

By LOCKIE PARKER Some Looks At Books

CHARLEMAGNE, THE LEGEND AND THE MAN by Harold Lamb (Doubleday \$4.50). Here again is a good narrative by the author of "Genghis Khan" and other books which have brought to life characters from those dim centuries between the Roman Empire and the Renaissance. Harold Lamb has found a congenial subject in this Charles, son of Pepin the Short.

Admittedly much of the book is surmise, for the chronicles of the eighth and ninth centuries were brief, and some of the little that was written was lost in the dark, chaotic years that followed, some was distorted by legend. However the author has given us a consistent and convincing picture of the strong, awkward boy as he developed into a great king and a great man.

Pepin left to his two sons a precarious rule over half a dozen barbaric peoples, "dividing it so that Charles, the more forceful had to guard the borders and the seacoasts." Immediately there was rebellion in the South, promptly put down.

More formidable was the struggle with the pagan Saxons in the North. Charles, who had signed his first order "Devoted defender of the Church," marched into Saxony, drove the Saxon warriors from their log fort, found the sacred grove where they made human sacrifices to their tree god, Irmsansul, and cut down the great tree itself. But this was only the beginning of his struggle to bring Saxony into Christendom, it went on for most of his long reign.

Already he was dreaming his great dream of a united Christendom which would channel the energies of the warring nobles of Western Europe, push back the Moslems on his southern border, convert the pagan tribes in the North. This unlettered youth brought up in a barbaric court, had a great yearning for a better order in the world, an order that included not only peace but civilization. When he went to Rome,

he brought back learned men to his court, studied with them himself, learning to write at forty, had his children taught, established schools. He fought hard, studied hard, loved, hunted, played hard.

Though his kingdom fell apart after he died, the "Carolingian renaissance" lived on. Also his legend grew, and the author convinces us that it was right that it did, for here was a man of great soul who strove untiringly to build a greater and more enlightened kingdom; so that in time he became in men's memories "the heroic monarch of humanity at large."

MINE THE HARVEST by Edna St. Vincent Millay (Harper \$3.00). The poems in this collection have not appeared in any of the earlier books, but a few have been published in magazines. Miss Millay's sister has gathered together all the late poems that Edna Millay was writing for a new book—the first since 1940—and has added some early ones never before seen in print. Miss Millay died only four years ago. With her death, we lost a great poet who had a definite message for each one of us. She was a modern in feeling, but her verses are never obscure in meaning as is the case with some modern poets.

This book can be read for pure enjoyment. Many will read it through at one sitting, and then turn back reading this and that poem again and again. The early poems, particularly "The courage that my mother had..." are most appealing. Equally moving did I find her "Journal" which makes up Part Four. "Not for a Nation" shows her patriotism and breadth of vision. The sonnets of the last section are pure beauty. "And If I Die" might be her own epitaph. This is a book to own and treasure.

—JANE H. TOWNNE
PICTURES FROM AN INSTITUTION. A Comedy by Randall Jarrell (Knopf \$3.50). One of the tributes on the jacket of this book says, "A most literate account of

Temperatures Up In April Record

The approaching summer cast its shadow before it during April when, according to the records of Mrs. T. A. Kelley, official Weather Bureau observer here, maximum temperatures went to 80 or above on 14 of the month's 30 days. Only four days early in the month failed to see the mercury rise to 70 or higher for the maximum temperature record.

Hottest day of the month was April 28, with a maximum of 88 and a minimum of 65.

Coollest was April 4, with a high of 61 and a low of 41. Lowest minimum temperature, however, was recorded April 2 with 38.

Rain fell on nine days of the month, according to Mrs. Kelly's records, with a trace of rain on one other day, for a total of 2.38 inches.

most literate people." This, I feel, could be changed to "A most clever book about most clever people," for Mr. Jarrell is very clever — sometimes appallingly clever. He makes his chief figure, a woman writer named Gertrude Johnson, a keen dissector of people, but she is far behind the commentator himself, whom we assume to be Mr. Jarrell. He sees into people in such an alarming fashion that one would almost be afraid to meet him. However, he is not unkind to all his characters. He loves two or three of them and pays tribute to their "difference-ness."

