

From 'Donald Duck' To 'Lovers Lane'

Stress On Animal Stories Deplored

Public schools were charged here with being partially responsible for the present high rate of juvenile delinquency because of their "constant emphasis of animal stories, exclusive of any great, guiding principles of life."

"You can teach a child to recognize a peewee or a duck," he said, "but when he has finished there is nothing to be remembered, no great lesson left for him to live by."

"We have isolated the church from these schools and the home and left our children confused," the educator said. "We may meet in atheistic materials in our textbooks. The ideas youngsters learn during their early years influence their thinking for the remainder of their lives."

Dr. Ullin Leavelle, director of the McGuffey Reading Clinic at the University of Virginia, made the charge in an address to the annual meeting of the Texas Baptist Sunday School Convention.

He told the Sunday School teachers that the American elementary school has been "stripped of virtually all material worthy of a child's thinking."

Innocence of Donald Duck is not the end, however," he added. "The publishers of comic books know what the children read and how their thinking can be influenced. So they lead them on in progressive steps, from Donald Duck to Popeye to Minnie, and from there to 'Lovers Lane,' 'Love Experiences,' 'Personal Romances' and 'Taboo.'"

Africa Diocese

Vatican City (GNC)— Pope Pius has created a new see in Mozambique — the Diocese of Porto Amélia — and has named Father Jose Dos Santos Garcia as its first Bishop.

Gains In Africa

Cape Town, South Africa — (GNC) — the new Catholic Directory of South Africa shows a year's gain of 82,890, bringing the total Catholic population in southern Africa to 1,207,551. The greatest increase by far, 77,793, was among the Negroes, bringing the Negro Catholic total to 966,256.

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Reds Get Setback In Union Election

Trade, Italy — (GNC) — The industrial stronghold of communism gave a sharp setback to Red hopes when workers at the huge Fiat auto works gave 114,000 votes on the factory's internal labor commission to C.I.S.L., the Christian Democratic inspired labor union. The communist-dominated O.G.I.L. won only 34 seats.

The Reds polled a total of 21.1 per cent of the factory vote in the (April 9) election in which 60,000 workers went to the polls. Back in 1955 the communist labor consideration garnered 75.9 per cent of the vote. The Reds remained in control until two years ago.

Are not you of such a race
whom men have slain? (Matthew 23:31)

Christ's disciples must trust in the Father and not the world. They must not be anxious about what they shall eat or drink or be clothed. "For all these things the Gentiles seek. . . . your heavenly Father here knows that you need all these things." (Matthew 6:25-32)

Even His own authority, Christ Jesus to the authority of His Father. For in the world's acceptance not to His Father's love does Christ appeal. "The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hands." (John 3:35)

In His defense of His divinity, His Godhead, Christ reveals the mystery of love between His Father and Himself. "Whoever he (the Father) does, His the Son also does in like manner. . . . for the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself does." (John 5:19, 20)

The revelation of Father and Son is the climax of Christ's teaching: "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son. . . ." (Matthew 11:27)

The union of Christ with His Father is a union of divine love from all eternity. "That which I do in the name of My Father, these bear witness concerning me. . . . I and the Father are one." (John 10:25, 30) "He who sees me also sees the Father." (John 14:9)

For Christ death on the cross is the return to His Father. "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again I leave the world and go to the Father." (John 16:28)

ALWAYS CHRIST finds refuge from the world in His Father's love. Rejected by the world, He can cry out, as He does in the Temple: "I am not alone, but with me is he who sent me, the Father." (John 18:16)

On the night of His Passion, when His own apostles abandon Him, Christ finds His support in His Father. "Behold the hour is coming, and has already come for you to be scattered. . . . and to leave me alone. But I am not alone, because the Father is with me." (John 16:32)

Even in His hour of betrayal in Gethsemane, Christ knows that His Father is with Him. "Dost thou not suppose that I cannot entreat my Father? He will send me twelve legions of angels?" (John 18:11)

CHRIST'S LAST words to His Father, His last words to the world, are spoken from the cross. His first word from the cross is a prayer for the world: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

Christ's last word from the cross is a prayer for Himself: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit. His meaning is clear. . . . 'I am not alone because the Father is with me.'"

This is God's love for man speaking. This is God's love for God speaking from the Cross!



Easter Sunday marks the end of Holy Week and the Lenten Season . . . commemorating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Rebirth of Spring. Thus the Continuity of Life is revealed to men.

In 325 Anno Domini, a group of Holy Men met in Nicea, in ancient Asia Minor, and declared that Easter shall be the first Sunday following the Paschal Moon, which occurs on, or shortly after, the 21st day of March.

This time of the year was selected because the joyous Pilgrims, journeying to the Easter Festivities, needed the light of a full moon by which to travel.

Perhaps the significance of the full moon is lost today, but the real meaning of the Easter Morning endures, and an understanding of its message is as needful today.

Within every man and woman of stature is an awareness of the added strength and power that comes from a hand-in-hand association with the spiritual values that come from God.

May each of you find strength and hope in the Message of Easter Morning.

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From The Cross

On this last afternoon of Christ's life, death stands on Calvary awaiting entry. Only when Christ surrenders to death will death approach the cross.

On Calvary death slays Christ even as the winds and the seas obeyed Him in Galilee. Hence under the cross death awaits the great pleasure of "One who said, 'I am the Bread of Life and the Life'" (John 11:25)

Christ's last prophetic cry on the cross is a command to death and death slays. . . . "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit. And having said this, he expired." (Luke 23:46)

CHRIST'S LAST words from the cross are borrowed from the ancient Psalmist's prayer of hope. "Into thy hands I commend my spirit; thou wilt deliver me, O Lord, thou faithful God." (Psalm 30: v. 5)

Adding the word "Father," Christ makes this prayer of the Psalmist His own prayer. His final prayer from the cross: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

This profound confidence in His Divine Father springs from Christ's boundless filial devotion. This Christ on the cross is the same Christ that we have always known. Always He is conscious of His unique and intimate unity with His Father.

Always Christ is conscious that He is carrying out the work of His Father, even on the cross. Always Christ knows that His Father will stand by Him, even though the world rejects Him.

Christ's last words in the Temple, His last on the cross, are a dedication to His Father's love. "I must be about my Father's business." (Luke 2:49)

From Galilee to Judea Christ never tires of urging upon His disciples confidence and trust in His Eternal Father. Therefore, they should pray, Christ tells them, with loving confidence. . . . "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. . . ." (Matthew 6:9-13)

They should serve Him with their affection because then "your heavenly Father will also forgive you your offences." (Matthew 6:14)

Christ's disciples should trust in God's merciful providence. "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them."