Dr. William Rittenhouse

Astronauts' Pastor Was Former Revivalist At Pisgah Forest



DR. RITTENHOUSE

Baptist James Irwin Left A **Banner On Moon**

When Southern Baptist, Col. James B. Irwing blasted off from the lunar surface last month, he left a testi-mony for his church. It was a photographic copy of a ban-ner from the Nassau Bay Baptist Church of Houston, Texas. The first such on the moon, it was a witness for the Southern Baptist Church unique in church history.

Astronaut Irwin took two

These Days

Or - Behind The News From Washington By -

Does the fate of the ecology movement depend on the Right or the Left? The popsuperstition is that the bad corporations which supposedly claim a right to mp their industrial poisons into the sea and air, will be the ones to throw the werst roadblocks in the way of progress toward a clean enment. But the popular perstition could be wrong.

s a matter of fact, it is now our fellow citizens live." the Left that contends the ccologists may be overdoing things. No ody would ever call the Fabian Society of Great Britain a conservative organization. It was the Fapian Society that gave such radical luminaries as George Bernard Shaw and H. G. Wells their first importand political platform in the early years of the century. Sidney and Beatrice Webb, who were Fabian socialists, handed England its marching orders toward collectivist Welfarism by popularizing the slogan, "the inevitability of gradualism." And when Jack London and other U. S. radicals formed the first Intercollegiate Socialist Society in America, it was under Fabian influence and with

With this history in mind, I was astounded to come across nething called "Fabian Tract 404 for a social demoentic Britain." The tract is dite toward the ecologists. It says that "in the long run, we can produce quieter air-craft engines, pollution - free cars, clean rivers, safe pesti-cides, effective waste disposal." Then the tract goes on to make the ease for growth. In the name of such things as employment for the working man and good fun for the masses, the tract points to certain gung-ho ecolots and remarks, "We must, beware of some of our friends" who "wholly neglect the economic case . . . parts of the conservationist lobby would do precisely this."

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The tract charges those whom nator Jackson in America calls the "ecological extremists" with being "hostile to growth in principle and indif-ferent to the needs of ordinary people." And then comes the rea class - angled thrust. The rea class - angled thrust. The tract accuses the all-out section of the conservationist lobby of having "a manifest class bia." It reflects "a set of middle - class and upper - class value judgments. Its champions

John Chamberlain are often kindly and dedicated people. But they are affluent and fundamentally, though of course not consciously, they want to kick the ladder down behind them. They are highly sleective in their concern, being militant mainly about threats to rural peace and wildliife and well - loved beauty spots; they are little concerned with the far more desperate

problem of the urban environment in which 80 per cent of

The tract is particularly bitter about some "revered pundits of the day" such as Professor John Kenneth Galbraith, and it hits out at the "doomwatch journalists" who have "had the run of their lives in the last twelve months." It scorns one particular roomwater for proposing towns in which only horse - drawn vehicles would be admitted. The doomwatcher in question, a certain Professor Mishan, who is unknown to me, would welcome "an enormous reduction in the demand for foreign travel." "Yes, indeed," so the tract remarks, "the rich would proceed in leisurely fashion across Europe to the Mediterranean beauty spots they could park their Rolls-Royces and take to a boat or a horsedrawn vehicle. As for my constituents, who have only a fortnight's holiday, let them eat cake and go back to Blackpool."

The writer of Fabian Trac! 404 makes the good point that only a growing Gross National Product will yield the tax money to clean up our rivers and our air. And he wonders why it is so terrible for his constituents to enjoy eating fish and chips on previously secluded beaches. He cannot accept a view of the environment that is essentialelitist, protectionist, and anti-growth.

Nor can Senator Henry (Scoop) Jackson, who thinks ecology must not be permitted to stop economic expansion. Jackson happens to be labor leader George Meany's candidate for President. American labor already has a Fabian attitude toward ecology. We can expect a more vigorous defense of the environment from the industrialists, who are already allotting research and development funds for improving the water and freshening up the air.

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James Irwin Day

The banner included a picture of the church and the slogan, Things Happen at Nassau Bay Baptist Church;" the inscription, Our prayers go with the crew of Apollo It;" the crew members' names; and the sign and the server of the church on an present at the church on an earlier Sunday designated

At the invitation of another astronaut in his congrega-tion, Lt. Col. Bill Pogue, the Reverend Rittenhouse was present in the V. I. P. viewing stand at Cape Kennedy when Irwin and the crew of Apollo 15 left the earth for the moon

Former Local Revivalist

A copy of the now famous

copies of the photo with him to the moon. One was left there as the unusual testimony and the other was returned to earth to be copied and given to church members.

James Irwin Day."

banner has been received her by Mr. and Mrs. Parker Pace of Rt. 3, Brevard. Mr. and Mrs. Pace became acquainted with tenhouse, pastor of the Nassau Bay Baptist Church and former wartime pilot himself. gah Forest Baptist. They have since staved in contact with the

> respondence. Rev. Rittenhouse's modern church is near the Manned Spacecraft Center at Houston, Texas, and is the home church of Astronauts Irwin and Bill Pogue as well as many other

people active in the space

former flyer - minister by cor-

Daughter To Be Raptised

On the James Irwin Day," at the church, the astronau gave his testimony four times
—three times to Sunday School assemblies and once before the entire church, according to a story in the "Biblical Record-

Dr. Rittenhouse is scheduled to baptise Col. Irwin's 10-year-old daughter, Jill, on October 24th. The youngster made her profession of faith on "James Irwin Day" honoring her father.

Pisgah Forest Lions Club Has Annual Family Outing

The Pisgah Forest Lions Club gram, called "Moments to Reon Aug. 24.

The Lions and their families Poole. toured the Eye Screening van which screened approximately 300 preschool children's eyes in Transylvania County in the past two weeks

After the meal, a musical pro- County.

held their annual Family Night member", was given by Mrs. on Aug. 24. Ronnie Daniels, Mrs. Charles Hudgins and Miss Barbara

Lions Ray Burgin and J. I. Ayers were visitors from the Brevard Lions Club. Lion Ayers reviewed the work of the Eye Screening Van in Transylvania



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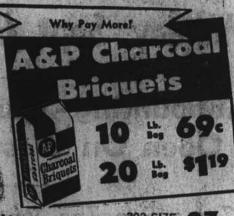
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