

EDITORIALS

WHAT'S WRONG WITH CONGRESS?

Newspapers, magazines, and radio commentators have been very busy the last few days in analyzing the record on President Truman's legislative program and how it fared in Congress up to the time that body recessed for Christmas. The record is a pretty gloomy one from the President's point of view, and equally gloomy if President Truman's recommendations have represented the wishes of the American people.

In the first place, congress has been very slow and dilatory about acting on post-war domestic measures, whether included in the President's program or not. Several issues on which Truman urged prompt action have been and are being treated very leisurely by committee. The fact that the President felt that certain legislation should be passed without delay if it was to serve its purpose in speeding up and smoothing out the process of reconversion to peacetime living apparently carried no weight with Congress. Of the 22 recommendations made by Truman since Congress convened September 6 only four have been acted upon.

In the second place, when Congress has acted, it has modified the President's proposals so as to produce something greatly different from what was asked for, as in the case of the Full Employment Bill. In the case of the United States Employment Service Congress pointedly ignored the President's request that it be continued under Federal control until June of 1947, and tacked a rider onto another measure, the rider providing for the return of the USES to the states early in 1946. The President answered this move of Congress by unexpectedly vetoing the bill in order to kill the rider, adding a sharply worded rebuke to Congress for using such unfair tactics against a President who has leaned over backward in trying to be fair with Congress.

Time magazine contributes the following commentary on the Congressional-executive situation:

"The premise of the early New Deal days that Congress exists merely to echo the executive's orders had long ago been discarded. Congress has taken a healthy interest in debate. But the methods of controlling debate, of channeling and guiding legislation, of bringing order out of the normal Congressional chaos seemed to have broken down. To many Congressmen frankly took the view that Harry Truman did not mean everything he said and that therefore all his proposals did not need serious attention. And in Congress itself the Democratic leadership, uncertain of its aims, had broken down. It could be stopped or beaten by almost any coalition — and almost always was."

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SOME QUESTIONS

In a Winston-Salem daily there appeared recently a statement by Dr. P. M. Brandon, city-county health department dentist for Negro schools, to the effect that 90 per cent of the children he examines have dental defects, many of them serious.

The existence of a public service which reveals such facts is a fine thing, but to uncover the facts is not enough. Some questions naturally arise when such information is made public: What percentage of the parents of these children will know the significance of the facts as to their children's general health now and years afterward? How many of the parents, if they do know, have the money to provide for the needed dental care? For those unable to pay, what can be done on the present level of public health facilities? And finally, do we or don't we need a revolutionary extension of prepaid

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public medical and dental treatment which will bring needed preventive and curative services to all, regardless of financial status?

ONE MORE BOOT

President Truman's answer to Mr. Houston's protest against the President's failure to back up the FEPC's directive in the Washington transit case was a very plain and emphatic one. He simply took away the agency's power to issue any directives at all. From his point of view that apparently solves the problem; but it only further weakens the present FEPC. Furthermore it gives aid and comfort to the enemies of a permanent FEPC; for the President's action will be used as an argument against the desirability of any permanent FEPC at all, or for one whose function will be purely deliberative and advisory, and without any powers that have to be respected. The future of fair employment legislation is at present very dark. There will either be none enacted by the present Congress, or if any bill is passed it will be the kind that puts nice words on paper, but provides for no real action.

In his order which ended the FEPC's power to act in a concrete way President Truman also ordered Federal agencies to end all racial discrimination in employment shifts occasioned by reconversion and reorganization. That such an order was needed is hardly to be questioned, but the latter action does not make up for the President's further sabotaging of the FEPC. Nor does the President indicate by what methods he intends to see that his order is to be implemented and checked on to insure that it will not be evaded. The whole thing seems to be on a request basis. It sounds good when said; but how about seeing that what is ordered will be carried out?

The war is over. The nation is getting back to normal.

