

Daily Telegraph

SYDNEY, THURSDAY,
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TODAY'S THOUGHT: Respect yourself or no one else will.

Synod should keep the old prayers

MANY good Anglicans must have serious misgivings about the proposed changes in the wording of their Prayer Book, and in particular of the Lord's Prayer.

There is an argument for amending the 300-year-old phrases in cases where time has greatly changed or obscured their meaning.

But this should never be done at the cost of that beauty and sonority of language which can very properly enhance religious observance.

Nor shall it be done without thought to the deep attachment that all of us must have for words that have been learned and remembered for generations.

The immediate and overwhelmingly critical public reaction to the proposed changes bears this out; it should be noted and weighed by the members of General Synod before they admit these changes.

The stated wish of the Commission which drew up the new liturgy — to make worship "more intelligible, flexible and relevant" — is commendable in itself.

Lost aims

But if the version of the Lord's Prayer it has adopted is a fair sample of its judgment it must have lost sight of those aims.

A line like "Our bread of the morrow give us today" in the new version is surely neither sonorous nor simple, nor is it modern.

The old "forgive us our trespasss" surely conveys a clearer and wider meaning than "forgive us our debts."

If the revisers cannot do better than that the old words should be left as they are.

Churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike will hope fervently that Synod takes the same view.

No stopwork

THE Teachers' Federation has done the wise thing in promising not to hold protest strikes. The idea should never have come up in the first place.

Strike action in an essential service like teaching should be classed as an unthinkable solution no matter what the issue.

In this case, where teachers are protesting against overcrowding and other alleged shortcomings in the schools, it would have been a totally illogical approach.

If the teachers seek to impress on the public and the Government how important schools are they should show their own belief in the indispensability of their work.

Going on strike would be a strange way of doing that.

The Federation has a right to disagree with the policies of the Education Department, but no fair-minded person could say that the Government is unmindful of the school "population explosion."

Although the Government has had to contend with a serious fall in revenue its spending on school accommodation is nearly 30 percent above that of the previous Labor Government in its last year of office.

That figure puts into proper perspective the intemperate propaganda being put out by the Federation.

The £10 tourists

YOUR article on Monday, "We need people like your son, Mrs. Scott," was about a young migrant who came to stay.

But travelling from England in a migrant ship, I found that the majority of older migrants were £10 one-way tourists, who had no intention in the world of settling in Australia.

They openly boasted that £10 for a two-year trip to Australia was the tops.

This does not apply to the younger migrants, those in their 20s with one or two small children. They are happy to get away from England and its unlovely climate and seek a freer life in the sunshine for their children.

As they, almost to a man, told me—"England is as dead as the dodo." It was 10 years since I had been there, and I couldn't have agreed more.

You could fire a gun in Piccadilly and you wouldn't hit anyone. Saturday or Sunday in Oxford Street there is not a soul to be seen except perhaps one or two gawking tourists, mostly Americans.

On the way over to England there were six disgruntled families returning home. I could not get anything definite out of any of them, just a vague sort of dissatisfaction.

Pinning down one middle-aged housewife, I asked what it was she disliked so much about Australia.

"Oh," she said, "after we left the hostel we went to live in what you call a bungalow. I couldn't stand living in a place with ground all round me. I'm used to living close to my neighbor."

"Where I come from in Lidney (Gloucester) my mother's front door opened against mine, and we stepped straight out on to the street."

I knew exactly what she meant. Togetherness was the prime factor.

Another family, rather older, found Australians crude, uncultured, coarse and common. These folk will never make good anywhere and we are well rid of them.

Coming back from England we brought 1500 migrants, 400 of whom were children, and I made it my business to try to get to know them and to talk to them as one housewife to another.

What irritated me was the type of person selected by the Immigration Department to advise these people on conditions in Australia.

Whether she came from Australia or England I do not know, but she was certainly not the type to cope.

She had her statistics correct and all that, but just couldn't come down to earth about rents and the cost of living in various parts of Australia. She couldn't tell them about schooling and the sort of things families want to know.

I became very friendly with one young couple. I had seen bidding a tender farewell at Waterloo Station to their families.

Coming through the Heads just on dusk, Sydney looked absolutely gorgeous. The young husband grabbed my hand and said with tears in his eyes, "This is a most beautiful place. My wife and I are going to stay here forever, and our kids will thrive and love it."

"We'll put up with hostels and everything, but we will make good."

This is what we'd like to hear all the time.

—(Mrs.) DOROTHY E. PRIOR.

Bower St., Manly.



Justice

MANY people are disturbed by the magistrates' lack of common sense when they come to handing out penalties.

I will list some examples from *The Bulletin* article "Rough Justices," published on July 2.

● Two weeks' jail to a woman of 61 for her first conviction, stealing four packets of cigarettes.

● Ten year driving licence suspension to a youth who drove a car with one bald tyre.

● Four months' jail to a youth who stole food worth 42 cents. The youth was unemployed at the time of the offence.

● Four weeks' jail to a man who stole tea and bacon worth 60 cents.

Also, there was the newspaper report of two men being fined £10 each for "blooding" their greyhounds with live rabbits.

When one ponders over these cases, one wonders about the magistrates' standards. Evidently petty theft is more heinous in their view than sadistic cruelty to a helpless animal.

