

More Business In Our Churches

One will only have to be acquainted with the manner in which the business side of many of our churches is conducted to realize that a majority of them are sadly in need of more business in the keeping of church records and the handling of church funds. Too many of our churches are satisfied with haphazard and antiquated methods in their business departments. In too many of them the minister or some one person is the treasurer, the purchasing agent and the disbursing officer.

No church should allow funds to be paid out for anything except by checks and then only when such checks are signed by at least two persons. In addition all persons who handle church funds should be bonded, especially the church treasurer. Too often sentiment is used in the selection of a treasurer and the failure to require a bond. In many instances funds have been misappropriated or, to put it more plainly, stolen, simply because church officials were too timid to exercise a closer supervision of church funds or require two or more signatures on checks.

What applies to churches also applies to lodges, clubs, labor unions, and other groups.

The time has come when we ought to put more business in all of them if we are to be safeguarded against unnecessary losses. Any honest person is usually glad to have such safeguards thrown around him when entrusted with funds because he realizes it is for his own protection as well as that of the organization he is serving. If he is not it is usually a good sign that he is dishonest and cannot secure a bond with a reputable bonding company.

This newspaper has been reliably informed that two labor unions in Durham are minus several thousand dollars because they failed to keep a close check on the handling of their funds and did not require a bond of their treasurers, nor a periodic audit of their books. When they finally got around to having the books audited it was discovered to their sorrow that their treasuries were several thousand dollars short.

A good resolution for the New Year is for all of our churches and other organizations to have their treasurers bonded now and a periodic audit of their books. Also those that have not required but one signature on their checks should change the system and require at least two.

Federal Aid To Education

Among the important items presented to Congress by President Eisenhower in his opening address to that body was one dealing with federal aid to education. The proposal that the federal government step in and bolster the badly sagging financial supports of many of the country's educational institutions has been brought up in the past but with nothing like the urgency which attends it now. Frightened and hurt by the recent display of apparent Soviet supremacy in the field of science, we have been aroused, to say the least, over the status of our own science education and of education in general in this country. As some wag put the other day, in the face of Sputniks, I and II, and threatened by manned flights into outer space by Russia, we have bolted in such panic that every kid who can count to ten without using his fingers is labelled as a budding scientific wizard and we stand today ready to fill his pockets with enough of U. S. mints' products so that he can continue his counting, uninterrupted, until he perhaps comes up with a significant number.

The whole matter of the effectiveness and level of education in our country, however, is a far more serious matter than wisecracks are likely to make it appear. In a country which prides itself on making a departure from the European tradition of education for the select, education is as vital as any of our institutions. It certainly seems to be a proper subject of concern for the government and its administrators.

But the manner in which the present administration seems prepared to go about the business of placing the national interest squarely behind education appears to us to have taken the wrong direction, or at least, a shabbily thought out direction. At this point, the President has called for Congress to approve of federal funds for the country's schools, but he has left unclear the important question of administration of these funds. As we understand it, the administration of the program of federal aid for schools and deserving students will be left to local control. Under ordinary circumstances, we would have no quarrel with such an arrange-

ment, but as everybody knows, educational circumstances in the South are hardly the kind that can be called ordinary. One need only cite the fact that the Supreme Court's order for eliminating racial discrimination by segregation has been complied with in only a handful of southern communities in the two years of its existence and in five southern states is still held in utter contempt to realize that if such a program of federal aid were left to control of these states, such efforts to exploit all the country's scientific genius would in some measure go unrewarded.

If the administration of federal aid to education is left to the control of the Southern states, the majority of Negro pupils in the South will be automatically denied the opportunity to benefit from such aid. And conversely, it is questionable whether such a program of federal aid to education can approach its maximum results if nearly a tenth of the country's population is continually deprived of a free exercise of their abilities and talents.

This is not to say that all or a majority of the scientific genius resides in the Negro race in the South. That is obviously absurd. Certainly if all the Negroes in the country were excluded from the benefits of the program, the overall gain to the nation's scientific knowledge should be considerable. But it is really genius that the program is designed to uncover, and who can predict where genius is to be found? Can a program which seeks to discover such latent genius be successful if it arbitrarily excludes from its scope nearly a tenth of the populace? Can a nation whose government balks on the grounds of expediency at the liberation of all talent and skill match the efforts of a dictatorship which actively seeks to exploit for the state all ability?

