

Spain's countryside and climate, allows us to see not only the sharp contrasts there are in the Spanish character, but the practical simplicity and common sense that marks so much of the religious writings. A good book for occasional reading.

G.A.M.

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

271 Edgerstoune Road,  
Princeton, N.J., U.S.A.,  
30th January, 1959.

DEAR SIR:

May I just correct a misstatement in Mr Michael Fogarty's contribution to your January issue?

As is made clear at several points in the narrative (pp. 20, 82, 243, etc.) the action of my novel *Lucky Jim* takes place *outside* Wales. Nor have I taken a Welsh college and put it in England: innumerable details of staff, organization, physical arrangement, etc., differentiate Jim's college from any of the four Welsh colleges I know—namely Aberystwyth, Cardiff, Bangor and Swansea. As far as I knew last September, by the way, these were the *only* four colleges in the University of Wales. Mr Fogarty seems to think there are five. Perhaps the new arrival has turned out to be Jim's college.

I realize I cannot expect people to read novels with the close attention which would make this kind of letter unnecessary, but it irritates me to find Mr Fogarty talking about 'the college of which he [Amis] writes' as if the whole thing were agreed to be a *roman à clef*. The next time anybody tells Mr Fogarty that *Lucky Jim* contains 'recognizable portraits' I hope he will realize that he is being misled.

Yours truly,  
KINGSLEY AMIS.

PROFESSOR FOGARTY writes:

'If I have let myself be misled by those more familiar with other

parts of Wales, I apologize for both myself and them. I note, in more sorrow than surprise, that Mr Amis has forgotten that Cardiff contains not one College of the University of Wales, but two. Those who teach in the far West and North may forget the vivisection by which the Welsh National School of Medicine was ripped untimely from Cardiff's womb, but we in South Wales and Monmouthshire never shall. The School is so called because it contains only one Faculty, but stands in every respect—its Charter, its Senate, its Provost, and the rest—on the same footing as the four other Colleges which Mr Amis names.'

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#### BOOKS RECEIVED

- Allen & Unwin.* T. R. Miles: Religion and the Scientific Outlook, 21s.; Errol E. Harris: Revelation through Reason, 15s.
- Blackfriars Publications.* J. M. Perrin, O.P.: The Church in my Life, 12s.; J. M. Perrin, O.P.: The Fundamentals of Catholic Action, 6s. 6d.
- Bowes & Bowes.* Janko Lavrin: Lermontov, 10s. 6d.
- Challoner Publications.* The Parish Mass Book, n.p.
- Geoffrey Chapman.* William Grossouw: In Christ, 10s. 6d.; Robert Johann, S.J.: The Meaning of Love, 16s.
- Clonmore & Reynolds.* James Brodrick, S.J.: The Sufferings and Glory of Jesus, 5s.; D. D. C. Pochin Mould: Peter's Boat, 12s. 6d.; Elinor D. Rhodes: I Had Itching Ears, 3s.; A. J. Reilly: Catherine O'Neill, Co-Foundress of the Congregation of the Assumption, 15s.; Brother Columban M. Cluderay, F.S.C.: To Brighter Worlds, the Life of Brother Finbar, F.S.C., 8s. 6d.
- Desclée.* A. Chavasse: Le Sacramentaire Gélasien, n.p.
- Eyre & Spottiswoode.* R. Knox and A. Lunn: Difficulties, 9s. 6d.; N. St John-Stevas: Walter Bagehot, 36s.
- Faber.* F. C. Grant: The Gospels, Their Origin and Their Growth, 21s.; Reinhold Niebuhr: The Godly and the Ungodly, 21s.; Michael C. Perry: The Easter Enigma, 21s.; Josef Pieper: Happiness and Contemplation, 12s. 6d.
- Faith Press.* A Religious of C.S.M.V.: These Last Days, 9s. 6d.
- Sheed & Ward.* Hubert van Zeller, O.S.B.: The Holy Rule, 35s.; John C. Wu: Fountain of Justice, 18s.; Ronald A. Knox: The Priestly Life, 12s. 6d.; J. Killgallon and G. Weber: Christ in Us, cloth 10s. 6d., paper 6s.; Caryll Houselander: The Risen Christ, 8s. 6d.; Lucile Hasley: Play it Cool, Sister, 12s. 6d.; Dorothy Dohen: Vocation to Love, 10s. 6d.