

certainly one of the most remarkable books to be included in the Contemporary Fiction list, and we are very glad indeed that it will be available to members of SFBC.

'*The Birthday King* is a remarkable book for any English author to have written—a study of a German family at the time of the Second World War which has about it an air of entire authenticity. One would have assumed that only an author who had lived through such experiences could write about them so compellingly and well. Mr Fielding must be congratulated on a brilliant *tour de force*.

'He has not attempted to portray a "typical" German family. His Waitzmann clan is exceptionally rich, cosmopolitan and partly Jewish. The very singularity of these characters makes them all the more credible; and Mr Fielding seems to take us nearer the German . . . spirit, precisely because he approaches it deviously, analysing it and the nature of the people who are *not* sheep in Hitler's flock but autonomous protagonists in the Hitlerite drama.' *Bookman*.

'Mr Fielding has felt his way with understanding into the life . . . of each of the main characters in his story, and into the time and place. . . . The dialogue might almost be German; the building of the sentences suggests subtly and without obtrusiveness a German structure. By suggesting how normal was the behaviour of these Germans Mr Fielding takes from us the protectiveness of seeing beams.' *The Times Literary Supplement*.

'A novel of unusual scope, power and richness. . . . Mr Fielding is both poet and prose writer, and his dual talents have combined to produce an exquisite precision of style.'

Sunday Times.

'Mr Fielding gives this magnificent novel cohesion, depth and power.' *Daily Telegraph*.

'Rarely is it given to an English author to penetrate so surely into an alien racial mystique.' *Observer*.

Hutchinson 21s; CF 7s, post free

WANTED AND FOR SALE

MR M. D. LEA, 57 Mollison Way, Edgware, Middlesex, wants to obtain a copy of Isaac Asimov's *Second Foundation*; he also has a number of past SFBC titles for sale.

Mr J. Vandelinde, c/o 56 Fishergate, Preston, Lancashire, would like to get hold of a copy of *The Quatermass Experiment*.

Mr R. E. Hopgood, 65 Chetwynd Road, Ward End, Birmingham 8, would like to dispose of his collection of SFBC past titles, from *Earth Abides* to *Hothouse*.

Mrs J. Betteridge, whose address is Truckells, Hardingshute, Ryde, Isle of Wight, would like to obtain a copy of *Beyond the Barriers of Space and Time*, edited by Judith Merril.

Please get in touch with the above members direct.

THIS MONTH'S CHOICE IS
THE DROWNED WORLD
by J. G. Ballard
(Gollancz 15s; SFBC 6s)

NEXT MONTH'S CHOICE IS
THE DARKEST OF NIGHTS
by Charles Eric Maine
(Hodder & Stoughton 15s; SFBC 6s)