

## A SALUTE FOR ALCORN A. & M. STUDENTS

We salute the students of Alcorn A. & M. State College in Mississippi for striking against an "Uncle Tom" professor, Dr. Clennon King, of their school who apparently attempted, unsuccessfully, to purchase the job of the college presidency by attacking the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In years past, an article such as that written by Dr. King would have so ingratiated him with the trustee board of the college that he would have at least received a salary raise, if not its presidency. It so happens, however, that the turn of events resulted in neither for Dr. King, and instead he has been forced to give up his position with the college and is now among the unemployed—and most likely the unwanted of his race.

The Alcorn College case is testimony that whether reactionary whites and "Uncle Tom" Negroes like it or not, the NAACP, even in Mississippi, is loved, supported and respected by a majority of Negroes, especially of the younger element. Any attempt to besmirch or smear its name with communism or to attack it otherwise will get nowhere, but on the contrary will only serve to engender more support and memberships for it.

That Dr. King was not aware of his infinitesimal status and the impregnability of the NAACP is amazing, though understandable to this newspaper. Among many Negro state colleges are to be found instructors who have so far removed themselves from the society of their people, by limiting themselves to the confines of the college campus, that they are downright ignorant of the attitudes, aspirations and sentiments of the Negro masses. In many instances the ac-

ceptance of an instructor's position or presidency at a Negro state college in the South, so far as the masses of the races are concerned, is like taking a walk into oblivion and closing the door behind you. Or it is like taking a Rip Van Winkle sleep only to awaken 20 years later or less to find that the mores, attitudes and thinking of the race have changed entirely and that such a person is out of step with the times.

The justification for this tendency of many professional educators and teachers to retire to their sequestered walks is that if the pure truth, of which they are the sole possessors, must be exposed by reason of their commerce with the crude and naive masses, it may become tainted and corrupted. To this, we can only reply that if what they have is the real thing, it hardly needs the incubus of a college campus to live. It can thrive anywhere. We suspect that the real reason behind their self-imposed hibernation is that deep down in their souls they know that what they have is only weakly implanted in them, and they fear the erosion of even this unless it is constantly protected and guarded by the physical barriers of the campus.

Dr. King has no doubt learned the hard way that you cannot dwell in an ivory tower and at the same time advise people who are living on the ground. As matters now stand, no respectable Negro institution of learning could afford to employ him for fear of risking a fate similar to Alcorn's. Certainly, no church school, even in Mississippi, would dare do so. We are certain there is no white school in Mississippi which will come to Dr. King's rescue. King is now a teacher without a class. Good riddance!

## THE HOPE OF THE SOUTH

At Duke University a few days ago, students in the divinity school, as they have done several times before, voted their approval of the admission of Negro students. The local white press on learning of the incident hurriedly wrote a short, short account and buried it in an inconspicuous place on an inside page of its current issue. It was news alright, but the kind that most southerners would prefer not hearing or seeing played up too prominently in their newspapers.

Here you have a picture of the dying old South and the coming of age of the new South. The former is clinging desperately to its ancient customs as the death rattle becomes louder and louder and the struggle for breath becomes more fierce. You may yet see a few more Negro homes and churches bombed, ministers jailed or other leaders beaten or shot down. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Coming events cast their shadows and the die has been cast for a new day in the South. There is nothing wrong with Dixie that a few funerals in high places will not cure.

Needless to say Duke University officials

frowned on the actions of the Divinity School students and dismissed the affair as being that of young upstarts. But upstarts grow up and take over offices, jobs and places of leadership. They eventually become our legislators, governors, city councilmen, college presidents and the holders of other important posts. What today seems impossible on tomorrow is an accepted reality.

The irony of the entire Duke University situation is that, for the most part, only the descendants of those whose sweat and blood went into building the fortune which made Duke University possible are barred from enrolling as students, even in its divinity school. A casual glance at its student body will disclose that it is composed of practically every race on the face of the earth except that of the Negro. Certainly if present educators in southern church schools have the indecency to raise the race issue in the training of men for the Christian ministry, there is little hope for the South until time has removed those now in control and replaced them with those who now have the courage of their convictions.

