

The Day of Reckoning For Negro Church Is Here

Twice within a period of six months this nation has been treated to the sorry spectacles of international or national meetings of two of its largest Negro religious bodies. First it was the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Los Angeles, California. Second it was the meeting of the National Baptist Convention in Philadelphia.

To say that both of these gatherings were a disgrace to the race is putting it lightly. The buffoonery, the lack of system, the lack of planning and business like procedure were something to be laughed at instead of respected. The disgraceful conduct exhibited by the leaders of both of these so-called religious organizations was more like that of an Amos and Andy show than a Christian organization.

At the A. M. E. General Conference in Los Angeles money flowed like water. Suites at the most expensive hotels for the bishops, most of whom were transported to and from hotels and meetings places in their Cadillacs, were the order of the day. Some of the bishops had suites at two hotels, the cheapest being the place where they condescended to confer with their laymen, and in-the-trench preachers.

When it is considered that a majority of the money to pay for all this show of finery came out of the pockets of hard working Negroes in cotton, tobacco and corn fields, the factories, the wash tub and cook kitchens it is enough to make thoughtful members of the race bow their heads in shame. In fact it is a disgrace that would not be tolerated anywhere else except by a Negro church organization.

At the Los Angeles meeting of the A. M. E. General Conference the sessions were held for weeks or more in the Shrine Auditorium, the rent for which has been reported to have been from \$1,500 to \$3,000 per day. To say that the lack of system, leadership and organization forced the meeting to drag on for two weeks is no exaggeration. It is safe to say that with the right kind of leadership and organization all of the business of the A.M.E. General Conference could be transacted within one week or even less.

Instead there is the waste of time, money and energy in useless programs, meetings, arguments, near fights, and exhibitions of ignorance by bishops and other general officers. At times we have seen it take an hour for the General Conference to change presiding bishops while the delegates and visitors were forced to listen to some ministerial or lay lackey extol the imaginary virtues of a bishop by reciting what for the most part is known to be a pack of lies.

Some of the sessions of the General Conference of the A.M.E. Church resembled a meeting of a bunch of gangsters rather than

a religious body. Grafts, threats, schemes, crooked politics, near fights, doublecrossing, slicksters and theivery were the order of the day. In fact at one session it was necessary to call the police and firemen to quell the ire of these so-called religious leaders who only a few days before had proudly stood in pulpits and preached about the lowly Nazarene.

At the National Baptist Convention in Philadelphia the scene was no different but the same old coon with one less ring around his tail. From all over the nation they came in expensive cars to stay at expensive hotels. Instead of a meeting of disciplined, intelligent and restrained men of God the session finally turned into bedlam and ended in chaos with two presidents.

Now the Baptists—think of it—have turned to the civil courts to straighten out the affairs of a religious body. While this religious organization awaits the decision of a non-religious court to tell them what to do about God's business the young men and women from our high schools and colleges are thinking, thinking about the Sunday sermons of their preachers, thinking about where they can find a message of peace from a true messenger of peace.

We think we see a handwriting on the walls of these two largest religious bodies of the race. We think we see the time approaching when they will have to set their houses in order or go the way of the ox cart, the mule and wagon and the fireplace. They cannot survive in an age that demands intelligence, honesty and integrity. They cannot continue successfully this religious buffoonery.

If our churches are to survive and remain attractive to the intelligent and educated segment of the race, their ministers, from the top on down to the smallest pastorale, have got to stop operating the business side of them from their vest pockets. They must also be willing to expose the business side of their churches to periodic inspections and audits. The day of the paternalistic approach with the minister as the financial director, business manager, bookkeeper, auditor, general manager and custodian of all the church's funds as well as pastor is over. Any minister from bishop in the A. M. E. Church or president of the National Baptist Convention on down to a local preacher who does not recognize this fact is riding for a fall.

Already there is a growing disrespect for those of the ministerial profession. Unless we can show in our churches advancement in the manner in which the business of religion is conducted there will be less respect for our ministers and the program of the church. For the Negro ministers the day of reckoning is not coming. It is here!