DON'T FORGET THE LIBRARY

Now that relaxation from the rush and preoccupation of Christmas is over the campaigners will redouble their efforts to raise the \$10,000 being sought for the acquisition of a home for the Richard B. Harrison Library. The need is obvious. Now is the time to act. When the solicitor approaches you, think of what an asset

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OFFICIALS TACKLING THE PROBLEM

Citizens of Raleigh appreciate the efforts of the Police Department and the City Administration to do something about the local traffic conditions. Going about it in a workmanlike way they called in an expert for a survey and recommendations. Some of the recommendations are already being put into effect.

Though some may not realize it Raleigh is a big and growing city, and a commercial and shopping center, both wholesale and retail, for a wide area. It is the State Capitol, and a popular place for meetings and convention. It is crossed by important motor highways — big arteries through which pass a great volume of freight and passenger vehicles. It is quite possible that few non-industrial cities its size handle more traffic than Raleigh. Consequently it has traffic problems. It is good to know that those responsible for the safety and convenience of Raleigh's citizens and visitors are alive to these problems, and are conscientiously and efficiently tackling them.

Force and right govern everything in this world; force till right is ready.

The opinion of the strongest is always the best.

The winds and the waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators.

The Accusing Finger!



Second Thoughts

By C. L. HALLIBURTON

Most Americans applauded President Truman's action in appointing Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt one of our delegates to the United Nations Organization. It was a tribute not only to her husband, who more than any other man made the UNO possible, but also to herself, a true humanitarian and a true citizen of the world. That Mrs. Roosevelt has criticized Truman's foreign policy only adds to the graciousness of the appointment.

But eliminating all those inconsequential humans who serve as a basis for figuring Mississippi's total representation in Congress, and have no other political function whatever, is still quite likely that "The Man" has figured a little high. It is true that Roosevelt was heartily disliked by many Mississippi politicians and voters. But he carried Mississippi by the usual majority in 1944. It is also true that Mrs. Roosevelt has for years been decidedly unpopular with large numbers of southerners, and that she has a fair share of Mississippians. But it was no more nor less than an absurd libelism to say that 93 per cent of even those Mississippians who are allowed to vote would support Bilbo's opposition to Mrs. Roosevelt as a UNO delegate. There is probably nobody in the United States who knows that

different from everybody else. Another good way is to say something startling. The statement does not have to be true or reasonable, so long as it is spectacular. Bilbo may be counted on to do every time the thing which permits him to feature Bilbo as a defender of the peculiar and glorious institutions of the South, white womanhood and white supremacy.

The *News and Observer* observed editorially, "If the people of Mississippi are like those of the rest of the country the Senator will be lucky if he gets the support of 51 per cent of the voters." (When he comes up for reelection next year.) It is possible that Bilbo may accumulate enough assinities of one kind or another to turn the majority of Mississippi voters against him by election time. His chivalrous opposition to the appointment of Mrs. Roosevelt may help. Or it may not. Mississippi has stood

Most Americans applauded the appointment, but not Senator Bilbo. Not only did he oppose the nomination, he stoutly proclaimed his belief that 93 per cent of my people in Mississippi would approve his action.

The Senator's mathematics might stand a little scrutiny. In the first place, it is quite possible that he is not counting the nearly 50 per cent of the Mississippians that are not white as his people at all. They don't

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East We Forget.

By W. L. GREENE

Many things of far-reaching importance have been forgotten during the past few years. One of these is the basic Jim Crow law. So long have the European, nurtured American majority people taken for granted that racism was admissible in a democracy that they have forgotten the meaning of democratic equality and Christian brotherhood.

Some organizations, however have come to see the light of the day and have put programs to work which bring the REAL PROBLEM into bold relief against a background of status quo. The Springfield Plan has been tried and PROVED SUCCESSFUL. New York and New Jersey have enacted legislation denying Jim Crow any legal status and sanction. Massachusetts is considering such legislation and indications are that it will be enacted. At

least two Southern organizations are committed to the proposition that the legal and traditional barriers are harmful to ALL SOUTHERN CITIZENS when they separate citizens from one another in the essential business, social, and religious contacts of everyday living.

