

A Minister Out Of Character

It should be embarrassing if not humiliating to Negro members of the Episcopal Church in North Carolina to know that they are connected with a Christian organization that can tolerate such a man as the Rev. James Parker Dees of Statesville as the rector of one of its churches. In a statement acknowledging his election as president the Rev. Mr. Dees had the following to say:

"Our organization stands for many things among them being the preservation of our nation's integrity and sovereignty, government according to the Constitution, racial integrity, status rights, individual liberties and private property. We are concerned primarily now with the preservation of racial segregation in our public schools."

It appears to us that this so-called minister of the gospel is concerned with about everything except advancing the teachings of Jesus Christ or the saving of souls. When he as a minister places the preservation of segregation in the public schools above that of soul saving we believe he is performing out of character and needs to read again and again the sermon on the mount and the pronouncement of the Apostle Paul when he declared on the question of race that "I perceive that God is no respecter of person and

that out of one blood God created all people for to dwell upon the face of the earth."

The Rev. Mr. Dees went on further to say that "we are now passing through the most critical time in the history of the human race, when the destruction of the white race through racial amalgamation is being carefully planned," etc. So, instead of embarking on a program to save souls Dees has set out to save the white race from destruction.

At the most there are about 17 million Negroes in the United States, surrounded on every hand by 135 million or more whites of various strains, strata and what not. If the 135 million whites are so weak as to be overcome by 17 million Negroes then we say the former aren't worth saving.

We think the Rev. Mr. Dees' fear stems from the usual inferiority complex that besets the average ignorant southerner. We do not believe that he or anyone else can produce substantial evidence that there is any organized effort on the part of any persons or group of persons to destroy any race by amalgamation or any other method. Instead Mr. Dees is overcome with a dose of race hatred and prejudice for which there is no remedy save the love of Him who 2,000 years ago taught all mankind that only through the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man can peace obtain in the world.

Face-Saving Avenues Of Escape For The South

The apparent search of southern governors for a face-saving avenue of escape from the stand a majority of them have taken in defying federal court rulings on the question of integration is one of those efforts that shows a lack of courage, nobility and statesmanship. It takes a noble and courageous person, not a coward, to confess his sins when he is wrong. The matter of face-saving only arises when one attempts to defy right come hell and high water. It does not matter when one is truly repentant. The only thing that does matter is to clear one's conscience and to see that right triumphs over wrong.

Those of us who are acquainted with the average southern politician are satisfied that there is not enough nobility and courage in a single governor from Virginia to Mississippi to confess publicly that the oath of office he took to uphold the Constitution of the United States included that portion of it which guarantees to men of all colors, races and creeds, equality before the law. Men of such nobility and courage are seldom elected to public office in the South. If by chance they get there by appointment they are soon cut down by hate mongers and crooked politicians. A case in point is that of Dr. Frank Porter Graham who was appointed to the United States Senate by the late Governor W. Kerr Scott only to be defeated the very first time he came up for election.

Morally speaking only the very lowest

element of southerner is represented in both houses of Congress. Such men value the power of public office above right or principle. Their philosophy is "win at any cost," and they therefore will stoop to the very lowest methods to achieve that end. That is why southern politicians will continue to appeal to the ignorant voter of the South by his defiance of federal court orders on the question of integration. Governor Almond of Virginia, Governor Faubus of Arkansas and other southern governors know they are fighting a losing battle against the federal courts and they would be happy if in some way they could find a face-saving avenue of escape from their plight.

If the straws show the way the wind is blowing we think another decade will manifest a great change in the type of candidate the majority of voters will support for public office in many southern states. The very fact that several daily newspapers of Virginia have begun to waver in their stand against integration while groups are being organized to keep the schools open even if a token degree of integration must be accepted make strong evidence that the face-saving avenue of escape may not be too far away for the governor of Virginia if not several other southern states. Once Virginia bows to the will of the federal courts governors in other southern states are sure to seize the fact as an avenue of escape.