## BETTER PAY FOR OUR TEACHERS

There is no intelligent citizen in North Carolina, either white or Negro, who can conscientiously object to the teachers in this state having a respectable raise in their salaries. The idea that it is possible to have first-class schools while pauperizing their teachers is contrary to reason and those who hope for such are only doing wishful thinking. North Carolina ought to pay its teachers decent salaries as well as construct decent buildings, since both are necessary in the building of a strong school system.

Next to their health there is nothing that should receive more careful consideration than the education of the state's future citizens. If the state is going to continue to demand that its teachers maintain a high standard in efficiency it may as well expect its teachers to demand salaries that are commensurate. We cannot have quality in our teaching staffs unless we are willing to pay for it, since the two are interdependent.

In several states teachers have been forced to seek a remedy under the wings of organized labor, which to some, in and out of the profession, may be somewhat distasteful. In one or more states teachers have either resorted to strikes or threatened strikes to get decent pay for their work. Such a course should not be forced on North Carolina's teachers and can be avoided if officials of the state, including members of the General Assembly, have the courage to do what every fairminded citizen knows should be done and wants done and that is increase the salaries of the teachers of North Carolina.

It is our sincere hope that ways and means will be found to get the money for the proposed 19.31. To do less is to take advantage of a professional group that, in the very nature of the case, is less in position to defend itself than groups who make their demands, not requests, by strikes and threatened strikes.

## A. H. GORDON'S



Dr. Gordon

## Facing The Issue COURAGEOUS STUDENTS

In general, college students of the United States, North and South, East and West, white and colored are remarkably apathetic concerning the great problems of our nation and of the world. Such problems as the justice or injustice of universal military training in the United States under the guise of peace-time conscription, the justice or injustice of the criminal income taxes collected by the state and federal governments, the crime of international wars, and the gradual disappearance of civil rights or liberties of most of the people of this country—all these problems—leave the average college student absolutely "cold."

It is encouraging that the students in one of the three state Negro colleges in "darkest" Mississippi have shown resentment to Uncle Tom writings of one of their history teachers to the extent that at this writing (March 9) they have expressed determination to leave this place of mis-education unless this so-called professor is immediately dismissed. The particular incident took place at the Alcorn College, Alcorn, Mississippi. It so happens that this writer taught at this, the oldest of the Negro Land Grant Colleges, for a brief period of two years. He left there after Dr. Otis was made president because he saw that any real education was to be impossible under the leadership of this Uncle Tom. Knowing this so-called educator as I do, I was not surprised that he probably inspired a teacher in his institution to criticize any manly efforts on the part of Negroes such as the work of the NAACP. I was also not surprised to learn that he promised the students that he would recommend the dismissal of the professor after he got in the trouble, and that he himself was also fired by the Board of Control.

Although the students are to be commended for showing publicly their opposition to such expressions as it is alleged the "professor" made, I do not think that the students should have reacted in the way they did. As reported in the public press, the students based their demand for the resignation of the "professor" on the grounds that he had published what they considered unjust criticism of the NAACP in a newspaper published in Jackson, Miss. It seems to us that the question of academic freedom of the professor is at issue here and also the matter of the freedom of the press. After all, the "professor" had a right to publish his ideas, regardless of how foolish they were. It seems to this writer that a better way for the students to protest would have been to demand that counter arguments of their own be published in the same paper, and their releases to the press on the matter be allowed by the administration without being edited as the "professor" apparently were. We must admit that there may be conditions surrounding the incident with which we are not fully informed. Students and teachers should all have academic freedom in such matters.

We do wish to congratulate the students of Alcorn College for shedding their apathy and showing that some of our college students are doing a little thinking on serious matters and have the courage to take some risks to support those things in which they believe. They are to be congratulated upon having the good sense to see that some things are more important than just "getting out" so as to hold down some job and fit into the status quo in some backward community where they can function as modern, "stream-lined Uncle Toms."

