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STRANGE BUT TRUE
Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY

NYION ANOMHMA MH MONAN OYIN The PILGRIMAGE of the BETROTHED

AN ANCIENT GREEK INSCRIPTION WHICH READS THE SAME BOTH WAYS IS CARVED ON THE INSIDE OF THIS BAPTISMAL FONT IN ST. ETHELBURGA'S CHURCH, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON. TRANSLATED THE INSCRIPTION READS: "CLEANSE THE SIN AND NOT THE FACE ONLY."



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This copy is edited by the Diocesan Office in connection with National Office. Inquiries concerning missions welcomed.

AFGHANISTAN, MOHAMED'S LAST STRONGHOLD
By Rev. George J. Blatter

(Editor's Note: This highly interesting report of Father Blatter's sojourn as first residing priest in Afghanistan is being reprinted serially with permission from The Medical Missionary, publication of the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, Inc.)

(Continued from Last Week)

We stopped two hours at noon beneath a group of pepper trees near a well at the side of a Mohammedan burying ground before riding again into hill country. Occasionally we found scant hills of running water, which in the rainy seasons were swift rivers. Many of the bridges over these river beds were in ruins. Wandering caravans or natives with their herds of sheep or goats or occasional camels passed us. In the bright afternoon sun, at one of the larger streams, a numerous group of people and drivers were lying in the shade of rude leaf sheds around a vendor of melons of different kind. We joined them in the melon feast. A few miles further, the valley widened out to fertile and wooded stretches. For ten miles we progressed under shade trees linking both sides of the road into Jelalabad where the king and his predecessor possessed summer palaces and wide spread parks. Jelalabad is quite a city with many pretentious buildings and residences for the native of the Amirs and their wives and prominent Afghan chiefs. But many of these buildings were in ruins, showing that there had been fierce fighting between the different pretenders of the throne after the flight of Amanullah in 1928. The fertile stretches reached to more than ten miles beyond Jelalabad, another residence town; for the more abundant water supply through all this river valley permits of constant irrigation. As we neared the horizon, we frequently passed devout moslems performing their ablutions and their devotions toward the setting sun. The shades of night were falling, when we entered a beautiful park around a dak bungalow which like a fine modern building, near a village of the king's palaces. One of the parkways showed a row of servants' quarters and a score of attendants surrounded the lobby to receive me as the guest and see to my comfort. The bungalow was put at my disposal while supper and bedding was being prepared. The bungalow was furnished with furniture, except an arrangement for a dipper bath, which I was glad to make use of, after the sweltering heat of the day's journey. In due time a copious supper of rice and chicken was forthcoming, and at my request the bedding was spread on a charpoy under the leaf dome of trees. I certainly would never have expected such a romantic night's rest under the dappled moon shade for my first night in forbidden Afghanistan.

(Continued Next Week)

Spiritual Thoughts

It is a temptation to wish to convert everyone else to our own mode of life because it seems such an excellent mode of existence. The best remedy for this is to redouble our efforts at our own conversion. Let the thought of God's patience with us make us very gentle and patient with others. We may see one or two of their surface faults, but we probably do not see any of their hidden virtues.

"Christ and His members are one Christ," says St. Augustine, and the prayers and sufferings of His members are accepted in Him with great complacency by the Eternal Father. Each soul can become a channel whereby a stream of grace is constantly projected. It may be over one poor sinner, one priest, one apostate, one parish, but the channel must be dug by self-denial and kept clear by the action of the grace-giving Sacraments and frequent prayer.

Here is a test of honesty we know we cannot trust self to crush self. Are we willing that others should do for us?

"Love, who doest love me more than I can love myself, or can conceive, why do I wish for more than thou dost will to give me? Perhaps what my soul fancies would be its gain might be its ruin. If I ask thee to free me from a cross by which thou sekest to mortify me, what do I ask of thee, O my God?"

If I entreat thee to send me such a trial, perhaps it may be beyond my patience which is too weak to bear the heavy burden; or were I to endure it, but were wanting in humility, I might fancy I had performed some great deed, while thou, O my God, didst do it all!"

