

Editorial Viewpoint

The CAROLINIAN'S

WORDS OF WORSHIP

"Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him go home tonight," he proclaimed, The Scriptures.

Too often men are prone to think that people respond most powerfully to promises of easy victory and soft rewards. The great leaders of the world have known better.

Gideon, for example. When he called for volunteers to fight the Midianites, thirty-two thousand responded. Gideon looked them over critically. He knew the conflicting motives that had brought them there—some from mere love of adventure; some because they were afraid to be taunted with cowardice; some for plunder; some to get away from their wives. He determined to weed them out at once:

"Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him go home tonight," Gideon proclaimed.

The next morning twenty-two thousand had vanished. Only ten thousand remained.

Still Gideon was unsatisfied. He hit upon a stratagem. Down the hillside and across a little brook he led the whole band. It was a hot morning; the men were thirsty and tired; and Gideon, standing on the bank and watching, had a shrewd

idea that character would show itself under the strain. Sure enough, of the ten thousand, a vast majority knelt down and pushed their faces into the cool clear water, taking long refreshing draughts. But a few too eager. They caught up the water in their hands, dashed it into their faces, and hurried across to the other bank, restless to be on.

Only a handful, only three hundred. But Gideon kept them and sent the rest home. Better three hundred who could not be held back from the battle than ten thousand who were merely half-heartedly ready to go.

With the three hundred men he won. Needless to say why, or to give the reason for the victory.

That higher type of leadership which calls forth men's greatest energies by the promise of obstacles rather than the picture of reward—that was the leadership of Jesus. By it He tempered the soft metal of His disciples' nature into keen hard steel. The final conference with which He prepared them for their world is thrilling in its majestic appeal to courage.

The Story Never Grows Old

This Christmas we are about to celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ, a man who came from the bosom of the Father to the womb of a woman. He put on humanity that you and I might put on divinity. He became the son of man that we might become sons of God.

Jesus was born contrary to the laws of nature, lived in poverty, and was reared in obscurity. Being an apprentice to His Father, He became a carpenter. He had no wealth, neither training nor education in the sense that we know them. His relatives were inconspicuous and unimportant.

At this Christmas time, men should spend time reading and meditating upon the teachings of the Man from Galilee. If men today adhered to His teachings, there would be no racial problem, there would be no school integration problem, there would be no peace problem that is now prompting a nuclear weapons race, and there would be no problems of war.

Out of fear, men have corrupted the idea of Jesus, so that the simplest faith in the world—CHRISTIANITY—has become a complex thing in form and ritual, of enforced observances and "thou shalt not's."

During this Christmas season, we hope that church ministers will call to men's attention the mission of the church. We hope that they will stress that it is not the purpose of the church to "tell men what not to do; but rather what to do to achieve the new brotherhood of men. Jesus knew that if men achieved true brotherhood and equality, their lives would warrant them a place in His kingdom which He wished to establish not way off in some unknown place, but rather to establish in the hearts of men.

If we follow the teachings of the Prince of Peace, all churches must renounce cut-throat competition and work together in selfless devotion to the needs of the whole community; they must overhaul their systems of religious education and seek to revive the indomitable spirit of Protestantism—its respect for the rights of man, its defense of the poor and lowly, its insistence upon individual freedom.

The Yuletide season should remind us that it was Christ who was concerned with such values as love, truth, justice, brotherhood, integrity and character.

On Christmas, 1958, let us renew our faith in the Mighty God, the Comforter, the Prince of Peace, and the Everlasting Father. Let good will and peace reign the world over. "For unto us is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord."

In infancy He startled a king; in boyhood, He puzzled the doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows and hushed the seas to sleep. He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charges for His services. He never wrote a book, yet all the libraries of the country could not hold the books that could be written about Him.

Jesus never wrote a song, yet He furnished the theme for more songs than all the song-writers combined. He never founded a college, yet all the schools together cannot boast as many students as He has. He never practiced medicine, and yet He healed more broken hearts than the doctors have healed broken bodies.

Jesus never marshaled an army, drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun, yet no leader ever made more volunteers who have, under His orders, made rebels stack arms or surrender without a shot being fired. He has made men soldiers of the cross.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and "today," says one writer, "Jesus is the center-piece of human race and leader of the column of progress."

Although more people are turning to religion for guidance, the various religious groups of all faiths continue to waste their energies in theological and political squabbles among themselves. They fail to accept the challenge of modern economic and social problems.

