

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PASADENA

MATHEMATICS

August 31, 1933.

Dear Mr. Dodson:

Thanks for what you say about my stories ---
if you feel that way, you might pass on your remarks to
the editors, as every appreciation from readers is a help.
I have several more on hand, and I will try to market
some as soon as business conditions improve.

I regret that I cannot send a copy of
"The Time Stream", as I have only my own personal copy.
Possibly the publisher, or a news agency, may be able
to get you one.

As to my opinions in general, I believe
that scientific fiction is a thoroughly modern outgrowth
of the development of fiction in general, and that it
has its place in any body of fiction. I also believe
that a book which is decently written is more pleasing
than one which is thrown together without any regard
to the rudiments of ordinary composition. Several of
the stories by scientific fiction writers lack nothing
in the way of imagination, but leave much to be de-
sired in the mere telling. Like everything else, the
trick of telling a story well has to be learned.

You ask about "The Queen of the Sciences".
When I wrote it, I was trying to give a broad impression
of the progress of mathematics during the past century,
and I was entirely serious. It was meant to be understand-
able, if read with sufficient care, by anyone with a high
school education. Of course, the more mathematical
knowledge a reader has, the more he will get out of the
book.

The signature below should serve as the
autograph which you want.

Yours very sincerely,

In "Green
Five"
F.T. Bell (John Stein)
Greetings to Richard
Dodson