A GOOD BOOK TO READ

G. B. S., A Full Length Portrait—Hesketh Pearson—Harper—$3.75

(Reviewed by Amanda T. Bradley, Dean of Women, Washington College, Chestertown, Md.)

The idea of a Boswell, cautiously eliciting biographical material from George Bernard Shaw, reminded me offhand of the story about an Irishman who, awaking to find a thief in his room searching for money, arose from his bed remarking, "Faith, and it's meself will be helping ye!" If the analogy holds for Mr. Shaw, however, certainly theft is the last method Mr. Pearson's plentitude of material suggests. On the contrary, one feels throughout this book Mr. Shaw's gratified and gratifying response to the fearless, straightforward technique of a biographer worthy of his steel.

Beginning with the legendary descent from Macduff, and Shaw's pleasure at having an ancestor in one of Shakespeare's plays, Mr. Pearson pauses only to raise the question of whether he would have been equally pleased with the Drunken Porter as an ancestor, and then hurries on to less remote forebears; a father who destroyed his domestic peace by immoderate indulgence in a trombone and strong drink, and a mother who was born without 'comedic impulses' but with a mezzo-soprano voice of exceptional beauty. To the humor of the one and the imagination of the other, Mr. Pearson attributes the chief characteristics of the Shavian complex.

Over a span of recollections which extends from the death of the Prince Consort to Hitler's invasion of Russia—from Barry Sullivan's **Richard III** to Sir Cedric Hardwicke's King in **The Apple Cart**—back to Methuselah and as far as thought can reach—this skillful Boswell stalks his quarry with baited annotations. The game he bags on the side includes such **rarae aves** as Sidney Webb, William Morris, Annie Besant, Ellen Terry, Oscar Wilde, H. G. Wells, and Lady Astor.

Of Shaw the Socialist, Pearson writes:

"From the moment that (he) imbibed the gospel according to St. Marx, he began to preach it on every possible occasion, under every sort of condition, though as time went on he corrected the errors in Marx's economic creed and workedo out the distictively British brand of socialism known as Fabianism."

As Shaw observes of himself, he gave to the drama such a powerful impulse that it jumped clean over his head. The dramatization of the religious temperament, in Candida,—to take one example,—was a type of characterization unkonwn to the playgoers of his time; so he had to create his audiences as well as his playes. Since it is primarily as a dramatist that the average person—certainly the average American—knows Shaw, one could wish that Mr. Pearson had devoted to the plays themselves a consideration commensurate with his discussion of certain actors and theaters of the time.

For all his careful portrayal of Shaw's many sides, the dominant idea that unifies Mr. Pearson's interpretation is the **personality**, G. B. S. His 'bellicose atheism', his disbelief in medical orthodoxy, his stupid attack on Shakespeare, are but the manifestations of a Socratic gadfly. The real Shaw—preeminently magnanimous—is revealed in the letter to Henry Arthur Jones at the time of their political estrangement, and in the patient remonstrance to Jacob Epstein, whose bust of her husband Mrs. Shaw refused to admit to her home. On another occasion Shaw writes of a disloyal friend, "It is when a man is too much hurt to do the perfectly magnanimous thing that he most needs standing by." And the descendant of Macduff could stand by as unflinching ly as he could lay on.

Like Rodin's bust, no portrait of a living man can be said to be complete. And a subject so vigorous and versatile may yet require of Mr. Pearson a second volume.

(Any book reviewed in this column will be sent to you postpaid by the Washington College Bookstore, Chestertown, Md., upon receipt of order accompanied by check or money order.)

NEWS ITEMS OF KENT CHURCHES

The ministers of Kent County feel that the voters of our county face an opportunity for good to all our citizens at the election to be held on Tuesday, November 3. There will be given to each voter the privilege of voting for or against the amendment to the constitution for a closed Sunday to the sale of alcoholic beverages. This amendment appears on the ballot in the last column at the bottom of the page.

Since Kent County is the only county on the shore that does not have the Sunday closing law, and since outsiders make Kent County a place for Sunday traffic in this business, we who believe in showing reverence for God and respect for His day call upon all like-minded viters of our county to vote for Sunday closing and help make our county as respectable and decent as other counties on the shore and as wholesome a place as possible for our people.

