

SELECTING WHITE SPEAKERS FOR NEGRO AUDIENCE

It is becoming more and more risky, and very often extremely embarrassing, to have the average white person as a guest speaker at Negro gatherings. Very few of them know what to say and how to say it on these occasions, and we would like to suggest that more time and effort be placed on screening the type of white person invited to address Negro audiences. The serious need for this was first strongly brought out several years ago when the late Dr. F. D. Bluford, president of A. & T. College invited Gov. Luther Hodges to address a gathering at his school. To the consternation of Dr. Bluford and other members of the A. and T. faculty and to the admiration of a majority of Negro citizens of this state, the students proceeded to hiss the governor's pronunciation of the word Negro and other offensive remarks and mannerisms.

Someone should inform the few remaining Negro "Uncle Toms" on the state payroll that their white boss may be a hero to them because he signs their salary checks or is now a member of Congress and therefore in position to give them the nod for a promotion or some other achievement, but in the estimation of other members of the race he may be considered a low stinker, or just another cheap politician who will sell his soul for public office.

Because of his stand and attitude on civil rights, Senator Kerr Scott was as much out of place at the "Rural Progress" award gathering at Roxboro this week as a pig would be in a parlor. He proved this to be true when he seized the opportunity on an occasion devoted to glorifying farming to

lambaste the civil rights legislation of President Eisenhower that is now before Congress. His abortive attempt to ram his ideas of civil rights down the throats of Negroes of this state will get nowhere and will only result in making them more determined to struggle until human dignity has been achieved, even for the humblest citizen of this nation. If he got an approving hand and congratulations from the few "Uncle Toms" who were responsible for inviting him to Roxboro, he may know it here and now that they do not represent the thinking of the intelligent and respectable Negro leaders of North Carolina.

Whether Senator Scott, Governor Hodges and other state officials like it or not, there will be no let up in the efforts of Negroes to achieve full citizenship in this state and the remainder of the South. Within the framework of democracy we will fight for our rights in the courts, in the press, churches, schools and in every conceivable place where one or two of us are gathered. In doing so we will not be boastful, we will not resort to violence, we will be calm, courteous and polite, but firm. We fully intend to continue to thunder on the conscience of our white brethren until they accept without qualifications the teachings of Jesus that all men are brothers and the teachings of the democratic way of life which holds that "all men are created equal."

Senator Scott probably has his mind set on building his fences for his re-election to the U. S. Senate. Sometimes in the course of such events, men will sell their souls, but alas, "what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"



Dr. Gordon

Facing The Issue PEACE AND HARMONY

Billions of words are being written and spoken these days about the infamous seventy two billion dollar budget President Eisenhower has proposed as necessary to enable the United States to try to run the world next year, newspaper writers, politicians and statesmen have admitted that there is little chance in ever reducing this criminal burden upon the American people unless it is accomplished by reducing the enormous and immoral expenditures of our government on wars and preparation for wars. Even Eisenhower himself has admitted that he sees no prospect of greatly reducing our budget unless we drastically reduce our so-called defense and "security" expenditures.

These men see no way for us to cut the budget in any significant way unless we give up two ideas: first, that we are obligated to try to run the world, and secondly, that the best way for us to maintain world "leadership", by which we really mean world government, is to put ourselves in strategic "positions of strength" all over the world, especially in those places where Russia may desire to take over leadership. Both these assumptions are strictly asinine.

Free World Illusion

Let us consider briefly this idea that the United States is somehow obligated to lead the so-called Free World in its effort to prevent being overwhelmed by that monster Communism. In the first place the assumption that there is a "Free World," and that we are a part of it is an illusion.

Ever since the rise to power of the plutocrats, men of great wealth, who run this country by controlling its government, the liberties of the common people have been gradually disappearing. Under the leadership of the FBI, the American Gestapo, we are all becoming "suspect" in proportion as we believe in freedom of speech and freedom from want. To raise funds to spread the influence, or more accurately to buy the friendship of our "friends" among the ex-imperialists of the world such as England the masses of the people are being mercilessly taxed so highly that it is impossible for the majority of us to maintain a decent standard of living no matter how hard we work.

The plutocratic capitalists are the only citizens of the United States who can really maintain our high standard of living without going into debt. Morally we are unfit to lead the world. The only way we can really lead the world is to make democracy really work in this country. We must make it work in Miss., Ala., in Georgia and the other sections of our nation. If we would do this it would lead us in the direction of world peace more effectively and much more economically. We can really create a Free World by becoming free ourselves, by setting an example before the world.

