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Some Looks At Books

By LOCKIE PARKER

JOURNEY AMONG BRAVE MEN by Dana Adams Schmidt (Little, Brown \$6.95). "For the best reporting requiring exceptional courage and enterprise abroad" reads the award of the Overseas Press Club to Dana Adams Schmidt for his reports on the seven weeks he spent in Kurdistan among brave men. In the mountains of northern Iraq, western Iran, eastern Turkey live the Kurds, great fighters, some of them nomads with flocks of sheep and goats, some raising grain and fruit in the valleys, a few in cities. They have their own language, legends and a history that goes back four thousand years. In our schoolbooks we

knew them as the Medes. Most of them still live and think as tribes. Like the Scottish Highlanders in the seventeenth century they resist all efforts to make them change their ways. Ataturk tried to quell and absorb the Kurds, various regimes in Iran tried it, the U.S.S.R. encouraged an independent republic but gave it up when they could not control it, and in this book we see the Kurds of Iraq carrying on guerrilla warfare with the Iraqi government under the leadership of Mullah Mustafa Barzani.

In the spring of 1962 Barzani decided he wanted to present the cause of the Kurds to the Western world and invited members of the press to visit him at his mountain headquarters. The message was brought to Schmidt in Beirut by some young men of the Turkish underground who convinced him that it was authentic and that Barzani would provide adequate escort, once he was across the border. Fine! But how to get there? Well, how he did makes quite a story as does the account of the weeks he spent traveling on horseback, muleback and on foot among the Kurdish troops and villages. Over evening campfires the Kurds sang songs, told legends, talked of their fights with Arabs, Turks, Persians and other Kurdish tribes.

Schmidt not only gained their confidence and liked them; he came to admire them for their courage and generosity, their dash and dauntlessness. He quotes more than once the Turkish proverb, "The male is born to be slaughtered." Death in battle was just normal.

He says that the aim of Barzani and his followers is autonomy under the Iraqi government with Kurdish language in their schools, Kurdish officials in their district and other political and economic rights to put them on an equal footing with the Arabs of Iraq.

A FAMILY OF ISLANDS by Alec Waugh (Doubleday \$5.95). This is a history of the West Indies, the fourth volume in the series, Mainstream of the Modern World. In this one Alec Waugh tells the history of the West Indies as you might expect a novelist to tell it with islands instead of individuals as characters. The history covers four centuries from the time of Columbus to 1898 when the red and gold flag was run down at Havana marking the end of Spanish occupation. A final chapter gives a resume of the twentieth century events, including Castro's regime. The history of the preceding

J. T. Michael Passes Sunday At Age 54

John T. Michael, 54, salesman, died Sunday at Moore Memorial hospital, where he was admitted following a heart attack at his home. At the hospital, he suffered another attack and died.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at Culdee Presbyterian church near Pinehurst, conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. K. Fitch, Jr., with burial in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, the former Belle Short, of the home; one son, J. W. Michael, of Southern Pines; three grandchildren; four sisters, Mrs. Ralph Garrison of Wilmington, Mrs. Howard Matthews of Carthage Rt. 3 and Mrs. A. T. Bobbitt and Mrs. L. M. Daniels, both of Southern Pines; and four brothers, James L., of Orlando, Fla.; Arthur of Carthage Rt. 2; Melvin, of Carthage Rt. 3 and Charles of Southern Pines.

four centuries includes the names and deeds of such men as Drake, Hawkins, Raleigh, Philip II of Spain, Henry Morgan, the great privateer who was later made governor of Jamaica and the three great figures of the Haitian Revolution: Toussaint l'Ouverture, Dessalines and Henri Christophe. It contains a parade of exotic and incredible customs, witch doctors and obeh spells, sick slaves doctored with lemon juice and powder to make them temporarily fit for sale and the horrors of the "Middle Passage" from Africa.

Alec Waugh wrote the popular novel, "Island in the Sun," and has written some nineteen other books, fiction and non-fiction. This book is the result of a long love affair with the Caribbean where he spends a good deal of his time. His home is in England.

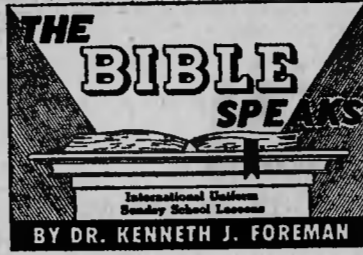
THE ENGLISH WIFE by Charity Blackstock (Coward-McCann \$3.95). Charity Blackstock weaves a powerful spell, and it is a tough reader who will not succumb to it. True, after you come to the end and get your breath back, you may question the credibility of certain harrowing situations, but at the time you are carried along in a fine whirl of stormy people and strange tensions.

In any case it was all "once upon a time" and in another land—yes, more than a hundred years ago and in the bleak Highlands of Scotland. A whimsical English girl, London-bred and of the gentry, goes to a ball and is attracted to a glowering Highlander who looks totally out of place there. They marry and she goes with him to the extreme north of Scotland where he is factor of the large estate of the Countess of Sutherland.

