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get books which, even if, as must happen, some people have read them, any lover of sf would be glad to read again and own. . . . Our programmes, however, won't be devoted to any one side of sf, and we will continue our policy of reissuing the best of the new books. That way, we hope, everyone will be satisfied!

THIS MONTH'S CHOICE IS  
**WASP**

by **Eric Frank Russell**  
(*Dobson 11s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d*)

NEXT MONTH'S CHOICE IS  
**THE OUTWARD URGE**  
by **John Wyndham and Lucas Parkes**  
(*Michael Joseph 13s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d*)

## Six Books Ahead . . .

\**Pock.*

\*Another hour. The half-hour already passed. *Pock.* Another hour. *Pock.* Another. *Pock. Pock. Pock. Pock. Pock. Pock, pck-pck-pck-pck-pck-pck-pck . . .*

\*The hands of the calendar swirled toward invisibility as time ran away with Garrard. Yet the ship did not change. It stayed there, rigid, inviolate, invulnerable. When the date-tumblers reached a speed at which Garrard could no longer read them, he discovered that once more he could not move—and that, although his whole body seemed to be aflutter like that of a humming-bird, nothing coherent was coming to him through his senses. The room was dimming, becoming redder; or no, it was . . .


\*But he never saw the end of the process, never was allowed to look from the pinnacle of macro-time toward which the Haeriel overdrive was taking him.

\*The pseudo-death took him first.\*

An extract from 'Common Time', a story in *Galactic Cluster*, the wonderful new collection by James Blish. SFBC's choice for November; it is published by Faber at 15s.

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# SCIENCE FICTION NEWS



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## OUR FIFTIETH

*The Outward Urge*, next month's Choice by John Wyndham and Lucas Parkes, will be SFBC's fiftieth book. It is right in the main stream of science fiction: the exploration of space, this time by the irrepressible Troon family. (Our edition contains an extra chapter not found in the original.)

SFBC should reach its hundredth much sooner. Many members have written in approving the changeover from six books a year to nine—so far, nobody has objected. But one member wrote:

'I think your proposed "experiment" regarding increased issues is excellent. Take no notice of the moaners! With this in mind, could we have some reprints of earlier "classics" which have long been unavailable? Be warned, however, that a lot of good things are being released in paperback form. A. E. Van Vogt's *Slan* is just out on the stalls, as an example of what I mean by a "classic". This is one I have wanted to read for years.'

F. D. H. • *Berks.*

*City*, the first reprint, was advertised in last month's programme number, and there will be others later—but we must warn members that anything which is hard to get hold of is hard for us to get hold of too. Some novels printed in the early magazines were never reprinted in book form, and it would now be a major operation for a large publishing house to reissue them. Type gets taken down, and finding who now owns the rights in many cases would need a squad of detectives. The most we can do is pounce on possible books, which we are already doing.

It's going to be a problem to decide what books members have read when it comes to choosing classics! What we will try to do is

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