

Editorials

Continuing The Struggle

Like many others, we have observed with heightened interest since Martin Luther King's birthday a week ago on January 15 the tributes and recognition of this outstanding American. As a man who challenged injustice, who halted the evils of overt racism, who shattered the walls of segregation, who awakened a nation to the realism of its commitment to "...freedom and justice for all," and who rewrote

America's moral agenda, Dr. Martin Luther King has set the stage for America to achieve its potential as a democratic

Paradoxes In The Struggle

In response to an American news reporter's question about conflict between tribes in South Africa and their impact upon the anti-apartheid movement, Bishop Desmond Tutu offered a short course in American history.

Paraphrased, Tutu said, "Any disunity is deplorable. In your own country (United States), soon after the Revolutionary War you had a civil war. Furthermore, during the civil rights movement, there came a time when some said that Martin Luther King's movement was an anachronism. We are obviously distressed that there are any fighting factions in our midst. The government policy at Bantustans is precisely to us that old play of divide and rule.

First Things First

In a 30-minute documentary film about Jascha Heifetz, the noted Russian-American violinist, we observed that in preparing for a concert tour, he began his practice sessions that gradually increased in time over the hours, days and weeks until he and his violin had become merged as if into a single mass. Because he was so well aware that his concert success demanded absolute, total concentration and energy for successful preparation, nothing was allowed to interrupt the tedious practice sessions.

This master of his trade exhibited a basic rule of both secular and spiritual success in life. That is, the rule of putting first things first. This appears to be an appropriate first month of the new year rule to think about. It is appropriate too for a time

A Valuable Religion

Rewritten From
The Carolinian

The thought on the bottom of the church bulletin which read, "A religion that does nothing, gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing," capsulizes the unfortunate and unrealized potential within our community.

These four prerequisites, doing, giving, costing and suffering, are the basis of an effective and responsive practice of religion.

Churches are more than plentiful in our

society with true equal opportunity for all.

In King's own words, "In a real sense, America is essentially a dream, a dream as yet unfulfilled." Thus, for Martin Luther King's annual birthday celebration to have any meaning, and for any appreciation we care to offer in his memory, we must be aware and committed, individually and collectively, to the continuing struggle to uproot injustice and racism in any form, in any manner and in any place. To do less would be to suggest that Martin Luther King gave his life for a never to be filled dream.

The remarkable thing is that we are as united as we are."

This statement should clearly remind us of the difficulties is creating unity to oppose even a common enemy when you are committed to freedom and democracy. It is for this reason that one of America's Founding Fathers, Thomas Jefferson, said, "Democracy has in it the seeds of its own defeat." Thus, each of us who cherish freedom must learn to exercise democratic restraint - that is - be able to compromise some of our beliefs in the broader interest of unity with others with a generally equally strong commitment to freedom, democracy and equality.

shortly after our celebration of the birth of Christ because Jesus Christ gave us a gift for guiding our lives through the troubled waters of our human existence. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God...and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33)

A happy Christian or God-loving person is a person who is practicing the principle of first things first. A discouraged, trouble-prone and disorganized person is one who does not follow the put first things first rule.

Thus, God says to put Him first in our lives and other things will be granted to us. Therefore, success in other areas of our lives is fully compatible with the first things first rule. Let's make it a rule to practice in 1986.

midst.

With ministers, we are well supplied. Choirs richly abound.

But doing, giving, costing and suffering are much too scarce.

Doing is to a major extent limited to worship services.

Giving may be the experience of the membership at Christmas.

Costing is the pain of rising early for morning services.

Suffering appears solely as a biblical philosophy.

Miller Says

Insurance Industry Poised For Foreign Invasion

By Sherman N. Miller
Special To The Post

Recently, I had a conversation with Richard Pryor, a Wilmington, DE, city councilman, who revealed to me that the Catholic Social Services Incorporated of Wilmington, had placed their insurance with a foreign company because their premiums were doubled. Pryor's comments left me wondering if the stories of quantum rises in insurance rates foretell that Americans shall find themselves betting their lives, health, and property against foreign economic prosperity.