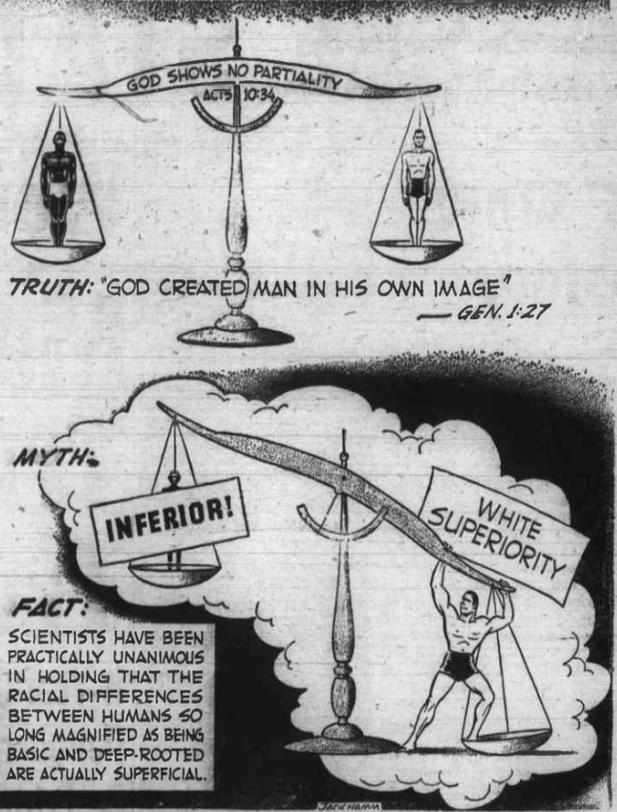
False Assumption

The other false assumption is that we must keep ourselves militarily strong at unbelievable expense so as to frighten Russia away from taking over the resources of the world in the Middle East, in Asia, and the New World. This is a pretty false. It is a lie, told the people of the United States, that it is necessary to spend ten or fifteen billion dollars maintaining military establishments all over the world. These military preparations do not discourage war, they encourage it.

We are told by the plutocrats that we cannot even think about cutting our military expenditures because such will "jeopardize our safety." The fact is the only

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GOD AND SCIENCE EXPLODE A MYTH



Spiritual Insight HE'S A LIAR

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies... John 8:44

The word of God reminds us of the Devil, the father of lies. We human beings who are so easily fooled need to know this great spiritual truth. Evil is a tragic fact in the lives of men. We see its heart-rending results all around us on every hand. The impact of evil is left in many lives. Most of us are easily fooled by the Sweet Nothings of the evil one. He appeals to the weakness of human pride as he did in the Garden of Eden. Evil influences mar the sweetness of joyous human relations. Men have refused to believe the truth of God, and we continue to believe the lies of the devil. And we know all the time that "He is a liar and the father of lies."

The ease with which the Devil deceives us human beings is the said tragic fact of human existence. We go on being hoodwinked and deceived by the Old Liar, the Devil. Why are we so easily fooled by this Liar? He makes things look so nice and reasonable. We are charmed and fascinated by the false, deceptive glamour of evil. The Devil sugar coats all of his lies. He can make his evil schemes look so harmless. We forget that the very nature of the Evil One is false and destructive. Let us not be deceived by the charm of the Evil. Let us not be soothed to sleep by the sweet talk of the Devil. The Devil comes dressed in the garb of falsehood deception and hypocrisy. Remember, when the Devil comes... "He is a liar and the father of lies..."

The old liar's sweetness always turns into bitterness. His lies have brought many down to ruin, tears and dishonor. Those who listen to the lies of the devil will lose their reputation, self-respect, honor integrity and character and their very souls. The Devil will make you sacrifice your very soul for his sweet nothings. Many listening to his lies have lost everything and were left sitting amid the bitter tears of shame and ruin. Yes, the Devil will rob you of all you hold most dear, and then he will laugh at you? Beware of bargaining with the devil, the father of lies. If you play his game with him, he will beat you every time. Beware of the false face the Devil wears. It is well to remember that he has nothing to offer except tears, heartaches, shame, loneliness, sickness and death.

