



## Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

**THE NUN'S STORY** by Kathryn Hulme (Little Brown \$4.00). This is not fiction. It is the true story of a young Belgian girl who, after an unhappy love affair, decided to become a nun. Her six months as a postulant and her three years as a novice were long and difficult for this girl accustomed to a life of luxury. However, nothing seemed too hard for her even the punishments, which to us seem unnecessarily severe for such trivial offenses.

One wonders how the author has been allowed to publish the details of this rigorous training. Those who survive and become the Superiors are outstanding women of both the material and spiritual world.

Sister Luke, after finishing her training, dreamed of nursing in the Congo and finally went there. Her work was remarkable and she wanted to stay on, but her health gave out and she was sent back to Belgium. She was sent to a hospital near the border of Holland. When the Germans advanced into Belgium and her father was killed trying to get out of the country, she became an underground worker.

Finally realizing that she could no longer accept the convent life and feeling that she could do more good in the world, she was released from her vows. The account of her leaving the sisterhood is one of the most moving in the book.

As a friend remarked the other day, "This is a fascinating book."

—JANE H. TOWNE

**SON OF DUST** by H. F. M. Prescott (Macmillan \$3.75). This novel set in eleventh century Normandy under Duke William who later conquered England, tells the story of young Fulcrun Geroy, the illegitimate son of a Norman noble and a Breton peasant girl. Because of his un-

lawful love for Alde, wife of another man, he brings himself, his family and friends to tragedy.

He cannot give up his love and yet fears the wrath of God and the love of God. He suffers with his divided mind and heart until in the end, he finds a kind of humble peace and even happiness.

The reader cannot but feel that it is a real story about real people and that he is getting a genuine picture of life as it was lived in the eleventh century.

Miss Prescott is a most convincing teller of tales. In this novel, which was written twenty-five years ago and published in England but is appearing for the first time in this country, she tells an absorbing and timeless story.

—JULIA BURT ATTEBERRY

**THE LINDEN AFFAIR** by Marjha Allbrand (Random \$3.00). Marjha Allbrand has lived in many parts of the world, hence her backgrounds are both interesting and authentic. In her latest tale of adventure the scene is Munich. We have the story of a young Intelligence Officer trying to get an old friend out from behind the Iron Curtain.

The author holds your interest throughout, and this is one of the better stories of mystery and intrigue.

—JANE H. TOWNE

**BEOWULF** by Bryher (Pantheon \$2.75). These brief, unostentatious novels by Bryher have come to be looked forward to as events by connoisseurs of literature. Miss Bryher writes more in the French tradition than the English with her preference for selection of the significant detail and concise statement rather than the rich and lively abundance of the great English novels from Defoe and Dickens to the just published "The Fountain

## Explorer Scouts To Hold Annual Ball Saturday

The first annual "Explorers Ball" for members of Explorer Scout troops in Moore District will be held Saturday night at the Community House in Carthage, it has been announced by activities director David Drexel.

The ball, which begins at 7:30, will also feature the crowning of "Miss Exploring," who will receive special gifts, and a number of other activities, including songs by Miss Arden Fobes of Southern Pines. A band has been engaged for the affair, which is sponsored by the Order of the Arrow, scout honor society.

All boys in scout troops in the county, together with their dates and parents, are invited. Other boys, whether they are scouts or not, are also invited. Drexel said. Admission will be \$1.25.

Overflows" by Rebecca West.

Earlier novels have given us sensitive and convincing pictures of individuals caught in some old catastrophe such as the fall of Rome and working out their individual fates in a net of circumstances which was none of their making.

This book has a similar theme but the setting is modern—London during the bombing. Miss Selina's teashop, The Warming Pan, is the point of vantage from which we watch a number of unimportant people who are being quietly heroic without the least idea of using such a flamboyant word for their conduct. They are very English, very civilized, very touching. Yet one almost hesitates to use such a sentimental word for one's own emotions when the most Miss Selina would say when disaster fell was "It is very embarrassing to be bombed out."

The teashop's mascot, appropriately enough, is Beowulf, a plaster bulldog of no esthetic pretensions.

An elephant's trunk is composed of a solid mass of muscle fibers and ligaments so tightly bound together they can hardly be dissected.

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## When God Came

Lesson for December 23, 1956

ONCE upon a time, so runs a modern legend, there came a rumor to the ears of all the angels that God himself was going to visit a district in his dominions known as the Earth. Some of the angels had never before heard of the place, but others had been on errands thither, and in its affairs. So there was much talk and many opinions, for it is with angels as with men, that not being possessed of infinite wisdom, they do not all see eye to eye.



Dr. Foreman

**Why Should God Come to Earth?**  
"The earth is too small," said one angel. "I have seen the place and it could be lost in a corner of heaven. Why should the Almighty trouble himself about the place?"  
"It is more than small," said another angel. "It is wicked."  
"What is wicked?" said an angel who had never seen sin.

