". . . No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of the citizens of the United States . . ." 14th AMENDMENT U.S. CONSTITUTION

The Nativity

According to St. Luke 2:1-20
—(Revised Standard Version)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled.....

This was the first enrollment, when Quorinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each in his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered.

* * *

AND SHE GAVE BIRTH to her firstborn and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

"And this will be a sign for you; you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

* * *

AND WHEN THEY saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary kept all things, pondering them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Why Just A Babe

By FRANCES RAY

Nearly 2,000 years have passed since the birth of our Christ but we still celebrate His birthday as though He were a babe.

Why this unusual treatment?

It never occurs to us to celebrate George Waschington's or Lincoln's birthday in such a manner. Instead we proclaim their great deeds and leadership.

Their ideals and devotion are studied and exemplified. All the great leaders of the world are hailed as the men they were when they were at the top, all but Jesus, that is. We forget that they were even babes at all.

So why do we keep Jesus a babe in our worship, when He is truly King of the World, and King of Kings?

Why don't we adore that King on his birthday according to His majesty and power?

A Man courageous and gracious enough to be crucified for our sakes. A Man kind and loving, patient and understanding. A Man ready to forgive and ready to help, a Man who reached greater maturity and divinity than anyone has ever achieved and through our God healed many who suffered from disease and affliction.

He is on His throne in Heaven. It is to this throne we should approach to worship Him at Christmas time, in awe at His great majesty and love.

The birthday of our King! We need to think of Him as a King, not a babe. We need to raise our voices in His praise and with thanksgiving that God has given us this wondrous gift.

And when we have raised Him up, He will return unto us to remove the evils from the earth.

Lincoln Made South A Christmas Gift

(From McPherson's History of the Rebellion)

In 1863, during the great Civil War, Southern white pastors in "an address to Christians throughout the world by the clergy of the Confederate States of America" declared:

1. That "the war proposes to achieve restoration of Union, something which cannot be done by violence."

2. "That separation of the Southern states is universally regarded by our people as final, and the foundation of the Confederate states government as a fixed fact," making restoration of the former union impossible.

3. President Lincoln's Emancipation of the slaves "is in our judgment a suitable occasion for solemn protest on the part of the people of God throughout the world."

4. The war against the South has achieved no good result and "we find nothing in the present state of the struggle that gives promise of the United States" accomplishing anything good by its continuance."

5. Moral and religious interests of the South ought to be appreciated by Christians of all nations.

"We regard abolition of slavery as an interference with the plans of Divine Providence. The Bible says: "Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and His doctrine be not blasphemed."

This address was signed by the leading white Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists and Episcopalians of the South.

President Abraham Lincoln's Christmas gift to the South in 1863, was an order through the War Department authorizing agents of the church in the north to take over all places of worship pastored by disloyal ministers.

Southern churches protested but Mr. Lincoln's Christmas gift was effective. White rebels claimed under the Constitution they had to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. The War Department went further and in at least one case compelled a church to display the American flag.

Central Methodist Episcopal Church, South of Baltimore, discontinued services rather than obey this order.

A Christmas Message

God comes to us at Christmas; we do not go in search of Him! This we know when we believe that Christmas really happened. If Christ is Saviour and Lord, then He is always coming to us, seeking us, reaching out to us. We have only to turn and open our hearts and there He is.

When someone asks how can we keep Christmas in such a world as this, what do we say? We say that it was into a world like this that Christ was born; in fact, it was this very world. It is not the circumstances of our lives but the coming of Christ that makes us joyful.

Do we have a sense of expectancy as we celebrate Christmas? Or do we make a brave effort to be gay and try to bring before our eyes for a time the picture of the manger, the Mother and Child, the shepherds and the angels and wise men?

If you have tried, then you know how such a picture always seems unreal. The picture fades, as figures on a screen in a theater fade, because we are not involved; those figures recreated in our imagination never move toward us and take us into the action.

To keep Christmas is not to go in search of what is called "The Christmas spirit"; it is to know that God in Christ is forever moving toward us, calling us to be His people and to do His will.

We hear the cries of the suffering and the homeless and the persecuted and God will not let us turn them away. He is drawing us to Himself that His care for all men may show itself in our lives.

ARTHUR LICHTENBERGER
Presiding Bishop

Ageless Archie Moore

Father Time and Satchel Paige are going to have to move over. They'll need to make room for Archie Moore.