This all takes place in a "progressive" college for women. Fortunately the publishers tell us that Benton is not a real college and that all the characters are fictitious. If it were not for that, we might fear to put our trust in any modern college or its faculty. As this book is listed as a comedy, we need not take Mr. Jarrell too seriously. He has written one of the most amusing and literate accounts of college life that we have had.

—JANE H. TOWNNE
THE MOON IS SHINING BRIGHT AS DAY; an anthology of good-humored verse by Ogden Nash (Lippincott \$3.00). This is a delightful gift to boys and girls from Mr. Nash. He dipped into his own memories of childhood for his favorite poems and added more of the same from modern poets; so you will find a wide representation of poets from Shakespeare to T. S. Eliot, who had imagination and liked a little playful fooling with words. That includes "Anon" and Mr. Nash who have both made worthy contributions. The general tone of the book is gay, though there are some serious poems and even a prayer. You will find many non-sensical limericks and quatrains, dramatic narratives about Daniel Boone and Robin Hood, romantic bits from Walter Scott and his ilk, and exquisite lyrics about living from Emily Dickenson, Robert Frost and others who knew how to catch precious moments in simple, homely words. In short, we think Mr. Nash has a collection that is just about right for the pre-romantic age, say nine to thirteen.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Scripture: 1 Kings 21. Devotional Reading: Psalm 32.

The Grabbers

Lesson for May 16, 1954

ONCE there was a little boy who went to a party. His sister Annie was invited but she was sick and couldn't go. When the party was over the lady of the house gave each little guest a sack of chocolates. The little boy got two, one for himself and one for his sister, just alike. On the way home he stumbled his toe, fell down, and when he fell one of the paper sacks broke and the chocolates spilled into the road. "Poor Annie!" he said. We are all like that little boy. There is something in each of us that wants more than half of everything. If anybody is going to take a loss, let it be some one else! One car will pass another and perhaps the driver of the car being passed (if he has no manners) will yell out of the window: "Road Hog!" As a matter of fact, isn't a road hog just a person who takes the wide share of the road you'd like to have yourself?



Dr. Foreman yells out of the window: "Road Hog!" As a matter of fact, isn't a road hog just a person who takes the wide share of the road you'd like to have yourself?

Greed and Deceit

You might think the little boy in the story would be less of a grabber when he grows up; but he may be worse by that time. You might think people could be cured of being greedy by giving everybody just exactly the same; but there would be any number of schemers figuring how to get their share increased. You might think people could be cured of the grab habit by letting them have all they want; but that seldom works, because some of the greediest people in history have been people who had more than any of their neighbors. The Bible story of Ahab and the vineyard of Naboth is a case in point. It isn't a story of the poor stealing from the rich, it is the story of the rich stealing from the poor, which after all is a rather common occurrence. The story of Ahab also illustrates some notable facts about this thing called greed. One is that greed and deceit go hand in hand. Ahab told some terrific lies, and got others to do the same, all because he wanted Naboth's vineyard. When Hitler was on the rise, he made the solemn statement that all he wanted was the little area of the Sudetenland; what he really wanted was all of Europe, only it would never have suited his schemes to say so. When a poor man gets into the clutches of a loan shark, he is never told at first what the rate of interest is. When the St. Louis Post-Dispatch back in 1898 justly accused some prominent citizens of having accepted a quarter of a million dollars in bribes, of course those gentlemen denied the whole thing. You greedy man—or for that matter the greedy corporation—all the way from the simple robber who pretends to be the night watchman, up to the monopoly that overcharges the public—never likes the light of truth on the operation.

Greed and Murder

When a murder has been committed, almost the first question the police ask is: "Who stands to make money by this crime?" Murders are about as common in the country as in the city, in proportion to the population. What is the story book of killings in the farmlands? Very often it is some quarrel about a boundary line, about some stock, about the price of land or produce. Not all murders are for the sake of gain; but if a man is greedy enough, he will not stop at murder. Penitentiaries contain many a "lifer" who would not be there today if he had not been a greedy man.

The Prophetic Spirit

There must have been thousands of Israelite citizens who knew Ahab was a greedy, murderous scoundrel. But it took the prophet Elijah to come out with the truth in plain language. Prophets are not always wild figures in hair-cloth robes. They are not always even preachers. A newspaper can have the prophetic spirit. That St. Louis paper, for instance, broke the Teapot Dome scandal; it exposed a half-million dollar "slush fund" spent by a utility company to bribe a legislature; it defeated a Democrat for governor who had tried to steal the election; and it defeated a Republican by showing that his party was tied up with those number-one Grabbers, the big-time gamblers. The spirit of Elijah is not dead; otherwise the grabbers might inherit the earth. Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.

