

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

May Be A Fire Trap?

We notice that after the tragic school fire which took the lives of two persons in Mt. Airy several weeks ago, the superintendent of schools here made a public statement to the effect that all of the Raleigh Public Schools were exempt from fire hazards. It is a certainty that every person in this city earnestly hopes that he is right in his conclusion about this matter. We are writing this to deny the superintendent's statement.

We are however, asking him, the fire department, members of the school board and all other persons competent of making an appraisal based on all the known determining factors, to examine or reexamine the old structure on Oberlin Road, known as the Oberlin school.

This old building is one of the three storied buildings that safety experts say are always dangerous. In addition to that structural hazard, that school building does not have the steel supports, beams and girders that have been used in schools and other buildings during the past two decades. As evidence of how flimsy this ancient building is, school children

who were in this building during the visitation of Hurricane "Hazel", a few years ago, say that they were scared stiff when they felt the whole building swaying back and forth as though it would topple over.

The wooden floors, walls and windows in this building, plus other fire and health hazards cause us to wonder how can it be considered exempt from all fire hazards. We know that we are not competent enough to pass upon the fitness and safety of the Oberlin school. We are not attempting to do so. We know, on the other hand that several of the very important factors by which safety experts evaluate safety are lacking in this building. If the Oberlin school is a safe place for children, teachers and other personnel to spend several hours each day, all well and good. If it is not, we ask in the name of Heaven that everything necessary to insure the safety of the persons who are daily exposed there be done at once. An ounce of prevention in a case such as this one might prove to be well worth many thousand pounds of cure. Fact is, there is no cure for a lost life.

350 And 337 Years

The state of Virginia this week opened a festival to observe the 350th Anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. 350 years ago in 1607 the first permanent white settlement in this, their new country, was established in Jamestown, Va. Now that state is calling upon the whole world to help celebrate that occasion.

From that settlement and other pioneer colonies has sprung a great and mighty nation, a nation "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." Would it not be entirely fitting and proper now that the 350th Anniversary of the beginning of America is being observed to take note of the fact that only thirteen years after the beginning of the Jamestown, Va. colony, the first Negro slaves were brought into this new country.

This of course, means that Negroes have lived here in America practically as long as the white man has. Brought here as a slave in 1620, Negroes were compelled to suffer toil, work and contribute for and toward making this country strong and prosperous for over 240 years, without any compensation save their barest needs. Given their physical freedom in 1863 with the promise of full citizenship and

all of the rights and privileges American citizenship denotes, it is sad to relate that even now, 94 years after their "emancipation", nowhere in America is the Negro a really free person. Negroes have contributed greatly in helping to make possible the great show of progress that is now being commemorated in this 350th Jamestown exposition. Their contributions have equaled that of any other racial group in this country. Their 337 years of dedicated service to this nation is antedated only by the descendants of those who settled in Jamestown in 1607. Since his coming here 337 years ago, the American Negro has witnessed the coming, the arrival here of many other races and nationalities.

He has seen these foreigners welcomed here with the glad hand of fellowship and loaded with every opportunity and gift this country affords. Is it any wonder then that now that the state of Virginia is staging a nine months celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the first permanent settlement in this country that the American Negro is seriously contemplating his 337 years of service here and asking when will the day arrive in which he can celebrate after 337 years, his first year of freedom?

Seeing Ourselves

Wouldn't it be just grand if we all had the gift of seeing ourselves as others see us as the scotch poet prayed. It is just barely possible that if the senior senator from North Carolina possessed just a wee bit of that great gift he would not continue almost daily to waste the time of the United States Senate in listening to his silly triads against the proposed Civil Rights legislation. Mr. Ervin must not be aware of the sorry spectacle he is making of himself. No person wants to be considered silly. Even persons in the insane asylums want others to think they are intelligent.

Senator Ervin knows as well as he knows his name that no where in the South and that certainly includes his own state of North Carolina, is the Negro given the full protection of the law. As a former judge of this state, he knows this better than does the average person.