The fact that one of the people in the cases mentioned was unemployed made no difference, apparently. Stealing food when one is unemployed and hungry, is evidently as wicked as it was in 1790.

—P. EVANS.

Forest Rd., Hurstville.

Margarine

THE Australian Dairy Industry Council has effectively proved the point for Marrickville Margarine.

This company is asking that margarine made from Australian raw materials be free of quota restrictions. If, as the Dairy Council says, the output of Australian edible oils is insufficient to allow for margarine to be made from 100 percent Australian raw materials, and if the cost of the margarine made from Australian raw materials will go up because of alleged shortage of supply of edible oils, then what is the dairy industry complaining about?

If the facts are as they claim, then they have no fears from Marrickville Margarine having their aim of the freedom of choice of Mrs. Jones for Australian-made margarine being achieved.

—R. LEABEATER.

Stewart St., North Bondi.

Wharf plan

SYDNEY City Council's planning committee has taken the right step in asking for details of the Maritime Services Board's proposed wharf plan.

All councils concerned should investigate these plans, particularly in Johnston's Bay, White Bay and Mort's Dock.

It seems that over-emphasis has been placed on existing zonings, but surely a responsible authority should revise the zonings should previous decisions become untenable.

Sydney Harbor is unsuited topographically for the burden of wharf planned. Existing traffic has reached saturation point, and even though railheads are proposed, any additional traffic on the roads, however slight, would be unbearable.

If the Board has gone into details, and is not muddling along with a piecemeal program, let us

Sydney Cove 1791-1792

September 15, 1791

THE court of criminal judicature met according to the precept of the 14th of September.

Thomas Jones, a labourer, was charged with a robbery at Norfolk Island on the 9th of July. Jones pleaded not guilty, and William Hambly, William Philimore and Jones gave evidence.

The verdict of the court was "Acquitted, for Want of Evidence," and the papers were signed by Collins. (1)

Collins commented about

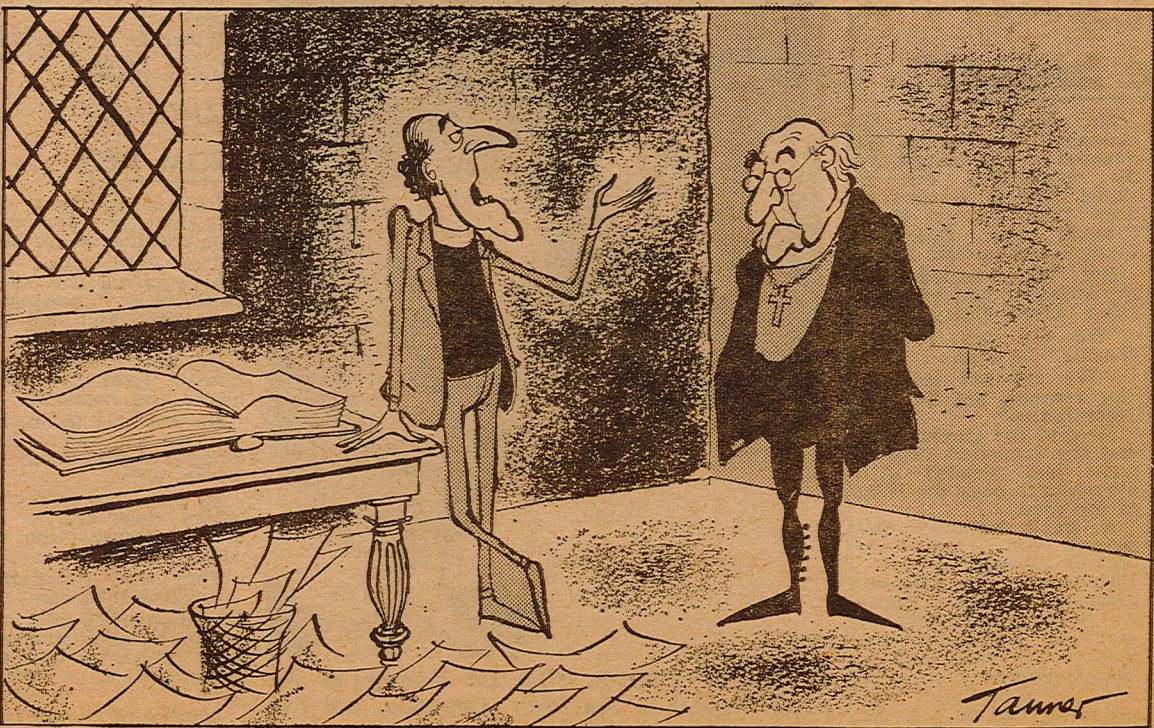
Day-by-day diary of Sydney's fourth and fifth years compiled by JOHN COBLEY.

this trial: "Great inconvenience was experienced from having to send prisoners from that island with all the necessary witnesses. In the case just mentioned the prosecutor was a settler, who being obliged to leave his farm for the time, the business of which was necessarily suspended until he could return, was ruined: and one of the witnesses was in nearly the same situation."

"But as the courts in New South Wales would always be the superior courts, it was not easy to discover a remedy for these inconveniences."

(1) Captain David Collins, marine, Judge Advocate.

Continued tomorrow



"Let's be really up to date and make it 'and write off our debts, as we write off our debtors'."