

WORDS OF WORSHIP

We have heard ministers say many times that "the Grace of God is sufficient to maintain us." The basis for this statement can be found in the Book of Acts (Acts 17:28): "For in him we live, and move, and have our being." This assures man that his God goes ahead of him and protects him from all evil, but at the same time the Grace of God is "subsequent" as one writer states it. By "sub-

sequent" Grace, our God surrounds us with his every protection to overcome in the face of obstacles. The God of Grace urges us on and backs us up with his support. This is not achieved by some miraculous power, but rather God gives each of us rational minds to look ahead as well as reflect backward to evaluate our accomplishments.

Editorial Viewpoint

Why Do Men Resist Progressive Change?

It may seem that our youth are quick to adopt the changing habits in dress, hair styles, and social behavior. The adults talk about going back to the good old days.

Conservatism is prominent in many areas of activity in this country. In the Congress of the U. S., the U. S. Senate values highly the out-moded system of the "filibuster" which should have been abolished at least 50 years ago to make our lawmaking more responsive to the demands of the times.

States find it difficult these days to provide a reapportionment plan because of the reluctance to make changes in district organization as well as in the will of the constituency.

Faculties in our colleges and universities are often afraid to make changes in curricula, methodology of teaching, and classroom management. The new demands of the educator do not make many responsive to the need for the "trial-and-error" approach to learning, for fear of failure.

We come now to the main point in this editorial. Why do our lawmakers persist in clinging to an antiquated and obsolete balloting method of electing the President of these United States? If a young freshman lawmaker dares to challenge the existing legislative structure, he is sure "to be ploughed under" in ignominious defeat.

Our Congressmen are aware of the shortcoming of the electoral college approach to electing the President. Yet, Congress itself refuses to budge an inch to make the needed change. Congress must be waiting for some outside force to start the ball rolling in order to devise a more progressive method of electing our highest political officer in the land.

If our Congress is waiting for a push,

Let's Make Social Security Better

Ever since Social Security began years ago, it has been the target for criticism. When Medicare came up, it got another violent lashing from the critics and doctors.

No one will deny that the intent of Social Security is good and humanitarian. If true, then why not work to make the program better?

It is well known that Social Security payments have been provided for citizens in their old age. The need for this has been admirably expressed by President Johnson who recently remarked: "Too many senior citizens have been left behind by the progress they worked most of their lives to create."

To provide greater benefits for people when they retire, a proposal has been made to increase the cost to the worker during his active life. In general the Congress of the United States is in agreement, because the objections are minimum to say the least.

If you doubt there is need for increased Social Security benefits, let us take a look at some statistics. Of the 19,000,000 people over 65 years of age considerably more than 5,000,000 have incomes below the poverty level; 2,000,000 are living on welfare, and almost two out of every five in-

dividuals have assets of less than \$1,000. It is imperative, therefore, that the people in this group receive higher benefits because it is both desirable and necessary.

For instance the sharp increase in taxes which both worker and employer will be required to pay into the social security system is apparent. These increased levies were noticeable on January 1, and we can expect them to rise rapidly within the next decade.

Citizens earning \$6,000 this year will pay \$290.40 in social security payments to the government. Furthermore, there are no deductions in computing social security assessments which work a hardship upon young and poor couples with growing families. It is estimated that by 1974, the tax would be \$599.40 on incomes of \$10,800. This compares favorably with the one per cent tax when social security first came into being—in the year 1937.

The analyst may question whether today's generation is willing to subscribe to higher benefits for the aged citizen, while at the same time placing a greater tax upon future generations. The politicians will emphasize the two horns of the dilemma that must be resolved to the mutual satisfaction of all.

Now, here is a word of encouragement for any others who feel thus. May we suggest that you try the following prayer?

Heavenly Father, I deeply regret that I cannot undo the wrongs of my past life. They are many. But if thou wilt forgive and purify my heart, I will (by thy help) do what I can to righten those wrongs, to make apologies and restitutions and to lead a new life of complete devotion to thee. This I humble ask, trusting the merits of Jesus Christ, who died for me; for thou hast said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37).

and it gives us hope that the Negro is seriously thinking of going into big business. Big business will make the Negro rich and will bury him in wealth if he doesn't watch out.

By giving local Negro citizens franchises, they can own their own supermarkets, operate them at a profit, and thereby gain dignity and a "chance to become a part of America's free system of enterprise."

If other racial groups control and operate big chain stores, why can't the Negro?

Negro-Owned Supermarket Chain Is Planned

Good news has come to us that a firm is being organized to establish a national chain of Negro-owned supermarkets to be started in 20 key cities in the nation.

