

# Lenten Meditation

From The Columns of The Times, London.

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD

"If a religion claims to be true, it must make sense of the whole of life. . . . It is of the greatest importance to understand that religious truth is not a special kind of truth, nor religious experience a queer, unnatural kind of experience, belonging to some strange world. Religious truth is normal experience understood at full depth."

The man who wrote that passage, and in particular the last sentence of it, put his finger on a truth which, though constantly insisted on, is as constantly forgotten or misunderstood.

The result is that the question which many find themselves trying to answer is the question, "Can I believe this?" with the corollary "What does it mean not to believe it, to reject the interpretation of it as untrue or irrelevant?"

Consider the situation which confronts this nation—indeed one may say humanity—in this year of grace. There is no need to spend time elaborating it. We all know the questions of desperate urgency which tax the foresight and judgment of men in positions of responsibility.

Is, for example, this fatal division into the East and the West inevitable? If it is, what does it mean to speak of the defence of the West? What is it that must be defended, and how is it to be done? What is that going to mean in

the way of demands, material and moral, on the resources and the stamina of those who are called to undertake it?

These are real and urgent questions. But the crucial question which underlies them all, the answer to which determines the answers given to all the rest, is the question of the perspective, the dimension, in which the whole issue is seen. Does the reality of God come into the reckoning or not?

"Normal experience understood at full depth." At once it is apparent that taking God into the reckoning does not mean introducing him as a useful reinforcement of national morale, as it may be feared, the observance of National Days of Prayer is sometimes interpreted. It means facing in its full and terrifying implications the truth that the very fabric of human history is ordered in the last analysis by an omnipotent purpose which is utterly and relentlessly good. Human life is made to that specification; and because it is so made, it will work that way and no other.

To believe that is to receive infinite reassurance and to realize that a price must be paid for it. And the price to be paid is the acceptance of the fact that this overruling power is utterly and relentlessly good. That kind of goodness does indeed mean mercy; but it also means justice.

## IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our Mother, **MRS. JAMES MACDONALD** Cardigan Head who passed away March 3rd, 1952.

Lovingly Remembered by Her Family.

## IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Everett Heber Gamble, who passed away March 3rd, 1952, age 9 years.

Today brings back sad memories of a loved one gone to rest. But he will never be forgotten. By the ones who loved him best.

Lovingly Remembered by Mother, Father, Brothers and Sister.

## COMPLETE VISUAL

## REFRACTION and ANALYSIS

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## SOUTHPORT SCHOOL

Honor Roll for the months of January and February.

Miss Doyle's Department  
Grade X. A.—1. Russell Mutch; 2. Shirley Smallwood; 3. Ralph Smallwood.

Grade X. B.—1. Betty Roberts. Grade IX.—1. Jean MacDonal and Theresa Gallant; 2. Gordon Aylward; 3. Barbara Duffy.

Grade VIII. A.—1. Michael Reardon; 2. Joyce MacKie and Betty Rodgers; 3. Patsy Cooper and Betty Aylward.

Grade VIII. B.—1. David Legge; 2. Barry Cooper.

Miss Ladner's Department  
Grade III.—1. Cyril Cooper; 2. Mary Lee Rodgers; 3. Herby McQuaid and Donna Molyneux.

Grade II.—1. Eric Legge; 2. Richard Gaudet; 3. Margaret McQuaid.

Grade I.—No tests.

Perfect attendance: — Gloria Timolson, Noel Hayley and Jimmie MacDonal.

The Lofoten fisheries, principal Norwegian cod fishing area, were mentioned in ancient Norse sagas.

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# THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

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**MRS. JOHNSTON'S LADIES WEAR SALE**—Bargains for 10 days. Starting Feb. 22.

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**SPECIAL MEETINGS** continue nightly in the Gospel Hall (Upper Prince Street) at 8 P. M. excepting Saturday, Sunday at 7.30 P. M. conducted by G. A. Ramsay and G. P. Heidman. You are heartily invited to attend.

