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Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

BRAZIL ON THE MOVE by John Dos Pasos (Doubleday \$3.95). This account of his experiences in Brazil and his love affair with that country is told with zest by John Dos Pasos that it can be read just as good travel talk or for its shrewd insights into the life of a country that covers nearly half a continent and is developing its interior with a gusto reminiscent of the opening of our own West.

First, the author reminds us that Brazil was not colonized by the Spanish, as the other Latin American countries were, but by the Portuguese, a very different breed. It was a mixed breed. In a small country on the tip of Europe and great seafarers, the Portuguese had Arab and Berber blood, Celt, Jewish and French. This may account for the unusual lack of prejudice in Brazil today as to race, color or religion and the welcome given to non-refugees from various parts of our troubled world as well as non-refugees who come for work or the fascination of exploring and opening a new frontier. Dos Pasos describes one group of workmen at a barbecue as having skins "brunze, mustard, tobacco-colored, tan to ruddy." He gives us a brief history of Brazil as background and then plunges into its current development.

"Of course, he's a little mad," said Pinheiro of the great road-builder, Sayao. "And so am I, and so's Kubitshek. . . It takes mad men to put through a project like Brasilia." Brasilia is the new capital being built in the interior on an empty plateau, a modern city straight from the architect's drawing board, that had to have all roads built to it. Brasilia is not the first Brazilian city to be built that way. Goiania built "in the bush" twenty years ago is now a flourishing modern city of fifty thousand. It takes bold men to develop Brazil's interior with its scant population and lack of communication with the populous coastal strip. The reason? A formidable chain of mountains between. But rich resources—mines, forests, good agricultural land—make it worth developing.

This is only one area of Brazil, though the most exciting one at the moment. There is also the great tropical jungle of the Amazon basin, the Northeast, an area plagued by droughts and poverty, and of course, Sao Paulo and the industries of the South.

The author adds a lively account of Brazilian politics as he

has observed it over two decades with vignettes of outstanding figures. This is a book of impressions rather than an effort to give us a complete account of a complex land of sixty-five million people, ranging from primitive tribes to the highly sophisticated intellectuals of Rio de Janeiro. Chiefly it gives one new insights, stimulates curiosity and makes one feel that it is a bit stupid not to know more about a country of such size and vitality in our own hemisphere.

THE VIOLENT WORLD OF HUGH GREENE by Colin Wilson (Houghton Mifflin \$3.95). The thoughts of youth are "long, long thoughts," and those of a mathematical prodigy and precocious intellectual are extra long. Such was Hugh Greene. On top of which two slightly mad uncles encouraged him in fantastic flights of speculation and in regarding most people as fools. For example Uncle Nick assured him that "your teachers poison your mind with lies" and said to come to him for the truth.

Thus the account of the thoughts, emotions and activities of Hugh Greene from the age of seven to maturity make an unusual novel. Colin Wilson has succeeded superbly in evoking the stormy inner world of adolescence. One naturally suspects a large element of autobiography here since Colin Wilson, too, was a precocious youth and, like his hero, left school at sixteen to pursue education on his own. In the end Hugh makes terms with life and his own desires and shows no signs of becoming as excessively eccentric as his uncles even though one of them had left him a legacy and hoped he would carry on his work.

THE DOMESTICATED AMERICANS by Russell Lynes (Harper & Row \$6.50). The author of "Snobs" and "The Tastemakers"—remember his highbrow, lowbrow, middlebrow—turns his gaze to the American home and its development over the past hundred years, and his account is informative and hilarious. From the prairie sod house through the boarding house up to the present day split level, his gaze is penetrating and perceptive.

Mr. Lynes also looks into the servant problem over the years, and the evolution of the ice-box, plumbing, the bedroom, drawing room and the American parlor. Although the whole book is vastly entertaining, it is the American bathroom from its humble origin of water pitcher and basin to its present stainless steel status symbol that I found most interesting.

Some residents will remember the author's mother who for several years was social hostess at the Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst. —A.M.S.

THE DEVIL TO PAY IN THE BACKLANDS by Joao Guimaraes Rosa (Knopf \$5.95). With my curiosity about Brazil aroused by John Dos Pasos I read with keen interest this novel about Brazil and some extra wild Brazilians around the turn of the century.

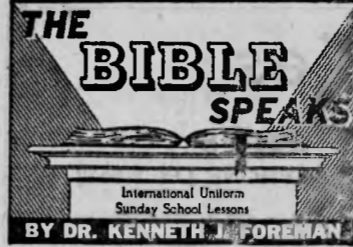
The form chosen is the rambling reminiscence of an old man who as a youth had led the adventurous life of a "Jagunco"—defined as "a member of a lawless band of armed ruffians in the pay of rival politicians, who warred against each other and the military."

It was a tough life, but had its attractions. There is violence in the book and suffering, but there are wonderful descriptions of the vast land, the joy of riding with comrades, the exhilaration of combat, the thrill of narrow escapes. I was reminded of some of the Scottish ballads.

