

# FOUR PROPHETS WITHOUT HONOR

Nearly 2,000 years ago Jesus made the statement that "A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house." Today these words come thundering down the corridors of time to us as we recall recent happenings among Negro citizens of Durham that have focused both national and international attention on this industrial city of North Carolina. The events present a most paradoxical situation and could only happen in a land where democracy is more of a farce for 17 million Negroes than a reality.

First, it was Asa T. Spaulding, vice president of North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance, who was appointed by President Eisenhower as a delegate to the UNESCO conference in New Delhi, India; second, it was Dr. Helen Edmonds in a most electrifying speech seconding the nomination of President Eisenhower at the Republican National Convention; third, it was Lee Calhoun of North Carolina College, blazing to a new Olympic record to win the 110 meter high hurdles at Melbourne, Australia, and, last, it was John Wheeler, president of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, appearing as a panel member of the eighth annual symposium of the United Negro College Fund of which August Hec-

cher is director. "These four achievements of Negro citizens of Durham present a most ironical if not embarrassing situation when it is recalled that all of them are prophets without honor in their own city and state, if not in all of their own country. While all four of them could without notice enjoy the full rights of American citizens in foreign lands and in other states and cities, it is sad to think what would happen if they attempted to enjoy those same rights within the state of North Carolina.

Let it be said here and now that solely on account of their color, not a one of them could get a room in a single white hotel in Durham or elsewhere in North Carolina; not a single white cafe or restaurant would sell them a morsel of food in this state or any other southern state unless they subjected themselves to the humiliation of segregation. Not a single white church would welcome them to its hour of worship of a Christ, who declared nearly 2,000 years ago, through His servant Paul, that "God is no respecter of person" and that He "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth." Neither of these Negro citizens who can qualify for national and international recognition could qualify for membership on an im-

portant board in the city and state to which they have brought such a distinct honor.

Let's look at the birthplaces of each of these distinguished personalities. Asa Spaulding, born back in the woods of Columbus County, North Carolina; Helen Edmonds, born in the obscure village of Lawrenceville, Virginia; Lee Calhoun, born in, of all places, Laurel, Mississippi; and John Wheeler, born in another obscure village, Kittrell, North Carolina. Put all of the educational opportunities of these remote little towns and counties together and they would not equal those afforded the average white child in a town of 5,000 population. Oh history, oh history, why dost thou so often twist the fate of puny men into such peculiar angles?

Just how long our southern white folks can stomach the odor of their own foul deeds we do not know. There is a possibility though that when one has never breathed the fresh air of freedom or has been continuously fed on hatred, viciousness, narrowness, prejudice and meanness, he could not live otherwise. These are the kind of people that keep eternal the truth that "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country and in his own house."

# THE RUSSIAN MENACE TO WORLD PEACE

If thoughtful American Negroes ever had any sympathy or love for Russian communism, it must have all gone down the drain when the Soviets perpetrated their bloody invasion of Hungary. Whatever the Reds may say about American imperialism it cannot accuse soldiers of this country of shooting down in cold blood women and children. History is bound to record the merciless manner in which Russian tanks and planes attacked Hungary as one of the most beastly acts of modern history. The civilized world will not soon forget the many bloody acts and murder of helpless women and children by Russian troops that invaded that country against the approval of every respectable nation on the face of the earth.

So far as we are concerned you can write Russia off the list of the nations of the world as being civilized. A nation that can resort to such heinous crimes in the name of peace must be watched, and our own country would do well to keep its eyes on Russia.

Those skeptics who have heretofore championed the cause of Godlessness in a nation should come to the front now and tell us how in the name of all that is right can they justify the manner in which the Russians murdered and pillaged a small and weak nation like Hungary. We would like for them to explain just why in America, that has been charged by the Reds with having imperialistic motives, there has been

found more humanitarianism for Hungarian refugees than in communistic nations.

As far as we are concerned Russia has acted like a big bully and whatever hope sensible American citizens have had that this country would be able to trust the Communists is gone. The satellite nations of Russia will no doubt take a cue from what has happened to Hungary and bide their time when they can without risking a similar fate get from under the Red terror. Other nations will now have no doubt in their minds that communism is a menace to world peace and will play their cards accordingly. Whether Russia realizes it now or not, she lost whatever friends she ever had or was about to have.

