

Columbus Noted For Genius, Faith

Christopher Columbus discovered a new world, but since his death, the world has been unable to discover his final resting place.

While the famous explorer lay dying in Spain, he expressed the desire to be buried in Santo Domingo, the present day Dominican Republic, "the fairest land under heaven," as termed it.

In the centuries old cathedral at Ciudad Trujillo, guides point out the tomb of Christopher Columbus and the last resting places of his daughter-in-law Maria de Toledo, and Luis his grandson. His brother Bartholomew is also reputed to be buried somewhere in the vast and ancient cathedral.

Others claim that the body of the explorer is in a tomb in Seville, Spain, and some say the remains are in an unmarked grave in Havana, Cuba.

Santo Domingo will probably never be able to prove its claim that Columbus lies buried there but no one can deny that this Caribbean island was the favorite of his many discoveries, and that here is where he wanted to be laid to rest.

The cobbled streets in front of the cathedral once resounded to the conquistadores who followed after the famous discovery of October 12, 1492. Pizarro, DeSoto, Ponce de Leon, Cortes launched their conquering legions from this tiny island, once the capital of Spain's empire in the new world.

The island was devastated by a storm in 1830 and the ramshackle hodge-podge city which was old even before the Pilgrims came to Plymouth Rock has been rebuilt into a bustling, clean, laural metropolis.

Tourists, however, can still visit the stately monuments which survived the storm — the old cathedral, the historic battlements, the fortress-castle — all of which take the traveler back to the dim yesterday when Columbus began the struggle to gain possession of this vast new world.

Four trips across the treacherous Atlantic changed Columbus from a man of genius to an emaciated, mentally shattered victim. Legends describe his final poverty and rejection but these are distorted portraits of his biography. Back in Spain, he was able to live comfortably but his restless heart craved to find the sea route which would lead west from Europe across to Asia. Columbus died still thinking he had discovered nothing more than islands near the Asiatic coast.

Before mummy and typhoon had wrecked his mind and body, Columbus was one of the best skilled navigators of his time. He knew cosmography and astronomy and his personality won him friends in influential positions.

The famed explorer was also a man of lofty religious ideals. Above and beyond the fame and wealth he hoped to obtain from his discoveries, he also insisted that the natives be given instruction in the Christian faith. He always signed his own name Christopher — which means "Christ-bearer" in its original Greek — with the sign of a cross marked above it.

Even when clouds covered his career and after he had been forced to leave the lands he discovered, Columbus was still ready to devote his own personal possessions and the remaining years of his life to sail again someday to find perhaps the route that would take him to Asia and enable the Christians of Europe to reconquer the Holy Land from the hands of its infidel invaders.

Strange But True

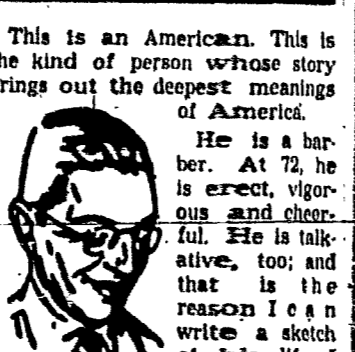
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JOSEPH BREIG

This Is An American



This is an American. This is the kind of person whose story brings out the deepest meanings of America.

Monday Morning, he got a job in a barber shop. He's been working every week day since.

By the time the Great Depression came along, our American owned his own barber shop, and had more than \$40,000 on deposit in several banks.

Our American borrowed money at exorbitant interest to meet his payroll that week. He liquidated his bank, and gradually got back on his financial feet.

There are six grandchildren by this time, and before long maybe there'll be a great-grandchild.

Our American doesn't own his barber shop now. He sold it recently to a young man who came over from Greece and is starting his own family and career.

Our American says that God has been mighty good to him, giving him health so that he could work every day for 36 years.

Our American sure does love America.

Not a very unusual story, you say? There are millions of Americans whose histories are similar. That's just the point, folks.

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Teresa's Rosary—Teresa was a thirteen year old Christian Huron Indian girl. The Jesuit missionaries provided her with a French education at the Ursuline School in Quebec.

Devout Rosary Recitation Urged As Sign Of Faith

More Rosaries are sold by religious goods stores than any other devotional item. Even the Bible ranks second when compared with the total number of Rosary beads purchased by Catholics each year.

Whenever an accident occurs, if a trooper or police officer spots a Rosary in the car, immediately a priest is called to administer the needed last rites of the Church.

In the Rochester Diocese, priests this month will lead their parishioners in recitation of the Rosary in a series of nightly broadcasts over station WSAJ at 7 p. m.

