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Sorry, we made a Howler

MEMBERS will remember the slip up that occurred over the 'What Shall We Call It?' competition, announced in the March *Science Fiction News*. Owing to regrettable delays at Letchworth the March books reached members almost too late for them to send in their entries on time. Although we did extend the closing date we have so far received only four replies. We are holding on to these, however, hoping that we will get a more representative number from the whole membership if we throw the competition open once more.

Remember—we thought 'Science Fiction' too cumbrous and often misleading a title for the *genre*, and offer two guineas (First prize), a 30s Conway Stewart fountain pen (Second prize) and a copy of *And There Was Light* or a past title (Third prize) for any brilliant alternative suggestion.

The *new* closing date is 1st February 1962 (1st March for overseas members). Please send your entries to SFBC, 10-13 Bedford Street, London W.C.2.

THIS MONTH'S CHOICE IS TIME OUT OF JOINT by Philip K. Dick

(J. B. Lippincott (U.S.A.) \$3.50; SFBC 5s 6d)
Never previously published in the U.K.

NEXT MONTH'S CHOICE IS CITY by Clifford Simak

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson 9s 6d; SFBC 5s 6d)

Issued by the Science Fiction Book Club from 10-13 Bedford St, London. W.C.2
from whom details of membership can be obtained,
and printed by the Aldine Press, Dunhams Lane, Letchworth, Hertfordshire

SCIENCE FICTION NEWS

No. 54

PROGRAMME NUMBER

October 1961

Selectors: Kingsley Amis, John Carnell, Dr J. G. Porter

EDITORIAL

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT APPEARS ON P. 2

Two years ago I wrote: 'There's a nasty rumour going around that sf is on the way out. I don't believe it for a minute: there may not be quite the same wild boom in it as there was when housewives, school-children and weary daddies were goggling at Quatermass ...'

Well, since then Gagarin, Sheperd and others have come back alive from space and moon landings are 'imminent' according to reputable scientists. And the sf boom is back with us. More and more titles are coming out from U.K. and U.S. publishers—Victor Gollancz are endeavouring to do an sf book a month (or more) and, largely thanks to old members, new recruits join SFBC every day. The club has grown by 33 per cent since I last appealed for members and shows every sign of expanding even more.

'Good news,' you say, leaning complacently. 'Now they can stop badgering us and get on with getting the books to us on time.'

Well, yes—and no. Yes, we hope now to be getting the books to you on time. No—we won't stop badgering you. Because if we can double the club membership we can do so much more for you. And that means better books, above all.

Anyway, as our older members sink exhausted or volunteer to be first on the moon, we need constantly to maintain and expand our recruitment. Will you go on helping, please. Just lend an SFBC Choice or two to some innocent friend and they're hooked. And then you can give them a lasting Xmas present (or persuade them to give themselves one) in the shape of a six months' membership. And you get a free book. 'S easy! O. C.