

Feb 6, 1933

# SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST

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Dear Dick,

Well, here I am again. Thought something had happened to me? I won't make any excuses for not having answered sooner, but ~~xxxx~~ here's the letter....

So you've practically given up the reading of science-fiction? Well, I don't blame you. The trash that they've been giving us lately is abominable. The March issue of Wonder, for instance, was so bad that I just had to write Gernsback a letter and tell him that I'd rather see W.S. discontinued than have them drag science fiction thru the mud as they've been doing lately. Amazing is starting to improve, thank God! The covers are a relief. I suppose you know by this time that Astounding quits with the March issue. They had previously announced that they were going to discontinue with the January issue, but they had some stories on hand that were paid for, so they thought they might as well use them up.

You ask about the Science Fiction Digest. Its history briefly is this: If I <sup>RE-</sup>call correctly I <sup>TOLD YOU I</sup> never did like the way Glasser was managing TTT. I also told you what a mercenary rat Glasser was, etc. Well, the blow off came at the end of the August TTT. Weisinger and I were absolutley sore and disgusted at the way Glasser was doing his work. He even tricked the printer of TTT (Conrad H. Ruppert) into printing the August TTT, and then went ahead took the issue and never paid for it. Ruppert was sore, and who blames him? Ruppert then decided to put out the Science Fiction Digest -- which would resemble TTT, but of course would be much better -- both in makeup and material. He asked Weisinger and myself to join him. We did. However, we had already submitted our copy ~~for~~ the Sept TTT. You'll notice that our articles appear in that issue, but we are demoted to Contributing Editors because we had nothing to do with the editing of the magazing. Glasser had bought his own printing press and put out the magazine -- a poorly done 7 page issue. Meanwhile SFD also appeared with the Sept issue. Maurice Ingher (a fine, smart chap) was editor, I was managing editor, Weisinger and Raymond A. Palmer (you know him) associate editors.

Glasser realized that it was futile to keep publishing TTT, so he offered to stop printing TTT if SFD you take over their subscription list -- and fill it out. We figured that in the end it would be profitable to do so, so SFD and TTT merged with the Nov issue. Some of the ace features SFD has printed are: Interviews with Harry Bates, A. Merritt, Hugo Gernsback, biographies of the above mentioned 3 and Bob Olsen, John Taine, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Ralph Milne Farley and Farnsworth Wright. We also printed Ray Palmer's short short story "The Man who Invaded Time;" and we're now running A. Merritt's "The Woman of the Wood." Does SFD sound good? If you've got the money I'd advise you to send in your sub and try and get all the back issues before we're out of them. As it is, ~~wex~~ are all out of the Nov SFD. The March issue will contain the concluding installment of "The Woman of the Wood" (it was in 2

parts, ), an article by David H. Keller, biography of Farnsworth Wright, editor of Weird Tales, four gossip columns: The Ether Vibrates by Weisinger, Spilling the Atoms by Palmer, The Time Tattler by Ackerman and The Science Fiction Eye by myself. There is running a complete list of science fiction books that have been published since 1890. - And coming up in future issues: an interview with H.W.Wesso, Arthur J. Burks, David H. Keller, T.O'Conor Sloane, Leo Morey, Nathan Schachner, stories by David H. Keller and Capt. S.P. Meek! Now does SFD sound good?

Since I last wrote you I've seen some of the "big-shots" of science fiction -- interviewed them. Harry Bates, Arthur J. Burks, A. Merritt, H.Wesso, Leo Morey, T.O'Conor Sloane, David H. Keller. How's that? Bates will surprise you, He's only 32 and is good-looking. You'd never take him for an editor.

If you have any news from your author-correspondents (Merritt, and the 2 Smiths) let me have it.

You're pretty fortunate in getting E.E.Smith's first draft of "Triplanetary." Bates told me it was the best story he had come across in a long time. I don't know where it's going to appear though. Did Smith tell you?

Well, that's all I have time for now. Write when you get the time, huh?

Yours,

*Julius*

NOTE NEW ADDRESS!!!