# STAND UP AND BE COUNTED FOR FREEDOM

The Carolina Times does not have before it all of the facts involved in the turning over of the records to the courts of the Atlanta, Georgia office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by its president J. H. Calhoun. He may or may not have been justified in giving them up after he was placed in jail. It appears to us, however, that if it was necessary to withhold the records before he went to jail, it was necessary to withhold them afterwards. Whether the records contain the names of school teachers and other persons who will become targets for Georgia southerners to vent their spleen upon remains yet to be seen. If they do, then the head of the Atlanta branch of the NAACP should have rotted in jail before he exposed them.

southern states are out to destroy the NAACP is plainly evident. Whether they will be able to do so will be determined by how much its leaders are dedicated to the program of the organization. The time has come when those who lead an oppressed people must not be shaken by the clanging of prison doors or other reprisals inflicted on them. The path of freedom is paved with jail doors, the gallows, the executioner's swords and assassins bullets. Ask Jesus and His disciples, ask John Brown, Thoreau, Gandhi, Emmett Till, Martin Luther King and thousands of others who have struggled, fought, bled and died for freedom.

If the records of the Atlanta branch of the NAACP reveal only financial information, then it might be that Calhoun was justified in turning them

over to revenue agents. If they reveal the names of persons who have supported the organization at the peril of their jobs, it appears to us that it should have taken more than a jail sentence to force the head of the Atlanta NAACP to expose them to Georgia state revenue agents.

Negroes who accept places of leadership may as well here and now realize that the day of the opportunist Negro leader is over, as much over as that of the handicapped Negro leader. Either those who accept positions of leadership must stand up and be counted on or sit down and be counted out. There are no times for cringing, compromising and belly crawling. Oppressed peoples all over the world are on the march, and a new wave of freedom is sweeping the earth.

# FACING THE ISSUE

By DR. A. H. GORDON



## WE PAGANS PRAISE CHRIST

It has been almost two thousand years since "Shepherd's" keeping watch o'er their flocks of sheep" among the rugged hills of Palestine were startled to see an unusually brilliant star, since known as the Star of Bethlehem, shining over their heads and heard Angela singing "Peace on Earth Among Men of Good-will". These events heralded the birth of a Jewish child who grew up in an humble community as the son of a carpenter. At the age of thirty this young carpenter began what he considered as his life's work as what we would call today and itinerant preacher. His "Gospel" consisted in a re-emphasis upon the finer and more lofty spiritual insights of the old Jewish prophets and a new emphasis upon the character of God as the loving Father of mankind. He was a most severe critic of hypocrisy and materialism which had crept into the religion of the Jews in their worship of the great God Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Moses. After three years of intensive labor, Jesus passed on to one of the "many mansions" in his Father's House. He left a few disciples who labored to spread His gospel, which He summed up in the famous "Sermon on the Mount." One of His later disciples, a Roman Jew called Paul, began a mission movement which resulted in making His religion accepted on a world-wide basis. Today millions call themselves Christians and profess to follow the teachings of Jesus.

We just said above that millions of us moderns "call" ourselves Christians and "profess" to follow the teachings of Jesus. Those words "call" and "profess" are well chosen, we think, to indicate that we are largely hypocrites in calling ourselves followers of the "lovely Nazarene", disciples of the "Prince of Peace." If we face the issue squarely, we believe that we will have to admit that most of us only praise Christ with our mouths but we are Pagans at heart? If you question our statement here, may we invite you to examine the meaning of the word pagan as defined by Webster's or any accepted dictionary of today. Handy to the writer is *The American College Dictionary* which is widely used among college students and others. There are several definitions of a pagan in this dictionary. Among these are the following: 1. One

who is not a Christian, a Jew, or a Mohammedan. 2. an irreligious or heathenish person.—adj. 3. pertaining to the worship or the worshippers of any religion which is neither Christian, Jewish, nor Mohammedan." If we are honest, I think most of us will have to admit that although we call ourselves Christians and profess to follow Christ, definition number 3 really describes us. Perhaps most of us have some kind of religion but we fear that if Christ were here and described it He would call it "irreligious and heathenish."

By the time the prospective readers see this column it will be only about three days away from Christmas. We pagans will be thinking about celebrating the birth of Christ in many paganish ways, such as drinking whiskey and wine, dancing throughout the "night before Christmas", or shooting fireworks and giving expensive and useless gifts to many people who do not need or want them. We might go on indefinitely reciting how we celebrate Christmas more like pagans than like true disciples of the Pennyless Preacher of Palestine. Some of our celebrations will seem on the surface at least to be more appropriate. Many millions of us so-called Christians will gather in great, expensive churches, temples and cathedrals where we pagans will sing lustily, if hypocritically:

All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of All!  
Perhaps now and then a pagan here and there may ask himself: "do I really love my enemies, the Russians, for example? Do I really believe that it is common sense to return good for evil? If my enemy should strike me on my right cheek would I really turn the left?" If I were in Montgomery, Alabama, would I be walking with the Negroes with a song in my heart, or would I be in sympathy with the White Citizens' Councils or the Ku Klux Klan? If we face the issue in this way we may feel discouraged, but let us not forget that during the tumult and the shouting of our mostly pagan celebrations, a few here and there, now and then may realize that:

Jesus calls us—o'er the tumult  
Of our life's wild restless sea,  
Day by day His sweet voice  
Sounding, "Christian, follow Me."