**POLICE COURT**—Two men convicted of being drunk and incapable comprised the docket at the City Police Court Saturday. They were both sentenced to \$5 and costs or 5 days in County Jail by the Stipendiary Magistrate.

**COUNTY MAGISTRATE'S COURT**—A resident motorist of Vernon River convicted of operating a motor vehicle in excess of the speed limit of a designated area, was fined \$10 and costs or 10 days by the Queen's County Magistrate Mr. Gilbert A. Gaudet Saturday morning.

**RESCUED FROM SNOWBANK**—A man, employed at the Prince Edward Island Hospital, became exhausted yesterday afternoon in the storm and had to be rescued by the City Police from a snow bank alongside Government Pond. After being revived at the Armoures he was returned to the hospital.

**TRINITY W. A. TEA**—The W. A. of Trinity United Church held a very successful tea in the social hall Friday afternoon. The tea tables looked very lovely with green tapers in silver candelabra and yellow daffodils. Mrs. Ashford and Mrs. Irwin poured tea the first hour and Mrs. Vernon Howatt and Mrs. John Garnham the second. Mrs. J. W. Dickie, President of the W. A. and Mrs. Ruby Howie and Mrs. Garfield Taylor welcomed the guests and members of the different groups looked after the serving. Mrs. A. W. Downe Treasurer, had the care of the tickets. Mrs. Tedd the salads, and Mrs. Coffin and Mrs. McLeod, the tea. The large number present spoke words of praise for the arrangements. Mrs. Angus McEachern presided at the piano for the afternoon.

## Revered Memories

Along the road to Forest Hill From old St. Peter's Bay I often romped and trudged along In work-a-way and play.—

When very young and supple in My childhood days and years In life's young dawn of long ago With childhood's tears and cheers.

How I recall the winter's chills And snows of frost and cold When we trudged o'er the Sparrows Road With bundles hard to hold.—

In hands so young on bodies small And feet in snows so deep— We walked in drifts up to our waist.

O'er fields and hills so steep,— To reach the haven of our home With warmth from stoves aglow As blizzards swirled around the house.

In zero, and below. Long years have passed since these days were A part of life's routine When banks of snow were thirty feet.

Above the summer's green,— Of grass and hay and grain-fields ripe And roads of dusty clay That rolled along in winding ways.

To old St. Peter's Bay. As now I sit in office warm That overlooks the town My thoughts go back to former years Of youth and its renown.—

Of things that are so dear to me Though simple and severe They stand in mental bold relief,— In memories I revere.

—Peter A. Reilly.  
Feb. 28, 1952.  
(Patriot please copy)

## Card Of Thanks

I wish to thank the Doctors, Nurses and Staff at the Prince County Hospital and all those who remembered me with flowers, cards and gifts during my recent illness.

Mrs. W. D. Clark.

**STOPS HEADACHE FAST ASPIRIN**

Owing to the disruption of mail services, the deadline for Musical Festival Entries has been extended to MARCH 8th.

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## Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

One of the most gruesome relics of the past is the King of Ashanti's execution bowl, which formed part of the spoils taken from Prempeh by the expedition under Col. Sir Francis Scott in 1867. Now in the Royal United Service Museum, it resembles an ordinary bath-tub in appearance and size, and is about five feet in diameter. There is a gap in the rim of the tub to allow space for the victim to insert his neck preparatory to execution. The fatal bowl had three places of execution, at the palace; where private executions took place, on the parade grounds for public executions and in the Bantama, for fetish sacrifices.

The blood of the victims was left to putrify in the vessel, when the leaves of certain herbs were added. The concoction was considered powerful fetish medicine. King Prempeh always watched the sacrifices along with the Queen Mother.

Believe it or not, but the issue of the London Times which gives the highlights of the battles of Trafalgar and Waterloo are worth a lot of money, but the reprinted copies must not be mistaken for the original leaflets.

It is amazing the number of odds and ends of military dress equipment that have been grabbed up by collectors. The Royal United Service Museum has a treasure-house of military curios.

(1) Worthy of mention in this column is an officer's silk sash, used in supporting Sir John Moore when he was carried in a basket from the battlefield of Corunna to the citadel after he was mortally wounded.