Running True To Form

Negro citizens of North Carolina will not be surprised that a Superior Court judge refused to release the little boys of Monroe who are now being held in a state reformatory because a little white girl phynmate kissed one or both of them. Neither are they surprised at the fact that the judge deplores the "storm of publicity from civil rights advocates and newspapers surrounding the case." The reaction of the presiding judge is exactly what might be expected in any case of similar circumstances. It is typical of the South and runs true to form so far as North Carolina is concerned.

In order to justify the persecution of these two Negro children all sorts of lies, half lies and innuendoes have been concocted to make them appear as adult criminals instead of two underage youths. In the face of the long series of delinquencies, involving larceny and breaking and entering, with which they are now accused, it appears strange to us that Judge J. Hampton Price made no entry in his juvenile records until

they were involved in kissing or being kissed by the white girls.

The attempt to whitewash this most recent travesty of North Carolina courts must not be allowed to go unchallenged. The fact remains that these two small boys were never jailed, threatened with being jailed or taken to a reformatory until they broke the unwritten law of white supremacy. It was then and only then that they were arrested, slammed in jail and held there for six days without being allowed to see their parents or friends.

We are compelled to look with suspicion on Price's statement that the reason he made no previous entries in his records is because he wanted to help them. It takes no sage to determine how much help a juvenile judge would be to two little Negro boys to whom he referred to twice in his testimony as "juggers." When he slammed them in jail and held them there for six days he was giving them exactly the kind of help he felt they should have.

We think the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People should perfect the appeal for which it gave notice at the first and only real hearing the two little boys have had. The case should have the support of every American who believes that all men should stand before the law as equals, without regard for their race, creed or color.

Civil Rights Laws Will Take The Profit Out Of Hate.



WATCH ON THE POTOMAC

By ROBERT SPIVACK



The Gentle Art Of Johnson

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon Johnson made a remarkable speech to his fellow Democrats on the occasion of the opening of the 86th Congress. What made it remarkable was Johnson's ability to say so little in so many words and make them sound so full of importance.

Example: "Our strength is what we are—and what we prove ourselves to be."

Further example: "We need new ideas in many fields. We need to forge new tools of government."

And: "Our first responsibility is responsibility itself."

Any critic could run through the text and come up with half dozen more Johnson sayings that will never make Bartlett's Book of Familiar Quotations.

Yet a historian who reads this undoubtedly ghost-written speech and thought it gave a true measure of the man would be making a serious mistake. Any appraisal of Johnson must recognize the fact that he is a horse-trading politician, who thinks in the following terms in just about this order: (1) Will it help re-elect Lyndon Johnson? (2) What will Texas businessmen think about it? (3) How does it affect the rest of the nation?

Even if Johnson did not write the speech and even if his political homilies read as if they were meant for the village idiot, there was an underlying philosophy in the Johnson text. The heart of the speech, as I read it, was in the following sentences:

"What we (meaning Johnson himself—RGS) can do now is subject to certain limits. "We have been given great strength, but not overriding strength. The Executive arm of national government remains under control of another party. "We have—by our majority here—an obligation to lead. We do not have authority to command. We have powers to advise and consent. We do not have powers to implement and accomplish."

It sounds sweet and reasonable. But what does it mean in a politician's language?

This was, in short, not an exhortation to the troops to go forth into battle to fight for the liberal ideals which were so appealing to the voters last November. It was, instead, an exhortation to "Go forth and make deals with the boys down Pennsylvania Ave. We can't join them, but we won't fight them. We'll go forward together, smothering the popular mandate."

THE OLD COALITION—What does Johnson construe that mandate to be? He said further in his remarks that the mandate of the Democrats is "for confident and creative and constructive leadership." Somehow, though, when he got around to listing the things in which the party should "lead" he forgot to mention civil rights, civil liberties or re-opening public schools.

Now that's quite an oversight, for a man who accuses the opposition of being "dedicated to inertia and full of static."

