

ESTABLISHED JULY, 1936

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PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY

YANCEY PUBLISHING COMPANY

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT BURNSVILLE, N. C.

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1967 NUMBER FORTY-SEVEN

SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$3.00 PER YEAR

OUT OF COUNTY \$4.00 PER YEAR

## Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

I have about reached the conclusion that what this Country needs is to get rid of one Heck of a lot of our "do-gooders". Not only our Governmental brand but particularly the kind who write the syndicated articles for newspapers all over the USA. Quite recently, I read an article, two, as a matter of fact, by one of our better known and more readable columnists, who, properly, has gained quite a following. I'm writing about Jim Bishop. He's the chap who wrote the Lincoln's Last Day, Christ's Last Day, President's Last Day, and many other tomes.

In that type of a book, you must make allowances for a bit of truth-stretching and author-interpretation. His book on Lincoln was, on the whole, accurate and most readable. The book on our Savior, well, let's face it, it was an impossible task for any author. Actually, it was a confession that the material just was not available to a researcher so, Mr. Bishop compounded the various facts of which we are all aware, then he presented them in dialogue form between non-existent people, as if he had a pipe line to the actual scene on the actual occasion. No complaint if — I say "if" — he had presented it as a fictional work. But he didn't. He attempted to palm it off as a researched set of facts. As a result, it was not a good book, nor was it good reading, because it left you with a sense of emptiness. He had not furnished what you had a right to expect.

On his book about a day with President Johnson, a much better reviewer than myself by stating that with friends like Bishop Johnson didn't need enemies. This volume was one of the most uninteresting "who-cares" volumes anyone ever read. His latest, well, it's just a compendium of the newspaper clippings, only not as well written. All of this, I could have withstood, but, now his column, which I always liked, has taken a different slant.

Not too long ago he wrote one about his mother-in-law. It gave the impression that he was going to praise the old gal but, after you got into it, you realized he was ripping her to shreds. Now anyone, male or female, who has ever married, has hundreds or even thousands of gripes, all legitimate, about a mother-in-law, but, to put it down in writing for money, seems to be a bit on the crass side. That was the article that made me wonder if my favorite columnist had changed. All of

my doubts were settled on that score when, in the latter part of June when I was up in Maine, I read his "do-good" article on Negroes in Harlem, the gigantic colored section of Manhattan in New York.

As a younger man, I worked in Harlem as a Federal Investigator, and I know the area and the people. Bishop really phoned on this particular article. He described Harlem as a "torture." Then he stated that 35 years ago, when he lived there, "we didn't have the gray slant of rain then." Just what a gray slant of rain would be, I frankly don't know. I do know that if they have one now in Harlem, they also had it 35 years ago. Then, he waxed poetic. He wrote, of his recent visit, "There was a moon over the clotheslines. And gin. And watermelon laughter." Now, all of us have seen a moon over a clothesline but gin—I don't believe it. As to watermelon laughter — I don't get it. As to its being over a clothesline, I don't believe it. After a few more lines that impressed me that Harlem used to be pretty good for the colored brother he tells me that all of that "misery has been traded for despair." Then he tells me that heroin is delivered by balloons attached to a bicycle, which, on the face of it is ridiculous. Besides, I don't care too much for people who use heroin. His finest and, to me, most non-understandable statement was "The gray rat will learn to work an automatic elevator." If you understand it, please don't explain it to me. Next he goes into some balderdash about one Negro here and another placed here or there in a big job, but—he states "This country is still white Protestant. It pits 90 percent against 10 percent. The 10 percent cannot win—"

From his research, Mr. Bishop must know that this Country is approximately 25% Catholic, 5% Jewish, and 70% Protestant. He also should know that the 10% of the population that is Negro is about 95% Protestant. So I fail to see how he can blame the Protestant population of our Country for the Negroes' plight. I will not believe that our Country ever lines up on any proposition on a 90-10 basis. We are too big to generalize. We have too many degrees of any side mentioned: rich and poor; Republicans and Democrats; capital and labor; white and black; Catholic and Protestant, etc. If Bishop doesn't know that a lot of Protestants voted for Catholic Kennedy — he is hopeless. Bishop is a "do-gooder" I can do without.

