

11
CS

The Christian CENTURY

JANUARY 5-12, 1983

The Reshaping of Work

RICHARD W. GILLETT

Compassion

ROBERT C. ROBERTS

Vietnam Vets Memorial

Stifled Dissent in South Africa

News Trends in the New Year

894652 261613 018502 CC
UNIV OF CALIF
SERIALS LIB-S0919 848
SANTA BARBARA CA
NEWS PAPER
ALLOY 91
PA 5 66
93106



E. ZUTRAU

The Christian CENTURY

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 1, JANUARY 5-12, 1983

Editorials

- News Trends in the New Year,
by James M. Wall 3
- Stifled Dissent in South Africa,
by Theodore W. Jennings, Jr. 4
- Selective Perception at Foreign-Policy
Parley, by Phillips P. Moulton 5
- Symbol of the Valley of the Shadow,
by Michael Scrogin 7

Events and People 8

Articles

- The Reshaping of Work: A Challenge to
the Churches, by Richard W. Gillett 10
- Compassion, by Robert C. Roberts 14

Film

- An Evocative, Stirring Epic 17

Books 18

Recent Arrivals 25

Letters 26

M.E.M.O

- Epiphany=Manifestation 31

A NEW understanding of work and a new response to the labor situation are required—especially by the church—according to **Richard W. Gillett**, coordinator of the western office, Church and Society Network of the Episcopal Church. The author has a history of involvement with related topics; in 1981 he directed the Western International Conference on Economic Dislocation, and he has worked in the area of industrial mission.

Compassion is a very special and specific form of caring, and we need to develop our capacity for expressing it, writes **Robert C. Roberts**. The article is an excerpt from his new book, *Spirituality and Human Emotion*, being published this month by Eerdmans. Dr. Roberts is associate professor of philosophy at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

Bea Rothenbuecher, who writes on the epic film *Gandhi*, is a free-lance film critic residing in New York City.

IN THIS ISSUE

Reimposition of the banning order against C. F. Beyers Naudé provided the impetus for **Theodore W. Jennings, Jr.**'s piece on the worsening of conditions in South Africa. Dr. Jennings is associate research professor of systematic theology at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in Atlanta. He has visited and lectured in South Africa several times.

Also in the editorial section, **Phillips P. Moulton** reports on a recent U.S. foreign policy symposium held at the University of Michigan, where he is a visiting scholar engaged in peace and foreign-policy studies.

A visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., provided **Michael Scrogin** with much food for thought. The author is pastor of First Baptist Church in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Next week: James M. Wall on a visit to Israel.

Credits: **E. Zutrau**, *motive*, March 1956, courtesy of the **United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry**, cover; **Columbia Pictures**, p. 17.

The Christian CENTURY. An ecumenical weekly. Established 1884. Named The Christian Century 1900. Re-founded 1908 by Charles Clayton Morrison. Joined by New Christian 1970. *Editor*, James M. Wall. *Executive Editor*, Dean Peerman. *Managing Editor*, Linda Marie Delloff. *Associate Editors*, Martin E. Marty, Jean Caffey Lyles. *Assistant Editor*, Nancy L. McCann. *European Correspondent*, Trevor Beeson. *Advertising Manager*, Kathleen Wind.

Contributing Editors, Harold E. Fey, Alan Geyer. *Editors at Large*, Browne Barr, Gregory Baum, Sally Cunneen, J. Claude Evans, William F. Fore, Ronald Goetz, Alfred P. Klausler, Janet Karsten Larson, J. Robert Nelson, Cornish R. Rogers, James Sellers, Betty Thompson, F. Thomas Trotter, Preston N. Williams, William H. Willimon, Gayraud S. Wilmore, Jr.

Copyright © 1983 by The Christian Century Foundation. All rights reserved under the International Copyright Union, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Pan-American Copyright Convention. Second-class postage paid at Chicago, Ill., and at additional mailing offices. Published 41 times per year—weekly, except biweekly the last 2 weeks in Dec., the first 2 weeks in Jan. and Feb., and from the 2nd week in June through the 3rd week in Sept.—by The Christian Century Foundation.

Manuscripts: Unsolicited manuscripts should be typed and double-spaced. Send to: Manuscripts, The Christian Century, 407 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. 60605. Manuscripts unaccompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope (or international postal coupons) will not be returned.