But when you put down Johnson's speech and watch the man in action then it becomes quite apparent that it was all meant for the birds.

What was his first official act, on the first day of Congress? It was to shut off debate on a proposal to limit the filibuster. And what his major political operation? To ensure the new Republican Senate Leader, Everett McKinley Dirksen, into a deal to back the filibuster proposed by the Texas lawmaker.

This posed quite a dilemma for Dirksen. He agreed to be a co-sponsor of the Johnson resolution. At the same time his aides informed the office of his Illinois colleague, Sen. Paul Douglas, that he was for a real curb on endless talk in the Senate.

But, of course, for Dirksen and for Johnson the "real" problem in the forthcoming Congress is not civil rights, not the filibuster, and not re-opening the schools. Those are secondary matters. What's real for them is whether it will be possible to re-establish the old coalition of Dixie Democrats and right wing Republicans which has for so long dominated the Senate.

For these two estimable gentlemen the "real" enemies are those liberals who insist that the pledges the politicians promised the voters last November must be carried out. To Johnson and his associates Senators like Douglas, Javits, Humphrey, Case of New Jersey, and Morse of Oregon are dangerous men.

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

By REV. HAROLD ROLAND



God-Fearing People

"An upright, God-fearing man. . . ." Acts 10:22.

O, that his tribe may increase among us. We are in need of more simple, ordinary, God-fearing people. The people who go about from day to day trying to serve God humbly and reverently. We have enough of the self righteous, complacent and the satisfied. We have in need of more of the ordinary enough of the bigshots. We are people who love God and seek to do his will. Yes, we need more of the Cornelius type. . . . "An upright, God-fearing man."

These are the people, in the final analysis, who are the real burden bearers. These people carry the major portion of the

burdens in the great ministry of the Church. They make the great sacrifices. They are the sharers and the bearers of the burdens. And without this great mass of honest Christians where would the church be? These people represent the inner core of faithfulness. They make possible the ongoing program of the Christian ministry.

Jesus laid the apostolic foundation of the Church on such people. You remember he called ordinary, humble fishermen, tax collectors and others of a similar nature. And the world knows the story of the great service rendered by these simple and noble souls. And

may God continue to inspire and bless these noble souls who live in simple Christian dignity and make possible the work of Christ Jesus, the Savior.

The God-fearing man must continue to be the hope of the cause of Christ. These noble souls seek no special place of honor. These rare jewels of the spirit seek no great headlines but they are the life and leaven of the church. They carry on in the sunshine and in the stormy periods of the Church. They remain loyal when others run away. Yes, these are the people that God and man can count on. May God bless them and may their number increase.

What Others Have Said The Dixie Classic

A few weeks ago the Dixie Basketball Classic was played in Raleigh. Several out-of-state teams participated, and we watched with interest the Bearcats from the University of Cincinnati and the Michigan State University team—both of which had Negro players.

When Oscar Robertson, Cincinnati's Negro ace, came to the tournament he was the nation's number one scorer with an average of almost 40 points per game. Michigan State brought two Negro players, one of them being Jumping Johnny Green, a high scorer and the nation's top rebounding champion.

North Carolina State in the second round of play met the Cincinnati five and defeated the Bearcats 69 to 61, holding Oscar Robertson to 29 points. For the championship, North Carolina State Coleje overpowered the Michigan State Coleje club by a sizeable score. State won by playing a possession type of ball, attempting to score only when there was an excellent chance.

State College was able to accomplish this feat by playing two or three men on the visiting teams' ace players. Their plan of attack hemmed in Oscar Robertson and Johnny Green. While every team is out to win, we feel that this plan of "putting forth special effort to stop Oscar Robertson and Johnny Green" was in a sense unsportsmanlike. The only sportsmanship that deserves admiration is a man-to-man type of play, used almost unanimously over the nation.

To concentrate on stopping one man in basketball is somewhat similar to "unnecessary roughness and slugging" in football, hitting below the belt" in boxing, and "spiking the base runner" in baseball.

