Religion And Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., L.L.D.
First Moderator of the United Church of Canada
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Most people are concerned about personal immortality. The average human being cannot believe that death ends all; there are processes begun here which must continue with the Spirit out of which they sprang. A young man came to his spiritual advisor in deep perplexity. His chum had just passed into the unseen and he was full of questionings about his condition and experiences. They had been pals from childhood; they had always shared each other's thoughts and feelings; the aims of each had been the interest of the other and the success or loss of each the concern of both. Now he had gone, and his bereaved companion wondered and wondered about his condition and his fate. A similar loss gave us Tennyson's "In Memoriam" and Milton's "Lycidas."

We could not complete a study of John's first Epistle without inquiring into his ideas of "Eternal Life." He uses this phrase in many different connections. It has been said that the adjective "Eternal" refers to the quality of the new life which comes to us from God. Well, it does mean the kind of life that can be lived in God, but this life is timeless; it is lived in union with God here and hereafter. What we call death cannot touch it: as Jesus said in John 11:26. "He who lives and believes in me shall never die."

Blossom Sunday is a great day in the Niagara Peninsula. The fragrance and beauty of those blossoms delight the hearts of all privileged to see them. Each blossom has the capacity for development into fruit, but that blossom must be fertilized or it blooms in vain. According to John, there is in every person the capacity for eternal life, but that capacity has to be fertilized by the direct act of God. As Jesus said in John 3:5-6. "Except one be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." All through this first Epistle John echoes this saying of Christ's. "Everyone who does righteousness is begotten of God" (1 John 2:29). "Everyone who loves is begotten of God and knows God" (I John 4:7). "Behold what manner of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God. And we are." (I John 3:1). It all means that this life, lived in union with God, is not possible apart from God. It is God's gift to men. It is life in union with the Life-giver.

How do we receive it? Paul's answer was, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). This is just another way of stating Christ's own answer to this question as old as Christianity. "What must I do to be saved?" "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness so must the Son of Man be lifted up in order that everyone believing in Him may have eternal life." (John 3:14-15.)

This life is a present possession. Jesus' own words express this perfectly. "He who hears my word and believes in Him Who sent me has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life" (John 5:24). Here death is set over against judgment; whatever the judgment may mean to the believer, it cannot mean that his salvation will ever be called in question; when we believe in Christ as Saviour and accept Him as Lord, our destiny is settled at once and forever. Hence John echoes the Master's saying when he writes. "We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren" (I John 3:15.)

For the present, that life is the believer's soul is hidden and in humiliated form, but at Christ's coming it will burst forth in its full heavenly splendor. One autumn a summer resident planted a few daffodil bulbs in a pocket of soil on top of a cliff in Muskoka. They were dull and uninteresting in appearance. The next spring mild weather set in early in April, and about the middle of the month these people returned to their summer home. But that day the weather turned cold suddenly, and they went up the lake against a snapping west wind. As they drew up in the shelter of that cliff what should they see but a dozen daffodils waving in the breeze! Now, the daffodil life was in those dull and withered-looking bulbs: they could never be anything but daffodils: but in the bulb the glory of the flower was hidden. Then the sun in the spring brought out their beauty and we saw what they really were.

This is just what John says about the divine life in the souls of Christ's people. "Beloved, now are we children of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be. We know that when He shall appear we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He is." (I John 3:2.)

Just put this verse beside Jesus' own words in John 11:25-26. "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes on me, even though he die, shall live; and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

Our ground of hope for eternity is in Christ alone. He conquered death in our interests, and He said, "Because I live ye also shall live" (John 14:19). Paul put the same truth in his own words thus, "Now has Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that have slept" (I Corinthians 15:20.)

In Him, and in Him alone, have I confidence and expectancy as I face the great change. I have also His assurance that, when my times comes He will come for me. As He said, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there you also may be." (John 14:3.)

THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a newsy nature may be inserted at five cents a word, strictly payable in advance.

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DON'T RUIN YOUR MOTOR by allowing it to run hot. Have it flushed at Mallett's Battery Service.

BRACKLEY UNITED CHURCH —The Rev. E. M. B. Wheelock will address a Bible Society meeting tonight, Monday, at 8.00.

CONGRATULATIONS are being extended to Miss Elizabeth Gillis of Grand View on the high marks she made in her P. W. C. entrance exams. Elizabeth who is only 13 passed with a high percentage in all subjects. Her teacher was Mrs. Ray Gillis, Head of Montague.

