

By LOCKIE PARKER

Some Looks At Books

THE KING'S PEACE by C. V. Wedgwood (Macmillan \$5.50). Modern historical writings give novels real competition as interesting reading, and this book is a prime example. Miss Wedgwood, writing of the later years of the reign of Charles I, 1637-41, has given us a brilliant panorama of seventeenth century England and a dramatic account of the increasing tension of the struggle between the monarchy and the large number of the English people who found their political ideas, economic interests or religious convictions out of harmony with the King's policies.

In 1637 Charles considered himself "the happiest king in Christendom. He had kept free of the wars that raged in Europe. He had an elegant court and was beautifying palaces and churches with the help of Inigo Jones. A firm believer in the divine right of kings, he had managed to reign several years without calling a Parliament. Not being a man who paid too much attention to what other people were thinking, he was complacent about future prospects for peace and a land increasingly unified under the King and the Church of England.

How dissatisfaction grew among the Scotch Calvinists, the burghers of London and the wild Irish and how it finally broke forth in violence makes a fascinating and complicated plot. The participating characters—noble, villainous or just medium—are so numerous that this reader had sometimes to refer to the index to keep them straight, but it is a lively tale. Full credit is given to men of character and ability whatever their party or religious affiliation.

The author has already won laurels in the history of this period for her books on "Montrose and Oliver Cromwell" and "William the Silent." The present book, written at the Institute for Advanced Study of Princeton, is the first volume in what will be a complete history of The Great Rebellion, and fellow historians are already hailing it as probably the author's masterpiece.

NEARER TO HEAVEN by Frank Baker (Westminster \$3.50). This is the story of a good Christian, a man of deep humility and

strong faith. Lawrence Hearne had been vicar of an obscure country parish for twenty years. When the book opens he has come to the cathedral town to get his doctor's report on some ominous symptoms. Stopping by the cathedral for a few moments, he sees the afternoon light stream through its beautiful window, and hears the choir and organ in the triumphant strains of Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord." This phrase may be taken as the theme of the book, because it is the man's efforts to realize this injunction under difficulties that make the story.

His difficulties are very human. They include mortality—the pronouncement by his doctor that his time is definitely limited; they include not having enough money to do what he feels he ought for his wife and talented daughter; they include doubts of himself, disappointing response to his efforts to help his parishioners, and realization of the wavering of his own faith and courage. Along with this we get an understanding portrayal of the vicar's wife, his daughter and that odd musician, the organist of the cathedral.

Written with a sensitive control of language, no one can fail to be moved by this tale which will probably be compared to "Good-bye, Mr. Chips" because of its prevailing atmosphere of gentle melancholy. It is being produced as a motion picture in England with Robert Donat in the leading role. Doubtless we shall soon have the film in this country, too.

LEAVEN OF MALICE by Robert Davies (Scribner's \$3.50). Mr. Davies has taken his title from the Book of Common Prayer. In the story's last scene where the question of a suit for libel against a newspaper is being discussed, the dean of the cathedral quotes the entire plea—"to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness."

The principal characters are the editor of the paper and an irate professor. The author is a Canadian newspaper man himself and illuminates that field. He is a shrewd judge of character, and his characters in this book interest us as real people. The answer to the mystery of who inserted the engagement notice that caus-

Mrs. Merrill To Attend National Girl Scout Meet

The Central Carolina Girl Scout Council will be represented for the first time at the Girl Scout National Convention to be held in San Francisco, November 1-4, Mrs. Audrey Kennedy of Southern Pines, council president, announced this week.

The two delegates who will attend the 33rd National Convention are Mrs. Mildred Merrill, leader of Troop 53, Southern Pines, and Miss Cathryn Creasman of Sanford, executive director. The delegates will leave here October 28 and will travel by special Girl Scout tour train from Chicago.

The theme of the convention is "Believe, Belong, Build."

Advisor's Visit
Miss Polly Claiborne, community advisor to the Central Carolina Girl Scout Council, from the Regional office in Atlanta, Ga., will visit the council October 19-20. Miss Claiborne will meet with the board of directors October 20 at 2:30 p. m. in the Girl Scout office at Sanford.

The purpose of her visit will be to check on the progress of the council and advise on future long range plans.

Girl Scout units in Moore, Lee, Chatham and Harnett Counties are associated with the Central Carolina Council.

ed all the trouble is concealed from us until the end of the book, so that we have suspense added to a well-written novel of the contemporary Canadian scene.

—JANE H. TOWNE
FOURTH FLOOR MENAGERIE by Flavia Gag (Holt \$2.75). All children love pets, but city children living in apartments are usually limited to one if they are lucky enough to have that. Not so with Barbara Jean. This gay and amusing story tells of a nine-year-old girl who found little living creatures so irresistible that she eventually had seventeen in her parents' fourth floor apartment. The family did not quite have to move out, for some of them were insects. Besides her cousin Hoagy across the hall helped to take care of them.

The book is not entirely about pets. In Barbara Jean the author has given us a very real and lovable girl with varied interests in her friends, her family, a trip to the country and the school band. Her problems and adventures will be eagerly shared by small girls of about the same age. Miss Gag, the author-artist, has added to the charm of the book with a generous supply of illustrations, depicting very recognizable and highly individual children and, of course, a wide variety of pets.

