

Volume 6
Number 6
35¢

May, 1956

THE ORIGINAL
**SCIENCE
FICTION**
STORIES

NOVEL

THE NON-STATISTICAL MAN ... Raymond F. Jones 18

SHORT STORIES

LIVING SPACE (illustrated on cover) ... Isaac Asimov 3
WITH A DIME ON TOP OF IT Algis Budrys 103
PROJECT FLATTY Irving Cox, Jr. 119
THE DESSICATOR Robert Silverberg 130

FEATURE

PARODIES TOSSED Randall Garrett 100
Mr. Garrett examines John W. Campbell, Jr.'s, "Who Goes There?"

READERS' DEPARTMENTS

THE EDITOR'S PAGE Robert W. Lowndes 1
NEXT TIME AROUND 17
INSIDE SCIENCE FICTION Robert A. Madle 114
THE LAST WORD The Readers 137

Editor: ROBERT W. LOWNDES MARIE A. PARK, Asso. Ed.
Art Director: WILL LUTON DOROTHY B. SEADOR, Asso. Ed.
COVER BY EMSH Illustrations by Emsh, Freas, Garrett and Luton

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, May, 1956, published bi-monthly by COLUMBIA PUBLICATIONS, INC., 1 Appleton Street, Holyoke, Mass. Editorial and executive offices at 241 Church Street, New York 13, New York. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Holyoke, Mass., under the act of March 3, 1879. Entire contents copyright 1956 by Columbia Publications, Inc. 35¢ per copy; yearly subscriptions \$2.10. Printed in the U. S. A.



JOHN W. CAMPBELL, Jr.'s

"Who Goes There?"

by Randall Garrett

(who also did the design)

These parodies are perpetrated in the spirit of good fun, and no offense to either author or story is intended. In all cases, the author has seen the parody, and has approved, between gusts of laughter.

Here's a tale of chilling horror
For the sort of guy who more or
Less thinks being an explorer
Is the kind of life for him.
If he finds his life a bore, he
Ought to read this gory story,
For he'll find exploratory
Work is really rather grim.

For the story starts by stating
That some guys investigating

The Antarctic are debating
 On exactly what to do
 With a monster they've found frozen
 Near the campsite they have chosen,
 And the quarrel grows and grows, un-
 Til they're in an awful stew.

There's a guy named Blair who wants to r-
 Eally check up on this monster
 And dissect it. To his conster-
 Nation, everyone's in doubt.
 So, of course, he starts in pleading,
 And the rest of them start heeding
 All his statements, and conceding
 That the Thing should be thawed out.

So they let this Thing of evil
 Start to melt from its primeval
 Sheath of ice; they don't perceive a l-
 Ot of trouble will ensue.
 When the Thing is thawed, it neatly
 Comes to life, and, smiling sweetly,
 It absorbs some men completely,
 Changing them to monsters, too!

Now we reach the story's nub, ill-
 Uminating all the trouble:
 Each new monster is a double
 For the men they each replace.
 Since it seems a man's own mother
 Couldn't tell one from the other,
 These guys all watch one another,
 Each with fear upon his face.

And so then the men are tested
 To see who has been digested,
 And who's been left unmolested.
 But the test don't work! It's hexed!
 So each man just sits there, shrinking

From the others, madly thinking,
As he watches with unblinking
Gaze, and wonders—*Who Goes Next?*

Now, they've found that executing
Monsters can't be done by shooting;
They require electrocuting,
Or cremation with a torch.

When they find these Things, they grab 'em;
They don't try to shoot or stab 'em;
With high-voltage wires, they jab 'em
'Til their flesh begins to scorch.

So the entire expedition
Eye each other with suspicion,
For they're in a bad position,
And there's no denying *that!*
Now, to clear this awful scramble,
The ingenious Mr. Campbell,
Suddenly, without preamble,
Pulls a rabbit from the hat.

Here's the way they solve the muddle:
They discover that a puddle
Of a pseudo-human's blood'll
Be a little monster, too!
With this test for separating
Men from monsters, without waiting,
They start right in liquidating
All the monsters in the crew.

Thus, the story is completed,
And the awful Thing's defeated,
But he still was badly treated;
It's a shame, it seems to me.
Frozen since the glaciation,
This poor Thing's extermination
Is as sad as the cremation
Of the hapless Sam McGee.