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Is Public Education Free?

America shows a good deal of pride in its system of free public education for everybody who can profit by such instruction. But, as we examine the commercialism in our public schools today, we wonder if education is still free.

Parents who enroll their children in public schools today are annoyed by the many hidden fees that they have to pay to keep their children in school. And it appears that they are being taken by the heels for "a shakedown." During registration, parents must "shell out" a certain amount for books and school supplies each semester. And—mind you—this is just the beginning!

The charge for meals in the cafeteria averages 35 cents per day for each pupil. This costs the average boy or girl seven dollars a month to eat lunch at school. For the parents, with from three to five children in school, this becomes a financial burden.

Money for class and club dues must come out of parent's pockets. Most high schools publish a newspaper and yearbook for which parents must pay a pretty penny. Often a youth is asked to pay from two to three dollars for a picture and space in the school annual and one dollar a year for a subscription to the school paper.

In a student's junior year, he is called upon to pay a fee for the junior-senior prom, class banquet, and what-have-you. Ofttimes a student is deeply hurt, because his parents are not able to give him money for these things.

This trend which we have cited is not peculiar to Raleigh and North Carolina, but it is a universal thing—more annoying, however, in some localities than in others. Isn't it about time for the American public to wake up and bring about a halt to this trend while yet there is time?

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Record In Church Giving

Some weeks ago, we reprimanded the members of the Negro church for their failure to make sustained and systematic financial contributions to the church. Since that time, we read an interesting report from *The Religious Weekly*, November 11 issue, stating that church giving has reached a record peak.

The article stated that the U. S. Protestant and Orthodox church people gave to the church in 1957 a total of \$2,206,593,817 for all purposes. The report was based upon a survey recently completed by the Department of Stewardship and Benevolence of the National Council of Churches. This amount represented an increase of \$165 million over 1956, and it included gifts for congregational operations, benevolences, home and foreign missions and relief work overseas.

An encouraging aspect of the report was that 20.1 per cent of this total was given by benevolences. Gifts for foreign missions in 1957 represented an increase from \$59 million to \$64 million. This was a gain of about five per cent.

The highest per capita giving once again was made by the Seventh Day Adventist with \$160

and a membership of 291,567. The United Brethren in Christ, with a membership of 19,459, came second with an average of \$118.96 apiece. The estimated average per capita church member contribution was \$101.25.

While this report by the National Council of Churches is stimulating, the majority of Negro church members do not contribute the national average of one hundred dollars a year. If they did, Negro churches would operate on more sound financial bases.

To illustrate what we have just said, suppose we take a hypothetical example. The average small church has 150 members; and if each one contributed to the church \$100 a year, the church treasury would collect annually \$15,000. How many Negro churches collect \$15,000 annually in their treasuries? The answer is obvious.

We hope that the report which we have just cited will encourage Christians to give the Lord at least one dollar each Sunday so that they may maintain the national church average of per capita giving. However, those who have prospered greatly should give more generously.

But Our Position Of World Leadership Demands Direct Action



SENTENCE SERMONS

BY REV. FRANK CLARENCE LOWERY For ANP

THE NEW YEAR

1. LIFE is like a checker board—its awaiting possibilities must be explored, and not by any means be ignored.

2. There is but one starting point as the game begins, and from here one thing is certain, there will be contrary winds.

3. And, because one cannot be sure of his destiny, he must move very cautiously . . . and handicaps, one must not overlook for life is not an open book.

4. Yea, one's contemporaries at birth may have inherited a richer, wider gift; but even this should not spell defeat, when the challenger's faith in God is full and complete.

5. Every twelve months this checker board flares up again, and you and I our titles must defend . . . it all depends how well we have faced the odds in the previous year, as to how

now we shall approach our tasks without misgivings and fear.

6. God is the answer when the clock strikes TWELVE and we must again into mean problems delve . . . companionship with Him needs no crystal ball, when in His powerful hands one stakes his all.

7. Peace, then like a River attendeth our way, and the adversaries of our souls lose control; this is the panacea for all of our trials while the years continue to roll.

8. A NEW YEAR to a Christian is simply a matter of time, renewed for enjoyment with gifts sublime, and these ever increasing as the days go by, granting a foretaste of the Father's riches in Heaven on high.

9. This makes each NEW YEAR a glorious retreat for those throughout the year who stay close by the MERCY SEAT.

10. Only those who know the power of PRAYER can appreciate what it means to be a heavenly heir, with each successive year yielding joys like harvest grain, and telling us only to be faithful "I WILL BE BACK AGAIN."