(2) An umbrella of King Prempeh, who was taken prisoner by the British at the Battle of Coomassie (1896). The umbrella was presented to her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

(3) A saddle used by Field Marshal Prince Blucher Von Wahlstadt at the Battle of Waterloo. A Woodstock hunter told the game overseer that he couldn't tell the difference between a buck deer and a horse "especially when you're looking at one of the animals over a gun sight . . . after dark." Last fall, this farmer stalked the deer near his home and shot it plumb center, but the animal turned out to be his neighbor's horse.

The game overseer pronounced the carcass horse meat, and the farmer reluctantly admitted it was deer meat even though it was horse meat, after he'd settled with his neighbor for the dead horse.

The autograph of Napoleon is now worth 2 guineas. That of the famous Prussian field-marshal, Blucher, 9 shillings; while Oliver Cromwell's John Henry rates 9 pounds. Charles I. King of England 2 pounds, 10s. and Queen Anne (Document signed) a privy council letter, signed also by Buckingham Schomberg, and nine other peers, has a collectors value of 10s. 6d.

Birds and animals can always tell when there is going to be a change in the weather. The Loons call, the crows creak, and smaller birds are noisy, and all animals seem restless and uneasy. Even the lowly hen is a tolerable good weather prophet. When it rains and is going to clear, sheltering she bides her time; but if she persists in staying out in the rain, look for wet weather.

The fellow who has lost a leg, as well as those who have mended bones are often good weather gauges.

Long streaky light clouds comb-

## Junior Ladies Aid Monthly Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Junior Ladies Aid of the Prince Edward Island Hospital was held in the Administration room of the Nurses' Residence, on Monday afternoon, February 25th, the twenty-fifth with an attendance of thirty-five members.

The President, Mrs. J. K. L. Irwin, opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer repeated in unison, after which the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer, Mrs. T. D. DeBols, moved the adoption of her report, seconded by Mrs. K. M. Johnston.

The President welcomed to the Aid Mrs. R. A. Pitt, Mrs. M. R. Bell and Mrs. G. C. Fisher.

Mrs. L. S. Turner, reporting on a Board of Trustees' meeting, stressed the need of equipment for an examining room and for furnishings for an X-ray waiting-room. It was moved by Mrs. J. A. Likely, seconded by Mrs. S. G. Ives that the Junior Aid look into the furnishing of these rooms.

Mrs. Likely, assistant convener of the Fashion Show gave a detailed report on the progress of plans for "The Parade of Spring Fashions" to be held in March. This was followed by reports by the various committee conveners after which a general business period was held.

The meeting adjourned on motion of Mrs. Clifford MacDonal seconded by Mrs. W. E. Gos.

ed back at the ends usually brings a change of wind, and gray clouds divided by green sky are a sure sign of wet weather.

All insects hunt by scent and they have a preference for dark clothes. And a black horse will gather more flies than a gray one. When it comes to wearing clothes while in the woods or when bushing remember that khaki is the least attractive of all colors to both crawling and flying insects.

If you point the hour hand of your watch to the sun, half-way to X II is south.

If lost, and you have friends in camp, a bonfire of birch bark will indicate your position by sight, as well as by smell. The boy scouts know that one.

The average amount of salty matter that sea water contains is 3 1/2 pounds of salty material to every 100 pounds of sea water.

The waters of the Atlantic Ocean flow through the straits of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean, forming a current that follows the African coast and turns where the Eastern and Western Mediterranean join. It then returns to the West along the French and Spanish shores, and being then salty and quite heavy, flows into the ocean underneath the incoming waters.

Each female eel is said to spawn one million eggs. Eels can travel over land from one pond to another in wet weather. Their gills being tiny, they can remain in the open air with comfort as long as these small openings remain moist.

If an eel chances to fall into a well or pond from which it cannot escape, it becomes non-sexed and then grows to a weight of 25 pounds. It is only of late years that the mysteries of the eel have been solved by naturalists. It was once thought that they were hermaphrodites. Then again they were thought to be viviparous, but naturalists now know the truth concerning the life and habits of the eel. The mystery was solved by the Danish zoologists, Petersen and Schemdt and Gemzoe.

