



Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

THE HUMANIZATION OF MAN by Ashley Montagu (World \$6.00). Sociologist, anthropologist and something of a philosopher, Ashley Montagu is one of the more cheerful writers on the condition of man. True, he says we are ridden by anxieties and insecurities, plagued by wars and the prospect of wars, mental illness, a growing juvenile crime rate, but he does not consider these ills irremediable. He has an abiding faith in the natural goodness of man, his fundamental need to love and be loved. Only he thinks we have been led astray by such concepts as "innate depravity," "survival of the fittest" and Freud's "death wish." Dr. Montagu does not just make cheerful statements like this. He backs them up by the latest psychological research on the behavior of infants and cites pertinent data from anthropology.

"Human beings are not born with human nature—they develop it." The extraordinary educability of man makes the culture into which he is born of major importance. Even before birth there is increasing evidence to show that certain conditions affect the development of the embryo; and the first six months are, in his opinion, highly important in character formation.

Coming along to our own culture and the special strains on people today, Dr. Montagu discusses some popular and erroneous ideas of freedom, racism, love marriage, the atom bomb, the beat generation and mental illness. Man is so educable that he quickly learns unsound things as well as sound things. Sometimes these have a temporary utility, as when myth making gives him a feeling of greater security, but eventually only the truth will serve. Dr. Montagu does not claim to have all the answers, but he does throw light along the path in these stimulating essays.

Twelve of the 28 essays have been previously published in periodicals, a few are a bit technical, but the majority touch closely on the everyday life of the individual in contemporary society, and they have been so arranged that they logically develop his main thesis.

Dr. Montagu does not believe the human race is now heading for total extinction. But he does consider it dangerous not to face our errors, cultural as well as personal, and recognize our conflicts. For example, he points out the conflict between the Christian ethic and the much encouraged spirit of competition, a conflict that, he says, lies at the base of much mental strain and some breakdowns. Can we not emphasize cooperation on training the child more than competition? Isn't it more important to survive?

THE USES OF INEPTITUDE OR HOW NOT TO WANT TO DO BETTER by Nicholas Samstag (Obolensky \$3.50). In lighter vein this book travels a parallel route by a less scholarly path and reaches some very similar conclusions. Convinced that we all try too hard to excel at too many things, whether in business and professions or at sports and bridge, the author urges people to relax and take time to enjoy what they are doing. By so doing they will become nicer people and easier on their family and associates.

"To drift through a number of one's waking hours is not a sin against the holy spirit, but not to do so is a sin against nature." Like Dr. Montagu, Mr. Samstag believes that the real goodness of our natures will come out if we give it a fair chance. We may even discover unexpected abilities if we do not try to do everything we are urged to do. Men like Schweitzer, Einstein, Lincoln notoriously ignored social pressures to keep up with the Joneses in minor ways and concentrated on what interested them.

The book seems a bit repetitious at times, but the author's main thesis is well developed, and he is conscientious—perhaps, too conscientious—about leading a convinced reader step by step through reformation.

PRISONER'S FRIEND by Andre Garve (Harper \$3.50). This is a rare specimen of the mystery novel not only for its extreme suspense but for an original pattern and some vivid and appealing characters.

In the English program of rehabilitating prisoners they have

Youth In Critical Condition Following August 28 Shooting, Eagle Springs

A 15-year-old Negro, William E. Cole, is in critical condition at Moore Memorial hospital with a pistol wound in the stomach, and Albert Lee Little, 45, is in Moore County jail charged with shooting him August 28.

The shooting took place at a Negro night spot recently opened on NC 211 a mile west of Eagle Springs, close to the Montgomery County line, said Deputy Sheriff I. D. Marley.

On being alerted by the hospital late Sunday night, Marley went to Little's home about a mile from the scene of the shooting, meeting Little just as he drove up "in a drunken condition," the deputy sheriff said. No weapon was found on him, nor has one been found since. Though Little denied the shooting, the officer arrested him and placed him in jail, where no bond was immediately set pending the youth's condition, and further investigation of the case.

Deputy Sheriff J. A. Lawrence is working with Marley in the investigation.