I called upon David N. Levinson, Insurance Commissioner of the State of Delaware, to offer me some guidance. Levinson painted a bleak picture for some commercial, professional and governmental groups seeking liability insurance.

"Some rates have not gone up 100 percent. Some rates have gone up 1,000 percent!" proclaims Levinson.

I asked Levinson what prompted these rapid premium escalations.

"Because insurance companies engaged - starting in '78 - in a practice called Cash Flow Underwriting," replied Levinson. "What



Sherman

they did was say, 'Look, forget about having to pay claims - that's years down the pike. We can now earn 18 to 20 percent interest on our money. Get those premium dollars in here. Cut the price! Cut the price!'"

He continued, "While many people are criticizing the insurance industry for doing this, I don't. Because if they hadn't dropped their premiums when interest rates were real high, everybody would have been screaming: 'Look at the earnings they are getting on these tremendous returns on invested income'"

Levinson believes that solvency of the insurance companies is paramount if people want protection when the need arises.

"There is one thing worse than an insurance premium



MRS. ROSA PARKS WHO REFUSED TO GIVE UP HER BUS SEAT

"IF I CAN DO MY DUTY AS A CHRISTIAN OUGHT, IF I CAN BRING SALVATION TO A WORLD ONCE BROUGHT, IF I CAN SPREAD THE MESSAGE AS THE MASTER TAUGHT, THEN MY LIVING WILL NOT BE IN VAIN, I'D LIKE FOR SOMEBODY TO SAY THAT DAY, THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. TRIED TO LOVE SOMEBODY."

Less We Forget

Dr. Martin Luther King's Non-Violent Protest Raised Conscience Levels

For the first time in its history, the United States celebrated a holiday honoring a black person - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Not only was a man celebrated, but the principles and dreams he believed to be inherent rights for all men and women were celebrated.

Dr. King was oftentimes referred to as a Dreamer. He was. His dreams told him that there was something far better than what he was seeing in the life styles of blacks in America. His dreams told him that the affluence enjoyed in America was too often enjoyed by one race and not all. His dream was not only of the improvement in the quality of life for black men and women but for all men and women.

The King tactics of non-violent protest raised the conscience levels of this nation and the world. The boycotts, marches and sit-ins strongly voiced that America could no longer exist as it had if it were to continue. His tactics demanded an intelligent reason why blacks and whites were to be separate -



Sabrina

of course, that was and is no intelligent reason, just the insecurities of a small population.

Blacks in America, with King, realized that separate was not equal. Parents had to deal with the fact that "colored" schools did not receive the new textbooks with updated information in them, mothers and fathers had to give lame excuses as to why the family could not eat or drink anywhere they so desired. Along with the segregation there was no segregation in accepting "colored" money. Shopkeep-

ers and merchants profited immensely from the people not allowed to break bread at the same table.

He was a dreamer, a dreamer who believed and knew segregated living was not the answer. If the money of the black man is important, then so are the rights guaranteed to all men. Separatism was undermining the basic principles upon which this nation was built. There was a great deal of disturbance leading up to King's tactics.

King was called a communist because he did not accept "white as right." White not being right is not a concept found in the handbook of communism. The concept of no man being more right than another is addressed several times in the Bible.

The "Drum Major for Justice," as King is often referred as, said to America that all must move ahead, command and demand - not a select few. King said, "We are caught in an inescapable network of morality, tied in a single garment of destiny, what affects one directly, affects all indirectly." What he was pointing out is that all must pull out of the network of stagnation and move into the mainstream to make a difference personally and collectively as a group. No one group can lead and the others follow. Everyone must strive to do something at which he can make a difference.

Not all men and women are to be major political, social or civic figures but if all make a conscious effort to do something positive for themselves and the community, in that respect all should strive to be drum majors - drum majors for different causes.

The national holiday was fought strongly along the way - it passed; just as King and his followers fought and now many battles during the Civil Rights Movement. Again King succeeded. His memory lives on and so does his dream. The struggle is not over for there are always elements undermining the basic aesthetics of the man's dream and humanity's rights.

Martin Luther King Jr. will not fade into history; he will live through the buildings, hearts and souls of men. His work for social change has affected the lives of all men and women - no matter how slightly.

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