

Independence Day

On July fourth we celebrated Independence Day. It was a great day, though many seem not to understand wherein this greatness lies. One who has been around for some eighty odd years notes a difference in the tone and manner of the celebration 60 or 50 years ago. Of course, those years had their fun and frolic which properly belonged to the day, but the fun was set in a different atmosphere from that prevailing now. The emphasis was upon a genuine patriotism. There were spiritual connotations then which seem to be absent now. The emphasis is on the events, the spectacles, rather than upon the moral, ethical, and spiritual ideals upon which the nation was founded. Riots, clashes, hatreds, tensions come up like mushrooms generated in the hot beds of materialism.

Somehow, we forget that Independence was not won by just a declaration, or that Democracy sprang full-blomed on the day that the Declaration was signed. It took long years of fighting, toil, sacrifice, and much shedding of blood to make the dream come true. Freedom has to be sustained by the same kind of faith, courage, toil and sacrifice which won independence.

A Great Man Passes

Past history, and passing events, serve to impress us with the fact, that the world in which we live has its changes and chances. Individuals and generations come up for a brief span, make their contribution—or lack of it—and pass on.

In the death of Adlai Stevenson, America and the world, may well mourn the passing of a great man, widely useful in his span upon the earth, and whose influence will live and increase as the years go by. He was too great in the range of his thinking, and the wisdom of his philosophy, for the mass of people to understand and appreciate him. We have seen in history, and witnessed in our lifetime, the defeat of men who aspired to high office, because of their truthfulness in witnessing to their beliefs, and the demands which they made for high living and social justice. In fact, we remember that a man who made such a witness, and demanded such high thinking and righteousness in all affairs and human relationships, was put to death by crucifixion. A lot of prophets before Him had been persecuted and put to death.

Emerson was right when he said: "To

Also, multitudes have forgotten that a free people must take upon themselves the responsibility which goes with freedom. Freedom does not mean the right of an individual to do as he pleases without regard to other people who make up society. Self-interest can destroy freedom much more quickly than Communism can. Freedom can live and grow only in a community which recognizes the mutual interests and responsibilities of all the people. There must be a recognition and acceptance of interdependencies - for "no man liveth, or dieth, to himself."

We are a bit skeptical of the wisdom, the motives, and especially the practices, of those groups who organize to promote what they call patriotism. They are what we call "super-patriots", whose idea of freedom is to compel, by intimidation, threats and coercion, everyone to accept their narrow, bigoted, intolerant concept of freedom. Super-patriots always pose great danger to genuine Democracy. For real Democracy does everything in the open. It disdains secretive movements, threats and intimidations. Respect for others, tolerance, helping others to rise, are the marks of real Democracy.

be great is to be misunderstood." It is often dangerous to live upon the heights. We poor mortals want something closer to our prejudices and passions.

Though twice defeated for the Presidency, Adlai Stevenson, without bitterness or rebuke, accepted other positions in which he could, and did, serve his country with distinction. Perhaps, political defeat was providential, since defeat there moved him into areas where his character and his thinking will go on, influencing the world as they might not have done as a President.

As with all great men, he was the object of many attacks. There were many, whose minds could not reach his thinking, and faulted him for his learning and called him an egghead.

No man is seen and understood while he lives. Death is a part of the process through which the real man is revealed. In death, Stevenson already looms higher, and many who criticized him so harshly, now rush to pay tributes to the man and to the service which he has rendered. But for such men, and thank God there are always some of them around, the world would go down in utter destruction.

Religion In The Here And Now

By: Norvin C. Duncan

The great people of the world have always had to battle within their own ranks. We have been moved anew to this reflection as we read of the one hundredth anniversary of the Salvation Army. A great service was held in the Archbishop of Canterbury. The celebration was quite different from the treatment of the founder William Booth. He organized a movement to carry the Gospel into areas generally shunned or ignored by the Churches. He moved into the slums, the brothels where the sinners were, to communicate the Gospel message in terms which they could understand. He met opposition from every quarter, but results, in time, changed the attitude towards the Salvation Army and uniform, and the bonnet worn by the women workers became objects of respect and esteem.

There is a strange inconsistency running through the history of religion, and especially the Christian religion. Again and again Christian nations have gone into wars which denied the teachings of Him whom they profess to follow. An organized body whose stated mission is to seek and save the lost, has tended to organize itself away from the groups it is designed to save. Organized religion has tended to organize itself around cathedrals, elegant church buildings, and beauty in liturgies and artistic appointments—good as symbols, but which more and more tend to become segregated from "all sorts and conditions of men." The great opposition which Jesus met came from the religious leaders of his day because he did go after that which was lost. He charged those leaders that they slew their prophets and then garnished their tombs. And so it has been through the centuries. Prophets continue to be persecuted and slain; future generations will build monuments to them, and keep them garnished. The tragedy of this

our dogmas, and so inhibited by the world that as Christ tries in our day to break through organized religion and traditional cultures and reach the poor, ignorant, underprivileged it is the religious leaders—though, thank God, there are notable exceptions, who try to keep things as they are. The underprivileged are blamed for what the privileged have created and wish to keep intact. The time has come when Christians must be willing to be baptized with the baptism in which Jesus was baptized, and to drink from the cup from which he drank. The Church, organization, individual which seeks to save its life will lose it. The Christian religion has a cross at the center — which must be shared by those who would redeem society—cross burnings deny everything that lies within the Cross of Jesus. So, this generation which their forefathers persecuted or ignored. Through much tribulation the Salvation Army has entered into the Kingdom of God—and brought thousands with them.

