



Report From Washington By Rep. Walter B. Jones

Last week in Washington a great amount of interest was expressed in the long-awaited statement by President Nixon regarding his position as it relates to the public school integration. On Tuesday, March 24, a statement was received by every member of Congress containing 19 legal-size pages, all of which were characterized by a lack of specific recommendations. Generally, he reviewed decisions by the Supreme Court on the question of school integration, as well as areas such as bussing, which as of this date have not been passed upon by the Supreme Court. With no attempt to criticize the President, I find no great amount of relief from the current problems of the secondary schools.

Consideration of some of his statements are as follows:

"There is a fundamental distinction between so-called 'de jure' and 'de facto' segregation: de jure segregation arises by law or by the deliberate act of school officials and is unconstitutional; de facto segregation results from residential housing patterns and does not violate the Constitution. (The clearest example of de jure segregation is the dual school system as it existed in the South prior to the decision in Brown—two schools, one Negro and one white comprised of the same grades and serving the same geographical area. This is the system with which most of the decisions, and the Supreme Court cases up until now, have been concerned.)"

To me, this means nothing more or less than a continuation of forced integration on the South, while the North will continue practicing the wholesale de facto segregation without any pressure from the courts or the administration "Where the school boards

have demonstrated a good-faith effort to comply with court rulings, the courts have generally allowed substantial latitude as to method—often making the explicit point that administrative choices should, wherever possible, be made by the local school authorities themselves."

My comment on that is apparently the President is not too familiar with many of the decisions handed down by a federal judge in the state of North Carolina. We have not only overruled local school boards, but in some cases even the North Carolina Legislature.

The President further stated: "In devising particular plans, questions of cost, capacity and convenience for pupils and parents are relevant considerations."

Here again it is obvious that he is not familiar with Secretary Finch's recent rulings, for HEW has completely ignored this thinking. Also, the President said, "Whatever the racial composition of student bodies, faculties and staff must be assigned in a way that does not contribute to identifying a given school as 'Negro' or 'White.'"

And this with no mention of qualifications or experience. Finally, in spite of the campaign promises no where did I find an insistence on a basic "freedom of choice" plan for all races. One of the encouraging statements contained, however, was the promise to improve the quality of education with less emphasis on social reform.

Included in House action was a bill to authorize the extension of certain naval vessel loans to the following nations: Pakistan, Greece, Turkey, Vietnam and the Republic of China. These are vessels which have recently been inactivated by the United States Navy, but are still operable. They are still owned by the United States, but are merely on loan.

Another bill was the Foreign Military Sales Act Amendments, for the purpose of extending military credit sales to foreign countries and also underwrites guarantees of credit sales made by commercial corporations of the United States to foreign countries.



Rev. Clyde L. Finley Revival Slated At Rural Church

Revival services are scheduled at Macedonia Baptist Church for April 6-12. The services will begin at 8 o'clock each evening. A nursery will be provided for each service.

The guest evangelist, Rev. Clyde L. Finley, is the pastor of the Grove Park Baptist Church, Portsmouth, Va. Mr. Finley is a graduate of Stanford University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married and has a son and daughter. A special Youth Night service will be held on Thursday evening. The new Christian Folk Music Group from Chowan County will sing some selections from "Tell It Like It Is."

MARGARET BENNETT CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

Little Margaret Gregg Bennett celebrated her tenth birthday anniversary at a party held at her home at Athol Saturday of last week.

The decorations lent a spring atmosphere with the birthday cake decorated in shamrocks and daffodils. The color scheme was also carried out in the punch and ice cream.

Margaret was the recipient of many lovely gifts and many prizes were won during the game hour.

Those attending from Edenton were Fran Hollowell, Kathrine Harless, Laurie Hutchinson, Jill Stutzman, Becky Holmes, Jackie Parker, Ginny Puryear, Patricia East-erling and Anne Ervin. Elizabeth Anne, Lori Jane, Jennifer Leigh and Master David G. Spruill, Jr., of Raleigh also attended.

CARD OF THANKS

I would like to thank all of the people that sent me cards, gifts, flowers, visits and for prayers while I was in the hospital and since my return home. May God bless each of you.

PEARLE LANE,
Tyner, N. C.

Make Going To Church A Habit

THE CHURCH EMPOWERED FOR WITNESS

International Sunday School Lesson for April 5

Memory Selection: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."—Acts 1:8.

