

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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THE ENDS OF LOVE

We were deeply moved the other morning on hearing over again the story of David Livingstone's death in the heart of Africa. It recalled the way in which his apparent failure led to a success far beyond his dreams.

When Henry M. Stanley found Livingstone in the heart of Africa, the latter refused to return with him to civilization. Livingstone persisted in his effort to discover the source of the Nile in order to use the prestige it would give him to move the slave trade. He sent a message out with Stanley: "This blessing on anyone, American, British or Turk, who will help to beat this open sore of the world."

The result was that the world's attention was turned to what seemed a fruitless quest stirred the nations and had done if he had been spared to carry out his plan. The slave trade was stopped as far as the nations could stop it, and Livingstone's death for that reason was the spark that kindled his enthusiasm. It is a shining illustration of the truth of Cowper's lines:

"God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

The early death of MacKay of Uganda had the same effect. His sister wrote afterwards that his death was a blessing on the world. One of the greatest Christian missions in the nineteenth century arose out of the efforts then put forth.

God has not abdicated. Nor have the reins slipped from His fingers. Nor have the forces of evil gassed the upper hand. When things happen for which we are in no way responsible, God assumes responsibility for the consequences. Infinite wisdom and love are still in control of events. Wisdom and might rule or overrule them for our ends.

This calls for trust in God. The man named could not see here the outcome of their sacrifice. To all outward appearances at the moment, their death meant the failure of their plans. But it was true then and is still true that "with those who love God, He co-operates in all things for good."

This rendering of Romans 8:28 by C. H. Dodd is literally exact. This writer comments that Paul did not write: "All things work together for good to them that love God." Neither Paul nor any other New Testament writer would have accepted the idea "so congenial to the modern mind" which thinks

so much of the universe as an orderly system of laws, and likes to believe that "it will all come right in the end." What they do look for, and find, is God's co-operation with us in all things, even things that are hostile to us. No matter what the situation in which we may find ourselves, God co-operates with us for good.

Our hearts have been broken lately with what seems to us the untimely death of so many promising young lives. A much-loved teacher of other days scouted the idea that such calamities are the will of God.

"God is love," he repeated, "and such blows are from the devil." We wonder! Yet it is hard to believe that the Creator smites the flower that bloomed at His call when the ripened fruit would have meant so much to Him and His cause.

However that may be, of this we are sure, that the moment such calamities happen, our Father takes hold of them and overrules them for good. God is not dead. He takes command of everything that concerns His child and works it out for good. We cannot see it any more than the heroes mentioned could have seen the effects of their passing, but some day we shall understand.

Look at Calvary! The Cross is the crowning example of the apparent triumph of evil resulting in its ultimate overthrow. Everything that Jesus stood for and died for, His people turned down Calvary with his callousness, Judas and the traitor's kiss, Pilate and his attempts to compromise with wickedness, the mad yells of the mob for the crucifixion of the Innocent all came to a head in the upper hand of crucifixion. The evil of the human heart found its supreme expression on Calvary, and in so doing destroyed itself. The Cross is "the power of God unto salvation to all who believe."

We may question the idea of this Great Victorian poet about what God will do with evil and the evil doer. But we cannot doubt their assurance of what God will do with good. Our hearts echo Tennyson's confidence:

"O yet we trust that somehow good Will be the final goal of ill."

And Robert Browning's:

"All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist. Not its semblance but itself."

The writer to the Hebrews, in his roll-call of the heroes of faith, glorifies some who "were tortured, refusing to accept deliverance." Socrates could have escaped "drinking the hemlock" but turned down the offer, and the principle established by his death stands. The Boxers offered to spare the life of an aged Chinese Christian if he would step on some sticks which they threw down before him. It seemed so simple that he was about to do it, when he saw that the sticks were laid in the form of the Cross. "I can't do that!" he exclaimed, and turned to martyrdom.

Such men the writer of Revelation sees in the great multitude whom no man can number who sing the praises of "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." God takes charge of every sacrifice made in such crises or in life's common ways, and, we repeat, uses them to serve the ends of love.

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DON'T MISS the opening of the Drama Festival tonight at the Empire Theatre.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HOSPITAL Nurses' Graduation. Exercises Prince of Wales College, Tuesday evening, May 26th at 8:00.

LIBRARY CONCERT. Crapaud Hall. Women's Institute present plays, varied musical numbers, step dancing and specialties. Two nights, June 2nd, and 3rd.

ENGAGEMENT. - Mr. and Mrs. James McLean, Magdalen Islands, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter Lydia to Harry William, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart. Peter's Road, P. E. I. Marriage to take place in July.

OYSTER BED BRIDGE W. L.

The May meeting of Oyster Bed Bridge Women's Institute was held in the schoolroom on Friday evening, May 1st. The meeting opened with the Ode, followed by the Cross.

The president being absent, the vice-president, Mrs. Wallace Higgins led the meeting. The roll call was answered by seven members passing in flour sacks. There was one visitor present. Minutes of April meeting were read and approved.

