

# Just For Fun

BY MARCUS R. HOULWARE

## Editorial Viewpoint

### WORDS OF WORSHIP

Who is it that does know not the "golden rule" or the universal moral law? The observance of this law makes all men brothers, and it is the panacea for freedom and human dignity. The Churchman, an Episcopal magazine, says there is, "Christianity—All things whatsoever that ye would that men should do to you, do ye so to them; for this is the law and the prophets." Islam

"No one is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself." Hinduism—"This is the sum of duty: Do not unto others that which would cause you pain if done to you." Judaism—"What is hateful to you, do not to your fellow man. That is the entire law; all the rest is commentary." Buddhism—"Hurt not others in ways that yourself would find hurtful."

### Humphrey: "Root Out Of Dry Ground"

If one reads the prophecy of the coming of the Savior of the world, he will be thrilled by the phases: "and He shall be a Comforter, a rod of Jesse, a Balm in Gilead, and a Root out of Dryground, etc." From these words, we get the impression that the Savior of the world will aid individuals in standing up straight upon their feet and accepting God as their Father. If God is our Father, then we are His children and the commoner is as precious as the king. This will make us all brothers, free and equal politically and spiritually, as well as give each person a sense of personal worth and integrity, each person having certain rights and privileges.

The Johnson-Humphrey administration has the strong support of Negro leaders and citizens, to wit: Whitney Young of the National Urban League; Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, fraternal and civic organizations, educational associations.

Through coordination of government agencies, Humphrey can reduce wasteful duplication, eliminate crossed lines of responsibilities and authority which could very easily reduce the administrative efforts to shambles. These organizations include: the Justice Department's civil rights division, the Civil Rights Commission, the President's Committee on Equal Opportunity in Housing, the Community Relations Service, and the President's Equal Employment Opportunity Committee in Employment.

If we hold that Humphrey is "the Root out of Dry Ground", we believe he will wage a vigorous fight against such obstacles as bigotry, ignorance, and superstition.

There will remain pockets of hardshell resistance to the idea of equal citizenship for all for a long time to come, and their actions may flood oceans of water over the ground of progress. But Humphrey has the "root" to turn the wetness into the dry sunlight of freedom. He will be encouraged by the increasing support of the nation's citizens who want to march forward and keep pace with our scientific advancement in the nuclear field. When this becomes a reality, the residual areas of prejudice and backwardness will shrivel and wither away—never to sprout again in the season of spring.

President Johnson has made it clear that he intends for Vice-President Hubert Humphrey to have an important part and role to play in the next administration. The job that Mr. Johnson has given Mr. Humphrey is "nothing less than the full assimilation of more than 20 million Negroes into American life." This is a man-sized job for the new Vice-President, but the Minnesotan's super energy and resourcefulness will label him "the Root out of Dry Ground" destined to coordinate our varied administrative programs in such a way as to make them first-class citizens as guaranteed by law—Mississippi to the contrary notwithstanding.

The "Root out of Dry Ground" has high ability to persuade others to his viewpoint, and this will be a tremendous asset. Also, the high regard in which Humphrey is held by his former colleagues in the Senate will almost guarantee him the imperative legislation to carry out his plans, and to obtain appropriations sufficient to make his work effective.

### Is It The Same Mississippi Image?

The dismissal of preliminary charges against the 21 men charged in connection with the slaying of three civil rights workers last summer has evoked considerable outrage and incomprehension from the people of the world. Most disappointed in the case are members of the Negro race, living in the South.

Of the twenty-one men arrested and later released on bond, 19 are charged with conspiracy to interfere with the federal rights of the slain trio, one of which was a Negro. The other two were charged as accessories after the fact. Only the State can file a murder charge. Mississippi has made no move to do so.

The dismissal of the men by U. S. Commissioner Esther Carter, a ruling totally without legal precedent, now leaves two courses of action:

1. The Justice Department can take the charges directly to a grand jury where, again, Mississippians will be asked to discard their fears and perform their duty.

2. Charges of murder can still be filed by Mississippi whenever it decides its legal responsibility.

The Commissioner at Meridian stated that the dismissal was not adjudication of guilt or innocence. It was a technical point of law. An FBI agent testified that he had a signed confession from one of the defendants. The magistrate declined to receive the document in evidence on the legal ground that the man who allegedly confessed was not available to testify in person as to the truth. Although under arrest, this man was not in court.