It is no longer a simple matter of meeting out equality and justice to the whole population; it is now rather the tough question of giving everybody a chance to help his country meet the do or die challenge of another world power.

For Whites Only

Another opportunity to secure more Negro representation on the county and city governments' policy making bodies went to waste last week. A committee consisting of the chairman of the County Commissioners, the County school superintendent and the Mayor of Durham were empowered by the last General Assembly to appoint members of the County Board of Health. The committee appointed an "all white" board. At least the mayor publicly expressed his regret over the failure of the committee to include a Negro among its appointments.

Of course, we do not feel that a Negro should have been appointed to the board simply because Negroes constitute a good

proportion of the county's population. That is, though, a fact formidable enough in itself to warrant representation of the race on the body. However, the fact that Negroes who suffer from lower health standards than those of the opposite group, may have a more vital interest in County health problems is one of immediate relevancy which should have commended a Negro appointee to the board of selectors.

All of these considerations were apparently ignored by the selecting group, leaving only the conclusion that the ruling majority in the city and county still thinks in terms of separate spheres of interest, of "a place" for both races. As far as matters of making policy for the city and county are concerned, the action of the selection group speaks of the same old "for white only" basis on which the majority has acted in the past.

The apparent persistence of this kind of thinking, of thinking of separate compartments of the community's life for the white and Negro citizens is certainly a proper subject for the newly established interracial committee to consider. Until all of the citizens of Durham are considered in matters which affect the entire city, no amount of committees and public forums can erase the basic discord which exists in relations between the two races.

Life Is Like That

OUR GREATEST NEED

By H. ALBERT SMITH

There has been no time since our blessed Master walked over the highways of ancient Palestine that the need of regenerated hearts is more apparent than today. Since Jesus' day, human progress along scientific lines has been amazing. Should John the Baptist, the apostles, Paul, Peter, John, etc. be brought from the dead and into our modern world, they'd find it hard to believe this to be the same planet on which they live.

More Comforts

In fact, our great-grandparents and even the grandparents of some of us would feel about the same. And all of them, if they judged our world from the point of view of the comforts and conveniences it offers, would say, "What a wonderful world!"

In fact, many of the persons, if not all, who have lived through the past five or six decades, would say the same thing. For, without a doubt, the technological element in our civilization has made life far more comfortable, satisfying and interesting than it was fifty years ago.

Disturbing Elements

But, unfortunately, if men of past generations were with us, they could not judge our world by the improvements afforded us by the inventions of technology. They would see aspects of our life on the moral and spiritual side that would give them considerable concern—also, on the political side. There would be grave questions as to whether the world was better or worse.

For one thing, they would be disturbed by the high incidence of nervous disorders and mental breakdowns in our society, the rebellion of youth against essential disciplines, especially in big cities. They would be disturbed by the growing incidence of suicides, murders and other crimes. They would find the callous disregard for human life to be quite upsetting, to say the least.

And, by all means, would they be shocked by the constant threat of atomic and hydrogen warfare that threatens to destroy civilization, exterminate mankind, or drive them back into the primitive existence of the cave life of 10,000 years ago. Such is the picture of our world in miniature today.

The Remedy

What can be done? What must be done? What is the solution for our problem? The cure for our sickness? The answer is Jesus. Men—society itself—must be born again.

The Christian world must recapture its primitive insight, vision, passion, and energies and institute a huge, relentless, persistent offensive the objective of which is the realization of the Kingdom of God on earth. "Such a realization is more than a mystic ideal. It is the crowning fact of history. It is the solid reality with which God is displacing the un-

substantial materialism underlying the rude social structures of human selfishness. It is the goal of ages upon which Jesus turned his dying vision and which has held the faith of the pure and the wise, the true and the brave amidst forgotten defeats and unrecorded sufferings. It is the bloom of evolution and the climax of revolution. It is the divine errand upon which white-soled prophets have walked serene through a world ablaze with scorn. It is the consummation of all God has been and done for man and man has been and done for God. It is the eternal Kingdom of Christ, which is besieging the affairs of men, troubling the foundations of society, and sifting the church as wheat.

Only Hope

"The pledge of God is behind it and the victorious forces of the universe are allied in its behalf. The Bible is its written warrant, and the cross its seal which none can break. It may take us with violence, but it advances to conquer and the saints shall judge the earth."

