

BOOKER PRIZE JUDGES

The new chairman of the panel for choosing the winner of the 1970 Booker prize for fiction is David Holloway, literary editor of "The Daily Telegraph", London. Only one of the 1969 judges, Dame Rebecca West, continues for another term. Other members of the panel include Antonia Fraser, author of the much praised biography "Mary Queen of Scots", Richard Hoggart, professor of English at the University of Birmingham, whose book "The Uses of Literacy", published in 1957, aroused acute controversy, and Ross Higgins, a Glasgow bookseller who claims to read on average 22 books a week to keep abreast of readers' demands.

The prize, announced in October 1968, was awarded for the first time in April this year to P.H. Newby for his novel "Something To Answer For". Worth £5,000 tax free, it is Britain's richest fiction prize. Not only home-based novelists or British writers living overseas, but all writers from Commonwealth countries and the Republics of Ireland and South Africa are eligible.

As before, a short list will be released for publication and speculation when the judges have narrowed their selection to the final six contenders.

Rules and other information about the award can be obtained from Miss Jill Mortimer, The Publishers' Association, 19 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

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