His constant beefing about taking away the rights of those who have violated the rights of others causes us to ask, what rights are you violating when an attempt is made to punish a person for his misdeeds? Unless we are sadly mistaken, the only right held by those who do violence and otherwise mistreat helpless people, chiefly Negroes, is the right to be punished for their misdeeds.

In inveighing against this proposed Civil Rights proposal, Mr. Ervin is simply saying that the Federal government has no business

even attempting to enforce the Federal Constitution and see to it that all the citizens of this country are fully protected against violence and the violation of their freedom.

He knows or he most certainly should know that had his state and the other southern states ever attempted to see that their Negro citizens were justly treated, these Civil Rights proposals would not now be before the Congress of the United States. He should also know or be told that it is because the majority of the members of this Congress knows the need for this legislation and will pass it, he is making a national laughing stock of himself and the state he represents when he daily raves and rants against its passage.

But, as we said we do not believe that Mr. Ervin has had even a glimpse of himself as others see him. He evidently is looking at himself through the mirrors of prejudice and racial intolerance mirrors that are so covered over with the scum of bias and hatred that it is impossible for them to reflect the light of truth.

Mr. Ervin is evidently also seeing himself through the reflection of his biased cohorts and supporters here and elsewhere in the South. Fortunately for this country, those dim-visioned individuals are in the minority, despite all of your futile, empty bellowing Mr. Ervin. Civil Rights laws will be entered upon the statute books of the Federal government.

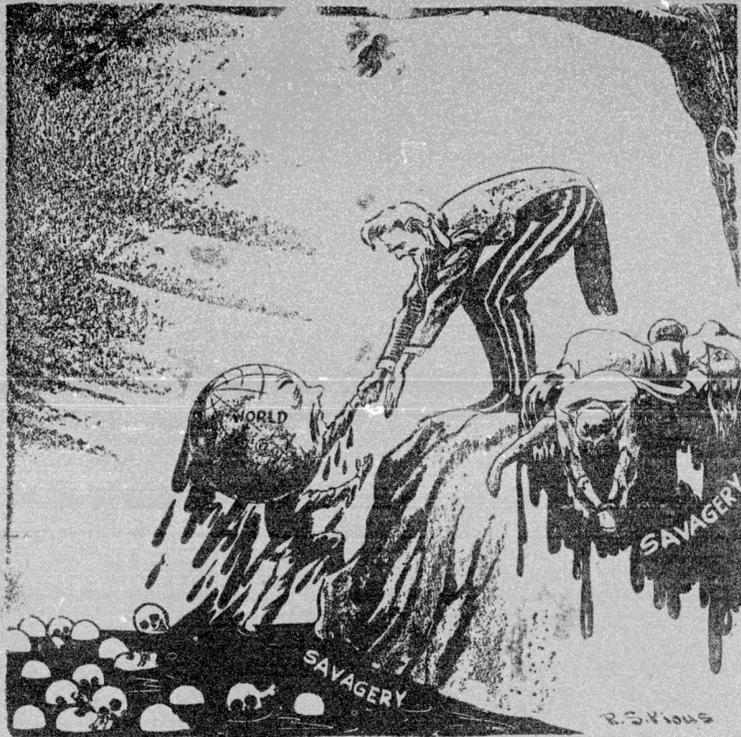
An Effective Weapon

From Birmingham, Alabama comes the story that the bus company there is in serious financial trouble. The bus drivers (all white) in Birmingham are demanding a pay raise that the bus company says it cannot grant. The company says its revenue has been drastically cut by the refusal of Negroes there to ride on segregated buses and that if it is forced to meet the pay demands of the drivers it will have to suspend its operation.

We have never wished for hard luck to come to anyone. We never will. But if Negroes have learned how to protect themselves against some of the degrading aspects of segregation by withholding their dollars from those who practice this inhuman action and if this withholding results in or causes the segregationists to suffer, all that we can say is, Amen.

