

Three P's
PERSONAL AND PRIVATE PROBLEMS:
This column will attempt to answer personal and private problems of individuals who submit their questions to this column. Those inquiries in which the writer's name and address are given will be held in the strictest confidence. A complete list of questions should be addressed to "Three P's", care of The Chowan Herald, Edenton, N. C.
—William H. Miller, Editor

Dear Three P's:
My wife and I seldom do any reading. Recently our next door neighbor has been passing on to us some of the magazines and articles which they read. Many of the articles are over our

heads and deal with the subject of materialism and moral decay without any morally established philosophy. These are high sounding words to me. Are we materialistic and do we have a moral philosophy or any philosophy?

Dear Zenobia:
You are correct in your saying that there are a great many articles and books on the subject of people becoming materialistic and selfish, that we are suffering from moral decay and that we do not have any fundamental philosophy to guide us. In the mass and mess of words there is nothing that leads one to any conclusion other than confusion. Philosophy is the love of learning, of wisdom. A

philosopher in any field tries to establish the causes and reasons for effects and from this deduces certain principles that generally are constant and therefore become a principle. In moral philosophy the whole subject revolves around what is good and what is evil. In this field there is much confusion and as a result there is a great deal of discussion on the subject. This is where materialism comes in for debate as a principle of existence and the general thesis is that the more materialistic we become the faster moral decay sets in and people have no concept of what to believe and in what to have faith. This covers every day living, business, government, religion, and in fact every activity of our cultural life.

In education, which is the most important field of our cultural life, there is great conflict. No one really can define what education might be, what it is supposed to accomplish and its place in every day living. There is no stress on the stimulation of curiosity, there is no stress that as an educated person you have more responsibility to society than a supposedly uneducated person. It is all on what you might say a materialistic basis. We have bigger and more luxurious school buildings, we have an unending list of courses to take without any concept as to the relationship to the whole. From an economic, materialistic point of view, college education is paying off for it is claimed that it is more difficult to obtain employment if you are not a college graduate; also college graduates are paid more than non-college men. This has led to the drive to obtain a college degree, regardless. Witness the recent disclosures that ghost writers write examinations for university students and also write the theses for students to obtain masters' and doctors' degrees.

In the field of government three large cities recently made the headlines. In one city the police participated in the planning and carrying out of burglaries and in this city it is claimed that there is one murder each day without apprehending the criminals. In another city the whole department of weights and measures has been guilty of collusion with suppliers of various commodities at the expense of the consumer. In another city, the registration list is filled with dead heads, non-

existent people, people who have moved away from the district and names of people who have actually died have been carried on the eligible list of voters for years. And, of course, there are the politicians handy who are familiar with these frauds but continue to vote the names. Crime is on the increase, according to the F.B.I., and most crime has a materialistic selfish basis, particularly among the juveniles.

Then there is the newly developed philosophy "sic" of objectivity which claims that altruism is the basis of weakness. This is a quote from such philosophy: "It is the morality of altruism that men have to reject. And why? Because the Christian virtue leads to self-immolation, tolerance of the 'incompetent' common man, the welfare site and ultimately to the slave camp. By hindering 'ego' altruism destroys human reason." The symbol of this objectivity is the \$ sign, the symbol of the free mind.

Then the medical profession is somewhat concerned, whether it admits it or not, with the materialistic philosophy. Today people seeking jobs want to know if there is a pension and what the fringe benefits might be. The individual is heavily in debt for material things. The load becomes heavy and he begins to worry about his ability to pay his debts. This worry develops into fears and tensions, a feeling of insecurity, and the medical profession has an m-

creasing number of neurotic men and women, to treat. Then there is a great increase in the number of alcoholics as a result of these fears and feeling of insecurity. These are the side results of what might be termed a materialistic philosophy. A great deal more could be cited as evidence of a materialistic philosophy guiding our every day life. With the tremendous changes in our way of life which are developing every day, there is apt to come about a form of moral decay, for science is crossing every path of our cultural life and people will have less and less to hold on to of our past traditional way of life. Then will develop the defeatist attitude of "drink, eat and be merry, for tomorrow we may die."

Dear Three P's:
My husband is a traveling salesman and quite regularly he is away for some time. Recently I have been told that he is living with another woman in a town some fifty miles away. He is supposed to have married this woman and has several children by her. We have three children of our own. What shall I do to protect my family in this situation?

Dear Hortense:
This situation and problem is not uncommon. If your husband has married this other woman, he is guilty of bigamy; if he has not married her, he is guilty of adultery. In any event he can be held liable for the support

of the children by this other woman. If you do not want to go to court and make public this scandal which will have a bad effect on your children, now in school, presumably, I would suggest that you have a frank out-right talk with your husband. If he is contrite, and you recognize the frailty and weakness of mankind and want to preserve your family, you may make an adjustment where he will give up this other woman. Otherwise, your only remedy is the court and divorce.

MRS. GIBBIE V. MITCHELL PASSED AWAY SATURDAY

Mrs. Gibbie V. Mitchell, 69, died Saturday night at 7:30 o'clock at her home on East Queen Street after an illness of five weeks. A native of Chowan County, she was the wife of the late J. H. Mitchell.

Surviving are two sons, Gibson Mitchell and Clifton Mitchell, both of Edenton; two daughters, Mrs. Elva Folk of Fayetteville and Mrs. Gladys Harris of Tarboro; a sister, Mrs. Alice Harrell of Edenton, 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The Rev. R. O. Denton of Askeville, a former pastor, officiated, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. C. L. Wills. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

She was a member of the First Assembly of God Church, where funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The Rev. R. O. Denton of Askeville, a former pastor, officiated, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. C. L. Wills. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

The more progress we have the more we suffer from poverty—that is some of us; great riches seem nearly always to bring extreme poverty.
—Henry George.

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By Chowan County Friends of Congressman Herbert C. Bonner