Movement for A Million New Negro Voters Started

A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Vice President of the AFL-CIO, is more than a great dedicated Negro leader who is uncompromising in his demands for the rights of his people. He is an institution. For nearly half a century Randolph has had the love, admiration and respect of his people. During all those years he has asked no quarter and given none in the struggle to achieve human dignity and the rights of Negroes.

The announcement last week that Randolph, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, have initiated a movement to register one million new Negro voters in November should electrify every member of the race in America. That Randolph has been selected as chairman of the crusade comes as no surprise to those who know the relentless manner in which he attacks a problem once he sets his hand to it.

It is our hope that the efforts of the three leaders of the race will receive hearty support from organizations and individuals throughout the nation. Our churches, fraternal organizations, social clubs, business, other groups and

individuals will bestir themselves and promote register and vote campaigns in every county, city, town and hamlet of all the states, the mark of a million new Negro voters can be reached. If that is done, national and state public office holders will be more respectful of Negro rights.

One objective for all Negro voters should be more and better jobs in public places. The Negro should have his share of such positions as clerks and stenographers in state, county and city offices. As it now stands he seldom gets employment above that of maid and porter which is the very lowest when it comes to wages.

The Carolina Times urges Negroes all over America to fall in behind the call for one million new Negro voters. Every Negro in this country should talk and walk register and vote from now until the election on November 8.

WELCOME TO A&T'S NEW PRESIDENT AND HIS FAMILY

The Carolina Times joins with all good citizens of North Carolina in extending a hearty welcome to the new president of A. and T. College and his family. Although he formerly headed another educational institution in Virginia, Dr. Samuel B. Proctor is well known and admired in the religious and educational circles of North Carolina where on numerous occasions he has delivered sermons and addresses.

Because of the important role it has played in the past in the education of Negro citizens of the state, A. and T. College holds a strategic position. It is our hope that its future course and development under the guiding hand of Dr. Proctor will further enhance its position among the educational institutions of the state and of the nation.

We think that the tendency on the part of

Writer Opposes "Negro" Fair

Dear Sir:
We as Negroes must stop fighting segregation with our right hand and paying for it with our left hand.

I do not see how any Negro who refuses to patronize the five and ten cent stores for six months can attend the DURHAM COUNTY NEGRO FAIR.

Although I never read it in the Bible, I have been told in Sunday School and Church that you cannot be a Christian on Sunday and a sinner the rest of the week and expect to go to heaven. So, we must stop fighting one end of segregation and paying for the other end of it if we expect to get our freedom now.

to fight segregation in every way to gain our freedom. Let us, as thinking Negroes, stay away from the DURHAM COUNTY NEGRO FAIR! CAROLINA THEATER, CENTER THEATER and any other place which practices segregation.

I hope all Negroes in Durham will stay away from the DURHAM COUNTY NEGRO FAIR and show the world that we want our freedom now. Sir, I know one Negro who will not attend the DURHAM COUNTY NEGRO FAIR this year. "Do you know anybody, Sir?"

Yours for Freedom Now,
John Wilson Edwards
Durham, N. C.



By REV. HAROLD ROLAND

Human Unity Is Major Theme In Teaching of Christianity



"And he made from one every nation of men to dwell on the face of the earth . . . Acts 17:26."

God has made of one blood all men everywhere. Men in their blind and arrogant pride have tried, vainly, to deny the oneness of the human family. Many of the human problems of our times rest on this attempted denial of the oneness of the human family. The problem of race is grounded in this attempted denial of the unity of the human family.

There is but one blood but we have tried to say there is more than one blood. We have attempted to set up separate blood banks. But God, in His Eternal Wisdom, has made of one blood all men to dwell on the face of the earth. Our unity is derived from the fact that we have one Creator, God Almighty, who has made of one blood all men.

Our very survival demands the recognition of the theological fact of human unity. The doctrine of divisive separatism threatens the very existence and

survival of the human family. The word of God teaches that our unity is grounded in God the Eternal Creator of all things. There are several types but there is one blood. And this one blood is the common bond of human unity. We are one in our sinfulness. We are one in our common destiny of death and decay. And further we are one in our common need of salvation from sin through the healing and cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Those who teach any other doctrine aside from human unity is a deadly enemy of the existence and survival of the human family.

