

# MAN IN THE SHADOWS

By LINDA GREENE

It was Christmas Eve. I, along with millions of other shoppers was hustling along doing my Christmas shopping. I had caught the Christmas "spirit", by this I mean I had been affected by music, decorations, Christmas cards, and all that make up a modern Christmas.

I was hurrying down a busy city street, when I decided to consult a "Santa Claus" about directions. While talking, my gaze fell on a man leaning against a building. For some reason I took particular notice of him. He had on a long black top coat and a dark hat. I guess I just felt sorry for him because he didn't seem to have the Christmas spirit. Next I went bustling into a jewelry store, for a gift for Aunt Frances. Everyone seemed so happy. The spirit was certainly catching!

Leaving the store, I turned to look back in the window, where blue lights glittered on sparkling jewels. Beside the window stood that man—the one with the dark coat, who needed a haircut. Purely coincidence, I decided.

In a large department store I crowded into the elevator. To my surprise, leaving the elevator was that stranger again—the one with the expressive eyes—the man in the shadows.

Last, on my way home. I stopped for the evening paper. Standing a small distance from the newsstand, was the same man.

Surely, I thought, I must be losing my mind. Then I took a second look. It was the same man. I was feeling jittery and nervous. Why, I implored? I see many, many strangers every day of my life. A small voice seemed to whisper, "Yes, but you've never seen this One before".

During the bus ride home I was beside myself: In every shadow I seemed to see him.

My home looked more reassuring. The house decorations looked so inviting. I whistled as I opened the door, but stopped short as I started to close it. My eyes fell on some objects lying on the couch; a black coat, a dark hat

and a pair of white gloves. My blood froze, the room spun crazily. Where had I seen these articles? Then composing myself, I slowly began closing the door, which had been obstructing my view of the fireplace. There stood a man with long hair, a wounded side, clothed in a white robe. The firelight gleamed on his copper colored hair, as he stood looking thoughtfully into the fire. Slowly he turned. My mind raced. The stranger! The man in the shadows.

"Hello" he said, "Weren't you expecting me? Tomorrow is my birthday".

I was too stunned to speak. No I thought, I wasn't expecting you—but I did know tomorrow was your birthday.

"I know", he began. "You are"? I stammered. "I am who", he interrupted. "Then I begin to think. Yes, Who is he? He's the man the Protestants and Catholics call the Messiah—but who is he to me?"

Shamefully, I looked around me; the Christmas tree laden with gifts, holly decorations, in general the modern Christmas. All had lost its glitter except this man—the man in the shadows.

Our eyes met. He knew I understood.

"Master"! I breathed. He smiled, put on his coat, hat and gloves, glanced at the Christmas tree and walked out.

Softly "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear", filled the room. I stood at the window watching the snow fall on The Stranger as he disappeared into the night. "Come out of the shadows, Holy One", I whispered, "Be my guest on Your Birthday."

## TIMELY FARM QUESTIONS

**QUESTION:** What is the best soil to use in growing African violets?

**ANSWER:** A good mixture for heavy soils for the Piedmont and Mountain sections of the state is one-third soil, one-third woodsmold or peatmoss, and one-third coarse sand. For the Eastern part of the state, one-half woodsmold or peatmoss and one-half soil. In feeding, use a high analysis water soluble fertilizer at the rate of one teaspoon per gallon of water and water the plants with this solution every two weeks.

**QUESTION:** What is the recom-

## LEGAL NOTICES

### EXECUTRIX NOTICE

In the matter of the last will and testament of Minnie D. Bowles, deceased, late of Cherokee County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of November, 1958, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 14th day of November, 1957.

Edwina Bowles Hagaman,

mended way to kill annual winter weeds in alfalfa?

**ANSWER:** Many of these weeds can be controlled by the proper and timely use of dinitro (DNBP). Between \$3 and \$6 worth of chemical used now can save good stands of alfalfa which cost much more to establish. Dinitro should be applied evenly on dormant alfalfa in 30 gallons or more of water per acre on a day when air temperature are 60 degrees or more. Results are better on a sunny day.