"It is hard to explain," said the wiser angel. "You will not believe me, but there are beings on that place called Earth who do not our Lord's will. They do not even wish to do it. Some there are who doubt even that he exists. And some hate him and call him stupid and cruel."

"I do not believe it," said the young angel.

"It is true none the less," said the older one.

"Then the Lord will descend in flame and destroy that evil place," said the young angel. "Amen," said many others together.

"It has come to my ears," said one who had not spoken, "that this visit is not in wrath but in mercy. God is going to win back to himself those who have rebelled."

"But how shall he do this?" came the chorus. "He has tried before, these many times," said one who remembered. He has sent messages by us his angels, he has spoken by poets and preachers and

heroes and saints. He has shown men what is good, and if men will not believe Moses and the prophets, would they listen to the voice of the very God?"

**How Shall the Most High Come to Man?**  
"And if he came in his infinite glory, how would they endure the sight?" asked another. "Angels veil their faces before him; how shall sinful man look upon the face of God and live?"

"I have heard," said one, "that he is to go as a man. I do not know how this can be, but this I have heard."

"What manner of man?" said some. "And how will he come?" asked others. One spoke: "Surely he will be born in a king's palace. Men find it not easy to believe, at best. If God appears in lower than the highest human place, there will be none to believe it is He. If they cannot bow to him as a man they will never kneel to him as God."

"Nay," said another angel, "men are oppressed by their kings. If he comes from a royal place they will take him for another tyrant. What men respect is wisdom. He must be born to learning, he must be acquainted with all the books wise men have written, he must be a son of the schools, a philosopher."

"Not so," said others. "Scholars are tedious to most people. Human beings are like children. If God is to have their eye and ear he must win them by amazement. Let him drop from a golden cloud at dawn, let him work almighty miracles, let him turn stones into bread and sand into silver. Let him be richest of men, dispensing wealth to all. Then they may believe."

**The Word Became Flesh**  
But God, who had not sought counsel of his angels, took his own strange way. He came not in a golden cloud but in darkness with only a star for light. He came not to palace or university but to a woman untaught, unknown; not to a home of wealth but to a couple so poor they could not pay for a room in a village. He summoned no crowds to witness his coming. If certain poor shepherds heard of it, and if a few wise men from a far land came to see, it was not the mother who told the news. There are many doors into human life, and some of them are deep in shadows. And what the angels did not know, the Lord on High knew: that men who live in a darkened world would never be saved by a God who feared to walk in hallowed ways.

(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.)

## West End Scout Units Hold Annual Christmas Party

Eight cub scouts of the pack in West End were presented achievement awards at the annual Christmas party of the Sandspur Club at the Legion Hut in West End last Thursday.

The awards, presented by cubmaster Roy Swaringen, went to Gilbert Rushing, Bobby Henderson, William Johnson, Ned Carson, Johnny Blue, Vernon Suthphin, Rick Lewis and Chuck Lewis.

The party, which attracted more than 100 people, was for the four scout units in the West End area, including the senior girl scouts. Christmas carols were sung, and a skit, depicting the true meaning of Christmas, was staged by members of the cub scout unit.

Bobbie Jean McNair of West

End won a doll, "Miss Sandspur" FOR RESULTS USE THE PI- 1956" as part of the program. LOTS CLASSIFIED COLUMN.

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## Attend The Church of Your Choice Next Sunday



Boy—I can hardly wait!

I've got my stocking hung by the chimney with plenty of care, and Christmas morning it'll be bursting full of all sorts of good things. There'll be a candy cane sticking out of the top... there always is... and a walnut stuffed way down in the tip of the toe.

And then... the tree! I don't think there's a prettier sight on earth than a Christmas tree. And all those presents underneath it, wrapped up in bright colors and tied with ribbons.

Then Mom and Dad and my sister Ellen and I will get dressed, and we'll go to Church. That's one of the best parts of Christmas. For Mom and Dad always say that Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birthday. I love the music in our Church at Christmas—"Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and all the other carols. When I hear them, I feel all filled up with joy, and I know why our minister says that Christmas is the happiest day of the whole year.

Boy—I can hardly wait! And I just hope that your Christmas is going to be as merry as ours!

### THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of 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) Which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Matthew	1	18-25
Monday	Matthew	2	1-12
Tuesday	Matthew	3	13-23
Wednesday	Isaiah	9	1-17
Thursday	Isaiah	11	1-9
Friday	Isaiah	11	1-9
Saturday	Isaiah	60	1-5

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### BROWNSON MEMORIAL CHURCH (Presbyterian)

Cheves C. 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  
Wofford 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.

### EMMANUEL CHURCH

(Episcopal)  
East Massachusetts Ave.  
Martin Caldwell, Rector  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m. (First Sundays and Holy Days, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.)  
Family Service, 9:30 a.m.  
Church School, 10 a.m.  
Morning Service, 11 a.m.  
Young Peoples' Service League, 6 p.m.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

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