

The Righteousness of Deacons, Stewards and Trustees

"For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." — MATT. 5:20.

The powerful and indicting words above, spoken nearly 2,000 years ago by Jesus himself, leave no room for doubt in our minds today that the Son of God had the number of the scribes and Pharisees. These self righteous individuals held about the same position in the synagogues as the deacons or stewards and trustees hold in our churches of today.

In short, we think it is not too far-fetched to do a little paraphrasing here and use the word deacon or steward and trustees in the place of scribes and Pharisees. For if Jesus were on earth today His words, in so far as the average modern day church is concerned, would be equally as appropriate as they were when they were uttered by Him nearly 2,000 years ago.

Thus we hear thundering down the corridors of time, That except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the deacons or stewards and trustees, "ye shall in no case enter the kingdom of heaven."

A glaring example of what Jesus was talking about, is that now faced by the deacons and trustees of two churches in Durham, one of which was organized as the results of a squabble that split a local church 20 years ago, resulting in the erection of a second edifice. The sensible,

and above all the Christian, thing for these two churches to do, as was recently suggested by one of Durham's leading young ministers, Dr. Lorenzo A. Lynch, is to bury the hatchet and get back together as one church. Such a move would not only benefit the members of both but the entire community in which they are presently located. The churches are within a stone's throw of each other. Thus instead of trying to pay the salaries of two ministers, and other unnecessary expenses involved in operating two churches the members would be relieved of such a costly, stupid and sinful burden.

So Jesus points His finger directly at the deacons and trustees of First Calvary Baptist Church and the Morehead Avenue Baptist Church of Durham and cries aloud, "That except your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter the kingdom of heaven."

But like the scribes and Pharisees, the deacons and trustees of the two churches will turn a deaf ear to the cries of Jesus and go on heaping upon the weary and tired backs of their fellow-members the heavy and unnecessary burden of operating two churches. They will do so because they don't really want brotherly love and righteousness but, like the scribes and Pharisees, who loved "the uppermost rooms of feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues," they love the uppermost rooms at banquets and the chief offices in the churches.

More Consistency for NAACP

There is no doubt about it, every Negro in America and many other parts of the world, is indebted to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for the magnificent fight it has waged for nearly a half century in behalf of the race. Because of this the CAROLINA TIMES has stood by the NAACP in and out of season and we would have our readers to know now that we have no intention of deserting the organization or refusing to praise the main bridge over which the race is making its march toward the desired goal of total freedom and human dignity.

In the midst of it all we think, however, that those who have to do with directing the affairs of the national office of NAACP would make it less difficult for its followers, in the hinterlands to know what the score is, if they would maintain a policy of consistency, instead of the apparent "on again and off again" policy that has been the lot of NAACP headquarters here of late.

When one considers that it was less than four years ago that the NAACP made a most brilliant attack on Cong. Adam Clayton Powell in the form of a pamphlet it had printed under the title: "Adam Where Art Thou?" It is no wonder that many of the faithful supporters of NAACP are beginning to wonder what it is all about.

Here in part is what the NAACP had to say in that pamphlet which it published in April 1963:

"Three times within a brief period of 11 days, March 21-31, Representative Adam Clayton Powell (D., N.Y.) attacked the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at open meetings, first in Washington and twice later in Harlem. The March 23 speech was at an outdoor rally sponsored by a nationalist group and included Malcolm X of the Black Muslims as a speaker.

Each time he berated the NAACP, the National Urban League, Dr. Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference and CORE for including white persons among their officers and board members.

In the Harlem rally which was recorded in part by NBC television cameras, Congressman Powell said the public "should consider a boycott" of the NAACP because, he stated, it had white people in "policymaking" positions.

His main speech was given in his best rabble-rousing, street corner style and gave approval to the Black Muslims, although he said there were "some differences." He said Malcolm X was his "friend." When asked by a reporter if he were calling for a boycott of the

Association he did not then deny it. The denial came later after public reaction against the proposal.