11. YES, He is coming again, maybe this weekend, or in the NEW YEAR . . . however, it will be when He chooses to appear; those who have won Divine attention are as sure of His return, as they are His Holy Ascension.

12. So listen again—when the clock strikes TWELVE, let every man and woman, Satan's tricks shelve, and resolve to give your Heavenly Father, the rest of your days, and in NEW YEARS to come, He will be your best friend always.

What Other Editors Say

WHAT TO DO WITH BOMB HOAXERS

Now that several hoaxers who made fake school bombing threats in North Carolina have been apprehended and convicted, the question arises as to what should be done with them.

In the cases at point the hoaxers have been teen-agers, who should have realized the seriousness of what they were doing but obviously did not. They were smart slicks had a perverted sense of humor, catered to the sensational or merely hoped to get out of school for a day.

In any of these events they were wrong. Last school days, after all, have to be made up under North Carolina law which requires a 180-day term.

What these misguided youths must be made to realize is that their calls contained elements of danger, risk and violence. They cost county and city governments and tied up officers and equipment needed elsewhere.

The Daily News is as firmly convinced as ever that the law governing bombing threats or calls needs to be overhauled. The offense, in all of its potentialities, should be made a felony. Such recognition, under the law, would mean a heavy penalty which, we trust, would serve to deter further.

As the law stands now bomb scares are being classified under the general term of disturbing the peace, which is a misdemeanor and as such punishable with a fine and or imprisonment up to 30 days.

One of the first such cases to come before the courts faced veteran Judge Sam Cathey in Asheville, where, four young men confessed to anonymous "bomb plant" telephone calls. Judge Cathey gave them 30 days, to be spent at a first-offenders' camp. While the court termed the sentence "pretty light," he made the point that "on the other hand, it's not always the severity of the punishment as much as it is the certainty of it."

The Daily News' feeling is that wide publicity of the offenders who have been apprehended, the knowledge that officers, school authorities and the public are cooperating to detect these fake callers and the "certainty of punishment" such as Judge Cathey points out, will bring a cessation of the rash of hoaxes which have been cropping out all over North Carolina.

The sorority chapter has been under suspension since July, 1956, "for the good of the sorority as a whole." The action was taken after the local group pledged a Negro.

At Michigan State University, Ann Arbor, a different discrimination problem exists. The Student Government Council passed a resolution last spring after receiving a report of discrimination in off-campus housing from the Human Relations Board.

The resolution requested that, "Landlords who practice discrimination in race or religion not be allowed to advertise through university facilities."

The Council narrowly rejected a proposal to ask the Ann Arbor City Council to consider legislation which would permit discrimination in rented homes.

At the University of Illinois an anti-discrimination code, modeled after the fair educational practices code, was recently adopted.

The Illinois code specifically encourages non-discriminatory practices in off-campus housing as well as ruling that the school will not in any way discriminate "because of race, creed or national origin."

At five campuses, small and large, from the east to the west coast, schools and social organizations have been bothered with discrimination.

None of these schools are located below the Mason-Dixon line.

The so-called "north" can't yell "ou!" at Arkansas and other southern states, until the northern slate is wiped clean.

If there's discrimination on the college level, where the future leaders of America are being trained, how can the problems of segregation and discrimination ever be eliminated?

—Ohio State (University) Morning Lantern.

JUST FOR FUN

BY MARCUS H. BOULWAR

HEY NOW, OLE SANTA!

Passing a Santa last week, I got a whiff of what I thought was a little Christmas "starday." Well, maybe I was wrong—oh, Santa?

But Cornyard says, "Who cares? Ole Saint Nick needs the good ole Xmas spirit! (Give ole Santa the same chance that you take.)"

HA - HA - HA - HA

It might save you from the hydrogen bomb in case of an enemy attack.

Well, I want one of those things myself. Do you think I can get one for a dollar down and a dolla a week?

My friend Cornyard, says the whole idea is a lot of hogwash. (My friend, you'd better wake up because it may be later than you think.)

Annie Belle came in the other night from a pre-Christmas party only to find the jewelry worth \$400 had been stolen. Evidently the thief thought he owed her an explanation, for the note he left read: "Merry Christmas."

Bollig and, Annie Belle has turned the note over to the Froggie Bottom's Police Chief Frank Simson.

