The News-Review

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THOUGHTS FOR GOOD FRIDAY

By Charles V. Stanton

Throughout the Christian world today millions of persons are celebrating the world's greatest tragedy, the crucifixion of Christ. Thoughts today have been turned to that scene on the Hill of Golgotha and the words, both human and divine, spoken from the Tree of Suffering.

It is only natural that in our meditations during Holy Week we should stress Christ's divinity. We give but little thought to His human side. He spoke of Himself as the "Son of Man." But we worship Him as the Son of God.

There are, of course, those who deny the divinity of Christ, contending that His claim of divinity was the same as may be made by any man into whom God breathed His own image and likeness, the spirit which separates Man from the beasts of the field. Christ, to those people, was a great teacher, perhaps the greatest, but divine only as all men are divine.

Personally, I can't accept that philosophy. Maybe it's because I'm too lazy. But to explain away Christ's miracles, to rationalize His resurrection, His ascension, to recognize His hold upon the people and the spread of His kingdom, without crediting divinity, is more than my weak mind can fathom.

Christ Was Human

Regardless of whether we accept Christ as the divine Son of God or look upon Him only as one of the greatest religious teachers of all time, we cannot and should not overlook His human side.

Too often, I fear, in our desire to glorify Christ in our own hearts and minds, we deny ourselves the comfort that comes from realization of the fact that He was, in many respects, like each of us.

I like to think of the Christ as a young man, full of life and spirit.

He loved the great outdoors. He roamed the countryside, looking to the mountains, enjoying the waters, admiring the flowers and the trees, cherishing the barren, rocky faces of the towering cliffs.

He was gregarious, friendly, happy. He sought company. He visited in the homes of people whenever possible. He made friends quickly and easily. He liked parties and dinners. He was to be found wherever a celebration was in progress. He missed none of the holidays and walked long distances to be in Jerusalem for every major event. He thrilled to the city's pageantry. Even as you and I enjoy being "sidewalk superintendents," whenever we can be around construction work, He enjoyed watching the work in progress on the Temple and used it for purposes of illustration.

He could be happy, sorrowful, angry. He was compassionate, thoughtful, kind. He wept at the tomb of Lazarus, even though he was about to reclaim his close friend from the dead. When He looked upon the crowd of people who continued to follow Him, even though hungry, He provided for their bodily comfort by the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Yet He could be stern and angry, as evidenced by His physical attack upon the money changers in the Temple.

Comfort In Suffering

Possibly if we gave more thought to Christ's human side we would find more help and comfort in our times of trouble.

Apparently there was nothing in Christ's physical appearance to distinguish Him from the persons by whom he was surrounded, because Judas had to point Him out by the act of betrayal. We know, if we believe what we read, that He had emotions similar in all respects to our own. As we observe Good Friday, and think of the suffering on the cross, we know that He suffered the same physical pain that we would suffer. He suffered, too, the discouragement and disappointment that comes to each of us when our close friends lose confidence in us, when they misunderstand us. He knew the sorrow that results from the fickleness of a public that will acclaim one day, then deny and denounce the next.

When we study the implications of the tragedy of Good Friday, as linked with the knowledge of the joyous triumph of Easter, we should realize that we have available to us a plan that will meet our every need if we will but accept it. Christ, both human and divine, pointed out to us the way in which our every problem of life may be met and solved, for there is nothing that troubles us, either as individuals or as nations, that would not yield to the application of Christ's divine teaching and human example.

Lenten Devotions

Message By Roseburg Ministerial Assn.

"Good Friday" — a day when Jesus of Nazareth was forced to carry his own cross to a hill of execution, there to be humiliated, tortured and killed — to die on a cross like a thief or murderer—simply because in his going about doing good, he had incurred the wrath of the state and church rulers of the day. It would seem strange to his friends and disciples, if on that day long ago, someone close to him would have spoken of the time as being "good."

And yet today, and for centuries past, we have noted its arrival as being a high moment in the observance of a Christian festival. It has not been a holiday, or a time of merrymaking, but it has come as a necessary event as we reach upward in our ascent to the bright and shining experience of Easter Morning!

To use a phrase from William J. Wolf's book, "No Cross, No Crown," we find apt expression for our own personal Christian-experienced lives as we sacrifice ourselves on Good Friday, that we might see the life on Easter Day.

Realization of the meaning of His death did not come easily for Saul of Tarsus. And, likewise, it does not come easy for us. We, too, would like the crown the easy way, as a gold-plated reward for virtuous and public-accepted lives. Yet, virtue and acceptable living according to Christ's standards are not easly attained.