We wish that we had more courageous students in this country in all our colleges, white and colored, so that we might look forward to having leaders in the future more sacrificial and courageous than the ones we now have in our colleges and elsewhere.

## HANDS THAT CAN STILL PRAY



LORD, HELP ALL AMERICANS TO SEE THAT YOU INTENDED HUMAN BEINGS EVERYWHERE TO HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS...

YOU CAN'T ENTER HERE  
YOU CAN'T RIDE HERE  
YOU CAN'T WORK HERE  
YOU CAN'T PLAY HERE  
YOU CAN'T STUDY HERE  
YOU CAN'T EAT HERE  
YOU CAN'T DRINK HERE  
YOU CAN'T WALK HERE  
YOU CAN'T WORSHIP HERE



Reverend Harold Roland

## Spiritual Insight

"SELL OUT"

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND  
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

"What must I do to inherit Eternal life... You lack one thing, go sell what you have, come and follow me..." Luke 10:17,21.

Men cling to the fading things of this life with such dogged tenacity. This same problem confronted the young man who came to Jesus asking, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" There was an unsatisfied longing in his soul for life's spiritual riches. The world's riches and honors left him empty, hungry and thirsty. He thus came to Jesus asking about God's spiritual blessings for his restless, unsatisfied soul. He had material security. There is still a deep hunger for spiritual security. Jesus tells him that in order for him to find the spiritual blessings and security of God he must, "SELL OUT." Jesus struck home to the special need of the soul of the young man, "You lack one thing... go sell what you have, come and follow me..."

Jesus gave him a very shocking and disturbing answer to his great question. The answer embraced the deep, crying need of his soul, "Sell what you have... and follow me..." All human beings have a kindred need in their lives. We have something we need to "SELL OUT" so that we can really follow Jesus.

### The Central Point

So, Jesus recognized the need of the young man's soul. Jesus went to the heart of his soul's deepest need. He had kept the outer trappings of the Moral Law. He had the form of the Law. He had lost the spirit of the Law. He had missed the main show with his deep involvement with the side show. This is a tempting pitfall for all of us. In the loving presence of the Savior, he clings to the cold formalities of the Law without the love of God. He lacked love the inner essence of the Law.

The young man was deeply in

need of the heart-warming magic of love in his soul. Love is the heart of soul satisfaction, peace and real joy. If you have love, you have everything. If you lack love, you have nothing. Thus, Jesus says to the man, "You lack one thing, sell what you have, come and follow me." This is the key to life; this thing makes life tick. What is a heart without love? It is a cold, barren, empty thing. Life adds up to a worthless little zero without love. His wealth without love left him cold and lonely. For life to become worthwhile someone must touch us with love and we must touch another heart with love. Jesus thus gives the prescription to the young man for soul satisfaction, "SELL OUT... AND FOLLOW ME..."

And all human beings who would find life with its rich inner spiritual meaning must, "SELL OUT." The young man missed this rich spiritual treasure. Why? He was unwilling to "SELL OUT."

By Robert Spivack



Mr. Spivack

## Watch on the Potomac

The Old Man  
Time and again as his press conference dragged on, the President cupped his hand to his ear to catch the question or he would say, "Excuse me, a little louder, please."

To most of the newsmen gathered in the Old Indian Treaty Room, where the White House news conferences take place, it was a rather dismaying sight. The President obviously was not feeling well. He said so. The cotton plug in his left ear attested the fact. His eyes were red. His voice was hoarse. His answers were more generalized than usual.

Although White House correspondents have complained that there have been few sessions with the press since last November's elections, they would not have objected had this one been called off. The so-called hard-boiled newsmen did the only thing they could under the circumstances. They asked easy questions. Nobody wanted to disturb the President anymore than absolutely necessary.

The Hesitant Answer  
For a moment or two the President groped for the right words. "No, not at all," he replied. "That bill was finally passed, wasn't it, 72 to 19. I don't think you could ask on such a subject for a very much greater majority. I was definitely pleased."

