Thoughts For Our Time

By His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan

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"I am the Lord thy God Thou shalt not have strange gods before me." (Exodus 20:1). Contrary to what one might think at first glance, this first commandment of God has more application today than it had at the time of Moses. Among the many gods which modern man worships and to which he pays tribute are pleasure, success, money, the human body, sport, heroes, movie stars and his own self. But perhaps the most dangerous and most subtle idolatry of man today is the worship of the nation-state.

This modern extreme nationalism is a god which will admit of no equals. An example of it was the Nazi state whose memory is still fresh in our minds. Such a state claims to be the beginning and end of all things. It demands adoration, thanksgiving, supplication and reparation from its people. A full ritual of religious worship was to be found in the Nazi pagan parades and military celebrations. And false dogmas, such as those of a chosen people and of racial superiority were propagated as zealously as any religious truth could be. The family, culture, thought, all of life and God Himself were subjected to the all-embracing state. But the Nazi Reich is but one example of the godless nation-state. A small minority is propagating the same idea from Russia. And in a greater or lesser degree all the nations, to the degree to which they have become secularized, are doing the same.

Overthrew Tradition

Nationalism, as we know it today, originated in the French Revolution. The "enlightened" proclaimed the new era of perfection, of progress and of complete happiness with the overthrow of the forces of tradition and religion. The goddess of reason was crowned in the person of a young woman in no less a place than Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris! Apostolic missionaries in the form of the soldiers of the revolution carried the new "Gospel" to European and eastern countries. The Heavenly City of God spoken of by St. Augustine had been brought to earth for all men to enjoy. This so-called progress has gone on to two world wars and the totalitarian nation-states of Fascism, Nazism and Communism.

There was a time in the Middle Ages when the international common good came before that of the individual state. When civilization collapsed with the fall of the Roman Empire, the Christian Church gave it unity and enabled it to be reborn. But at the same time that the nation-state appeared the Renaissance gave birth to a secular culture centred on man and separated from God. It was only a matter of time until this split between spiritual forces and temporal forces logically worked itself out to the modern secular state. A famous modern historian, Christopher Dawson, has said: "European liberalism is a temporary phenomenon which belongs to a phase of transition between a Christian culture and one that is completely secularized."

"Liberalism" Dying

The paradox is that the parent of modern totalitarianism has been the "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" of the French Revolution. The eighteenth century 'philosophers' who brought about the French Revolution were working on borrowed capital. Their ideas had their source in Christianity and could only be effective in a Christian order where God is man's last end and the next life is as real as this life. This Liberalism that has been with us for four hundred years and is now dying before our eyes is an assertion of human liberties cut off from their source and their setting.

Voltaire and the Rationalists were ardent defenders of human reason. But they forgot that men have emotions as well. When the people had God taken away from them, their emotions and wills desired some Great Person to love. And in the place of God they put the nation-state. This accounts for the explosive power of the French Revolution and of the release of emotion which the Rationalists neither expected nor wanted. It accounts too, for the power of modern nationalism, which, in extreme forms, whether French, German, Russian, American or Canadian, is a dividing factor which cannot lead to peace.

Is patriotism, then, something wrong? No, it is a Christian virtue and meritorious before God. We are here simply pointing out the errors of extreme nationalism. Patriotism or moderate nationalism is a Christian virtue by which we have reverence for our nation, somewhat the way we have for our family and parents. The state has its place in God's plan. Its function is to look after man's temporal good so that man can more readily tend toward God. A soldier fighting in a just cause for his country for the love of his fellow countrymen and for the love of God could well be a saint. "Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

Should Pay Debt

We have a debt to our country and we should in an unselfish way try to pay it in love and service. This is not being a slave to a totalitarian state and making it a god. The distinction may seem slight, but it is very important. It is somewhat like the difference between a totalitarian and a democratic state. In the former you have slavery, in the latter freedom. If you believe in a totalitarian state you may perhaps have material goods, but you will not have freedom or God.