ST. DOMINIC, famous preacher of truth against the irreligious Abbigenians of southern France, is said to have seen our Lady in a vision. She gave him the Rosary as the weapon of his ultimate victory.

Five years later DeMontfort's army recited the Rosary before the crucial battle of Muret. After his clear cut victory De Montfort built the first chapel dedicated to our Lady of the Rosary.

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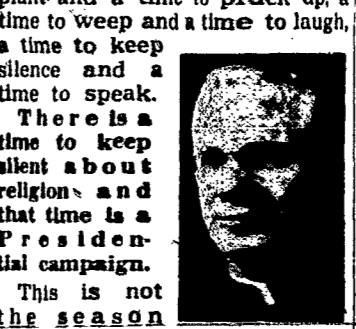
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FATHER SHEERIN Politicians Religion

A few weeks ago, a question on "The \$64,000 Challenge" program (TV) pertained to a quotation from the Bible. The quote was from Ecclesiastes and said that there is a proper



place to start an explosion. Mr. Lefever, the author of the article, said he was not trying to deal with the total religious outlook of the candidates but with their religious beliefs insofar as they had a bearing on politics.

Recently "The Christian Century" did just that in its September 19th issue. It published an article by Ernest W. Lefever entitled "The Candidates' Religious Views."

Yet such an article is untimely in view of the excitement of the campaign period. I am surprised that it found its way into "The Christian Century," for this magazine prides itself on being a watchdog of our civil liberties.

We Catholics interpret the First Amendment to mean just what it says and no more — that no Church should enjoy a special privileged position in the United States.

Here, however, we find "The Christian Century" discussing the religion of the candidates in the heat of the campaign. What gives? Even Homer needs and even the best of editors falls asleep occasionally at his desk.

There is a time and place for lighting a match but you don't light a match in an oxygen tent. There is a time and place for discussing the religious views of Eisenhower and Stevenson, but this is the wrong time and "The Christian Century" is the wrong

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How To Read The Bible

Buffalo, N.Y. — (RNS)— The greatest trouble with Bible reading today is a lack of "creative imagination," Mrs. Martin Armstrong, J.F. of Springsdale, Conn., writer and daughter of the late Fulton Oursler, declared at the 10th National Congress of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine here.

IN A TALK ON "How to Read the Bible," Mrs. Armstrong who like her father is a convert to the Catholic Faith told the clerical and lay delegates that "too many people — lay, teachers and clergy — have lost the knack of making the Bible real."

"They talk about it in abstractions and stock quotations," she said. "They make the people of the Bible pawns and symbols, cardboard figures which can never uphold a living, breathing faith. Too often they sound as if they have never read the Bible for themselves and they do not believe it is every word of it, true."

Mrs. Armstrong said she did not understand persons who read new translations of the Bible. She urged the use of Bibles which are "free of obsolete words or chameleon words with more than one meaning."

"One of our neighbors, a good Protestant, protested loudly against the new Revised Version," she said. "He said, 'If the King James Version was good enough for St. Paul, it's good enough for me.'"

The Blind See

These are the "New Eyes" of Robert Hicks, Brigham Young University Graduate and Resident of Rochester, N. Y.

Catholics of the Rochester area have been urged by His Excellency, Bishop James E. Keane, to contribute to the "Light on for the Blind" fund drive scheduled to take place throughout Monroe County Monday evening, October 8th.

Totally blind for 4 years, Mr. Robert Hicks had his sight fully restored in 1954 by means of the cornea transplant operation. To quote Mr. Hicks: "Only the blind can comprehend the hopes, joyously feeling of living in a world of darkness, year after year. Today I live in the world of light, thanks to the miracle of the Eye Bank program. To all you wonderful people — eye donors, research experts, volunteer workers, financial contributors — I say, God Bless You All."



Seventeen-year-old Jimmy answered the phone. A salesman at the other end said, "Let me speak to your mother."

"Mom isn't home," replied Jimmy. "I'm just here with my sister."

"Okay, put her on." There followed a long silence. Finally Jimmy returned to the phone.

"I'm sorry, mister," he said, "but I can't lift her out of the playpen."

The Alamo Energy commission wished to test a new type of miniature A-bomb without attracting wide publicity. So instead of choosing the Nevada desert or a Pacific island for the explosion, they selected an isolated and supposedly uninhabited valley in the Great Smokies.

Freddie, an inefficient clerk in a small-town store, was not in evidence one morning. A customer asked, "Where's Freddie? He ain't sick, is he?"

"Nope," replied the proprietor. "He just ain't workin' here no more."