

Impressions Of An Open Hearing

We have not been greatly pleased with the open hearings which a group of congressmen have insisted upon having. Senator Morse and others, have been badgering away at those responsible for the conduct of the war on the plea that the public ought to know. We do not know the real motivation of these inquiring senators, but we have little respect for their judgment. For, as they let the American public know, they also let our enemies know. More important, they reveal what the American people, at least a minority of the people are thinking, which at the same time give to the enemy one of his most powerful weapons—knowledge of divi-

ons and political maneuvers and close looks into the American mind. This insistence on the part of senators and newsmen have the effect of giving aid and comfort to the enemy, and serves the American people poorly. We sometimes wonder why the Communists employ spies when they can learn about all that they want to know through news media.

If the men who are now so bitterly criticizing the President and those who are doing the fighting, had the responsibility and the power to act, they would be singing a different tune. Their questions do not impress us with a sense of their sincerity or patriotism.

Some Old Things Should Be Preserved

Of course, the present is a new age, and changes in some areas need to be made; but there are values in moral and spiritual things which never change. There is, for instance, the matter of honesty. We have just been reading of cheating by students, and their doing so, it was discovered reflected the moral standards of their homes. Brought into court, the parents defended their children's actions.

That situation is widespread. Business ethics are not based upon the Biblical standards, but upon means and methods of succeeding in a world of competition which recognizes no moral obligations.

At times we stand appalled at the silence and inactivity of the "good people" as they face practices in areas of crime, and in transactions which violate the moral and ethical principles embod-

ied in the Scriptures. Reports from corporations reveal greater and greater profits; at the same time the millions of consumers pay increased prices. Higher wages demands create the same situation. One group puts pressure upon another group, which in turn must put pressure upon another, and we have a merry-go-round on which we all ride—and all of us suffer.

The methods thus employed, with its lack of reverence for human life, ignore or defies the moral and ethical principles in which we profess to believe. Old fashioned honesty get an indulgent pat on the back and a knowing smile which says: "Of course, you are nice to look at, but you won't work in business."

And that is why we are in the mess that we are in. While we think that we are breaking laws with impunity, we are, in truth, breaking ourselves upon them.

It Is Winter

After the most wonderful fall and early winter that we have seen in years, winter comes upon us in full blast, with snow, sleet, and high winds. Oldsters do not welcome winter as do the youngsters. It is their time, when the vigor and exuberant spirit of youth meets the challenge of winter, with sledding and skiing and other winter sports.

Winter is a time when nature seems bereft of life. Trees are bare, and their branches wind-swept. But even there is a beauty, and hidden in the earth, life is just waiting for the breath of spring, and the warmth of the summer to bring that life out in the greenery of the forest, and the bloom of flowers. Winter is always accepted and lived with in hope and faith of spring and summer to come.

We have thought much about winter in recent days, because it seems to

have its counterpart in human experience. There is a winter in all of life, and indeed a time of darkness for those who have no faith and hope of coming spring and summer. Sickness, death, sorrow, hurt, tragedy appear in life. At the moment we are living in the winter of Vietnam, and the everpresent danger of world war and the destruction of two thousand years of achievement. We have been trying to prepare for this kind of winter with every kind of implement of war, but it is becoming increasingly doubtful that this is the kind of preparation to meet this kind of winter. The President, and other leaders, are making every possible effort to meet this situation with reason rather than guns. We may be too deeply involved now to find a peaceful solution; but, let us have faith and hope, along with our best efforts for peace, that spring and summer will come.

Religion In The Here And Now

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so carry out the law of Christ.

What is the Church? And what is its mission? Theologians in all ages have been trying to define it, and their definitions have settled in dogmas as standards for human behaviour. These dogmas have, and do, contain much that is good also, they preserve and transmit much that confuses and hinders the real work of the Church. The real nature of the Church and its mission is very simple because it is rooted in the needs of man and the willingness and power of God to meet those needs.