Even the bewhiskered gent with the scythe could have learned a thing or two had he been watching the grand old man of the prize ring the other night.

Never in his annual conquests with Dan Cupid has he been able to upset the hour glass as did the ancient Moore when he came back from four knockdowns to vanquish the brash youngster named Yvon Durelle.

Twice in his nearly 50 years of life, Ole Archie has had shots at the coveted world heavyweight crown. Both times he failed, bowing to opponents almost 20 years his junior.

Two hundred and five times during that same span, he has met up with men of all ages, colors, sizes and nationalities. And more often than not, he has proved himself their master.

Archie never quite made it as king or the heavyweights, but there is none to dispute his ranking as one of the sports world's all-time champions in durability.

Hail Queen Althea!

Althea Gibson, for the second consecutive year, has been ranked No. 3 among Amreican women tennis players.

The ratings released by the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association do not become official until they have been approved by the association at its annual meeting Jan. 17 in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

There will be no further challenges of Miss Gibson's proved supremacy. She has done too complete a job of dominating the competition to be denied top recognition.

Actually, Miss Gibson clenched the title last summer when for the second year she won both the Wimbledon and the United States Women's Championships. There are no higher tennis peaks to conquer.

We add our congratulations to hundreds of others Althea is deservedly receiving and wish her a long and happy reign as tennis queen.

Magi—Priests Or Kings?

The Magian religion existed anciently in Persia. They had temples, in which were kept perpetual fires.

The priests of the Magi being the only learned mathematicians and philosophers of the age in which they lived, the term Magian became synonymous with learned men.

The Wise Men, or Magi, who visited the Christ Child at His birth, were probably Persian doctors, or perhaps princes, as the philosophers were frequently of royal bood (Matt. 2:10).

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in Heavenly peace.
—JOSEPH MOHR

A Christmas Gift Thousands Would Welcome

WHAT AFRO READERS SAY:

I wholly disapprove of what you say but will defend to the death your right to say it—Voltaire on Helvetius

'SO WHAT?'

Greensboro, N.C. — An AFRO story stated in a recent issue that "There were no colored children in Our Lady of the Angels School in Chicago where three Nuns and 87 children died and 90 others injured."

"So what?"

Who should be concerned about color in such tragedies?

Couldn't all persons who are concerned with human suffering sense the anguish and pain that the parents, children, loved ones and all persons concerned must have felt?

We defeat our own best interest and the whole Christian ideal if we act or permit our press to publish articles which reflect a lesser concern on the part of those who do not belong to a particular group as such.

The extent to which we progress toward a world brotherhood depends upon the unbiased love and concern on the part of each individual.

Certainly the broader view will lead us to turn to God Almighty to comfort the bereaved and distressed without the slightest reference to color.

Perhaps I would not have been so struck had it not been at the time when so much is being said about the whole problem of segregation, and especially with regard to our school system.

DORIS M. LEAKE

SOUTH'S NEW REBELS

Richmond, Va. — The tide of rebellion is strong in the South. The rebels of the middle 19th Century rebelled against the Federal Union and this resulted in war.

Here we are in the middle 20th Century and again the South is rebelling against the United States. If the current rebels have their way international chaos is inevitable.

Happily there are in the South those who are rebelling against the leadership of these representatives of the Old South, who would undermine the nation by undermining the integrity of the Supreme Court.

The current issue of a national magazine has a heartening article on the young rebels of the South who place the nation first and race prejudice second. Moreover, they are willing to stand up and be counted.

The time when the elders did the thinking for the younger generation has long since past.

The young people are not only capable of making their own decisions, but they are willing to defend these decisions with a course of constructive action commensurate with democracy and Christianity.

GORDON B. HANCOCK

WESTERN LIBERALS ON TOP

New York — The election of two Democratic senators from Alaska, despite a strenuous campaign by Vice President Nixon, brings to 19 the number of Democrats from the Western states.

The number is one less than the Democratic senators from the former Confederate States.

While most, though not all, Southern Democrats are so conservative that they vote with the majority of the Republicans on economic issues and always vote against strengthening civil rights for racial minorities, the Western senators are sound liberals on civil rights, economic issues and foreign policy.

One reason for the success of the Democrats in the Western States is that the voters understand the hypocrisy of the Eisenhower-Nixon call for governmental economy.