Signed:
Charles L. Atwater, Chestertown.
Charles L. Louhoff, Rock Hall.
E. W. Cursey, Kennedyville.
William Wyllie, St. Paul.
H. B. Flater, Still Pond.
J. M. Kay, St. James.
C. R. Strausburg, Fairlee.
W. P. Roberts, Chestertown.
D. O. Hornung, Pomona.
D. T. Pritchard, Millington.
O. G. Brewer, Wesley Chapel.
Paul E. Reynolds, Chestertown.

TRINITY LUTHERAN
701 West High Street
Theodore H. Ernst, Pastor.

Sunday School and Bible Class at 2.15 p. m.

Divine Worship at 3.00 P. M.

Reformation Service

Sermon: "Contending For The Faith" Jude 3.

Listen to the Lutheran Hour, Sunday, 1.30 p. m. W F B R.

CHRIST METHODIST CHURCH
Chestertown, Maryland
W. P. Roberts, D. D., Minister.
....Iola H. Bucher, Director of Music.
November 1, 1942

10 a. m. Sunday School, T. D. Bowers, Supt.

11 a. m. Holy Communion.

7.30 p. m. Youth Fellowship and evening worship.

Tuesday—The Official Board will meet at the parsonage at 7.30 p. m.

Our Triangle Club will meet at 7.30 p. m. in the Red Cross room at the Chestertown Bank of Maryland to make surgical dressings and to do whatever other Defense Work it may be called upon to do. It will meet for the above puropes and at the above place every Tuesday night.

Wednesday — The Union Prayer meeting will be held in Emmanuel Episcopal Church, with Dr. C. L. Atwater in charge.

Friday—Choir rehearsal at 7.30 p. m.

Next Sunday—Subject, "Pentecost and the Holy Spirit."

Evening—Special for men.

Our church urges all Christian people to vote for the Sunday Closing amendment next Tuesday. It is the last amendment on the ballot.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Chestertown, Md.
Paul E. Reynolds, Pastor.

Have faith in God, in Christ, in the Holy Spirit, in the Church, in men, and in yourself, for in faith there is victory.

9.45 a. m. Church School, E. Rumsey Anthony, Supt.

11 Morning Worship, Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

6.30 p. m. Junior M. Y. F. meets.

7.30 Evening worship, service of song, message by the pastor.

8 p. m. Monday, November 2, Official Board meets at the parsonage.

7.30 p. m. Wednesday, November 4, union prayer meeting in Episcopal Church, Dr. Atwater in charge.

8 p. m. Thursday, November 5, W. S. C. S. meets at the church.

Ancient Pipes

A copper pipe, made by Egyptian coppersmiths in 2750 B. C., is now in a Berlin museum.

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EMMANUEL P. E. CHURCH
Chestertown, Md.
Rev. C. L. Atwater, D. D., Rector.

Friday, October 30, 8 p. m. Dance in the Parish House, sponsored by St. Monica's Class, of the Sunday School.

Sunday, November 1, (All Saints' Day) 8 a. m. Holy Communion. 9.45 Church School. 11 a. m., Holy Communion (Sermon by the Rector.)

7.30 p. m. Evening Prayer (Music by Junior Choir.)

Wednesday, November 4, 7.30 p. m., Union Service in Emmanuel Church. 8.15 p. m. Choir rehearsal.

SHREWSBURY CHURCH
Near Kennedyville, Md.
Rev. C. L. Atwater, D. D., Rector.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 2.30 p. m. Evening Prayer.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2.30 p. m. Choir rehearsal, (Place to be announced, Sunday).

One week from this coming Sunday, November 8, the Service will be at 9.15 a. m. with the celebration of the Holy Communion.

GALENA METHODIST CHURCH
Minister, E. Leon Dage.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Supt. Clark Walters.

Morning Worship at 11. Sermon by pastor.

MYF meets at 6.45. Evening Worship at 7.45.

Cottage Devotional Service at Locust Grove at 6.30 p. m. Faithful League meets in the Chapel after school Friday. Choir Practice at 8 p. m. Friday.