The only way in which a man can fulfill the law of his own nature is to give of himself to others, and in turn receive help from others. This is the law of mutual reciprocity, a law which is written into the universe and in man. The Church was created by God in Christian is bound to share his life with others. If his neighbor is ignorant he must share his knowledge—which means that every child in a Christian community must have the opportunity for education, and employment enabling him to earn a living. It means that the Church itself must become a redemptive force, through love and self-sacrifice. No matter what the race, color, or natural origin, those who have wealth, talent, or power must use all to life those on lower levels to higher levels of thought and life. Feelings of kindness, love, sympathy must be translated into action—and this kind of sharing with Christ is costly.

Jesus Christ, that is a purposeful and mutual interchange of life, both the individual and society might attain a fullness of life.

It is a fact that no man liveth or dieth to himself. We are so made that we need each other. God gave Christ Jesus, and Christ gave Himself that man might be redeemed. Christ Established His Church to carry on His work and be a redemptive force in the world. So, the Christian, by nature, and by the command of God, must become a part of Christ's own redemptive work. This means that the individual and the Church as a society divinely endowed, must share, not only the benefits which Christ bestows upon us, but His witness to the truth about God's nature, and man's need for redemption.

This Week's

60 SECOND SERMON

By
Fred Dodge

"WE PUSH FOR PROGRESS WITHOUT PUSHING PEOPLE AROUND." — W. V. S. Tubman.

Adult education is being emphasized over the nation. In a rural area a supervisor of education visited a class and asked the oldest what progress he was making with his reading.

"I'm comin' along right peart," explained the old man. "Now when I comes to a road sign I can read how far, but not where to."

Progress is a natural goal for man. We find no fault in it. However, progress suffers from what men try to do with it too often we thrust progress on others because we believe it will be "good" for them. We may make a tragic mistake.

"Think" Magazine described the contrasts in modern Liberia; ultramodern buildings, schools, hospitals, banks, hotels, mixed with tin-roofed shacks, age-old smells, garishly-robed men and "statuesque women balancing staggering loads on their heads with airy lightness." Of this, Liberian President William V. S. Tubman said, "We push for progress without pushing all the people around. For those who are already happy, there is no hurry." This thinking, combined with placing the advantages of progress before his people makes a smooth, peaceful transition into progress without the shocking collision and pain of progress forced by law.

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



WASHINGTON — Reapportionment of State legislative bodies continues to arouse Congressional feelings which began in 1962 when the Supreme Court broke the long upheld - precedent against Federal involvement in representation problems.

Since then Senate debate has been recurring with major Court implementations of the original decree. In 1964, following the party national conventions, the Mansfield-Dirksen reapportionment rider was offered to the foreign aid bill. That effort to halt court orders on reapportionment ran into a Senate filibuster and no action was taken. Subsequently, Senator Dirksen and others introduced S. J. Res. 103 on August 13, 1965, and that bill is presently on the Senate calendar after another filibuster stalemated it last fall. The Dirksen proposal would amend the Constitution to permit the States to apportion one legislative house on a non-population basis, subject to approval or rejection state-wide referendum.

The battle over reapportionment will probably be a major legislative issue again this session. There is a general feeling that the Court went too far in setting up its "one-man, one-vote" rule for State reapportionment problems, and that the Federal courts have fulfilled the prophesy of

Hon. The Implementation of A "MODEL" PATIENT

Los Angeles — Doctors at the County General Hospital are getting a "real" dummy to practice on. It will breathe, and have pulse and heartbeat, besides being sensitive to varying doses of ten different medicines. The "patient" will be created under a \$280,000 grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

A reader in Plympton, Massachusetts, writes that the three ages of man are youth, middle age, and "How well you are looking."

Indeed the idea of "one-man, one-vote" itself was challenged in a dissenting opinion by Justice Harlan in the Gray decision. He said that the idea has "never been the universally accepted political philosophy of England, the American colonies or the United States". He commented that this concept overlooks the need of rural areas to have a voice in government.

When all is said, however, other problems confronting Congress are likely to work against Congressional action on reapportionment. Considering all the factors involved, it is difficult to believe that any Constitutional Amendment in this field will pass at this session.

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