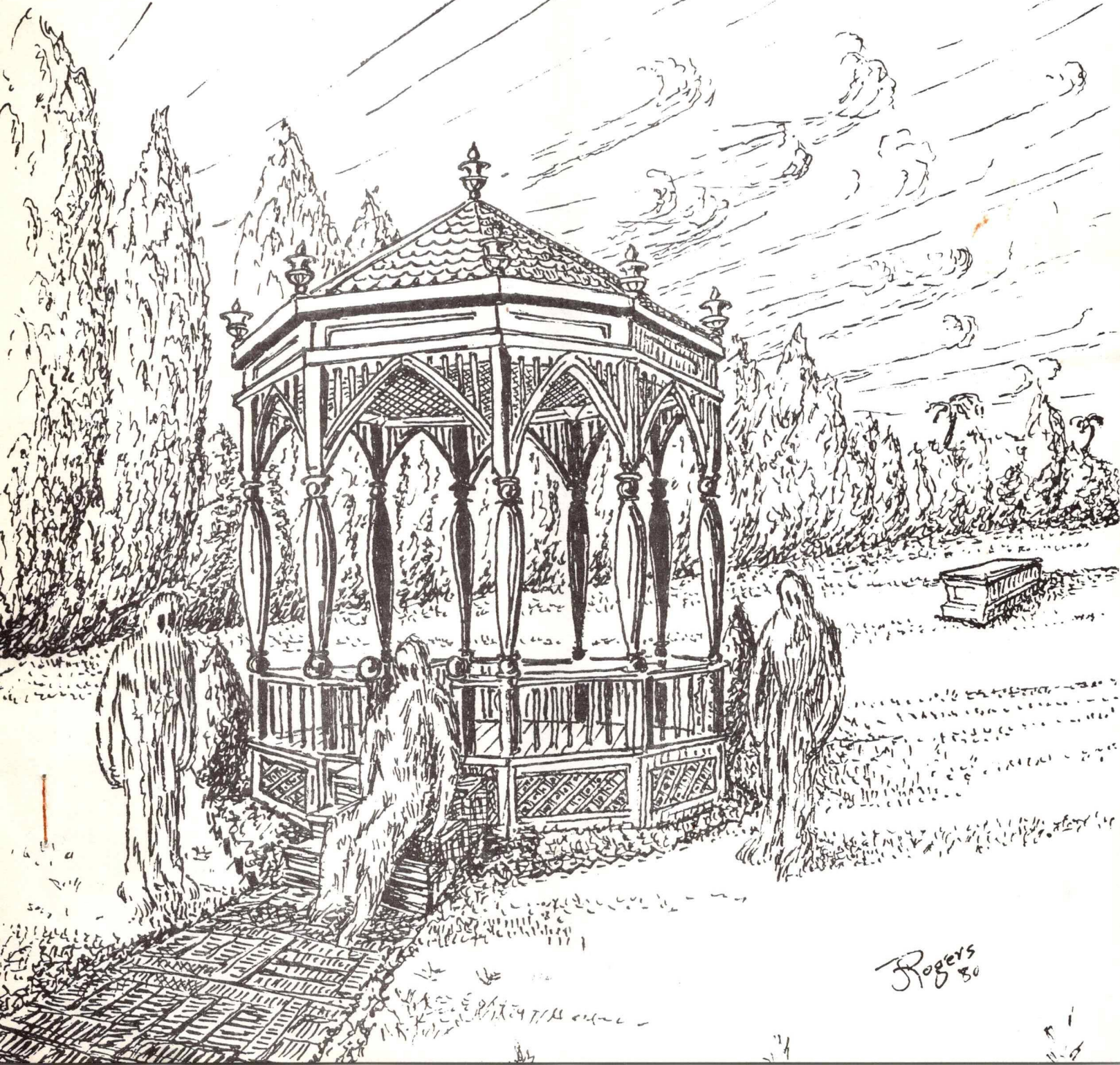


PHANTASY PRESS

NO. 57



Rogers
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Phantasy
PRESS

issue number 57

Volume 17, number 4

January, 1980 FAPA #170

Dan McPhail
Editor

Christmas, 1979, is just over. I hope it was a wonderful, old-fashioned Christmas for all of you, with the closeness of family and the happiness of opening gifts under the tree (you know just that special gift we all hinted for weeks in advance). These merry times have been traditional for generations, and I pray they continue for many more.