The Republican administration is eager to save money on domestic policies like better relief for unemployed, federal aid to education, more funds for housing, or for research to combat cancer or other diseases.

But the Republican administration is willing to give way to private corporations or the states far larger sums than what they are trying to save on expenditures for social welfare.

The give-away of the very rich undersea oil reserves, the give-away to private companies of valuable dam sites and the give-away to timber and mining companies of Indian land, all show to Western voters, who are on the spot and know the facts, that while trying to reduce expenditures of public funds for social welfare purposes the Republicans are willing and eager to give away the financial interest of the public in oil reserves, dam sites to generate electric power, and timber and mineral reserves.

ALFRED BAKER LEWIS

I ENJOY THE AFRO

Chicago — I had to read the lonely hearts column before I could find an address for your newspaper. Nowhere else does it appear?

I enjoy reading the AFRO very much.

FRANK KUBOTA

(Editor's Note: The address of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers appear on p. 1 in advertising box, p. 2, in the masthead; the Lonely Hearts column, the Happy Birthday column and several other magazine columns.

REGULAR AFRO READER

Augusta, Ga. — I buy an AFRO every week and I have learned a lot since I've practiced reading it.

Southern newspapers don't print anything important about colored people. The only news about colored people southern editors see fit to print has to do with crime — mostly killing and stealing.

My solution to opening the closed schools in Arkansas and Virginia is two-fold.

First, the President should order the closed schools open.

And second, if they are not opened on his order the President should order the Justice Department to jail the school board and/or governors, who ever is responsible, and open the school with troops like he did at Little Rock.

UNSIGNED

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Spartanburg, S.C. —The spirit of Christmas is with us — in every home and street, binding and tying every individual closer.

This is the season for togetherness, the season for tenderness and the season for smiles.

Let's give birth to the new year with love, and in memory of the old year, may we give thanks for our many blessings. For if we count our blessings we'll find that they always outweigh our sorrows.

Er warm embrace on Christmas day

Can give and bring a brighter way.

For in memory we can live through days and nights of plight.

DANIEL W. COLLINS

A TRAGIC FACT

New York — Our colored American children in the South are still facing mob violence. It is a tragic fact that they may still have to go to school under the protection of bayonets.

This is a time of great strife where organized hatred among a few has run rampant and the few impose their rule of violence upon many.

During this crisis we feel more responsible than ever to aid the children who need us most in the southern communities.

While this struggle finds the most dramatic expressions in the classrooms of the South and the courtrooms, nevertheless we recognize the great importance of the approaching Christmas holidays.

We hope, with the people's cooperation, to make Christmas 1958 the best and happiest the children of the South have ever had.

For certainly, at this point their parents can do very little.

KENNETH B. CLARK,
President,
National Committee for Rural Schools, Inc.

GIVE TO NAACP

NEW YORK — When the history books are written about race relations in the United States in 1958, this could easily be labeled the year of Faubus.

The Faubus year has seen a new high in the calculated sharpening of group tensions.

Irresponsible persons, emotionally stimulated by examples of the defiance of authority by big officials, have resorted to rioting and dynamiting.

Yet it may be that, with all its shocks and shames, the year of Faubus will mark the turning point toward sanity, decency and justice in human relations.

Will you aid the forces of law and order and constitutional government through the purchase of NAACP Holiday Seals?

This is one of the ways the NAACP raises funds to carry on the crusade.

No matter how heavy the cost, we have to pay our way through the courts, because the NAACP is dedicated to winning equality for the colored people within the framework of the Constitution.

Any contribution you make for human rights will be deeply appreciated.

LENA HORNE

LET 'ER GO, SAM

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—Secession threats by southern democrats, hurled anew at last week's Washington conference of national committeemen, could easily exhaust the patience of Democrats elsewhere in the nation.

The northern and western Democrats, or matters of civil rights, have sided with National Chairman Paul Butler, who has said that if the Southerners want to secede, that is their affair.

What concerns many, including West Virginia Democrats who attended the conference and approved its pro-Butler action, is the extent the secessionists may go.

Will it stop with, say, a third party?

I say if the Southerns want to quit the union rather than obey the law of the land, then the rest of the country should paraphrase the popular song and say to Uncle Sam as he hopes to keep Miss Dixie from threatening or starting to leave:

"Let 'er go, Sam, let 'er go, let 'er go!"