He is the greatest Beggar that heaven and earth have ever seen, this terrible Beggar for love. The wounds of His hands are purses always empty and He holds them out that each of us may fill them with the small change of our sufferings and tears.

Endorsed Motion Pictures

MOTION PICTURE BUREAU OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC ALMAE
Endorses the Following Motion Pictures Suitable for Church Home Catholic Schools or Family Night Programs.

Cry of the World Inter. Films Foundation: Vivid, moving drama. From the denunciation of the World War, with sudden, gripping reality we move to the true aftermath of that conflict with an unanswerable message.—Excellent.

The Doomed Battalion, Univ. We consider this a most amazing and beautiful picture. It is more story of the Great War, and is of exceptional value because it dramatizes that section of fighting in the Austrial Tyrol of which we have heard very little. Tensely dramatic, the plot is laid among the snowy peaks on the Austrian Italian border. Their fields of glaciers, sparkling ice, and worlds of snow touching worlds of clouds, present the most unusual and inspiring photography which one could imagine. (Stars: Luis Trenker, Tala Birell.)—Excellent.

Fast Company, Univ. With all the favor of the tank and the excitement of the race track for atmosphere we find ourselves caught up in the human interest and heart appealing story of a young boy who can bring romance to a sporting atmosphere. (Stars: Luis Trenker, Tala Birell.)—Excellent.

Man About Town—Fox. Two ex-army officers who are working for the Secret Service find themselves involved in the stirring plot of blackmail and jealousy. (Stars: Warren Baxter, Conway Tearle, Karen Morley.)—Good.

Mission of the Mounted in Monogram. The duties of a clever member of the Northwest Mounted Police lead him to the fair of troublesome horse thieves, and his cleverness in the frustration of their plans adds another notch to his gun. (Stars: Bill Cody, Nancy Drexel.)—Good.

No Greater Love—Columbia. Overly sentimental, but touching, some how, this picture deals with the sorrow, self sacrifice and the patience of the poor. (Stars: Alexander Carr, Betty Jane Graham, Dickie Moore.)—Good.

Radio Patrol—Univ. The dangers constantly faced by the police in the discharge of their duty provide material for an exciting story that is interwoven with a charming love story. (Stars: Robert Armstrong, June Clyde, Lila Lee.)—Very Good.

Riders of the Desert—World Wide. Enthusiastic recommendations by our reviewers stamp this Bob Steele offering as an outstanding western.—Excellent.

Rider of Death Valley—Univ. Tom Mix and his famous horse battle with death from thirst on desert sands.—Very Good.

The Riding Tornado—Columbia. As a champion bronco buster Tim McCoy exhibits some excellent skill in riding. Stampedes, lightning, storms and horse thieves evidently have no terrors for him.—Good.

Sky Brake—Paramount. This is the name given to a stunt flyer's plane. The plot deals with a day of reckless flying in which the plane of the hero collides with that of his pal, causing his friend's death. Interest never lags, so full of thrills and fast action are the periods of breathless excitement. (Stars: Richard Arlon, Jack Oakie, Very Good.)

So High Water. Memorable for its sharply cut characterizations of the martyr suffering for her boy, and for the strange entanglements of life that are so often difficult to understand. With sustained interest in the plot, fine photography and brilliant directing, we have all the ingredients of a great picture. (Stars: Barbara Stanwick, Dickie Moore, George Brent.)—Excellent.

The Viking Beacon Film. One of the most interesting and thrilling pictures that has come to the screen in a long time in this epic of the sea. It is the filmed story of the vessel "The Viking" which went to its grave on the bottom of the Northern Seas after the explosion of Newfoundland on March 16th, causing the death of Varick Frissell, the producer, his cameraman, A. E. Penrod, and a score of others. In order to make the story a romantic drama, a thin thread of plot has been spun through it, but long after the exciting story theme is forgotten the grandeur of leobers, the frozen beauty of the North, and the staunch courage of the men will be remembered. This picture is a year old, but has been newly edited for general distribution. (Sound.)—Excellent.