This teaching of the word must now be faced and recognized by all men everywhere. The word teaches that oneness under God the Creator. We all must face this great biblical and theological truth. The contrary teaching has been rooted and grounded in human selfishness. The contrary doctrine leads to injustice and a

rank kind of selfish gain. The selfish would divide men for the taking of profits. Look what is happening in our city and county governments one third of the citizens are shut out. In keeping with the selfish nature of this doctrine one fourth of the citizens are shut out on the state level. The doctrine of human divisiveness leads to one of the seven deadly sins: GREED?

A God of justice calls for the immediate recognition of human unity. Now this shameful, sinful practice is too costly. It is costly in its disruption of human fellowship. It is too costly in the fruits of conflict. It is too costly for it is an immanent threat to the peace of the world. It is too costly for it blocks the coming of the Kingdom of God. It is too costly for it stifles the dreams and ideals of the nation. Thus we must heed the word of God and work for human unity. When? Now, for tomorrow may be too late.

Solidarity Is What Africans Need, Barnett Claims After Series of Talks With Mali Federation Leaders

By CLAUDE A. BARNETT
Director, Associated Negro Press
INSTALLMENT III

This is the concluding installment of Mr. Barnett's interview with Mouda Keita, deposed president of the Mali Federation which is now in a state of civil conflict. In the first two installments, Keita first outlined the history and problems of the new federation, then in answer to Barnett's question, told of the kind of aid the new nation would like to have.

In this last installment, Keita, at the request of Mr. Barnett, extends a message to Negroes in the United States. It follows:
Keita—I know that already at the beginning of the 19th century, the American Negro was engaged in the fight for the liberation of the black man.

I know that since that time, certain African Negroes have continued their interest in the evolution of Africa.

What would be desirable is that the Africans and the Negroes from overseas give each other a hand in order to better understand each other and also to rehabilitate the black man.

What Africa lacks is the benefit of financial power, of economic power and of the material power of the United States. By their action in the heart of Negro groups and with the American government, the Negroes overseas shall be able to place Africa in material and moral conditions so that Africa may affirm herself as a complete entity in this troubled world of the 20th century.

In my opinion, there is a people who gives a beautiful example of solidarity. It is the people of Israel. Wherever they may be: In Europe, in Africa, in Asia, in America, the Israelis support the Negroes overseas to support the cause of Israel and I invite the Negroes overseas to support the cause of Africa.

Mr. Barnett indicated that his wife has been in Israel where she had the occasion to give several lectures on Africa and on America, and that wherever she went, she was very impressed by the attention given to what she had to say. She drew the following conclusion: "The Israelis have the same goals and aspirations as the African peoples."

Integration in Housing is Subject of New Novel

Does a man—any man—have the right to buy the house next door? A Westchester author, Keith Wheeler of Scarsdale, N. Y., tackles this emotion-wrought question in a new novel, "Peaceable Lane," published condensed in one issue, in the October Ladies' Home Journal.

What happens when a talented and brilliant Negro moves into a prosperous white Westchester community is the theme of this novel. The people who are named are not real but the passions in-

volved are those that are pressing upon U. S. society, the Journal editors point out. "It carries a greater amount of truth about a situation which affects every one of us than many factual articles can convey. That is one of the reasons why we published it," they say of this book.

Scarsdale has been the home of the author and his family for the past nine years, although Mr. Wheeler spent three years of this in the Middle West, based in Belmont, as Bureau Head for news

publications. The Wheelers are the parents of two daughters, Zanna, age 18 years, a freshman at Skidmore, and Shelly, age 11.

"Peaceable Lane" is a Book-of-the-Month choice for December, soon to be published by Simon & Schuster. It is Mr. Wheeler's third novel and fifth published book.

Anti-Theft Tips: At night park your car near a streetlight if possible. Auto thieves hesitate to work in lighted areas.

Past History of the Congo Is Record of Severe Exploitation

FRANCES WALTERS SPEAKS

The bar of public opinion is the final judge in all matters of events which influence history but the judgement is often long in forming because of confusion—sometimes deliberately manufactured—which surrounds the events themselves. The present situation in the Congo is an instance.

