Religion and Life

By Very Rev. George C. Pidgeon, D.D., LL.D.
First Moderator of the United Church of Canada
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ENLIGHTENED SELF-INTEREST

We just can't get away from it—the vicarious principle in human life. Recently the newspapers printed a vivid account of an airplane crash at Malton and an heroic effort of the pilot to avoid the houses before him as his plane was falling. With the knowledge that death was only seconds away, the pilot threw all his skill and daring to save the village and its people from a vastly greater tragedy, and under his hand the plane fell where none but his co-pilot and himself were involved in its destruction. We are sure the co-pilot was with him in every effort made. What was said of our divine Master was true of each of them: "He saved others; himself he could not save."

One recalls the loss of the Titanic before the first world war. We are writing from memory, but Henry Van Dyke's poem on that occasion sticks in the mind:

"Honor the dead who sleep
Where the lost Titanic lies—
The men who knew what a man must do
When he looks death in the eyes.
"Women and children first!"
Ah strong and fearless cry!
And men whom women had borne and nursed
Remembered and dared to die.
"The boats pulled away in the dark;
The great ship groaned; and then—
O stars of the night who saw that sight
Bear witness: These were men!"

And the breed is not deteriorating. Over and over men died to save their comrades in recent warfare. Our boys are doing it today in Korea, and, through the smoke of bitter controversy we catch gleams of the old heroism of the race in ever-changing forms.

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A new vision has caught the imagination of men in our time—self-giving to the services of peace. The very essence of the Christian ethic is: Self-investment in others' self-realization. Jesus practised this principle to the uttermost limit. An inspired writer said of Him that "for the joy set before Him He endured the Cross, despising the shame." Jesus' own illustration of His sacrifice was the grain of wheat which, by falling into the ground and dying, reproduces itself millions of times.

The results of His self-giving are thus described in the Book of Revelation: "I saw a great multitude which no man could number, out of every nation and of all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes and palms in their hands, and they cry with a great voice, saying, Salvation unto our God who sits on the throne, and unto the Lamb". The parable-germ of the grain of wheat illustrates in this way the miracle of history, of which we are the beneficiaries.

It has always been recognized that this spirit was expected in the individual and in his church. Parents invest all they have and are in the upbuilding of their children's character and cultivation of their gifts. Teachers discern possibilities in their pupils and give themselves to their development. Over against the totalitarian aim at conquest and government by violence is the Church's program of the winning of the world by love to the allegiance of the King of Love. Wherever there is an opening missionaries of the Cross are found today, and wherever they bear their witness individuals and communities are made new.

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The revolutionary idea in this present hour is that this is expected of nations, and that nations as nations are answering the call. No nation has ever given as much as the United States has given to help to their feet neighbor nations crushed by war, and to encourage backward peoples to develop their own powers and their country's resources. Call it self-interest if you will—it is enlightened self-interest.

Canada needs to advance along the same line. We talk largely about the development of our vast resources for the benefit of other nations in their efforts to prevent war and prepare for peace, but the first effect of all this is increase of our own wealth and the provision of employment for our people. We have "a way of life" that is worth challenging our youth to live and die for, but national self-sacrifice for the sake of other peoples is the only way in which that ideal can be imparted to them.

But do not let the heroic drop out of our lives and thought. The harvest from the tragic seed-sowing of our heroes will be reaped only in part unless it inspires our young people generally with the same heroic spirit. Our heroes, such as those we are mourning now can stand comparison with any in the world's history in their moral stature and in the nobility of their aims. Exalt them in home and school and church, for only by the devotion of our people can the nation really live.

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CENTRAL GUARDIAN

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COME TO THE Garden Party on Wednesday the 20th, afternoon and evening, at the home of Mrs. Gordon MacMillan, Cornwall. Hear the Prince Street Band and Piper Bruce MacLaren with Scotch dancers. Chicken salad supper and canteen. Admission 25 cents.

Personal

Richard H. Hegan of New York arrived in the City Saturday evening on a vacation visit with his sister, Miss Janet P. Hegan, 2 North River Road.

Mr. Ernest McLaren, retired C.-N.R. conductor, and Mrs. McLaren of Toronto are visiting friends on the Island.

Mr. John Curran has returned to his home in Somerville, Mass., after spending a very pleasant holiday at Rocky Point, the guest of his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Smith.

The many friends of Mrs. John A. Smith of Rocky Point will regret to learn that she has entered the Charlottetown Hospital for an operation and will wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Ed Acorn had as her guests last week the McElman brothers, Ollie, Walter and William, from Dorchester, Mass., and Bath, Maine. They were formerly of Summerside.