PAN HIM DOWN

A certain unavowed lass had a little bit of Cornyard down fact with a marriage license that the old guy, humped and humped when she put the license on him, Cornyard said.

"You are a swell kid and deserve better than me so I am turning you loose for your own good."

And I shall try to be one woman as you can plainly see.

What happened? Well, Mr. Cornyard is playing in because he doesn't want his friends to see his big, new and shiny black eye.

WANT TO GET MARRIED?

If you plan to get married during the Christmas holidays, don't get caught without off in your lamp.

The Wake County Register of Deeds office, which handles the sale of marriage licenses, has announced that the office will be closed December 24 at 12:30 p.m. and will reopen December 25.

Just in case—I reminded the Mr. Cornyard that the office would be closed. You never can tell—he may wish to marry that well-to-do widow.

"FEMME FATALE"

I have been wondering why Deep-Lav is always walking around on a floating cloud. He's caught in a cloud of that "Femmes fatale" Joy Brandon. Cornyard's ego has been deflated because Joy won't give him that "second look."

Might as well give up, Mr. Cornyard, they say there are "greener pastures" on the other side. This saying doesn't impress Mr. Cornyard, that nice man.

TAKE 21 YEARS

A recent news report states that in Bullock County, Alabama, one Negro voter can vote for a white would-be Negro registrant per year for four years.

Statistics show that at this rate, it would take 21 years at least to get 350 Negroes registered in that county under rules laid down for Negroes by the County Board of Registrars there.

"FAT TEACHER FIRED"

A Louisiana teacher is seeking reinstatement to her position through the courts. She said she was fired because the Board said she was too fat.

This is the first time I've heard of a teacher being fired for being too fat. Just when is one too fat for a job?

AIN'T IT A SHAME

In 1940, the U. S. Post Office Department sent 21 million letters to dead letter offices because of illeal handwriting. I thought they taught handwriting in school.

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THAT'S NOTHING, without any restrictions it's almost as hard to get that number of Negro citizens in Wake County to register each year.

BOMB SHELTER

Polks, did you know you can build a shelter for \$100.50. And

Gordon B. Hancock's BETWEEN the LINES

THE VOICE OF GREATER ATLANTA

Georgia is generally supposed to be the race prejudice capitol of the nation. If one wishes to see race prejudice in the raw, one is advised to go to Georgia. In swearing circles about the country we often hear the expression, "I'll die and go to Georgia before I'll do such a thing."

This just goes to show how strenuously one objects to doing "such and such a thing." But regarding the prejudice of Georgia without regarding the righteousness of Georgia, is just like judging the bad Negroes without regard to the rights of heart and mind.

Regardless of what may be said about the Negroes of Georgia, there are more righteous inclined Georgians than those who are prejudiced. More and more, the Negroes in their fight for full citizenship.

Negroes of all groups should be the last to overlook the virtuous Georgians while stressing the vicious ones. There are white Georgians who have never bowed their knee to the Baal of race prejudice.

ly Christmas Day surpasses them all.

More preparation is made for Christmas than any other holiday we celebrate. More presents are received and given at Christmas time than at any other time of the year. Almost all business concerns give their employees bonuses at Christmas.

Philanthropists make it a point to make a great many of their gifts at Christmas time. Indeed, it would appear that everybody is in the spirit of giving and receiving during the Christmas season.

All of the foregoing is simply another way of emphasizing the debt we owe Jesus Christ Who came on earth, lived and died that all mankind might have life and have it more abundantly. Only the spirit of Christ and Christianity could bring about such joyousness, happiness and general harmony on the part of all of us regardless of race, creed, or color, or educational, or economic, or social standing.

Therefore, let us remember, continuously to be mindful of, and never forget that it takes more than money; more than the receiving and the giving of material gifts to make a real Christmas.

Unless the season serves to renew and increase our faith in Jesus Christ and His teachings, unless it serves to remind us to renew our covenant with Him, and to strive daily more than ever before, to live up to the same, then in a large measure, all the things we may do during the Christmas season will all be in vain—gold, silver, brass and a thinking scrub.

To my many readers, I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And, whatever you may have or may not have in the manner of giving and receiving of material gifts, may your spiritual ears hear the angelic song as they sing in ages past: "Gloria to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men."

IN THIS OUR DAY

BY DR. C. A. CHICK, SR.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

We American people, like all other peoples of the world, have our share of holidays. But without a shadow of doubt the Christmas season and especial-