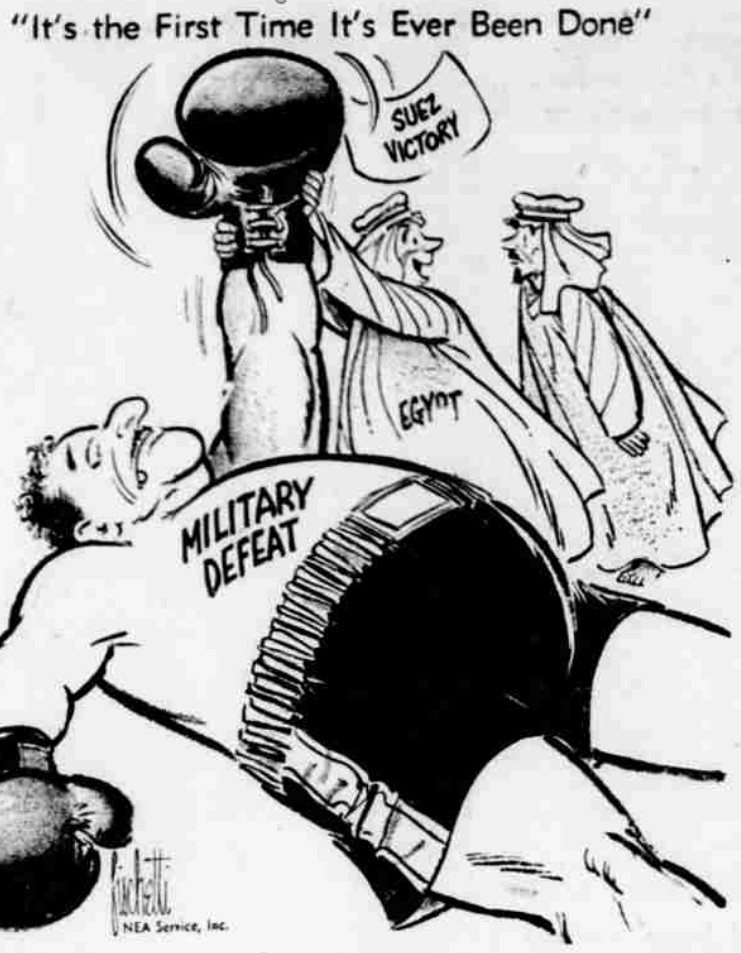
If in traveling we are to reach a distant destination, we must place ourselves, in faith, in the hands of a pilot, a captain or a bus driver. We must live according to their travel rules and regulations of conduct and safety. And we must have utmost faith in their leadership and ability.

It is the same if we wish to place our lives in the hands of Jesus, as the Christ in our lives. If we are to gain his goal we, in true faith, must place ourselves wholly in his instructions, and according to his spirit of life. Thus we may have the experience of gaining a crown of life.

This Friday is a "good" day for us to die to "self" that on our Easter we might be born, in faith, to Christ.

Rev. Asa Mundell
First Methodist Church

"It's the First Time It's Ever Been Done"



Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The Easter hat madness has an unusual victim this year — Blanche Thebom, the only girl in grand opera who can stand on her own hair without bending her knees.

"I feel like I had dived into a lily pond, and came up with a lily on my head," said the springly Metropolitan Opera star as she put on the first hat she had bought in 14 years.

The beautiful mezzo-soprano gave up hats about the time she started letting her hair grow long. Now it is over six feet in length and the singer, who is about 5 feet 7 inches tall, actually can let it down and step on it.

Miss Thebom, who usually gets along by sticking a flower or a jeweled ornament in her hair, went on a bonnet buying spree this season because she is going to England soon. It wouldn't do to bump unexpectedly into Queen Elizabeth with nothing but a vintage orchid in her tresses. No indeed.

Blanche isn't a girl who goes in for half-way measure. She descended on the hat shop operated by Mr. John, the noted chapeau designer, with the enthusiasm of a pirate raider.

Her enthusiasn was matched by that of Mr. John, weary at the moment of decorating girls who affect short bobs or even crew cuts.

"I also hate those tortured curls—those French-fried curls," he murmured. "A woman with long hair is a pleasant challenge.

"For a long-haired woman, the hat simply must be in proportion. Hat design, after all, is basically architecture, which (after all) is basically proportion."

Mr. John, whom Napoleon is said to resemble, tosses off bon mots like this all day long on a six-day week. (Sunday he practices.)

He came into the trying on room with half a dozen colorful wide-brimmed hats. They bore such romantic titles as "Visiting "Butterfly," "Royal Garden Party," "Meeting in Mayfair," "Brunch with a Beefeater" and "Tea with a Total Stranger."

Mr. John is indeed a veritable madcap—whether working in prose or satin.

One hat which was two feet wide and named "Windsor Afternoon"—or was it "Nightcap with a Knight"?—caught Blanche's eye.