A READER

HE IS GRATEFUL

PHILADELPHIA — The article AFRO printed concerning Cardinal O'Hara was excellent as the tribute paid His Eminence who is grateful for your kind sentiments and sends you his sincere thanks.

E. R. BURNS

THOUGHTS OF THE FOUNDER

The number of resolutions that will be made next week will only be equalled by the number of those which will be broken in the weeks to follow.

John H. Murphy Sr.
Dec. 30, 1905 edge."

My Favorite Quotation

If you have not often felt the joy of doing a kind act, you have neglected much — and most of all yourself. — A. Nielsen.

(Submitted by Mrs. Ethel Blair, Hamlet, N.C.)

DECEMBER 1958

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
-	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	-	-	-

Last Quarter	Dec. 3 8:24 p.m.
New Moon	Dec. 10 12:23 p.m.
First Quarter	Dec. 17 6:52 p.m.
Full Moon	Dec. 25 10:54 p.m.
	Sun Rises Sun Sets
Wed., Dec. 24	7:11 a.m. 4:17 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 25	7:11 a.m. 4:17 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 26	7:12 a.m. 4:18 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 27	7:12 a.m. 4:19 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 28	7:12 a.m. 4:20 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 29	7:13 a.m. 4:20 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 30	7:13 a.m. 4:21 p.m.

HOLIDAYS AND HOLYDAYS
Dec. 25 — Christmas Day
Dec. 28 — Holy Innocents' Day

The Weather

Dec. 24, 25 — Snow
Dec. 26, 27, 28 — Cold
Dec. 29, 30 — Fair and Cold.

Capital Spotlight

By Louis Lautier

'A Christmas Carol' Given Lautier Plug

Shortly before Christmas each year every male grown-up should read Charles Dickens' beautiful story of Christmas, "A Christmas Carol." It's one of the finest pieces of English literature to get one into the Christmas spirit.

The opening Christmas Eve scene sets the tone for whats to follow. There was old Ebenezer Scrooge sitting in the counting house of Scrooge and Marley. Jacob Marley, had been his partner for many a year.

Scrooge was coldhearted. The countinghouse office was cold. Every time his clerk got a piece of coal to put on the fire, Scrooge threatened to fire him.

Into this desolate scene burst Scrooge's nephew.

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS, uncle! God save you!" cried a cheerful voice. It was the voice of Scrooge's nephew, who came upon him so quickly that this was the first intimation he had of his approach.

"'Bah!' said Scrooge. 'Humbug!'"

But the nephew took issue with the uncle.

"'Christmas a humbug, uncle!' said Scrooge's nephew. 'You don't mean that, I am sure.'

"'I do,' said Scrooge. 'Merry Christmas! What right have you to be merry? What reason have you to be merry? You're poor enough.'

"'Come, then,' returned the nephew, gasly. 'What right have you to be dismal? What reason have you to be morose? You're rich enough.'"

* * *

THE NEPHEW asked Scrooge not to be sour.

"'What else can I be,' returned the uncle, 'when I live in such a world of fools as this. Merry Christmas! What's Christmastime to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older, but not an hour richer: a time for balancing your books and having every item in 'em through a twelve-month of months presented dead against you.

"'If I could work my will,' said Scrooge, indignantly, 'every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas' on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart.'"

In the exchange the nephew gives his idea of Christmas.

"'THERE are many things, from which I might have derived good, by which I have not profited, I dare say,' returned the nephew. 'Christmas among the rest.

"'But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas-time, when it has come around—part from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that — as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys.

"'And therefore, uncle, though it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe that it has done me good, and will do me good; and I say, God bless it!'

THAT EVENING, in Scrooge's chambers, Marley's ghost appeared.

In the conversation with Marley, Scrooge told the Ghost that he, Marley, was always a good man of business.

"'Business!' cried the Ghost, wringing its hands again, 'Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence were all my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!'"

Before leaving, the Ghost told Scrooge he would be haunted by Three Spirits.

The first was the Ghost of Christmas Past, who took Scrooge to the scenes of his childhood and young manhood, including the ball at the Fezziwigs on Christmas Eve.

THE SECOND of the three Spirits was the Ghost of Christmas Present, who took him to visit Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's clerk, whose son, Tiny Tim, was a cripple. In the visitation, after dinner with the family gathered around the hearth, Bob Cratchit, proposed "A Merry Christmas to us all, my dears," which all of the family reechoed.

