

COMING UP, FICTION: One never really knows until it is over, but spring 1965 does not look like an outstanding season for the novel. Some are topical; there are two on the automobile industry, at least two on Vietnam. Among spy tales *ad infinitum* are the new LeCarre and the last of the James Bonds. From England: Robert Shaw's "The Flag" and John Braine's "The Jealous God," both well reviewed there.



**JOHN BRAINE**

People you don't think of as novelists are on the lists: Marc Connelly, Vincent Sheean, Leslie Fiedler. "Pinktoes," Chester Himes' contribution to the Olympia Press series that produced "Lolita" and "Candy," is announced. And there are these familiar "bestseller" names: Irwin Shaw, Eugene Burdick, Herman Wouk, Pearl Buck,

James Michener, Rona Jaffe, Fletcher Knebel. Plus less "popular," more literary: James Leo Herlihy, Wright Morris, Reynolds Price, William Eastlake, William Humphrey. There may be others, but the only first-rank novelist seems to be Norman Mailer: no Shirley Jackson, no Malamud, no Updike, Capote, Nabokov, Steinbeck, McCarthy, Styron, even no O'Hara. What are they all doing? It looks like a season for sleepers and dark horses.