THE ENGAGEMENT is announced of Virginia Grace, youngesa daughter of Mrs. Macdonald and the late John E. Macdonald, Souris, to Dr. Willian James son of Mrs. Murphy and the late Daniel Murphy, West Saint John. Marriage to take place September 7th, Saint Peters Church, Saint John.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS. — Advertisers are reminded that their copy must be in the Guardian not later than noon the previous day to guarantee insertion. Out of city advertisers who telephone classifieds, etc., should particularly bear this in mind.

CITY POLICE COURT. — At the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court Saturday, the adjourned case of a man charged with aggravated assault was further adjourned until today. The case is in connection with an incident which occurred at the Rendezvous Restaurant on the night of August 3rd. Three drunk and incapables also appeared, two being sentenced to 20 days in jail each and the third was fined $10 and costs or 20 days. A man convicted of speeding was fined $5 and costs or 10 days, while a summary ejectment case was heard in which judgment in ejectment for plaintiff with costs was given.

AT YOUR SERVICE — Arnfast Coal Company. Phone 2498.

ENGAGEMENT — Dr. Herbert Harold Shaw announces the engagement of his daughter, Edith Shaw MacLean, to Mr. Charles Archibald Marshall, son of Mrs. Henry Herbert Marshall and the late Mr. Marshall of Halifax. Marriage to take place in September.

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MISCELLANEOUS SHOWER — On Thursday, evening, August 11th., about one hundred and fifty guests gathered at Parkdale hall to honor Miss Dorothy Peardon, one of the season's brides to be. The hall was tastefully decorated with pink and white streamers and bows. The bride to be was escorted to the seat of honor by the Misses Betty Cooke and Georgie Nichol. After the bride to be had been seated, a carriage laden with gifts was wheeled in several times by little Miss Brenda Mutlow and Paul McMillan as bride and groom. The gifts which were many and beautiful were opened by Betty Cook; the verses read by Georgie Nichol, and the gifts arranged by Shirley Craswell and Vera McKay. After singing for "She's a Jolly Good Fellow", Dorothy thanked all for their lovely presents and invited everyone to call and see them in their new home. After a delicious lunch was served by friends of the bride, dancing was enjoyed. Music was furnished by Ralph Gay, Percy Groom, Fannie Bertram, Edward Bertram and Reggie Gay. Tap dancing by Miss Peggy Campbell was also enjoyed. In the early hours of the morning all departed to their homes after wishing Dorothy many happy years of wedded bliss.

Personals

Mr. William Crawford of the Electronics Dept. of the Atomic Energy Project at Chalk River, Ont., is spending his vacation with his parents Mr. and Mrs. George Crawford, Fitzroy Street.

Miss Bubs Moren, Toronto, motored to Charlottetown last week to spend a two weeks holiday the guest of Mr. and Mrs Harold Hennessey, Kent Street.

Mrs. Gertrude Kennedy and her daughter, Mrs. E. E. Stewart (formerly Esther Kennedy) accompanied by Diane Stewart and Kenneth Martin, all of Marblehead, Mass. are guests of Mrs. Walter Craswell of 30 Hillsboro Street.

Miss Elva Stevenson left this morning by plane for Ottawa, after spending two weeks' holidays at her home in New Glasgow. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. R. W. Stevenson, who will spend a month visiting in Ottawa.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Waite and two sons. Junior and Wendell returned to their home after visiting relatives in Boston and Portland, Maine. They also spent a day at Highland Lake the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Brown (nee Fannie Phillips).

"Mrs. Robert Crawford and two small daugters Miriam and Leila of Tryon, P.E.I., have been spending the past week with Mrs. Crawford's parents and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Toombs and Miss Irma of North Rustico.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Flanagan of Richmond Hill, Long Island, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Croken of Springfield, Mass., are visiting the Island. Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan are guests of Mr. George Croken and Miss Eileen Croken of Freetown. Mr. and Mrs. Croken are guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Croken of Emerald.

BULLETINS FROM BIRDLAND

BY WINIFRED E. WILSON

YELLOWTHROAT

Possessive and resenting intrusion, furtive yet inquisitive, the Yellowthroat, though no bandit, looks the part with his black mask. This is the little Warbler that likes to accompany you as you walk along a country path flanked by low bushes. Sneaking along beside you, hopping from branch to branch, hiding behind the leaves, his bright eyes follow your every movement. Although close enough to touch, you may not get a glimpse of him; but you will certainly hear his scolding, wrenlike voice until he has seen you off his territory. About five inches long, the little fellow is well worth your observation if you have the chance: his throat and breast are an intense yellow, his mask is very black.

