TWO SHINING RAYS OF HOPE

From the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Chicago last week, there have come two bright and shining rays of hope that all is not lost in the South, in spite of events that have recently happened in this section of the country. First, the convention unanimously endorsed a report of its Christian Life Commission which called for an end of resistance to integration of races. It demanded that law enforcement agencies bring to justice those who perpetrate violence against Negroes in the cause of segregation.'

Second, the trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest, in attendance at the convention, voted to admit qualified Negro students, starting in the fall of 1958. With about 25 of the seminary's 30 trustees present there was not a disenting

Said the report of the Christian Life Com-

"This commission protests the violence in all its ugly forms that is being used against the Negro people in the current segregation issue or at any other time. In recognition of the Negro's rights as a citizen of these United States we call upon the law enforcement agencies of local, state and national governments to protect him, irrespective of his position or culture from lawless attacks

"We believe our nation cannot long endure these lawless attacks made upon the person and property of free citizens in contempt of the law and the courts of justice. We, therefore, call upon the law enforcement officers of community, state and nation to bring to legal justice the perpetrators of these crimes, regardless of their position or influence in the community.

Said the commission further:

"Discriminatory laws are futile, Jim Crow laws cannot solve the race problem. The road toward solution will be found when we find the reason why they are enacted and tackle those reasons."

These are strong words and strong actions. They go beyond the high sounding and perfunctory resolutions often taken by Southern religious groups on the race question.

seems, can engage in un-Christian practices and at the same time call themselves Christian. organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan, the White Citizens Council and others. The Baptists have outrun other southern religious organizations and should be congratulated for taking such a forward and courageous step.

TRIAL BY FURY INSTEAD OF TRIAL BY JURY

The trial of two white men in Montgomery. Alabama for the bombing of a Negro church and their subsequent acquittal was indeed a trial by fury rather than a trial by jury. The verdict, rendered by the jury of 12 white men, brought a ringing applause from the crowded courtroom after justice had once again been lynched in defense of white supremacy. The verdict of not guilty comes at a time when North Carolina's Senator Sam J. Ervin-the "J" is not for Jim Crow-is waging the fight of his life to uphold the rights of southerners to keep their heels on the necks of Negroes and screaming about protecting the right of trial by jury. It is probably the greatest blow in behalf of civil rights that has been struck in a long time and if advocates of civil rights legislation in Congress did not have sufficient ammunition for their congressional guns before, they have it now. Before the eyes of the nation and the worte, the 42 white then in stablems have proved conclusively that where the rights of Negroes are concerned, a trial by jury in the

South is more often a trial by fury. When men of any race in Alabama, or any othern southern state, can be set scott free after bombing a church and have it applauded by spectators in a courtroom, there is certainly little hope that a Negro charged with an offense against a white man can obtain a fair trial in such a place. Senator Ervin and other advocates of white supremacy in Congress will probably exert all kinds of pressure behind the scenes on Alabama to secure a verdict of guilty in the other trial of one of the defendants for bombing another church and a taxicab stand. Whether they will be successful will depend entirely on their ability to get it over to the stupid whites in

Montgomery that they are not only aiding in the cause of federal civil rights legislation but are holding this country up before the eyes of the world as the very poorest example of democracy. So far as Negroes are con- last few years. cerned the verdict may yet turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

What the state of Alabama has actually said to all hoodlums within its borders is a ruling that if the church is to able religious leader. that you can bomb Negro churches, homes and other property and the courts of this state will protect you. That is what the defense attorneys meant when they appealed broke the camel's back as far to the jury for a verdict that would give en-couragement to "every white man, every concerned. A Bible school, couragement to "every white man, every white woman and every white child in the South who is looking to you to preserve our sacred traditions."

What traditions we pray? The traditions to embark upon a reign of terror against Ne-groes, the like of which there has never be-ing to develop an interracial more bombings of Negro churches and homes occur, resulting in the death of their ococcur, resulting in the death of their oc-cupants, you can charge it up to the 12 "tried changed, the minister wanted and true" furymen of that Alabama court, his church to keep in step with who obeyed the defense attorneys' demands the times and to serve the comand preserved the "sacred traditions" of the South, giving new hope to the Ku Klux Klan, race.
The Rev. Mr. Sturgess urged the White Citizens Council and other law-

less elements. and terrorism have been moved from the skins were moving in. He spearcourthouse lawn to the courtroom where they are done under the protection of the court

Sale" campaign which gained

So many are done under the protection of the court and in the name of justice. Thus we find the national recognition about two perpetrators no longer the ignorant hood-lums but members of the court, such as the judges, the jurymen and the counsel for the defense.

"GOOD LUCK" WE WISH THEM

throughout the land, young men and women by the thousands are graduating after having spent the allotted time to meet the academic standards required. Probably, without a doubt, most of this horde of privileged youth face the new world into which they go with eagerness and high hopes and confident of their abilities to meet the challenge of life successfully. Some of them have reason to feel otherwise, because already the graduates of a generation ago.