# Thoughts For Our Time

By His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan  
(Copyright)

**LIFE'S PROBLEMS COMPLICATED**

If there was a contest to decide what is the most complex thing in the world, there is no doubt who would win the prize, if prize it be. Man would have no competitors in such a contest. He wins hands down.

Look at a man. He is partly spiritual and, as such, he is something akin to the angels and even akin to God in him. He is also bodily and material and, as such, he is like the grass of the field and sand on the seashore. He is a little world all to himself. He stretches so to speak, from heaven to earth. This feature of human nature, its sharing, as it were, in the characteristics of all other things makes man such a difficult thing to understand. You can't treat him as an angel because man is not an angel. You can't treat him as an animal because he is more than just an animal.

This complexity of human nature accounts for the fact that all history is really only the working out of the problem of man. The angels were never much of a problem. God created them. He tried them. He rewarded them or punished them. All that happened in a few moments. If there were no men, the part that angels, either good or bad, would play in history would be comparatively small. Their own personal destinies are already decided. It is because ours are not that they enter into human life.

Things less than man really present no problem. It is only because men use them or misuse them that they ever enter into life as problems. Take man away and all the rest of nature would have a very simple destiny.

God himself acknowledged this complexity of man. We never hear of the problem of redemption or salvation for the fallen angels. They just can't be redeemed and consequently there is no problem of their redemption. There never were, nor will there ever be, problems like salvation or redemption in regard to animals and plants, etc. But there was and is the problem of human redemption. It is complex enough a problem to have necessitated God's becoming man to do the job. It was and is too big a job for man to do alone. God had to take a hand.

All the practical problems in the world are human problems. Whether it be a question of right, of property, of war and peace, of sex, of government, of education, of church, of grace and virtue, of life and death, it is the human element in them that makes them problems and makes them difficult.

What should be our attitude in face of the recognition of the complexity of human problems? The first thing should be the recognition of the fact that there are no facile solutions for them. The solution to human problems is never easy. They are neither easy to understand and require courage or even heroism to solve.

Let us take an example. We all know that we should always act like men. To act like men means to act reasonably or rationally. That means that we should understand what we do, that we realize the implications of our actions, that we always act according to right reason. This is a very hard thing

for a man to do all the time. His fears, his passion, his loves, his hates, his environment, the pressures which he experiences from friends and enemies, his poverty, his vanity, all these are circumstances in which his actions must be done. Each and every one of them can militate against his acting according to reason and very frequently do.

The problem which is difficult enough when we are considering only a single person becomes magnified when we start dealing with situations where several persons are acting together. Together they are still supposed to act according to reason. But it is infinitely harder for a whole labor union to be just than for a single member of it to be just. It is much harder for an entire political party to be honest than for a single member of it to be honest. It is poignantly hard for a whole nation to be upright, honest and just in its dealings with another nation. It is no child's play for majorities to be scrupulously virtuous in the treatment of minorities. Yet we expect all these things to be done. We are then, mapping out a course of human action which will be exacting and demanding on the persons who carry it out.

To know what to do and then to do it. That's the summary of the way we should live. It requires intelligence and requires virtue. The easy solution is almost never a solution. We should get rid of the notion that life is simple. It is nearly always complicated. Life requires a great deal of patience if it is to be lived well. We can save ourselves some previous disappointments if we realize from the beginning that we are dealing with men, that men are complicated beings, and that their problems are usually complicated too. If these problems are ever to be solved, the task will be done only by working at it indefatigably.

We are all, at times, inclined to be bitterly critical of others, especially of our leaders. It very frequently happens that we are almost unaware of the situation they have to face, the numerous elements and details they must take into account when they make decisions. It would be a sobering experience for most of us if we were occasionally placed in their positions. We would learn that the guidance of human affairs and destinies requires deep insight. We would learn also that it takes courage which is frequently heart-rending to do the job. We should learn above all that one of the worst things we can do when we deal with men is to oversimplify.

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