Herman T. Smith of Norfolk, Va., president of the new corporation (Jet Food Corp.) told a news conference that the first supermarket will open in Baltimore about the first of May this year. It will be named Super Jet Food Market, and others will be started in other places.

This talk about big business is intriguing,

Some Laws Just Don't Make Sense

On the spur of the moment, who would voice an opinion against a person who fed hungry birds?

Yet, a San Francisco new anti-pigeon law (ordinance) led to the conviction of James A. Schroeder whom the court found guilty on a charge of illegally feeding the birds—pigeons. He was sentenced afterwards.

While in court, Schroeder, a wildlife enthusiast, had testified that he was merely feeding some blackbirds when a bunch of pushy pigeons shouldered through the chowline and helped themselves.

We are aware of the nuisance that can often be created by pigeons in a business area. What bird fancier can insure that pigeons will not come to feed when one intends to feed blackbirds, sparrows, rob-

bins and what have you?

Perhaps Mr. Schroeder loved pigeons, too, but he was aware of his chance to win his case if he admitted it. Was not his argument of "pigeons filtering through the chowline logical"? Did the court prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Schroeder was not telling the truth?

Rats, insects of all kinds, wild ducks, roaches, and so on can create hazards of immense proportions. But do we have anti-laws against epidemic of rats grass hoppers and the like? Are not there other ways to get rid of pigeons without making it unlawful to feed living things created by the Almighty?

The San Francisco anti-pigeon law is ironical to say the least!

Only In America

BY HARRY GOLDEN

THE YELLOW PERIL

Around the turn of the century, William Randolph Hearst and Senator Hiram Johnson of California used to talk about the menace of the Yellow Peril. The Yellow Peril was China and she was perilous because she reported cheap labor to America. Our first immigration laws were drawn against Orientals. All America used to worry about the Yellow Peril.

We are still worried about the Yellow Peril.

China is tough. China is truculent. China wants to start a world wide revolution and make the globe 100 per cent communist. The prospect frightens us.

This fear has reached such absurd proportions that a few years back, when the Chinese announced they were going to make steel in backyard furnaces, we had computers counting their potential tonnage.

I know of one steel man who laughed at this prediction. His comments appeared in the Wall Street Journal, but the rest of the country took the whole threat seriously and there were economists who urged American labor unions not to demand raises in view of this frightening prospect.

China says all these things because she is OUT and everybody else is IN.

It is all right for Kossygin to talk peace and sign A-Bomb pledges. He is IN.

China is no different than the political candidate who is OUT. The hawks, for instance, say of China, "Let's clean them up." They say of Cuba, "Let's get in there and straighten out the mess."

Which is precisely why China says such things. We insist she has hundreds of millions of people who are expendable, but during her recent famine, China was paying gold for the wheat from Canada to relieve hunger. Obviously she did not want some millions of her people to die if she could help it.

China had the compass, the wheel, geometry and printing long before the West, but she did nothing with them. Shall we fear she will be any more effective with industrialization?

China reminds me of the prize fighter, Harry Wills. Tex Rickard, the boxing promoter, was determined never to stage a heavyweight match for the title between a white man and a Negro, but he could never say this publicly. Harry Wills therefore won acclaim as the man Jack Dempsey was afraid to meet. Harry was a good man, but never even half as good as Dempsey. He made money on personal appearances but when he fought he was unimpressive in victory and little by little he disappeared from the scene.

We think we understand the Chinese but in truth we make of them too much or too little. Either we conceive of them as a nation of laundrymen, each Chinese dashing about with pigtailed flying, or we think of them as a sinister collection of Fu Manchus, each capable of dominating the world. Let's keep our powder dry but retain our perspective, our sense of humor, and our everlasting recognition of humanity.

Just For Fun

BY MARCUS H. BOULWARE

SHEEPSKINS

At Florida A&M University almost a hundred students graduated on Dec. 20, 1966. They were glad to get their diplomas or "sheepskins."

Maybe they got this name because diplomas were first made from Papyrus which once served the ancients as paper. Special documents were often printed on vellum, from calfskin or parchment from sheep skin.

BILLBOARD PROPOSAL

In case you didn't read it in the newspapers, in Salt Lake City, Utah, young man proposed to his girl friend by means of a bill board.

During a two-week period, Nadine Wiseman drove to work and read this sign: "Nadine, I love you. Will you marry me?" Garth.

The girl accepted by writing on the billboard, "I accept."

The young woman said she saw the proposal for the first time on a local television news program. "I was shocked," she said.

