

DISCRIMINATION IN STATE OWNED INSTITUTIONS

When the state of North Carolina sinks so low that it permits a member of its legislature who is known to be an alcoholic to set the policy for the operation of the state owned Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, we think it is time for all good people to look around to determine what North Carolina is coming to. Investigation of this newspaper discloses that John Kerr, Warren County member of the State Senate, who was recently treated at the hospital as an alcoholic, became so incensed when he discovered that the ward he was occupying as a psychiatric patient was also occupied by two Negroes that he could hardly contain himself. Kerr is reported to have put so much pressure on state officials that no more Negro patients will be accepted for psychiatric treatment until additional psychiatrists and help can be employed for a segregated unit. This newspaper has been reliably informed that at least 22 additional persons will be needed for the new set-up if and when it is established. Here again the cost of segregation stares the taxpayers of North Carolina straight in the face and they are going to have to dig down in their pockets to needlessly pay for duplication of a department at the Memorial Hospital simply because an alcoholic member of the legislature demands it. From all reports things were going along nicely at the institution with little or no segregated policy being maintained among personnel and patients until the gentleman from Warren County sobered up long enough, or was sobered up, to discover that hospital officials were simply treating Negro patients as human beings with regard to the color of their skin. The Honorable John Kerr just could not stand it, because in Warren County he is the boss and Negroes are kept in their place which is just a few degrees above that of a convict. We have been reliably informed that the wife of a Negro soldier has been sent to the State Hospital at Goldsboro because the new policy at Memorial Hospital would not allow her to return there when she had a recurrence of her condition which is purely psychiatric. Thus we have before us in North Carolina the sorry spectacle of an American soldier's sick wife being abused by the people while her husband is away protecting the liberty of the abusers. Some of our white folks can stand anything so long as those against whom they stand are Negroes.

WELL QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION

The unanimous election of Roy Wilkins to the position of Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as successor to the late Walter White will doubtless meet the approval of a majority of members of the association as well as other Negroes all over America. Mr. Wilkins we feel is well qualified to take up the torch so ably carried by his predecessor and will lead NAACP forces to equally as many victories as were achieved under the leadership of Mr. White. Because of his training, experience and association with the late and lamented secretary of the Association little or no change in its vigorous policy is to be expected. In fact Mr. Wilkins, because he will not be handicapped with illness, ought to be even more vigorous and effective in his warfare against segregation and other forms of discrimination as practiced in this country. We commend the NAACP for having the foresight to have a person ready to fill the shoes of an able leader like Walter White. Here in North Carolina where more than a million Negroes are domiciled the NAACP is naturally depended upon for guidance in the struggle to obtain first-class citizenship. This newspaper is happy to congratulate Mr. Wilkins on his election to the position of high trust the NAACP Board of Directors has placed him and we pledge our continued support to the cause of liberty and justice for all the people of America.

CRUCIFIXION AT EASTER TIME

When the Senate of the North Carolina General Assembly passed a House-sanctioned resolution last Friday at noon asserting that the mixing of white and Negro students "cannot be accomplished and should not be attempted," a state policy came into being and received the full approval of Governor Luther Hodges. By this action, the world was treated to the spectacle of a great sovereign state calling itself Christian and setting its face like flint to nullify and destroy the grandest verdict in behalf of justice since the Emancipation decree. Morally, this action is foul and putrid and smells to the high heavens. Religiously, it is an affront to God, a blatant contradiction of a professed democracy, a denial of the religion of Jesus Christ whom the law-makers and people of this state claim to love and honor, and a sin against the Holy Ghost. These craven-hearted bigots, enslaved by the forces of race hatred and blinded by the dust of color phobia, are both a detestable and a pitiable lot. Detestable they are because professing to be big they are small; to be good they are mean; to be fair, they are unjust; to be loyal to the ideals of Christ and the objectives He came to realize, they have repudiated the practical brotherhood without which the Kingdom of God can never come, thus making all other Christian objectives to become paper realities. And, these leaders are pitiable because they are spiritually blind and ignorant and know it not. Neither do they know that theirs is a pattern of conduct that, according to history, destroys nations. These men, in their latest action, taken right in the midst of the Easter Season, have crucified Christ afresh upon the cross of racial bigotry even while celebrating His resurrection in pageant, sermon, song and otherwise. Their status is no different than that of those for whom Christ from the Cross at Calvary prayed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." Calvary, Golgotha — The Place of a Skull — has only changed locale. Nineteen hundred odd years ago, the locale was in Palestine. Last week, it was in our legislative chamber in Raleigh. The instigators and executioners were not members of the Sandhedrin Court who openly expressed dislike in Christ and without shame demanded His death; but they constituted a boasted Christian legislative assembly, yielding in Christ as their King, yet they not only gave Him the Judas kiss, but crucified Him afresh to climax their spiritual treason.

