

Thoughts For Our Time

By His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan

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THE SENSE OF SIN

It has been said that the temporal world has lost, to a great degree, the sense of sin. It does seem true that even when we are conscious of individual sins, we take little enough trouble to seek to understand the trouble of sin itself. This is a truly crucial point, for if the real nature of sin is misunderstood or ignored, sin is misunderstood or ignored, and the recognition of the existence of sin seems doomed to oblivion.

If sin seems to be, in some way, a manifestation or outgrowth of trade, human self-love, egoism, with the human person revolving about itself in its centre and here in all its viciousness a refusal to recognize our relation to God and our dependence upon a higher law than that conceived by ourselves. In its ultimate implications, at least, it reveals itself as a more or less complete repudiation of God as origin and end of human existence and personality.

Sin carries with it an assertion of a self-centred autonomy which, far from giving true liberty (such as belongs to the sons of God) actually contracts and shrivels the human person within the walls of his own finite limitations. The self becomes its own god, as man takes unto himself the prerogatives of his Creator.

Of course, I do not imply that these elements are explicitly any consciously present in every human nature; but if we are to seek to penetrate the nature of sin to its depths, they must be there present at least by implication and a sort of virtual presence.

Once we have understood these things, we can easily see the so-

cial implications of sin, and the profound reason underlying the oft-repeated axiom that we shall have unity and peace in the world and society only if we have unity and peace within man himself.

The results of sin as social as well as within the individual. By sin, as we have seen, man repudiates his God, and strives, by implicit intent at least, to rupture the dynamic dependence of the creature upon his Creator. But if man becomes, or tries to become his own centre of gravity, as it were, he is, by that very attempt, tends to cut himself off from a living spiritual unity with his fellow man.

If God is the common origin and end of mankind, then all men are united in the tendency and activity directed to that end. But if men revolt against God, they also revolt against one another. Sin, as we have mentioned, tends to enclose man within himself, turn him back on himself. Enclosed within himself, man is no longer open either to God or to his fellow man. Instead of opening out to God and other persons through love, the egoist turns his love in upon himself alone, to his own ultimate dissatisfaction and frustration.

This spiritual breaking up of mankind through sin was well understood by the early Fathers, who saw social disunity as a result of sin. St. Augustine in a beautiful passage gives us at once the cause and the remedy of human disunity. "Adam is thus scattered throughout the globe. Set in one place, he fell and, as it were broken small, he has filled the whole world. But the Divine Mercy gathered up the fragments from every side, forged them in the fire of love and welded into one what had been broken. That was a work which this Artist knew how to do; let no one therefore give way to despair. An immense task it was indeed; but think who the Artist was. He who remade was Himself the Maker; He who refashioned was Himself the Fashioner."

To know what sin is we must know its opposite—Divine Goodness. This is why it, has always been the saints, the holy men and women of God, who have best understood the horror of sin. The lack of a sense of sin in our world is perhaps, then, merely a reflection of a failure to grasp the reality of God. So accustomed have we become to an attitude which places man at the centre of things, that God is looked upon as somehow relative to man.

What we need very acutely is a renewed realization that God is in very truth Lord and Ruler of all things, upon Whom we depend absolutely for existence and life. Then indeed shall we find our true centre, and having found it, we may hope to find the true and solid ground of our unity with one another.

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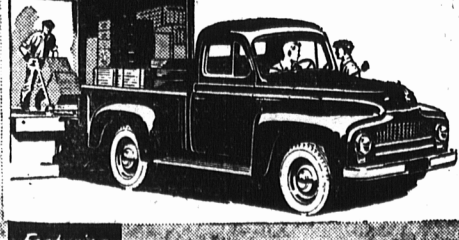
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DR. MacKENZIE will be absent from the Polyclinic until September 1st.

DR. HOUSTON will be absent from the Polyclinic until September 1st.

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ENGAGEMENT. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Burns, Southport, announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary, to Mr. Eugene Francis Ward, son of Mrs. Margaret Ward and the late Eugene Ward of Charlottetown. Marriage to take place the latter part of August.

