

Published every month by The Scienceers.

ALLEN GLASSER, Editor

PHILIP ROSENBLATT, Technical Adviser

rays of energy shot out from it as easily as light beams are shot out into the sky by a huge searchlight! Factories, trains, ships, even airplanes in the sky would all run on power sent out by radio from a central power plant.

THE PRICE OF CIVILIZATION

In the words of Dr. Albert Bachem, professor at the University of Chicago, College of Medicine, "this is the dirtiest age in the history of civilization."

As for noise, Dr. Bachem thinks we have reached "the peak of barbarism." Nor does the professor stop with scoring dirt and noise. He declares himself on men's clothes, too, and pronounces them as "the worst that could possibly be designed."

Even some of our greatest inventions came in for a berating. "Amazing how every discovery brings with it certain harmful changes in the environment." He cites fire and the loss through cooking of many valuable vitamins, as well as damage to the teeth. The invention of clothing cuts off light and air circulation. Glass windows cut off the ultraviolet rays and closed automobiles do the same for us outdoors. All true, but the price of civilization. - A. G.

TRANSMISSION OF POWER BY RADIO

A German scientist recently succeeded in transmitting electrical power without the use of wires. While this newest phase of radio is as yet too experimental for practical purposes, the day may not be far off when the transmission of power by radio is a universal practice.

Imagine a central radio power plant furnishing the power to turn the wheels of industry of an entire city. Imagine

(continued in next column)

ARCHIMEDES' DISCOVERY

Hiero, king of Syracuse, suspected that the royal crown was not pure gold but contained an alloy of silver, so he commissioned Archimedes, the noted mathematician, to determine the quality of the crown.

Archimedes puzzled over the problem for some time, unable to arrive at a solution. Then, one day, as he was stepping into his bath he observed the water overflowing and it dawned on him that a body would displace its own volume of water.

Shouting "EUREKA!" ("I have found it") he ran naked through the streets of Syracuse, obtained the king's crown and a lump of pure gold and a lump of silver alloy, each equal in weight to the crown. By checking the difference in the amounts of water the crown, the gold and the silver displaced, he estimated the percentage of alloy in the crown.

The science of hydrostatics is founded on the scientific principle discovered by Archimedes that day in his bath.

- NATHAN GREENFELD.

LAVA may actually grow hotter after leaving a volcano than it was before, according to Dr. T. J. Jaggar, the famous volcano expert. Lava is charged with highly inflammable gases, he says, and when it reaches the air, these gases catch fire and make the lava still hotter and more fluid. That is the explanation of the paradox.

- MORTIMER WEISINGER.

NOTE: All contributions intended for this paper should be sent to the Editor, 1610 University Avenue, New York, N. Y.

ASTRONOMICAL MYSTERIES (V)Why Saturn's Rings?

That beautiful ring system of Saturn is always a source of wonder to the skilled astronomer. Why should Saturn, and Saturn alone, be gifted with this girdling swarm of tiny moons?

If only some other planet had the same thing, it might not be so puzzling, so inexplicable. A more general principle might be found underlying the existence of planetary rings.

But only Saturn has them. No one as yet has advanced an adequate theory for their existence. — ALLEN GLASSER.

THE SQUAWKIES WILL SOON QUIT SQUAWKING

Thundering waterfalls that sound like rustling leaves, footsteps that sound like barrels rolling downstairs — these and all the other uncanny sounds that have made the talkies the squawkies will soon be eliminated, is the promise of the radio engineers.

Even in the best talking pictures, the voices of the actors have had no depth, no movement. Voices coming from the distance have seemed to scream in our ears. Radio engineers have been working hard to remedy these defects. Little by little improvements have been made until now the burden of further perfection falls largely on the directors who handle the taking of sound pictures. We will all breathe a sigh of relief when the talkie grows up. It has been too noisy — but what youngster isn't? — PHILIP ROSENBLATT.

BY means of an instrument known as a thermocouple, scientists of the Carnegie Institute have determined that the maximum temperature of the moon at midday is 244 degrees Fahrenheit. Not exactly a healthful climate, 'twould seem.

— NATHAN GREENFELD.