This ideal accepted without reservations and made the sole objective of a church full of the spirit and vision of Christ, and possessed of the flaming missionary passion and indefatigable and unwearying energies of the apostle Paul—this alone is the greatest need of our modern church and the sole hope of a decadent civilization and a dying world.

NAACP Seeks To Restore Part Of 'Rights' Bill

NEW YORK

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will join with other civil rights groups in urging the second session of the 85th Congress to restore Part III to the civil rights bill passed by Congress last summer. Clarence Mitchell, director of the Association's Washington bureau, said here this week in his report to the 49th annual NAACP meeting.

This section of the bill which would have authorized federal intervention to sustain civil rights, as in school desegregation cases and in other deprivations of rights, was stricken from the bill by the Senate after a bitter debate.

Asserting that the Association "never underestimated the potential good in Part III, Mitchell announced that Representatives Emanuel Celler (D.N.Y.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and Kenneth Keating (R.N.Y.), ranking minority party member of the committee, "are both pledged to resume the fight to get Part III enacted into law when the next session of (please turn to page seven)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Critical Reflections On American Education

After we have examined to some extent, our system of education in America, it is reasonable to conclude that it has some good and excellent features. Those good and excellent features should be retained. One of the outstanding features of American education is that of attempting to educate the masses.

This matter of attempting to educate the masses is a very significant factor in a democratic society. The intimacy that exists between the education of the masses and a democracy is basic and fundamental to a democratic society, such as ours. The efforts to educate the masses must be continued and executed by some kind of basic processes.

It is apparent that we must take a critical and analytical look at our American education system. These critical and analytical examinations of American education should be free from any hysterical inclinations. These examinations should be sane and deliberate.

In a democratic society, we recognize the human personality as being most significant. We also stress the importance of individual differences. Further, we dedicate ourselves in our schools to the development of productive citizenship, effective service, and responsible participation in civic and social affairs. Irrespective of what we do, it is apparent that the previous civic factors should remain a definite part of our American education system.

If I were asked to make some suggestions relative to the revision of our American educa-

tion system, some of my sample suggestions would be as follows:

- (a) Organize and develop certain phases of our curricula offerings that will challenge our average students;
- (b) Organize and develop certain phases of our curricula offerings that will challenge what we call our average students;
- (c) Organize and develop certain phases of our curricula offerings that will challenge what we call our retarded students;
- (d) Make provisions for those pupils who have unusual mental ability, but do not have the economic means with which to develop their abilities; and (e) a specific and general improvement of all our educational programs.

If we are to meet the challenge that has been thrust upon us, there are many things that must be done. I would list three major needs that are immediate, namely: greater expenditures for local education, salaries that will attract the most capable personnel and a critical and analytical re-organization of certain phases of our American education programs.

It appears that in some manner, we must teach our pupils to face reality. We know that there is a vast difference between effort and achievement. By some means, boys and girls must be taught to face this realistic concept. In essence, I am suggesting that our techniques of evaluation and the "teaching act" must adhere to a more scientific pattern. This demands a kind of organization that does not have a common sanction of the public at the present time.

J. W. McKoy, Fayetteville, N. C.

Civil Rights Committee can loosen these chains by removing our own.



By ROBERT SPIVACK

Watch on the Potomac

SPIVACK

The State Of The Union. If the Democrats are as smart as they think they are, they better run scared in this year's elections. That's the message I get from President Eisenhower's State of the Union Message.

Ever since Sputnik soared up into outer space, Democrats of all political colorations have been acting as if they were dealing with a dead administration. When the President suffered his stroke, many spoke as if the 1958 elections were in the bag and that it might even be a waste of time to hold them.

After the fiasco at Cape Canaveral, which Sen. Kefauver calls "Cape Carnival", the realists were telling us that a Democratic victory in November is a foregone conclusion. Overconfidence and underestimating your opponent is an old political malady. As Tom Dewey had occasion to learn in 1948 it can be fatal. Right now the Democrats, I think, are suffering an acute case of Deweyitis.

The reaction to the President's speech was pretty much along party lines as was to be expected. The Republicans, almost to a man, called it "great" and his "finest". Some Democrats called it a funeral oration and an apology for past errors.