Personals

Mrs. J. L. Osbourne of Toronto, is spending a pleasant holiday on the Island.

IN MEMORIAM

ELLSWORTH FERGUSON

The community of Crapaud and a host of relatives and friends were deeply shocked and saddened on the morning of June 25, 1952, when early that morning it was learned of the sudden and tragic death of Ellsworth Ferguson, age 20, as the result of being struck by a motor truck while he was changing a car tire on the highway near his home. Death is always sad but a sudden and unexpected one of this kind leaves in its wake a grief and loneliness which only time can partly efface.

Those who were well acquainted with Ellsworth held him in very high regard, and his passing is mourned as a distinct loss to the community.

Coming from a fine, respected family, he inherited many splendid qualities which contributed greatly to the esteem and affection in which he was held.

The deceased possessed a kind and gentle disposition, and a sincere and active interest in his work.

His thoughtfulness and friendly manner had won for him a wide circle of friends who will long cherish his memory.

He leaves to mourn his passing his sorrowing parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Ferguson and two brothers, Harry and Sheldon.

The funeral which was held at his home on Friday, June 27th, was attended by hundreds of people who gathered to pay last respects to their late young friend.

The service was conducted by Rev. L. S. Woolfrey, Hampton. Hymns were, "The Lord is my Shepherd," "Nearer My God to Thee," "Abide With Me," and a solo, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" by Norman MacDonald.

The pall bearers were six of his young friends of Crapaud: Lionel Lowther, James Nicholson, Douglas Howatt, Jackie Johnson, Ernest Parker and Carl MacVittie.

Interment was in the church cemetery, a few hundred yards from his late home. —S.

CONTRACT AWARDED

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Aug. 3— (CP)—Transport Minister Chevrier Saturday announced that a \$2,250,000 contract has been awarded to the Saint John Dry Dock Company, Ltd., for construction of an extension to Pugsley Wharf. Speaking at a luncheon meeting, he said a confirming order-in-council will be passed by the federal cabinet.

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Card Of Thanks

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Ferguson, Crapaud, wish to express sincere thanks to their many friends and neighbours who sent flowers, letters, and messages of sympathy during their recent sad bereavement.

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IN MEMORIAM

MRS. RONALD MacRAE

Friends throughout the Province were shocked and saddened to learn of the death in the P. E. I. Hospital in the early hours of Sunday morning, June 29, 1952 of Mrs. Ronald MacRae of Point Prim. The late Mrs. MacRae had been about her usual household duties until about one month before her death.

Mrs. MacRae was before her marriage Effie Ann MacLeod and was born in Melville on Aug. 22, 1867. She was the daughter of the late John MacLeod and Jessie MacPhee. Since her marriage in 1892 she has resided in Point Prim where she has always given of her best to her home, community and church. She was a member of Belfast Presbyterian Church and was always in attendance when health permitted.

By her sterling qualities of heart and mind and her warm hospitality, Mrs. MacRae endeared herself to a wide circle of friends. In her passing, a devoted mother and sister has finished a noble earthly course and has entered into the enjoyment of her Lord's presence. "Who giveth his loved ones sleep?" There are left to mourn the loss of a devoted mother, four sons and two daughters, Capt. Murdoch in Portland, Oregon, Capt. John in Seattle, Wash., William of Point Prim and Martin on the old home-stand, (Etta), Mrs. Sam Christie of Plymouth, Mass. and (Euphemia), Mrs. Earl Lincoln, Middleboro, Mass., all of whom were present at their mother's funeral. One son, Alexander, made the supreme sacrifice in the war of 1914-1918.

Her husband predeceased her about twenty years ago. Also left to mourn are three brothers and one sister, William in Alberta, Murdoch in Dedham, Mass. and Campbell of Melville, P. E. I. and (Janie) Mrs. Dan Morrison of Plymouth, Mass.