Contrary to all predictions the two are very happy for ten years. Then the English wife discovers another side to her husband. He is deliberately cruel to the crofters, or small farmers, he has lied to her about other things. But she still is passionately in love with him, and there are children. What will she do? The situation grows daily more unbearable. Events move swiftly. There is a fine build-up and a blood-curdling climax where poetic justice is done.

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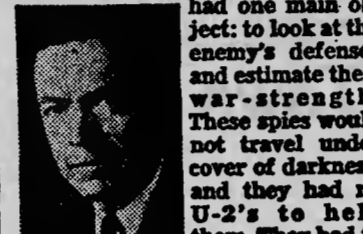


Faith on Trial

Lesson for August 16, 1964

Background Scriptures: Numbers 11 through 14. Devotional Reading: Hebrews 11:1-19.

THEY WERE not Boy Scouts, those famous spies Moses sent ahead into Canaan before he undertook to invade the country. We all know about spies nowadays and what they do. Moses' spies, like those of modern times, had one main object: to look at the enemy's defenses and estimate their war-strength. These spies would not travel under cover of darkness, and they had no U-2's to help them. They had to



Dr. Foreman look at everything from the ground level. They would probably be dressed like Egyptians and speak Egyptian. On the streets of cities in Palestine Egyptian salesmen were familiar figures, so these twelve men had no trouble getting in to Canaan or getting out again.

The grasshopper misadventure. But what they saw! Great high thick walls around every city; tall strong men, prosperity and power everywhere. The twelve men were unanimous on one point: Canaan was a beautiful and fertile land, and well worth taking if they could. . . . If they could! That was where the Intelligence Department split. Big cities, yes; rich country, strong people, yes. But can we win in a war? Caleb said Yes. What the majority said is remarkable. "We were as grasshoppers in our sight, and so were we in their sight." This kind of thinking is called nowadays an inferiority complex, but we can just as well call it the grasshopper mind. If you think of yourself as a grasshopper, it is pretty certain that no one else is going to mark up the cheap price-mark you have put on yourself. These Hebrews had come out of generations of undernourishment and hardship, and were no doubt little undersized people compared with the big bold Canaanites. So the Ten said, "We'll never make it; while only two men had resisted the grasshopperism of their ten companions."

They left God out. This was not the first time, nor the last, that a majority has been wrong. You can't find out what is right, you cannot have reliable information about present facts or future policies, by simply counting noses. Fifty million Frenchmen can be wrong, smashing wrong. The majority report may be the signpost on the road to ruin. Now when a majority is wrong, there is always a reason for it somewhere. The reason is plain in this case. The reader will notice that the ten No-sayers said only "we are not able. . . . they are stronger than we." The two Yes-sayers said "The Lord is with us; do not fear them." Now all Israel professed to believe in God. It had not been long since they made that covenant with God at Mt. Sinai. But when it came to a pinch, the ten grasshopper men forgot all about God.

Unfaith is expensive. Both faith and unfaith are expensive. The tribesmen to whom the committee of spies reported chose the way of unfaith and they were 35 years paying for it. Now the way of faith is expensive too, but in another way. Unfaith costs success, happiness, honor, and ends in dismal failure. Faith costs the effort, sometimes a heroic effort, to live by it—a faith you cannot live by and fight for is no true faith. But it wins the approval of God in the end. Faith is like a power-tool. A good one may be expensive; but you do not save by taking a cheap one instead. "Quality remains after the price is forgotten." Pay for faith or unfaith you must; but in the long run you will wish (as the Israelites dying in the wilderness no doubt wished many a time) that you had chosen the way of faith. Yet this too is costly; cheap faith is not faith at all. God approves men of courage like Joshua and Caleb; but he does not reward such men by making life easy for them. Odd as it may seem, it is God's way to make faith hard for believers.

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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 services 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. F.Y.F. 4 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 People's Service League, 4 p.m. Holy Communion, Wednesday and Holy Days, 10 a.m. and Friday, 9:30 a.m. Saturday 4 p.m. Prayers.FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH New York Ave. at South Adams St. John Dawson Stone, 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. Missionary meeting first and third Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Church and family support, second Thursday, 7 p.m.ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC Vermont Ave. at Ash St. Father John J. Harper Sunday Masses 8, 9:15 and 10:30 a.m. Daily Mass, 7 a.m. (except Friday, 11:35 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 Corner Pennsylvania Ave. and Ash St. Jack Deal, Pastor Worship Service, 11 a.m. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. L.C.W. meets first Monday 8 p.m. Choir practice Thursday 8 p.m.ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH (Missouri Synod) 983 W. New Hampshire Ave. John P. Kallous, Pastor Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, 7:00 p.m.BROWN MEMORIAL CHURCH (Presbyterian) Dr. Julian Lebo, Minister May St. at Ash 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 Fellowship meets at 7 o'clock each Sunday evening. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.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.—This Space Donated in the Interest of the Churches by— SANDHILL DRUG CO. JACKSON MOTORS, Inc. Your FORD Dealer SHAW PAINT & WALLPAPER CO. CLARK & BRADSHAW A & P TEA COMPANY

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