# POTOMAC WATCH

By Robert G. Spivack  
The "Leader" Who Will Not Lead

The basic issue in the controversy now raging around the head of Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon Johnson is simply stated, but not very widely understood. The question is this: Can the Democrats ever recapture The White House if their congressional leaders sound "retreat" before they begin to fight?

In November of 1955, Johnson announced, with considerable fanfare, a 13-point legislative program for the following session of Congress. He labeled it a "program with a heart."

It read well and even included a proposal for repeal of the poll tax, which was about as far as Johnson felt he could go on the question of civil rights. But when Congress went back into session it developed that Johnson did not have much heart for the "program with a heart."

Of the 13 points he fought vigorously only for the "natural gas" bill which was backed by the oil-gas lobby.

**Demo Paralysis**  
After the "natural gas" debate, something approaching political paralysis seemed to afflict the Democratic leadership in the Senate. The House leadership seemed pretty feeble, too. Yet there were many Democrats, and not all of them were Northerners, who felt that there were half dozen made-to-order issues which the party leaders were deliberately by-passing.

The whole sordid story of administration favors to the big eastern banks, as represented in the "tight money" policy, was played down. Yet it was a Texan, Rep. Wright Patman, who had done more to expose it than almost any other member of congress. Had the Democrats developed the issue, their cries

of Republican favoritism to Big Business would have had some real meaning.

There was considerable pressure exerted on another Texan, and there still is, to go easy in exposing the role of Republican National Chairman Leonard Hall in that somewhat peculiar Nicaro nickel plant deal in Cuba. To the credit of Rep. Jack Brooks of Texas much of the story came out anyhow. But it was no fault of the Democratic party leaders that Hall found himself in an embarrassing situation. They would just as leave have paved this story up, too.

This business of pulling punches has gone on for a long time. If Johnson had his way, Estes Kefauver would never have been able to expose the Dixon-Yates deal.

**Timid Texan**  
Johnson takes the view that the Democrats should not oppose the Eisenhower administration simply for the sake of opposing. This sort of proposition is, of course, unarguable. But it means very little.

Six Democrats, led by Sens. Paul Douglas and Hubert Humphrey, now contend that the first order of business is for the party to put forth in legislative form the propositions approved by the national convention in the Democratic platform. Johnson immediately opposed the idea. Instead he favored waiting until the Eisenhower administration came up with its program. Then, if there was anything wrong with it, the Democrats would oppose it.

That all sounds like a very neat proposition until it is analyzed. What it boils down to is this: the Democrats in congress are abdicating their responsibility and allowing all initiative to come from The White House. (Please turn to page Seven)

THAT WONDERFUL SECURE FEELING



# Spiritual Insight

## 'Flashes From The Christmas Scene'

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND  
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

"I bring you good news...For unto you is born this day, a Savior which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.

Beautiful, sublime spiritual flashes arise from the first Christmas scene with its majestic simplicity. Under the spell of the money changers we can lose the rich spiritual wonder of the Christmas message. Men in their selfishness will pervert and corrupt the message. Man will corrupt the most sacred things. Let us not lose the rich inner core of spiritual beauty which stands at the heart of the ORIGINAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE. What is a Christless Christmas? It is much to do about nothing. Take the Christ out of Christmas and what do you have left? Well, you have the "MAS" left. The "MAS" without the Christ way means MAN'S AVID SENSUALISM (A passionate concern for the materialistic) Will you now take time to read the beautifully sublime story as told by the

