



# Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

**TOWER IN THE WEST** by Frank Norris (Harper \$3.95). This is the 1957 Harper Prize Novel. The judges were Hamilton Basso, Orville Prescott and Jessamyn West, and this book is a credit to their judgment. Few novels have given us such a broad view of our national life and such a thoughtful criticism of its values, but it does this strictly within the novel form. It is a good story, well constructed and well centered in personal drama.

The "Tower in the West" is a skyscraper in St. Louis that was built by Jeff Hanes, an architect of genius, shortly before the First World War. The story is told by his younger brother who deeply admired him and whose profound loyalty to Jeff and to the ideals represented by his Tower caused him to make uncommon personal sacrifices in his efforts to be a good "curator" after Jeff's untimely death. The story is told without heroics and without dogmatism. George Hanes takes no particular credit for the efforts he made to take care of the "Tower" and his brother's family, he is wryly amused at the futility of some of his efforts. We get his own quality as a person chiefly from the reactions of others to him—his nephew, the woman he loved, and friends that range from bar-keepers and bootleggers to bankers and publishers.

The author has an uncommon talent for giving us the quality

of men through conversations and small acts, and it is quality that interests him from first to last whether it is in architecture or human beings. Some characters appear and reappear in this narrative that covers two World Wars and a depression; and their development or lack of it under these conditions is always convincing. The author is not so good at depicting women, but then the women do not have much to do in this story. The two principal ones are just types of the woman who is always a help and the woman who is the exact reverse.

There is good pace to this novel, there are poignant personal situations and behind all this there is a burning conviction that life is only significant when lived by ideals. Mr. Norris does not preach about this. Only once does he have George Hanes say in a moment of intimacy to an old friend, "When you grow older you find that there are fewer rather than more things that you must be true to. The Tower is one of those few things to me." But though he does not preach, this principle is implicit in his judgments of men. He knows shoddy when he sees it in high places or low, and the same goes for fundamental integrity and the shining capacity to think beyond the interests of self.

**FANTASY AND FUGUE. A Mystery by Roy Fuller (Macmillan)**

**SILENT TRAVELLER IN PARIS** by Chiang Yee (Norton \$5.95). This is the eighth of the "Silent Traveller" books and having read this one, we are eager to read the others, particularly the one on New York. This remarkable Chinese traveller is an artist as well as a writer. There are twelve colored plates of his paintings and numerous illustrations in black and white.

No matter how many travel books you have read you will find this one different because the author-artist sees people and places that are out of the ordinary and describes them in an unusual manner. Who else, for instance, would find the obscure Parc de Butte Chaumont reminding him of a Chinese park and which he decided may well have been copied from one? Investigation brought out that it was Count Haussman who conceived the idea of turning a rubbish heap into a beautiful park, and that Alphand who carried out the plan might very well have been at some time in China. It is such bits of real and imagined history—both French and Chinese—that we find throughout the book and which give it its unique charm. The Silent Traveller does not omit the life of Montmartre and Paris night life in general, to say nothing of visits to the Grande Couture and to artists and artisans of all kinds. A most rewarding book!

—JANE H. TOWNE

**COMPLETE ETIQUETTE** by Frances Benton, co-edited by the General Federation of Women's Clubs (Random \$1.00). If you have found formidable the size or the price of current books on etiquette, here is a modest volume that tells you all you need to know and that will not strain your budget. It covers manners for men, women and children, dating, weddings, table settings, clothes and a score of other subjects.

It is modern and sensible.

**THE BIBLE SPEAKS**

International Union Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Matthew 9:35-10:42  
Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

## Going Concern

Lesson for February 3, 1957

A "GOING concern" is one that prospers, does business and keeps growing. If the Christian church is not a going concern, maybe the reason is that it is not a going concern. That remark needs explaining; it is not meant as nonsense.

The Quakers have a good word for Concern, which has a deeper meaning than "firm" or "business." It means warm, deep, even self-sacrificing interest in some one or cause. Lincoln had a concern for the Union; St. Paul had a concern for Gentiles; mothers have a concern for their children. Now the church, if it is the true Body of Christ, ought to share his concerns. We know what it was that concerned him—people, the "multitudes," the masses as we now speak of them. The church ought to have—and to be—a living concern for all sorts and conditions of men.

A church without the human, humane concern which Jesus had, is not what Christ intended.

