

'We'll Swap With You, Joe!'

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GOOD FRIDAY LESSONS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Churches throughout the Christian world today are observing Good Friday, a religious holiday marking the worst tragedy in the world's history. Our minds are centered upon the spiritual lessons of the crucifixion and the place of Christ's death and resurrection in religious life. But we believe there also is to be found a parallel with today's political situation in our own country; a parallel we might do well to study.

Christ's crucifixion resulted not from His religious teaching but because of politics. He was dangerous to the ruling political party. Because that party was corrupt, because it was filled with graft and privilege, it schemed murder to perpetuate itself in power.

The Pharisees of Christ's day composed the political majority and thereby held the reigns of Israel's government. The Sadducees were the minority party.

It is somewhat difficult for us to comprehend the situation because Church and State have been separated in our own form of government. But at that time the Church also was the State; the Church was the government.

The Pharisees proclaimed their own righteousness. They used chemicals to make their robes whiter than those worn by the common people.

Because Jews were commanded to keep God's word "before their eyes," they wore on their foreheads bands in which scriptural passages were carried. These were known as phylacteries. The Pharisees wore larger and more prominent phylacteries than did the common people as a sign of their self-proclaimed righteousness. They prayed loud and long in public.

Christ Popular With Masses

Christ was very popular with the masses of the public. His teachings had aroused their interest. Crowds pressed around Him wherever He went. Upon His entrance into Jerusalem for the Passover, He was given an ovation normally accorded only a great ruler.

It was Christ's popularity, rather than His teachings, which disturbed the Pharisees.

Here was a person proclaiming himself to be the long-expected Messiah, the man about whom it was prophesied that he would lead the Jews from bondage to freedom. This person was becoming exceedingly popular. He had been critical of political leadership. He had exposed the sham in their claim of righteousness. He had called the ruling politicians "whited sepulchers." He was a threat to continuation of the Pharisees as political leaders. He had hurt their income because He had driven their "five-percenters" from the Temple. So they plotted His destruction.

It didn't matter that freedom from Roman bondage was the national dream of the people, who still sang hymns in praise of the Maccabees, revolutionary leaders, and that Christ claimed to be the Messiah who was to bring freedom. The Pharisees would rather remain under Roman rule, so long as they personally could benefit from their political corruption.

Public Was Apathetic

When the Pharisees plotted their crime, the public made no remonstrance. The common people were too busy with their feasting and making merry to pay any attention to the political tragedy being enacted in the courts.

Do we find in that tragedy of so many centuries ago a parallel with conditions in our own land today?

Are we familiar with a political leadership that proclaims self-righteousness while tolerating graft and corruption? Do we hear protestations of virtue from leaders whose hands are loaded with bribes? Are we concerned because leaders have temporized with an evil ideology that threatens our basic freedoms, simply because political expediency is involved? Do we find similarity in a common people who feasted while Virtue was crucified? Do we recognize the danger of public apathy or a willingness to tolerate evil because of personal well-being?

The lessons of Good Friday should inspire us as we find ourselves in a period when we must pass judgment upon those currently holding the reigns of government.



Said little Carol, looking at Pretty with her family of kittens, "I want that one!" But, her daddy explained that's the mother cat. It didn't matter to Carol. She sat and said firmly, "I want the mother cat!" Lenny, Carol's older sister, had chosen the little orange kitten. . . oh, yes, Carol liked that one all right, but she still wanted the mother cat.

This was the first time Pretty's kittens were not white. But homes are waiting for them all. Despite my uncertainty, homes have always been waiting for her kittens. . . but there will be no more. For we found Pretty lying in the tall grass. She might have been asleep. Still white and clean. She must have been hit by the car as she crossed the highway to go hunting in the woods along the Elk. She loved the woods.

It is five years, come May 12, since a bedraggled, thin kitten came hesitantly up to us by the house in the woods at Seelye Creek. But soon warmed and fed she sat, purring, on the hearth by the fire, busily cleaning her coat until we were exclaiming to each other: "Isn't she pretty?" When the name for her was being considered, my mother, dangling a bit of paper on

a string before the playing kitten, said: "Seems to me you have named her now! Pretty!" So that was her name.

