

## RELIGION and RACE

BY NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

**OPERATION LISTEN**  
WEST POINT, Miss. - "Operation Listen," a joint project of the National Council of Negro Women, and the United Presbyterian Women, has completed its initial phase of a program to stimulate dialogue among women of different races and cultures. The interracial, international group of 30 women recently spent a week in the northeastern counties of Mississippi, "listening to the people of Mississippi--both black and white--and translating the problems of Mississippi to those back home." One of the stops made was at Mary Holmes College.

### HOME

NASHVILLE - The Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR) has selected Nashville as its headquarters city, according to the Rev. James M. Lawson, Memphis chairman of the group. Among the reasons given for selecting Nashville were that it is located in the South and Black staff members can provide a "supportive fellowship."

### CRISIS EDUCATION

NASHVILLE - A program of "Crisis Education" has been approved by the United Methodist's Program-Curriculum committee. The aim of the program is to "mobilize all educational resources of the denomination to reach, enlighten and motivate United Methodists to deal with the nature and causes of racism in the U. S."

### ANOTHER "CRISIS"

NEW YORK - Not to be outdone by the United Methodists, the Office of Church and Society, Division of Church and Race, and the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations have formed a task force of "Crisis Interpreters" to be ready at the next general assembly of the United Presbyterian church, to "give authentic and articulate expression of the nation's racial and inter-cultural realities." The "interpreters" consist of six Black members, one of whom is chairman of the group; 13 Spanish-speaking members; one American Indian, and a South African.

## MEDITATION

A SERMONETTE  
BY COLN DOUGLAS

"I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more." -- Jer. 31:34.

If you are a person who finds it difficult to forgive, you need to turn your thoughts more to the presence of God, and let His love fill your heart and mind. Give yourself and the situation that troubles you to Him, and you will find yourself able to forgive and forget every wrong.

When you keep turning over in your mind the memory of some hurt or injustice in the past, you are closing your mind to the forgiving love of God. You harm only yourself when you withhold forgiveness, for you are being disobedient to the laws and principles of the Father.

When the forgiving love of God fills your heart it wipes away from your memory all thought of the harm and injustice that another may have done to you. It prompts you to forgive and to forget everything that has been making you unhappy.

Love is the only power, for all that is not loving is not for God, and therefore has no power. Keep love, instead of resentment, in your thoughts -- and this will keep peace and harmony within you and about you.

As we remind ourselves of the spiritual power of God that is ours to share, as we change our thoughts from hurt and resentment to thoughts of love and tolerance, we gain a sense of freedom in mind and body. We see those who have wronged us in a new light, as children of the one Father... just as we are... equally beloved by Him.

"Cast thy burden upon Jehovah, and He will sustain thee; He will never suffer the righteous to be moved." -- Psalms 55:22.

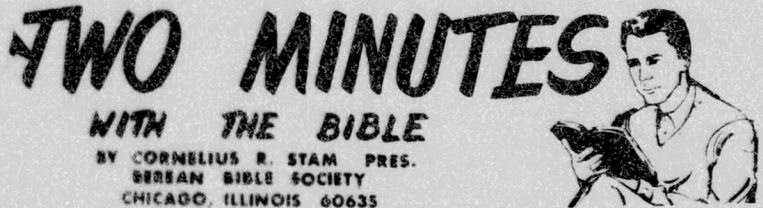
of New Orleans, will personally conduct an interdenominational pilgrimage to the Holy Land this summer. The pilgrimage is expected to depart from New York on July 14, and the tour will officially begin in Athens, Greece, followed by a full week in the Holy City, a visit to Istanbul, thence to Rome, and Switzerland, before returning on Aug. 4.

### Way Back When

In '862--the first year of Internal Revenue--total tax collection was 37 million dollars. Today, North Carolina collects that much every three days.



**PRIESTS PAINT CHRIST WITH BLACK FACE** - Detroit: This is a black-painted statue of Christ at the Sacred Heart Seminary here. On the first day of the Detroit riot, three men armed with a bucket of paint came to the grounds of the seminary and painted the face, hands and feet of the statue black. A group of white men repainted it twice but Megr. Francis X. Canfield, head of the Roman Catholic institution only a few blocks from the eye of the riot, felt the community would prefer a black Christ. So he and the priests in the seminary twice painted the face black again. (UPI).



### OUR ONLY BOAST

"God forbid that I should boast, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..." (Gal. 6:14).

St. Paul was once a proud Pharisee, smug in his self-righteousness. In Phil. 3:5,6 he lists some of the things in which he took such pride:

"Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless."

But everything was changed since that day when the Lord appeared to him on the road to Damascus. Suddenly he had been himself a lost, condemned sinner in the sight of a holy God and had tasted the matchless grace that could reach down from heaven and save even him. He knew now that he could not stand before God in himself, or "on his own

two feet," as we say. His only safety, before the bar of God, was to take refuge in Christ--as he says in verse 9:

"And be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith."

Now he knew, as we all should know, that he really had nothing to boast of as far as his own standing before God was concerned. For the rest of his life, however, he did constantly boast of one thing: the cross, where the Christ he has so bitterly persecuted had died for his sins that he might be justified before God. This, too, is really the only thing we have to boast of and the most godly saint will enthusiastically join Paul in saying:

"But God forbid that I should boast, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me and I unto the world."

## Gospel Singer Found Murdered At His Home

CLAYTON, N. J.-(NPI)-Gospel singer William Austin has been found stabbed to death in his home.

Austin, 38, whose "Austin Singers" had performed at hundreds of Churches all over the East Coast, had always played the organ for services at the Evergreen Baptist Church, Palmyra, N. J.

But one Sunday, he was missing. This led two of his sisters, Ruth and Lucy Austin, and a family friend, Louis Ricketts, to look for him.

Going to his home, they found his living room in a shambles. Apparently, Austin had put up a

terrific struggle before his assailant drove a sharp instrument through his heart.

Police had no leads in the mysterious slaying. Evidently, robbery was not a motive. All police knew was that Austin was probably driven to his home the night before his death by an unknown party.

### Rev. H. R. Perry Holy Land Tour Head

NEW ORLEANS - (NPI)-The Most Rev. Harold R. Perry, SVD, Black auxiliary bishop

### Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"I wish to report that summer pledge collections are running a little better than usual; which is, of course, none too good."

# An investment in Your Future ...ATTEND CHURCH

## BAROMETER for the FUTURE

Webster says that a barometer is an instrument measuring the weight or pressure of the atmosphere, foretelling and measuring changes of weather and altitude.

If God were to place a barometer on our lives, would we be cold, lukewarm, or on fire for the Lord. The past we can not change... the future is up to us.

*"... what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul."* ATTEND CHURCH REGULARLY

The Church is God's appointed agency in this world for spreading the knowledge of His love for man and of His demand for man to respond to that love by loving his neighbor. Without this grounding in the love of God, no government or society or way of life will long persevere and the freedoms which we hold so dear will inevitably perish. Therefore, even from a selfish point of view, one should support the Church for the sake of the welfare of himself and his family. Beyond that, however, every person should uphold and participate in the Church because it tells the truth about man's life, death and destiny; the truth which alone will set him free to live as a child of God.

Coleman Adv. Serv.,

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