To allay our fears of miscarriage of justice, legal minds tell us that this action is not more

the end of the matter than the filing of charges was proof of guilt. Evidence can now be presented to a grand jury. If it is deemed sufficient, indictments will be returned on which trials can be held. Knowing Mississippi's reputation, we have our doubts that much will be done.

The federal government cannot bring murder charges in this case. Grave, then, is the responsibility of the State of Mississippi. Will they allow these alleged murderers to go free in spite of the fact that the FBI has obtained a written confession. If so, Mississippi will be perpetrating an "awful" crime. They will also misuse the hypothesis of states' rights they so strongly defend.

Those who have read Professor James Smith's works will infer from a failure to punish such lawlessness that leaders are afraid and terrorized by what is known as "the closed society."

We have no solution to this state of affairs in Mississippi, but it has been suggested by *The St. Petersburg Times*, Fla., that the nation can "show its distaste by imposing upon Mississippi the greatest demonstration of ostracism ever directed toward a state in the union."

In conclusion, we wouldn't like to take the attitude of one of the Hebrew prophets who felt that he was the only one left who worshipped Jehovah. But, at once, God spoke to the prophet saying that there were thousands who had never bowed to Baal. We cannot help but believe that we have at least one Mississippi white man of personal integrity who is willing to stand up for right and justice without fear and trembling.

### No Tax Loopholes For Workingmen

Health is a laborer's or working man's machinery and, like any machinery it depreciates with age and use. When his machinery breaks down, the workingman gets no depreciation tax allowances.

The laborers pay for repairs the best they can, from whatever savings they might have salvaged from their heavily taxed income. Workingmen's equipment, their health, demand extra expenses to stimulate its efforts, yet the government allows them no tax-free expense account to encourage this stimulation.

Workers are not included among the privileged class who enjoy tax loopholes that the Senate Finance Committee refuses to plug.

If laborers are sometimes forced to work at two jobs or to work overtime in order to sup-

plement their take-home pay, they don't get and expansion write-off. Instead, they pay a heavier tax on their enlarged income, while their machinery is breaking down from the overload.

It is a fact that the largest percentage of the nation's income is collected from low-income taxpayers. And yet it seems that workingmen don't have the organization know-how to seek legislative relief for the poor working class.

Depreciation of one's physical body is just as important as depreciation on industrial machinery and repairs, if not more. It makes us wonder often if our government is taking the proper interest in the welfare of the worker, or is it directed by the whims of legislative committees and party politics.

### Our Drinkers Spend By The Millions

For six years or more in a row, we have noted the American public is paying more and more for its Scotch and other whiskeys.

In 1963, there were 258.9 million gallons sold—1.39 gallons for every person whether he drinks or not. For youths 19 years and over, the ratio was 2.25 gallons for each individual.

For some reason, California pushed out in front to earn the title: "The State with the Highest Liquor Consumption." It had been led by New York since the days of prohibition. Next in order were Illinois, New Jersey, Florida and Massachusetts.

The highest per capita consumption was

found in the District of Columbia, at 6.63 gallons. If we take into consideration "gallage" sales in the city of Washington, it included those of adjoining areas and transients—but there is no doubt that the political cocktail circuit increased capitol drinking far above the national average.

Highest state per capita drinking was found in Nevada at 4.02 gallons; lowest, Arkansas at 0.68 gallons and Alabama at 0.70.

People in different walks of life have the opportunity to draw their own conclusions from these statistics. You have the chance to make your own.

### SOME SCHOOL TEACHERS

A Boston school teacher had the privilege of spending the week on a range near San Antonio, Texas. She hired a car and driver to show her the city and surrounding areas. The driver took the teacher out to the Alamo and described how a small group of gallant Texans fought to the death against great odds. Then he got carried away and started some rural oratory.

Finally the school teacher managed to get a word in. "I come from Boston," she announced, "and our history is also replete with many heroes. I'm sure you've heard of Paul Revere, He—"

The driver interrupted, "Paul Revere, ma'am?" he scoffed. "You mean the guy who had to ride for help?"