It is too easy to forget that the real cause of our SEGREGATION COMPLEX in America is that seemingly harmless vice so often thought of as a virtue, RACEDRIBE IS THAT CHEAT AMERICAN SOCIAL VICE. It is the parent of race prejudice. Many and varied rationalizations have been popularized to excuse this vicious group attitude. None of them are even based on the truth about human nature. Only those organizations working against race pride are working against the accompanying prejudice.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: A People Oppressed.
Key Verse: "An he said, certainly, I will be with thee." Ex. 3:12.
We shall be studying this quarter, "A Nation in the Making," which is the second unit of the unfolding drama of Bible History. We suggest that our readers read Genesis for a continuity of thought.

Conditions over which we have no control usher us into a new day — a new year — a new world. We could be more fitting than to study a NATION IN THE MAKING as we enter into the United Nations Organization. Oppressed people all over the earth today are crying for help. As we ponder the events which these lessons teach — may they guide and stimulate all of us into a more resolute dependence on God for divine guidance during these crucial months, perhaps years, as we deal with the problems involved with the large and small nations and especially the oppressed people of all races and nations. For verily — God is pointing the way and if we deliberately ignore Him, we will have to repent in "sack cloth and ashes" if we have not been destroyed. This, to a large extent, depends on the kind of leadership which America and the other nations of the world will furnish for the United Nations Organization.

The Hebrews or Israelites lived in the well watered territory between the lower reaches of the Nile and the modern Suez Canal now known as Goshen in Egypt. Joseph, their leader, was advisor to Pharaoh and Prime Minister over the land of Egypt. Here they prospered and multiplied. Now the

Pharaoh who knew Joseph died, and although years of oppression and prejudice set up a chaos which led to oppression of the weaker nation or race; and arrange to say, for more than a thousand years there have been outbursts here and there of racial antagonism of this group. Yet, in many cases the oppressed join in to help practice this antagonism on other races. Even though the people were oppressed, they continued to multiply. Pharaoh ordered all male children slain at birth (Sin when conceived and practiced does not even spare the innocent). However, the hand of Providence is seen in the miraculous escape from death of a three month old baby who was put back into the arms of his mother and nursed until old enough to be sent into the palace. Here this predestined leader received his name, the nec-



ALONG THE WAY

By C. L. BRYANT, JR.

THE WAY

Nineteen centuries after the birth of Christ finds man at the crossroads of human relations. Despite the scientific advance, particularly in the field of natural science, we find man resorting to outmoded methods in attempting to bring about peace and goodwill. One justifiably questions the "why" of progress on the one hand and apparent stagnation on the other hand. Is the groping, made evident by international chaos, something which man can avert. Are the motives leading up to meetings, such as they held in Moscow, rooted in principles of truth? Will any good ever come of the meetings we are prone to rely upon when the rift comes. There is little hope of our making significant strides in human affairs until we discover the inherent weakness in our procedure. When the truisms, weakness begets weakness, is universally accepted fears, now common place, will no longer beget strife that is culminated into world wide disorder. Good can only come out of diplomatic meetings when the subordination of individual wills is accomplished — in the outset. Starting from such a focal point will help us achieve our desired goals. The weakness of the flesh, while known, does not seem to produce sufficient evidence to warrant our abandonment of some principles. We need to become cognizant of the fact that world peace and harmony depend upon the acceptance of another way.

There are those who look to Moscow for the establishment of world where eternal peace and goodwill will abide. They feel that whatever is done, relative to the Atomic Bomb, will relieve much of man's mental anguish. To them Molotov, Byrnes, and Bevin are a kin to temporal saviors of mankind. They forget that each one of these individuals has a particular interest in his country; these selfish interests completely overshadow surface interests of other countries. Does the self-appointed position of leadership, Russia, England and the United States have assumed last year upon them special abilities to manage, alone, the affairs of all mankind? Will the little nations look up to such leadership as a kind of Providential Decree? It is doubted that the satisfaction of certain selfish ambitions will meet the smiling approval of the downtrodden peoples of the earth. Do you not question the cause of unrest in India, in Java, and in our own land where minorities have only a reading knowledge of democracy? To lead successfully, Russia, England and the United States must concern themselves relative to the problems of the weak whose present state, in many instances, accounts for their (Russia, England, and the United States) greatness.