SUPPORTING A WORTHY CAUSE

At this crucial transition period in the history of education in the United States, the 1955 campaign of the United Negro College Fund is one that deserves the wholehearted support of all concerned with achieving full equality of educational opportunity for all American youth. The movement toward a more democratic integrated pattern of education in the South will not come about without intelligent, planning and united effort. The Fund's program in support of 31 private, fully-accredited colleges and universities is an important part of such a united, intelligent effort. Through the financial aid provided by the Fund, these institutions will be able to take their rightful place as an integral part of America's network of private, independent colleges and universities. They will then serve as good colleges for all qualified youth seeking admission, without racial restriction. Students will begin to pick their colleges on the basis of economics, quality of program, church relationships and geography. Race will not be a consideration. White and Negro students will be attending all good institutions together — formerly all white and formerly all Negro. While the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public education will open new opportunities for broader service to the community by these colleges, it does not in any way lessen their responsibility to the students now enrolled. The process of desegregation in education is a two-way development. With the continued financial support of the Fund, these colleges will continue to function as vital centers of influence in this transition period, providing the leadership and cooperation necessary to the development of integrated schools. As a united, cooperative group, they will comprise an effective force achieving the goals of the Supreme Court's decision. Your contribution to the Fund's 1955 appeal will help its member colleges provide scholarship aid for thousands of promising youngsters who might otherwise not have the chance to go to college. It will help these colleges continue the special remedial programs made necessary by the long

neglect in secondary educational provisions for Negro youth of the South. Through these corrective services, the students of these colleges can overcome the shortcomings of their high school training and by graduation, compete on an equal basis with others for admission to leading graduate schools or in their chosen fields of endeavor. Your gift will provide more good teachers and up-to-date teaching equipment. It will do all this and more, for your dollars will insure the continued opportunity for first-class higher education for thousands of tomorrow's leaders. Send your contributions to the UNITED NEGRO FUND'S national headquarters at 22 East 54th Street, New York 22, New York, or to the FUND'S campaign headquarters in your own community. BUT SEND IT!

Life Is Like That

BY H. ALBERT SMITH

It Could Have Been Otherwise

We have already given consideration to the fatal mistake of Rehoboam in two previous articles, but I find in the story an inexhaustible source of ideas relative to the matter of human relationships, justice and human decency in dealing with people, especially those over whom we may have authority or jurisdiction.

Nehru's Word

In speaking of human decency as regards justice, I tie up with a statement made by Prime Minister Nehru of India at a huge mass meeting in New Delhi just two weeks ago.

Nehru, thoroughly aroused by the inhuman and brutal nature of South Africa racial policies, especially the recent forced removal of thousands of people of color from Johannesburg to outlying regions, said that the South African government should learn decency. I referred to the statement as an indirect charge of indecency.

Age-Long Indecency

This indecency has characterized the policies and procedures of the strong as regards the weak from time immemorial. Its end does not appear. That is why in the first of these articles dealing with the same incident, I used the caption "The Eternal Problem of Justice." Our second article called for the caption "Injustice Roots in Character Deficiency." Today, we call attention to the same story by using the head, "It Could Have Been Otherwise."

Constant Use

These words carry a thought that is eternally true and represent conditions that are always with us. In fact, the words themselves are in constant use. If not the exact words, then the sentiment. And, by this, I mean to say that we all, both individually and collectively, must acknowledge that what we might be are not, and what we are represents something that falls far short of what we should be.

The same thing applies to our external status very often, our position in society, in some chosen field of endeavor, our material or economic status, the lack of effectiveness or our ineffectiveness where we should be effective.

Expressions Used

Thus, if we do not hear persons bemoaning their status by actually saying, "It Could Have Been Otherwise," they use equivalent language. And all of them point to regret and lamentation and a "hind sight" that might have been foresight.

Survey some of these expressions. "I could be independent today if..." "I wasn't always like this with me." "I had the opportunity to be this or that but..." "If I had only done this or that, or had not done this or that, then I would be better off or would not be in the mess of the present hour."

All of these expressions are variant forms of the words, "It could have been otherwise."

