

THE PROGRAMME

September 1959—January 1960

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● THE TIDE WENT OUT

by Charles Eric Maine

'Exerts the fascination of a cobra!' exclaimed the *Oxford Times* of this quite terrifyingly convincing book. It is set in the near present and should be required reading at the next Summit meeting, for it postulates a new threat from persistent nuclear tests—damage to the earth's submarine crust, and the gradual draining away of the oceans. The resultant dehydration of the planet and the measures taken by government to preserve, for as long as possible, some remnant of human life are convincingly described.

Against this awful background, a ruthless drama of ambition and love is played out by characters who are skilfully portrayed as individuals.

Hodder & Stoughton 12s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d



November 1959

● DOUBLE STAR

by Robert Heinlein

This gripping full-length novel tells how an out-of-work actor is suddenly cast in his most exacting role; he has to 'double' for one of the galaxy's most eminent politicians, an apostle of Galactic racial equality and one of the most shot-at celebrities of the time. The story moves between Earth and Mars, and is in the best tradition of SF writing. As Norman Shrapnel, of the *Manchester Guardian*, said: 'Unpretentious, craftsmanship, imaginative, and enormously readable, he has long since solved the extremely difficult technical problem of presenting the future with enough background to be thoroughly plausible without ever slowing up the story. . . . Try putting it down.'

Michael Joseph 13s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d