**Going?**

Furthermore, the church, so far as it is Christian, ought to be a going concern, not only a sitting one—not only a praying one either. Plenty of churches are (so to speak) sitting concerns. The preacher preaches about "lost" people but nobody gets out to hunt for them—perhaps the preacher doesn't look very hard himself. The members talk to one another about the dreadful state of the world, but they do nothing about it. Missions? What's that? The fact that their denomination is actually going into the ends of the earth, and begs them for help, does not get through to their minds. (Maybe the preacher's fault again?) They have a concern for the sad state of the world, but it's not a going concern, only a talking concern, a tut-tutting concern,—nothing alive. So the church dwindles and dies, it's not a going concern any longer because it isn't a going concern,—it has no real concern, and it never goes anywhere.

**No Mission, No Church**

The first Christian church was the twelve apostles. It was a 100% going concern. Jesus did not plan for any of them to remain behind. The directions he gave them are not now followed by any missionary society that has much success; circumstances alter Christian strategy. But all the same, suppose those twelve men had preferred not to go when Jesus sent them? He chose them for two purposes, we read: to be with him and to be sent out. There are always Christians who enjoy worship better than service. Ten people will be out for church, to one who will come out for volunteer service, of any sort. But there came a time when Jesus had to say (in effect) to his closest friends: You have been with me enough. You have heard all you need to hear, learned all you need to learn—for now. Go out now and change people, change the world, in my name! If they had refused, if Jesus could have found no one willing to go, there never would have been a Christian church. And if the church ceases to be missionary today it will become a fossil, a relic, a curiosity, without life or usefulness.

**"I Wouldn't Be Here If..."**

Not everybody can become a foreign missionary. (Indeed the Twelve were sent out first to a region smaller than Vermont; their home country.) But there are various ways in which the church can go out, and send out. There is a man who has found his life's chief work and interest in developing the moral and spiritual atmosphere of the schools in his state. He said not long ago to a group of religious workers: "I wouldn't be here if my church didn't feed me." What he is doing is outside the church; he works through public agencies of the State. But his inspiration comes from the church. And his church would not have inspired him and "fed" him if in turn it had not been inspired and fed by the Living Bread. Where the church as an organization cannot go, its members, stirred and supported by the Spirit of God, must go, into life everywhere, in the name of Jesus.

(Based on outline 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

Tuesday, 5 — J. D. Lewis, 10; A. A. McCaskill, 10:15; Paul Green, 10:30; Ben Blue, 10:45; Farm Life School, 11; Miss Velma Prim, 12; John Blue, 12:15; C. F. Wicker, 12:30; H. A. Blue, 1; Miss Flora Blue, 1:30; Raymond Wicker, 1:45; Ed Love, 2; E. B. Cook, 2:15; Lewis Short, 2:30.

Thursday, 7 — Miss Sara Inman, 10; High Falls School, 10:30; Highfalls, 11:30; Mrs. Helen Maness, 12; Penn Seawell, 12:30; Glendon, 12:45; Miss Alma Edwards, 1:15; R. F. Wilcox, 1:45; Miss Irene Nicholson, 2:15; Carthage, 2:45.

Friday, 8 — W. E. Graham, 10:30; Jackson Springs Post Office, 11; J. C. Blue, 11:30; James Hicks, 11:45; George Ross, 12; Carl Tucker, 12:30; Mrs. Margaret Smith, 12:45; J. W. Blake, 1; Miss Adele McDonald, 1:30; George Hunt, 1:45; Ed Smith, 2.

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## Attend The Church of Your Choice Next Sunday

**THE SECRET**

In another moment he will be getting up and walking toward you, eager to tell the secret of his calmness and strength. Will you listen? He has solved many problems, overcome much grief and temptation, been able to meet the conditions of every-day living, all because through the Church he has come in contact with the Source of all power. In the Church he has found companionship. Its worship services have brought faith, peace and serenity. Its activities have furnished an outlet for his creative abilities and energy. The Church has been a part of his life from boyhood. Through its various departments the needs of his life have been met. He has enjoyed the fellowship there and, looking back, he is able to trace his own growth.

Have you learned his secret? Wouldn't you like to know it? What the Church has done for him it can do for you. If you are young, it will help meet your problems. If you are older, it will bring satisfaction and peace.

**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	Proverbs	13	6-17
Monday	Proverbs	25	14-28
Tuesday	Isaiah	26	1-7
Wednesday	Isaiah	40	27-31
Thursday	Luke	4	1-13
Friday	Luke	11	1-13
Saturday	Acts	9	1-9

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**BROWN 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  
Wofford C. Timmons, Minister  
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service, 11 a.m.  
Sunday, 8:30 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.  
Holy Communion, Wednesdays and Holy Days, 10 a.m. and Friday, 9:30.  
Saturday—6 p.m. Penance.

**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**  
Midland Road  
Robert L. Bame, Minister  
Church School, 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service, 11 a.m.; W. S. C. S. meets each third Monday at 8 p.m.

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