When a Feller Needs a Friend—Metro. Jackie Cooper in the part of a lame boy. The loving sympathy of an old man helps him overcome the tremendous difficulties that shadow his life. (Stars: Jackie Cooper, Chic Sale.)—Excellent.

Radio Forecast

272.0V—WVWV—1100 Kc.
WLWV—Paulist Fathers
New York City

Sunday, July 31

3:15 P. M.—"The Voice of the Missions"
3:30 P. M.—St. Cecilia Ensemble
Eileen Burns, reader
Fernando Guarnier, baritone
8:00 P. M.—Cathedral Shadows
8:15 P. M.—"Fundamentals of Catholic Belief"
Rev. Peter E. Heey, C.S.P.
8:35 P. M.—Gothic Moods

Monday, August 1

6:00 P. M.—Italian Orchestra
6:15 P. M.—"Smiles and Tears of Erin"
Hilary McConnell, soloist
6:45 P. M.—Aurora Raganini, pianist
7:00 P. M.—Told at Sunset
7:30 P. M.—Talk
7:45 P. M.—Meet the Composer with Rosa Spheeris

Tuesday, August 2

6:00 P. M.—Garden Ensemble
Thomasina Murray, soprano
6:30 P. M.—Frank Flanagan, violinist
6:45 P. M.—Kelly and Keith
7:00 P. M.—Under the Russian Moon
Lurlan Tamur, soloist
7:30 P. M.—Talk
7:45 P. M.—Ruse Ensemble

Wednesday, August 3

6:00 P. M.—"Hits and Bits" Melody Lane Orchestra
6:30 P. M.—The Circoline Girl
6:45 P. M.—Herman Steisel, cellist
7:00 P. M.—Loved Songs of Many Nations
7:30 P. M.—"Question Box"
P. M.—The Eyes Have It
Edward O'Brien, soloist

Thursday, August 4

6:00 P. M.—"Memory's Garden"
George O'Brien, soloist
6:30 P. M.—Ensemble Classique
P. M.—Cotton Blossoms
7:00 P. M.—Monastery Echoes
Joseph Martucci, organist
7:30 P. M.—"Timely Topics"
Rev. John T. McGinn, C.S.P.
7:50 P. M.—Ensemble Classique

Friday, August 5

2:00 P. M.—Symphony Orchestra
2:45 P. M.—Man in the Moon
6:00 P. M.—Kay Macrae, soprano
6:15 P. M.—Florentine Ensemble
6:30 P. M.—Paul Watson, baritone
6:45 P. M.—Emeric Kurtagh, pianist
7:00 P. M.—Ensemble Classique
7:30 P. M.—The Catholic Reporter
7:45 P. M.—Los Caporales

Saturday, August 6

6:00 P. M.—Hungarian Musicale
Marie Romaine, soprano
Stephen Santor, baritone
6:30 P. M.—WLWV Players
7:00 P. M.—Florentine Ensemble
7:15 P. M.—The Minstrel Boy
7:30 P. M.—Talk
7:45 P. M.—County Meath Boys

Dean of Priests in India Dies
Madras, India.—The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Edwin Michael Angelo, oldest priest in India, has passed away after almost 63 years in the priesthood. Mgr. Angelo was born on April 6, 1844, and ordained for the Archdiocese of Madras on October 2, 1869.

Catholic World Over

(Continued from Page One)

of the 200th anniversary of the coronation of the statuette of the Blessed Virgin at Prague. It is estimated that 150,000 persons visited the shrine during the week and that 50,000 of them received Holy Communion.

The House of the Good Shepherd at San Pedro de los Pinos, a village within the Federal District in Mexico has been closed and its director, Sister Obdulia Macia, and her three assistants put in jail.

At the inter-diocesan Conference of the National Council of Catholic Women held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the Most Rev. Albert T. Daeger, O.F.M., archbishop of Santa Fe, the Most Rev. Anthony J. Schuler, S.J., Bishop of El Paso, and the Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Bishop of Denver, were speakers.

The one hundredth anniversary of St. Vincent's Orphanage, conducted by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at Louisville, Ky., was recently observed.

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