A Refugee's Story

Editor's Note: The statement of Gus Courts before the Senate subcommittee hearing on civil rights, originally scheduled to be carried in last week's issue is reprinted in part here. The second part of the testimony will appear next week. Court's is a former Belzoni, Miss. grocer, who was forced to flee the state because of his activity in getting Negroes to register.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Negroes in the State of Mississippi. My name is Gus Courts, former owner of the Courts Grocery Store, and Trucking Business, Belzoni, Mississippi. I was born in Mississippi; my parents and grandparents before me. We helped to make Mississippi rich and prosperous.

Now, just like those Hungarian refugees from Russian oppression, you see before you an American refugee from Mississippi terror. I had to leave my \$15,000 a year grocery business, my trucking business, my home, and everything. My wife and I and thousands of us Mississippians have had to run away. We had to flee in the night. We are the American refugees from the terror in the South, all because we wanted to vote.

I saw the necessity of getting the Negroes in Humphrey County, Belzoni, Mississippi, to pay poll tax and register to vote. This is a County in which no Negroes have ever voted. After going to the office to pay our poll tax, the Sheriff, Ike Shelton, refused to accept our money. A few Negroes signed an affidavit and had the Sheriff brought before the Federal Grand Jury in Oxford, Miss., in 1953. After the Sheriff had been before the Court, he assured the Court he would let the Negroes pay their poll taxes and qualify themselves to vote.

We succeeded in getting about 400 Negroes in Humphrey

County to pay their poll tax and out of this number only about 94 registered.

Now, in my county, Humphrey County, there are 17,000 colored people and 7,500 white people. In early 1955, we got 400 Negroes to pay their poll tax. But when they (the Negroes) would go down to the Registrar's office to register to vote, the Registrar kept putting them off. They would tell them "we're busy today, come back tomorrow." When they went back the next day, the registrar told them he was still busy and to come back next week. At that time, the legislature was in session passing a law to tighten the registration law. That law was passed and is now in effect, so that no matter how much education a Negro has, he cannot pass the registration law.

When this happened, out of the 988,000 Negroes in Miss., only about 20,000 were registrars to vote. The White Citizens Councils about that time organized.

In 1955, the White Citizens Councils, through the registrars, purged about 12,000 Negroes off the registration books. Although there are 497,000 potential colored voters in Miss., only 8,000 are now on the books.

The White Citizens Councils began to put all types of pressure on the Negroes. We believe they were responsible for the killing of Reverend George W. Lee, who was the first Negro in Humphrey County, to register and qualify himself to vote.

On May 7, 1955, in Belzoni, Mississippi, he was driving home in his car from town. Someone drove up beside him in a car and shot him through the window with a shotgun. The blast tore off all the side of his face. The very next morning, one of the members of the White Citizens Councils, Percy

Ferr, a planter, came in my store and told me, "They got your partner last night." I said, "Yes, you did." He said, "If you don't go down and get your name off the register, you are going to be next. There is nothing going to be done about Lee because you can't prove who did it." I told him I would do just like Reverend Lee: I'd as soon die a free man than live a coward. I was not going to take my name off the register.

A few days after that, this same man came back to my store and told me there were two things I would have to do. I would have to take my name off the register and resign as the President of the NAACP in Humphrey County because they weren't going to let it operate there, and if I didn't do it, I was going to be put out of business. They would see that the wholesalers wouldn't sell me any groceries.

First, I went to Memphis, Tennessee, to a grocery firm, which is about a hundred and fifty miles away and bought some groceries and then I went to Jackson, Mississippi, which is eight miles away. I made a contract with a firm in Jackson to have groceries delivered to my store in Belzoni, Miss. That was the way I had to get my supply of groceries.

On November 25, 1955, I was busy waiting on customers in my store. Someone drove up in a car and fired slugs through the store window with a shotgun. The slugs caught me in my left arm and stomach. The blood began to flow. I called the sheriff and could not get him. The chief of police came and ordered me to the hospital, which is just two blocks from my store. When I walked out to get in the car, I told my friend Ernest White, who came to take me to the hospital, that I wanted to go to Mound Bayou Hospital, which is eighty miles away.