**ARE WOMEN TALKERS?**  
You and I have always heard that women are great talkers and that you can't get in a word edgewise. I don't know about that reputation.

The story goes, and it is true too, that one of the professors of foreign language at Florida

State University boarded a plane to see a visiting colleague off. While waiting for the plane to leave, they began an energetic conversation in a foreign language.

Before he knew it, the professor who wasn't going off heard the plane's engines whirling and the door closed.

It took some talking—in English this time—to get him off the plane before it felt for Tampa.

**THAT'S RIGHT!**  
Some people have no talent for counting calories—and they have figures to prove it (I can't laugh, because if I don't watch out eating so much). Oh me!

**GOOD OF YOUR CONSCIENCE**  
Out in Wyoming, near Cheyenne, officials at the local East High School received a letter recently. It contained a quarter and a note that said (a small child): "I snook into the East-Side (basketball) game Saturday night."

His conscience would not let him rest, and now he feels much better about the whole thing.

### ONLY IN AMERICA

BY HARRY GOLDEN

#### CLUB FOR THE UNDISTINGUISHED

Mensa is a fraternity whose membership is culled only from the top 2 percent of the world's intelligent people. The qualifying IQ score is 184 although membership dues, testing fees, and pin probably cost no more than \$15.

Mensa comes from the Latin word "table." And indeed it is a table about which the membership sits. I never thought I'd live to see it a Round Table of geniuses. The club sponsors such activities as a literary magazine, gourmet clubs, and European vacations.

In fact, the president of Mensa, a British inventor with the improbable name Victor V. Serbriakoff, recently graced American shores on a recruiting drive. Before World War II, Mr. Serbriakoff was running a machine in the factory. The Army discovered his extraordinary ability and his brain did the rest.

One of Mensa's purposes, its president explained, is to rescue the intelligent who are languishing amid the mediocre, the wise who are withering from lack of stimulation and yearning for a better verb—jazz them up. Why waste human resources? a phrase that gains evermore in popularity. Mensa is on a crusade to rescue all the unused Miltons. The only criticism I have to offer of so noble a stimulation program is that Mensa better beware they do not rescue the unused Cromwells.

One thing about this organization that recommends itself about Mensa is its universal democracy. It has almost 5,000 members in England and the United States and chapters in some 47 other countries. If you are lucky enough to win membership and learn the secret signals of its fraternal order,

you will hobnob with garage mechanics and draftsmen, unemployed gentlemen and titled royalty.

Anyone interested in such fraternity can write American Mensa Selection Agency, P.O. Box 86, Gravesend Station, Brooklyn, 23, N. Y.

The existence of an organization devoted to the top two per cent suggests the bottom 2 per cent to organize, too. One suspects, however, that the bottom percentage might not get off the ground. I think the sister organization ought to be composed of those of us who are undistinguished but lucky. The mind positively gasps at the possibility of a membership roll that could run from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Desi Arnaz to the pinch hitters for the New York Mets.

#### TV COMMERCIALS AND KETCHUP

I haven't joined in the game of blasting TV commercials. But a Heinz Ketchup ad is just too much. The company advertises its product to the accompaniment of that wonderful hymn, "Land of Hope and Glory," from "Pomp and Circumstance," by Elgar.

A few months ago the Lakeland people took off the segregation signs but they left the two faucets, one cold, one hot, relying on habit to help maintain "white supremacy."

**THE BLACK WATER**  
In the Lakeland, Fla., City Hall there stood for many years the "white" water fountains, "white" and "colored." But the water fountain for the "colored" was not refrigerated. While the "white" water came out fresh and cold, the water reserved for the Negroes was flat and hot.

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### News and Views

BY J. B. HARRIS

#### KING GUSTAV GREETING KING

IN SWEDEN, it was a great day for the Colored Americans last week when the Ruling Monarch—King Gustav Adolf—personally congratulated America's "man-of-the-hour," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., of Alabama fame—the modern Moses of the South and the model apostle of the non-violent Civil Rights movement, when he received the 1964 edition of the "Nobel Peace Prize."