But the new year of 1980 brings little to be happy about. Events of the past few months have brought deep gloom and real fear to all of us. At home, spiraling costs and a badly deflated dollar makes day-to-day existence a real burden for a growing number of people. On the world scene, American's role as the Leader is badly eroded, and it seems the Soviets are calling most of the shots. The collapse of Iran means the loss of the southern anchor of the NATO Line, as the Reds move closer to the oil centers of the Middle East, and the United States desperately are seeking new allies. By an odd twist of fate, our greatest support comes from two former adversaries, Egypt and Israel, who are the real military heavyweights of the Arab World.

It is agonizing to see the ground we have lost and the many opportunities we have missed to play a dominate role in the Middle East. When WW-2 ended, the USA was the most powerful nation in the history of our planet, yet we so thinned out our Naval and Air Strength that we now have the sad spectacle of a fifth-rate (or less) country holding 50 of our US citizens in prison with real danger to their lives, and our military unable to come to their aid.

When one reads that Russia is out-building us 2 to 1 in planes, tanks and ships, we sure as Hell better get on the ball and start playing catch-up! Otherwise, we all better start learning to speak Russian.

I remember that it scared me during World War Two when Hitler and Stalin joined forces, but when I say that I am more concerned and scared now, I'm not just whistling Dixie.

For FAPA and the rest of the world, I pray for a peaceful 1980.

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.... in the 169th



F.A.P.A. MAILING

For

NOVEMBER, 1979

PHANTASY AMATEUR..A good job on on your first issue, Bruce...
Ed, I greatly enjoyed your message and concur with you in feeling we should search out & make known the history & lore of FAPA. I also think it is time to look back. That is the main reason I revived the Press. I have a considerable amount of little known items & activities that I plan to bring forth in the mailings

ahead, some of which I developed while serving as historian for First Fandom Club. About the time I went on the waiting list, I sent Bob Pavlat some valuable documents from our first administration. If we eventually name a FAPA curator, I have a great amount of formative and other correspondence & related items that I will donate.

HORIZONS (Warner) You are forgiven, Harry, for not writing me re the two issues that I mailed out as credentials for FAPA-entry. I sure could have used the encouragement then, as almost no one commented on them. I'm glad you liked them..I will try to maintain some of the style of that relaxed fandom with an emphasis on the past....I suffer those 5 AM waking,too, but many of mine come at 2 - 4 AM and I'm up for the rest of the night. It's a medical problem, but I am thankful for a new medicine that has really helped me the past two years....I sure enjoyed your interesting coverage of news & advertising layout problems on a large daily. I can see that sometimes a story continued on another page never makes it...you recall, of course, that fanzines were first of all called "fan mags".

FOSH #1 (Tepper) Welcome to the club!..I enjoyed those "TwilightZone" series,too. They are re-runs in this area now..many years ago, Lawton began razing it's old downtown business area and this last fall finally completed & opened a very large beautiful Central Shopping Center which, in turn has sparked much new structures & remodded many others..yes, there have been FAPA membership cards issued in the past. I have one before me dated 1956 but I feel sure there was one in the very early years, like 1938 or so.

THE DEVIL'S WORK (Metcalf) I bet Clement's "Connecticut Yankee" was the first time-travel yarn..it's good to hear that Olon Wiggins is still about & it would be great to have him back..thank you, Norm, for the kind welcome back.

PINBALL LIZARD (Marion) Sounds like you had a hectic time.

