Auden and Day

Beneath a craggy face the bard's brain pulsed with a will to share.

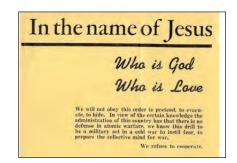
Into the NBC offices he strode with his well-known fleshy nose, angling very slightly to the left, and the thatch of hair curving down over his right forehead & a very wrinkled face, sensuous and also shylike with the wrinkles in his eye corners framing his determination

He wanted a check, on the nonce, for his translation (with Chester Kallman) of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* for NBC's Opera Theatre production in honor of his bicentennial (born 1.27.1756 in Austria)

The Flute was broadcast 1.15.56

So W. H. must have completed it in'55

The year Dorothy Day was arrested on June 15 for refusing to take shelter as required by law, during a nationwide Civil Defense drill to prepare the masses for nuclear war



—a flyer handed out by Day& her associates from the Catholic WorkerJune 15, 1955 at City Hall Park

The bard, crusty, publicly humble his face rutted with difficulty His cooking techniques cruelly satirized in *The New Yorker* (later on, as I recall)

admired Dorothy Day and signed over the check he had demanded (earlier than the contract required) from NBC Opera Theatre to her

perhaps to help pay for repairs to the Catholic Worker shelter for the homeless ordered by the NYC Fire Department

(& the Fire folk perhaps also acting in reprisal for her sitting in & getting arrested at City Hall that June)

All Hail the Spirit of Generosity & guilt over largess the bard was not willing to forego

> O, W. H. Auden gone from Earth since 1973

> > -Edward Sanders March 2014