BEST SCIENTIFIC-FANTASY OF 1930

Last month we promised to print in this issue a list of the best stories in the science-fantasy field appearing during 1930, as chosen by our readers. There was no great difference in selections, proving that a good story has a wide appeal. The consensus of choices is given herewith:

FIVE BEST SERIALSA FIGHTING MAN OF MARS

By Edgar Rice Burroughs (Blue Book)

THE SNAKE MOTHER

By A. Merritt (Argosy)

MURDER MADNESS

By Murray Leinster (Astounding Stories)

THE PRINCE OF PERIL

By Otis Adelbert Kline (Argosy)

BRIGANDS OF THE MOON

By Ray Cummings (Astounding Stories)

TEN BEST COMPLETE STORIESTANKS

By Murray Leinster (Astounding Stories)

THE POWER AND THE GLORY

By Chas. W. Diffin (Astounding Stories)

THE FORGOTTEN PLANET

By Sewell P. Wright (Astounding Stories)

THE INFINITE BRAIN

By John S. Campbell (Wonder Stories)

THE ATOM SMASHER

By Victor Rousseau (Astounding Stories)

MONSTERS OF MOYEN

By Arthur J. Burks (Astounding Stories)

SPAWN OF THE STARS

By Chas. W. Diffin (Astounding Stories)

PYGMY ISLAND

By Edmond Hamilton (Weird Tales)

A YEAR IN A DAY

By Erle Stanley Gardner (Argosy)

SILVER DOME

By Harl Vincent (Astounding Stories)

EINSTEIN VISITS UNITED STATES

Prof. Albert Einstein is now in this country to confer with American scientists. Press accounts of his visit should make interesting reading. Watch for them.

CURRENT SCIENCE FICTION

Ray Cummings returns to ARGOSY with his latest fantastic novel, "Tama of the Light Country." The locale of the story is the planet Mercury; the same setting used in Cummings' "Fire People" of some years ago. The new serial starts in the December 13th issue.

ASTOUNDING STORIES for January has a fine line-up of scientific fantasy. The issue features Murray Leinster's novellette, "The Fifth-Dimension Catapult." Also: "The Gate to Xoran," by Hal K. Wells; "The Eye of Allah," by C. D. Willard; and Part Three of "The Pirate Planet," by Charles W. Diffin.

In the January number of AMAZING STORIES we have "The Prince of Space," by Jack Williamson; "Tanks Under the Sea," by Harl Vincent; and others by Capt. S. P. Meek, Frank J. Bridge, and Will H. Gray.

That's all worth mentioning this month; and it makes an impressive list, we think. Don't you? - A. G.

AGE OF THE EARTH

Prof. A. F. Kovarik of the Yale physics department fixes the age of the earth at 1,852,000,000 years. He came to this conclusion from study of a piece of uranite rock from northwestern Russia.

Astronomers have calculated the age of the earth at two billion years. The radioactivity method of determining age of minerals is based upon the fact that radioactive minerals disintegrate finally into some form of lead. The rate of radioactive discharge never varies.
- NATHAN GREENFELD.

A NEW tailless airplane which is spin-proof has been invented by M. Solenhoff, a Swiss designer. The ship, which recently attained a speed of 115 miles an hour on a test flight, is a low wing monoplane containing two cockpits. Temple, Texas.
- GABRIEL KIRSCHNER.

X-RAYS

Walt Dennis, the Windy City wit, tells this one --

A cub reporter over in London, frequently reprimanded for overwriting and warned to be brief, turned in the following to his city editor: "A shocking affair occurred last night. Sir Oswald Hopeless, a guest at Lady Panmore's ball, complained of feeling ill, took a highball, his coat, his departure, no notice of his friends, a taxi, a pistol in his pocket, and, finally, his life. Nice chap. Regrets and all that."

NAT - "What keeps the moon from falling?"

PHIL - "It must be the beams."

COMMUNIST - "After all, what is the difference between the rich man and the poor man?"

BYSTANDER - "The rich man has acute laryngitis and the poor man has a cold."

The Home News, one of New York's (mis)leading papers, recently contained a diverting account of Sir Edgar Ray Merritt's visit to The Scienceers, which was described at length in our September issue. This should be of great interest to our readers -- both of them. - A. G.

IN 4000 A. D.

Prof. A. M. Low's picture of life in the year 4000 A. D. --

Flappers will wear wigs, thick glasses and false teeth... Men will be concerned only with thought and some will be brilliant beyond present conception... War will not yet be abolished... Criminal tendencies will be treated with surgery... Mothers will select the sex of unborn children.
- MORTIMER WEISINGER.

THE SCIENCEERS, an organization for those interested in future scientific developments, meets every week at 873 Whitlock Avenue, Bronx, N. Y. Detailed information about the club appears every Friday in the New York "Evening World" among news of the Yesian Brotherhood.