Two pieces were selected from remnants which were sent to the Institute by T. Eaton's and Simpson & Sears, to put with flour sacks to make bottom and top for quilt for flood victims. Mrs. Wallace Higgins offered to put top and bottom together. Mrs. Philip Matheson "fered her home for quilting the quilt. It was decided that the remainder of remnants and three yards of print purchased would be auctioned at the June meeting.

The secretary read the letter from Emerald Dramatic Club saying that they would come with their play on May 8th. It was decided that each member make four pounds of candy to be sold at play and the serving of lunch to the players was discussed.

The school committee reported dustbane purchased for the school. Red Cross committee reported more work received and two pull-overs were passed in. Card committee reported one card sent. Sick committee had no report. One member was asked to purchase a spoon for new baby of a member. Bills for print, batt, and stamps were paid. A donation of 25 cents was received.

A letter from Institute branch, concerning arrears in A.C.W.W. contribution was read. Three members paid 25 cents to A.C.W.W. fund. A letter was also read from Mrs. Neil Matheson, convener of agriculture, and a note from Mary Robin told that the pl of the handicraft van were going ahead satisfactorily and they expected to have an instructor by the middle of June.

The date of our district convention is June 11th, at New Glasgow. The place of the June meeting was undecided and the roll is to be answered by "What a garden means to me."

Exchanges of flower slips and bulbs took place and following lunch, the meeting closed with the "Queen".

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The coast line of our north shore is said to be wearing back so fast that much valuable property has surrendered to the sea in the past half century. At the present rate of erosion, we can look forward to the disappearance of our north shore hotels, and a sizable slice of the nation's park within the next century.

The cliffs of the south shore in the vicinity of Canoe Cove, are said to be retreating as much as 4 ft. a year under the heavy swells of the gulf stream. A trip to this area will reveal the wave chiselled out fragments of rock, each of which becomes a tool to wear away the bank.

At the present rate of erosion the old lobster packing plant at Canoe Cove, should tumble into the water by 1957.

Strange as it may seem, there's only 9 feet of rock separating a British mine extending out under the ocean between one drift and the ocean itself. Standing in that drift or tunnel one can distinctly hear the grinding of the pebbles, and the voice of the waves as they beat in ceaseless attacks against that thin strip of wall which separates the miners from certain death.

Every island falls prey to that powerful marine gnawing by which their coasts are eaten away. And yet we owe some beautiful and interesting shoreline scenery to the sculpturing effects of dashing water.

Did you know that the breeding of certain marine animals is timed to coincide with the phases of the moon and the stages of the tide?

In Europe the spawning activities of oysters reach their peak during the spring tides, which occur about two days after the full or the new moon. Off the shore of North Africa there is a sea creature that, on the nights when the moon is full releases its productive cells into the sea. Turning now to the tropical seas in many parts of the world there are marine worms whose spawning behavior is so nearly adjusted to the tidal calendar that, merely from observing them, the natives are able to tell the month, the day, and often the hour.

The palolo worm (habited near Samoa in the Pacific) spends its entire life among the submerged rocks and masses of corals. But twice every year (in October and November) the worms leave their underwater homes and rise to the surface in masses that almost cover the surface of the sea. Why? To liberate their reproductive cells during the neap tides of the moon's last quarter in those months. This amazing thing takes place at sunrise on the day before the moon reaches her last quarter, and again on the following day; on the 2nd day of the spawning enough eggs are set free to discolour the bosom of the deep for miles around.

The search for petroleum has led men repeatedly to the coast; acres of this island. And under the gulf stream itself, because oil seepages along some of our shores, hint that this island (once a part of the sea bottom) may be one of the lesser oil fields of the future. Deep boring, however, have failed to tap this dreamed of petroleum deposit. This doesn't mean that the oil is not here. It may lie in sedimentary rocks so deep that present drilling equipment is not modern enough to bring the black gold to the surface.

There are other signs beside oil seepages along our shores, and indicate the presence of oil here. One of these is salt domes, or seams, under the surface. Geologists always look for these where the larger fields' vein are likely to lie. In the states bordering the gulf such domes have nearly always been associated with oil. The magnetometer is being improved from time to time; more powerful drilling machines are being built, so don't be too surprised if some day in the not too distant future the cry of Oil! Oil! will be heard across this province.

In China dragon's blood is still used as a love balm, or charm to restore love.

To keep the lights in the White House burning for one year costs Uncle Sam \$38,890 or \$106.71 a day!

Female seals reach maturity at the end of 2 years, the males not until they are 7 years old.

Believe it or not, but a single strand of spider web is only 1/7500th of an inch in diameter.

On the Bay of Fundy, because of the great surging tide, harbor activities follow a pattern almost as rhythmic as the tides themselves for vessels can nose their way to the docks, and take on or discharge cargo only a few hours in each tide, leaving pronto to avoid being stranded on the mud flats.

Before entering the Pentland Firth all vessels must be batted down. Why? because the transition from smooth water to a raging sea is so sudden that no time is given for making such arrangements.