Miss Mary Morrison, Charlottetown, recently returned to hen home from Chautauqua, New York, where she attended a six weeks Leadership Training course given her by the Excelsior Circle of the Kings Daughters of Trinity United Churcth. On her return she visited relatives and friends in Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island.

IN MEMORIAM

MR. AUSTIN MacDONALD

At his home in Albion Cross, P. E. I., Mr. Austin MacDonald passed away, suddenly, on July 3rd, 1952.

Mr. MacDonald was a veteran of World War I and was overseas with the 105th Battalion, serving in France and England during the years 1915 to 1919. After returning from overseas he took up residence in Bay Fortune, P. E. I., and since that time resided in Annandale, P. E. I., on the old homestead of Mr. Thomas Taylor. For the past number of years Mr. MacDonald operated a lumber mill in Albion Cross, until his illness about three years ago.

Mr. MacDonald was awarded a medal for his bravery for saving Mr. Samuel R. Johnston from drowning at Fortune Bridge, P. E. I., in 1913.

He leaves to mourn besides his sorrowing wife, Isabell, two sons, Roy at Albion Cross, Howard at Annandale, five daughters, Amelia at home; Thelma, Toronto; Mrs. Denis Lawrence, Calgary, Alta.; Mrs. Lorne MacDougall, Calgary, Alta.; Mrs. Alma Goodwin, Charlottetown, P. E. I., also twelve grandchildren.

He also leaves to mourn two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Reid and Mrs. Charlotte Coniff, both of Cambridge, Mass.

Service was held Sunday, July 6, 1952, at the home, the service being conducted by the pastor, Rev. Swend Christenson. The hymns sung were, 'Safe in the Arms of Jesus," "Nearer My God to Thee," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul."

The pall bearers were Mr. Lloyd Davidson, Mr. Howard Wood, Mr. Dale Judson, Mr. Angus M. MacDonald, Mr. Leslie Hunter, Mr. Aden H. Judson.

Interment in Dundas United Church Cemetery.

Card Of Thanks

The family of the late Mr. Austin MacDonald wish to thank the many friends for their kindness during their recent sad bereavement. The floral tributes and cards of sympathy were also much appreciated.

Austin Co. To Cut Down On Workers

BIRMINGHAM, England, Aug. 17—(Reuters)—The Austin Motor Company said Friday it would discharge about 800 of the 20,000 workers at its central factory here in an effort to keep down export prices. Many of the men will be rehired when the new Austin Seven, a low-priced four-seater, goes into production this fall.

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BULLETINS FROM BIRDLAND

BY WINIFRED E. WILSON

Of the three species of Rail found in Canada, the Sora is by far the most common. Yet, because of its choice of habitat, appearance, and cautious behaviour it is really seldom seen by the average person. This is a shore bird of an unusual type that haunts cattail marshes, bogs, and patches of reeds beside rivers, where it runs in and out of the weed unnoticed.

Remembering the expression, "Thin as a rail", we realize that a "laterally compressed" bird (as the bird books speak of it can easily hide among cattails. Smaller than a Robin, the Sora is brown above and grey beneath with black on the face and a black bib resembling that of a male English Sparrow, and pale greenish grey legs and feet. Unlike most shore birds, its yellow bill is short, similar to a chicken's. The rear view reminds us of a deer, because its little turned-up tail is white underneath.

If we had never heard of the Sora's migration, when it visits Bermuda and winters in the West Indies, we might imagine it incapable of flight, as we never see it in the air. It migrates by night, at such low elevations that many individuals are killed by running into buildings. In the breeding grounds it only runs among the lily pads and swims well. Inquisitive by nature, though shy, a Sora often starts calling if a stick is thrown into the marsh. In spring its clear, plaintive, ascending "ker-wee" can be heard both by day and by night, and it has several other calls.

This interesting bird lays an average of 10 eggs, but under favourable conditions as many as 18 are sometimes found in one home, woven out of dead leaves and attached to cattails. Then the mother arranges them in 2 or even 3 layers so that she may be able to cover all of them.

A baby Sora gets out of its shell in a most unusual way: by sawing off a section instead of puncturing the shell. A tiny, wet, partly bald bit of black fluff with huge feet and toes emerges, and immediately knows enough to try and fight any interference and follow a parent. The eggs hatch one a day, and the father keeps the older children in a "dummy nest" that has been prepared.

In autumn Soras change their diet from insects and mollusks to seeds. At the first frost they leave our marshes for their southern holiday resorts, where their favourite food is rice.