"This is a black palace portrait hat," murmured Mr. John, "made of layers of summer black taffeta with a black petticoat brim (sure, hats wear petticoats), caught with a single summer rose, also black."

Intoxicated either by Mr. John's haunting creations or his haunted descriptions, Miss Thebom wound up with about a dozen big-brimmed hats, including "Fascination," "Trooping of Colors," and "Spring in London."

"If you're going to wear a hat," said Blanche stoutly, "you might as well wear a mad one, so that a man can look at it condescendingly.

"That's one of the reasons for wearing a hat—to give a man something to feel smug and superior about.

"Actually, I think men secretly like to have women wear a mad, spectacular hat, even if it shocks him a bit at first. It pleases him when he takes her into a restaurant, and everyone falls silent as they stare at her wild, wild hat.

"He may say he doesn't like to be conspicuous himself" continued Miss Thebom, sounding like a woman trying to reassure herself, "but he really enjoys it if his wife wears a hat that is a conversation-stopper."

As she left, Miss Thebom was heard to mutter:

"I think I'll have a happy Easter—if I just don't have to go through too many revolving doors."

Bruce Biossat

This is the time of year when dark mutterings are heard in Congress about the size of proposed foreign aid spending. Axes are sharpened, and usually wielded. Indeed, President Eisenhower already has conceded that some chopping of 1957 figures may be reasonable.

It's also the season when Americans start thinking about going somewhere on a trip. In past years a great many of them have wound up traveling to foreign lands. And the money they spread about as they go is a kind of "foreign aid" to which not even the most rabid opponent of federal programs objects.

Ralph Reed, president of the American Express Co., has estimated that American tourists last year spent around 1.2 billion dollars in foreign countries, plus another 250 million riding in foreign ships and planes.

Together those sums would equal a sizable chunk of any foreign aid bill ever passed by Congress. But, as Reed notes, tourist dollars are better than "aid" dollars. They represent value given for value.

THE ESTIMATED 1956 U. S. tourist outlays abroad could pay for almost a tenth of all the things we sell to foreign lands. So when an American shells out in France or Italy or whatever country, he not only puts life in that nation's economy but helps sustain his own.

American trave abroad has grown so remarkably in the last eight or 10 years that expenditures are now more than double those of 1948. Ordinarily, one would automatically look for 1957, like its immediate predecessors, to smash all records.

However, the Suez Canal crisis, with its constricting effect on West European economies, may have discouraged a lot of would-be travelers. Americans like their conveniences.

But the evidence at hand indicates that those touched by wanderlust have little to worry about.

AMERICAN EXPRESS recently completed a survey of European travel conditions and found the outlook for Americans bright.

Despite rationing of fuel in some countries, U.S. visitors will be assured of ample supplies for either their own or rented cars. The hotel picture is actually better than in 1956, with more space and plenty of those favored commodities — heat and hot water.

Most of us want our foreign friends to prosper and are not unwilling to lend reasonable help. Obviously, there's no more pleasant or painless way to help than to satisfy our eternal travel urge by skipping beyond our own borders.

Young Novelist Improves From Accident Injuries

PARIS (AP) — Hospital spokesmen said novelist Francoise Sagan showed "definite improvement" Tuesday after spending a relatively quiet night. The 21-year-old author was injured seriously Sunday when her sports car overturned near Fontainebleau.

Although reporting Miss Sagan's condition improved, hospital authorities said it remained so delicate a complete diagnosis of her injuries still could not be made, and doctors still feared to go ahead with any additional surgery that may be required.

In The Day's News

(Continued from page one)

It puts the bee on the congress—which holds the purse strings.

On the subject of agriculture, the President says his administration is taking a fresh look at the whole farm program — hoping to work out a new long-range program to reduce the dependence of farmers on federal subsidies.

He says the present price support system creates new problems as fast as it solves old ones.

He adds that when the government gets rid of surplus crops price support levels go up automatically — and we still get more surpluses.

This process of filling up the storage warehouses at subsidized high prices and then emptying them again by cut - rate sales and giveaways is expensive.

The current report of the Commodity Credit Corporation shows that the government lost a total of $837,764,000 in carrying out programs for handling and disposing of surplus supplies acquired under farm price support programs during the seven - month period ending February 28.

That amounts to a daily loss of about four and three - quarters million dollars.

It's a lot of money—all of which comes out of the taxpayers' pockets.

The pity of it is that it doesn't seem to be solving the farm problem. We fill up the storage warehouses with subsidized surplus crops. Then we empty them by means of cut-price sales and giveaways. Then we turn in and fill them up again.

It's a good deal like a kitten chasing its tail.