NOTICE
North Carolina Moore County
The undersigned, having qualified as Executors of the Estate of Thomas Barron, deceased, late of Moore County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 22nd day of September, 1955, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 15th day of September, 1955.

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The Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Southern Pines Co-Executor, Southern Pines, N. C.
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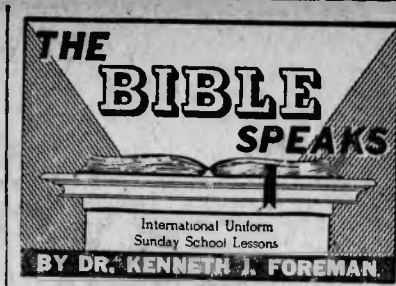
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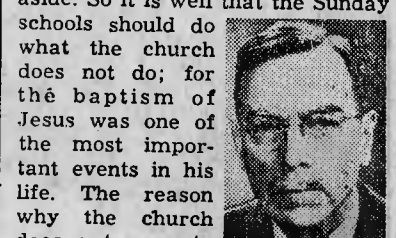


Scripture: Luke 3:1-38. Devotional Reading: Isaiah 1:11-20.

Jesus Is Baptized

Lesson for October 16, 1955

THERE is one notable day the church does not celebrate. We have a day for the birth of Jesus, one for his presentation in the Temple, a whole season (Lent) to recall his temptations, a day for the crucifixion, the resurrection, the ascension. But for remembering his baptism, no day is set aside. So it is well that the Sunday schools should do what the church does not do; for the baptism of Jesus was one of the most important events in his life. The reason why the church does not care to celebrate this event, may be that Dr. Foreman



the church does not know quite what it means. We know what other Christian festivals mean.—Pentecost Sunday, Christmas, Good Friday and so on. But what does the baptism of Jesus mean?

Surely Not for His Sins

The heart of the difficulty is just this: Jesus was baptized by John, and John's baptism, we read over and over again, was a baptism of repentance. So we can put the dilemma this way: Was this baptizing of Jesus also a baptism of repentance, and if so, what could he have had to repent of? Or was it altogether different, and if so, then what did it mean if it did not mean repentance? Since the Bible does not answer this question clearly, and since the church has no standard or "orthodox" explanation, perhaps the best thing this column can do is to run over a few answers to that question: Why was Jesus baptized? The reader is invited to think about these and take his choice. One answer, which has three forms, the church has thought about, but generally has not taken seriously. It is the theory that Jesus was baptized, like every one else there at the Jordan, in token of repentance for sin. One extreme form of this theory is that Jesus repented of his own sins. Only a person who thinks of Jesus as an ordinary man could believe that, and the church does not believe it. Another form of this idea is that Jesus repented of his sinful nature; the idea being that if it had a really human nature it must have been a sinful one even if he never sinned. (Just as one may have a weak constitution that never breaks down.) This again the church has overwhelmingly opposed.

"To Fulfill All Righteousness"

Jesus himself gave a reason for being baptized. The trouble is, he did not explain what he meant. He said he did it "to fulfill all righteousness." (Matthew 3:15). It is quite plain that he meant he would not be doing right if he were not baptized. But just what does "fulfilling all righteousness" mean? The explanation most widely accepted in the church is that being baptized was part of the Jewish law at the time, and that Jesus as a loyal Jew observed this as he observed other laws of his religion. There are two weak spots in this theory. One is that there is little or no evidence that baptizing or being baptized was a regular religious observance among the Jews, and the other is that Jesus did not feel obligated to keep strictly all the laws, otherwise he would hardly have had the attitude toward the Sabbath which we know he had.

Friend of Sinners

Still another explanation which is impressing a large number of Christians today, is that Christ, by insisting on being baptized, by insisting on protests that he did not need it, in a dramatic way was taking the side of sinners. We think of Jesus taking our part and representing us on the Cross. But, it is asked, when did Jesus first identify himself with sinners? Not until his last Friday morning? On the contrary, the suggestion is that Christ there at the Jordan had the opportunity to take his place, publicly and for all to see, either with those who repented and were proud of their lives, or with those who were baptized were honest about confessing their sins and to get their deep desire to be forgiven. So Jesus identified himself once and for all with the repentant, but to show that repentant are his people first so just, he was the Friend of Sinners.

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Bookmobile Schedule

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

- Monday—Eureka route in afternoon.
- Tuesday—Aberdeen school, 10:30 a. m.; Mt. Carmel route in afternoon.
- Wednesday—West End school, 10:30 a. m.; Vass-Lakeview school, 1:30 p. m.
- Thursday—Farm Life school, 10:30 a. m.; Carthage Library, 11:30 to 12:30.

Mrs. Avery will attend a meeting of N. C. Library Association in High Point beginning Thursday afternoon.