"God bless us every one!" said Tiny Tim, the last of all.

The third Ghost was the Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come, which showed Scrooge the effects his death has upon those who knew him.

Scrooge awoke transformed on Christmas morning.

"'I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future,' Scrooge repeated as he scrambled out of bed. 'The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me.'"

HE SENT a goose for Christmas dinner to Bob Cratchit, he himself had Christmas dinner with his nephew, and the next morning at the counting house he raised Cratchit's salary, "and to Tiny Tim, who did not die, he became a second father.

"He became as good a friend as good a master, and as good a man, as the good old city knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough, in the good old world."

A Merry Christmas to everybody!

"... and it was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge."

From The Work Bench

By Clarence Mitchell

Segregation Creeping Back

A cute system for getting around regulations against racial discrimination is becoming more evident in the armed services. This must be nipped in the bud and those responsible deserve a prompt reprimand.

After a long struggle, the NAACP and other interested organizations succeeded in ending racial segregation in schools on military posts. Even in Georgia those schools that are on government property are attended by children without regard to race.

Things are different in areas where the children of military personnel are sent to schools off the post. In such situations the same old pattern of segregation that has marred the lives of servicemen for years is still in effect.

* * *

SOME GOVERNMENT officials have been concerned about the existence of the segregated school pattern, but few have done anything to diminish it. On the other hand, the pro-segregation government officials have been very busy trying to maintain and extend segregation in the school program.

One of the boldest examples of the segregation clique in action comes from the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama. There the segregationists have accomplished the transfer of a sizeable parcel of land to local school authorities and it will be the site of a new building. The colored children will be barred because of race.

An ironic touch is given to the Redstone matter because it is there that programs of space travel and intercontinental missles are being considered. Some of the top planners in these programs are scientists who were once working for the Nazis.

* * *

OF COURSE these scientists are now on our side and it may be that they were unwilling captives of the Hitler program at the time they served under the swastika. Nevertheless, it is a fact that the products of their laboratories accomplished destruction and took lives.

In a spirit of forgiveness and with a practical sense of putting their minds to work for the free world, our country has given the scientists of Nazi Germany a warm welcome and a place of trust. All of this is very commendable and true to the spirit of religious teachings.

It must be a source of concern, however, to the maimed or bereaved in the United States and in Europe that the former enemies of the American people are now being given better treatment than those who have always been loyal, are citizens and even now are standing ready to make further sacrifice for their country.

A WHITE WAR widow or gold star mother in Alabama might very well wonder why it was necessary to lose a loved one in a war with a German white supremacy bloc if the doctrines of that bloc are now being officially approved by the U.S.

Perhaps some of them might think it would have been simpler to let Hitler alone with his racist doctrine in Europe while Alabama continued to practice its doctrines of hate at home.

Colored widows and gold star mothers in Alabama have an extra burden. They had great reason to question their sacrifice during the days of complete and open segregation in the armed services. Now it appears that the progress which followed is endangered by the same group that has always put segregation ahead of patriotism.

Report From Europe

By Ollie Stewart

A Merry Christmas To All

PARIS — Once again it's a pleasant Christmas with a Merry Christmas to one and all — to readers of this space, to people who have taken time to write frequent letters throughout the year, and to those who have recently snowed me under with cards! May this Yule season be the best of all!

This year, by reason of world-wide interest and possibilities, a very special gathering goes to Edward and Prime Minister Nkrumah. Shortly before this was written, the Ghana Prime Minister and Prime Minister Azikiwe, of Nigeria, sponsored the well-publicized Pan-African Congress, which was attended by political and economic representatives from all over Africa.

Interest in the Congress was heightened by the recent merger of Ghana and the new state of Guinea—so much so that observers from the USA and several European nations were on hand to watch the proceedings. Merry Christmas, Africa.

BACK TO PARIS, and a Yuletide welcome to Baldwin W. Burroughs, director of dramatic arts at Spelman College, Atlanta. Candidate for the Ph.D. at Western Reserve, Cleveland, Ohio, Burroughs arrived in Paris December 8 and stays until January 3, doing research at the national library on Pierre Corneille, for his dissertation.