Lesson Text: Acts 1:1 to 2:42.

The central truth of this new series of lessons which we begin today is that God truly acts through His redeemed community—the Church—to carry out His purposes for this world in which we live. The central aim is to lead members to become actively engaged in God's redemptive purpose for mankind.

The early Church must, necessarily, impress us with its zeal. Men suffered torture, imprisonment, and even death, in its cause. And surely, as self-professed Christians, we cannot remain unmoved in our studies.

In previous lessons we have studied the birth of Christ; His works during His short tenure on earth; His death on the cross, that mankind may be forgiven of sin; His glorious resurrection—and all it symbolizes in hope for mankind. And, just as the Holy Spirit empowered the early Christians to fulfill God's purpose by being witnesses to the faith they both proclaimed, and enjoyed, so should it inspire us (present-day Christians) to emulate their steadfastness and their witnessing.

Christ called the Church into being; He trained its members well, and He promised them the power of the Spirit during His earthly ministry. Thus, surely was the advent of Pentecost the virtual empowering of the Church. And while the Pentecostal experience must not be construed as the disciples' first experience of the Spirit, nevertheless, from that advent, they savored His power and presence more fully than ever before.

The Holy Spirit was (and still is) associated with baptism; it guides the decisions and policies of the Church.

For the glory and the wonder of Christ's resurrection from the ignominy of the cross overshadows all else that skeptics might advance in argument against Christian beliefs.

For while it is true that Jesus finished His work on earth, He, Himself, is far from finished. And not until the day of judgment comes, and the world, as such, is no more, will the final chapter be written in the history of man.

Peter, beloved disciple of Christ, preached redemption through suffering. This is never a popular thing. Yet, when we pause and assess our lives, we are invariably forced to remember that that which has benefitted us has always been attained through trial and error—and pain. For it is through pain that we become mature—mature adults, mature Christians. And so it is with the Church. That which is unchallenged rocks along in self-satisfaction—and self-satisfaction does not generate a forward motion.

Continued on Page 8

Peas in a Pod?



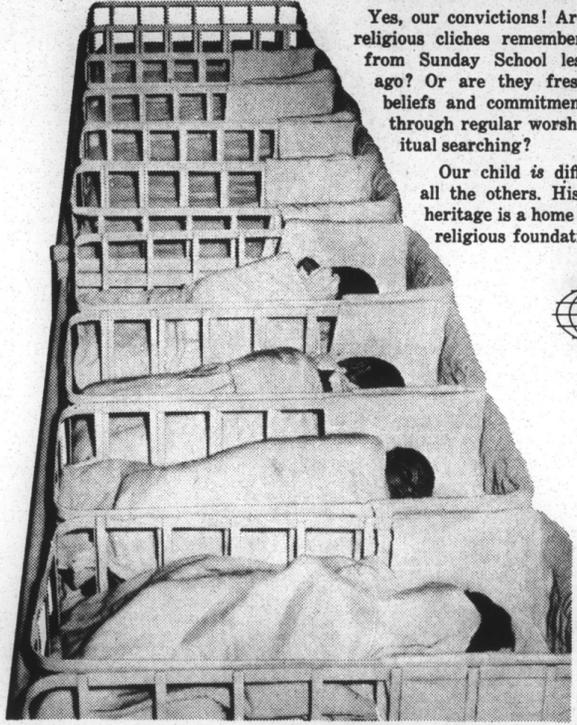
All men are created equal! But their mothers see it differently. And their fathers don't hand out cigars simply to attest to their part in the population explosion.

It's natural to believe that our child is just a bit different from all the others.

Surely he has our love to start him off, our good sense to guide his development and our convictions to mold his.

Yes, our convictions! Are they stale religious cliches remembered vaguely from Sunday School lessons years ago? Or are they fresh, vigorous beliefs and commitments acquired through regular worship and spiritual searching?

Our child is different from all the others. His immediate heritage is a home built on our religious foundation.



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Scriptures selected by the American Bible Society



Sunday
Johns
20:19-23
Monday
Johns
20:24-31
Tuesday
Johns
21:1-19
Wednesday
Matthew
24:42-51
Thursday
Psalms
119:25-40
Friday
II Timothy
1:1-14
Saturday
Hebrews
10:11-25

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