Changing the subject:

Mount Etna, in Sicily (at the toe of the Italian boot), the highest and hottest active volcano on the continent of Europe, burst into violent eruption this week, sending a stream of molten lava gushing from its principal crater and another lava stream from a smaller crater farther down the mountain's side.

Well, why shouldn't Etna be erupting?

Everybody else is — more or less all over the world.

Mt. Etna, incidentally, is a rugged customer. In some 500 eruptions in the historic past, it has killed more than a million persons.

Reader Opinions

Symphony Orchestra Support Need Told

The Roseburg Symphony Orchestra has been a definite part of the social life of Roseburg for several years, yet it has never received the support it deserves.

Wendell Johnson, former director of the Symphony, and the one responsible for its early growth, struggled year by year, along with his faithful and talented musicians, until the Symphony Board became well organized and took over some of the responsibilities.

The orchestra needs moral and financial support, now and in the future. Let's try to fill every seat in the Central Junior High auditorium at Roseburg at the next concert, May 9, 8 p.m.

Why should excellent local talent have to go begging when many times programs of pure corn from outside are well supported?

The musicians of the Symphony are your businessmen, teachers and housewives. Some of them have been professionals. They are your good citizens who support your projects, pay their taxes and give you their best at the concert without compensation.

If every good citizen of Roseburg and neighboring communities would show his appreciation by purchasing one or more tickets for the next concert, the hearts of our musicians would be warmed.

Jen Carlson
El Camino Motels
Drain, Ore.

Senate Confirms Appointment Of Rep. Ellsworth

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Wednesday confirmed the nomination of former Rep. Harris Ellsworth of Oregon to be a member of the Civil Service Commission.

Ellsworth's nomination was confirmed by voice vote along with those of two other appointees to the Civil Service Commission, Frederick J. Lawton of Washington, D. C., and Christopher H. Phillips of Massachusetts. Lawton, now a commission member, was named to a new six-year term.

Oregon's two Democratic senators, Morse and Neuberger, told the Senate some of their supporters had urged them to oppose confirmation of Ellsworth, who was defeated for re-election to the House in November.

Morse described Ellsworth as a "conscientious ultra-conservative" and "a good representative of the point of view for which he stands." Morse said "I know of no sound constitutional basis" for opposing him.

Neuberger said he disagrees with Ellsworth's "political, social and economic philosophy," but he said the President is entitled to appoint a man "with whom he feels compatible."

Basin Compact Measure Signed

SALEM (AP) — United by a telephone connection, Govs. Holmes of Oregon and Knight of California signed the Klamath River Basin Compact Wednesday afternoon.

The compact had been ratified by both legislatures, and now Congress must act on it.

The compact provides for the two states to plan use and development of the basin's waters.

Watching the ceremony in Salem were the Jackson and Klamath County legislative delegations; Nelson Reed, Klamath Falls, chairman of the Klamath Basin Commission; George Stevenson, Klamath Falls, member of the same commission; and state engineer Lewis A. Stanley.

Gov. Holmes told Gov. Knight this "is an historic occasion because it will make it possible to irrigate 20,000 acres of land in Oregon and 10,000 in California, when the water is needed."

They had a discussion about their legislatures, with Gov. Holmes predicting the Oregon Legislature would last three or four more weeks "because most of the important legislation still is being acted upon."

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

THERE ARE NO FREE CARS
Albany Democrat-Herald

There's one born every minute, and smooth operators in the car business can spot them a mile away. But we're amazed that the "free car" gimmick holds on so long.

We first heard about it locally about a month ago, and we're still hearing about it.

It's the pitch being used by at least one Portland outfit, and people in the upper valley apparently are biting on it without thinking it out.

This sales outfit, which picked the trick up from eastern salesmen, looks you up and says that you have been singled out because you are a good, persuasive guy. You have been chosen to receive a free new car.

You can pay for it by selling the same kind of an auto to your friends. The car outfit will give you $100 credit for each one you sell. And if the people you sell in turn start selling, you'll get $50 from each one of these sales.

Sounds easy, but it isn't. One sale a month would make your payments. But that's not so easy on a part-time basis. You run into professional salesmen who know the ropes. And once you do sell a friend, he becomes a competitor among your acquaintances.

You also can't sell service because it's an out-of-town outfit, and you can't make any "deals" such as can be made by a professional.

The result, judging by a Eugene case, is that you lose your shirt. A Eugene man bit, couldn't sell, and had to make his $100 monthly payment out of pocket. He had made no trade-in-but borrowed his down payment, which he had to repay at $75 a month. He couldn't hack it and the car was repossessed. Experience cost almost an even $1,000.

Anyone who can sell two dozen or so cars in his spare time should quit his job and start peddling sedans full time. He'd lead the field.

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