When you read those words they sound like a man who was quite sure of himself and satisfied with the outcome. But when you sat in the room it was apparent that the question bothered the Chief executive. Next came a question on modification of the "doctrine." Again the President seemed somewhat distressed.

"I do think the legislative history of this resolution shows that the Senate approves (coughing)—sorry—the Congress approves of what we are trying to do in the area, and that is the important thing."

We shall not attempt to psychoanalyze the meaning of that cough in the midst of the only "hard" questions of the press conference. But it was severe enough for the next questioner to refer to it.

"Mr. President," asked a New York Times correspondent, "could you tell us some more about this temporary hearing difficulty of which you complain, sir. Is it related in some way to your cough? What do your doctors say about it?"

"Well, so far as I am concerned, it feels like a cold in the head, that is all."

"But," persisted the Timesman, "it is definitely related to the same—"

"Oh, yes; yes," the President said. "the same condition that produced the cough," the reporter finished. "Yes, temporary, of something."

The Decline  
There was a little more to the second term question than met the eye.

The day before the press conference, the pro-administration Wall St. Journal carried a lead story which began:

"President Eisenhower's relations with Congress, which never have been intimate, are growing even more distant. His influence on Capitol Hill is on the wane."



That will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on These: because he trusteth These. (Isaiah 26:3.)  
Peace of mind and soul is sought by millions of us these anxious days, in books, in talks with clergymen, in psychoanalysts' offices. These may help some unhappy souls in their search, but the Bible tells us where such peace may most surely be found.

morrow something that should have been done in 1870."

## AN OPEN LETTER- PART II

Editor's Note: Following is the second portion of an open letter from W. H. Jernagin, president of the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union.

Therefore, as believers in Christ, we must always keep in mind that the cause is greater than any one of us. I think one of the great objects for which we should pray at this moment and especially on the National Day of Prayer, is that the Holy Spirit will direct the minds of our leaders and delegates who will meet in Louisville, to select a man whose first duty will be to bring peace, harmony and Christian fellowship within our fold. You know God always has the man.

Forty years ago we had only a few men who were prepared for leadership, but that is not true today. Every year God is bringing forth some young men with great ability, vision and with a Christ-like spirit which is surprising to many of us. I believe that God has the man who can do this job and bring about peace in our denomination, but in order for us to agree upon such a man, the Holy Spirit must be our guide.

As a leader of the young Baptists of our convention, I am praying that a noble example will be set for these young people who will inherit the quality and spirit of those who served before them.

I have been in the convention for over 57 years and my policy has always been to help men rather than to destroy them. We have great responsibility, a great challenge and a great God who is able to guide us through this crisis into a great day of achievement if we allow nothing to separate us from His divine purpose and plan. Negro Baptists of America, stand fast in the spirit and devotion bequeathed us by William J. Simmons, E. C. Morris, L. K. Williams and D. V. Jemison.

W. H. Jernagin, President National Sunday School and Baptist Union Congress

## New Novel Champions Emancipation

The violence which could be released by "colonial hang-over" is pictured in a new, imaginative novel—RAGE ON THE BAR—by Geoffrey Wagner.

One of the central problems of the world is illuminated in a dramatic series of events on an island in the West Indies, in which the colonial past insidiously tries to maintain its privileges against the present drive of a native people to govern themselves.

The contradictory loyalties evolving out of the situation are expressed through Philip Teale, the new A.D.C. to the Governor General. Discovering a native rebellion stirring Teale is torn between his natural sympathies for the mistreated Negro population and his sense of duty as an army man.

Satiric portraits of the worst of the colonialists contrast with the poetry of sea and island landscape, as Teale is shown facing up to the consequences of his unwillingness to support the repressive attitude of the colonial leaders.

Mr. Wagner was born in Malaya, where his father was Commissioner of Malaya Police. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and at Columbia University. Now teaching in the English Department at the City College of New York, he contributes frequently to leading literary journals here and abroad, and gives a regular book talk over WNYC in New York.

The book will be published April 8 by the Noonday Press.