

### Joseph Breig The West

A youngster is buried some-where in the vast distances of Western America. There was audible pain in the voice of Beulah Anthony Conrad as she told me the story.

While Mrs. Conrad spoke, there rose before me a vision of the newness, the immensity, and the gigantic neighborliness of the United States.

The lost little one was a childhood companion of Beulah Conrad's mother. Burial under the enormous skies of the plains state came while a wagon train was making its tortuous way from Missouri to Montana.

By day, these pioneer families passed endless herds of buffalo, like an undulating black ocean. By night coyotes howled, prowling for victims.

It is all vivid in the mind of Beulah Conrad because she heard it over and over from her mother's lips.

She told these memories while we rode in an automobile along a dirt road paralleling the 7,500-acre ranch she and her husband, Bowen Conrad, have developed in 32 years from a 400-acre beginning.

"They brought their cattle with them," she said. "Two or three times they had to leave a sick beast. Before it was out of sight, they saw the coyotes circling it."

"My mother was in her teens, and this young friend died," Beulah Conrad's words came slowly, but out of sympathy she buried her never-knew where — and went on. "There was a break in Mrs. Conrad's voice. 'I don't see how they did it.'"

"They did it because they had to," I said.

"Yes," said Beulah Conrad.

I met the Conrads through Bob and Virginia Broderick of Wauwatosa, Wis., with whom my wife and I spent two weeks on an auto tour of some of the west.

I say "some of the west" because, although we covered nearly 4,000 miles, we saw only a comparatively small part of that portion of America.

Virginia Broderick is an artist and Bob is a writer. Through their eyes, I saw, and through their minds realized, much that otherwise I would have missed.

Bob is related to the Conrads by marriage, and we were fortunate enough to find Mrs. Conrad at home in her modest house in Cascade, Mont.

"Have you time to visit our ranch?" he asked. "Bowen is there. We drove 12 miles to the ranch house, and when I met Bowen Conrad, I understood why he is not contented away from his lands, even though he is turning them over to his daughter and her husband."

Bowen is 76. He looks perky and thick, his shoulders are wide and his arms powerful. He wears long rubber boots because he had been out irrigating.

Bowen's son-in-law, with a ranch hand, riding horses, came away from the house as we approached. Mrs. Conrad just joined the window on her side of the car and called out introductions.

The son-in-law maneuvered his mount closer, holding it on a slight rein. "I got a spooky horse here," he said. He explained that they were off to round up cattle, because next day was branding day.

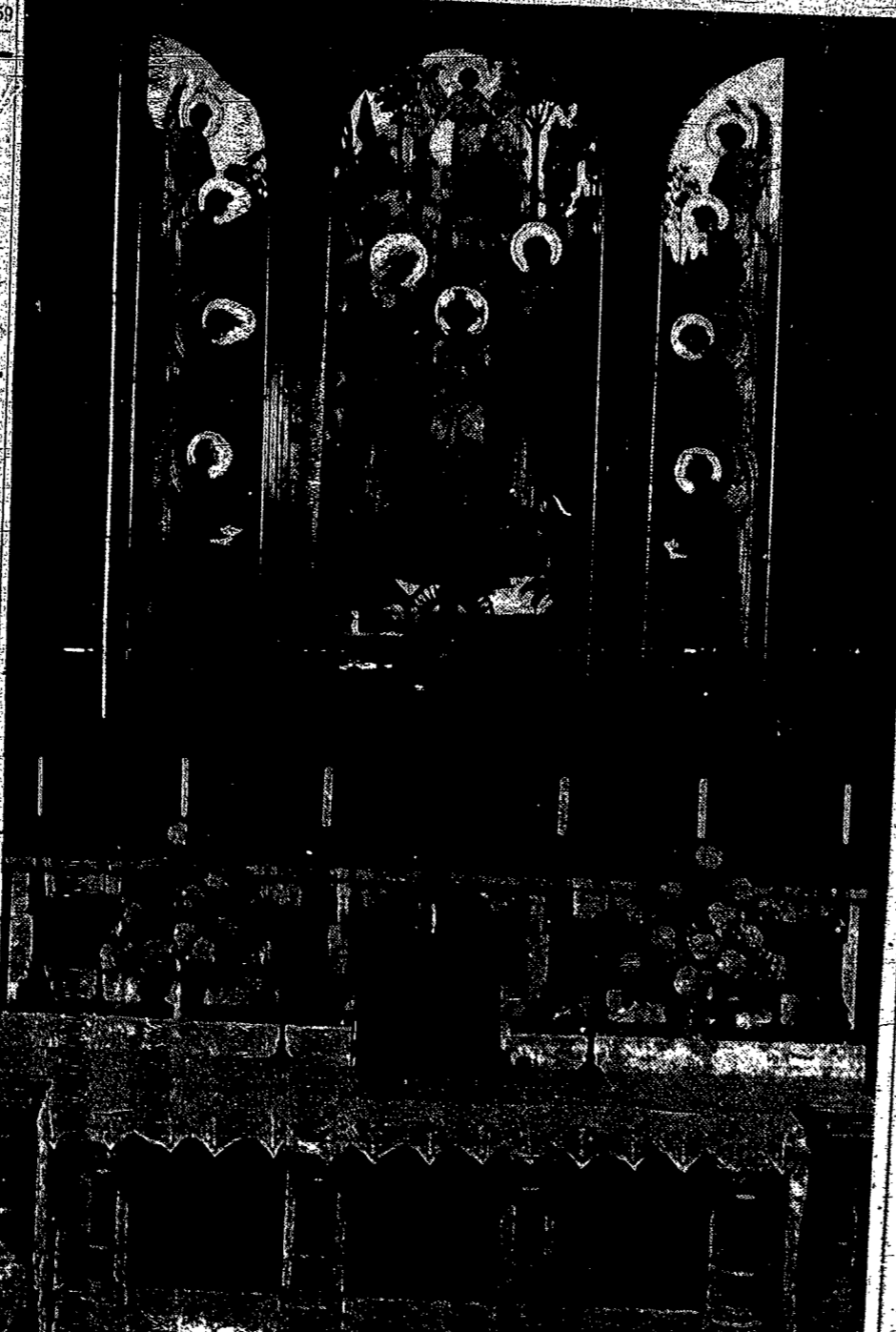
We drove to the house and went in, and at once were as much at home as if we had known these people for years.

