



## Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

**A SAD HEART AT THE SUPERMARKET**, Essays and Fables by Randall Jarrell (Atheneum \$4.50). This begins with a neat account of Diogenes—the man who could do with least—sitting in his tub and being visited by Alexander the Great who asked if he could do anything for the philosopher. Diogenes replied, "Yes, get out of my light." Jarrell says that this story has meant different things to different ages but that what would strike the good American is the oddness of Alexander being there, taking time out from conquering the world to visit so impoverished and eccentric an intellectual, just an egghead. This introduces a brilliant championship of the egghead as the salt of the earth.

A genuine devotion to literature infuses all the pieces in this book, accompanied by some distress about tendencies and influences in our culture today. But devastating as his picture of our slick magazine - radio-television-digest-fed minds is, his lecture is given with such wit and irony, such a persuasive contrast with more nourishing fare that the reader's interest is caught from the start, his sympathies engaged, and some may even be persuaded to try his recommendations.

The title essay, "A Sad Heart at the Supermarket," has to do mainly with advertising. Turning to the dictionary for a definition of "media," Jarrell finds it just the plural of medium, which is, among other things a nutritive mixture for cultivating bacteria, fungi, etc. He sees us as living in such a "medium," our senses being constantly stimulated to buying more and more, until we are thoroughly brain-washed by those whose job it is to sell more. Then he contrasts the comfortable, flattering things offered by the ad-

vertiser with the uncomfortable, startling things offered by the genuine artist, the last rugged individualist in a too-conforming society.

Other essays deal with how to read Kipling, the poet in relation to critics and readers, Malraux, the short story, education today. "The Schools of Yesterday" is a dialogue between a grandfather on the respective contents of their fifth grade readers—the contrast is something to think about.

Randall Jarrell is a poet who has received, among other honors, the 1961 National Book Award for Poetry, a critic whose book about poetry has gone into a popular reprint, and a Professor of English at the Woman's College in Greensboro.

**CATCH-22** by Joseph Heller (Simon & Schuster \$5.95). The publishers have great faith in this big, garrulous novel with its amusingly absurd conversations against the bitter background of life in an American bomber squadron in World War II. They even say it is "a microcosm of the twentieth-century world as it might look to someone dangerously sane."

I tried to have faith, too, but I must confess that I sometimes had trouble finding my way through the verbal fireworks in my effort to discover a pattern, even though I looked at the ending for a guidepost. However, there is a center, a bombardier named Yossarian, whose dominating concern is frankly his own safety. He had even elected to become a bombardier for that reason, figuring that the training took so long that the war would be over before he was ready. But as the book begins, he has flown about fifty missions, he is furious because so many "perfect strangers" want to kill him, and he carries on a private war with his superior officers.

Oddly enough, despite all this mixing of sense and nonsense, hilarity and tragedy, the book ends with the most classic requirement of a serious novel, a major moral decision by the hero.

**THE CONSCIENCE OF LOVE** by Marcel Aymé (Atheneum \$4.50). This book is a neat and compact example of French wit playing with a thesis which is early stated and brilliantly illustrated. Yet despite the contrast in form it resembles "Catch-22" in some ways. The characters reject society's conventions and conventional phrases dealing with family, sex, patriotism, business; and they just love discussing this and their own ideas. The author seems partly to agree with them and partly to regard them with the tolerance of age for the confidence of youth that they can reshape the world.

The setting for the story is Paris and a group of young people with complicated amours and immediate problems of survival in a world where they have not

## Moore Library Staff Attends Monroe Meeting

The Moore County Library is closed today (Thursday) and the bookmobile is off the road in order that the entire library staff may attend the annual meeting of the Piedmont Public Library Council.

This one-day meeting is being held in the Union County Public Library in Monroe. Aside from a business session, the meeting is devoted to a symposium on North Carolina historical and genealogical materials. Special guests and speakers are William S. Powell, librarian in charge of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill, and Mrs. Margaret Price, Genealogy Reference Librarian, North Carolina State Library at Raleigh.

## Woman Taken to Hospital Says She Shot Herself

Mrs. Elizabeth Sanders Pope, about 30, of near Robbins, was reported in critical condition at Montgomery County Hospital, Troy, following a shooting with a .22 calibre pistol early Sunday morning. Later advice is that she is improving.

She was taken to the hospital in an ambulance by Winthrop Williams, at whose home just this side of the Moore-Montgomery line the shooting took place.

Deputy Sheriff I. D. Marley, who went to the hospital following word of the shooting, said Mrs. Pope told him she fired the pistol herself. She was in no condition to be questioned further, he said.