Subscriptions: one year, \$21.00; two years \$36.00; three years, \$54.00. Single copies, 75 cents. Additional for foreign postage: \$2.50 per year. Request subscriptions from Subscription Services at above address. Phone: (312) 427-5380. The Century is indexed in the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* and in the American Theological Library Association's *Religion Index One: Periodicals*. Book reviews are indexed in the *Book Review Digest* and the *Book Review Index*; media reviews are indexed in the *Media Review Digest*; poems are indexed in the *Index of American Periodical Verse*. An index is published in the final issues of June and December. ISSN 0009-5281.

clear that Eliade sees his life as a series of initiations. "Every human existence," he says, "consists of a series of initiatory ordeals or trials; man creates himself by means of a series of unconscious or conscious initiations." The labyrinth is an image *par excellence* of such initiation.

While much is disclosed in these conversations, there yet remains a certain hiddenness, for Eliade does not want to speak of his personal religious convictions. This reticence is not only personal but vocational, for he has sought to reveal the coherence and creative possibilities of religious worlds — not to become a spiritual teacher or guru.

Harry B. Partin.

The Unfinished War.

By Walter H. Capps. Beacon, 177 pp., \$13.50.

On November 11, 1982, veterans of the Vietnam war organized their own "welcome home, conquering hero" parade in Washington, D.C. Seven years after the end of the war! How does a powerful nation deal with its sense of error, failure, poor judgment and mismanagement? How does it recover its lost innocence and heal the wounds of an exposed abcess on the national purpose? How does it speak to those who were asked to sacrifice for what has become a nation's private shame?

Walter H. Capps, professor of religious studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and formerly director of the Robert Hutchins Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, deals forthrightly with these difficult questions. In a clear and convincing rehearsal of the data, he shows how the United States backed into the Vietnam war largely through the politically motivated climate of post-World War II McCarthyism. The war was not in the best interest or in the intention of either side. Capps also collects a most illuminating series of reflections by the combatants themselves. In them the raw wound is visible.

But Capps does far more than describe the Vietnam war. His concern lies primarily with the *unfinished* war. His thesis is that "virtually everything that has happened in the United States since the end of the Vietnam War can be seen as both reaction and response to the war." He focuses on two results: Because of the failure of the American myth, with its vision of righteousness and invincibility, and because of the contact of Western people with Eastern religion, there developed in the U.S. a religious style which was personal, mystical and pessimistic. Into this atmosphere, devoid of social and national purpose, charged the religious New Right, at once a challenge to the passivity of many religious people and a throwback to the pre-Vietnam '50s, when America's greatness had not yet been challenged. An Armageddon to replace a tarnished Eden.

What can we do to be saved? Capps calls for us to enter the healing process, though his prescription is not as specific as his description. Perhaps his last illustration reveals his intent. A veteran was

Two programs to achieve vocational excellence in ministry



The D. Min. in Pastoral and Mission Studies

equips the experienced minister for a higher level of competence in the practice of ministry in mainstream American society or in cross-cultural situations. Two areas of concentration are offered: *Pastoral* and *Mission* studies. Both concentrations assist ministers in the task of integrating theory with the practice of ministry—one in the context of the primary North American culture and the other in cross-cultural contexts in North America and around the world.

A 2-3 year program. In the first year, classes meet at Eastern in Philadelphia on 13 Mondays and 4 Tuesdays during the Fall and Spring semesters, and daily during the January Term. Following the year of course work, a candidate writes and orally defends a thesis-project based on work within the minister's vocational context, and focusing upon an area such as administration, community action, education, evangelism, mission, pastoral care, preaching, or worship.

The D. Min. in Ministry to Marriage and Family



enables the experienced pastor to develop competent ministry to married persons and their families within the parish and community. Learning occurs in both the classroom and the field of service. Preventive and therapeutic work occur with marriages and families within the locale of the Doctoral Fellow's own ministry. The program draws on the rich resources of Eastern's faculty, marriage and family scholars and practitioners in Philadelphia and across the nation.

Classes meet at Eastern in Philadelphia for 3 weeks in January, 3 weeks in June, and 3 weeks the following June. The program begins with Orientation and a Clergy Couples Retreat in September. Following each stay on campus the Fellows have home study, write professional papers on marriage and family theology, a marriage or family enrichment project, a clinical case study, and receive field supervision of their counseling practice.

The Doctor of Ministry

Professional programs for experienced ministers of all denominations

For more information write to: Myron R. Chartier, Ph.D. Director of Doctoral Programs

The Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Lancaster and City Avenues, Philadelphia PA 19151 (215) 896-5000



Non-discriminatory admissions policy

Reviewers

E. Glenn Hinson is visiting professor in the religion department of Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Harry B. Partin is associate professor of history of religions at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Graydon F. Snyder is professor of biblical studies and dean at Bethany Theological Seminary, Oak Brook, Illinois. Letha Dawson Scanzoni is a professional writer and lecturer living in Greensboro, North Carolina. Frederick V. Mills, Sr., is professor of history at LaGrange (Georgia) College.

not "healed" until he personally returned to Vietnam and told some Vietnamese what he had done during the war. Confession, repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation. The church, as well as par-ecclesiastical groups, can and must offer that healing process before we can celebrate the day of peace.