And now something personal as well as pleasant. All kinds of good wishes to the many visitors who during the year have inscribed their names in my Golden Guest-book. This means that they have visited my abode, taken away a gift, and scribbled their names for future reference.

The list is much too long to be copied here, but a few high spots are chosen for my sincerest greetings. First how goes to Dr. Martin Jenkins, president of Morgan College, who signed the book first and with his wife became the shop's first American customers.

ADMINISTRATIVE greetings to other heads of schools: To Presidents Gore of Florida A. and M., Clement of Atlanta University; Procter of Virginia Union and Attwood of Kentucky State. With the exception of President Gore, they all visited Russia this summer.

Medical best wishes to nurses Relva Bransford, Flowers Fifth Avenue Hospital, NYC, and Polly Johnson, of Brooklyn; to dentists Edward J. Johnson and Walter D. Webb, of Detroit; and to surgeon Aubre Maynard, chief of the surgical staff, Harlem Hospital.

All the best to Col. Chapple James, and James C. Evans, of the Pentagon, in Washington; to Robert C. Grigr, probation department, NYC court of general sessions, whom I had not seen since he was a student in Hampton; and to Chatwood Hill (nee Homer Smith), who was going home early this year for the first time in 25 years.

Ala. Ministers Call Bull Connor's Bluff And Get Away With It, Too

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Twenty courageous ministers on Sunday defied arrest and preached sermons advocating a boycott of segregated buses.

In doing so, the clergymen openly challenged Police Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Connor who has threatened to arrest anyone advocating such a boycott.

One reason for his failure to arrest the ministers is believed to be the pending Federal grand jury investigation of the arrest of three Montgomery, Ala., ministers in Birmingham.

The announcement was made by U.S. Attorney General William Rogers.

The dramatic appeal was made from the pulpit in the town where the Rev. C. W. Woods had been arrested for preaching against segregation on Nov. 28.

Commissioner Connor said that he could arrest all the ministers if he wanted to.

* * *

THE REV. F. L. SHUTTLESWORTH, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, protested the assignment of plainclothes white policemen to church services.

"I am going to preach against segregation, even if I have to end my sermon in jail," the preacher said.

"We must end segregation. It is a sin to help the bus companies practice the sin of segregation," he added.

"On Nov. 28 the police arrested the Rev. Mr. Woods for advising his followers not to ride the buses. He had refused permission for police to attend a meeting of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights.

"We will continue to preach what God tells us to preach, even if those who speak against such evils as segregation are threatened with arrest in violation of the Constitution which gives us freedom of worship and freedom of speech," the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth declared.

THE INTEGRATION leader, who is under conviction of violation of Birmingham's bus seating laws, said that Paul was arrested for preaching and Jesus was crucified on the cross.

He said nothing will stop Birmingham's ministers from preaching the truth.

"City Hall is not going to tell us what to preach. Bull Connor has a gospel. And God has a gospel.

"Segregation by law is a sin, because it charges a man with a crime because of the color of his skin. No Christian should be made to sit in any different place than any other Christian.

"You sin when you yield to the bus company's sin of segregation."

* * *

THE PREACHER also told his congregation that "I urge you to stay off the buses until this sin is removed.

"I call upon you to use passive resistance to defeat this evil."

The Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth also said that the people must refuse to cooperate with evil, whether it be on the buses or elsewhere.

"We may have to suffer for doing right," he said, "but nonviolence accepts suffering."

During another meeting, the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth said that some 40 or 45 children would soon apply for admission to white schools.

* * *

THE PREACHER and 12 other persons have been convicted of violating Birmingham's new segregation law, which is a subterfuge to continue segregation on the city's buses.

All are free on bond and have appealed the conviction.

* * *

THE 20 PREACHERS also signed a statement concerning the arrest of the Rev. Mr. Woods.

The statement says in part:

"We believe it (the arrest of the Rev. Mr. Woods) constitutes an unwarranted and illegal invasion of the inviolability of the Christian pulpit.

"The minister standing before his people is charged with preaching to them the Word of God as the Holy Spirit gives him utterance.

"He has the responsibility to counsel them as to what is right and what is wrong, what is in accord with and what is contradictory to the teaching and the Spirit of our Lord.

"No earthly authority has any right to interfere with the minister in the discharge of his duty. Once a breach is allowed here the whole concept of the separation of Church and State on which our democratic society rests, has been destroyed.