Have Herons long legs?

BALTIC W. I.

—The August meeting of Baltic W. I. was held at the home of Mrs. Bruce Riley with an attendance of nine members. The meeting opened by singing the "Ode" and repeating the "Creed" in unison.

The roll call was answered by "My Favorite Apple" and minutes were read, approved and signed.

Bills were presented and moved paid for the District Convention fares of delegates to Annual Convention, prizes for District Convention, candy bags, two sick treats, and a gift for a member leaving the district.

Plans were also made to hold a farewell party for her on Monday evening, Aug. 4th.

An interesting report of the Annual Convention was given by delegates and a letter was read re the Protestant Orphanage Appeal.

The meeting closed by singing the National Anthem after which a delicious lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. James Wall and Mrs. Gordon Cousins. The next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Wall.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of

ANGUS A. MacDONALD
Flat River

Who passed away August 18, 1951.

Its lonesome here without you, dear,
As I tread o'er life's road alone.
But I konw some happy day I'll meet you,
In that land where partings are unknown.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain. Rev. 21.4.

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Rackham-Matheson Wedding

July 4th was the scene of a very pretty wedding at the United Church Manse, Breadalbane, when Edith Adele, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Matheson, Emerald, became the bride of Robert William, only son of Mr. Athol Rackham and the late Mrs. Rackham of Wheatley River. The ceremony was performed by Rev. B. W. MacPhail.

The bride looked lovely in an exquisitely designed off-the-shoulder dress of sky blue sheer over taffeta. She wore a corsage of red roses. Her hat was of white swiss straw encircled with forget-me-nots, and hand bag of matching straw. She wore elbow length gloves which were of hand-embroidered nylon and shoes of white nylon mesh. Her only jewelry was a coro set, choker and earrings, a gift of her former pupils.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride where a number of guests were ushered to the dining room which was prettily decorated with pink and white streamers and wedding bell. The bride's table was covered with an Indian lace table cloth and was centred with a three tier wedding cake topped with miniature bride and groom, lighted with white candles. Following the wedding supper many friends called to wish the bride and groom much happiness.

Mr. and Mrs. Rackham left later for a wedding trip through the Maritimes and have since taken up residence in Wheatley River where the groom is a prosperous farmer. For the past year the bride was engaged as teacher of Brookfield School.

For travelling the bride wore a figured nylon sheer with white accessories and beige briefer.

Previous to her marriage the bride was given a miscellaneous shower at the home of her parents. She was escorted by Audrey Todd to a tastefully decorated chair to the strains of the Wedding March played by Mrs. George Dunning. The gifts were carried in by Miss Irene MacLeod and Miss Dorothy Matheson, cousins of the bride. They were opened by Miss Freda Hickox and Miss Doris Nicholson, the names and verses read by Miss Leone MacKay and Miss Norma Haslam and the gifts were arranged on the table by Miss Shirley Dunning.

Edith thanked her friends for their lovely gifts and good wishes and expressed the hope that they would all visit her in her new home. Everyone departed following refreshments served by her girl friends wishing her every happiness.

While in Halifax Mrs. Herbert Matheson and Mrs. John Wolfe were joint hostesses to a shower given in the bride's honor in the spacious home of Mrs. Wolfe. Mrs. Matheson escorted the bride to the tastefully decorated living room which was decorated with pink and white streamers, white wedding bells, and white flowers. Hilda Bradley played the bridal chorus and Stella Richardson read the verses on the gifts which were brought in by Mrs. Wolfe. The bride thanked everyone for their kindness and lovely presents. A delicious lunch was served by the hostesses assisted by Mrs. John Greenough and Miss Elsie Nicholle. Everyone departed wishing the bride every good wish.

CLINTON W. I.

On Tuesday evening, August 5th, the Clinton W. I. held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. George and Willard Riley. In the absence of the president the vice-president, Mrs. Sterling MacKay took charge.

The meeting opened in the usual manner. The roll call was responded to by each member donating a cup towel and .25 cents. Minutes of last meeting were read approved and signed. It was decided to give treats to both the institute members and their families. Sick committee for the next three months; Mrs. Ian Henderson and Mrs. Ivan Pickering; programme committee, Mrs. George MacKay and Mrs. Leslie Paynter; lunch, Mrs. James MacKay, Mrs. Ivan Pickering and Mrs. Charles Woodside.

A letter of appreciation was acknowledged from Greece for a food parcel sent, also a letter concerning the Vocational School in Charlottetown. It was decided to hold a pantry sale in Keir Clark's store, later in the month.

