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**STORIES**  
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EDITORIAL  
DEPARTMENT

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Mr. Richard Dodson  
392 South Mentor  
Pasadena, Calif.

My dear Mr. Dodson:

Mr. Hall has not been with us for several months but since he never was the editor I take it your letter was addressed to me.

Because of the fact that I recognize the width of the strata included in our audience I attempt to include all types of stories in *Astounding*. As a matter of fact the story which you refer to was bought months ago when the discussion on heavy water first broke, and before there was a general knowledge as to what it really was. Since that time I have struggled to find a spot where we could use the story (well back in the book, you notice, and with only one illustration) without injuring the issue which contained it. Yet the praise the story received shows why I am forced to recognize the presence of both viewpoints in the audience. The enclosed criticism of a fan magazine represents perhaps a thousand of our readers and will give you an indication why.

I try to keep the magazine from going into a rut and to make sure that each issue will contain at least two stories which will be satisfactory to each group in this rather unusual type of audience; and to date I have not failed to include stories every one of which has been rated both top and bottom by fan letters (which run into the hundreds every month.) I hope I can continue to give you two enjoyable stories a month. If I do that, don't you think I am really holding a fair standard?

Sincerely,

*F. Orin Tremaine*  
Editor.

FOT:MKS