



Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

SAND ROOTS by Ben Dixon MacNeill (Blair \$5.95). Ben Dixon MacNeill was for many years a reporter with the Raleigh "News and Observer" and had published one book before his death in 1960. That book, "The Hatterasman," a four-hundred year chronicle of Hatteras Island won the Mayflower Society Award in 1953. MacNeill had written "Sand Roots" before "The Hatterasman," but it was not until the latter book was nearing publication that he would show his publisher even the outside of the earlier manuscript, and it was not until after his estate had been settled that the publisher was able to secure the rights.

"Sand Roots," published today is also a story of Cape Hatteras and of a young Islander who tries to break away from the traditions of his family of surfmen, yet is irresistibly drawn back to the Outer Banks, to the sea, and to the Hatteras light.

The author wrote that "this land lies under an enchantment," and in his novel he used his intimate knowledge of the island to show that there are elements there to sustain and embrace—or to uproot and even kill those who come under her spell.

MacNeill retired to Buxton on Hatteras Island in 1945, where he lived in a very small house overlooking the sea and the sand from which he could see the Hatteras light. There he wrote his two books, and there he died at the age of 71, as much a legend as the Islanders who had come to be his friends.

At the time of his death, "Sand Roots" was still an unrevised manuscript. The publication rights were given to St. Andrews Presbyterian College, and the book has been cut and edited by H. Leon Gattin III, a member of the St. Andrews English department.

The jacket design is reproduced here, by Claude Howell of Wilmington, North Carolina, who also illustrated Mr. MacNeill's first volume.

THING TO LOVE by Geoffrey Household (Little, Brown \$5.95). A critic recently named Geoffrey Household as one of the writers who had raised the thriller to the status of art—see "Watcher in the Shadows." That was a little classic of pursuit, but this is a more ambitious novel with revolution in a middle-sized Latin American country as background. It is contemporary and includes some shrewd observations on the developing of undeveloped countries. There is plenty of suspenseful narrative, too, but the suspense is not only in plot; I found myself just as concerned to know how the crisis itself would turn out.

The novel is centered around one major character. Miro Kucera is a Czech who had come to the country in 1945, "a homeless man with the techniques of modern war as his only asset." The shrewd and able President Vidal who with help from North America was busily modernizing the civil service, building roads and factories, gave Kucera a Division to train and equip by the standards of modern warfare. Kucera was grateful for work that suited him and for much else his adopted country had given him. Only one thing did not work out as Vidal expected. The Fifth Division was devoted to Kucera rather than to the government in power. In fact the book is mainly about the effect of Kucera's devotion to duty, as he saw it, on others.

When revolution comes, it is viewed without alarm by the Latin Americans who have seen several such explode and pass like summer storms. But the usual pattern is upset by the efficiency of Kucera's Fifth Division and the pressure brought by the North Americans.

Despite the timeliness of the situation, this is essentially a romantic novel of adventure with the peerless hero and the leading characters, gentlemen all.

THE GIRLS OF SLENDER MEANS by Muriel Spark (Knopf, \$3.95). The action of the new

Church Men To Hear Dr. Holder At Camp Monroe

The Rev. Fred C. Holder will be the evening speaker for the meeting of the Men of the Church of Fayetteville Presbyterian Sunday, September 8, at Camp Monroe near Laurinburg.

Mr. Holder who will speak on "Renewal of Your Mind," is a native of Lillington and is now director of Program and Service, Division of Men's Work for the Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church, U. S., Richmond, Va.

Other leaders will be The Rev. W. B. Heyward of Raeford, Dr. W. C. Neill of Aberdeen Dr. J. C. V. Summerell of Fayetteville and Dr. Julian Lake of Southern Pines.

Registration will begin at 3 p. m. and the meeting will conclude at 7:45. All Presbyterian Men of Fayetteville Presbytery are urged to be present for this program of worship and fellowship.

