

NEW BOOKS in the NEWS

ROBERT R. KIRSCH of the Los Angeles Times is one of our favorite book reviewers. Although his penetrating and scholarly analyses of current literary works appear in a conservative Republican daily that supported Sen. Goldwater and repeal of California's anti-discriminatory housing law, we are happy to report that all of Kirsch's reviews of books dealing with civil rights issues that we have read have been eminently fair and sympathetic to the Negro's plight. As a case in point, we present the following timely review entitled "The Real Danger of Mississippi" that appeared under his name in the Times recently:

IT IS IRONIC that many of those who bewail the moral decay of our times have very little trouble in ignoring the central moral issue of mid-20th century America: the condition of the American Negro.

Yet, even these people do not bear as much of the moral responsibility as those who, as Voltaire said, read of injustice, feel outrage, have their dinner and go to sleep. So it is with the reports of the terror in Mississippi, the murder of the three civil rights workers, the beatings, the intimidations, the mockery of Negro civil rights in that State.

The danger of Mississippi is not simply that we accept it, but that we use it as a convenient excuse for our own moral retreat. I make this point because Mississippi in the long, hot, murderous summer of 1964 is the subject of this review and because the implications of Mississippi pose an imperative question to all of us. Hypocrisy, the ethical masquerade, may be something worse than moral decay.

In a special issue of RAMPARTS MAGAZINE (50 cents), a Catholic intellectual review, Mississippi is dealt with. It is not a pleasant story, but every American ought to read it. But it must be read not in the spirit of rationalization and justification, as though the overt and cynical violence of Mississippi somehow shrives us of the prejudice and bigotry practiced elsewhere in the nation. For the fact is that Mississippi is only a matter of degree.

THE NOTED HISTORIAN, Louis Lomax, whose work "The Negro Revolt" was the most powerful, documented and discerning study of the Negro condition in America, contributes the fully researched story of what happened one terrible June night in Philadelphia (the name mocks the crimes), Mississippi.

Mr. Lomax's careful, modulated prose is a classic of reporting and all the more impressive for its understated eloquence. The hour-by-hour revelation of the Calvary of three young men, believers in non-violence, cannot fail to prick the conscience of all but those insulated against these things.

What shattered respectable white Mississip-

plans more than the crime itself is exposed in a statement of a white Mississippian to the FBI about the man who revealed the hidden burial place of the three victims: "Somebody broke our code. No honorable white man would have told you what happened."

Atty. William Kunstler, a first-hand observer, demonstrates that there is no deficiency of laws to protect non-racist human beings in Mississippi; simply the deficiency of the energy and courage necessary to enforce them. Jim Marshall's portfolio of photographs communicates the desperation, the aspiration and the real courage of those who seek only the fulfillment of promises made a century ago.

John Howard Griffin, author of "Black Like Me," relates the fear and terror in the air of Mississippi. But perhaps, the description of the experiences of a nationally known pathologist, Dr. David M. Spain, who flew down to Mississippi to conduct an autopsy on the victims, is in its way the most disturbing chronicle. A small but interesting incident: A fellow physician warns him against reading Prof. James W. Silver's book "Mississippi: The Closed Society" any place where it can be seen.

Considering some of the pressures which have been exerted to keep RAMPARTS off the newsstands, it takes no little courage and concern to read it here in Southern California.

EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Editor, Sir:

It is an evidence of good living to correspond with any American of any sex or age, preferably Christians, who will like to exchange African hand works with American articles, and also to know how the Word of God is spreading in each country.

Sir, with much pleasure, I hereby implore you to publish these few lines of letter in your widely recommended newspaper, for pen pal friends in your country.

I am a young decent African (Nigerian) boy of 19 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches tall, and black in complexion.

My hobbies are: swimming, football, dancing, collecting of stamps and post cards, exchanging of gifts, and collecting pamphlets of Christian literature.

All letters from pen pal friends will be received by "Via Air Mail" or by "Air Letter Card."

Thanking you in anticipation.

Faithfully yours,
Vincent Olabisi Fabunmi

*Appreciate our freedom of religion
Renew your strength, courage and faith*

"What color is the face of God?"

... asks the negro child of the white woman who adopts him



MY SON AFRICA

by FROMA SAND

author of two English best-selling novels
Sherbourne Press/\$5.95

**JUST PUBLISHED!
SURE BEST-SELLER!**

Author of two English best-sellers, *Breakwater* and *Pagan Tapestry* . . . FROMA SAND now brings to American readers a fascinating new novel that will reach into your heart as never before with its moving, emotion-filled story.

COMPELLING! UNFORGETTABLE!

Meet Ora Stern, and you sense at once her courage and compassion . . . conviction and sensitivity . . . her overwhelming need to love. You set her apart from all other women. Too well does Ora know the bitterness of prejudice and racism . . . the brutality of the concentration camp.

Her new life in South Africa as a respected journalist leads her into a labyrinth of rewarding assignments . . . fascinating people . . . independence in thought and action.

One night she finds a Negro child huddled in a doorway, nearly starved, shivering with cold! Suddenly, it is as though she has found the meaning of her personal existence and of woman's true fulfillment . . . She adopts him . . . and reverberations follow.

AS TIMELY AS TODAY'S HEADLINES

In a country ripped with the blazing challenge of Apartheid, Ora has committed the unforgivable sin . . . of lavishing a mother's love on a non-white child. What happens as the result of an innocent day in the park will rivet you to the edge of your seat with its incredible overtones here in America.

Unfolded against the sweeping panorama of urban South Africa as well as the outlying veld . . . all the vivid sights, sounds, smells of love, hate, fear and terror come as close to home as Mississippi or Harlem.

WATCH BOB BAILEY
SUNDAY, 4 p.m., KSHO-TV, CHANNEL 13

Living Cash

NEVADA'S LARGEST HOME-OWNED
and the NATION'S FASTEST GROWING
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

A limited number of new Profit-Sharing
Contracts now available.
Call your MARK-TWAIN Representative
for further information.

MARK TWAIN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Special Representatives

FRANK ANDERSON, CLAIRE STINSON
ONWARD ABINGTON
1040 WEST OWENS AVE.
(GOLDEN WEST SHOPPING CENTER)

Louisiana Club
'F' & JACKSON STREETS

'The WESTSIDE SWING SPOT'
presents

Jesse Tidwell
in the
Cocktail Lounge
The FINEST in CHINESE FOOD

KENO
CRAPS - 21 - SLOTS
POKER