THE TIGER IS LOOSE#18 (Boutilliar) Interesting observations.
PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE (Stone) Much enjoyed the review of the old
Stellar SF Series. The inside (page 2) art by Paul was in black and
white.

FANTASY COMMENTATOR (Searles) This is certainly the bargain of this
mailing...I most enjoyed learning of Edward White...I also noted many of
the errors you mention in reviewing Fred Pohl's book. It was interesting
to read of long ago pen pals, such as G. G. Clark, Harry Dockweiler, Bob
Lowndes, Don Wollheim, Dave Kyle, Will Sykora, Jim Blish, Johnny Baltadonis,
Bob Madle and others. It was a treat to meet Fred last summer at the Tulsa
Con..an excellent edition of FC. Enjoyed all the Moskowitz copy. Sam is
one of my two favorite writers in the Fan Field.

DIASPAR (Carr) Terry, I enjoyed this so much. It's one of the best Con
Reports I have ever read. Good art, too.

RAMBLING FAP (Calkins) What I always wanted to know about Scuba and was
afraid to ask...the "Gulfstar" is beautiful - good sailing!

DAMBALLA (Hansen) Good Cover..you were on the waiting list for six years?
And I thought my two years were a long time! I regret I couldn't get
right in, for I would have had much more pubbed by now.... the storage of
radio-active waste in unsafe containers is insanity of the first degree...
Silverberg is right - FAPA is far more fun when you make every mailing....
something I plan to do...thanks for your praise of Rogers. He is very
much in the style of Paul. One of my first fan pen pals, James did his
first art work for my Pioneer Science Fiction New in 1936!

SPEED OF DARK (Glyer) Noted.

NOTES FROM ARINAM (Tackett) I like the Mars created by Leigh Brackett..also..
...as to the cover: In 1962, PP#37 had a feature article titled "It Started
in 1937"....with a drawing of the old two-story place where I lived then.
In the back yard was the Comanche water tower. When I drew it, I put
"CHS" on it, as school kids used to do. Then, 1977 while waiting a call
from FAPA, I put out PP # 52 and reprinted the article and drawing. When
James Rogers saw it, he asked if he could do a cover based on it. However,
I told him that Jack Speer, who lived in Comanche then, also; said I was
wrong on what was printed on the water tank but he wouldn't tell me what
it was - which accounts for the message James lettered in. Then I had to
write that junky piece to go with his cover.

ORANGE CALENDULAS (Andruschak) Thanks, Andy, for the most interesting mag -
re the rocket pioneers, and other goodies.

WHAT THE DORMOUSE SAID (Ortlieb) Interesting.


FLOCCIPAUCINIHIPIILTFICATION (Glicksohn) Really, Mike, couldn't you
shorten that title?...I enjoyed your shoebox article.

FANTASI(Wesson) What a beautiful cover design! Again, I agree with you about
the LAYOUT category...I've always found your writings most interesting,
especially when you were in the Orient....I would like to know what you
think of my zine. I hope I can make it attractive enough and interesting
enough to warrant a mention in your next issue.

WHOS (Widner) You do a great job, Art. Your layout and color use is
excellent. Will be glad when you get current on your mcs. You are right
Gernsback never had Astounding. I don't mind Speer's nit-picking, its part
of the interest of FAPA (And sometimes I do learn something.)

☼ ☹ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Smoke | Signals



PERSONAL TO ONE BOB TUCKER:

I was looking at a copy of your hectoed SF ADVERTIZER #1, and your ad for the up-coming D'JOURNAL and noticed the contents includes "McPHAIL'S DEFEAT OF THE FIRST MARTIAN INVASION OF OKLAHOMA". The cover of Phantasy Press #55, had a fine drawing by Rogers that would have been perfect for the story. It showed a Martian attack on Comanche, Ok. The house where I lived then is drawn exact. I'll send you a copy. Hey, Bob, will you be back in Tulsa con-time? If so, Louise and I will see you. Best Wishes.