That billboard sign must have cost the fellow a pretty penny, but no doubt he felt it was worth it. He put enthusiasm into his courting.

Yes, he did.

WEIGHING A SNAKE

At the St. Paul Como Park Zoo, a caretaker mounts a scale with a 16-foot python snake wrapped around him in order to get the snake's weight.

The python is an Asiatic variety who tipped the scale at 126 pounds -- that is, after subtracting the weight of the man who held him. If you have any ideas about being a zoo caretaker, you must consider seriously the dangers of the occupation.

"Me, with a snake wrapped around my body?" -- No... no... thousands times no. KISS, SAVES CAT

In Bournemouth, England, a Persian cat was recently revived by mouth resuscitation. Muschen, the cat, got stuck in a high rotting pine tree. A fire brigade tried for an hour to rescue him but could not since the ladders were too short.

A circus trapeze artist climbed the tree and lassoed the cat but the animal slipped through the noose and he fell hard to the ground. Muschen was revived by mouth to mouth resuscitation.

The next day, the cat was enjoying a rest, sipping milk laced with glucose.

Letters to the Editor

HOPE FOR THE DISCOURAGED

A friend of mine is greatly depressed because she cannot go back and live her life over again, leaving out the mistakes and sins and putting in their places, the many beautiful virtues that help to make a happy life.

Now, here is a word of encouragement for any others who feel thus. May we suggest that you try the following prayer?

Heavenly Father, I deeply regret that I cannot undo the wrongs of my past life. They are many. But if thou wilt forgive and purify my heart, I will (by thy help) do what I can to righten those wrongs, to make apologies and restitutions and to lead a new life of complete devotion to thee. This I humble ask, trusting the merits of Jesus Christ, who died for me; for thou hast said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37).

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When God answers that prayer you will be one of the happiest mortals on earth for He says, "thy sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." (Hebrews 10:27). Besides this, He will begin to plan a beautiful future for you -- one that you never dreamed possible. Mrs. E. E. Shelhamer 802 Park Avenue Winona Lake, Indiana 46590.

Feb. 14, 1967

To The Editor:

TEACHER RIGHTS

While the Legislature is considering a proposal to give the benefits of continuing contracts to teachers, another protection should be added, a protection against errors in professional opinions. The need for this protection arises when the superintendent raises a question affecting a teacher's job.

An investigation and a professional opinion by a larger group of the teaching profession would assure the correction of mistakes made by superintendents. This can be done by giving the Teachers Association the authority to visit schools and make investigations necessary for rendering a professional opinion by the Association.

With twenty-two years of teaching at one school upon the recommendation of superintendents, I know what teachers have to endure to be recommended by some superintendents and how unfair their judgments can sometimes be.

The Teachers Association opinion is a protection for the individual teacher and is also valuable information for guiding school boards in the election of teachers. (Mrs.) Verta Stallings Prigden Public School Teacher 307 Chestnut Street Weldon, N. C.

Unless You Forget... Merchants of Hate Are Still At Work!



Altar Call

BY EMORY G. DAVIS, D. D.

NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

"BABYSITTERS, NOT ANGELS"

Comic strip theology is quite the order of the day. One which appeared recently educed for me two reactions.

One: It's great that this media is being used to communicate religious thought.

Two: It calls the adult minds (if they read some of these comics) to re-evaluate their personal theology, especially that which they communicate to their offspring.

The case in point was "McGurk's Mob," which depicts the rigors of family life, especially larger families. One of the daughters, being tucked in bed by her mother, asks, "Do the angels watch over me when I'm sleeping?" Her mother answers, "Uh, huh."

The daughter goes on, "All day when I'm playing too!" The mother speaks reassuringly, "They're always watching over you dear." The daughter: "Then how come I need a babysitter?"

Without debating the subject of angelology--which for some is mere myth and for others some kind of ill-defined substitutionary force at work in the world (on special order and assignment)--the fact that a child can be sold a bill of goods on angels, when that child can reason that angels cannot replace babysitters, gives strength to the fact that a child can be sold a bill of goods on angels, when that child can reason that angels cannot replace babysitters, gives strength to the

fact that many of our progeny are not buying what we're selling about religion.

Then, there was Peanuts' Charley Brown some time ago, who was told around Christmas time that there was no Santa Claus. Charley promised to investigate "this business about a baby Jesus," too.

Religious myths continue to be passed along from one generation to the next. It is easy to recall those which many of us received from our parents, our grandparents. We were not allowed to challenge the authenticity of those religious "facts" they surveyed. Of times in the quiet recesses of our minds we hunk a question mark until we could find out for ourselves.