Lacking the mask, his wife is even better than he at disappearing. Her colours blend in with her surroundings: plain olive brown above, fluffy yellow breast, white beneath, and yellowish under the tail. The only striking feature is her yellow throat. The children take after her, though the young males generally show faint signs of the black mask. At this season the whole, happy family will be found together, continually on the move, hunting for caterpillars and beetles of which they are so fond. It is easy to mistake them for Wrens, on account of their actions as well as their "talking" voices.

Food preferences keep the Yellowthroats near the ground, and there, too, was their bulky home last June, made of strips of bark, coarse grasses, and dead leaves, lined with fine grasses, tendrils, and rootlets. At that time Father Yellowthroat sang his characteristic song a great part of the day, and even yet he is apt suddenly to burst out every now and then with his piercing "Witchity, witchity, witch," pronounced very deliberately. There is no possibility of mistaking the song for any other bird's. Swampy meadows seem to hold a great attraction for him. If you would know whether or not he is present, stand quite still, give a few squeaks, and the chances are he will creep up close to eye and scold you. His behaviour is really amusing.

Yellowthroats are seldom here before the middle of May, and it will be late September or early October before they leave Canada for their winter home in the south eastern corner of the United States, the Bahamas, Cuba, Guatemala, or Costa Rica.

Do Blackbirds flock?

STEWART—GREEN WEDDING

A pretty mid-summer wedding was solemnized in the Church of Christ Disciples, Ridgetown, Ontario, August 3rd, when Margaret Isabel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warren Green, became the bride of Donald Francis Stewart, Truro, Nova Scotia, son of Mrs. Stewart and the late Frank MacLeod Stewart of Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The ceremony was performed by M. Craig assisted by Elmer S. Stainton of Rodney. Miss Nora Sefton played the bridal music and Paul Shippey of Rodney, sang.

The bride given in marriage by her father, wore a summer white crepe afternoon dress and carried a cascade of sweetheart roses and stephanotis.

Her attendant was Miss Clara Tupper of London in an afternoon frock of powder blue eyelet and carried a bouquet of pink asters and roses.

The groomsman was Robert Green brother of the bride, and the ushers were Milton G. Stewart of Guelph, brother of the groom and Keith McLean of Morpeth cousin of the bride.

At a reception at the home of the bride's parents, Mrs. Green received with the wedding party wearing a powder blue dress with black accessories and a corsage of pink roses. The groom's mother was in grey mesh with flamingo rose and black accessories and a corsage of roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart left on a wedding trip to Ohio. The bride travelled in a wine suit with wine accessories. They will reside in Truro, N. S.

Mrs. Stewart was formerly on the teaching staff in London, Ontario.

Among the out of town guests were Mrs. F. M. Stewart, Charlottetown; Mary K. Stewart, Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Woolner Dresden, Marion and Ruth Campbell, London.

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GRAND RIVER C.W.L.

The August meeting of the Grand River C.W.L. was held at the home of Mrs. Marshall McLellan, with a very large attendance, 19 members were present: including 8 new members who were welcomed to the League. The meeting opened with the League prayer led by the president. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Correspondence was read and a discussion followed.

Mrs. Priscilla MacDonald was appointed delegate to attend the convention in Charlottetown. The collection for the evening amounted to $10.54. Meeting closed by prayer. A delicious lunch was served by the hostess assisted by her daughter, Miss Louise, others assisting in serving were Miss Velma Brown and Miss Marie Noonan, a vote of thanks was tendered Mrs McLellan for her kind hospitality Next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Louis MacDonald Roll call to be answered by donating an article for a penny sale.

BODY RECOVERED

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Aug. 21—(CP)—The body of G. I. Walton, Saint John, who was drowned in the Kennebecasis River near Long Island last Thursday evening, was found Saturday. He met death in trying to jump from his boat to a drifting scow.

NAPOLEON AND UNCLE ELBY By Clifford McBride

Our Grateful Thanks....

Are extended to the Provincial Government, the City Council of Charlottetown, the Women's Institutes, the Breeders of Livestock, Horses, Sheep, Pigs and Poultry, the Horsemen of the Maritimes, the Press, CFCY, The Macdonald Tobacco Company for their British Consols Trophy, The Kiwanis Service Club and to the People of Prince Edward Island, and the many Visitors from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and other parts of Canada and the United States, for the most GENEROUS support given us At

Old Home Week and Provincial Exhibition

Just Concluded

It has been a trying but pleasurable task for everyone connected with our organization, and the results have been so satisfactory, that we look forward with confidence to keeping this great WEEK of ENTERTAINMENT and EXHIBITION Program on an even BIGGER and BETTER scale next year.

H. J. KENNEDY, President G. H. BUNTAIN, Secretary

—On Behalf of the Directors and Shareholders of the Charlottetown Driving Park and Provincial Exhibition Association—