Many centuries ago Christ admonished Thomas with this irrefutable fact — "I am the way," etc. No conditions are hinged around the fact; the definiteness of the statement is obvious to the most casual reader. Further we find the other part of the utterance equally as reassuring as the former — "the truth and the life." Does a statement have to be made plainer for the finite mind to comprehend? As we go the way of the flesh, we are not mindful of our needless errings? Are we not willing to forsake the paths of misery and distrust? There are many ways pursued by man. From some of these pursuits happiness is attained. As he faces a crisis, unlike any other of recorded history, will he continue to devise means of setting up a new world order, or will he follow the simple plan laid down by Christ — "I am the way." Man is known to complicate the simple and get no where as a result of his futile efforts. To those dreamers of a Utopian state, how long will you allow yourselves to be deceived by promises made when the going gets rough and are abandoned when rosy prospects appear? No equation equivalent to success becomes a reality until "I am the way" becomes an acknowledged truth and a practiced fact in the affairs of men.

In attempting to work out our many perplexing problems, we would find that adherence to the Golden Rule is most necessary. Since we can't have a separate world for all races, why not practice living together in peace and harmony in this one? Its hard, but such a state is practicable.

A WORD OF COMMENDATION—

For three years Miss Jean Davis, Union Bus Terminal em-

ployee in Charlotte, has done extra work, saved all her money and has blown it away in one day. She gave oranges, apples and nuts to patients in the Sanatorium. Such a spirit of giving commands our respect, to the extent, that we reveal the fact to you dear readers.

In our community Russell C. Caudill, aware of the destitution of one Negro family here, solicited aid from interested citizens and succeeded in getting one hundred and fifty dollars. We are indeed appreciative of the spirit which prompted Mr. Caudill to aid this deserving Negro family. Does such action arouse in us a desire to help others who are in dire need of the bare necessities of life?

A WORD OF COMMENDATION—

The exemplification of the Christ spirit in these two benevolent souls certainly should be classified as "must" action today, if we are to behold the glowing reality of a better day.

essential training and the wisdom which prepared him to later accomplish his task. As leaders of his own group, he could best understand their hardships.

At the age of 40, Moses — an educated man in all the arts and sciences of an Egyptian Government — was fired with a zeal to rescue and bring justice to his people. He found an Egyptian beating one of his Hebrew brethren with a whip. RACEDRIBE struck the Egyptian a fatal blow and hid him in the sand. The next day he found two of his brethren fighting and as he separated them, he intended to go to them what he had done to the Egyptian the day before. Moses' march to a bid situation caused him to flee to the land of Midian. Moses, like Jacob, went to a strange land where he married and became a Shepherd. During these years of loneliness and while liberating his people, God had a chance to again enter his life.

AN OPPRESSED PEOPLE CRY UNTO GOD

The statement that the prayers of the righteous availeth much can be justly applied here. We do not say that all of these people were righteous, but there were some, and God's purposes cannot be overthrown. Even today our interpretation of the meaning of Christ's Coming into the world — "I came that ye might have life and more abundantly" — is applicable to the oppressed people who are now suffering. The individual, race, or nation that deliberately, maliciously and willfully oppresses a person or people plants seeds which will come up and damn the oppressor for generations to come. Let us beware!

A LEADER CALLED

Mount Horeb — out there in the land of Midian, made famous by the burning bush — has something to tell all lovers of nature. If only we would stop and observe some

LET'S GET TOGETHER

FOR THE REAL FIGHT



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.