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HELICOPTER TOY



Pull cord as shown and propeller will rise over 50ft in the air. Adjustable fast or slow climb. With two propellers and cord 4/8, post 3d. A Scientific Toy.

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"The only adverse comment I have heard came from people I would have expected it from anyway, but for my part I must say I have been gripped by the plays, and one evening when I had to leave early, I had the greatest difficulty in tearing myself away.

"The voices—or some of them—are strange to us at first, perhaps, but I, myself, think the voice of Christ in particular is powerful and convincing. In fact, I can't speak highly enough of the whole idea. The plays are obviously arresting the mind of the person who thought the story of Christ belonged to the past. Of my people, some were doubtful of the first couple of plays, but by the third they were gripped and convinced after getting over the shock of encountering the very reality of the story.

"Most of our Wellington ministers are among the younger lot, and they have all been looking forward to the broadcasts ever since they read the book."

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:—"I can't speak too highly of it; I think it's excellent," said an archdeacon of the Church of England. "The story lives, and I think Dorothy Sayers has made an excellent job of it. The production amazes me, too—the voices all seem to fit so perfectly."

"Then you like the voice of Christ?"

"Yes, I do. It reminds me of Epstein's figure of Christ; it imports a kind of austere, or should I say stern, note into the character of the man, without making Him unkindly. And Mary, I like. It's a human voice."

"Have you found yourself troubled at all by the transitions from quoted Biblical language to the modern English?"

"Never—because the modern stuff's so true. And it's true to the Greek, too, you know."

"You say all that as one who was thoroughly familiar with the story before you heard *The Man Born to be King*. What do you think its value would be to someone hearing the story virtually for the first—a child, for instance?"

"I still think it's excellent, because as I say, it makes the story live: Miss Sayers knows that dullness is a real literary crime, and her version is never dull."

ROMAN CATHOLIC:—Catholic opinion, in general, is favourable, according to a priest whom we interviewed by telephone.

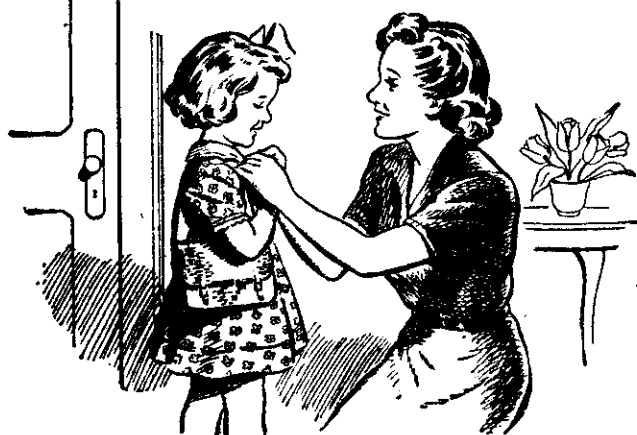
"The plays themselves had been so widely and freely discussed that I took their own worth for granted, and only waited to see how they were produced," he said. "I was very pleased when I heard the result. I think this opinion is shared by my associates, and I would go so far as to say that most of them are probably recommending our people to listen in.

"I was particularly pleased to notice the skill with which Miss Sayers has represented sacred characters without any semblance of disrespect. References to Jesus-bar-Joseph and even references to the Mother of Christ are handled in such a way as to put them beyond the criticism of the devout. And I would say that the voices are excellent, and the actors very well picked for their parts.

"I think it is important that everyone—everyone who calls himself a Christian, at any rate—should be thoroughly familiar with the story, and I think that to the ordinary person, a lot of the significance of the Gospels is lost at the present day when they are merely read, but the living characters in plays like these bring to the ordinary person's mind the things that are really in the Gospels, and inclined to be missed in the ordinary way. After all, it is nothing very new to do this. The Catholic Church for centuries employed a similar technique in its mystery plays—*Everyman*, is one that is widely known—in order to bring the Gospels to the people before printing had made it possible for everyone to read them; now, the radio bring them even closer."

PRESBYTERIAN:—"Frankly, I think the plays read better than they sound," was the first comment of a Presbyterian minister. "I agree that the production is excellent, but I think there is more to be had by reading the book. My Church in general is all in favour, and my own congregation even put on a reading of the first play after church one Sunday, long before the broadcasts were begun. I did speak to one old elder who said: 'We're too old-fashioned for that sort of thing,' but on the whole, I have heard no serious criticism."

The seventh play in the series, "*The Bread of Heaven Has As Its Core*," will be broadcast at 5.5 p.m. this Sunday, May 21.



Looking Ahead—

The young mothers and wartime brides of New Zealand are showing a courage and determination worthy of their forefathers. During these difficult days they are maintaining the tradition of family life, and carrying on with the confident hope that better times are not far distant. The Government Life Insurance Office, by providing protection and security for home and family, is helping thousands of New Zealanders to peace of mind and freedom from financial worry.

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