

The Sounding Board

By RED LOCKWOOD

It was originally intended to take the views of a man who vows that all the bad that has happened to man during the past 2,000 years was the fault of religion and the rebuttal of a theologian and fit them together in the form of a dialogue.

However, upon placing the texts of their views side by side it was found there was very little basic disagreement and both men seemed somehow to miss the heart of the issue they were debating.

For that reason, the following dialogue between a believer and a non-believer is presented. It is purely fictional, purely imaginary, but it is hoped that it may help to provoke or to stimulate thought among believers and non-believers.

PROOF OF GOD

"Prove to me," said the non-believer, "that there is a God as you call Him."

"Touch yourself, my friend," said the believer, "and you shall have the proof you desire."

"And so I do," said the non-believer, touching his head with his hand. "And so what does it prove?"

"What did you feel?" asked the believer.

"Me."

"And who are you?" asked the believer.

"I am me," replied the non-believer.

"And from whence did you come?" asked the believer.

"From my mother," replied the non-believer.

"And from where else?" asked the believer.

"From nowhere else."

MYSTERY OF INFINITY

"Raise your eyes and tell me what you see," said the believer.

"I see the sky."

"And what else?" asked the believer.

"I see the sun," said the non-believer.

"And what else?"

"Nothing," replied the non-believer.

"You see not the mystery of infinity?" asked the believer. "You see not the life-giving air? You see not the throbbing immensity of life all about you of which you are a part?"

"I see not those things," said the non-believer, "but it is true perhaps that they are there."

"From whence did they come?" asked the believer.

"I know not," said the non-believer, "perhaps they were always there."

"And your head that you touched?" asked the believer. "What gave you the power to touch your head? Who told you that your hand would touch your head when it moved? What told it where to go?"

"I know not," said the non-believer. "Perhaps it was me."

FLAVOR OF ETERNITY

"But what is you?" asked the believer. "Pray tell me, what is the mystery of you? Does not your mind at times fill with visions that you cannot explain? What brings the beauty that you see to your mind? Do you not scent the flowers in the spring and sense the flavor of eternity there? Do you not touch the grass and feel the vibrancy of life lurking there? Do you not thrill to the Songs of the birds and have your heart take wing? Do you not look upon the sea, or the moon, or the mountains, or the wonders of life-giving rain dropping from the sky to feel your heart thrrob in tune with the rhythm of an existence that brings them to you and you to them?"

BREATH OF LIFE

"I am me," said the non-believer.

"Ah, yes, and what is you?" asked the believer.

"What is the magic which makes you breathe, and see, and hear? What is the power that gives you the tingling zing of blood surging through your veins? Who gives you the song that must fill your heart at times? What is gone when you will lie moldering in your grave? The chemical and physical substance of your body will be the same, but what is missing to give softness to your eyes, a smile to your lips, love and gentleness in your heart, and beauty to your mind?"

"Life is missing," said the non-believer.

"Ah, yes," asked the believer, "and what is life?"

"Life is me."

"How could life be you when life is gone from you?" asked the believer.

"Then there will be no life," said the non-believer.

"And no you?" asked the believer.

"And no me," said the non-believer.

"Exactly," said the believer, "for when you deny the existence of a Power greater than yourself, you do not deny Him, you only deny that you are you."



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CATHOLIC

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH—1900 Tullita Ave., Redondo Beach. Monsignor Daniel P. Collins, Mass 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:15, 12:15, FR 5-6027.

CHURCH OF GOD

SOUTH BAY CHURCH OF GOD—17661 Yukon Ave., Phone 323-3978. Rev. C. L. Tierney, 17615 Yukon, Torrance. First morning service 8:30 a.m., Sunday school, 9:40 a.m., second morning service, 11:10 a.m., Sunday night service, 7:30 p.m. Mid-week services, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

FOUR SQUARE CHURCH

FOUR SQUARE CHURCH—Corner of Arington and Sepulveda. Telephone, DA 4-2072. Rev. and Mrs. James P. Lowen, pastors. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m., morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; group services, 6:00 p.m., Y.P. Cadets (Defenders), Evangelistic, 7:15 p.m. Mid-week, Wednesday Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Public invited.