That is what I mean by the neighborliness of Americans. We experience it a hundred times on our trip. But the reality, far deeper than the mere "neighborliness," for all its meaning and beauty, can convey.

Perhaps I can make my point clearer in this way. I felt deeply what Beulah Conrad was feeling when she spoke about the youngster buried somewhere in 2,000 miles of prairie.

I am a city man, working at a typewriter in an office, and never before had I seen a hitch-hiker. Beulah Conrad's sorrow, handed down from her mother, was my sorrow.

Often my father told me that his grandparents, immigrants from Germany, buried at sea a daughter who was born aboard ship. She and the youngster in the prairie are about as far apart as the heartbreak and heroisms that made America.



### Auburn Altar Redecorated

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, Auburn now boasts the beautifully renovated altar shown in the above photo. The altar piece takes the form of a triptych, the central panel of which depicts the Holy Family and the flanking panels show groups of angels. Painting was executed by Walter O'Brien under the direction of Herman Butler. Wood carving was done by Woerner and Son of Rochester. Holy Family parish will celebrate its 125th anniversary in October.

### Critic Calls Us Snobs

River Forest — (NC) — A music critic charged here that Americans "are, musically speaking, a nation of ignorants, of American snobs."

Paul Hume, music editor of the Washington, D.C., Post and Times Herald, stated that Americans have a "strong racial inferiority complex, and we proceed to bulldoze it by shorting our agreement with European judgments."

BY CONTRAST, he told a symposium on American culture at Bryn Mawr College here. "It is always the case that the European musician visiting this country praises our music schools, our conservatories and our orchestras."

Mr. Hume cited the case of pianist Van Cliburn, virtually unknown in this country before winning a music competition in Moscow, as an instance of neglect of native artists until they win acclaim abroad.

"Without the least exaggeration," he added, "it is possible to do a half dozen pianists whose bits are fully the equal of Van Cliburn's, and this is no detraction from his solid talents."

"But most of the other six gets so much as a nod from us, though they too have won high honors in the world of music. It is a kind of ostracism for the use of the word."

In the field of religious music, Mr. Hume said it is "infinitely inferior to that performed at concert."

"It must be noted," he added, "that since people hear music in churches, then from all other sources, and music combined, that we are still falling in a wholesale way in this most significant area."

"It is the toughest time we return to the practice of having our most celebrated composers write some of their finest music for the use of the church."

Mr. Hume called for a "gradual broadening of musical taste" that would be to correct the frequency by "snobism and liturgical tastes of American audiences, snobbish conditions and critics."