The insidious thing about sunburn at the beach, it has you before you are aware of it.

We suppose it is all right for a person to complain, but why do so many people have to make a business of it?

We have never seen anyone disastrously affected by going to church regularly.

There are always a few who are eager to tear down any younger person who has made a go of it in life.

One reason why so many of us fail to get rich is that we run from hard work like it might be a plague.

This Week's

60 SECOND SERMON

By Fred Dodge

"A LITTLE LEAVEN LEAVENETH THE WHOLE LUMP." — I Corinthians 5:6.

Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, medical missionary to Labrador, was a guest at a dinner in London to which many socially prominent men and women were invited. During the course of the dinner the lady seated next to him turned and asked,

"Is it true, Dr. Grenfell, that you are a missionary?"

Dr. Grenfell looked at her for a moment before replying, "Is it true, madam, that you are not?"

Each of us is a missionary to everyone we meet whether we like it or not. We carry a message along the street with our frown or smile. We influence untold numbers of unknowns who happen to see us. What we accomplish that men can measure is small compared to our influence on others' accomplishments or failures.

Norman Cousins put it this way in a Saturday Review editorial. "The full measure of man is to be found not in the man himself or even his ideas and works, but in the colors and textures that come alive in other people because of him."

With this responsibility who dares offer less than his best influence in whatever he does wherever he does it? Is it true that you are not a missionary?

SENATOR JORDAN REPORTS ...

WASHINGTON — Another big step was taken this week in making North Carolina the outstanding tourist attraction of the East Coast when the Senate approved a bill establishing Cape Lookout National Seashore as a new national park.

This proposed park, which I hope will receive early approval of the House of Representatives, will go a long way toward rounding out our state-wide network of tourist attractions which has received national and international acclaim.

The proposed Cape Lookout National Seashore project will make the string of islands on the Outer Banks from Morehead City to Ocracoke Inlet a part of the national park system.

The National Park Service, which has been very interested in this project, is planning to spend several million dollars to install various tourist facilities as well as preserve the area in its natural state and protect the islands from hurricanes and other weather hazards. The Park Service estimates that within a few years after the project is completed about a million people a year will visit the area.

Adjoining the Cape Lookout National Seashore is the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, which has become one of our major tourist attractions.

These recreational areas are key parts of our total tourists and recreational complex in North Carolina which has become a rapidly growing and tremendously important segment of our economy.

Another major factor in our tourist industry is the tremendous popularity of the Blue Ridge Parkway, which leads the nation in National Park Service attractions with about 7.5 million visitors per year. More and more we are realizing how important such attractions can be to our total economy, and they are closely related to other recreational areas such as Fontana Lake, the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir, Kerr Reservoir, and the proposed reservoirs at New Hope Dam in the Cape Fear River Basin and the Falls of the Neuse Dam in the Neuse River Basin.

A recent analysis of the tourist industry published by the Travel Council of North Carolina dramatically illustrates how important recreation and tourism have become as one of our major industries. This analysis showed that receipts by firms serving travelers in our state exceeded a billion dollars last year. The analysis also showed that the growth rate of the travel industry in North Carolina is far exceeding the national average.

North Carolina has become recognized as one of the most tourist-minded states in the nation and facilities such as the Cape Lookout National Seashore will greatly assist us in continuing to expand this

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Woodleaf News

By C. H. Wetmore

Truck farmers are at their busiest season; with tomatoes and cantaloupes about gone. They are busy getting their late peanuts set out. Some are setting out late tomatoes, and cabbage, and planting late squash, for the late markets.

Flake Coulter is improving in Davis Hospital at Statesville, from injuries received about a month ago when his truck wrecked near Martinsville, Va. His injuries included a broken jaw, and lacerations about the face, and bruises about his body.

Janice, and Lynn Wetmore, are spending several days this week in Garden City, South Carolina near Myrtle Beach.

Mrs. Frank Moyer of Brentwood, N. Y. is spending several days here with her sister, Mrs. Heber Wetmore. Danny Damerson, is spending this week in Toccoa, Ga. with his cousin, Mike Means.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Painter and children Ray, Linda, and Ricky of Chattanooga, Tenn., are visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Painter.

A. G. Etheridge, remains very seriously ill at Rowan Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Lem Bryant and children of Birmingham, Alabama, are spending this week with her parents Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Nesbit.

Uncle Charles Deal, who had been real sick is somewhat improved. Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Allen

of Cleveland, Mrs. Maude Nichols of Woodleaf and Mrs. Cora Page of Cooleemee visited Miss Rosa Turner in Lancaster, South Carolina and Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Steele of near Charlotte.

Those enjoying a swimming party at the river and weir-roast this past weekend were Jean, Dale, Keith and Kent Halloway, Jim, Reba, Ann and Robert McIntyre and Jimmy and Tiny Steele of Woodleaf, and Lester, Diana, Freddie, and Buttons Ellenburg, all of Salisbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pennington and daughter, Debbie of Woodleaf are vacationing in the North Carolina mountains this week. Mr. and Mrs. John McIntyre and Kay and Ronnie of Woodleaf spent a few days at Carolina Beach last week.

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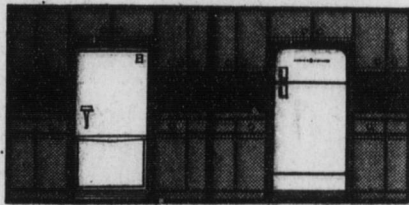
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