The lesson for us in Canada is this: the strength of our country as a true nation and state lies in its adherence to its Christian origins and to the liberties that have sprung from them, particularly to that freedom from racial prejudice which is founded on fraternal charity. Our national strength rests upon a spirit of national humility, a willingness to work with other nations for international order. And this belief in spiritual forces, in the dignity and brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God, can be a basis on which to re-establish our fast-disappearing international unity. But if we persist in putting "strange gods" of any description before the one true God, he will no longer be our God, and we will be left groping about in disorder, moving steadily towards war and chaos.

Fraser - MacCormack Wedding

A wedding of interest to friends on P.E.I. was solemnized at St. John's Church, Cambridge, Mass., on July 11, when Helen MacCormack became the bride of Borden B. Fraser, both formerly of this province.

The bride and groom were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Willard MacLellan of Somerville, Mass.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. R.F. MacDonald of Seven Mile Bay, P.E.I. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Commander Hotel after which the bride and groom left by car for P.E.I. where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold MacIntyre, Grand River, and Mr. and Mrs. J.W. MacDonald, Glenfinnan.

Out of town guests at the wedding included Miss Elinor MacDonald, Glenfinnan, and Mrs. J.J. Duffy of this city.

WINSLOE NORTH W. I.

The June meeting of Winsloe North W. I. met at the home of Mrs. Claude Craswell. The meeting opened by singing, "The Maple Leaf," and repeating Creed in unison.

Roll call was answered by eleven members and two visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed.

The correspondence was read and discussed. The school committee had no report. The sick committee reported that fruit and a gift had been sent. Bills were presented and paid. A card of thanks was received from Miss Ray Ford.

The secretary reported $21.50 as proceeds from play.

The July meeting was invited to the home of Mrs. Arnett Shaw.

The lunch committee: Mrs. Nelson Stevenson, Mrs. Stanley Younker and Mrs. Alton Younker.

The collection for the evening amounted to $1.02. Programme committee for July, Mrs. Nelson Stevenson. Roll call is to be answered by: "How to Make the District Convention more beneficial."

Meeting closed with "The King," after which lunch was served by the hostess and committee in charge.

Few Commies Found Among Lakes Seamen

By GERALD WARING

OTTAWA — The close screening of Great Lakes sailors is uncovering far fewer Communists than the authorities had reason to believe had riddled the seamen's ranks.

There are about 10,500 Canadian sailors engaged in Lake traffic. And while not all have yet been screened for subversive tendencies, the total to date is high enough to indicate that most Communist seamen are refraining from applying for Government clearance.

Without such clearance, proven by a blue card issued by the Department of Labor, they will not be allowed to work on the Great Lakes.

The number of men who have been refused cards on the strength of R.C.M.P. reports on their Communist leanings is so small as to be infinitesimal. The inference is that the known Communists among the Lakes sailors realize it's no use for them to apply for clearance.

This also means these Communists are probably looking for work in other industries, where they don't have to pass R.C.M.P. inspection. This, of course, presents a greater security problem in other fields.

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The Government's decision to screen Lakes seamen was taken early this year, and a deadline of August 1 was set for completion of the task.

The reason was purely one of national security. Some of the most strategic and vulnerable areas in Canada lie along the St. Lawrence - Great Lakes waterway. Canal locks, for example, would be prime objectives for Communist saboteurs in case of war with Russia. Blockage of the waterway, as by a scuttled ship or a time-bombed lock, would enormously hamstring the country's war effort. So the Government moved to alleviate the danger by removing the Communists from Lakes ships.

To avoid disruption of Lake traffic, all sailors were issued temporary white cards at the beginning of the shipping season, good until Aug. 1. Then, as the men passed R.C.M.P. screening, officials of the Labor Department personally visited ships in port or passing through locks, retrieving the temporary cards and issuing new permanent bluecards.

The work is still going on, and is unlikely to be completed by Aug. 1. Thus an extension of the validity of the white cards is practically assured, probably for one month, to allow more time to finish the screening.

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Most of the Lakes seamen are members of the Seafarers International Union, an AFL-TLC affiliate. The Communist-dominated Canadian Seamen's Union wields little power on the Lakes now, since it was ruled to be no longer a trade union, and was deprived of its collective bargaining rights by the Federal Labor Relations Board.

The C.S.U., which ruined itself in Canada when its Communist leaders organized the London dockers' strike of 1949, still has a few contracts, but it is not likely they will be renewed by the shipowners concerned when they expire.