Tragically, many of today's youth, upon discovering earlier alleged facts to be myths, throw the baby out with the bathwater -- they discard all religion with the myths.

The solution to the problem of racial harmony and the contribution organized religion ought be making to it is thwarted because we are still encumbered by religious myth. Reality has small chance for survival.

Negro and white practitioners are both guilty. Perhaps we ought put some of these comic strips alongside the Bible on our Personal Religious Altar, so that our youth may discover the truth about man's humanity, in order to apply theological reality to our problems in human relations.

Athletics The Cure In School

When the late Branch Rickey decided that he was going to play Jackie Robinson in organized baseball evidently he solved the problem of racial mixing. This is evident here in Wake County when one attempts to appraise the progress of school integration.

It has been a long hard road to integration, under federal persuasion, but it is reported there has been a smooth general course in Wake County. The recent incident at Knightdale, where the foes of democracy burned a cross and are said to have poured kerosene into the well of a humble family, whose only offense is said to be some members of the household attended what is believed to be a predominantly white school, in Knightdale, tended to mar the appraisal.

The score is bettered when one takes a look at the schools where Negro athletes have shown their prowess there has been no bombings and no threats.

Fred Smith, Wake County School Supt., opines that integration has been accepted, and yet he cannot atone for the cross-burning in Isham High's yard and the threat to one of his neighbors.

The statistics show that only 3 percent of the Negro school population is enrolled in former-white schools. They also show that 70% of Wake County school faculties have been integrated.

The survey is being made by Wake County School officials, allegedly, to meet federal desegregation guidelines, which will measure government aid in the 1967-68 school year.

Smith is said to have reported he anticipates "no trouble" in meeting guidelines next year, due to the fact there has been "significant gains" in integration.

Those who have kept in close contact say that if integration is to really come to Wake County, the Negro student must carry the brunt of the approach. The Negro athlete must bring unheard-of laurels to his school and bring prestige by his superior performance and then, and only then will, teacher, and student, and even parent, accept the Negro as an integral part of the student body.

The Negro student's ability to learn in best attested go by Smith when he says, "The performance of the Negro students has been surprisingly good. As a matter of fact I'm pure surprised."

Mixing Facts And Opinions

In his inaugural message, Ronald Regan, now governor of California said: "Government is the people's business, and every man, woman and child becomes a shareholder with the first penny of tax paid. With all the profound wording of the Constitution, probably the most meaningful words are the first three. "We, the People," Those of us here today who have been elected to constitutional office or legislative position are in that three-word phrase. We are of the people, chosen by them to see that no permanent structure of government ever encroaches on freedom or assumes a power beyond that freely granted by the people. We stand between the taxpayer and the taxspender."

According to the National Federation of Independent Business, Inc., "The seemingly present day . . . public be damned" attitude of labor monopolies is apparently no more palatable than it was when expressed by monopolistic industrialists around the turn of the century."

A good requirement for all public officials would be the following as outlined by J. Edgar Hoover for FBI personnel: "Selection of personnel is a primary key to effective operation in any organization. We feel that our personnel do not work for the FBI, but rather we consider that they are the FBI. Our recruitment and selection program is, therefore, calculated to enlist employees of fine quality -- men and women who have a capacity for growth. The Agent applicant in particular must meet rigid physical and educational requirements; he must have a real interest in a career of service, and his private life must withstand the closest scrutiny."

George Hagedorn, economist and vice president

of the National Association of Manufacturers says "... if we are to avoid subjecting the economy severe inflationary strains, we will have to settle for somewhat less rapid growth than we have been used to in the recent past. According to these projections, our potential growth in the remainder of the 1960's will be only about three-quarters as rapid as our actual growth in the decade so far."

Said Maurice Stans at the 71st Congress of American Industry, "We don't have to reverse or reconsider our federal programs on a wholesale scale, we merely have to hold them back a bit. We don't have to set the clock back to 1896, we simply have to slow it down while we close the three year lead that spending has gained over revenues. We don't have to veto progress we merely have to abandon the 'crash' psychology that we can solve all human ills by massive doses of instant money."

R. Conrad Cooper, executive vice president-personnel services of United States Steel Corporation believes there is little evidence of true collective bargaining being practiced today. He observes: "Instead, we see a succession of massive power plays. In my opinion, such tactics are heading us in a direction which endangers both collective bargaining and the competitive free enterprise system of our country."

Portland General Electric Company predicts that, "To provide America's electric energy needs by the year 2000, the electric utility industry plans to build the equivalent of seven additional power systems, each equal in electric energy size to all that is serving the American people today."