

THE BOOK

... the first line of which reads, "The Holy Bible,"
and which contains Four Great Testaments ...

by BRUCE BARTON

TRUE, TO THE END

THE king of the country was Josiah, who meant well and tried to bring about a revival of religion. Apparently Jeremiah correctly estimated the ineffectiveness



of Josiah's character and realized that the improvement was merely superficial. At any rate, he did not ally himself with the reform movement, which quickly died after the king's death.

From this time on under the driving king Jehoiakim, Jeremiah was a stormy voice, denouncing wickedness in the nation and folly at court, and prophesying that Nebuchadnezzar would surely conquer Jerusalem. He was imprisoned. When he had written out his sermons and prophecies and was reading them at court, the king took the roll, slashed it with a pen knife and threw it into the open fire. Finally the prophet was compelled to flee with a little group of refugees into Egypt.

There the women of the company found a new fad in religion. When Jeremiah spoke to the men, saying, "Stop your wives from worshipping the moon," they bluntly refused.

Then all the men which knew that their wives had burnt incense unto other gods . . . answered Jeremiah, saying,

As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the Lord, we will not hearken unto thee.

But we will certainly do whatever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, . . . for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

In other words, "The Lord doesn't look after us and the Moon does: why should we stick to the Lord?" It was the question that Jeremiah himself had to face on almost every day of his lonely, persecuted life. His Gethesemane is in chapter twenty, verses seven to nine: "O, God! I did as you told me and you didn't stand by me!" He would have liked to abandon it, but the word of the Lord was "in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones." He could not escape his destiny, even though it led him over a pathway of thorns and caused him at last to be stoned to death.

The book is badly jumbled up, and only by following the lead of scholars can one know how to read it in order to get a clear picture. Yet even the most desultory reading reveals the majesty of the figure that stalks through its pages. No man ever spoke the truth at greater personal sacrifice. Jeremiah stood firm against the threat of the court and the anger of the crowd; noblest of all he stood firm when God himself seemed to have broken His promises and abandoned His messenger.

TODAY and TOMORROW

FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

FAME

I can't find any figures that tell how many of the votes cast at the last Presidential election were cast by women, but there certainly were a good many millions. Not one of them could have voted if it had not been for the lifetime of work by the late Susan B. Anthony, the great pioneer of Woman Suffrage in America.

I was glad to have had an opportunity to be one of those to nominate her as a candidate for the Hall of Fame of New York University. As a very young reporter I had occasion once to interview Miss Anthony, then more than seventy years old. I recall vividly her spare figure and her quiet but determined manner.

"Government," she said, "is a job of housekeeping. Economy and common sense are the main requirements. Now, honestly, don't you think your grandmother has more common sense than any politician you ever met?"

I wasn't so sure about it then, but as I grow older I think Miss Anthony was right. I hope they put her statue in the Hall of Fame. It is already in Statuary Hall in the Capitol at Washington.

PERSIA

The announcement from the State Department that Persia desires hereafter to be called "Iran" reminds me of P. T. Barnum, the circus man. Mr. Barnum built himself a great house at Bridgeport, Connecticut, all tricked out with spires and minarets, and named it "Iranistan," which was the name in common use sixty-odd years ago for the country we now call Persia.

We are getting to know more about those nations of Western Asia, since oil has been discovered in their territory. Adjacent to Persia—beg pardon, "Iran"—lie Turkestan, Afghanistan and Beluchistan, all with potential wealth in oil and minerals as yet undeveloped.

The Government of the United

States quietly recognized the independence of Afghanistan a short time ago, that nation having declared its independence of Great Britain in 1921. If I were still an adventurous youth I think I would like to take a whirl at exploration in that part of the world. I might find an emerald mine or an oil field, or a chance to build a railroad.

HOWE

No man whom I ever knew gave his entire life so single-heartedly and devotedly to the service of another as Louis McHenry Howe to Franklin D. Roosevelt. I have known Louis Howe for more than twenty years. In all that time he had but one goal in life. That was to put Frank Roosevelt in the White House. The two men first met when Mr. Roosevelt was a young State Senator in Albany and Louis Howe a smart young newspaper correspondent, with a decided instinct for politics. He managed Mr. Roosevelt's successful campaign for reelection, and from then on two were inseparable.

To Louis Howe more than to any other man Franklin Roosevelt owes the fact that he, and not someone else, was the Democratic nominee in 1932. As far back as 1913, when Mr. Roosevelt was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Louis Howe used to tell us newspaper men that his chief was headed for the White House. He made himself a master of political strategy with no other end in view. Mr. Roosevelt himself is perhaps the ablest politician who ever sat in the White House, but most of his political education he got from Louis Howe.

JOBS

I have yet to be entirely satisfied with the available statistics of the number of unemployed, nor can I agree with the widely-held belief that all of them would rather work than subsist without working at the taxpayers' expense.

I know that in the East it is next to impossible to hire farm workers, while in the villages, towns and cities thousands are loafing at public cost. A Jersey City man advertised in a farm paper a few days ago that he would be glad to work for \$10 a month and "keep." He got more than 300 replies, many offering more than the \$10 he asked. But when he tried to get other unemployed men whom he knew to take up some of these jobs, they refused, and the relief agencies to which he gave the let-

ters said they did not think they could induce men to take them.

"Idleness breeds idleness" is an old saw that I often heard in my youth. It is still true.

"ERSATZ"

During the World War we used to hear a great deal of the word "ersatz" which means, in German, "substitute." People wore "ersatz" clothes, ate "ersatz" food and so on. We learned then that Germany was a nation very short of all sorts of raw materials, but very ingenious in inventing substitutes.

I remember some twenty-five years ago meeting Dr. Carl Duisberg, perhaps the foremost of Germany's industrial chemists. He showed me a set of "ersatz" rubber tires that he had made for the Kaiser's automobile. Germany was trying even then to make itself independent of natural supplies of raw materials. Duisberg's "ersatz" rubber was not very satisfactory, however, and very expensive.

Now the word "ersatz" appears again in the news dispatches. Germany is rearming, as she did in 1914. Her people are wearing "ersatz" clothes again. Her foreign commerce is falling off. To me the signs seem ominous.

Aint It So?

Any community is glad to be given the works by PWA.—Arkansas Gazette.

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