



Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

THE IMMENSE JOURNEY by Loren Eiseley (Random House \$3.50). A scientist with the imagination of a poet is a rare gift to mankind. As science has probed even farther and with more complicated instruments into the nature of man, matter and the universe, the layman feels cut off from all but the bare results. The thrill of search and discovery along the major frontier of our time is hidden from us in mathematical calculations, technical terms and baffling arguments among specialists, until someone like James Jeans or Rachel Carson can translate into eloquent prose their experiences in discovery and the mysteries still lying there on.

The present book is a fine example of this. Loren Eiseley finds the unrolling history of life on this planet a drama of thrilling and mysterious climaxes. There was the "explosion" of flowers at the end of the Age of Reptiles which Darwin called an "abominable mystery"—they appeared so suddenly and spread so fast.

There is the ever fascinating problem of man himself. Recapitulating the theories of Darwin and his contemporary, Alfred Russell Wallace, Mr. Eiseley carries us rapidly over the intermediate ground to the latest discov-

eries and theories dealing with man's origin. For himself, he inclines to believe that the emergence of man with his vulnerable body and big brain was as sudden and unaccountable as that of the flowers. And he pauses to brood over this lonely creature "the first to contemplate himself. . . Perhaps he knew, there in the grass by the chill waters, that he had before him an immense journey."

This is really a book of essays on different subjects but unified by the author's passionate interest in all forms of life. Some chapters are comparable to Thoreau and Hudson in describing his direct and delighted contact with creatures of other species. For example, there was his affair with the catfish in "The Flow of the River."

More than once he reminds us that for better or worse Nature is never through experimenting. There are things still coming out of the swamp, and man may not be either her last or best production though he is so far unique in being able to watch her, talk about her and influence a few of her activities by agriculture and engineering.

A TARHEEL IN IRAN by Pollock Irwin (Heritage Press \$2.75). This pleasant account of a so-

journal in Iran—we used to know it as Persia—comes from a new press in Charlotte of which Carolinians may well be proud. The design of the book, the printing, decorations, quality of paper and binding are all excellent—the sort of book the Graphic Arts Society displays in its annual show. Line drawings by Helen Ann Wall are harmonious with both type and text. They convey feeling as well as showing objects. I especially enjoyed her avenue of poplars.

The book gives an intimate view of the Iranians in their homes, where the author frequently visited, but he is so modest a man that he not only says he does not understand the Iranians but he offers no advice on their social and economic ills. He did like them and found his visits, whether to a mudhouse in a village or to a palace, very fascinating. He shared these people's love of gardens, views, and conversation; and he eventually acquired some of their indifference to time. As teacher in a mission school, his contacts were chiefly with the well-to-do, and he found them gracious and friendly. Beyond this, he also encountered at times extreme poverty and suffering as when he visited a leper colony and was haunted by the cry of the lepers, "God has forsaken you. He has been merciful to you. Help us!"

The book offers the reader a candid description of daily life in the Middle East by a sensitive observer, including food, clothes, bathing arrangements, social practices and religious observances.

THE WHITE WITCH by Elizabeth Goudge (Coward-McCann \$4.95). This is a historical novel but so decorated with damask roses, winter heliotrope, fragrant lavender, germander and rosemary—the background so peopled with charming children, gypsies, kindly witches and elegant noblemen in disguise—that one can wander through its pages indifferently without bothering too much about the history. One can even forget at times that there is a war on, as did the Haslewood family on the day of little Will's breeching—a ceremony where the eight-year-old was divested of childish curls and clothes and presented with his first breeches and a sword.

Yet there was a war, a serious one with Cavalier and Puritan striving for the mastery of England. The cast of characters includes such major figures as Hampden and Cromwell and King Charles. It was the war, too, which brought out unexpected traits in people, turning an amiable country squire like Sir Robert into a convinced fighter for principle and a stern Puritan. It brought strange adventures and new insights to Francis Leyland, the Royalist spy and complicated the life of brave Froniga, the white witch, who was half gypsy and half Haslewood.

Best of all, the author has no bitterness for either side and bestows affection generously on both Puritan and Royalist. There are perils, crises, battles, estrangements, even tragedies, but in the end peace returns to those with whom our sympathies are most deeply involved and to their beloved England.

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Bible Material: Acts 2:42-47; Romans 15:1-9; Ephesians 4:17-32; Philippians 1:3-11.
Devotional Reading: Galatians 5:13-26

Fellowship: Why?

Lesson for January 19, 1958

In a "Hamfest" everybody is there because of the same interest: amateur radio. At a philatelic convention everybody talks stamps. They have no other reason for getting together. At a funeral, or at a wedding, you sometimes see odd assortments of human beings, most of whom never saw one another before, all having only this one thing in common, having met the departed (by cast or by honeymoon) at some time before. There are other kinds of Dr. Foreman gatherings, too. There are college fraternities, the main point of each chapter being that the boys, or girls, find one another good company. There are also fellowships based on some common experience, like a shipwreck, or having attended the same high school.