One somber thread runs through it all. In his old age, Rinaldo has taken to thinking about good and evil and wondering whether he did sell his soul to the devil. This is a rich, racy book and must be even better to those who read it in the original and get the full flavor.

SERVICE

For fifty years Girl Scouting has been a community service to youth, provided by adult volunteers who believe in the value of the spiritual, educational, and social experiences it offers girls. Girl Scout councils, which administer this service in communities across the United States, need the financial as well as the moral support of every adult who believes in the youth of our nation.

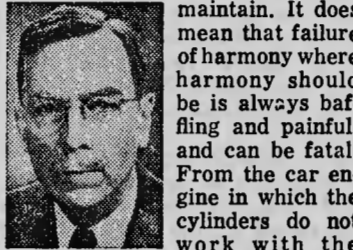


Human Harmony

Lesson for October 6, 1963

Bible Material: 1 Corinthians 13:1-7
 Devotional Reading: Ephesians 4:1-7

NO ONE needs to be told that harmony is one of the great laws of the Universe; some would say the greatest. This does not mean that we always find harmony where it ought to be, or that it is easy to produce and to maintain. It does mean that failure of harmony where it is always baffling and painful, and can be fatal.



From the car engine in which the cylinders do not work with the designers intended, on to the human being who is (as we say) "all to pieces," loss of harmony is always bad. To live in harmony with yourself, your fellow men and God is the road to life, the road to peace.

Broken harmonies

When we look at life around us, we see tragic need for harmony in the very situations and institutions where you would have a right to expect harmony of a high degree. Look at the American family today, look at the divorce problem. This is more than a matter of husband and wife bickering, as if their quarrels affected themselves alone. An able probation officer in a large American city has gone on record as saying he has yet to see a juvenile delinquent from a home where there was harmony between father and mother. The capital city of our country is plagued by crime of all sorts, and the authorities lay the blame less on the police force (who are doing all they can) than on the "breakdown of parental authority." Homes where there is disruption between man and wife, parents and children, are no help to society, but sore places, trouble-spots, breeders of disruption in other circles.

When we turn from the family to almost any aspect of public life, what strikes the mind again is feuding—in business, social life, politics, even in the church. You would think that in the church of Christ the very atmosphere would make quarrels impossible. Yet the experience of today mirrors the experience of the early Christian church. The same people to whom Paul writes as "sanctified in Christ Jesus," and "not lacking in any spiritual gift," are quarreling among themselves. The first three chapters of 1 Corinthians are devoted to this problem of quarreling Christians.

The basic harmony

Paul brings out the truth that there is one basic harmony on which all others are built. Without this basic harmony every other attempt at it falls in failure. This is the harmony between the Christian and God, and of course this means between the Christian and Christ. He does not so much urge the Christians to "behave" and to "make up" as he urges them to remember whose they are and whom they serve. It is through God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—that the jarring factions in the church find the solution to their quarrels. The more we think of other Christians as other Christians and not just as others—opponents, opponents, roadblocks to truth and progress—the closer we shall come to that harmony which in its perfection we shall never see in this world. The church can not come before God with its differences all ironed out, its harmonies restored, and offer God its self-made harmony and peace as a gift from us to Him. On the contrary, the church's disharmonies, quarrels, factions, once we are truly united to Christ and devoted to His cause, will begin to perish for lack of pride, the essential diet of dissension.

Motives

What motives inspire those who seek harmony especially with their fellow-Christians? Is it that we don't want to be bothered by arguments? Is it for efficiency's sake that we lay our feuds aside? Is it that we want to present a solid front to the world? These may be motives, but not the best. Paul speaks of two motives promoting true Christian harmony between man and man, in the church or out. One is the "fellowship of our Lord Jesus." We belong to Him, every Christian does. We belong neither less nor more than others. Boasting and showing are out of order. The other motive is service for Christ. As Paul and Apollos are very different men, worked each in his way without conflict, so may all of us unite—not always in ideas, but always in Christian service.

(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.)

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Next Sunday

METHODIST CHURCH
 Midland Road
 A. J. Thompson, Minister
 Church School 9:45 a.m.
 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
 Youth Fellowship 6:15 p.m.
 WSCS 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. PYP 6 p.m.; Women of the Church meet 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.)
 Church Service, 9:30 a.m.
 Church School, 10:15 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.

ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC
 Vermont Ave. at Ashe St.
 Father John J. Harper
 Sunday Masses 8, 9:15 and 10:30 a.m.
 Daily Mass, 7 a.m. (except Friday, 11:15 a.m.); Holy Day Masses, 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Confessions, Saturday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
 Men's Club meeting: 3rd Monday each month.
 Women's Club meeting: 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
 Jack Deal, Pastor
 Worship Service, 11 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 8:30 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 meeting first and third Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Church and family support, second Thursday, 7 p.m.

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