The Canadian Brotherhood of Seamen, which the authorities describe as "another Communist-infiltrated union", is trying to organize on the lower St. Lawrence, but is reportedly not making much headway. It has no contracts yet with shipping lines.

A third Communist-controlled sailors' union, the West Coast Seamen's Union, is not represented on the Lakes.

OTTAWA, July 20—(CP)—A Defence Department spokesman said today it probably will not be possible to hold the four-power Atlantic Pact meetings on a standard rifle and other arms in Washington July 26 and 27 as announced yesterday by Defence Minister Claxton.

The meeting will take place later, probably in August.

Defence Ministers of Canada, the U. S., U. K. and France will meet to discuss the U. S.-U. K. split on a common rifle.

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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HOLDING SEATS—Get your holding seats for the coming season at the Forum each day 9 to 12 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

SPONSORING DANCE —The Kingston Branch of the Canadian Legion is sponsoring a dance at the Clover Club, Thursday, the 26th. The proceeds of this dance are to go toward the Sanatorium Radio Fund. Watch this paper for further announcements.

ENGAGEMENT—Mr. and Mrs. Athol Colwill, Northam, announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Lena Alice, to Urban James Harding, son of Mrs William Harding and the late Mr. Harding of Kensington. Marriage to take place on August 11th in North Parkdale United Church, Toronto.

FESTIVE WEEK MEETING — Final reports on Charlottetown Festive Week will be heard at a meeting of the Central Committee to be held Tuesday at 5 p. m. at City Hall, Brig. W. W. Reid announced Saturday. It is expected that the meeting there will be a general review of the program as well as a discussion of the business end.

FUNERAL IN HUNTER RIVER — The funeral of the late John Richard Spence was held from the United Church, Hunter River, on Thursday afternoon and was largely attended. Rev. Howard Christie assisted by Rev. Donald Nicholson and Rev. Charles Dickieson conducted the services. Pallbearers were: Karl Cole, Jimmy Andrews, Harvey MacNeill, Harold Bernard, Bonner Nicholson and Alfred Sherren. Flower bearers, Karl MacLeod, Foster Sherren, Clark and Neville Smith, Sanford and Gordon Bernard, Kenneth and Allison Wood, Louis and Eric Doucette, Harold Rackham, Boyce Stetson, George Bagnall, Stirling Graham and Donnie Nesbit. Burial was in Hunter River cemetery.

COOK'S STUDIO for perfect pictures.

HOLDING SEAT ticket holders in arrears must have tickets paid in full by August 31st. Make payment now at Forum.

SCHEDULED FLIGHTS daily to Summerside and Moncton Phone Maritime Central Airways Limited. 2061 or 540.

CITY POLICE COURT—At the Stipendiary Magistrate's Court yesterday, a man charged with being drunk and incapable was sentenced to 20 days in jail, while a man convicted of speeding was fined $10 and costs or 20 days. A man charged with possession of stolen goods was remanded for one week.

ESCAPED UNINJURED — One of the luckiest youngsters in this City is two-and-a-half year old Kenneth Gallant who will return to his parents early this week after being under observation in the Charlottetown Hospital for the past week. Kenneth is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gallant, 61 Pownal Street, and on July 14 fell from the third floor window of his home. He had been sitting on the sill with his four-year-old sister Cheryl Ann, and dislodged the window screen. His mother entered the room in time to see him disappear out of the window, and after taking her daughter from the window, rushed down to pick up Kenneth from the hard surfaced ground on which he had landed. X-rays however have shown no injuries and Kenneth is being returned to his parents none the worse for his experience.

Personals

Mrs. Chester L. Henry, Mrs. Raymond J. Henry and daughter Barbara Ann, New York City, are vacationing at their summer home in Emerald.

The many friends of Mrs. Burleigh Owen, Malpeque, will be pleased to know that she is making good progress towards recovery after an operation in the Prince County Hospital.

Mrs. E. W. McKay and daughters Mary, Jean and Edith are visitors to Charlottetown. Mrs. McKay and Edith returned to Toronto home yesterday while Mary and Jean expect to remain here until the end of the month.

THE JADE GOD

Continued from page 2

"That doesn't shake my belief in you; you see, I'm your friend."