Important Lesson

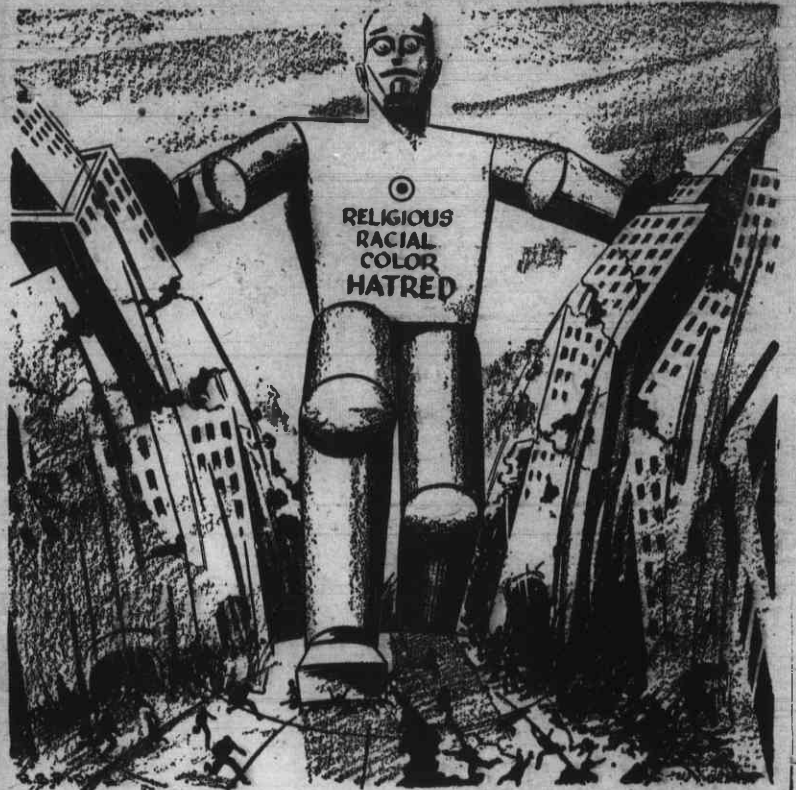
That is one of the important lessons of the Rehoboam story. Disaster struck him, but it did not have to be. It could have been otherwise, different, and, I don't think it exceeds the bounds of restraint for me to say that that foolish king said more than once in the hectic days of strife, bloodshed, heartache, political weakness, social unrest and economic dislocation that followed his decision against justice and decency, "This did not have to be. It could have been otherwise."

Had Opportunity

I was in school with a man years ago who had opportunities that made him the envy of many of his associates. This fellow was a big, husky, strapping 200 pounder, the son of a successful New York minister and his assistant pastor.

I had during those days, very often to wash and iron my clothes, press my suits and go to bed suffering pangs of hunger after an evening meal of two slices of bread and some

Creates A Vicious, Evil And Destructive Force



Spiritual Insight

"ENDUED WITH POWER"

By Reverend Harold Roland
Pastor, Mount Glisol Baptist Church

"Behold I send the promise of my father upon you...tarry in city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high..." Luke:24:49

The shaky, anxious disciples are commanded by Jesus to wait in the very city where the Savior had been crucified. The atmosphere had not been cleared of its threats and violence. The command is to wait in blood thirsty Jerusalem. They are commanded to wait in the very presence of the enemies of Christ and his church. This power helps us to wait in the very presence of the enemy.

Why? Because it is a power that changes enemies into friends. They are commanded to wait where evil men had crucified the sinless son of God. They are a little fearful and anxious but there they are waiting for the promise of heavenly power. They obey the command of their risen Savior..."Tarry until ye be endued with power from on high..."

This command to wait has a very important message for the maddening and feverish times in which we are living. Life is a

mad, futile round for many of us now. Many are jumping aimlessly like a chicken with its head cut off. There is a busy round of things which seem to lead no place. We need to learn to wait in this anxious, fearful, worrying parade into which so many of us have fallen. They are commanded to wait in the very city where he is crucified. They wait; Not in idleness but they wait on bending knees. They waited and things began to happen. They waited until the power of the Lord came down.

Let's take a little time to wait and God will endow us with heavenly power. The Holy name of Heaven will light the candle of faith in our very souls..."TARRY...UNTIL YOU BE ENDUED WITH POWER..."

They wait to be clothed with Heavenly power. They obey! They wait in the horror-filled city where the Savior was crucified. The little band of Christians wait for the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit. They wait for the promise of Divine Power! They have a job to do. They wait for power to do their God-given task. They wait and God sends them soul-power to face

and endure perils and tribulations..."I send the promise of my father upon you..."