Another brother, Dan, and two sisters, Flora and Hannah, predeceased her and two children died in infancy. There are also eleven grand-children and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral service, which was largely attended, was held from her late residence on July 1st and was conducted by Rev. E. C. Evans assisted by Rev. John A. Murchison and Mr. Lee MacNaughton, student minister of Belfast. Mr. Evans brought a message of comfort to the bereaved from the words, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord and their works do follow them."

The hymns sung were, "The Lord's My Shepherd" and "Abide With Me". A solo "There is no night in Heaven" was beautifully rendered by Mr. R. C. MacPhee.

The Murdock Gillis, Neil Morrison, John A. Murchison, Kenneth MacRae and Hector MacLeod. Her remains were tenderly laid to rest in Belfast Cemetery beside those of her late husband to await the resurrection morn when the dead in Christ shall rise.

The many beautiful floral tributes, cards and letters of sympathy showed the esteem in which the late Mrs. MacRae was held.

Pillow — The family, Wreath — Malcolm, Joan, Sumner and Florence, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Rowley, Middleboro, Mass. Spray — Aunt Mary, Mae Fenner and family, Yonkers, N. Y. Spray — Eldon W. M. S. Spray — Campbell and Cassie. Spray — Point Prim W. I. Cut Flowers — Eve Howatt MacKinnon, Ch'town.

Cards and Letters of Sympathy

Allene and Catherine MacLeod, Halifax, N.S. Florrie and Dan MacDonald, Orwell Cove, P. E. I. Ethel MacKenzie, St. Peters Bay. Aunt Anna and Evelyn MacLeod, Cambridge, Mass. Sarah and John MacLeod, Cambridge, Mass. Reggie MacRae, Seattle, Wash. Mary MacRae, Portland, Oregon. John D. MacRae, "Ponds", Beaton's Mills. Christine and Henry Wight, Flat River. Katie Cantello Gillis, Vancouver. Edith and Wilfred Hunter, Ch'town. Kathleen and Mary MacRae, Ch'town. Marion Puncher, Ch'town. Malcolm MacKinnon and family, Hamilton, Ontario. Jessie, Annette, Arthur, Ernest and Lloyd MacKinnon, Long Island, N. Y. Aunt Mary, May Fenner and family, Yonkers, New York.

Card Of Thanks

The family of the late Mrs. Ronald MacRae wish to thank Drs. Stewart and Rachel, nurses and staff of P. E. I. Hospital, also the friends and neighbours, those who sent floral tributes and messages of sympathy and those who helped in any way during their recent sad bereavement.

Canadian Reds Believe Violence Needed To Win

By Douglas HOW Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA, Aug. 2 — (CP)—The best-informed authorities in Ottawa say Canadian Communists, despite their current tranquil we-can-win-by-votes line, have never shifted from their traditional basic belief that they can come to power in Canada through violence alone.

This view was made clear Wednesday in comments on publication of a long-secret report by the Federal Bureau of Investigation which says Stalin has decided Communists can win control of the United States only by forcible destruction of the American Government.

Authorities say the Red movement currently is pursuing the latest in a long series of outward line. The current gospel is along but fraudulent deviations from this line. The current gospel is along the old pre-war united-front line, that a coalition of "progressives" can come to power by the ballot box and shape the nation along true "democratic" lines once they have won.

Some authorities think real Red strength in Canada, despite heavy losses of members of the Labor-Progressive Party in the last three years, has never been greater. This point was made Tuesday by Supt. John Leopold, probably the R. C. M. P.'s no. 1 expert on Communism, who is retiring shortly.

He said in an interview that par-

ty membership has slumped to 8,000 from 18,000 in 1949 but current members comprise a hard-core of ask-no-questions Reds whose loyalties to the Kremlin cannot be doubted.

But Red strength goes well beyond that. Other authorities point out that the Communies control a fairly large number of front organizations such as the Canadian Peace Congress. And, even more important, they dominate trade unions in a number of key defence industries such as nickel, heavy-water for atomic energy, and electronics.

The current appraisal of their strength is that they have no hope at this stage of achieving power but that in any war they would represent a serious sabotage threat and that they have never abandoned the cardinal principle of traditional Red policy—that the road to power lies only through violent overthrow of existing democratic government.

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