Williams told Deputies Marley and H. H. Grimm that Mrs. Pope shot herself "because she was jealous of visits I paid to my children." He is separated from his wife, who has their children with her at Burlington, the officers said.

## Scouting Leaders To Meet Tonight

Moore District Scout Commissioner Dr. J. C. Grier, Jr. of Pinehurst requests that all Boy Scout leaders, den mothers and committeemen attend the monthly round table discussion, to be held tonight, Thursday, at 7:45, at the United Church of Christ.

Paul Ward will speak on the Cub Scout theme, "Inside Noah's Ark;" "Gimmicks and Gadgets," will be the subject of Dr. J. D. Ives' talk for the Boy Scout leaders; and Judge J. D. Farrell will suggest in his talk on explorers that they "Be an Astronaut."

yet gained a real foothold. Most amazing among them is Portier, a languid character who has become a legend and a mystery to hundreds but to his brother and mistress is just an indulged and impractical child. One French critic has described the book as "wild fantasy allied with logic."

**HEART OF THE WILD** by Chet Schwazkopf (Doubleday \$3.95). Along the northwestern coast of California lies a rare stretch of wild land. Covering the state's four northernmost counties, the Redwood Coast is largely inhabited by magnificent specimens of North American wildlife, the heroes of this book.

In the center of the area lies the town of Eureka, where Mr. Schwazkopf lived for more than twenty years (counting time out for World War II). As an ardent steelhead and salmon fisherman, he had ample opportunity to see at first hand the whistling swans, the otters, the giant trout and many other wild creatures whose stories appear in this book.

The book is illustrated effectively with linecuts by Wayne Trim, an outdoorsman who is on the staff of "The New York State Conservationist."

## Bookmobile Schedule

May 21-24  
Monday, May 21, Union Church Route: Mrs. R. L. Comer, 9:30-9:35; J. M. Briggs, 9:40-9:45; Clifford Hurley, 9:55-10:05; Mrs. Ina Bailey, 10:10-10:15; M. L. Patterson, 10:20-10:25; Elbert Taylor, 10:30-10:35; Parkers Grocery, 10:40-10:45; Howard Gschwind, 10:50-11; Mrs. O. C. Blackburn, 11:05-11:15; Jack Morgan, 11:20-11:30; Mrs. M. D. McIver, 11:45-11:55; Arthur Gaines, 12:05-12:15; Mrs. Bonnie Dennie, 12:20-12:25; Wesley Thomas, 12:30-12:40.

Tuesday, May 22, Niagara, Lakeview, Eureka Route: J. D. Lewis, 9:30-9:35; Ray Hensley, 9:45-10:40; Mrs. E. W. Marble, 10:50-11; Bud Crockett, 11:10-11:20; J. L. Danley, 11:30-11:35; Homer Blue, 11:40-11:50; Mrs. C. B. Blue, 11:55-12; R. E. Lea, 12:10-12:20.

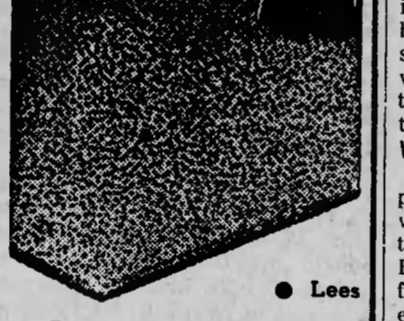
Wednesday, May 23, Roseland, Colonial Hts., Route: A. M. Stansell, 9:45-9:55; Larry Simmons, 10:10-10; Morris Caddell, 10:15-10:25; R. E. Morton, 10:30-10:40; Mrs. Viola Kirk, 10:45-10:55; Mrs. Onnie Seago 11-11:05; Calvin Laton, 11:10-11:20; Marvin Hartzell, 11:25-11:35; Elva Laton, 11:45-11:55; W. M. Smith, 1:15-1:25; J. J. Greer, 1:30-1:55.

Thursday, May 24, Glendon, Highlands Route: Ernest Shepley, 9:30-9:40; R. F. Wilcox, 9:50-10:05; the Rev. Jefferson Davis, 10:15-10:25; Presley Store, 10:30-10:35; Carl Oldham, 10:40-10:50; Morris Shields, 11-11:10; Ann Powers Beauty Shop, 12-12:10; Preslar Service Station, 12:20-12:30; Edgar Shields, 12:35-12:45; W. F. Ritter Jr., 1-1:10; Wilmer Maness, 1:15-2.

