

September/October 1953

TOMORROW SOMETIMES COMES

by F. G. RAYER

A war has had a devastating effect on humanity, producing psychological and biological differences in the survivors and their descendants, and a new civilisation has been developed on the basis of a directing mechanical brain—the Mens Magna. Within this new society there is a struggle for power between the intellectual but strangely non-human mutants and those whose lives are governed by the machine.

Of this book Olaf Stapledon wrote: "A fine creation and a fine symbol and altogether convincing. It is well worth reading for the vivid conception of the mechanical superbrain, which is a brilliant symbol of man's domination by machinery."

Tomorrow Sometimes Comes is a book that can be read with great excitement, and for those who like a story with a moral that is provided also.

(Home and van Thal. 9/6. SFBC 6/-).

November/December 1953

MINIMUM MAN

by ANDREW MARVELL

Minimum Man is the absorbing story of a parthenogenetically reproduced intellectual giant standing twelve inches high, born to a tipsy, yet otherwise pure, Welsh charwoman. Napoleon, the first "Minimum Man", has a twin sister, Mary, and these two are the first of a rapidly breeding colony, who can speak at one month, are fully developed at eighteen weeks, by which time they have already absorbed most of the world's knowledge. In their eyes we ordinary mortals are inferior, at best sentimentalists, and many of our faults they see and comment on all too clearly for our comfort. England is under a police dictatorship and how Solomon, the spokesman for the Minimum Men, offers his services for its overthrow is convincingly told, and not without a certain humour.

(Gollancz 8/6 (1938). SFBC 6/-).

January/February 1954

NO PLACE LIKE EARTH

Editor: JOHN CARNELL

This anthology, compiled and edited by John Carnell, editor of *New Worlds* and a member of the Club's editorial committee, contains many thrilling stories of futuristic adventure in space, on other planets, and on Earth itself. Each story, however, accentuates Man's endeavours rather than the mechanical possibilities of the future. Set in the not-too-distant future, these are understandable, human stories. *No Place Like Earth* is the first collection of stories by top British authors, whose names are as familiar to American readers as they are to ourselves—Arthur C. Clarke, John Wyndham, William F. Temple, and many others. There is an introduction by Arthur C. Clarke.

"Since stories classed as 'science fiction' now have such a grip on the reading public it is good to find that the quality steadily improves. John Carnell's collection of tales by British writers is one of the best so far."—Joseph Taggart in *The Star*.

(Boardman 10/6. SFBC 6/-).