE FANTASCIENCE FILMS--of Sam Moskowitz

"King Kong", "Lost Horizon", "Frankenstein", "Bride of Frankenstein" & "TransAtlantic Tunnel".

Jack Wilson