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## Day of the Lord

Lesson for May 20, 1962

THESE lines are typed in faith. There is perhaps no more than an even probability that they will ever be printed. What with all the preparations for total destruction which are being made in Russia and America, and all the ways in which a war (again one of total destruction) can be started by sheer accident, one chilling sentence from 1 Peter seems to fit the situation: The end of all things is at hand.

Yet it is possible that these lines will be printed; and if the world lasts that long, we may be thankful. But if the world continues, fear will continue too, and crisis will follow crisis as far as eye can see. People will be asking, as they are asking now: Is this the end of the world?

**No time-tables**  
We should remember that while an atomic catastrophe (you could not call it war) might well mean the end of the United States, the end of Russia and of Europe, the end of all we know as civilization, and the plunging of the rest of the race back into darkest barbarism—that is still not the clean sweep to which the Bible looks forward. Second Peter and Jude, for instance, both picture a total destruction not only of the human race in its present form, but of the earth itself. By comparison with that, the disappearance of a civilization is a slight affair.

Now the writers of the New Testament, if you could have said to them "It looks as if civilization is on its last legs," would have said, "Of course that's true." But they would not have fretted or feared for a moment. When the End came, most people would be terrified; but they did not expect Christians to be afraid. On the other hand, the early Christians and teachers rejoiced in looking forward to the Last Day, a day so all-important that they sometimes called it simply "The Day." However, no New Testament writer tried to set up a time-table. They did expect it in their lifetime, at first, but later books (2 Timothy for example) show that they realized the Day would probably not come while they lived. They left the WHEN to God.

**What sort of person?**  
We catch glimpses, in various parts of the New Testament, of various ways people reacted to the likelihood of an approaching End of All Things. Some screamed for hills to cover them (how modern that sounds!), some gave up all ordinary business and spent their time just talking about the future, some (not the writers of the New Testament but other people) painfully tried to piece together mysterious prophecies from the Old Testament so as to predict the very time. Second Peter warns against too much calculation. The Lord's clocks and calendars are not geared to ours, a thousand years to us may be a day to him, and also vice versa. It may be later than we think, or earlier, we don't know. However, 2 Peter has no hesitation about predicting the End. You might almost think he could see the nuclear cataclysm: "The heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth, and the works upon it, will be burned up." But now see how he goes on from there. Since these things are so, "what sort of persons ought you to be?" The end of all that we know about will not be the end of us. Death is a deceiver even when millions die at one moment.

**The Christian way**  
The writer Jude, who also has some pretty grim things to say about the End, concludes his short letter with a beautiful benediction. In one sentence he sums up the Christian attitude toward destiny. First, it is in God's hands, and we should not forget this. Second, God will keep his people—not necessarily from danger or suffering, but from "falling" into sin or despair. And most of all, Jude wants his readers to keep their minds on God and remember who he is; the only God, who saves us through Christ our Lord, the eternal God, whose kingdom and whose authority will not end when this little planet has vanished. Thinking of ourselves, we may well tremble; thinking of Him, our hearts are strong with hope.

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## Next Sunday

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
New York Ave. at South Ashe St.  
Maynard Mangum, Minister  
Bible School, 9:45 a.m. Worship 11 a.m.  
Training Union, 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship, 7:30 p.m.  
Youth Fellowship, 8:30 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 training, first and third Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Church and family suppers, second Thursday, 7 p.m.
- ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Vermont Ave. at A.  
Sunday Masses: 8 and 10:30  
Mass 8:10 a.m. Holy Day Masses: 8 a.m. Confessions: Saturday, 5-6 p.m.; 7:30 to 8 p.m.  
8 p.m.  
Men's Club Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m.  
Women's Club meetings: 1st Monday, 8 p.m.  
Boy Scout Troop No. 873, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Girl Scout Troop No. 118 Monday, 8 p.m.
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**  
New Hampshire Avenue  
Sunday Service, 11 a.m.  
Sunday School, 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Service, 8 p.m.  
Reading Room in Church Building open Wednesday, 2-4 p.m.
- MANLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship service 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. PYP 6 p.m.  
Women of the Church meeting 8 p.m. Second Tuesday, mid-week service Thursday 7:30 p.m.; choir rehearsal 8:30 p.m.
- EMMANUEL CHURCH (Episcopal)**  
East Massachusetts Ave.  
Martin Caldwell, Rector  
Holy Communion, 8 a.m. (First Sunday 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, 8 p.m.  
Holy Communion, Wednesdays and Holy Days, 10 a.m. and Friday, 9:30.  
Saturday—6 p.m. Penance.
- OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Civic Club Building  
Corner Pennsylvania Ave. and Ashe St.  
Jack Deal, Pastor  
Worship Service, 11 a.m.  
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
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