STRINGS ATTACHED

BERLIN, CP - Der Abend, a West German newspaper, says trainees in the people's police in the Communist zone are permitted to fly only with an armed supervisor in the back seat and fuel for only 20 minutes. The rules discourage attempts to flee to West Germany.

That Body Of Yours

Continued from page 2

organs. Some cases are characterized chiefly by depression and others by paranoid ideas (delusions which seem logical to the sufferer.)

These physicians quote Henderson and Gillespie text book of Psychiatry, in which is described symptoms of involuntarily melancholia, "the symptoms center round a state of anxiety and agitation accompanied by delusions of a depressive nature." The depression is worse in the morning.

What about treatment and results of treatment? The above four doctors state: "A relatively high percentage of our patients made excellent recoveries following short-term care in the psychiatric department of this general hospital. The average length of hospitalization was less than four weeks." A former study of these cases showed that two-thirds were cured in this short time.

"As many individuals find themselves suffering with symptoms similar to the above, the basic cause of which is anxiety, it would be well for them to consult their family physician first. If he needs help in straightening out these cases, he may refer these patients to a psychiatrist or to the psychiatric department of a general hospital. In the great majority of these cases, confinement in a mental hospital is never necessary."

At the age of thirty-two with his career barely started, Father Lord was stricken with tuberculosis. There was a characteristic response in Father Lord's attack on this normally crippling disease. Always in a hurry, he decided to be free from tuberculosis in three months. Equipped with a 22 calibre rifle and a complete set of Charles Dickens' works he moved to the country. Having shot up innumerable tin cans and completed the reading of Dickens, he found that the TB had left.

In 1946 Father Lord retired as Director of Queen's Work, the Church organization under which he wrote for 25 years. His constantly expanding field of endeavour made a regular job impossible. Father Lord's shows and lectures have the purpose of keeping youngsters busy and out of harms way. His lectures, in a little different way, do that for his more mature audiences, too. "Never take anything away from the people," says Father Lord, "without giving them something to replace it." His lectures and shows are designed to do just that.

Since last Fall Father Lord has produced and directed two page-

Coming To Charlottetown



Father Daniel A. Lord, S.J. (above), is always coming to his audiences fresh from conquests. So varied are his activities that one cannot fail to wonder how even so gifted and accomplished a man as Father Lord can do so many places and do so much.

Father Lord is one of those rare people who is a living refutation of the saying, "Jack of all trades, master of none." For Father Lord is an accomplished author; playwright; composer; lecturer; in addition to being a Jesuit priest and an outstanding American.

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Ellen's Diary

Continued from page 2

and is yet ours? ... "It's a funny thing," Gage mused in his bath to night, "but we never come to our tomorrows, do we? We think we will, but what do they turn into when we get to them?" He smiled and answered his own query, a damp little lad awaiting a towel.

"Always a Today? And," he nodded as another thought came to mind, "pretty soon a Yesterday. And what are they? Nothing but played-out Today's!"

How soon they move into the past - these Today's of ours! In a bit of work and a moment of play; in sunshine warming the fields and clouds, damp and gray, reaching down to the hilltops; in a smile, and a tear, and a hope ... and a faith; in a duty done and some other neglected ... so they go from us to join others that are past ... A step? Whose would it be ... but James!

Until tomorrow - - - Diary - - - Good-night

ants and given innumerable lectures in the United States and Canada. The 75th Anniversary of the University of Detroit featured the Father Lord production, "Light Up the Land" ... ten performances of a pageant that will remain long in the memory of all who were fortunate enough to see it. Father Lord brought the American educational scene before his audiences with a background of education through the ages in the inimitable way that comes from the enormous vitality and inspiration that typifies a Father Lord production.

December found Father Lord enjoying himself as he always does with a Canadian audience in Toronto and Ottawa. In the light of the spontaneous presentation that is so natural to Father Lord the word "lecture" seems to fall in doing justice to the pleasure and interest inspired by his wit and wisdom.

For this closing part of the 1953 Father Lord Lectures, sponsored by the Sacred Heart Program, Father Lord will speak in Peterborough, Ontario; and cities in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland.

People of Charlottetown will be given an opportunity to hear this outstanding man speak on June 1 at 3:30 to the school children and at 8:00 to the adults at the Community Centre.

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PROGRAMME

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Brackley W.I. - "MRS. O'LEARY'S COW".
St. Peter's C.Y.O. - "ORANGE BLOSSOMS".
North Tryon - "OPERATION COLD CURE"

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 27th - Three Act Comedy:
Tignish Dramatic Club - "HERE COMES CHARLIE"

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 28th - One Act Play by Parkdale Juniors - "NOT A WORD".
and Three Act Play by Indian River Dramatic Club - "THE FAMILY DOCTOR".

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 29th - Three One Act Plays:
Ch'town Little Theatre - "SUPPRESSED DESIRES".
Ch'town Little Theatre - "JOINT OWNERS IN SPAIN".
St. Peter's A. Y. P. A. - "THE PRISON ACROSS THE STREET".

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