After a week of discussion back and forth, on Sunday, March 31, Congressman Powell spoke at the Upper Park Avenue Baptist Church in Harlem, with the NAACP as his principal topic.

In his speech Congressman Powell again called for the ousting of white people from the NAACP, naming specifically, the president, what he called "the secretary-treasurer," the chairman of the life membership committee and the director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

Mr. Powell again embraced the Black Muslim approach by repeating that the NAACP was "controlled" by white people and that Negroes should not support any organization that they themselves did not control. During his speech he again repeated his assertion that Mrs. Agnes Meyer, widow of the former owner of the Washington, D.C., POST and the late Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt had proposed at an NAACP Board meeting that the Association not support the Powell amendment to the Federal Aid to Education Bill. Congressman Powell asserted for the second time that the white members of the Board "voted solidly" not to support the Powell amendment.

He offered free advice on the selection of NAACP Board members and assigned racial quotas, saying he would not object to "four or five" non-Negroes.

NAACP POSITION

The general position of the NAACP is that Congressman Powell simply does not know what he is talking about when he discusses the workings of the NAACP. He is completely ignorant of how it is organized, how it functions, who is on its Board of Directors, how its policy is made and who supports it financially.

Item: Mr. Powell does not know (or has chosen to forget) that the NAACP Board as its meeting February 14, 1955, voted all-out endorsement of the Powell amendment in the following language:

"BE IT RESOLVED: That any new Federal legislation in aid of education in the states at whatever level or of whatever character should contain corrective and safeguarding features which make such aid available only to such states as comply fully with the spirit and purpose of the constitution."

The white members of the Board present voted for this endorsement. Mr. Powell does not know (or

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Unity In Leadership... A Must!



Letter to the Editor

AN OPEN LETTER TO MY CO-WORKERS AND FRIENDS:

I, Arthur J. Stanley, am retiring after thirty-five and a half years of service at the American Tobacco Company. I am delighted that I was born in Durham, and that I was selected back in 1931 as an employee of such an excellent company.

As a young man, I started in the Bull Durham Smoking Department at 25c per hour. Now 35 years later, I receive \$2.52 per hour, 4 weeks of vacation and 8 holidays with pay; also, \$10,000.00 death benefits, and a profit-sharing plan which I enjoy today, set up by the company in 1960.

Throughout the years, the American Tobacco Company, has not only furnished a means of subsistence, of buying a

home and of rearing and educating 4 children, but an opportunity for civic and community service. I served Local 204 as President for 13 years, as a negotiating committee for 25 years, and as field representative for the Tobacco Workers International Union during the year of 1947. At present, I am teaching a Sunday School Class which I have taught over thirty-six years.

I could go on with pleasant memories of the past. But, I shall stop with mentioning these fond recollections, which is an example of the good race relationship which exists in the American Tobacco Company. George Hogan, a fellow-worker, and I, were born the same year. We were hired the same day 35 years ago, and worked

together for 25 years in the Bull Durham Smoking Department. And now, after serving the same company for 35 years, George Hogan and I still friends, are retiring in the same month and same year, 1967.

So, briefly, this is why I am proud that I was born in Durham and was selected back in 1931 to sack Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco, which has now become the famous Bull Durham Filter Cigarette. Then, good luck to the new Bull Durham Filter Cigarette, Pall Mall Filter Cigarette and good luck to Local 183, TWI Union of A. F. of L. C. I. O. and many co-workers and friends, to whom I am indebted for much of my success in life.

ARTHUR J. STANLEY

Editor of the Carolina Times

We were mystified and disappointed in your editorial, "Future of NAACP in Jeopardy" which appeared January 21st, 1967, because no factual data were given in the text in support of the heading.

The editorial begins by citing (not quoting) unnamed and otherwise unidentified "outstanding and respected Negro leaders in the country" as making "numerous side swipes" at the NAACP. The nature of the "swipes" as not described.