The novel by the author of "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" takes place in London between V-E Day and V-J Day at a hotel for "the Protection of Ladies of Slender Means below the age of Thirty Years, who are obliged to reside apart from their families in order to follow an Occupation in London."

The hotel, called the May of Teck Club (founded and named for Queen Mary) is not unlike a college dorm and life is lived there by the girls of slender means as if they still were college students. The club has managed to survive the blitz and even has an unexploded bomb in its garden. But not even this fact, or the war, shortages or rationing has dampened the spirits of the diversified group of young ladies who call the club home. And a peculiar lot they are. There are three older women left over from the pre-war days who act as chaperones of a sort, a rector's daughter who gives elocution lessons to her friends at the club, an amorous beauty who is the proud possessor of a Schiaparelli dress that she lends to the others on special occasion, a secretary to an unethical publisher, a wealthy niece of one of the club's sponsors, a reserved young lady who

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Anna E. Block, deceased, late of Moore County, North Carolina, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate, to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned on or before February 22, 1964, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make prompt settlement with the undersigned.

This 21st day of August 1963.

Charles Block, Administrator
Estate of Anna E. Block, deceased, Southern Pines, North Carolina

Rowe and Rowe, Attorneys
Southern Pines, North Carolina
A22,29,S5,12c

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MOORE

The undersigned having duly qualified as the Administrator of the Estate of Glenn Baldwin, late of the above named County and State, all persons, firms or corporations having claims of whatsoever nature against the said Glenn Baldwin, Deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit the said claim or claims to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of February, 1964, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to the said Glenn Baldwin, Deceased, are hereby requested to pay the said indebtedness to the undersigned

William O. Baldwin,
Administrator
W. Lamont Brown
Attorney

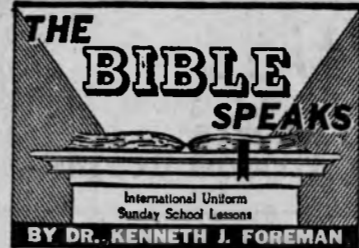
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nightly dines with a famous movie star, and quite a lot of young ex-service girls.

Several years after the war, the death of a religious missionary in Haiti recalls the memories of the war days and the May of Teck Club to several of its former residents.

How the girls live out their lives against the background of war and the final and ironic destruction of the club make this a moving and poignant story.

—A.M.S.

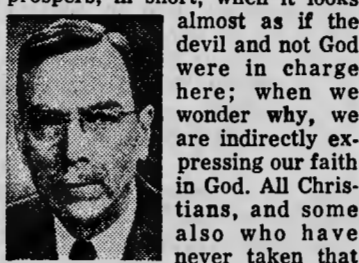


God Knows Why

Lesson for September 8, 1963

Bible Material: Genesis 37 through 50.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 37:1-11.

WHEN we wonder why something should happen we think ought not to happen; when a burden long borne becomes daily harder to bear; when a good man goes down in defeat or a bad man prospers, in short, when it looks



as if the devil and not God were in charge here; when we wonder why, we are indirectly expressing our faith in God. All Christians, and some also who have never taken that name, do believe in a God who is both good and almighty. If He were only good but not almighty or only almighty and not good, we would not wonder at all. It is only those who believe in the true God who wonder why.

The Story of Joseph

The story of Joseph in the Old Testament hasn't a miracle in it. Joseph never performed one. He never saw any one else do it. Yet the story of Joseph gives us some of the most important clues to the way God takes care of His own, and brings His purposes to pass even with the help of those who are reckless and wicked. It helps us when we wonder "Why?" to read again this famous story and to think about it.

Joseph's brothers were a bad lot, there is no doubt about that. You cannot blame Jacob for playing favorites when he picked out Joseph for special favors. Joseph was the son of the only wife Jacob ever loved; and besides, he was not only better, he was smarter than the rest of the family. Anybody who is smarter than the people around him doesn't help matters by bragging, and Joseph did brag. Even in his dreams he was the kingpin and he let everybody know it. His brothers might have been expected to resent this and to pick on Joseph, maybe even beat him. But they did worse than that, they thought beating was good for him, and plotted to murder him. Brothers don't come any lower down than that.

