

SERMONETTE

They say Saint Francis preached to the birds. Since the birds were not distracted by words, they got his message. He . . . became their hangout.

When life values life so that barriers of fear fall away, this climate is itself a wordless sermon.

A woman on welfare takes in four cold, hungry, abandoned children rather than see them taken to an institution. Black men and white men — who had gone to sleep in fruitless attempts to solve the problem became more fully united through unnoticed tears of respect for the woman's love.

A wise man, of little formal education, says to an

humble white man with several academic degrees, "I accept you as my equal and co-worker."

Five staff members of an organization of the indigent poor go without salaries for several months, for the cause of human rights.

Scores of students leave college, cut themselves off from parental support, and give heart to those who are struggling for survival and dignity. "Servants and midwives to personhood."

A little brown boy, tired of waiting for a public assistance case worker to see his mother, throws a partly eaten hamburger to the floor. That hamburger stands for two meals for the

child on their welfare budget. But his mother, bridling her momentary anger and dismay, picks him up, hugs and kisses him. A white visit or smiles in admiration. A barrier falls.

Finally, I go to jail for the cause of human rights. The under-employed bail me out, going without subsistence salaries for a time. What can a man say? The only barriers I see exist among the envious or the envied. I came to Chicago to value persons; I have been valued by those who have little more than themselves to give.

Beer Soaked Hyena Upsets Villagers

PETAUKE, Zambia — (NP) — A hyena with a "hang-over" went berserk in the Matiya village upsetting a herd of goats and mauling the heel of a villager before he was killed.

The animal made his raid on the village during the day — an unusual time since the beasts do not normally come into villages except at night.

This one, however, who is said to have drunk some kacasu (distilled beer) during the night, evidently remained in the village until daylight — trying to recuperate from the effects of the brew.

When spotted by Saul Banda, the hyena was attacking a herd of goats. Banda chopped at the hyena's head with an axe, but failed to halt the beast.

Enraged by the sudden blow to his "big head," the beast turned upon Banda, who was beginning to take flight. The man, however, didn't move fast enough, because the beast managed to sink his teeth in the man's heel.

Other villagers, hearing Banda's cries came to the rescue and managed to make short shrift of the animal. Banda was taken to the hospital for treatment of his mangled ankle and heel.

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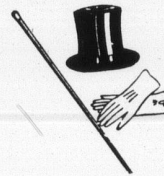
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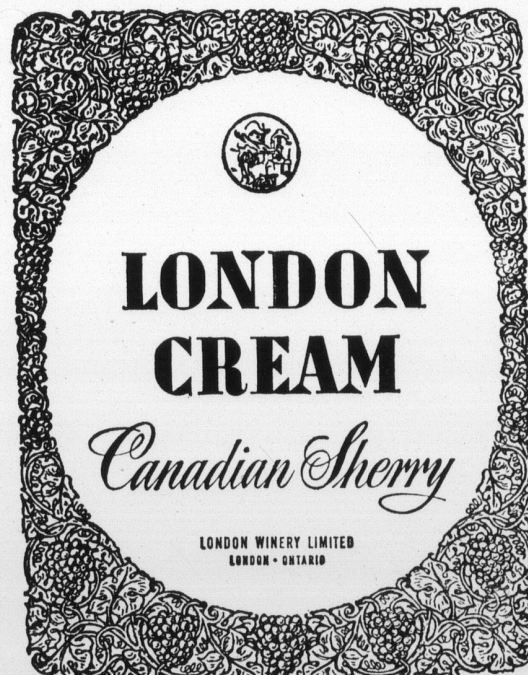
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