ST. JAMES METHODIST CHURCH
Melvin Kay, Minister.

10.30 a. m. Study of the lesson. Mr. George A. Carroll, Supt.

11 a. m. Devotional Period, Miss Annie Parsons, organist.

11.30 a. m. Sermon by the pastor.

12 noon Benediction.

LYNCH METHODIST CHURCH
Melvin Kay, Minister.

Service each Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

FAIRLEE CHARGE METHODIST CHURCH
C. R. Strausburg, Minister.
Salem—Fairlee.

Sunday School 10 a. m.

Worship and sermon 11 a. m.

Special music by the choir.

Union—Worton.

Sunday School 1.30 p. m.

Worship 2.30 p. m.

Sermon by Rev. Melvin Kay of the St. James Methodist Church.

Grace—Piney Neck.

Sunday School 2 p. m.

Home Coming Day Service 3 p. m.

Sermon by Rev. F. C. Louhoff, Jr., of the Rock Hall, Methodist Church.

Special music by the vested choir of Christ Methodist Church under the leadership of Mrs. Iola Bucher. Members and friends are urged to be present.

An interesting and attractive Rally Program is being prepared for the evening at 7.30 o'clock.

SAINT PAULS PARISH

All Sain't Day. 11 a. m. Holy Communion.

ST. JOHN'S, BETTERTON

3 p. m. Evening Prayer and Sermon.

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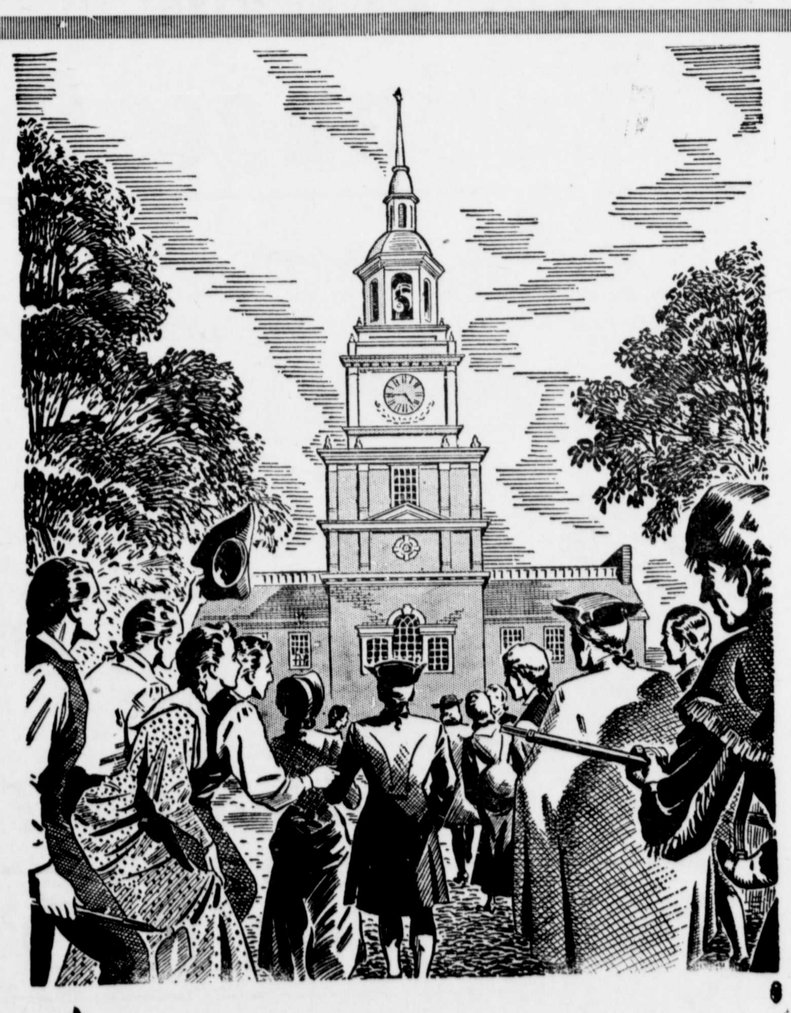

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