This was all the more significant because just a week previous, aging J. Edgar Hoover, the renowned leader of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), had become riled at the prod-

ding of Dr. King because of the "delayed action" of his men in solving the notorious Civil Rights murders and bombings, especially in Ole Miss, and had

Many have called for Hoover's scalp (retirement) because of called King a "notorious liar," the affront to the famed Negro leader.

Dr. King showed his magnanimity by forthwith requesting and using an interview with the top G-man to smooth out the misunderstanding which was fast hurting America's image.

Prior to this Dr. King was received by Pope Paul VI at the Vatican, where the papal blessing was bestowed upon the Civil Rights work of King.

Sometime ago, Roy Wilkins of NAACP was received by Pope Paul. These two instances alone should inspire Colored Americans to rally wholeheartedly to joining the NAACP. They should now realize that they are not in style if they do not have membership in NAACP and bring others into the fold. Its reached the point now where we must ask our Southern white neighbors and friends to join NAACP just like they ask us to join Red Cross, T. Seal, Cripples, Children, Cancer Drives and what-have-yeys.

### Other Editors Say

#### THE BLOODY CONGO

BY Emmett J. Marshall, Sr.

Shall we weep for the dead and dying in the Congo? If we weep must our first tears be for the eight or twelve million Congo blacks who suffered and died by the Belgian sword in the humid jungles of the steamed torture chambers of yesterday? Let us condemn, forthwith, this horrible waste of life on both sides of the color line, this frightful exhibition of hate based on race and color. Let us condemn it all with a fervor that would match the divine wrath of old. Let us not say without examination that this black hate and wrath against our white brothers is innate in the African breed. Forsooth, what does the history of this forlorn land, the Congo, tell?

Simply and concisely the history of the Congo is one of torture and blood. A picture was drawn in the Congo of a civiliza-

### On Trial?



Gordon B. Hancock's

### BETWEEN THE LINES

(For Associated Negro Press International)

#### CONGO-OVER THERE AND OVER HERE

The civilized world has been made sick at heart over the murder of missionaries in the African Congo. The only mitigating circumstances is that the sickening atrocities were committed by savages and semi-savages. In the Congo as in America, the black man is a white man's creation. Over there the white man has long ruled Africa and what is happening is just a glaring example of the white man's failure to measure his own life and the life of the Africans by the Golden Rule.

Faithful and consecrated missionaries went to Africa in an honest and Christian attempt to save the souls of the savage Africans. But they were soon followed by the "commercial missionaries" bent not on saving souls but laying hold on the riches and wealth that this great continent held in its bosom. Soon the greed and avarice of the white man had begotten greed and avarice in the African, and the wholesome mixture of "financial greed and Christian motive" have confused the Africans. It is out of this confusion that the horrors of the hour come. The wealth of Africa being material, the concepts and ways thereof became easier for the Africans to grasp than to comprehend the ways of Jesus Christ. Over here, after 2000 years of preaching, it is sad to have to admit that we have not yet learned the lesson that Jesus came to teach.

Our world was lost when Jesus arrived in Bethlehem and our world is still lost. What has happened and what is now happening in our own United States, is vivid proof that our world is still lost. When race prejudice and the love of the dollar take precedence over the things of the Kingdom of God, we are awakened to the saddening fact that while the Congo in Africa is a saddening and sickening thing, the Congo in Mississippi is no less sickening and saddening. And the end is not yet. Even our churches and its ministry are going slow on race prejudice. The heart of the nation is being defiled and the venom of race hatred is being poured into the fountain of life, even of our

children. To this fearful sowing, sooner or later there must be a fearful harvest.

So we may weep and gnash the teeth at what is happening in the Congo in Africa, let us not fail to weep over what is happening to the Congo in our own dear America. The Congo in Africa is slaughtering its missionaries in a sickening manner, but what of the slaughter of missionaries in Mississippi? Could anything be more atrocious than to see three young men bent on mercy and service to their less fortunate fellowmen, to lynch them and hide their bodies? When the news came that the 3 young Samaritans were written up as missing, those of us who know the violent South and its ways and wiles were certain the men were dead. The unsophisticated hoped that the young men were somewhere alive, but most of us knew better.

