

## Club Books to come . . .

September/October, 1955

### MORE THAN HUMAN

by Theodore Sturgeon (Gollancz, 12s. 6d., SFBC 4s. 6d.)

This remarkable novel received the first prize from the International Fantasy and Science Fiction Award Committee. It describes the life of an 'idiot' and his experiences and emotional relationships with a number of other children, who are, as it were, spiritually displaced persons. They form a strange little community, at once tender and frightful, besides which the real world seems insignificant.

November/December, 1955

### FURY

by Henry Kuttner (Denis Dobson, 8s. 6d., SFBC, 4s. 6d.)

*Fury* describes the tortured struggle of the human race to aspire once again to the stars from the depths of the Venusian seas. As Groff Conklin says in his foreword, "... the human race cannot vegetate. It either climbs upwards to new levels of social complexity and achievement, or drifts ever downward into a universal senility. *Fury* shows how under conditions incomprehensibly different from those we now experience, mankind once again starts up the long climb from decay to greatness."

January/February, 1956

### THE CAVES OF STEEL

by Isaac Asimov (Boardman, 9s. 6d., SFBC, 4s. 6d.)

The favourite theme of Asimov is Robotics, as earlier members who read this author's *I, Robot*, will recall. Of *The Caves of Steel*, Galaxy wrote: "Asimov has done it again... turned out a swift paced ingenious and meaningful exploration of our distant morrow. The story is particularly fascinating... it is a first rate detective story too, a suspense novel that will leave you breathless."

ups and downs, it stays and persists. Where a few years ago there were half a dozen English publishers issuing science fiction there are now thirty or so, all the more for the Club to choose from. Science fiction has become a common term of reference and politicians, editors and public figures use it as a basis of comparison; advertising designers use space flight ideas to launch new products of all kinds. And jokes too!

### TEST YOUR MEMORY

"I am not very reassured by the 128 generations of *Drosophila* which have survived a radioactive atmosphere without ill effect. When working on *Drosophila* mutations I had a simple means of obtaining new mutations to work with. It was only necessary to stand the culture jars in a neighbouring nuclear physics laboratory for a couple of days and then to breed forward. The result was there for all to see—mutations by the bucketful, deformities, hereditary tumours, embryos halted by lethal genes. In other words, the genetic effects of atomic radiations—the very thing which some of us fear could be brought about in mankind."

From which science fiction novel is the above paragraph taken? One by Van Vogt, perhaps, or John Christopher or Robert Sheckley or Philip Dick? None of these; it is in fact an extract from a letter by Dr. Roger Pilkington regarding the genetic effects of the H-Bomb and published in that serious weekly *Time and Tide* in May of this year.

### FANCY MEETING YOU

Strolling down St. Martin's Lane (W.C.2) the other evening, trying to make up our mind whether to see Orson Welles' *Moby Dick* or have a good time, we overheard a charming young lady selling science fiction and the Club to her companions. Her eloquence and enthusiasm cheered us up no end and if by chance she reads this paragraph we wonder if she would accept an invitation to write a page of her thoughts on SF for the *News*?—H.J.