

60 SECOND SERMON

By Paul Dodge

"NO ONE IS TOO BIG AN APOLOGIST. HE CAN BE TOO SMALL." - El Tasso.

A member of Parliament called another an ass in the sacred precincts of the House. Unparliamentary language being forbidden, the offending member had to apologise. He didn't like doing it, but he did it. "I withdraw my statement, but I maintain the honorable gentleman is not of order."

"How am I out of order?" the other man asked heatedly. "Probably a Veterinary surgeon could tell you," was the retort.

Everyone at some time should apologise. No one is perfect. We all err or offend many times and apologise one day. No normal person enjoys apologising. However, when an apology is due it should be made forthrightly and cheerfully. In admitting a fault or an offense with genuine regret, a cleansing takes place that washes away the emotional or perhaps an unresolving, wreckage. We feel better for it.

It isn't easy to apologise, but the act of humbling ourselves by outwardly acknowledging a fault and honestly regretting it, helps us to grow a little taller and to walk a little straighter. The crumb, safe person who never expresses an apology demonstrates a self-centered smallness, lack of self-control and responsibility. Only a truly big and civilized person is capable of apologising.

SENATOR ERWIN SAYS

WASHINGTON — During the consideration of the proposed bill to repeal Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, I submitted amendments to correct some abusive practices which have developed in the interpretation of the National Labor Relations Act.

One of the amendments which I offered would remedy the National Labor Relations Board practices which require an employer to recognize and deal with a labor organization that alleges employer support on the basis of authorization or pledge cards. Under any amendment, the NLRB could not order an employer to recognize or deal with a union unless it was selected by a majority of the employees in a secret ballot election.

It is difficult to see why anyone would object to a secret ballot procedure to determine union recognition. Yet under NLRB interpretations of the National Labor Relations Act, an employer may be forced to recognize and deal with a labor organization which does not represent a majority of his employees. By virtue of the interpretations of the Act, employees are being deprived of the right to express their choice in secret elections. The excuse given for this growing practice is that the pledge system saves time and work in conducting elections. The argument is without merit, for the short-cut often turns into a costly and sometimes bitter court battle.

Secret elections are essential for other reasons. They are the best method of insuring the right of free choice. Where the plant is small, a secret ballot election can be held in a few hours. Experience has shown, too, for a variety of reasons, that cards are an unreliable indicator of the employee's true intent. The NLRB itself declared in the Sunbeam case that "authorization cards are a notoriously unreliable method of determining majority status of a union."

The Peoples Drug Stores case is another example of this. The case is being litigated on an appeal following a NLRB decision upholding the pledge card procedure to establish union recognition. A two-hour election could have settled this issue.

Under recognition by "authorization cards" has been deployed in Congressional committees and on the floors of the House and Senate. It has been the subject of critical editorial comment in news papers throughout the country. A House Labor Committee has conducted a special one-day hearing on the practice, and a Senate hearing on the confirmation of the Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board has explored the problem.

The signing of a pledge card

CORNER

Q—Would you tell me if a 250 percent disabled veteran can take out a loan on the new GI "I" insurance, and if so, how much could he obtain?

A—There are no loan provisions on the new GI "I" insurance that is now being sold to disabled veterans.

Q—I have one dependent and receive pension under the new pension law. What are the income limits for the various rates of pension?

A—With annual income of not more than \$1,000, the pension rate is \$155 monthly; with income of not more than \$2,000, the rate is \$90 and with income of not more than \$3,000, the rate is \$65.

Q—I recently moved and wish to file a change of address with the VA office.

A—The VA office handling the change of address is the Treasury Department. Mail it to the VA office handling custody of your records as a veteran.

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continued support given to the annual Thanksgiving Clothing Campaign sponsored by the Catholic bishops of the United States.

Good or unwanted but still usable clothing, footwear, blankets and bed linens donated to the 17th Annual Catholic Bishops' Thanksgiving Clothing Campaign will be distributed to millions of needy persons, entirely without regard to race, religion, or color, in areas of misery and want throughout the world by Catholic Relief Services, the overseas aid agency of the American bishops and laity.

Is there somewhere in your house, taking up closet space, a dress that is out of style, a suit you no longer care for, shoes that the children have outgrown or extra blankets and bed linen? These articles can protect and bring comfort to a homeless refugee family from Red China living huddled together in a miserable hovel in Hong Kong or Macao; cover the nakedness of a helpless little Vietnamese war orphan; shield the torn feet of a Latin American peasant from the blistering heat of the sun-scorched earth; put a clean sheet on the bed of an expectant mother laboring to bring forth a new life in some make-shift clinic deep in the African bush.

Share in the joy of Thanksgiving Day by sharing the harvest of your good fortune with the less-fortunate overseas. Send or bring a bundle of serviceable used clothing to the nearest Catholic church or rectory. This year, emphasize the giving in Thanksgiving. Your Thanksgiving Day will be the happier for having done so.

Religion In The Here And Now

Rev. Nervin C. Duncan

Jesus said: "I am The Door." John 10:9

Every person is looking for something; that something is life itself, life that is full, complete, satisfying. It is as if we were looking for a house, which is large, beautiful, fully equipped with everything that a house could have. It is, of course, a door to a house, and it is through the doorway that one enters into it. Jesus said of Himself: "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." As he looked out upon mankind, and knew its struggles, its desires, its hope, the trials, hurt, frustrations, failures he cried: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

It is amazing to look out upon the world, and realize how foolish mankind can be in its search for life. We have a guidebook in the Bible; and more, we have an embodiment of all truth revealed in the Bible in one man, even Jesus Christ. In his teachings, and in his example we have all the principles through which life is found; and yet,

The Lessons Of History

In a letter to the Romans Saint Paul tells them that "Whatever things were written aforetime were written for our learning." That, in one sense, holds for secular historians; they are concerned with events as they happened, leaving it to others to interpret and evaluate their meaning.

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We do not wish to be hard on any one, but the small items of this nature turn us to the man with the copy. All such material by us in the future without such a stamp will not be published.

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man, stupidly, foolishly, egotistically, deny Him who is THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. In choosing Him we find the door which admits us to life at its best and fullest. One can read the history and philosophies of many religions, and find something fine and good in them but it is in Jesus Christ that we find a completeness, a fulfillment of all our best hopes and desires.

But there is another door to be opened before we enter in through the door that leads to life, and that is the door of our own hearts. We must let Him into our hearts. He said: "Behold I stand at the door and knock. Once we let Him in in unconditional surrender to Him, we find that He is the door to the fullness of life. His way is the way of love. Today, we find a lot of people who claim to follow Jesus, but who seek to spell out life in prejudice, hatred, and violence. They are strangers to love, and have fellowship with the powers of darkness." Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father."

We do not know if any high school students read this editorial page, but we, in some hope that they may do so, address his plea to them, that they would study history, not only to recite it in the classroom, but to dig in and find out what it is all about, in order to make some intelligent appraisal of what they see in history.

For, it is a fact that we cannot understand what goes on today unless we know what happened yesterday, for yesterday is always coming up in today. What happened at the battle of Hastings in 1066; what happened to the Spanish Armada; what happened at the battle of Gettysburg have a lot to do with what goes on in the world today. It is important to know the motivations, the reasons, for happenings and events of the past if we can interpret the present, or make some reasonable prediction of things to come. If more people knew history, and were willing to profit by their knowledge, we should have fewer wars, less tensions and disturbance, and more peace and prosperity. The lot of the teacher would be made easier, and his much richer and better for the pupil, if the pupil would resolve "I am going to take a good look at these things and find out what is in them." He would make some startling discoveries.

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