Let God's will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

"And Why Doesn't He Lend The Same Helping Hand To Our Southern States?"



IN THIS OUR DAY

Wanted: Some Twenty-five and Fifty Cent Tickets

Styles, fashions, and fads change—come and go oftentimes with the seasons of the year and most certainly with the whims and whines of the masses of the people. Thus, it has come to pass that ten, fifteen and twenty-five cent tickets have "Gone With the Wind". I can recall (No, I am not old) when tickets for this or that "worthy cause" sold for a "dime" and to use the terminology of Wall Street, only the "blue chip" entertainment or

program tickets sold for twenty-five cents.

But now—a days a dollar is the minimum price that tickets are offered to any kind of program. And, it should be pointed out that even though the price of tickets have gone up, (a typical example of inflation), in many cases the programs are not as good as former twenty-five cent programs were. Many would like to help the cause but simply do not have the dollar.

Moreover, we must always remember, continuously be

mindful of, and never forget that a large number of tickets sold for twenty-five and fifty cents will bring in more cash than a few tickets sold for a dollar. Furthermore, even though the program is for a worthy cause, it is, or should be, a program of educational value or entertainment, or both. When we place the price to such programs out of reach of the masses of people, we deny them the benefit of the foregoing.

Let's have more good programs for twenty-five and fifty cents!

SENTENCE SERMONS

Things Satan Could Not And Cannot Do

1. It was the spirit of Satan in King Herod that tried to defeat the purpose of heaven by demanding of the Wise men what place in the earth was appointed for Jesus' miraculous birth.
2. Not that he wanted to come also and worship Him as he had said, but rather, outrageously meant to destroy His adorable and sacred head.
3. But God had already made a survey, and caused the Wise men to depart to their country another way, while also He appeared to Joseph in a dream that he might be well equipped, and told him to flee with wife and babe into Egypt.
4. Even Herod's plan of mass killing of babies in Bethlehem, two years and under to defeat the Christ Child escaping death, proved a most sad and terrible blunder.
5. When God gets ready His

plans to fulfill, no forces of Satan can defeat His will; he it demons in the open or lions in a den, He can destroy and He can defend.

6. Heat or cold, metal, stone nor water can cause Him ever to faint or falter, but these are elements Satan cannot defy, for they sprang from God's hands, he cannot deny.
7. Thus God's recreated children should always feel at ease, for no ill can befall them beyond that which the Master sees, and then with a Divine and mysterious hand He leads them gently into Canaan land.
8. Satan cannot defeat any act of God where ere His successive journey runs; God needs no tricks to manipulate His works, and certainly none of man's grudgingly given funds.
9. God the Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent One, consults no foreign forces nor needs any guns; for what He has and wishes done, are spoken into existence and new creations are begun.
10. This is the God all men are privileged to serve... who from such an one would even slightly swerve, since Satan has not the power even to face the Rusted Cross where Christ the Savior did hang to cover man's eternal loss.
11. Yes, above all things, this act Satan could not stop, for it was for man only He came here lovingly to adopt, and no price He counted great to save him from the Fall, and proved Himself willing to give up heaven and all.
12. Won't we now to Him move up closer so Satan can't get between, for he certainly is a master at throwing up a smoke screen? we owe Him everything... let us our hearts most freely yield; for even in His death, bruised and bleeding, by His stripes we are healed.

THE PULPIT VOICE

Love Is Not Afraid

The Rev. L. Roy Bennett, formerly of Montgomery, Ala., and one of the organizers of the new historic Bus Boycott, tells forcefully how he overcame fear as the Bus Boycott proceeded. "All of a sudden, I just wasn't afraid". There was something about the philosophy of this movement which had just that power, the power of overcoming fear.

