

# Among ourselves

By RUSS CROSBY

God Leads a Pretty Sheltered Life

At the end of time, billions of people were massed on a great plain before God's throne. Some of the groups near the front talked heatedly - not with cringing shame but with belligerence.

"How can God judge us?"

"How can He know what suffering is all about?" snapped a girl. She jerked back a sleeve to reveal a tattooed number from a Nazi concentration camp. "We endured terror, beatings, torture, death!"

In another group, a man lowered his collar. "What about this?" he demanded, showing an ugly rope burn. "Lynched for being black!"

"We have suffocated in slave ships, been wrenched from loved ones, toiled till only death gave release."

Far out across the plain were hundreds of such groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and suffering He permitted in His world. How lucky God was to live in heaven where all was sweetness and light, where there was no weeping, no fear, no hunger, no hatred, no disease - none of the horrors of earth. Indeed, what did God know about what man had endured in this world?

"After all God leads a pretty sheltered life," they said.

So each group sent out a leader, chosen because he had suffered the most. There was a Jew, a black, an untouchable from India, an illegitimate, a Vietnamese, a person from Hiroshima and one from a Siberian labor camp.

In the center of the plain they consulted with each other. At last they were ready to present their case. It was rather simple: Before God would be qualified to be their judge, He must endure what they had endured. Their sentence was that God "should be sentenced to live on earth as man!"

But because He was God, they set certain safeguards to be sure He could not use His divine powers to help Himself.

Let Him be born a Jew.

Let the legitimacy of His birth be doubted, so that no one will know who is really His father.

Let Him champion a cause so just but so radical that it brings down on Him the hate, condemnation and eliminating efforts of traditional and established authority.

Let Him try to describe what no man has ever seen, tasted, heard, smelled or handled - let Him try to communicate God to men.

Let Him be turned in to the authorities by one of His few friends.

Let Him be indicted on false charges, tried before a prejudiced jury and sentenced by a cowardly judge.

Let Him see what it is to be terribly alone and completely abandoned by every living thing.

Let Him be tortured and let Him die. Let Him die a humiliating death, with common thieves.

As each leader announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the great throng. But when the last had finished pronouncing sentence, there was a long silence. No one uttered another word. No one moved.

For suddenly each person knew ... God had already served His sentence.

Reprinted from "The Fish".

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# Forces support Salvation Army

By STEVE BELDING

The Canadian Armed Forces has given the Salvation Army's Christmas Aid for the Needy program a shot in the arm.

Cpl. Horricks, 2nd Field Squadron, in conjunction with Major Jones of the Salvation Army, has established a pick-up storage and delivery service. The area covered includes:

Canterbury, Doaktown, Fredericton Junction and Saint John. If anyone has donations such as clothing, furniture, money for food packets, etc., they are asked to contact the Corporal or his wife at 454-9570.

The army has adopted these services, previously exacted by the fire department, due to more readily available storage

facilities at the camp.

If anyone is interested in the cause, Cpl. Horricks expresses regards that volunteers are more than welcome to assist with deliveries and wrapping, etc.

Cpl. Horricks contacted the Brunswickan in response to our "Up Against The Welfare" article of last week.

# Graduate students active

The graduate students association at UNB is alive and well. After restructuring the association, the new executives have started on program designed to bring the graduate students at different departments together through a series of social events. Already, the GSA had three socials at the Faculty club. The main big social event of the GSA will be a big Christmas party which is planned to be held at the old student center on Dec 11th. (There will be good music and

refreshments will be served). A big door prize is also expected. Faculty members and wives will be invited also to take part in this party.

The executives of the GSA have embarked on a study of the possibility of unemploy-

ment insurance for those graduating with Master's and Ph.Ds who do not find work immediately after graduation. Also they have invited Prof. Mathew of Carleton University to speak on Canadianization and employment of graduate students.

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