"You meant evil!"

These men without a conscience did not murder their brother after all. But that was not because they thought better of it. If anything, what they did was worse than killing: they sold him for a slave. Instead of a swift death, their brother would have a long lingering death-in-life, the miserable existence of a slave in those days when a slave's life was worth but little. The only reason they didn't kill Joseph was that they could make a little money (about two dollars each) by selling him. The lie they told their father about it, or rather the lie they acted out, was all of a piece with the rest of it. There wasn't a shred of good in the intentions of those ruffians. Furthermore, there was no good in the Midianite slave traders, and there was no good in the slave trade. When Potiphar bought Joseph, he didn't do so from motives of charity. It was purely a business transaction. Years and years after this, Joseph said to his aging brothers, speaking of these same events, "You meant evil against me." (Gen. 50:20)

But God meant it for good

In the same sentence, hardly stopping for breath, the boy Joseph now a middle-aged experienced man, went on to say, "but God meant it for good." At the time of that wicked sale of Joseph to the wandering traders, it would have been no wonder if Joseph had been "wondering why . . ." Why didn't God stop this terrible thing? We can imagine that on the way to Egypt (some days' journey at best) a bright 17-year-old like Joseph might have plotted an escape; and if he had tried it (maybe he did, at that) you would have surely been hoping he could manage the break-away. But no, it was not to be. The whole future of the nation of Israel depended on Joseph's being sold into Egypt. Indeed one may say that all history depended on it. If he had broken away, and gone home, there would have been nowhere to go when the big famine struck. The Israelites would never have found stored-up grain in Egypt, they never would have found protection there, there would never have been an Exodus, a Moses, a David . . . Never a Mary and never the other Joseph. Never a babe in the manger at Bethlehem, never a Cross, a Resurrection, a Good News. What would have happened to the world? It is too dark to think about; but try to imagine what this world would be if there never had been a Christ nor any Christians. Surely "God meant it for good."

(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.)

Next Sunday

METHODIST CHURCH
Midland Road
A. L. Thompson, Minister
Church School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Youth Fellowship 6:15 p.m.
W.S.C.S. meets each third Monday at 8:00 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. P.Y.F. 8 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 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, 4 p.m.
Holy Communion, Wednesday and Holy Days, 10 a.m. and Friday, 9:30 a.m.
Saturday 4 p.m., Penance.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (Church of Wide Fellowship)
Cor. Bennett and New Hampshire
Carl E. Wallace, Minister
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday, 6:00 p.m., Youth Fellowship
Women's Fellowship meets 4th Thursday at 12:30 p.m.

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Father Francis M. Smith
Sunday Masses: 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Daily Mass 8:10 a.m. Holy Day Masses, 7 and 8 a.m.; Confessions, Saturday, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.; 7:30 to 8 p.m.
Men's Club Meeting, 3rd Monday each month.
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.

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Civic Club Building
Corner Pennsylvania Ave. and Ashe St.
Jack Deal, Pastor
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
U.L.C.W. meets first Monday 8 p.m.
Choir practice Thursday 8 p.m.

BROWNSON MEMORIAL CHURCH (Presbyterian)
Dr. Julian Lake, Minister
May St. at Ind. Ave.
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, 7:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
New York Ave. at South Ashe St.
Maynard Mangum, Minister
Bible School, 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m., Training Union 6:30 p.m., Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Youth Fellowship 8:00 p.m.
Scout Troop 224, Monday 7:30 p.m.
Mid-week worship, Wednesday 7:30 p.m., choir practice Wednesday 9:15 p.m.
Missionary meeting first and third Tuesday, 8 p.m. Church and family suppers, second Thursday, 7 p.m.