Then the editorial criticizes (as it has every right to do) a statement which the editorial describes as being "in defense of" Adam Clayton Powell. The editorial closes with a further reference to the Powell matter and gratuitously characterizes all the pro-Powell people in Harlem as "the gutter element."

In between the opening and closing paragraphs the editorial quotes at length from the columns written by *Amelia Robinson*, criticizing the NAACP as a "dictatorship." But the Carolina TIMES did not include in its Robinson quotation the item which caused Mr. Robinson to write, namely in election for board members in which five out of six candidates

of one faction were defeated in balloting by Branches.

Readers of your paper, therefore, were never informed that a free and open election, lost by those with whom Mr. Robinson apparently sympathizes, was the cause of a "dictatorship" column.

Mr. Robinson gave absolute facts to back up his dictatorship charge. You reprinted his undocumented comments, calling them "an awesome blow."

The NAACP has more members, more local units, more organized youth, more staff, more income and a more diversified program than all other similar organizations put together—not including the National Urban League which is a part-social work, part-civil rights group, with local offices financed out of local Community Chests.

Our records, including annual, audited financial reports are available at all times for inspection. With this information (and more) free for the asking, we wonder why the Carolina TIMES chose to publish a completely undocumented alarm.

We are constantly being reminded that Negro leadership has a responsibility. It may be said with equal force that the

editors of Negro papers have a responsibility to their readers and to the institutions which have defended and advanced the race over so many difficult years under the twin handicaps of hostility from whites and suspicion and jealousy from Negroes.

The Carolina TIMES has a right to its opinion on Representative Powell, but, it has no right to deny a contrary opinion to others and to brand any one dissenter as a victim of "debility, sterility or senility."

For the information of the editor, Mr. Powell has 12,000 members in his Harlem Church who officially support him and they do not consider themselves as the "gutter element" of Harlem. Across the nation there are groups which have protested the treatment of Mr. Powell while making it clear that they do not approve of his conduct.

Even though its sense of morality may not permit it to agree with this view, the Carolina TIMES, as a journal of opinion, ought not to banish to outer darkness those who differ.

Yours very sincerely,
Roy Wilkins
Executive Director

Wams

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Dr. Abernathy, Vice President At-Large, and Rev. Andrew Young, Executive Director, currently are directing all SCLC programs while their close associate, SCLC President Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is on leave writing a book. "Our nation should be aware of three very important facts about the situation in Grenada, Dr. Abernathy said.

"First, despite our repeated appeals to federal, state and local law-enforcement agencies for protection in Grenada, our opponents remain free to threaten and intimidate us.

"Second, this will not stop our programs in Grenada.

"Third, if lawlessness prevails in that city, there could be disastrous consequences."

Dean Rush

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brother, John Rush, both of Atlanta, three nieces and other relatives.

Humphrey

Continued from front page
be furnished by the Kittrell College Choir. At 11 a.m., worship service will be held at the Metropolitan AME Church; the Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Prim of the Fifth Episcopal District, will deliver the sermon. At 2:30 p.m., a discussion entitled "The Role of the Church in Higher Education," will be held at Metropolitan.

Teacher

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order directing the school board to renew her contract for the next school year, and to determine her damages."

Elliott B. Palmer, executive secretary of the North Carolina Teachers Association, served as consultant to the attorneys and investigated the case. Legal Defense lawyers involved in the lower court case were:

Phillip Hirschkop of Alexandria, Va., William Kunster of Kunster-Kunster and Kinoy, ESEA of New York; and Samuel P. Mitchell of Raleigh. Attorney Richard L. Morgan of the NEA carried the appeal to the upper court of appeals.

The NEA check for \$600 presented by Palmer makes a total contribution by the NEA to the Johnson Case of \$5,637.06.