Unique Fellowship

The Christian Church is a fellowship, and when it is not, it has lost the right to the title of true church. But it is not like any of the fellowships above mentioned. It has been called the fellowship of the uncongenial. That is an exaggeration; two members of the church may have been close friends before they joined it. But natural congeniality is not and never was a necessity for membership. It is a fellowship of persons who have all experienced God's forgiving grace, whose loyalties are centered in Jesus Christ. It is said that on the same morning at the same service Chief Justice Hughes of the Supreme Court and a poor woman who took in washing joined the same church. It is highly unlikely that the jurist and the washerwoman could have had much fun on a picnic together or would have made good partners at a dance. But they both knew in their hearts what it was to love the Lord Jesus.

Fellowship With a Purpose

But it is not only a past experience, however treasured, that binds together the fellowship of the family of God. It is both present experience and a living intention: that is, what is happening to us and in us now, and what we unite to do, that also makes this fellowship unique. Consider those four items mentioned in Acts about the earliest Christian church: (1) the apostles' teaching, (2) fellowship, (3) breaking bread, (4) prayer. The Christian church is the only group, organization, or society in the world that stresses this combination. It is the only fellowship where the Bible is regularly studied (the apostles' teaching); where fellowship is based on relation with the Son of God; where the sacraments are observed; and where people learn to pray. (By the way, what does your church do to teach its members how to pray?)

Harmony of Glory

There are many expressions in the New Testament putting the purpose of the church, or one part of its purpose, in a single happy phrase. One such is in Romans 15:5. Abbreviated, it runs: "May God grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may glorify God." We said that the church is the fellowship of the uncongenial; but the miracle of the true church works is developing a divine harmony even among these many sorts and conditions of Christians. But harmony for what? Not for its own sake, but to glorify God.

This does not mean the church is to be a hymn-singing society, though a church that won't or can't sing is certainly in a bad way. To glorify God does not mean simply to praise him. It means (in the New Testament sense) so to live, as sons and daughters of God, that other persons will be attracted to God through you. Every church member ought to be one good reason for believing in God. When a Christian says "I believe in God," if he told the whole story he would add: "—because of So-and-so,—because of certain people I can name. I believe in God because I saw what God can do with people, what he made out of them." It is a terrible thing when it is the other way around, and a man says, "I should like to believe in God but can't. I've known a few church members and if their God had anything to do with making them what they are, I for one don't want anything to do with him." Let the church glorify God, not sland—him!

Church Groups To Hear FBI Man On Youth Delinquency

R. M. Stevenson of Charlotte, special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, will speak to a joint meeting of St. Ann's Guild and the Men's Club of Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Monday, January 20 at 8 p. m. The meeting will be held in the Parish Hall of the church.

Mr. Stevenson's topic will be juvenile delinquency in towns. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. The Guild committee in charge is: Miss Harriet Barnum, Mrs. David Drexel, Mrs. Eleanor Edwards, Mrs. C. R. VanderVoort, Mrs. Edward Gordon-Mann and Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins, Sr.

NOTICE

Having this day qualified as Administratrix of the estate of J. W. Moore, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned, duly

verified, on or before the 30th day of December 1958, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.
Dated this 30th day of Decem-ber 1957.
IRIS HART MOORE, Administratrix of the Estate of J. W. Moore, Deceased.
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DANGER AHEAD!

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Many of the things which, on the surface, appear the most tempting and beautiful contain hidden dangers and unsuspected pitfalls.

Men, like ships, need warning and guidance—and nowhere can they find greater help, greater love and protection than in their Church.

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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 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	Genesis	4	2-7
Monday	Matthew	6	1-10
Tuesday	James	1	2-6
Wednesday	Psalms	91	1-16
Thursday	Psalms	51	10-13
Friday	Psalms	119	9-19
Saturday	Psalms	119	81-86

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New Hampshire Ave.
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Cor. Bennett and New Hampshire
Carl E. Wallace, 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.

METHODIST CHURCH
Midland Road
Robert L. Bame, Minister
Church School, 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.; MYF 6 p.m., Junior Fellowship, 6 p.m. W.S.C.S. meets each third Monday, Methodist men meet third Thursday.

EMMANUEL CHURCH
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. St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Vermont and Ashe. Fr. Francis A. McCarthy, Pastor Sunday Masses: 8:00 and 10:30 am Daily Mass: 8:10 am

Holy Day Masses: 7:00 & 9:00 am Confessions: Saturday: 4:30 to 5:30 pm; 7:30 to 8:15 pm. Men's Club Meetings: 1st & 3rd Fridays 8:00 pm. Women's Club Meetings: 1st Monday, 8:00 pm. Boy Scout Troop No. 873, Tuesday evening 7:30 pm. Girl Scout Troop No. 118, Monday 3:00 pm.

MANLY PRESBYTERIAN
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.

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.

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