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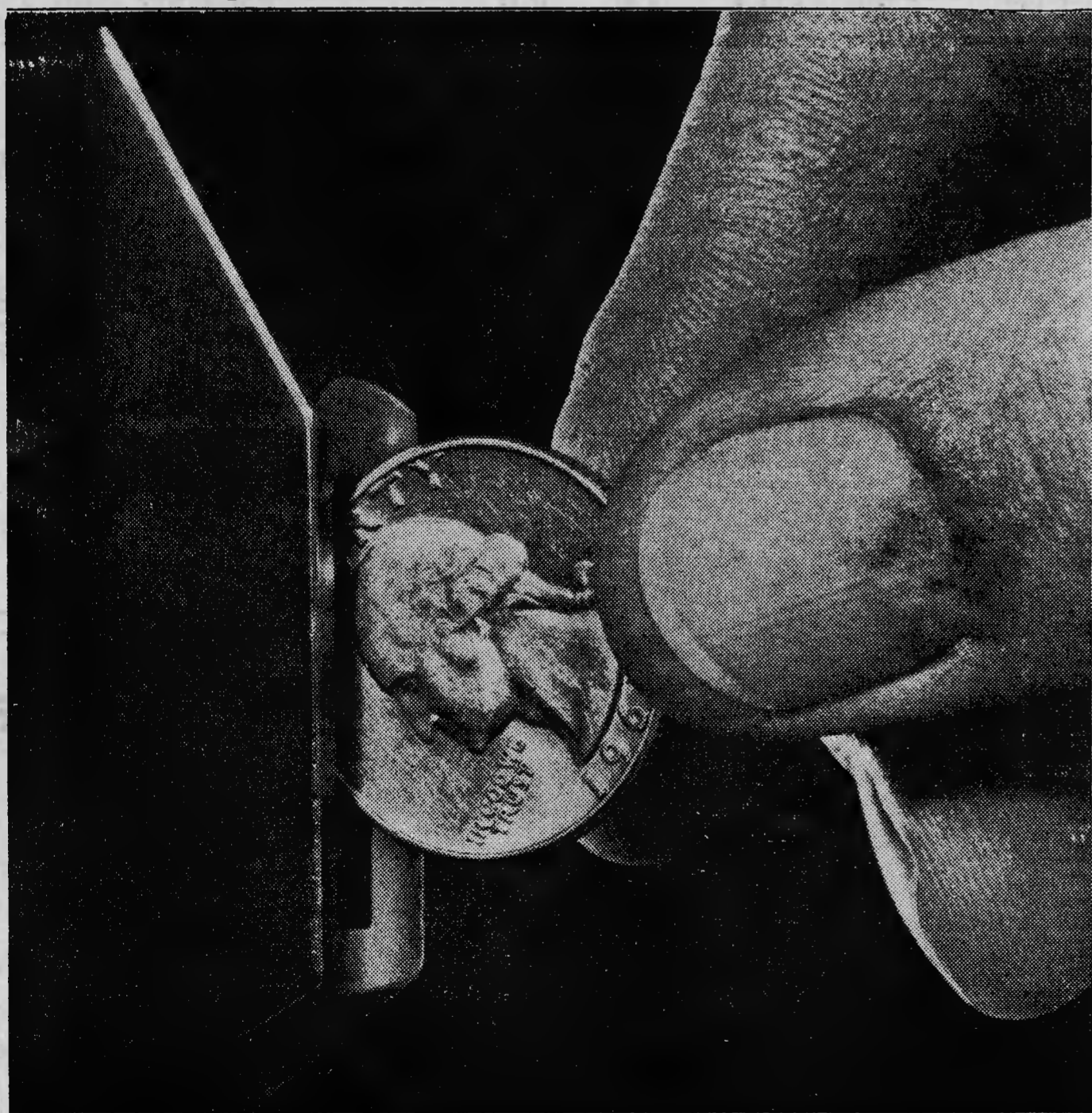
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spending. The nation's more than 300 investor-owned electric light and power companies can supply all the additional power a growing America will need.

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