

June 16, '21

407 East 183 Street,

New York, N.Y.

Dear Dick,

I wish you would give me an estimate as to how much you think the American Boy and the Saturday Evening Posts will cost. You see the old Amazing Stories cost pretty much, and I would like to repay you with magazines that will balance the expense you had to pay. Or, would you rather prefer that I get you some of the first issues of Astounding Stories. Or still better, I have a copy of Tarrano The Conqueror, by Ray Cummings that was published in a Philadelphia newspaper complete in one issue. I read one of Dunsany's in Harper's called "The Electric King." It was only fair. However, I'm trying to get all the science-fiction I can lay my hands on, whether they are good or bad.

Regarding Strange Stories, the only additional information I've found out, is that it will be a bi-monthly and will pay two cents a word. Glasser always gets me this information. You see, since he's turned author he gets the Author and Journalist Magazine. In this mag. they give you all the mag., prices they pay, type of stories they want, when they appear, etc. So Glasser tipped me off that in the latest issue of this mag., Bates asks for stories of the weird type of literature. He doesn't say when the mag. will appear. When I hear anything more about it, I will let you know.

I just started reading Weird Tales myself. But I am very sorry I didn't start sooner. I hear that they had some dandy science-fiction back in '23, '24 etc. Listen to some of these: The Time-Raider, The Woman of the Wood, (by A. Merritt!), The Giant World, (Ray Cummings!), Hurlled Into the Infinite, The Bird of Space, The Red Brain, and countless others by Hamilton, Cummings, Lovecraft, Worrall, and Schlossel. A magazine somewhat like Weird Tales has just come out. It is called Mind-Magic. In the current issue is a serial entitled "In the Second Astral." In the next issue Ralph Milne Farley will have one dealing with the "Ouija". I've just found out how this word got its origin. The first three letters are the French word for "yes" and the next two, the German for "yes."

You say you once belonged to the Boy Scouts and your eyes are trained to be observant. Well, see if you know these. How many lines on a page has Wonder Stories, Amazing Stories, Astounding Stories, Argosy? How many lines on a page did Argosy have two years ago? Four years ago? Twenty Years ago? (I don't expect you to know the last named. I'll excuse you!) Has the Amazing Quarterly the same no. of lines as the Amazing Monthly? What change was made in the name of the associate editor of Astounding Stories. Why? If you know the answers to these, I'll admit you're pretty good.

Well, well, well!!! You are the first science-fiction fan that I have heard of who doesn't like David H. Keller's SHORT STORIES/ I'm not referring to the ones that write in to

the magazines telling the editor to keep his stories out of the magazines. They do that, so I believe, in order that they might have something to write about. I know a person who wrote in telling the editor to isolate Keller and admitted to me later, that Keller was one of his favorite authors. I admire his short stories very much. And I especially enjoy his humor. But, don't tell me you don't enjoy his Taine stories! Did you read his The Revolt of the Pedestrians? That was the best short ~~x~~ Keller ever wrote. Another one that I enjoyed of his (short stories), is The Yeast Men. All of Keller's long stories are great! What one of the long ones didn't you like that were written by him?

John Cambell, Jr. is very good as to originality of plots. The best story he ever wrote in my estimation was When the Atoms Failed. I even enjoyed the scientific part! I'll try to read his Islands Of Space over again during the summer. You see I have so much to read now, that if a story isn't good from the start I just put it aside for reading when I have time to ponder over it. I just got a bunch of science-fiction that was published around 1905--1910. There are some really good stories in the issues.

I didn't read Spacehounds of IPC yet. I don't read a serial until I have it complete. The only exceptions are Keller's and Merritt's serials. I can't wait to read them. I didn't enjoy Skylark Three for some reason or other. I guess I wasn't in the mood. I'll read that over again too. I hear that Smith is working on another Skylark story.

Brigands of the Moon published in Ast. has come out. Enclosed find the advertisement.

Did you read any of John Taine's stories?

I haven't got the copies of the Planet yet, but expect to have them when I write you next.

I wish in each letter you would ask what author you want to know about. You see, I can't remember each author who I gave you the dope on, so I wish you would ask. I have the following authors left for you to pick <sup>From</sup> on. Barnette, Breuer, Brueckel, Endersby, Farley, Pratt, Starzl, ~~CLAIRE WINGER HARRIS~~.

Here's Williamson:

Name: John Stewart Williamson  
Born: Bisbee, Arizona, April 29<sup>th</sup> 1908.  
Spent first three years of life on ranch in Sonora, Mexico, since has lived on farm and ranch in Texas and New Mexico. Education mostly at home. Irregular attendance at country high-school. Two years in college at Canyon, Texas. (Chemistry, Major.)  
Vocation: Writer---Avocations: Study of science, especially astronomy, reading, popular science-fiction, travel, walking, dreaming.

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Unmarried.

Scientifictionally yours,  
Julius Schwartz.