He urged her to extend financial support — if necessary, from the government — for American composers and performers.

Painter Jean Chabot echoed the complaint that artists received insufficient support and encouragement in this country. "Artists are not only out of favor, but are in a state of financial distress," he said. "Russia puts its painters into functional jobs by forcing them into an exorbitant



### Aid For Deaf Children

Cleveland (RNS) — Mrs. Ted Gabel of Cleveland, an artist for the International Catholic Deaf Association, shows her children some of the illustrations she drew for a new booklet, "Confession Aid for Children." Mrs. Gabel and her husband are both deaf, as are their youngsters, Patricia Ann and Gregory. Deaf-mute children are taught to go through the booklet at confessions with a priest. Without the booklet, the children would have to go to a priest who understood sign language.

hold of realism. We feel free to criticize this state of affairs, but fail to realize how the pressure that capitalism exerts is scarcely less severe."

He added: "Many an American workman, for no more complex reason than a family to clothe and feed, turns to high-pressure commercial art. For a lifetime his creative gifts are kept on a leash and taught to turn tricks in praise of soap, whiskers and toilet paper. True, some artists grow rich at this trade. The best even acquire stomach ulcers and are ranked with executives."

Montreal — (NC) — A one-day forum on radio and television will be held at the University of Montreal on July 7 and 8. The program is sponsored by the League of Montreal.

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### Making Marriage Click Woman's Love

By MSGR. IRVING A. DEBLANC  
(Director, Family Life Bureau, N.C.W.C.)

It is certainly no accident that so many great men have had a great woman who inspired them. Bernard Shaw, the great English dramatist, achieved greatness — but Monica was there; Jerome was immortal — but Paula helped; Benedict made history — but Benedictine encouraged him; Francis of Assisi changed the course of Christianity — but Clare aided him; King Louis contributed much — but he was supported by Blanche of Castille.

Clovis was inspired by Clotilde; Dante by Beatrice; John of the Cross by Teresa of Avila; Francis de Sales by Jane Frances de Chantal; Vincent de Paul by Louise-Marillac, and so on and on. It is arresting that each contributed from their unique nature as a woman.

Philosophers say that action follows nature. Pope Pius XII added that "woman experiences more abundantly the influence of affection," and better manifests the presence of affection.

"In a sense, then, she is like a magnifying glass in the sun. This glass has the quality within it to capture the rays of the sun, to concentrate them and to transmit them with new heat, new splendor, new richness."

So woman by nature is in a more favorable position to feel the more vividly, to dilate it and transmit it to others.

This does not mean that woman's love is superior to man's but she does experience

### Three Faiths Hold Dinner Meet In Rome

Rome — (NC) — Catholics, Protestants and members of Eastern dissident churches have met here in an "agee" — or meeting of fraternal love — dedicated to Christian unity.

Cardinal Cento of the Vatican headquarters staff presided at the dinner, which is given annually by the Pilgrims of Christian Unity. This organization was one of three which took part in this year's Ecumenical novena for church unity at St. Peter's basilica.

THE SPEAKERS were unanimous in emphasizing charity's essential role in Christian unification.

Cardinal Cento told of learning during a visit to England that day after day the Carmelite Fatima has taken root among Anglicans.

The Rev. Donald Reh, a canon of the Church of England, spoke of his recent interview with His Holiness Pope John XXIII. He also told of the hopes of Anglicans for the canonization of Henry VI, last of the Lancastrian kings of England.

I think woman's capacity for love can uniquely rescue man from the cult of the physical and bring man close to the Person of God. St. Augustine reminds us that it is easy for the human heart to desire things from God and not desire God Himself as though whatever comes from God could be worth more than God Himself.

Woman's very nature draws all of us to the "person" more than to the "thing."

Pius XII called woman the "messenger of peace" for by her nature she is to dispose "this new generation toward universal fraternity and the horror of violence." But she must love people more than things. She is to preserve her dignity as a woman and as a mother.

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### At Home Favorite Cooking

From time to time give you a favorite recipe. Some of the choices of my chef bound up with Mrs. Jar. Long after the grace of her ginger faded into the year thought of that full fingers, bringing it by gone days security of a good as Edgar Guest put it: "I'm sorry for people ever they are where there's jar!"  
Mother had never chocolate bits, never growing up. Semislate cookery was in way of the famous Cookies. Still house old Cape Cod house built in 1708. In this building had a house where pass changed horses and before traveling on.

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