These leaders announced from the very first, the principle of Christian love as the foundation of this struggle. And wherever persons have approached problems with love which is goodwill, this same miracle has been performed. The kind of fear and dread which defeats our most sincere striving, just cannot exist where the fundamental motivation is love. Such love is not afraid.

The Bible literally yells this at humanity, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear" (I John 4:18). Paul in admonishing Timothy, rebukes Timothy's fears with these words, "God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and love..." (2 Tim. 1:7).

In fact, the basic attitude of scripture, particularly the New Testament, lifts up this wonderful use of love to overcome man's fears. And men accepting this promise have reason for their selves this profound truth. Others quite by accident have made this discovery in some experience in which it worked.

It is a fundamental and accepted truth, that you cannot really be afraid of what you love. If one can so completely become aware, that everything

in God's world is lovable, the chances of fear and dread defeating love become negligible. Love casteth out fear.

If fear cannot co-exist with love, why is it then that most of us have such a problem with fear? From what attitude of mind and spirit does fear emit? Of many probable answers, it appears that most of the fears which haunt us, proceed directly from the hatred, hostility and resentments which abound in almost an unbridled way in most of our lives.

A loving mother, seeking to rear her child correctly, frequently can build up in her offspring, a fear and a dislike which will live in the mind of that person until death. "Johnny, don't go out on the porch at night, the boogie man will get you", and immediately little Johnny develops a resentment, a hostility against the imaginative foe which mother said lurked in the dark. Johnny will never see the boogie man, but he will grow up a afraid of the dark.

In this same pattern a Southern white man develops his morbid fear of the Negro. He grows up in a society where resentments of Negroes have been many. This hostility against Negroes has served an economic purpose, but at the same time it is the source of the white man's unhappiness over the effort of the Negro to rise from bondage. Why is it that the ruthless dictator is so heavily guarded?

He knows he has enemies, but more than this having eyed ruthlessly and with hatred and contempt, he also has great fear of reprisal. A life filled with hatred and resent-

ments at the same time is a life filled with dread and fear.

The concern of most of us now is how can we break this chain of events which finds us afraid of tomorrow, afraid of losing a job, afraid of those with more talents than we, afraid, just afraid. There is only one answer to our desperate need. It is the answer of love. It is the answer inspired with love rather than a response of hatred.

It is Jesus demanding, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you." When we can slam the door in the face of all hatred, and respond even to hatred with love, then we have sealed off the cause of most of our fear.

Love is not afraid, because love responding to hatred, finds sanction from the very nature of the creative source of the universe, which is love, which is God. To know fundamentally that life is friendly, that ultimately there is more acceptance than opposition, more love than hostility, this quiets our fears, and as this acceptance of universal goodwill infills us, no longer are we afraid, for neither life nor death shall separate us from this love.

Nowadays the hand that rocks the cradle usually gets a dollar an hour.

Gordon B. Hancock's BETWEEN the LINES

Going Something About It

Mark Twain, a great writer and humorist of yesterday, had a saying that gained currency in his generation and ours. Said Mark Twain, "Much is said about the weather but nothing is ever done about it." The generations have outlived the truth of this statement, for men have done something—done much about the weather. The whole heating phenomenon is what men have done about the weather.

When men heated their homes in winter that was so much done about the heat even as he has done something about the cold. Our heating and cooling systems are just another way of doing something about the weather.

From the efforts of men to warm and cool their buildings we get a fertile suggestion that something can be done about other things which temporarily appear beyond the reach of man's puny efforts. We speak not specifically about the great racial tensions that characterize the race relations of today.

Whenever we find races living side by side, we find these racial tensions ever more tense.

What is going on in South Africa with its Malaniam and in the Southern part of these United States with its bitter fight against equality for the Negro, just goes to show how tense these tensions can become.

Believe it or not, the Old South is again raising an inchoate rebellion in its opposition to the law of the Land and, as we said in this column some weeks ago all the situation needs is a forth Sumter.