Jesus gives orders. And he gives power to carry out his orders. He does not leave you empty and helpless. He will invest and clothe you with power to do your job. He sends us. But he does not leave us alone. He clothes us with the power of Heaven. But we must wait to receive this power. But now so many are too busy to wait. Jesus calls us to righteous warfare and he gives us power for the battle.

They wait and they are showered with heavenly power. They might have gotten impatient but they waited until the power of the Lord came down.

A mad, hurrying, anxious, worrying generation needs to know the wisdom of waiting for soul power. This power was not just given two thousand years ago. This power can be yours now! This promise holds good today..."I send the promise of my father...tarry...until you be endued with power from on high..."Wait! God will endue you with Heavenly power!

Capital Close - Up

BY CONSTANCE DANIEL

New Double Play Combination
Looks to us, from where we sit, like a new Tinker-to-Evers-to Chance double-play combination shaping up on matters politic, in our Capital, such as: short-stop, Clarence Mitchell of NAACP's Legislative Bureau, with a White House aide on second, and Preacher-Congressman Adam Powell, New York Democrat Eisenhower enthusiast, on first. Yes, Yes.

That Wash on the Military Line
"Tattle-tale gray" doesn't half describe the wash long-hanging on the military line. Both military and civilian personnel who have run a foul of fifth-echelon brass, are reliably reported to have been followed in and out of the service by vindictive telephone and "invisible ink treatment" of discharge records—action often effectively blocking subsequent employment.

Nothing appears on the face of these records, but innocuous-looking referrals give any officer with a grudge a chance to "take it out" on an unfortunate who has failed to jump at his bidding—even though the jumping would have meant a violation of regulations, and frequently involved demand for personal service. Any small-time brass can initiate such persecution. Only the big brass can stop it or correct it. We are told that even maternity-leave cases have been victimized by "the treatment."

Ugly business, with or without racial aspects. This is item One on the subject. More will follow.
First Man Up in the Little Cabinet
Not so popular and competent Assistant Secretary of Labor J.

Ernest Wilkins, of Chicago, but William H. Lewis, Norfolk-born Boston corporation lawyer, a graduate of Virginia Normal, at Petersburg, and later of Amherst and of Harvard Law, a former Cambridge city councilman, and member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and of the American Bar Association.

Mr. Lewis was Assistant Attorney General for the New England States. He received a recent appointment as Attorney General of the United States on March 27 of the same year, thirty-odd years before Mr. Wilkins came to town. On June 14, 1911, He was charged with the defense of Indian depredation claims, and served in this capacity until he resigned on March 3, 1913 (official moving day until changed to January 3, by the Twentieth Amendment.) He moved out with the advent of the Democratic Wilson Administration.

Appointments at Agriculture
Two middle-bracket appointments at Agriculture, both of them in Agricultural Marketing Service: Elmer J. Moore, who holds a master's in marketing from the University of California, an agricultural economist, came from Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation, at Fresno, California. Wendell Clement, of Lebanon, Ohio, marketing specialist, holds an MS in merchandising, from Ohio State University.

Which is good. Even better would be the establishment of credit facilities to keep cultural mores-racial squeeze-play, if plainer words are needed—from forcing small operators, whether owners or tenants, off the land, because of their race. The

pattern is—land control, credit control, market control, off-farm employment control—and the picture-page exceptions don't prove the rule. (We were not knitting lace doilies, over at "Ag!")

Negro farmers, 'down South' among the Dixiecrats, where nine-tenths of these farm folk live, face these problems, dally. They are not the problems of Minnesota, "the land where I was born," nor yet of Utah, where Secretary Benson halls from them. They are the problems of the little black farmer, shared only in part by his little white brother.

"Capital Close-Up" and Hate-Mongers

This serves notice on all and sundry that "Close-Up" wants no part of hate-mongering or hate-mongers of any description. This column appears in a number of highly reputable papers. We have no control over quotes or references in disreputable ones, which could also quote the Bible to suit their purpose.

We have not watched the antics, hand springs, hates, spites and sneers, and listened to specious, distorted argument and "justification" far too many years, for nothing. We watched it on Capitol Hill, in Scottaborg Committees, in the Angelo Herndon Supreme Court case—and on down. We have "covered" nose-thumbing delegations to the White House. We have heard the brethren scream about the freedom they despise and abuse, and prey on issues of race to further exploit that freedom. We pity these sour, warped people, but we are fed up.

That gives us no sympathy, however, for rabble-rousing patrioteers, who further fan the flames of suspicion and hate, in this country and out of it. It just makes us plain American. (Continued on Page Seven)

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