State Probe Quizzles Fla. NAACP Officer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (Continuing its probe into the activities of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Florida, a joint legislative committee this week questioned Robert L. Saunders, the Association's field

In an effort to prove that Saunders personally handled memberships in the State, Mark Hawes, committee counsel, questioned him closely about the processing of the membership application of one Raul Garica of Tampa who, acting as a decoy, sent in a \$15-check to the state office with a letter expressing his "interest in the welfare of Negroes" and asking for literature and membership in the Association. Memberships, he explained, are handled by the local branches and the national office.

Further attempt was made to secure information from Saunders about records of the Association, about the structure of the organization, about his duties as field secretary, and about other NAACP personnel. Particularly, counsel queried the NAACP representative about his duties as compared with those of the Association's field secretary in Texas.

New Hospital Group To Seek Building Act

WASHINGTON, D. C. A national conference on racial integration in hospitals, held here last week, voted unanimously to seek an amendment to the Hospital Survey and Construction Act of 1946, deleting provisions for racial separation.

The conference, described by its chairman, Dr. W. Montague Cobb of Washington, as the first of its kind, was sponsored jointly by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Medical Association, and the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District of Columbia.

Dr. Cobb is chairman of the NAACP National Health Committee as well as a member of the Association's Board of Directors.

Commenting on the conference proceedings, Dr. Cobb said: "A large amount of little-known information was secured, which laid the basis for a sound program for future constructive action." A second meeting is planned for next year, he noted.



Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.—(Ephesians 6, 11.)

Temptations to evil surround us daily; we may succumb although knowing the results will make us suffer. Some of us are steel-willed enough to resist—but any one of us can, with God's help, fight valiantly, win gloriously, for then we will not be fighting alone.

Mound Bayou is the colored town in Mississippi. The sheriff came over in thirty minutes to my store after I had left for the hospital, just two blocks away, for thirty minutes waiting for him. When my wife told him I had gone to Mound Bayou to the hospital there, he disapproved of that. Then the sheriff asked the chief of police why he had sent me to Mound Bayou when he (the Sheriff) told him chief of police) to send me to the hospital which is about two blocks from my store. I believe they would have finished me off if I had landed in the Belzoni Hospital.

As a result of the shooting, I have suffered from a nervous condition. It has affected my heart to the extent that I have to be constantly under a doctor's care. I do not have much use of my left arm. I cannot take this arm and open a door.



AID FOR BOMBED VICTIMS IN ALABAMA

The national appeal now being made to raise \$100,000 to rebuild the churches and homes in Montgomery, Alabama that were bombed during and after the bus boycott should meet the approval of all persons who are lovers of freedom. The approval should be expressed in dollars and not words, therefore, we urge our readers to do all in their power to influence our churches, businesses, fraternities, clubs and individuals to send a donation of as great amount as possible to the Montgomery Improvement Association, 530 S. Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama.

Two of the churches that were completely wrecked had no insurance and, therefore, will have to be rebuilt entirely out of funds raised in the campaign now going on. If each organization and individual will make even a small contribution, the necessary amount can be raised without any undue strain being

placed on any one. Therefore, it is our sincere hope that the appeal will have a favorable response in every part of the country.

The appeal should be of unusual interest to North Carolinians in that it was launched on the birthday of a former native son of this state, Benjamin S. Turner, who was taken to Alabama as a child during slavery, secretly educated, but finally rose to the position of Congressman. Turner was among the first of his race to be elected to Congress after slavery and served from 1871 to 1873.

The \$100,000 being asked for is small in comparison with what it is going to take to replace all of the bombed churches and homes. It leaves a plenty for Negro citizens of Montgomery to do, and we urge our readers to lend their financial aid and influence to this most worthy cause.

THE CAROLINA TIMES

MAIN OFFICE — 436 EAST PETTIGREW STREET
Phones 5-0671 and 2-2913 — Durham, North Carolina

Published at Durham, North Carolina Every Saturday By THE UNITED PUBLISHERS, Inc.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Durham, North Carolina under the Act of March 3, 1879.

L. E. AUSTIN, Publisher
CLATHAN ROSS, Editor
JESSE GRAY, Advertising Mgr.
M. E. JOHNSON, Controller

WINSTON-SALEM OFFICE — 304 N. CHURCH ST. — PHONE 5-0869
MRS. VELMA HOPKINS, Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year \$3.00
Six Months \$2.00
Ten Cents Single Copy
\$4.00 — Foreign Countries.

National Advertising Representatives
INTERSTATE UNITED REPRESENTATIVES, Inc.
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PHONE MURRAY HILL — 2-5452