He drew a long breath, lifting his eyes again to hers. She looked so calm that it shook him with a new and deep excitement; she believed in him; it was the most marvelous thing in the world!

"And you don't ask me about it? Nor why I was sent there?" he cried.

She shook her head, smiling. "You're my friend," she repeated softly.

The beauty of it swept him off his feet. He caught her hands in his, in another moment he would have told her that he loved her — told her the whole story—but his eyes fell suddenly on a green thing on the table at her elbow, a squat shining figure, marvelously carved it was, the face—cunning and old as the ages was grinning up at him—one of the small uplifted hands pointed. Her hands slipped out of his; he reached for the jade god and lifted it, turning it over slowly in his hands. Underneath, where the fat-kneed goblin sat so squat, the jade was smooth except for a cipher or a dent, something that marked it indelibly. Mark ran his finger along the broken surface and felt it. Then he looked at the queer elfin face again and his own went white.

"My God," he said below his breath; "how did it come here—here of all places?"

"You know it?" Pam leaned forward, her own face flushed. "What is it? What's the matter?"

He had collected himself, but he held the god hard in one of his powerful hands.

"Where did you get this—thing?" he demanded, and, for the moment, even the girl herself seemed to melt away from the reality of the thing he held!

• To be continued

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the Congregational Tea at West Covehead July 25 on the Grounds of the United Church.

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Dorothy Dix Says—

Continued from page 2

counsel, which will be, as you assume, to give up any idea of marrying a divorced man with two children. Romance for you should be a gay thing of dancing, picnics, hikes and hay-rides, not a shady affair with a disillusioned man who has one marriage in ruins behind him.

The love you want is fresh and young, not the lukewarm leftover of a disastrous marriage.

DEAR MISS DIX: I'm 16 years old. Three weeks ago I broke off with a boy I had been going with for three months. While we were going together he bought me some records and now would like them back. Should I return them or not?

W. D. G.

ANSWER: Since the records were apparently gifts to you, there is no obligation to return them. However, if the boy is inclined to make a fuss over the matter, it would be better to give back the records and wash your hands of the whole matter. Other boys and other records will soon take the place of those you've lost.

DOROTHY DIX cannot reply personally to readers, but will answer problems of general interest through her column

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

Nearly all birds go south in fall. The swallows go first, then the robins, followed by the ducks and geese. It is not the cold that takes the birds South, but the lack of suitable food as winter approaches. Seed eating birds such as the sparrow stick around all winter.

The popular notion that evergreens do not shed their leaves is false. To prove this point take a look under such trees and you'll see the ground covered with fallen needles.

The seven famous sleepers of the brute kingdom are: bears, woodchucks, skunks, raccoons, chipmunks, the jumping mouse and the bat. Hibernating animals differ in the soundness and length of their sleep. Take for instance, the bat that sleeps until the warmth of spring arouses it. The bear often shifts his position, while the groundhog will sometimes venture forth from his den and then return for another nap. Nevertheless, all are very sleepy fellows during the winter months.

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What Canadian animal actually migrates? The reindeer seeks food and protection by migrating from the barren coastal regions to the northern forests where it finds plenty of moss for food. Strange but true.

All milk contains living germs, unless it has been boiled or sterilized. These one-cell germs are so tiny that 8,000,000,000 could rest on the head of an ordinary pin. But these cells are destroyed when the milk is properly pasteurized.

The Plague commonly referred to as the "Black Death" has killed 13,000,000 Chinese, 24,000,000 other Asiatic peoples, 100,000 residents of the British Isles, Germany 1,244,000 souls. We have no figures covering the number of deaths in other parts of the world from this woeful epidemic, but the Black Death was the most terrible devastating experience the human race has ever had.

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Contrary to the general notion held by most people, hogs are good swimmers and unless over-fat, they can swim long distances without cutting their throats with the sharp points of their cloven hoofs. In the days of the first sailing vessels hogs were carried on shipboard to serve as a compass in emergencies. If a vessel lost her bearings a hog was tossed overboard. Immediately the animal would head for the nearest land, thus pointing the way of safety to the mariners.

There are no native snakes in Ireland, Hawaii, Iceland, Crete Malta New Zealand and many other small islands.

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