How well she served us. To be sure she sometimes refused to wait until morning to show whatever she had caught and would hang on the bedroom screen and meow until I could get up—she would beat me to the door!—and pat her head. Sometimes I'd find a snake, neatly bitten in two on the door mat. Visitors were likely to find most anything on that mat!

She would outfit us sometimes and have her kittens in the closet under the stairs, or in the shallow wastepaper basket under the desk. If not, she would lay siege to slip them in, carrying each one by the scruff of its neck. Tireless, indefatigable, intelligent, never failing to greet us when we drove in. . . we miss her now.

RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUGHT

The county has purchased right-of-way for the McCullough Creek Road near Glendale for use as an access to a garbage dump site to serve Glendale and vicinity, it was announced today.



Fulton Lewis Jr.

WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON — Any investigation of the Department of Justice will be incomplete if the criminal division's failure to prosecute lying Communists, is examined in anything less than great detail.

Under the Taft-Hartley law, any labor union which has any Communist among its officials, is denied government mediation facilities. In several cases union leaders have signed affidavits that they no longer are Reds, then have subsequently declared their allegiance to the Kremlin in public statements. That is lying under oath and punishable by fines and prison terms.

The Justice Department, quite apparently for political reasons, has failed to act. This is a national election year, and the Administration can't forget the lush campaign contributions and propaganda aid donated by union organizations in bygone years.

The present issue, however, supersedes politics—or at least, it should. For it is a matter of national security.

The current issue of Cosmopolitan Magazine contains a startling story of how 10 pro-Red and Communist labor leaders are in a position to paralyze national defense production. One almost dreads.

Nathan Witt, described in the story as a powerful Communist and labeled by Whitaker Chambers as one-time head of a Communist underground cell in Washington, is legal counsel for the copper mining and smelting union.

Knowing this, however, did not deter Defense Department officials from making Witt welcome at the Pentagon when his union recently won copper production. Defense officials were forced to beg Witt not to strike mines producing copper and other products that are essential to the production of weapons needed in Korea.

Witt is well known in Washington. He was the master mind of the old National Labor Relations Board who directed the harassment and shacking of American business during the early New Deal days. Most business men will never forget the treatment accorded them by Witt and his Kremlin playmates on the NLRB when they were forced to seek aid from that agency in settling labor disputes.

Powerful shipping unions, electrical and machine workers, communication workers and even unions of government employees, are bossed by Reds today.

In October of 1951 a group of labor leaders, led by Harry Bridges and all of whom have been identified in sworn testimony as Communists, met in New York to set up a program for a series of spring and summer strikes in U.S. industry. Most of what they discussed was overheard.

A plot was laid to organize the Communist-led unions which were kicked out of the C.I.O. into a Kremlin tool for harassing U.S. war production. Plans were laid to raise money by striking the sugar production industry in Hawaii, following the purchase of sugar futures on the open market. A strike shortens the sugar supply and raises the value of sugar futures.

Plans were laid to suck in John L. Lewis by enmeshing him into leading a campaign to bust the wage and price increase levels. This aim is being accomplished in the current steel dispute, although Lewis has not been active. The White House brought it about by upholding the Wage Stabilization Board recommendation for a 26-cents-an-hour package wage increase for steel workers, described by Charles E. Wilson as ruinous to the anti-inflation program. Wil-

Fixing Of Milk Prices Illegal, Neuberger Says

SALEM — Price-fixing for milk is just as illegal as it is for haircuts, State Sen. Richard Neuberger, Portland Democrat, told the Salem Chamber of Commerce Monday.

Pointing out that the State Supreme Court held unconstitutional last week the law allowing fixing of minimum prices for barbering, Neuberger said the State Milk Board continues to "make it illegal for a grocer to sell milk and cream below a minimum price."

Neuberger said "the dairies are a stronger vested special interest than the barbers, and thus their price-fixing is cloaked with legality."

He has fought in the Legislature for repeal of the Oregon Milk Control Law.

County Division Urged

Neuberger also urged that counties with more than two state legislators should be divided into legislative districts. These counties now elect their legislators at large.

"In Multnomah County," he said, "a whole group of ill-fitted members are chosen because the voters are confronted with a list of names as long as a column in the telephone directory."

Dividing these counties into districts would enable the rural districts of those counties to get representation.