Graydon F. Snyder.

Teaching a Stone to Talk: Expeditions and Encounters.

By Annie Dillard. Harper & Row, 177 pp., \$12.95.

Asked about his notion that human beings could have I-Thou relationships with the things of nature ("from stones to stars") as well as with other people and with God, Martin Buber spoke of a heart attitude that experiences the very *being* of the other. For example, the "living wholeness and unity of a tree denies itself to the sharpest glance of a mere investigator" but discloses itself to one who is open to its deepest reality (*I and Thou*).

Annie Dillard is no "mere investigator." She writes of nature in terms of involvement and encounter. In the first of the 14 narratives that make up *Teaching a Stone to Talk*, she tells of a

chance encounter with a weasel. "Our eyes locked, and someone threw away the key," she writes. "Our look was as if two lovers, or deadly enemies, met unexpectedly on an overgrown path when each had been thinking of something else: a clearing blow to the gut." She wonders what it would be like to live with the wild weasel, to get into its mind and live *as* the weasel. Intrigued by the animal's practice of biting its prey at the neck, Dillard sees a lesson in the story of one weasel which thus attached itself to an eagle and was carried aloft. "The thing is to stalk your calling," she tells us, ". . . to locate the most tender and live spot and plug into that pulse . . . to grasp your one necessity and not let it go, to dangle from it limp wherever it takes you."

But don't dismiss Dillard's narratives as simple excursions into nature with lessons or morals tacked on. The chapters vary in both content and style. Her section on polar expeditions, for example, is much more than a historical account. The sections telling how the early explorers searched for the sublime but brought their humanity to the poles are interspersed like a musical counterpoint with sections describing our modern attempts at liturgy and worshipping God. We, too, bring our "sweet human

absurdity" to our attempts to reach the sublime.

In the chapter that gives the book its title, Dillard speaks of the silence of nature as "its one remark." After describing a man who keeps a rock on a shelf and performs regular rituals to teach it to talk, Dillard speaks of God's silence after the frightened wilderness generation at Sinai begged Moses not to let God speak, "lest we die." She goes on, "What have we been doing all these centuries but trying to call God back to the mountain?" Yet, if we listen closely to the stillness, there remains "the still small voice, God's speaking from the whirlwind, nature's old song and dance, the show we drove from town."

Her descriptions are powerful. You not only *see* the total eclipse she watches from a Washington hillside; you feel its aura, shudder in the morning chill, sense the mixture of awe, wonder and even momentary fear as the crowd screams.

The same year Annie Dillard won the Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction for her *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (1974), she also published a book of poetry, *Tickets for a Prayer Wheel*. Her poetic gifts and rich imagery shine through in her prose, as in this passage from *Teaching a Stone to Talk*: "The galaxy

Recommended for Lent



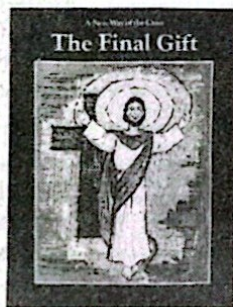
Gospel Journey

Forty Meditations Drawn from the Life of Christ

by Ernest Ferlita

Take a spiritual trip to prepare for Lent. Full of insights, these daily meditations for Lent 1983 follow Jesus from the river Jordan to the Temple, Mount of Olives, and Golgotha. Includes Holy Land maps.

Available at your local bookstore or directly from
Winston Press 430 Oak Grove Minneapolis, MN 55403
Use the attached order form or call TOLL FREE 800-328-5125



The Final Gift

The New Way of the Cross

New scriptural themes and prayers refresh the tradition of walking the stations of the Cross. Help you reflect on the mystery of Christ's love and discover the rich life Jesus' propitiatory gift calls us to. Suitable for private Lenten meditation or for group worship.



Easter Is Coming

Forty Lenten Celebrations for the Family

by Mary and Herb Montgomery

Innovative ideas help the whole family explore and celebrate the pre-Easter season at home. Bible passages, contemporary stories, photos, activities, prayers. With extra material for Ash Wednesday, Sundays, Easter.

Celebrate your Lenten journey to Easter with these worshipful books.

Please send

- *Gospel Journey* #8256 @ \$5.95 plus sh/hd.
- *The Final Gift* #8235 @ \$2.95 plus sh/hd.
- *Easter Is Coming* #8200 @ \$7.95 plus sh/hd.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip 968/448

Orders under \$30 must be prepaid, plus 5% (\$2 minimum) shipping and handling

Winston Press
430 Oak Grove
Minneapolis, MN 55403
800-328-5125 or 612-871-7000