ALMOST FIRST

I almost had the first "NOVA" story, named "A Letter from Injun Joe". But Bob points out that ASTOUNDING must have had an advanced peek at the page and beat Bob with the first Nova Story. They went to press before D'JOURNAL, but the original idea was his.

NOTHING MAKES YOU A BETTER LISTENER THAN HEARING
YOUR NAME MENTIONED

A SIDE NOTE TO ONE V. VAYNE

I'm sorry I have nothing new to report on the ABDICK #77. Most of the dealer's I have talked with, say they haven't made parts for it in ages. In my old correspondence files, I ran across a letter from one Sol Zalman-ovich of Darby Penna. He mentioned he was planning a zine titled "Tomorrow" to be pubbed on a Neostyle with a printing area of 7 1/4 x 12 1/2. He said he was joining FAPA, but I don't know if he came in or not. His letter was dated 3-13-40, which was about the time I dropped out the first time.

LOOKING BACK

In Astounding Stories Brass Tacks for March, 1935, Jack Speer revealed that he started reading SF at the age of six!

F.F.F.F. REPORT

Every project now a days has a code name, so it was in the last mailing that I launched the SFFF (or Search for First Fandom) but for the sake of alliteration, it is changed to "FFFF" - or, "Find First Fandom Fanzines".

In July, 1930, The Scienceers club launched "The Planet", which Allen Glasser was editor. It was mimeographed on one side only and it usually had 3 or 4 pages and was issued monthly.

A branch was formed in Clearwater, Florida. They issued a 4 page bulletin, titled "The Planetoid" and it was edited by Carlton Abernathy.

A second branch was formed in Temple, Texas under the leadership of Gabriel Kirschner. Does anyone know if this branch ever got rolling?

YOU KNOW ITS GOING TO BE A BAD DAY WHEN YOUR TWIN BROTHER FORGETS
YOUR BIRTHDAY

THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW UNTIL NOW - and sorry you asked

An average pencil can be used to draw a line 35 miles long. Guess how many hairs on the average head. Some one counted (or guessed that a blonde has 180,000; the average brunette has 120,000 while average red head has only 50,000. Don't believe me? Go count'em yourself!

A WINNER

While researching some old magazines recently I ran across an announcement of the outcome of an 1939 contest to list the essentials of good SF. The \$25.00 winner was our popular cover artist, James Rogers!

SPEAKING OF BOOKS (were we?)

From the Publishers Central Bureau, I recently obtained a copy of "MARS" by Jeff Rovin. Any fan will find this of great interest. It has an introduction by Ben Bova. Its 140 photos & illustrations cover events ranging from astrophysics to comics, truly a book of Martian fact and fantasy. At \$4.98, it is a good buy.

COVER ART

The front cover is the creation of James Rogers. We are glad to be able to bring back the work of this fine artist of First Fandom. The back cover is the photographic work of Morris Scott Dollens, and picture of himself (taken over 20 ye-rs back) and is printed with his permission.

PIONEER FANZINES

No. 3

Dated May 1, 1936, the first issue of Morris Scott Dollem's SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR * a hectographed, size 6x9, made its appearance. It had 16 pages - all in purple ink. It had art, fiction & an article on binding books.

The zine usually had 20 or more pages and six of them were large-size (8 1/2 x 11). Dollem's art was excellent & he used 6 or more colors. A master of lay-out, his mag was a beauty to see.

I'm not sure how many issues appeared - I have 23 - & I think that is all. With its 14th issue (Vol. 3, No. 2) the publication was taken over by John V. Baltadon of Philadelphia and added to his string of "Comet" magazines. Morris Dollem continued to contribute art but he slowly dropped out of the active fan world.

Morris turned to films and became an excellent craftsman in that field.

Often his framed s-f movie scenes are displayed at conventions. He has put a lot of effort in trying to write and produce a film version of a tour of the solar system.

