

## *Tercentenary of the London Gazette*

This edition of the *Gazette* marks the newspaper's 300th anniversary. An exhibition is being held, from today until 18th December, in the foyer of the Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, E.C.4, approximately on the site of the premises where the first edition was printed. There is no charge for admission.

To commemorate the tercentenary Her Majesty's Stationery Office has published the following:

### A HISTORY OF THE LONDON GAZETTE

1665-1965

by P. M. Handover

This first official history of the *London Gazette* provides an account of Britain's oldest surviving newspaper through three centuries of constitutional change and political growth.

Miss Handover traces the evolution of the *Gazette* from its original role under the Restoration, in which it carried general news, to its present-day one as the "prime source of state intelligence", containing proclamations, governmental announcements and public and legal notices. Drawing on her detailed knowledge of early contemporary newspapers and of the growth of professional journalism, the author describes how the *Gazette's* fortunes were influenced by a number of prominent figures, and how with the emergence of the modern civil service editorial and financial responsibility were eventually taken over by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, first as publisher and later also as printer. It is a scholarly contribution to the history of journalism: a picture of a newspaper created and modified in the course of time to meet persistent, if changing, political and administrative needs. 104 pages of text, 12 art pages. Fully bound.

17s. 6d. (by post 18s. 6d.)

### THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

This is a facsimile reproduction of one of the most notable early editions of the *Gazette*. It is dated 3-10 September 1666, and gives the only contemporary English language newspaper account of the Great Fire of London, in which the printer's premises were themselves destroyed.

1s. 6d. (by post 1s. 9d.)

### HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

Government publications can be purchased from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to P.O. Box 569, S.E.1), Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through any bookseller.