In order that State College will not place itself in a position to be criticized, we hope in the future it will concentrate in winning the championship by playing a man-to-man type of basketball.

—THE (Raleigh) CAROLINIAN, January 10.

The Way It Appears As We Enter 1959 In Little Rock

Governor Faubus is still basking in the nation's headlines in his infamous role.

Attorney General Bruce Bennett is still making himself ridiculous, trying to gain the affection of the state's segregationists.

Truth in Little Rock is agitation while democracy is Communism.

A traffic violation is a more serious offense than attempted murder.

While the nations of the world are putting emphasis on knowledge, Governor Faubus is glorifying ignorance and advocating juvenile delinquency.

The crisis that has disgraced America will remain unsolved

until the people of Little Rock who have something at stake

Former governor, Sid McMath's admitted mistake while he was governor of bringing Orval E. Faubus to the city from Greasy Creek will always remain a dark spot on his administration.

Arkansas will remain throughout the year of 1959 as one of Russia's greatest aides in her effort to spread Communism throughout America.

This, we'll admit doesn't appear too encouraging, but when the use and authority of reasoning have been exhausted for the headlines, no other picture seems possible.

—Arkansas State Press, Jan. 9.

The Senate's Rule 22 Must Go

Under Senate Rule 22, adopted in 1949, debate on a measure cannot be limited without agreement of at least two-thirds of the full membership.

In the past this has meant securing the votes of 66 Senators to halt a filibuster. With the admission of Alaska, this requirement rises to the impossible number of 68.

Under this rule, a minority can and has talked indefinitely to kill any bill, chiefly civil rights, that it finds displeasing.

Last January, an effort to get rid of Rule 22 lost by a vote of 55 to 38, with 28 Republicans joining hands with 27 Democrats, principally Southerners, to protect the right to filibuster.

SIDES ARE already being chosen for another showdown battle on this issue when the 86th Congress convenes next Wednesday.

Prospects are the brightest in history that Rule 22 will be amended.

This is so because a large number of the reactionary Republicans who voted with the Dixiecrats have been replaced with liberal Democrats pledged to abolish this mockery of democratic procedure.

Southerners, who on other issues have no tender consideration for the rights of minorities, have sought to enshrine Rule 22 as something inviolate.

It is necessary for the protection of a minority against the crushing weight of the majority, will stop fighting their conscience and come face to face with the issue.

THEIR ARGUMENT lacks merit.

In a democracy the minority has no legitimate right to frustrate the will of the majority.

The proposals for revision being offered by Senate liberals are not designed to stifle discussion. They permit 15 days or three Senate weeks of debate after a petition for closing debate has been filed.

That should be adequate

time to fully and completely discuss both sides of any issue. After that the measure under discussion would have to be brought to vote.

ANY SENATOR who says these proposals are unfair, or that they jeopardize free debate, or that they infringe on the rights of a minority, simply does not believe in democracy.

With complete victory so clearly in sight, the liberals must not allow themselves to be sidetracked by sordid deals or meaningless compromises offered by that oily Texan, Lyndon Johnson and his southern friends.

Ours is a government by majority, not by two-thirds.

There is nothing in the Constitution which permits a backward minority (13 states) to thwart the desires and will of the other 36.

Campy's Return

Roy Campanella will be a coach at the Los Angeles Dodgers' spring training camp and this is news to greet with a leap of the heart and a glad moisture in the eye.

In his playing days, we could take Campy or leave him; he was one of the best of his kind, but professional athletes aren't the rock on which the nation is founded. Right after he was injured we felt as sorry as we'd feel for anybody so seriously hurt, but couldn't feel that it was a calamity for the country that he'd no more work behind the plate in major league baseball.

Through the days of his comeback, our respect for him has grown great.

Any member of the team who shows himself anything like a quitter after observing Campy will be a rhinoceros, a hide, spirit and mind.

—Chapel Hill News Leader, Jan. 6

Let us all try to become such pillars of spiritual and moral

strength in our church and community.

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