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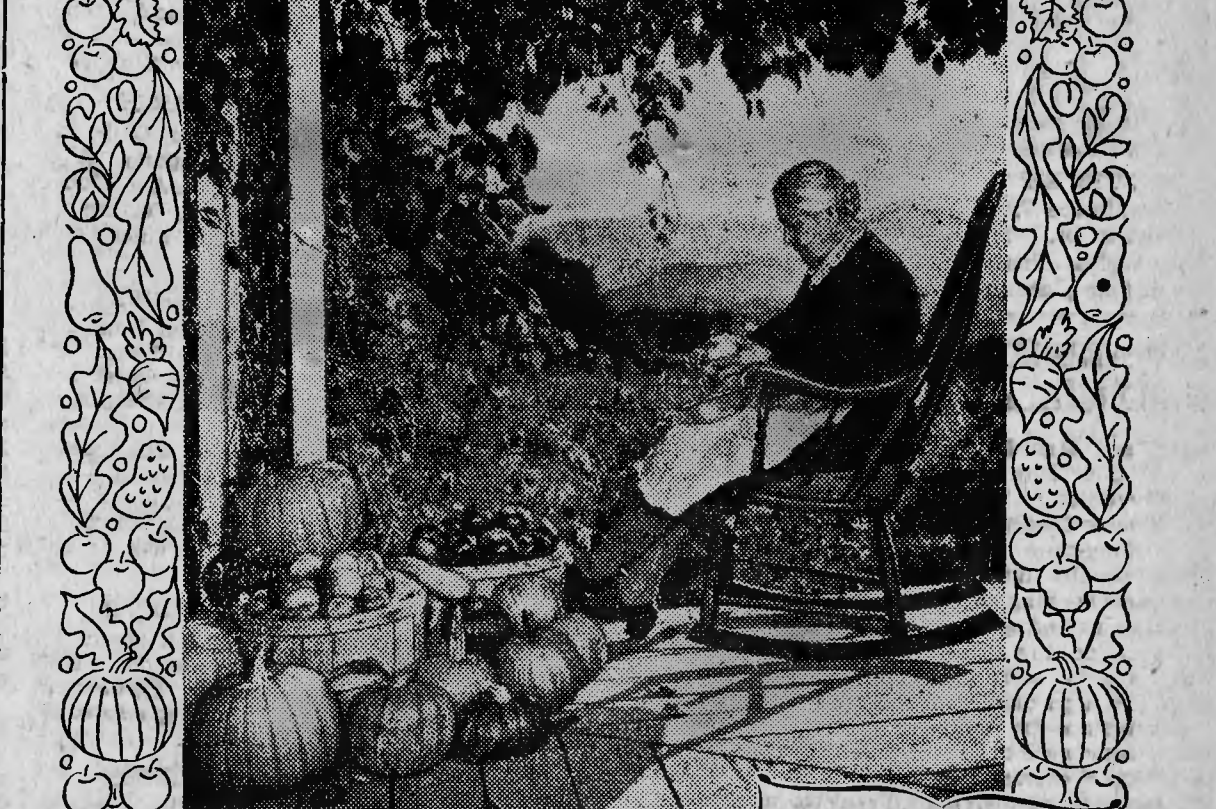
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The fruits have been gathered from the fields. They lay about her, rich and ripe, in the autumn sun that is still warm. Never has the sky been so blue, never have the distant mountains been more enchanting with their play of purple shadows. Yet she concentrates on the work at hand, peeling an apple with still dextrous fingers as she rocks on into the long afternoon of life.

She is a simple person. Her life has not been easy. There have been moments of great happiness . . . and of great sadness; times of drought and times when the harvest came in a kind of golden glory from the bounty of the earth.

But through it all she has had a nourishment that has nothing to do with crops and weather, a kind of sustenance that has stood by her at all times and in all seasons . . . FAITH. Hers is a complete Faith in God and in her Church, a Faith that has made her life happy and useful . . . a Faith that has furnished food for the soul.

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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 the sake of his community and nation. (3) 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 | 107 | 1-9 |
| Monday | Jeremiah | 17 | 9-15 |
| Tuesday | Matthew | 11 | 23-30 |
| Wednesday | Matthew | 23 | 1-12 |
| Thursday | Acts | 8 | 26-40 |
| Friday | II Corinthians | 9 | 6-15 |
| Saturday | Philippians | 4 | 4-13 |

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.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH
New Hampshire Ave.
Sunday Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 11 a.m.
Wednesday Service, 8 p.m.
Reading Room in Church Building open Wednesday 3-5 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF WIDE FELLOWSHIP (Congregational)
Cor. Bennett and New Hampshire
Worford C. Timmons, Minister
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday, 6:30 p.m., Pilgrim Fellowship (Young people).
Sunday, 8:00 p.m., The Forum.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
New York Ave. 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.; mid-week 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.

EMMANUEL CHURCH (Episcopal)
Thaddeus A. Cheatham, D.D., Supply Pastor
Holy Communion, 8 a.m. (except first Sunday).
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Service, 11 a.m.

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.

SOUTHERN PINES METHODIST CHURCH
Robert L. Bame, Minister
(Services held temporarily at Civic Club, Ashe Street)
Church School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.; W. S. C. S. meets each first Tuesday at 8 p. m.

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.

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