Eastland

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places are immune to the prohibitions of the law merely because they hold these high positions.

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To Be Equal

By WHITNEY M. YOUNG JR.

A Look At Adoptions

EVERY now and then something happens which reveals how absurd prejudice is. The whole country got just such a less from the story of what happened to the Luni family when they tried to adopt a 4½-year-old girl who had been in their foster care since she was 5 days old.

It was reported that the county welfare commissioner refused to let them adopt the child because she is blonde and blue-eyed and the Lunis, of Italian extraction, are dark-eyed brunettes. Fortunately the story had a happy ending a few weeks ago when a court approved the adoption.

Incidents like this have the beneficial effect of shocking people into the realization that prejudice can hit anyone, and the absurdity of judging people by the color of their eyes or hair points up the equally stupid practice of judging people by the color of their skin.

It also focuses attention on adoption rules and procedures. This is especially acute because of the plight of thousands of Negro children being brought up in institutions at the same time that there exist long waiting lists of white families trying to adopt children.

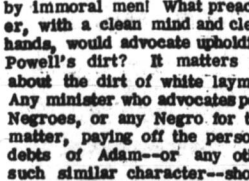
Old Habits Die Hard
It is time to put the light of reason on this subject and encourage interracial adoptions. The color of a child's skin should not determine whether he will languish in an orphanage or be brought up in the loving atmosphere of a home where he is wanted and needed. There are many people who would jump at the chance to adopt one of these children if state welfare bodies and private agencies made the effort to encourage it. Although some agencies have modified their regulations, old habits die hard.

But there have been breakthroughs. Toronto, Canada has a successful program of placing Negro children in white homes. Three years ago its Social Planning Council became concerned at the lack of adoption homes for Negro children. They joined with Toronto's adoption agencies in a campaign to explain the need and provide information to the public.

The program was a success. About 100 children were placed with families who weren't concerned about being trail-blazers or pioneers; they just wanted a child in the house and weren't going to let superficial differences like skin color or hair color get in the way of their happiness.

Some adoption agencies attempting to place Negro children have met with similar experiences. If more white families forget color when they seek to adopt children, many more homes would be enlivened by the sound of happy children and many more couples would reap the rewards of parenthood.

UNCLE TOM SAYS



The actions of some Baptist ministers who want to make some sort of god out of Adam Clayton Powell proves what we have written for years; that we think that too many of our churches are led by immoral men! What preacher, with a clean mind and clean hands, would advocate upholding Powell's dirt? It matters not about the dirt of white laymen. Any minister who advocates poor Negroes, or any Negro for that matter, paying off the personal debts of Adam—or any other such similar character—should have his head and heart examined. Why haven't these fake "men of Christ" spoken out against Powell's immorality? Why haven't they said something about his alleged open love life with his secretary? Why haven't they asked him to be responsible and be an example for our youth? Why haven't these ministers raised money to help eradicate the rats from Harlemonsments? Why haven't these ministers sought to stop the business of dope, prostitution, and numbers in Harlem? Why haven't these ministers sought to get Harlemites to elect somebody to Congress who lives in Harlem, among them, and who would seek to correct the conditions among them, rather than someone living in luxury and on a far away island? Why haven't these ministers asked Powell to stay in Congress and vote on important Civil Rights bills and other bills which would benefit our people? Why don't these preachers raise money to

generally done in a session of the House by one of its members," there can be no legislative immunity.

Previous Supreme Court rulings have established that the only actions which are immune are those which involve a Congressman's "legitimate legislative activity." The court has also said that when an action against a legislator rests solely upon illegal conduct, "a et

Seven panel discussions around specific aspects of the general theme will be held simultaneously at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11.

Ambassador

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during the event is Drew University Professor of Christian Ethics, Dr. George D. Kelsey.

Dr. Harmon Smith, professor of Christian ethics in the Duke University Divinity School, will close this year's institute with an address at 6:15 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 12.