* * *

"THE REV. MR. WOODS was carrying out this duty when he preached against segregation. We declare our Christian solidarity with him in this action and on Sunday, Dec. 14, each of us is resolved to make this known to his people from the pulpit and to counsel them along similar lines with regard to concrete issues of discrimination and segregation confronting our community."

The 20 ministers signing the statement were:

The Revs. J. L. Ware, R. M. Joseph, C. H. George, Samuel Marshall, O. D. Jones, C. C. Welch, J. S. Phifer, J. W. Hayes, J. A. Hayes, A. L. Woods Jr., N. H. Smith Jr., M. M. White, C. H. Parker, F. L. Shuttlesworth, J. P. Parnell, Agee Hamilton, D. B. Todd, J. H. Stinson, Edward Gardner and J. C. Parker.

GIFT FOR SANTA—Charles W. Thomas, one of the two men from the National Zoological Park accompanying a herd of reindeer from Kotzebue, Alaska, holds one of them as they are presented to Santa Claus. A fellow worker looks on.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS seem to be in store for Philadelphia's Municipal Court Judge Herbert E. Millen and Mrs. Millen, pictured here seen, a teacher of White Plains, N.Y. Here, the couple admires a silver tray which was presented to the judge by the Mercy-Douglass Hospital board of directors which honored him at a testimonial luncheon at the Bellevue-Stratford on Friday. He had served as board president since 1948, retiring this year.

SCAD ruling irks Thurgood

NEW YORK — Thurgood Marshall, head NAACP counsel, Monday expressed concern over a preliminary ruling of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination in a recent case.

The case had to do with a charge by the American Jewish Congress that the Arabian American Oil Co. had refused to employ Jewish personnel.

Following an investigation, SCAD ruled on Nov. 10 that religion was a "bona fide occupational qualification" for applicants whose employment would require an entry visa to Saudi Arabia, a nation which bars Jews.

Mr. Marshall has asked SCAD chairman Charles Abrams permission to permit a member of his staff to appear at a rehearing of the case to argue for reversal of the earlier decision.

No Time For Romance

(An Editorial)

Apparently Evangelist Billy Graham, who has been rather outspoken on the attitude of Christians about race, has been listening to too many speeches by President Eisenhower and others who temporize on the desegregation issue.

Speaking in Clinton, Tenn. Sunday in the shadow of the dynamited Clinton High School, the world famed evangelist declared:

"We must recognize that love of mankind cannot be enforced by bayonets alone. The law in itself is powerless to change the human heart. Only love can do that and only Christ can bring that love."

Like many theologians Evangelist Graham has become hazy in his thinking and has gotten spiritual and temporal matters confused.

The question of brotherly love has nothing at all to do with the civil rights of colored citizens.

We dare say that all white folks do not love each other but this does not prevent them from eating in the same restaurants, frequenting the same hotels, theatres, occupying the same coaches and waiting rooms or sitting beside each other in the same schools and colleges.

We hear no tommyrot about forcing them to express their mutual affection at the point of bayonets and burp guns. It is only when colored citizens seek to enjoy these same rights and privileges that we are given a song and dance about the secret forebodings in men's hearts.

Let us confine the argument to the issue of citizenship as set forth and spelled out in the Constitution of the United States. What we want is civil rights, not romance.

READYING STUDENT UNION PROGRAM—A modern program of student union goes into effect at Morgan State College with the completion of the $300,000 Theodore R. McKeldin Student Union Building which will be formally dedicated Wednesday at 11 a.m. in Hurt Gymnasium with Gov. McKeldin as the guest speaker. Spearheading plans for the program is Mrs. Alice W. Parham, right, director of student activities. With Mrs. Parham are her secretary, Miss Audrey Blake, left, and the appointed assistant director of student activities, Mrs. Virginia B. Gunn.

THINKING OUT LOUD

Thinks there is too much hypocrisy at Christmastime

By RALPH MATTHEWS

WASHINGTON

BY ALL THE rules of reason the Christmas season should bring out the best in people, but by some odd quirk it has just the opposite effect.

Under the influence of holly wreaths and mistletoe which are prostituted by the merchant class out of sorts of shoddy junk, even innocent children are turned into first class confidence operators.

The but of all this deception and chicanery is usually the father or whoever the family breadwinner happens to be.