In addition to pay, benefits, and prestige, a life of service to one's country in the Army gives a sense of pride and satisfaction that can only be realized through a military career.

Executrix of the estate of Minnie D. Bowles Murphy,

### ADMINISTRATOR NOTICE

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Mrs. Minnie Tatham, deceased, late of Cherokee County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of November, 1958, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 14th day of November, 1957.

Roy Tatham, Administrator of the Estate of Mrs. Minnie Tatham, c-f of Mrs. Smith 16-6tc Howell, Robbinsville, N. C.

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA CHEROKEE COUNTY CHEROKEE COUNTY, Plaintiff,**

O. E. MOORE, and wife, PEARL MOORE, and R. S. JONES, TRUSTEE, Defendants.

By virtue of authority vested in me by a Judgment of the Cherokee County Superior Court dated the 19th day of November, 1957, in the above entitled action, I will, on Saturday, the 21st day of December, 1957, at 12 o'clock noon at the Courthouse door in Murphy, North

Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash the following described lands in Murphy Township, Cherokee County, North Carolina:

Adjoining the lands of W. A. Boyd, M. D. McGuire, T. J. Thomason, and others, and bounded as follows:

BEGINNING on a stake at the Southeast corner of the bridge below the church, and runs N. 82 W. 14 poles to a spanish oak on a ridge; thence up the ridge to the McGuire corner; thence Southward with McGuire's line to W. A. Boyd corner; thence Eastward with Boyd line to Peachtree Creek; thence up Peachtree Creek to the beginning, containing 30 acres, more or less.

Being the same tract or parcel of land conveyed to O. E. Moore and wife, Pearl Moore, by deed dated April 4, 1940, and registered in the Office of the Register of Deeds, by R. M. Moore and wife, Pearl Moore, in Book 157, page 5, reference to which is hereby made.

This the 20th day of November, 1957

F. O. Christopher Commissioner

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA CHEROKEE COUNTY CHEROKEE COUNTY, Plaintiff,**

-vs-

VERNON DOCKERY and wife, PAULINE DOCKERY; W. D. WHITAKER, Trustee, and W. M. AXLEY, Trustee, Defendants.

By virtue of authority vested in me by judgment of the Cherokee Superior Court dated the 6th day of December 1957, in the above entitled action, I will, on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, 1958, at 12 o'clock noon at the Courthouse door in Murphy North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash the following described lands in Valleytown Township, Cherokee County, North Carolina:

**FIRST PARCEL:** Part of Tract No. 81, referred to locally as Berry Nelson land, BEGINNING on a white oak the Southwest corner of No. 31 and runs N. with said line, corner of C. W. Taylor lot; then with his line to corner of his and John Nelson lot; then with John Nelson line up a ridge as it meanders to a chestnut stump in the line of No. 81 and No. 7831; continue up said ridge with its meanders to the point of the ridge at the head of still house branch; then westward down a ridge with its meanders to the painted line of No. 7831; then with that line N. 20 W. to a stake in the line of No. 81 and corner of No. 7831; then W. with line of No. 81, 300 feet to the beginning, containing 40 acres, more or less.

**SECOND PARCEL:** BEGINNING on a small white oak on the point of a ridge North side of a mountain, the Northeast corner of No. 78 and run N 64 poles to a mountain birch on a steep hill side; then East 20 feet to a dogwood corner of a lot formerly sold to the Board of Education; then a Northwest direction with line of said lot to a stake in the corner of the public road; then same direction to the center of the Southern Railroad; then down the railroad 800 feet to the mouth of a small branch; then up said branch to the center of the public road; then S with said road 650 feet to a bridge; then up said ridge as it meanders to the beginning, containing 20 acres more or less, reference see Book No. 104 page 78, register of Deeds Office Murphy, North Carolina.

EXCEPTING from second parcel above described, 12 acres, more or less, deeded to Hill Dockery from Vernon Dockery and wife Pauline Dockery, by deed dated January 8 1942, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Cherokee County, North Carolina in Book 159, at page 36, reference to which is hereby made for complete description.

This the 13th day of December, 1957.

F. O. CHRISTOPHER Commissioner

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## to wish friends



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