LUTHERAN

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—Located on Carson St. and Flower Ave. in Torrance. Wm. J. Rotzler, pastor. Residences, 1625 Flower Ave., Phone FA 8-2149. Phillip C. Hillier, Assoc. Pastor, 679-7710. Church office, 1725 Flower Ave., FA 0-4181. First Church worship 8 a.m., Sunday School 8:45 a.m. and 9:45 a.m., and morning worship, 10:45 a.m. Christian Elementary, Kindergarten thru 7th grade.



NEARING COMPLETION is the First Assembly of God Church located on Torrance Blvd. near Hawthorne Blvd. Members of the church have been

working on the project for over four years. The Rev. William L. Holcomb is minister at the church. PRESS photo

Greyfriars Plan Picnic Tomorrow

Greyfriars Memorial Orthodox Presbyterian Church will climax two weeks of evening vacation Bible school with a program at the church on Friday evening and a vacation Bible school and Sunday school picnic at Lomita Park tomorrow.

The vacation Bible school program at 7 p.m. today will present music and memory work, feature "learning aids" and illustrative objects made by the students.

The Teachers who classes will participate are Mrs. Robert Pope, pre-school through first grade; Mrs. Harry Watkins and Mrs. Rod Douglas, second through fourth grade; Thomas Millard, Mrs. James Arnold and Norman Bomer, fifth and sixth grades; Mrs. Robert Anderson and Miss Kathleen Good, junior high class.

The vacation Bible school and Sunday school picnic will be an all-church affair featuring competitive games, with prizes for winners. Activities will begin at Lomita Park at 10 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Robert Pope is director of vacation Bible school. Reverend William J. Bomer is pastor of Greyfriars Memorial Orthodox Presbyterian Church located at 22511 S. Figueroa St.

Senior Couples To Hear Talk on Atherosclerosis

A talk on "Atherosclerosis—Diseases of the Heart" will be given to the Senior Couples Club of the Faith Lutheran Church, 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20, at the church, 33201 W. 85th St., Inglewood.

The timely subject will be discussed by Bartlett Saunders, M.D., member of the Los Angeles County Heart Association's Speakers Bureau. He is on the staff of Veterans' Administration Hospital at Wadsworth, Harbor General and Daniel Freeman hospitals.

Dr. Saunders is an instructor of Medicine at UCLA, a member of the Internal Medical Society and the Medical Association of Los Angeles County.

Program chairman for the Senior Couples Club is Etta Deimert of 8931 La Salle Ave., Los Angeles 90047. Speakers on prevention and treatment of heart and blood vessel disorders may be obtained by contacting the Southwestern Regional Council of the Los Angeles County Heart Association, 16811 Hawthorne Blvd., Lawndale, or by calling 371-3591.

Those who attain to any excellence commonly spend life in some one single pursuit, for excellence is not often gained upon easier terms. — Samuel Johnson

Mormon Church Officials to Attend Conference

Elder Alma Sonne, assistant to the Council of Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon), Salt Lake City, will preside at a quarterly conference of the Torrance Stake tomorrow and Sunday in San Pedro.

Accompanying Elder Sonne will be Elder Hugh C. Smith, member of the Priesthood Home Teaching Committee and Elder Berkeley L. Bunker of the Missionary Committee.

General sessions of the conference will be conducted Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. by Stake President Roland Earl Gagon, No. 4 Cerrito Place, Rolling Hills Estates.

Visitors are welcome to attend these meetings in the Torrance Stake Center at 1635 W. 9th St., San Pedro. Elder Sonne is a prominent banking and civic leader of Northern Utah, in addition to his church assignment. He has been a leader in the Rotary Club and is chairman of the board of trustees of Utah State University, Logan, Utah. He served as a missionary, stake president and European Mission president.

