

NEW POLICY FOR

THE BOOKER PRIZE FOR FICTION

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The timing of the prize, and the system whereby novels are submitted for it, will be altered for 1971, and for the ensuing years should the new plan prove successful.

The main object of the new plan is that the date of the announcement of the prize should be brought as close as is reasonably practical to the publication date of the winning novel.

As the autumn is broadly the main publishing season, and in order to try and achieve the object in para.2 above, the Booker Prize will become an autumn prize.

It is hoped to announce the short list by 1st October 1971, and the winner by 15th November at the latest.

Under this arrangement the panel of judges will, of course, be making their decisions before the books are published (though there could be exceptions to this - please see detailed notes attached) and will be reading proofs, or advance sewn quires, or conceivably finished copies should the book happen to be printed some time before publication.

Please see detailed notes attached governing the rules of entry.