Apostle Luke? Let its spiritual Christmas be God's gracious response to our deepest need—THE NEED OF A SAVIOR.... We need God in Christ to save us from our sins...This is the heart of the Christmas message. The message of Christmas was to save us from our enemies... Our real enemies are the dark inner passions of sin...The Savior was to guide our feet in the way of peace...We need and want peace...A war-torn, conflict-ridden world cries out for peace...Amid the rumblings of ferment and turmoil our souls need peace...The Glory of the Lord came on the First Christmas...Man in his sordidness needs the ennobling touch of God's glory...WHY?...Man is miserable when cut off from God... "Fear Not" is another great spiritual flash from the Christmas message...fear haunts and torments our minds and souls... Christ is the one true remedy for our terrible enslavement to our fears..." I bring tidings of joy to all peoples..."God's gift beauty saturate your soul. Nothing can take the place of the majestic simplicity of the original story and its message as found in God's Holy Word. Then let us think on the Christmas message and its beautiful flashes of spiritual insight: It is light for those who walk in darkness...men the world over are still in darkness. We need the Christmas message, of the Savior includes all men... God's inclusiveness is set over against man's narrow, selfish exclusiveness...we need this part of the Christmas message in this critical hour of transition in human relations.... Good News, a savior is born... The Angels bring a message from Heaven TO MEET MAN'S DEEPEST NEED: A SAVIOR AND SALVATION...God Bless you, Merry Christmas..."To you is born this day, a Savior who is Christ the Lord."

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Christmas Meditation  
"and on earth, peace, good-will toward men."  
—Luke 2:14

It is Christmas Eve, 1818. Josef Mohr, a young priest newly appointed to the tiny Roman Catholic Church in the village of Oberndorf, near Salzburg, Austria, has scaled to the heights of the near-by mountain peak. There he remains for hours drinking in the beauty and serenity of the moon-lit night. Earlier in the evening, he had been stirred to emotional fervor and spiritual inspiration by local talent who had given a simple but sincere performance of the Christmas story.

Returning to his room in the wee hours of the morning, he sat down and wrote the words for what was to become one of the best known Christmas carols:

"Stille Nacht! Heltig Nacht!"  
It has come to us, the English speaking people, as "Silent Night, Holy Night." But it was left for the Spanish speaking people to capture the deeper significance of that occasion in their title for that beloved Christmas hymn. They call it, "Noche de Paz, Noche de Amor." In English it means, "Night of Peace, Night of Love."

That is the Christmas story in a nutshell. God embodied in Jesus a Living Idea—PEACE THROUGH GODLY LOVE. If we can understand the Idea, we can grasp the real meaning of Christmas.

From the very beginning, it was God's Idea that man should live in peaceful relationship with his Creator and with his fellow creatures. But man has allowed prejudice, pride, and selfishness to distort and discolor peaceful relationships. In

fact, human relationships in our times are characterized by a "dog-eat-dog" attitude.

The Idea must be recaptured! To press home its value, I pass on to you a free translation of a portion of the first chapter of the Gospel According to John: "In the beginning was the Idea, and the Idea was with God, and the Idea was divine. All things were made in pursuance of that Idea, and without it nothing was made. The Idea was the Sustaining Substance, the Inner Reality of all that was made. The Idea became alive and the life of it was the Light of men, the true Light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. The Idea was made flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth. No man hath seen God at any time, but no man having once seen that life full of grace and truth, can fail to catch the Idea."

Young Mohr never became known for anything else. But there was no need, for in a moment he had caught the Idea and had put it into words that live eternally. Let us not be so wrapped in tinsel and toys that we fail to glimpse the Vision, Splendid. We need to come into contact with God's Idea of PEACE through DIVINE LOVE as expressed in the life of JESUS CHRIST.

During this Yuletide season let us pray that we will catch the IDEA anew, and that it will be the guiding force in all of our endeavors.

John W. Fleming  
Director Christian Education,  
Gen. Baptist State Convention

Within recent weeks, our distinguished President Eisenhower has courageously taken the lead in offering sustenance and aid to the bewildered people of Hungary. Certainly, every American freely joins our President in this remarkable gesture of human kindness.

While we are boisterous in our concern and sympathy for the suffering people of Europe, it would be well for us to remember that there is after all one race, and that is the Human Race. It is high time that we the American people, would demonstrate our true and sincere interest in mankind by extending aid to all people of every land who are the victims of cruel oppression.

It will be difficult for the people of Africa to understand and appreciate our American humanitarianism when we beat the drum and sound the trumpet for the people of Europe; and yet we are completely oblivious and unobservant to the cruel and brutal treatment which the African people are suffering at the hands of the white rulers of Britain, France, Belgium, and especially South Africa.

According to the Associated Press, the Government of South Africa is presently pursuing a campaign of murder, suppression of all human rights, and are filling the jails with every African leader who even seeks a breath of freedom. The Dec. 14th issue of The Washington Post and Times Herald reports 149 African leaders have been jailed, including Professor Z. K. Matthews, regarded as one of the leading Christians of Africa. According to the same article, twenty-seven prominent leaders, such as the Archbishop of Capetown, Alan Paton, and a prominent Methodist Minister, are attempting to raise a fund to assist these defenseless humans.

(Continued On Page 7)

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