Elders Smith and Bunker will address special meetings



ALMA SONNE Assistant to the Council of Twelve Apostles Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

spiritual regeneration. The prayers and the music of Rosh Hashonah stress the theme of God's universal rule of the world and the brotherhood of man. The liturgy is featured by the sound of the Shofar, or ram's horn, which is designated as a call to conscience and is meant to arouse man's innate goodness to do combat with unworthy conduct.

Yom Kippur is the most solemn day on the Jewish calendar and is devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance. The services commence with the chanting of "Kol Nidre," (All Vows), one of the most celebrated of all liturgical melodies, which is a musical prayer beseeching divine mercy for rash conduct during the year.

A final blast of the ram's horn at sunset Sept. 28 will conclude the Holy Day period.

Buddhist Church Sets Japanese Language School

Registration for all new students and transfers for Saturday or daily classes is now being held for the Japanese Language School at the Gardena Buddhist Church, 1517 W. 166th St. in Gardena.

The Japanese Language School will begin tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Regular school hours will begin Saturday, Sept. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for all grades, first grade through high school.

Daily classes will begin Monday, Sept. 9, 1963, for first and second grades only. Hours will be from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Students will be accepted Sept. 7 or 9, but are urged to register prior to these dates. Persons desiring further information, are asked to call DAVIS 7-9400.

Subject of the Bible Lesson is "Man," with the following Golden Text: "Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments" (Psalm 112:1).

Related readings from the denominational textbook will include this: "Dost thou love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy mind? This command includes much, even the surrender of all merely material sensation, affection, and worship" (Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 9).

One that desires to excel should endeavor it in those things that are in themselves most excellent. — Epictetus

Different men excel in different ways. — Pindar

CHURCHES

Witness Convention Continues at Rose Bowl

The eight-day international convention of Jehovah's Witnesses opened at the Pasadena Rose Bowl Sunday with an address of welcome by John P. Sutherland, chairman. Delegates from all 50 states and 37 foreign lands jammed the facilities the first day. The attendance on Sunday reached 80,545.

Speaking from a platform surrounded by flowers and bubbling fountains, Sutherland opened by welcoming the delegates to the grand finale of 24 world-wide conventions scheduled during 1963.

"Many people wonder why we hold such conventions," Sutherland said. "It is our purpose to bring honor to the name of Jehovah, the true God, and bring his name and purposes to the attention of the nations. We are determined to spread the everlasting good news," he said.

Commenting on their activity in Communist-dominated lands Sutherland said their work continues despite persecution and propaganda directed at the organization. "In communist lands all our attempts to send mis-

sonaries to spread the good news have failed," he said. "Yet it is the persecution and imprisonment that is spreading Jehovah's Witnesses throughout the Iron Curtain countries. These ministers keep talking everywhere they go and the results is expansion and growth."

"Bearing the name Jehovah is our business," he concluded. "It is a full-time job. It's not always popular to bear Jehovah's name and we don't expect it to be. Jesus warned at Matthew 24:9 that true christians would be hated and persecuted, and no other group of people on earth fit that description better than Jehovah's Witnesses. We are happy to bear it," he said.

A mass baptism will be conducted Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Upwards of 1500 candidates are expected to submit to water immersion following a special service at the Rose Bowl.

Highlight of the eight-day program will be the public address by N. H. Knorr, president of the Watchtower Society. He speaks Sunday, Sept. 8 at 3 p.m. on the subject, "When God Is King Over All the Earth."



N. H. KNORR Witness president

Temple States School Registration

Religious school registration will take place at Temple Menorah Saturday, Sept. 7 and Sunday, Sept. 8, from 9 to 12 a.m.

Religious school officially starts Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 14 and 15. Saturday, Sept. 14, grades four through 10 meet from 9 to 12 a.m.

Third Graders Sunday, Sept. 15, grades pre-kindergarten through third meet from 9:30 to 12 a.m.

Persons desiring more information regarding the pre-kindergarten class, are asked to call the Temple office, FR 8-8444.

Hebrew registration will take place at the temple on Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 3 to 5 p.m. Max Rauch is director of education at the temple.

People forget how fast you did a job — but they remember how well you did it. — Howard W. Newton

Next to excellence is the appreciation of it. Thackeray

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