Even as we know that the arrested men charged with slaying these three young men will never be punished for the crime. The old vicious violent South has a way of its own. Out of the hundreds of Negroes who have been lynched and done to death individually and by the mobs, this writer who was born in the South and lived and served in the South, does not remember one instance of any white person ever being punished for the lynching of a Negro. That is one of the "state rights" for which the South's representatives in Congress and out—fight so hard—the right to lynch, murder and maim Negroes without fear of punishment.

What is going on in Mississippi today is Exhibit Number One of how State Rights works. In searching for the three missing young men who were found murdered, rivers and creeks were dragged and lakes and ponds were drained and just a little of this revealed that mutilated and dismembered bodies of Negroes were not hard to find. Only God knows what much dragings of our rivers and creeks and the draining of our lakes and ponds would reveal! The Congo over there and the Congo over here. God help the defenseless Negroes. God help the bestial, brutish white man!

### ALTAR CALL

BY EMORY G. DAVIS, D.D. (For Negro Press International)

#### A CHURCH WITH NO ALTAR

In St. Louis' sprawling low-income Pruitt-Igoe housing project there is a "church" without an altar or a building, that operates from a small apartment in one of the high-rise buildings.

From eight in the morning until midnight, four ministers—an Episcopalian, a Presbyterian, a Baptist and a Methodist—conduct a parish ministry to thousands of Negroes, under the sponsorship of the St. Louis Metropolitan Church Federation. This ministry is financed by the four denominations represented in the ministers.

What do they do? They report doing such things as "driving an arthritic elder person to a hospital; trying to convince teenage high school dropouts to return to school; running errands for disabled and elderly people," and they plan to hold worship service and Bible sessions in residents' apartments.

These ministers have "taken the Church off the corner" into a vast area of problems and real needs. They are carrying out what I've often called a "horizontal ministry," one that does not concern itself primarily and solely with "pie-in-the-sky" religion (vertical) but rather concerns itself with the soup beans on the table of hungry, impoverished and culturally deprived children of God right here on the Earth.

Their efforts have revealed to them such glowering problems as the inability to communicate with "aimless and often destructive teenagers." They have seen "much stark poverty, isolation from real life and loose morality." One minister reports seeing "men who drink themselves into an alcoholic stupor . . . women who beat their children in animal fury."

Hopefully, all is not a dismal, unpromising picture. They have met parents who work day and night to put their children through college. They have been able to convince some that there is a real world outside the ghetto-project and that the outside world is really not as hostile to them as

they may think. These ministers affirm "the lives of many residents are a tribute to the human spirit."

Several years ago I delivered a sermon, "Move The Church Off The Corner," to a white interdenominational audience, with the idea in mind that most church people are too complacent and easily satisfied with the idea of going to church rivers and creeks and the draining of our lakes and ponds would reveal! The Congo over there and the Congo over here. God help the defenseless Negroes. God help the bestial, brutish white man!

For one year, I pastored a church on the edge of Pruitt-Igoe project and I know full well the problems and needs of the thousands of Negro families stacked on top of one another. Many of them were willing and eager to do what they could to foster the program of the church, and, why not? They are just like any other people in their desires and aspirations. My great regret then and now as I read of what is being done is that my own denomination had no funds to contribute to move the church into their problems and needs.

The Negro church needs to have a sense of stewardship and mission. It needs to have a sense of responsibility to its own people. It cannot, under its present financial structure and operation, support wholly such project ministries as the one in St. Louis, but, it can direct its concerns and contribute something to such worthy and effective ministries.

We need to move the church off the corner and into the lives of those who are burdened with problems, overwhelmed with real needs and ostracized from the mainstream of urban life. When we do, we can leave "The Altar" where it is in the church building. There's an Altar outside the church upon which people, not animals are being sacrificed, daily!

... natives were simply pushed out into the bush . . . the most heinous and ghastly atrocities ever to accompany the "development" of a primitive area by a presumably civilized power occurred. The appetite of Leopold's agents for rubber and ivory grew steadily more voracious and insatiable. Africans were made to fill quotas and if they failed to bring in the required amount of rubber and ivory they were mutilated or shot. Competent author—THE NEW CRUSADES

THE NEGRO PRESS—believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every man regardless of race, color or creed, his human and legal rights. Hating no man, fearing no man—the Negro Press strives to help every man on the firm belief that all men are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

