

UP AND COMING

This month

THE LINCOLN HUNTERS

by Wilson Tucker

Rinehart \$2.95; SFBC 5s 6d

February

WASP

by Eric Frank Russell

A wasp on the windscreen can kill four strong men and cause any amount of damage; a wasp in the enemy camp, a planet in the Sirian Empire, can cause havoc with nothing more than a piece of chalk, a few posters and good timing. Secret agent James Mowry becomes a one-man Underground to try and soften up the planet for a Terran invasion. Plastic surgery, a purple-coloured skin and the cultivation of a bow-legged walk disguise him, sometimes only just.

This story is one of Russell's best; gripping espionage and rattling good sf.

Dobson 11s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d

March

THE OUTWARD URGE

by John Wyncham and Lucas Parkes

The outward urge was a factor in the Troon inheritance, and generations of Troons looked up at the stars and felt impelled to help push back the frontiers of space. The four episodes related here deal with the parts played in the building of the Space Station, the occupation of the moon, the first landing on Mars and the trouble about Venus. Unlike the author's previous books, this one deals with the more practical problems of tomorrow—and is in quite another vein of speculation.

The book combines Wyncham's distinctive imagination and excellent writing style with the technical interests of Lucas Parkes. We think you will find it refreshing. **Our edition contains an extra chapter which did not appear in the original.**

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

May

THE CANOPY OF TIME

by Brian Aldiss

These superb stories range chronologically from a century or two hence to the end of the galaxy. Intelligent and beautifully written,

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they are on the basic themes of human love and aspiration—even the class-conscious robots in 'Who can replace a Man?' are oddly human. Aldiss's originality lies in the use of time as an active participant in his stories. We find lovers defying the Mating Centre, the man who believed himself to be the Messiah, the film director who came too near to a city's secrets, the reason why man, like the lemmings, has a death-urge, and—in the last and longest story—a conqueror who found only shadows to greet him. The further into the future the stories are set, the more we become aware of the unknown, the strange, always surrounding us. 'What triumphs ultimately is something too big for your comprehension or mine.'

What John Wyncham said about *The Canopy of Time*: 'It is a relief to turn to Brian Aldiss's *The Canopy of Time*. His is quite another subspecies of science fiction: one of the branches which, equipped with interesting ideas, civilized habits and a taste for words, has established itself up country, not all that far from the Ray Bradbury territory. In this collection of stories we look in on the human race from time to time during the next few million years, and observe it in a variety of phases—all but extinct, spread out round the galaxy, in progressive moods, or static moods, but until the end the same old human race, sometimes funny, sometimes sad. Anyone who likes to see an intelligent imagination weave people and ideas together, and finish the result with craftsmanship, should enjoy *The Canopy of Time*, and there is one story, "They Shall Inherit", which, I fancy, it might not displease Aldous Huxley to have written.'

Faber & Faber 15s; SFBC 5s 6d

July

TIME OUT OF JOINT

by Philip K. Dick

Ragle Gumm has an unusual mind. He lives by consistently winning a daily newspaper contest, and he has strange, frightening mental experiences: sometimes the whole town, so ordinary and humdrum, seems to evaporate and in its place are straws and scraps of paper. And why is he the only person never to have heard of an apparently famous film star—Marilyn Monroe? The evidence piles up inexorably, in a bewildering world where appearance and reality change places and the line between mind and matter disappears, to a conclusion grimly logical and fantastic as a nightmare.

Lippincott \$3.50; SFBC 5s 6d

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September THE DRAGON IN THE SEA

by Frank Herbert

This magnificent story tied with Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* as an International Fantasy Award winner, and is 'one of the really great novels of science fiction'. (*Inside Science Fiction*.) Set in the twenty-first century, in the grim atmosphere of a nuclear war, it concerns a hair-raising atomic submarine voyage in search of oil desperately needed for the United States. The last twenty submarines have failed to return from this highly dangerous trip, and the situation is critical. . . . The technical details of the submarine are so visually and realistically described that scientist and layman alike will be delighted, and the book is equally successful on all levels. Whether as a study of temperaments and claustrophobia and suspicion, as a spy story, 'chase' thriller or psychological mystery, it is unforgettable.

'Visualized with almost passionate intensity. . . . There is no contrivance or sensationalism.' *Observer*.

Gollancz 13s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d

October

CITY

by Clifford Simak

SFBC is glad to be able to reissue this great sf classic, now out of print. It is a really 'out of the way' story, and contains all the ingredients of a thrilling novel: robots, ants, and dogs which, thousands of years in the future, have superseded the human race. Man has vanished, leaving behind only a handful of legends which the dogs recount; legends which have been worked over by dogish professors but which remain strange and mysterious to the dogs. Gradually the story of man's disappearance is unfolded, through the fortunes of one family, the Websters.

How did the dogs learn to speak and replace their masters? What was the guilty secret of the Webster family, and what part did Jenkins, the Websters' robot, play in the rise of the dogs? These and a hundred other questions about the decline of the human race are answered in *City*—a strange and compelling story which has all Simak's accustomed good writing and cosmic scope of imagination. *Weidenfeld & Nicolson 9s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d*

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