Senator Byrd recently came to Richmond to promulgate his doctrine of "massive resistance." Although he made it clear that he was advocating a peaceful resistance, every serious student knows that it is but a short step from peaceful resistance to violent resistance.

It may be peaceful resistance on the Senator Byrd level, but when it reaches the level of the Ku Klux Klan and certain of the White Citizens Councils, it will take on a violent manifestation.

Violence is rampant through-

out the South and Negroes are being tight-squeezed between the vices of economic pressure and the active violence that is abroad in the southland. Times have come to a dangerous impasse when a Senator of the United States defies the nation and openly advocates a course, that followed to its logical conclusion, leads to anarchy.

What kind of a nation are we going to have when men rebel against laws they do not like? When men respect only the laws they like we are face to face with a crucial situation and one that threatens the very foundation of society. Men must be constrained to do some things for their good that they do not like.

Who likes traffic laws? But what could we do without them? What Senator Byrd is BETWEEN the LINES Cont'd advocating is if you do not like the white line in the highway just disregard it and pass anywhere you want to. No, there is no such thing as peaceful resistance. Peaceful resistance will eventually into violent resistance sooner or later.

It is one thing to deplore and discuss the current tensions but it is still another thing to do something about them. Just as something has been done about the weather something can be done about these critical tensions. Keep calm and keep Christian is Dr. Martin Luther King's formula in the premise.

It is in accord with the teachings of Jesus Christ and His way recommended in the situation. If all the Negroes who can vote would vote it would change things in a definite way. If the Negroes of Virginia who are eligible to vote would vote, Senator Harry Byrd would not think of advocating his "massive resistance" doctrine which he is so lustily proclaiming in his efforts to rally the South against the law of the land.

Negroes must not end up by discussing the situation and deploring the same. Unless the critical situation lands us at the ballot box, we are poor creatures and unprofitable servants. Let's do something about it!

WASHINGTON AND "SMALL BUSINESS"

By C. WILSON HARDER

Perhaps the shouting and tumult over State Secretary John Foster Dulles has accomplished one thing. It appears to have made public realize with one stroke of a pen, State Dept. can change entire structure of American Republic.

There also appears renewed support for the Constitutional amendment known as Bricker Amendment, from destroying American liberties by treaty.

There is the saying, "Truman had his Acheson, Eisenhower has his Dulles; what next?"

Traditionally it has been the sporting thing to do for a president to stand by his State Secretary. And equally traditionally, for a long time public conception of State Dept. was group of stripe-trousersed people well versed in polite social usage.

For until fairly recently, State Dept. played only minor role in policy making largely because American formerly did not step into all the world's quarrels.

Another factor was that with few exceptions, American presidents, until recently, had legal training. Some perhaps were never shining lights at the bar, but at least they had an insight into legal principles painstakingly developed through centuries.

Sen. John Bricker (Rep., Ohio), also a legal mind, was perhaps first to see inherent dangers if not controlled. Because Article 6 of U. S. Constitution provides provisions of any foreign treaty shall supersede not only provisions of Constitution, but any state or local law in conflict with such treaty, he saw the danger.

Thus to prevent a UN body, bent on world domination, from some other ism, from wrecking American constitutional guarantees, Sen. Bricker has long fought for an amendment which would invalidate any part of any treaty in conflict with the Constitution. Dulles, before assuming power, strongly favored such a protective measure. In power, he has changed his stand.

Yet American Bar Association holds failure to pass Bricker amendment, or similar safeguard, poses greater threat to American freedom than any atom bomb Russian can build.

Yet until such an amendment is passed, on any day a foreign agreement could wipe out entire structure of American independent business.

So far this has not happened, although State Dept., with what seems unlimited power to throw away money in diverse foreign aid schemes, has tapped cash registers of every independent business on every Main Street of the land.

So whether or not Dulles stays in a position of power greater than was ever imagined for it, current events have activities may have one result.

Tan Topics



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