Bookmobile Schedule

Schedule of the Moore County bookmobile for the week May 17-21 has been announced as follows:

Monday—Routh's service station, Hy. 1 north, 1:30; Sam Taylor's Hy. 27, 2; Macon Moses home (neighborhood stop), 2:15; Cameron: 2:30 to 3:40; Lloyd Thomas home, 4; Paul Thomas service station, 4:15 to 4:30.
Tuesday—West End school, 10 a. m.; Eagle Springs school, 10:45 a. m.; Vineland school, 11:15.
Wednesday—Aberdeen school 10 a. m.; Colonial Heights, 3:45 to 4:30 p. m.
Thursday — Pinckney school, Carthage, 10:30 a. m.; Carthage Library, 11:30 to 12; Elise High school, Robbins, 12:30 to 1; Robbins graded school, 1:30; Robbins Library, 2 to 3:30.
Friday—Garren Hill route in afternoon.

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Attend the Church of Your Choice Next Sunday

They're always talking about me! They say all sorts of things I can't understand: *Isn't she cute? Just a year old. Looks like her mother, doesn't she?*

I wish I knew what it all means. But they always smile when they talk about me—so it must be complimentary.

Frankly, I haven't a worry in the world. My Mamma and my Daddy always seem to know what's best for me. I'm sure they want to do everything possible to make mine a wonderful life.

I just hope they realize how important it will be for me to go to Church School. But, of course, being the wonderful parents they are, they'll realize that little souls must grow up just like little bodies. And they'll not only provide for my religious training—they'll set the Christian example that a little "princess" like me simply has to have.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Psalms	1	1-5
Monday	Mark	4	1-14
Tuesday	Mark	4	14-25
Wednesday	Mark	4	25-32
Thursday	II Corinthians	6	14-18
Friday	Ephesians	6	1-9
Saturday	II Peter	3	8-18

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<p>BROWNSON MEMORIAL CHURCH (Presbyterian) Cheves K. Ligon, Minister Sunday school 9:45 a. m. Worship service, 11 a. m. Women of the Church meeting, 8 p. m. Monday following third Sunday. The Youth Fellowships meet at 7 o'clock each Sunday evening. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 7:15 p. m.</p>	<p>Sunday, 6:30 p. m., Pilgrim Fellowship (Young people). Sunday, 8:00 p. m., The Forum.</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH New York avenue at South Ashe David Hoke Coon, Minister Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Worship 11 a. m. Training Union 7 p. m. Evening worship, 8 p. m. Scout Troop 224, Monday, 7:30 p. m.; midweek worship, Wednesday 7:30 p. m.; choir practice Wednesday 8:15 p. m. Missionary meeting, first and third Tuesdays, 8 p. m. Church and family suppers, second Thursdays, 7 p. m.</p> <p>MANLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Grover C. Currie, Minister Sunday School 10 a. m. Worship Service, 2nd and 3rd Sunday evenings, 7:30. Fourth Sunday morning, 11 a. m. Women of the Church meeting, 8 p. m. second Tuesday. Mid-week service Thursday at 8 p. m.</p>	<p>EMMANUEL CHURCH (Episcopal) Charles V. Covell, Rector Holy Communion, 8 a. m. (except first Sunday). Church School, 9:45 a. m., with Adult Class at 10 a. m. Morning Prayer, 11 a. m. (Holy Communion, first Sunday). Wednesdays: Holy Communion 10 a. m.</p> <p>ST. ANTHONY'S (Catholic) Vermont Ave. at Ashe Father Peter M. Denges Sunday masses 8 and 10:30 a. m.; Holy Day masses 7 and 9 a. m.; weekday mass at 8 a. m. Confessions heard on Saturday between 5-6 and 7:30-8:30 p. m.</p> <p>OUR LADY OF VICTORY West Pennsylvania at Hardin Fr. Donald Fearon, C. S. S. R. Sunday Mass, 10 a. m.; Holy Day Mass, 9 a. m. Confessions are heard before Mass.</p>
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