Under the sheep's clothes of assumed and temporary innocence during the final weeks before Christmas the old man is supposed to forget what little hellions they were all of the year and reward bountifully with anything their running little minds can dream up.

* * *

THE IDEA OF telling children "if you don't be good Santa won't visit you" is a shameful way to win obedience; it is only a form of bribery unworthy of an honest parent but it is cheap attempt to shift responsibility to some mythical character whom both parties to the arrangement know is phony.

To say "if you aren't good J'll whale the far out of you" would not only be more honest but would get quicker and more lasting results.

When I was a kid they used to tell us that the goblins were watching us from every nook and corner. It wasn't until I got old enough to have a family of my own that I discovered that whatever eyes were watcning around my house probably belonged to bill collectors looking for my old man instead of trying to keep me out of mischief.

* * *

THIS WHOLE thing boils down to which is the best technique for b-inging about discipline in the home—fear of punishment or the hope of reward? Viewing it strictly from an economic standpoint I would be inclined toward the former persuasion on the theory that a good switch is cheaper than a pair of skates or an electric train.

Besides I don't like the idea of putting good behavior on a cash and carry basis.

It doesn't pay off from the kids' viewpoint either because they soon discover that under the opiate of Christmas cheer the parents turn softhearted and give just as much to the family rascal as they give to the goodie-goodies.

I have never been able to figure out what there is about mother love which makes them shower their greatest devotion on the biggest scamp.

Of course, God was very wise in bestowing this penchant for forgiveness upon women. It has a way of leveling things off because if playing Santa was left to the father alone it would wind up with nobody getting anything.

* * *

THE PRACTICE of exchanging gifts seldom works out very satisfactorily either. No matter how cheap you try to be you always come away with the feeling that the other fellow got the better part of the bargain.

I have also had difficulty understanding why people who use fair to middling common sense most of the year can purchase the most worthless dinkts for Christmas presents. The more it costs the worse it is.

Most people believe that tying up anything with a piece of bright red ribbon gives it some special sanctity you are supposed to gush "This is just what I needed" if and when you can figure out what it is.

THE SCRIPTURE SAYS it is more blessed to give than to receive, but matters not how religious people pretend to be I have yet to find anybody who actually believes that particular part of the Bible.

Some folks use Christmas as a time to show off to their friends by out Jonesing the Jonesses.

I am never very much impressed when husbands and wives brag about the expensive gifts they gave each other. If it takes a Cadillac or mink coat to prove their affection there couldn't have been much love lost there in the first place. I like a woman who is just happy with a box of handkerchiefs as she is with a diamond necklace if it comes from the heart.

P.S.—I hope my wife reads this column between now and Christmas Eve.

AFTER OPENING ceremonies at the new Lexington Terrace Apartments, Fremont Ave. near Lexington St., Baltimore, the Beasley family have their own "breaking-in-ceremony" in the apartment where they will move at 755 W. Lexington St. Joseph Beasley is shown opening the door for his wife, Edna Mae Beasley. Mr. Beasley carries four-year-old Yvette and Barbara Ann, 5, is behind her mother.

Mayor presents keys to Lexington Terrace tenants

BALTIMORE

After Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro presented them with keys to their Lexington Terrace Apartments Monday morning, four families moved into their new homes.

They were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Johnson (Ellen), Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Beasly (Edna Mae), Mr. and Mrs. Norman Taylor and Mrs. Elsie Dorsey.

The tenants are at home 755 W. Lexington St., in an 11-story building, the first to be opened at the project.

During a brief outdoor ceremony, Walter Sondheim, chairman of the board of Urban Renewal and Housing Agency introduced the Mayor who was the first to congratulate the new residents after his presentation to them.

* * *

HE SAID: "It has always been my firm conviction that a good environment fosters good citizens.

"And that is one good reason why the official opening of this multi-story public housing project marks an important moment.

"I am sure these families who will move into this new project will make far greater contributions to the life of this community," he said.

Other members of the Urban Renewal and Housing Agency present included Mrs. Lena K. Lee, of the Board of Commissioners and Oliver C. Winston, director of the agency.

In keeping with the Christmas spirit, Mrs. Lee presented the "first and original tenants" with baskets of vibrant pink gladiolas, yellow chrysanthemums, red and green ornamental ferns and silver Christ.

BACK IN their first floor apartment, No. 1, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson greeted the first guests to their new home.

After selecting a window for their gift