Looking at from a less partisan viewpoint, my own reaction is that it was an extremely effective address and

one that may be long remembered by television-conscious America it was the gallant effort of a man who has been stricken three times in five years. It was straightforward and while critics may pick at this point or that, the public response was bound to be affirmative.

What too many partisans forget is that most Americans don't think of themselves as either Democrats or Republicans. They think of themselves as Americans. When their pride is hurt, as it was by Sputnik, or when they are told the country is in danger, they will respond to the call of their Commander in-Chief. The President's State of the Union message was such a call.

It was an appeal to the emotions—the decent emotions of the people. As such it was bound to bring out the best in people. I have never seen the President in better form, at a moment when pessimism and gloom was the prevailing mood.

Ike Holds The Cards

Lyndon Johnson escorted the President into the House chamber as if he were the host and the President his personal guest. Only two days earlier Johnson had delivered his own "State of the Union message", outlining in broad terms what he felt we are up against in the fight to conquer outer space. We are told there is a "new Johnson" and his

remarks did have a certain eloquence, even if they were vague on details.

But what happened? While Johnson was trying to tell the nation that the "Texas leadership" in Congress was able to look beyond the interests of Big Oil his colleague and mentor, House Speaker Rayburn, was passing the word along that he would give priority to passage of the Natural Gas bill.

This was hardly a demonstration of the "sense of urgency" for which Adlai Stevenson and others had been calling.

Eisenhower, in his delivery, and his ghost-writers, in the words they put in his mouth, seemed to sense this Democratic dilemma. So the President took many of the good ideas the liberal Democrats have been voicing and embodied them in the text of his remarks. Where does this leave the Democrats, except to back him up?

The President has been called all sorts of names, all of which add up to saying he has been a big zero. He certainly can't be absolved of responsibility for a big share of the current "mess in Washington". But the Democrats would do well to recognize that Ike has developed from a skillful military tactician into a skilful political tactician. You might call it political judo. The method is to use the enemy's strength against the enemy (please turn to page seven)

Spiritual Insight

"Distress Of Unclean Spirits"

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

"Them which were vexed with unclean spirits...and they were healed." Acts 5:16.

More of our inner distress than we realize may be due to unclean spirits. The unholy spirit makes for inner distress or sickness. But the Holy Spirit is the giver and the maker of life. The distress of unclean spirits is an all too common human ailment. Maybe we all suffer from it at times. In all too many cases we let go of the Holy spirit and embrace and cultivate in our hearts and souls the evil or the unholy spirit. The fruits or painful results are to be found in the inner distress that plagues us. God only knows how much of the sickness of our times can be traced back to the unclean or unholy spirit in us.

In the early Church those who were vexed or troubled with the "Unclean" or unholy spirit saw the root cause of their trouble: They Let Go Of That Spirit Of Distress. They received the Holy Spirit and they were healed. "Them which were vexed with un-

clean spirits...were healed." Are you suffering from the distress of the Unclean Spirit? Why would you continue to suffer that inner agony, and distress? Give up the unclean or evil spirit. And receive God's gift of the Holy or life-giving spirit. Physical things cannot remove the unclean spirits. Those unclean spirits call for a spiritual operation. It is a little difficult to have both the same time. You must make a decision. Let go of the Unholy Spirit And God Will Give You The Holy Spirit. The result: You will be healed!... Them that were vexed with unclean spirits... were healed."

The distressing fruits of the unclean spirits may be seen in our hatred, fear, selfishness, and the unforgiving spirit. Do you cultivate or nurture these things in your heart and soul? Then you may have the symptoms of the unclean spirits. These unholy intruders in the hearts of us human beings produce the painful harvest of distress and perplexity. They

lead to spiritual sickness. They rob life of its abundant sweetness and joy. They stifle and strangle life. They bar the path way to the abundant life that Jesus promised. Let's get wise and ask God to take away the Unclean Spirits And give us wholesome, life-giving power of his Holy spirit.

We all know that the evil spirit brings distressful results. You know the distress that follows when you speak a hurtful word. The word spoken to a loved one in a fit of anger. It leaves you with the distressful burden of guilt. Healing comes only when you reconcile and make up. The secret envy or jealousy you carry toward another human being leaves you distressed. These are just some of the distressful results that we must endure and live with on account of the unclean spirits we nurture and carry within. We all can be healed of the inner distress resulting from harboring the unclean spirit. Let go of the unclean and receive the Holy, life-giving spirit of God.

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