But regardless as to the mood of these graduates, they will find themselves, with few exceptions, if any, facing a world that will test their moral stamina and the spiritual fibre of their souls to the utmost. They will find that life is no bed of roses, with it's roads to success smoothly paved, it's prizes hanging like tropical fruit to be easily grasped, and its victories a conspiracy planned for their benefit. In fact, they will find themselves in a world of hard reality, in which

\$2.00

competition is fierce, in which the battle of life is often waged with no quarter given and the jungle law—the survival of the fittest has not been repealed by civilization. In such a world, painful disillusionment may be their areas have.

This writer has noted with more than passing interest many of the admonitions given by the season's commencent speakers. They have advised these young graduates to be non conformists, to dare to be the odd man thy are assured of positions, and these with to be unfraid to walk alone, to challenge the salaries which would have seem fabulous to status quo, entrenched interests, the opinion of the majority, to face life with unflinching courage, holding to their convictions and re fusing to compromise their ideals and the sense of right and justice.

> Such advice has been timely and justifiably given. It is the bounden duty of those hearing it to adopt it as a practical program to which they will cleave. For, as the future leaders of men and the torch bearers of civilization, they can afford to do no other thing. Their own ultimate good and the sal-(Please turn to page Seven)

CAROLINA TIMES

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THE CHURCH LAGS BEHIND

printed below appeared in a re-cent issue of THE CALL, a of his members and about half weekly, published in Kansas of his official board were not

exert leadership at a time when practical Christianity is mos needed. During the past few years, the church has been long on resolutions and high-sound-ing phrases, but short on per-

Almost every important national church denomination has issued proclamations setting forth belief in and adherence to the principle of universal brotherhood. They exhort that "God recognizes no race" and that "All men are brothers." But, unfortunately, these pronouncements are not binding upon local churches and local congregations. Churches,

It has just come to our attention that the Rev. Earl T. Sturgess has resigned as pastor church. He is leaving the church he has served for seven years because of Session, the official body of the church, has gone on record as opposing the opening races in the church's activities. toward integration but to step This action was taken in spite of out and lead the community in the fact that the community interracial living. around the church has taken on an interracial character in the get his congregation and

voted to keep the membership "all-white" but recently issued must be for white children only.

where children are taught the principles of Jesus, was to be restricted to the white followers of Christ only.

For the past three years, the church. He has sought to bring the Southeast area. terms about understanding and good-will among Negro and white have broken through the iron curtain of resistance.

scurried from a block once a gains. Negro family moved in.

signs now have virtually disappeared and many white resignation should awaken them to their duty as Christians and as American citizens. If they are he worked has not made a complete change-over as some other

to make his church a truly community one, taking into its membership and into activities

Editor's Note: The Editorial all who would come, the Rev with him in spirit. When called upon to put into practice the One of the tragic factors in Christian principle that all men the de-segregation process has are brothers, the good laymer been the failure of the church to of Southeast Presbyterian found are brothers, the good laymer themselves hesitating.

When the question was put

squarely before them, they adopted a resolution stating that Southeast Presbyterian "is not yet ready for a mixed member shin." That was last February couraged and distillusioned but flock. One note of encourage ment came in the fact that the resolution carried by only one vote. Seven men were for it, six against. There was always the hope that the thinking of one man might be changed.

Two months later came th vote on the Church school. This this, the Rev. Mr. Sturgess de cided that he could no longe serve a congregation whos principles and ideals were so fa from his own and so out of step with the pronouncements of the general Presbyterian church.

The Rev Mr. Sturgess se church to serve the people in of its membership to all people race. He wanted his congrega and the participation of both tion not only to follow the trend

Unable after three years to governing body to accept his The Session not only has program, the Rev. Mr. Saurges is resigning and Southeast Pres

Southeast Presbyterian, lo Church School this summer it cated at 36th and Indiana, is an ideal location for an interracial This was the "straw" that community church. It is house in a building with excellent facilities. It is to be regretted that its membership finds it so dance with Christion principles

Although we realize how difficult the situation must have been for him during these last few trying years, we regret to see the Rev. Mr. Sturgess leave the Southeast area. Perhaps in

We certainly hope that he will not be lost to the Kansas City community. This city needs munity around it, regardless of race. The Rev. Mr. Sturgess urged white residents of the area not to move care the area not the move care the stand up and fight for their principles, who can translate to move away because some of the Christian philosophy into Thus we find that lynchings, mob violence God's children with darker daily living and will sacrifice security and personal comfort

So many ministers fail to national recognition about two years ago. His aim was to make

The members of Southeast The Rev. Mr. Sturgess' plan Presbyterian should hang their had a good effect. Although the heads in shame if they let the Rev. Mr. Sturgess leave. they will refuse to accept the reas have.

As he proceeds with his plan of their pastor and move immediately to change the move immediately to change the policies which caused him to

INVITING THE UNDERTAKER-



"Civil Rights Legislation Will Remove The Filth In Our Own Backyard."



Spiritual Insight

"I GO FISHING"

By REVERENO HAROLD ROLAND Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

ing...they say we also go with thee." John 21:3.