It was moved and seconded that $5 be given to the Cancer fund. Next meeting to be held at the ome of Mrs. Sterling MacKay, when roll call will be answered with a pickle recipe.

Meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem, after which the hostess and her committee served a dainty lunch.

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Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

Coal is only another form of wood. To prove this, entire petrified trees have been dug out of coat pits. Some years ago, miners working in a Pennsylvania coal-mine came upon a petrified tree stump of considerable size.

Astrographic survey of the heavens show that there are over 40,000,000 stars near enough to the earth to be photographed. Yet it is a surprising fact that even on the clearest night no more than 2,000 are visible at any time to the sharpest eye.

Ever hear of longevity clothes? Such clothes are provided by many Chinese in their lifetime, and most people have them cut out and sewn by a very young girl, wisely calculating that, since such a person is apt to live many years, a part of her longevity passes into the clothes thus keeping Father Time at bay for a longer period than what he'd reckoned.

Among the grave clothes there is one robe that merits special mention. It is a long silken gown of deep blue color with the word "Longevity" embroidered all over it in threads of gold. To present an aged person with one of these lovely robes, is esteemed by the Chinese as an act of filial piety and a delicate mark of attention.

This magnificent garment is worn only on very special occasions and the wearer then absorbs into his body its blessed influence. Briefly, that's the story behind the Chinese longevity clothes.

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When the Chinese people want rain bad they make a paper dragon to represent the rain god, and carry it about in processions; but if no sky juice comes the dragon is torn into shreds and tatters. Sometimes they threaten to beat the god if he does not give rain; sometimes they publicly depose him from the rank of deity. On the other hand, the god may get promotion if there is plenty of rain.

The Province of Nan King suffered a severe drought in 1710. The god simply refused to give rain so the viceroy of the province had this unfeeling deity shut up in his shrine and seals placed on the door. That did it! Cut off from his base of supplies, the idol had no choice but to surrender at discretion. Rain soon began to fall, and the people were so happy about it that the god was restored to his former place among the deities.

But it sometimes happens that the rain god goes all out for a wet period. Such was the case in April of 1888 when the Mandarins of Canton prayed to the God Lung-Wong to stop the rain or else. Well, Lung-Wong turned a deaf ear to the people's prayers and as a result found himself in the lock-up for five days. This did the trick. The rain stopped and Lung-Wong gained his liberty.

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When the Siamese need rain, they set out their idols in the hot sun. If they want dry weather they take the roof off the temple and let the rain pour down on the gods. This thorough wetting usually induces them to grant the wishes of their worshippers.

When the rice crops are in the grip of a drought the governor of the affected area goes in great state to a Pagoda and prays to Buddha for rain. After this he adjourns to a place back of the Temple where a dummy figure has been set up. Soon the air is filled with music, beating drums and what have you; and goaded on by their drivers, the elephants charge the dummy and trample it under their feet. After this Buddah gives rain.

Take The Word of a Man That Owns One...:

Coventry Diesel Marine Engine Gives Outstanding Performance in Alberton Fishing Boat

For the first time in over fifteen years an Alberton fishing boat is being equipped to drag for scallops on a recently discovered scallop bed about half way between Miminegash and Shipegon, N.B.

Mr. Philip Kinch sailed his new boat, which is equipped with a 30 H.P. diesel engine, the first of this type to be tried at Alberton South, around North Cape to Miminegash, yesterday, a distance of 36 miles. Running at cruising speed the trip took only three and a half hours and used five gallons of fuel oil at an estimated cost of ninety cents. The boat is slightly larger than a regular fishing boat and was built by Mr. William Aubrey, well known boat builder of Alberton South.

GUARDIAN, AUG. 12, 1952.

This DIESEL MARINE ENGINE purchased by Mr. Philip Kinch is SOLD AND SERVICED by

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Malpeque Road

LONDON, Aug. 7—(Reuters)—The BBC last night broadcast a hasty warning to anyone who might be thinking of trying a remedy for Gnat bites recommended in a "Hints for Housewives" program earlier in the day.

The program advised listeners to doctor Gnat bites with a mixture of one part Carbolic Acid and three parts vinegar.

Horrified doctors who heard the broadcast issued a thorough warning against such a "highly dangerous" proceeding. The association said the suggested solution was so strong it would burn the skin and might cause damage to the eyes.

CAIRO, Aug. 7—(AP)— Egyptian fathers are besieging municipal officials throughout the country, newspapers said yesterday.

They want to change the names of their sons from Farouk to something else.

King Farouk deposed and exiled in the recent upheaval staged by the army.

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