The Congo was not only the trial ground of a new nation, it also was the trial ground of the United Nations, which for the first time took an active role in world politics.

When the United Nations drew a line between Israel and Egypt and stopped the war between those two nations, it was able to do so because of its immeasurable prestige, the fact that neither Egypt nor Israel wanted to offend the whole world, and because of the masterly diplomacy of Ralph Bunche, the U.N. mediator.

DIFFERENT SITUATION
In the Congo the United Nations was confronted with a totally different situation. Its actions there may mean life or death for the United Nations. Already the powerful ruler of the Republic of Ghana has given notice that he will withdraw his troops from the United Nations forces and join those of the Congo if there is evidence that the United Nations force is being used to pull Belgium's chestnuts out of the fire instead of bringing order to the Congo. Other African Nations are ready to follow suit.

Let us not be fooled. The Congo is a battlefield between black and white. The blacks, though overwhelmingly in the majority, and though they have right on their side—for the Congo belongs to them—may lose this battle unless the United Nations exercises complete impartiality. There is plenty of evidence that its present representatives in the Congo are doing anything but that.

STANLEY EXPOSED LEOPOLD
Belgium first infiltrated in and Belgium first infiltrated and then annexed the Congo under the name "Congo Free State" in 1878, after Leopold's cupidity had been aroused by the reports

of Henry M. Stanley, an American reporter who had gone to the Congo to find the missionary Livingstone. The name "Congo Free State" was always ridiculous: King Leopold named himself as both Monarch and President of the "Free State Company." Native Congolese were used as labor to mine diamonds, copper and other minerals and to plant and harvest rubber and coffee plantations. Sometimes they were paid, more often they were not.

Early in this century the world became aghast at stories of unbelievable torture and cruelties against the native population by the Belgians began to seep out into the outside world. Blacks who did not produce their quota of rubber had their arms cut off. Mothers were forced to work a day after childbirth, their babies on their backs. Wholesale massacres were common.

The fact that these outrages were perpetrated by a presumably "civilized" nation—Belgium was a leader in the arts and manufactures of the time—outraged public opinion and Leopold was forced to punish the criminals.

CONGO EXPLOITED

During World War One the riches of the Congo were exploited to great profit of Belgium, although that country was occupied by the Germans. In the Eastern Province of Katanga some of the world's deepest copper mines were dug. Since then, uranium and radium have been discovered in quantity.

of the wealthiest small nations in the world. The Congo itself benefited nothing. Belgium built no schools nor roads nor other amenities except those necessary to production. It refused to train natives for government. White officers led the native armies.

The knell of doom for colonial powers began to be sounded during the depression of the early nineteenth thirties. Great Britain, Belgium, France, Holland and Italy began to get rid of their colonial acquisitions one by one. They simply couldn't afford them.

(To be Continued)

Spingarn to Represent NAACP At Nigeria's Independence Day

NEW YORK — Arthur B. Spingarn, veteran president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will represent the Association at the ceremonies marking the birth of the new African nation, Nigeria, on Oct. 1.

The NAACP Board of Directors at its regular monthly meeting on Sept. 12, designated Mr. Spingarn to represent the Association at Lagos, capital of Nigeria, where the ceremonies will

be held. With a population of 35,000,000 Nigeria will be the largest nation on the Continent of Africa and one of the largest within the British Commonwealth.

A noted civil rights attorney, bibliophile and world traveler, Spingarn has been president of the NAACP since 1939. He has long been interested in Africa. He will leave New York on Sept. 28 and will remain abroad for a month.

Women's Day at St. Mark Sunday

Sunday, September 25, has been set aside as Annual Women's Day at St. Mark A. M. E. Zion Church, South Roxboro and Pickett Sts. Mrs. Samuel L. Hopkins, a member of the faculty of Livingstone College, Salisbury, will be the guest speaker at the eleven o'clock hour.

at 3:30 p. m. A film and a fellowship hour will follow.
The Rev. Mrs. Dorothy Keith will deliver the evening message at 7:30 p. m.
The public is cordially invited to attend these services. Mrs. Minnie Alston is the general chairman of these activities. The Rev. R. L. Speaks is the pastor of St. Mark.

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