Also being investigated, Marley said, is the cutting of a white man, Charles Carter of Biscoe, near the same place Sunday night. The two incidents are believed to have been unrelated to each other. Carter was taken to Montgomery General hospital at Troy for emergency treatment. He told the deputy that a car containing four men whom he did not know stopped him in the vicinity and that the men cut him on the neck and face.

enlisted some citizen volunteers who visit prisons regularly and make friends with them. Robert Ashe, a veterinary surgeon, is one of these. At the time the story begins, he has become particularly interested in Jerry, a young tough, who is just finishing a term for robbery with assault. He finds Jerry a job at a garage in his own neighborhood, and then several things happen—including murder—which given Ashe agonizing doubts as to the rightness of his judgment. Don't start this one until you have time to finish it, for your emotions as well as your curiosity get involved and you just must know the answers.

SPARROW LAKE by Carol Beach York (Coward-McCann \$3.00). Few junior novels have the sensitive and poetic quality of this story of a young girl's first winter in the country and the strange excitement of first love. Liddle was a shy little girl, living with a rather abstracted aunt who painted pictures. She had spent many summers at Sparrow Lake but, when Aunt Alice decided to spend a winter there, it was a lovely thrill. The deserted lake in its ice and snow lived up to her expectations.

What she had not foreseen was the experience of going to the village high school, where she felt a bit odd among youngsters who had grown up together. She drifted into a friendship with her locker-mate, Marilyn, who was a new type to Liddle with her vivid make-up and assurance with boys. That was how she met Johnny Hunter. The unexpected and almost inarticulate attraction between swaggering Johnny and the shy Liddle and its repercussions on Liddle's life are expected and convincingly handled.

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\$50,000 Damage Suit Filed Vs. Local Defendants

A local man who loaned his car to his 19-year-old son, who then allegedly let a 16-year-old friend drive it, is a defendant along with both teen-aged youths in a \$50,000 damage suit.

Plaintiff in the suit filed in Moore superior court at Carthage last week is David McRae, 15, suing through his mother Alzada McRae as next friend. Defendants are J. B. Short, Leonard Short and Harry Gay.

The plaintiff states he was visiting Harry Gay the evening of April 6 when Leonard Short arrived, driving his father's car, and invited them for a ride. They went to visit plaintiff's sister at Eastwood, then were driving home on US 15-501 with Harry Gay at the wheel when, the plaintiff alleges, the car ran off the road and overturned, pinning him beneath it and injuring him severely.

Plaintiff claims that, notwithstanding it was a rainy night, young Gay drove at a "high, unlawful and reckless speed," and that the accident was caused by his negligence.

In addition to the \$50,000 damage, plaintiff seeks payment of hospital and medical bills, alleged to have totaled \$985.40 up to now, with more still to be paid.

Bookmobile Schedule

- September 10-13
- Monday, Sept. 10, Doubs Chapel route: John Willard, 9:35-9:40; Frank Cox, 9:45-9:55; F. L. Sutphin, 10:10-10; John Thompson, 10:15-10:25; Clyde Auman, 10:30-10:40; L. M. Hartsell, 10:45-10:50; W. E. Jackson, 10:55-11; R. L. Blake, 11:05-11:10; Arnold Thomas, 11:15-11:30; Mrs. Joyce Haywood, 11:35-11:45; S. E. Hanon, 12:20-12:25; Mrs. Herbert Harris, 12:35-12:40; Coy Richardson, 12:45-12:55; V. L. Wilson, 1-1:20.
- Tuesday, Sept. 11, Murdockville route: R. F. Clapp, 9:35-9:40; Edwin Black, 9:50-9:55; Mrs. Finney Black, 10:10-10; W. R. Dunlop, 10:15-10:30; Dan Lewis, 10:35-10:45; Miss Margaret McKenzie, 10:50-10:55; Earl Monroe, 11-11:05; Mrs. Helen Neff, 11:10-11:20; Harold Black, 12:05-12:15; J. V. Cole, 12:20-12:25; Art Zenns, 12:30-12:40; Sandy Black, 12:45-12:55; H. A. Freeman, 1-1:10; John Lewis, 1:15-1:20.
- Wednesday, Sept. 12, Cameron Route: M. M. Routh, 9:40-9:45; J. W. Rogers, 9:50-10; Mrs. J. A. McPherson, 10:05-10:10; Mrs. H. D. Tally, 10:15-10:20; Mrs. Archie McKeithen, 10:25-10:40; Mrs. Isabelle Thomas, 10:45-10:55; Walter McDonald, 11-11:10; Mrs. Ellen Gilchrist, 11:15-11:25; Wade Collins, 11:30-11:40; Lewis Marion, 11:45-11:55.
- Thursday, Sept. 13, Mineral Springs, Sandhills route: W. R. Viall, Jr., 9:45-10:05; J. P. Hedden, 10:15-10:35; J. W. Greer, 10:45-11; E. T. McKeithen, 11:10-11:25; Pinehurst Nursing Home, 12:45-12:55; Richard Garner, 1-1:10; Ed Smith, 1:15-1:25; W. E. Munn, 1:40-1:50; T. L. Branson, 1:55-2; W. M. Chriscoe, 2:05-2:15; A. J. Hanner, 2:20-2:30.



THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Union Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN
Bible Material: Haggai; Zechariah 4:6-10; 8:13-22; Ezra 3; 4:23; 6:9-11
Devotional Reading: Psalm 99:1-6

Start and Finish

Lesson for September 9, 1962

THE TWO parts or stages of any job, or of any enterprise, which are the hardest, are starting and finishing. It is more difficult to set a great liner on her way, harder to bring it through the harbor traffic at the end of the voyage, than to handle the ship on open water in mid-voyage. It is harder for a student to get himself organized and get to work, than it is to keep going once he has started. And it is harder to bring that term paper together as it ought to be finished up, than it was to write on and on. What were the critical moments in the historic space flight of Col. John Glenn? Getting off the pad and into orbit, and re-entering the atmosphere and being picked up by a ship, were much trickier and dangerous than roaring through space at 17,000 miles an hour.

The Blueprint's Getting Yellow

Once there was a church that decided to build a new sanctuary. They employed an architect, who drew up plans, and had blueprints made. Then the church officers began to be afraid they didn't have quite enough money, so they put off starting . . . and kept on putting it off for years. Nobody had a bad conscience about it, because they had started, hadn't they? But finally it dawned on a new preacher there that the blueprints were actually lost. And when after quite a search he found them, they had begun to look yellow. Not only that, but the town had changed so much that the old blueprints were out of date. Something like that happened in Jerusalem long ago when the second Temple was started. It was 20 years between the time the foundations were finished, and the final work on the building. Indeed if it had not been for those persistent prophets, Haggai and Zechariah, who knew when the temple would have been finished?

These prophets were an interesting contrast. Zechariah was a dreamer of dreams, a seer of visions; much of his prophecy is obscure to this day. Haggai was no mystic, every word of his prophecy can be plainly understood. But prosaic as Haggai was, and fanciful as Zechariah was, they united on one point: The Temple must be FINISHED. Starting is not enough.

Things Don't Finish Themselves

A mistake that lazy people make is to think that by some kind of magic, things will finish themselves. Who has not known the amateur gardener who in springtime was full of enthusiasm, but whose garden by midsummer looked like the prize wheel that it was? Every school knows about the teen-age "drop-outs," the boys and girls who can't take the time or the trouble to finish high school and so all their lives are under the handicap of not having even a high school diploma. Many a woman has a bureau drawer filled with things she started but didn't finish—pieces of sewing, maybe a pile of unfinished letters, photographs she meant to put in her album but stuck in here till they're all curled and mixed up. Teachers of language know too well the student who starts easily enough, and expects the going to be easier and easier once he has passed the first week's lessons . . . and when it doesn't turn out that way, he gives up and gives out.

A Thing Unfinished

A thing unfinished is that way either because it couldn't possibly be finished no matter what, or because although it could have been finished not a soul was willing to work hard enough to get the job done. If a thing stays unfinished because it couldn't be helped, maybe it is a sign of lack of foresight on somebody's part. There is such a thing as starting too soon. Jesus told a parable about a man who started a house when he did not have and could not get money to finish it. One such house stood in a village for years, known for a generation as "So-and-so's Folly." Or maybe the thing is unfinished because no one has the ambition or the gumption to do what it takes to do it right. A contractor once said that he banished the word "practically" from his organization. A thing "practically" done is done all but the most difficult part! A thing unfinished may as well not have been begun.

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