Peter was very impatient in are often like that too. We are too prone to discouragement and to forsake the ways of Christ. We leave the way Holy Adventure for the unimpartant things of life. We lack

boats and the sea. sake the path of holy consecra-

and holding up the work of most? Christ the Savior? How long Put the way of God and holy conse-tration. He is all too human. We will you squander your God-and keep him there. He is the given gifts on the side shows of life, while the important busi-ness of the Christ is held up? "Peter said to them I go fishing..." Beware of the spiritual and moral pitfalls of impati-

meeds of men. Some gool cause the indwelling power of ccd's must wait. Why? We who have spirit await the fulfi'ment of from the old way with its nets, needs of men. Some gool cause And yet we see the leader, the the reins of responsibility and and with the keys, ready to for-lake the path of holy consecra-lost need salvation. The heavy LORD ARE NOT IN VAIN." tion. He returns to the old life. laden need relief and release. They go fishing, but it was a The sick need healing. And miserable night of futility and fallure. They disobeyed the will and the wishes of the Christ. go fishing when we cannot have How can we succeed when we go our way—our selfish and pride-contrary to the Master's will?

"Peter said to them I go fish- | He goes fishing while the Good | ful way. How can you have News of the Master must wait. God's peace and blessing if you Are you off fishing some place go fishing when he needs you

> secret of success. Leave him out and failure.

We get tired of waiting and go fishing. Stand unwearied in the unfolding of God's plans. partant things of life. We lack steadfastness so we turn back to the ol dlife. thil too easily we loose sight of Christ. Thus we often say with Peter..."I GO FISHING..." bong since had he and the rest of them been called from the old way with its nets, needs of men. Some gool cause the indwelling power of Gcd's God's plan. Let us be faithful The knowing our "LABORS IN THE

> The impatient often lose the wonder and richness of the cision to .. GO FISHING .. Let us of holy consecration.



Watch on the Potomac

Conflict Of Interest

the eye in the departure of Secretary of the Treasury George announcing his resignation write-off certificates. volved in a hot controversy that \$1,021,813,000.

threatened to "curl" his hair. of Defense Mobilization.

Now it turns out that several ompanies in which Humphrey has retained a substantial financial interest have themselves Consolidation Coal Co., Hanna received tax write-offs in excess Coal and Ore Corp., and the Naof one billion dollars in the last tional Steel Corp., of which he seven years.

tax write-off were made in an Senate which he did.

There's a lot more than meets pones the day of tax reduction." ne eye in the departure of Sec- In the period from 1950 through April 11, 1957, it de- National Steel Corp \$77,856,00 M. Humphrey from the President's cabinet. Shortly before companies were granted 410 tax 779,000

er there we

When Humphrey was up for It all started a few weeks ago confirmation he got kid-glove when Humphrey told Sen. Byrd treatment from the Senate Fiof Virginia that he did not like nance Committee. It was quite those fast tax write-offs that different from the rough handmany big business companies ling suffered by his colleague were receiving from the Federal Secretary of Defense Charles government. Humphrey spoke Wilson, Humphrey said he was as if he were shocked at the going to retain his stocks and he preferred treatment being given was permitted to do so. He did have refused to temporize with resign his various directorships beneficiary of a \$65,000,000 and also quit as president of the tional liberties are asking if the write-off granted by the Office M.A. Hanna Co. of Cleveland, Dixie demagogues may not have a giant holding company.

Humphrey said he would lation deprive a man maintain his financial ties to the right to trial by jury? M. A. Hanna Co., Pittsburgh now becomes top man.

The disclosures of the quick What The Write-Offs Are Worth contempt. To get some idea of what's in-ODM letter to Sen. Matthew M. volved in a rapid tax write-off Union now makes another point Neely, West Virginia Demoyou might compare it with the in a carefully prepared memo: you might compare it with the rate at which you are permitted "While there is always need" crat, recovering from a hip injury at Bethesda Naval Hospital. Neely asked Sen. Wayne tal. Neely asked Sen. Wayne Morse to present the data to the preciation on most homes now there is also need to preruns from 20 to 30 years. Or

by holding back revenue post- companies in which Humphrey retained stock, this is what they Pittsburgh Consol. Coal Co. \$1,-

Another Hanna-associatedCo. Iron Ore Co of Canada received write-off totalling \$83,438,000

Civil Rights And Civil Wrongs There is a great furore in the Senate these days about the socalled "jury trial amendment" to the Eisenhower civil rights legislation. Many people who any impairment of our constituwould a point. Does the proposed legis-would lation deprive a man of the

> The legal answer is that in federal cases involving con-tempt of court the accused is usually tried before the against whom he is said to be in

The American Civil Liberties

misuse of government power... On May 8 Humphrey told the Senate Finance Committee that he felt the tax write-off program "adds to inflation, gives favored companies an unfair advantage over competitors, and office buildings it's about the courts to uphold the law of the land. The right of equal treatment under law is fatally undermined when community sentiment blocks the enforcement of law."