## Veteran's Information

EDITOR'S NOTE: Below are authoritative answers by the Veterans Administration to some of the many current questions from former servicemen and their families. Further information on veterans benefits may be obtained at any VA office.



## Hearing On Parkway To Be Held

WASHINGTON — U. S. Rep. Roy A. Taylor has announced that a hearing has been scheduled for 9:45 a. m., July 28, on his bill and companion bills to extend the Blue Ridge Parkway at Atlanta.

The hearing will be before the National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee. Taylor is chairman of the subcommittee and will preside.

Witnesses will include Congressman Taylor, Phil M. Landrum (D-Ga.) and John V. Davis (D-Ga.), through whose Congressional Districts the extension would pass and who are co-sponsoring the legislation.

Others expected to testify in support of the proposal include federal departmental speakers, Governor Dan Moore or his representative, and representatives of several Western North Carolina development and promotional organizations.

Rep. Taylor said, "the extension should be authorized by Congress without delay so that the states of North Carolina and Georgia can proceed to acquire necessary rights-of-way before prices increase further."

A report submitted to Congress in 1963 in which the extension was strongly recommended estimated its cost at \$87,536,000. Taylor has stressed that construction can be funded from already authorized annual parkway construction appropriations and would not necessitate any increase in present nationwide parkway construction spending.

Q — I was divorced from a veteran a short time ago. He is now in the hospital and is unable to make his payments to support our two children. Can I get VA payments toward the support of these children?

A — If your husband has more than a 30 percent service-connected disability, and if he is receiving compensation payments because of it, you should contact the nearest Veterans Administration office and discuss your case with representatives there.

Q — Can the burial expenses of a wife or child paid by the veteran be deducted from his income for pension purposes?

A — The expenses of last sickness and burial of a wife or child paid by the veteran pensioner can be deducted from his income for the year in which they are paid.

## TWO MINUTES

WITH THE BIBLE

BY CORNELIUS R. STAM, PRES.  
BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60635

TITLE: FROM DEATH TO BIRTH

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever" (1 Pet. 1:23).

We are prone to think of death as following birth. People are born to live their lives and then die.

Spiritually, however, it is the other way. St. Peter, by divine inspiration, says that we must be "born again" because:

"All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away:

"But the Word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (Vers. 24, 25).

This new birth is a spiritual matter, necessitated by the fact that by nature men are "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1). Thus believers are not born again in the same way as they were first born, but are born again—given new life, by believing the Word of God.

God's Word, in this passage, is called "incorruptible seed"—seed that cannot die. Once the Word takes root in one's heart, once he believes and receives it, it never dies, but produces in him "everlasting life."

"The Word of the Lord endureth forever, and this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (Ver. 25).

The Word of God takes root in one's heart only as, he believes the gospel, the good news, about Christ's redemptive work. Peter himself proclaims this wonderful gospel:

"... Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... but with the precious blood of Christ..." (1 Peter 1:18, 19).

"Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree..." (1 Pet. 2:24).

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God..." (1 Peter 3:18).

Believing this good news dead sinners are "born again."

## CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Store
8. Moved through water
9. Portion
10. Billiard stroke
12. Throes
13. Straighten (var.)
14. Black
15. Snaps
16. East by south (abbr.)
17. Affirmative vote
18. Water god (Babyl.)
19. Unaffected
22. Low islands
24. Not in vogue
25. June bug
26. Petty quarrel
28. Hoarders
31. Land measure
32. Equip with men
33. Exclamation
34. A candlestick (Bib.)
37. Poker stake
39. Once more
40. Not silently
41. Unloads
42. Swiss capital (poss.)
43. Comfort
44. A gun sight

DOWN

1. Chinese province
2. Quantity of yarn
3. Carousal
4. Footlike part
5. Frighten
6. Skin mark
7. Operatic melody
8. Zoo inhabitant
9. Enemy scouts
11. Flat-topped hills
15. Secondary
17. High (mus.)
20. Extinct bird
21. Place
22. Distance measure of India
23. Before
25. Clamor
26. Dinner course
27. Czech capital
28. Insane
29. Spherical
30. Lean-tos
32. Minister's house
35. Mother
36. Apple seeds
37. Not windward
38. Girl's name
40. Warp-yarn

Answer