But he keeps active in painting and drawing and his work has often been seen on sf magazine covers.

He likes both classical and folk music. He works at writing, having some 40 stories plotted. And he has sold a number of how-to-do-it articles

THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR

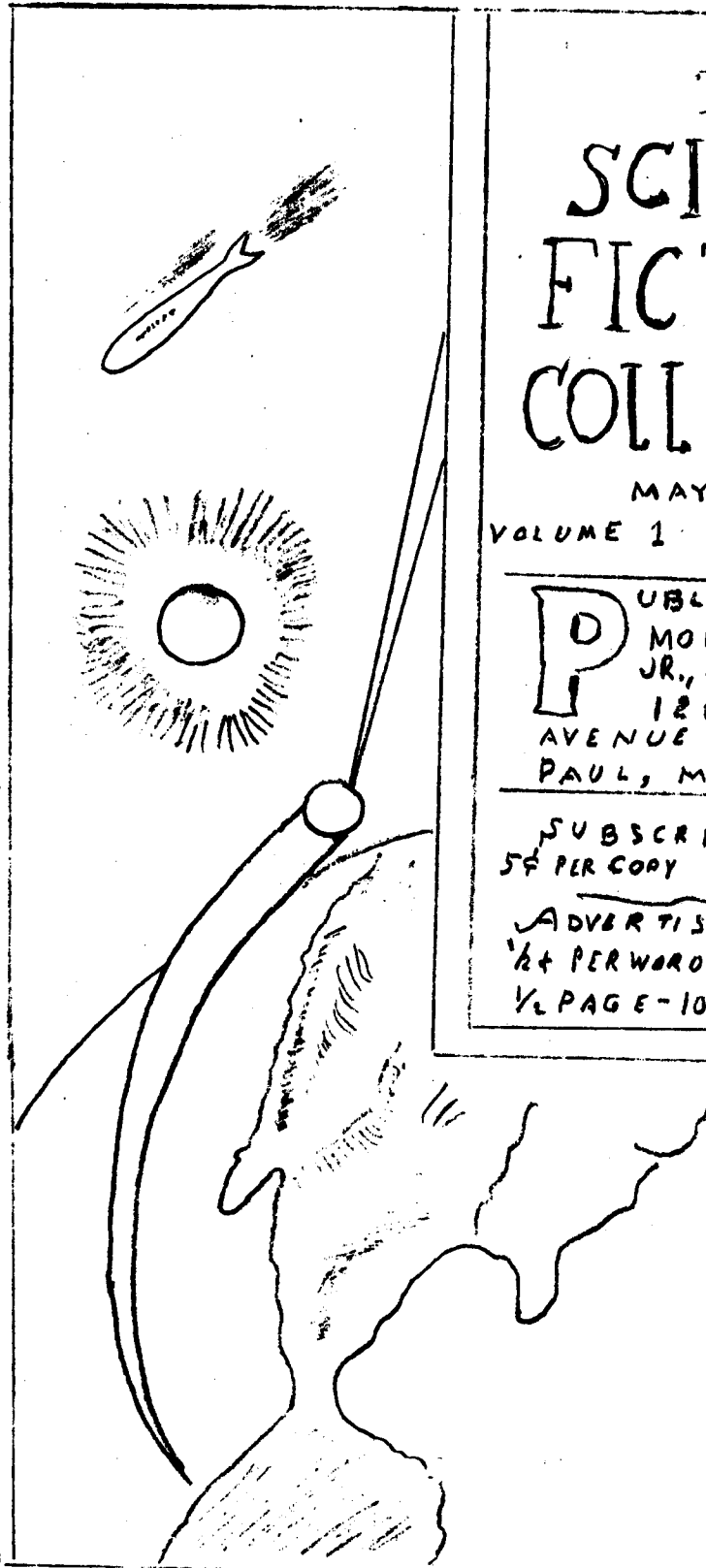
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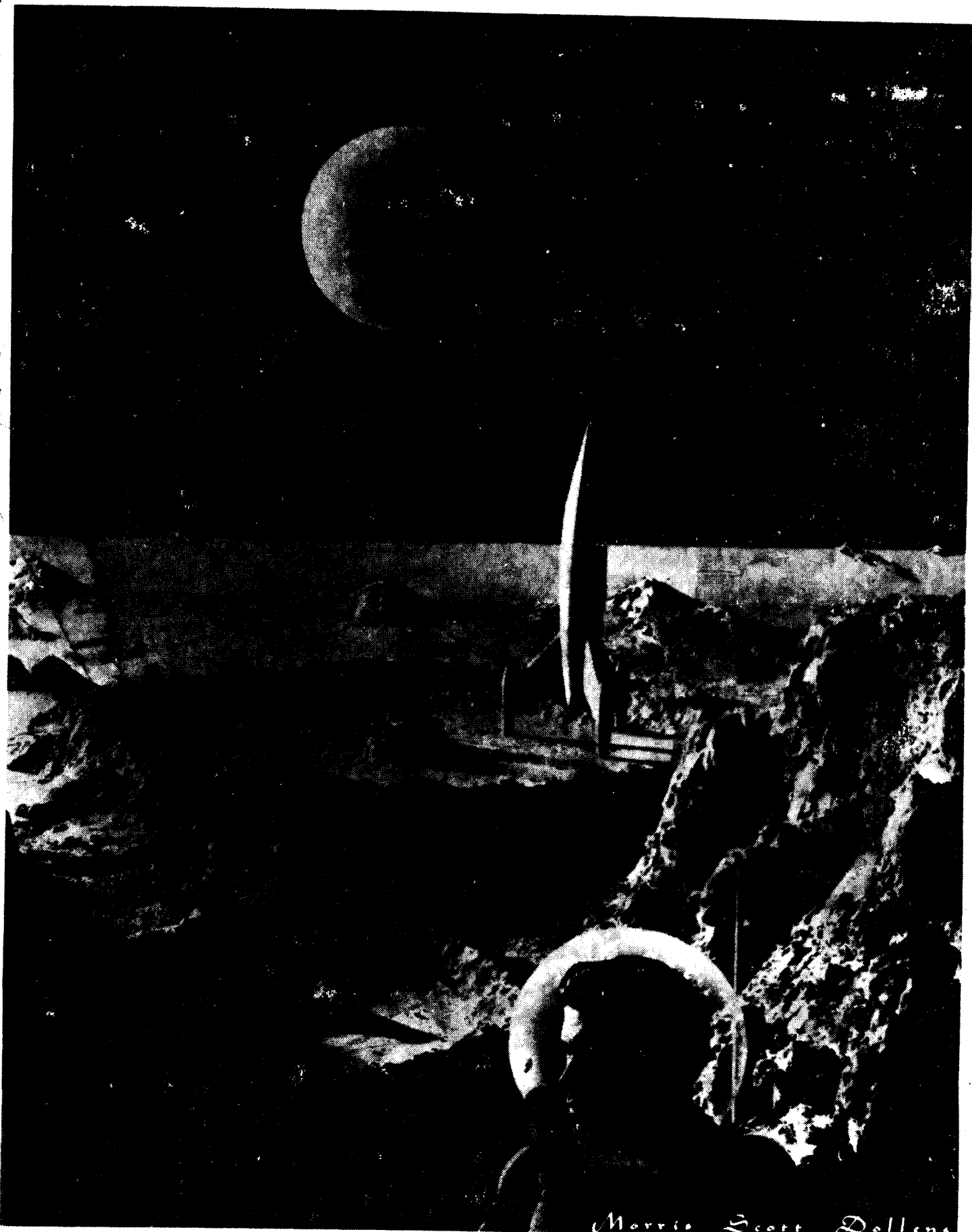
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May, 1936



Morris Scott Dollens