He pointed out that Multnomah and Marion Counties have all their legislators from Portland-Salem, thus "freezing out" the farm sections of those counties.

Districting of large counties has been blocked by some Multnomah legislators "who get by at present without having to stand on their very dubious voting records," Neuberger said.

South Africa's Race Laws Face National Fight

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Thousands of South Africa's non-whites launched a nationwide campaign against Prime Minister Daniel F. Malan's race laws Sunday. Initial rallies in the country's major cities went off peacefully.

Leaders of Negro, Asiatic and colored (mixed blood) organizations hoped the drive would develop into a full-scale passive resistance movement aimed at crushing the government's policy of apartheid, or race segregation.

As strong police and military forces stood by, the non-whites demonstrated in Capetown, Durban, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg.

The government has power to jail anyone organizing passive resistance movements or urging social changes, but no leaders were arrested. Neither did widespread forecasts of clashes between police and demonstrators materialize.

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In the Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

dusty. Already we've taken a long step toward socialism.

Suppose we submitted to a referendum vote this question: "Shall we or Shall We Not Have Socialism in the United States?"

The vote, in such a case, would be about 10 to one AGAINST. But, taking it a step at a time, we can GET USED TO THE IDEA OF SOCIALISM. We don't want it, but if it is fed to us persistently in small doses we can come in time to tolerate it.

Alexander Pope, in his Essay on Man, tells us truly:

"Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,

As to be hated needs but to be seen;

"Yet, seen too oft, familiar with her face,

"We first endure, then pity, then EMBRACE."

It can be that way with socialism.

Let's look at the subject of steel profits. Our President says they're scandalously big. Steel spokesmen admit profits of about 19 billion dollars—but, they say, of the 19 billions about 12 billions GO TO THE GOVERNMENT IN TAXES.

If the government squeezes the profits out of the steel industry, it will lose the 12 billions in tax money it now collects from private steel makers.

That raises this question:

If the government loses the 12 billions it now gets from steel, where will it go to get the money? You know where it will go. IT WILL GO TO THE REST OF US.

We'll have to pay more taxes to make up the loss.

If you have doubts on that point, take a look at Oregon, where the government owns about half of our total land area. If we could TAX ALL THAT PROPERTY we'd be sitting pretty.

Another question: Who owns the steel industry—perhaps we'd better say who did own the steel industry before the government seized it?

In the case of steel, I do not have the figures before me. So let's take the telephone—which also is struck and which might be seized. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company now has more than a MILLION stockholders, which is far more than the total number of its employees.

I imagine the same situation exists in the case of steel.

That is to say: In seizing the steel industry, in order to make good the demands of the steel workers for more pay, President Truman favored a new class of citizens against another class of citizens—and he did it by EDICT and not by law.

Why? I presume it was because he thought the crowd he favored has more voting power than the crowd he hurt. That is the POLITICAL way of settling such things. Personally, I think he figured it out wrong and hurt more people than he helped. Anyway, that's a bad theory on which to run a country like this.

So far, this piece has been highly critical of President Truman. But the fault isn't all his. Congress shares the blame—for the trouble started with the stabilization law that was enacted by congress.

It was a JOKE. Everybody knew it was a joke. It was full of holes than a good Swiss cheese. It was enacted just ahead of an election campaign and the underlying reason for its enactment was to enable everybody to go home and tell the voters that "we passed a stabilization law and now everybody is protected against inflation."

What happened was exactly what always happens when half-baked laws are thrown together for purely political purposes. Prices went up and wages went up and nobody did anything about it. There wasn't much anybody could do about it under the law that had been passed.

Things went from bad to worse, and eventually the situation reached a crisis in the steel strike.

The point this is it: If we are to have the kind of government we want, we must have TOP MEN IN CONGRESS as well as the top man for President.

Mental Institutions Get 1,000 Patients Daily

LOS ANGELES — There are more people in this country in mental institutions than are hospitalized for all other diseases and illnesses combined, Dr. Karl Menninger of Topeka, Kan., says.

Head of the Menninger Foundation for Psychiatric Treatment, he told the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Wednesday.

"Recreation is necessary to relieve uncontrolled aggression. A chess game to one man may be as effective a relief as some violent sport, like basketball, to another. "The problem of mental sickness is looming larger and larger every year. Every day 1,000 persons enter mental institutions for treatment."

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