

# PORTLAND INQUIRER

Published Each Friday

By  
Portland Inquirer Publishing Co.

1453 N. Williams Ave., Tel. EAst 4460  
Send mail to P. O. Box 3877, Zone 8

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NATIONAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE  
Intrastate United Newspapers, Inc., 545 Fifth Avenue, New York City and Chicago, Ill. Telephone: Murray Hill 2-5452

Rates by Mail: 6 month—\$2.50 One Year—\$5.00 in advance

## PUBLICITY URGED TO WIN PEOPLE BACK TO CHURCH

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Dr. Kinsey By the Rev. Frank C. Lowry.

N. Merritt of New York recently advanced the idea of publicity to win people back to the church, before a local audience.

"Let the public know a man can be a good Christian and still have a lot of fun in life," he said.

I think I have the doctor's point of view, for I feel I have the spiritual satisfaction and enjoyment to which he alludes; and yet I am not oblivious of the unsaved man's opinion of the average churchman, of whom he has been heard to say:

"I can't see much difference between us, for most of them apparently are doing everything I'm doing. And what's more, I do give my fellowmen a square deal."

Thus it appears that too many churches have too little to advertise and to much known about them by the man of the street.

Dr. Merritt also stated that "religion is really active and energetic, but most people don't know about it." He urged pastors to stress the "friendly side of the church and make it a place of welcome." And here he has struck a vital chord upon which we are both in perfect agreement.

I have always felt that the church has been too much on the "give me" side and too short on the "giving" end. Protracted begging, dinners, entertainments and fashion shows, for which the public must pay dearly, and especially for teaspoonsful of ice cream and microscopic cuts of pie, have done more to cheapen the church and lower her standard than anything else, save careless living on the part of its members.

What many churches are now offering as a pattern of the lowly Nazarene, who went about doing good, who lived and finally died for humanity, then silence is golden; but for those churches that are really emulating the spirit of the blessed Christ, too

much publicity by them cannot be given.

And I now offer as an illustration what I believe to be one of the most constructive, inspiring and convincing modes of church publicity I have ever known. This scene actually took place last October when a group of religious folk of a certain denomination sent invitations to citizens of the neighborhood to attend what they were pleased to call a "Party for Jesus."

A neighbor, not of the same denomination, who later admitted that she felt that type of people could not conduce to her comfort, reluctantly attended the affair only to be taken entirely off her feet. Her former thoughts were absolutely defeated and her adverse attitude crushed beyond redemption.

This trained, cultured and refined woman, Mrs. Glenner Laws, author of two books, now boldly states to her friends:

"It was a new revelation. They showed me more kindness, Christian courtesy, friendship and fellowship than I was able to conceive. They acted as if Christ were present as the guest of honor and listener to every conversation.

"Sandwiches of every kind and description were piled high and the finest of refreshments were in abundance at every turn—and free. They gave themselves as unstintingly to the joy and comfort of every guest. It was a night I shall never forget."

On Last Dec. 30, under the auspices of the United Friends of Youth, of which Mrs. Laws is an executive board member, the party in honor of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, was repeated to the amazement and delight of all.

This is the plan for publicity every church would do well to follow and the one to which I give my highest recommendation, endorsement and support. It bespeaks preparation of heart and reflects the noble characteristics of the blessed Christ, for which

## Lt. Col. Adams Cites Contribution

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Basing her address almost solely on the Women's Army corps and the contributions it made to the war effort, Lt. Col. Charity E. Adams, commanding officer of the 6888th Central Postal directory which recently returned from the European Theater of Operations, last week addressed the Morris Brown student body at the annual Founder's day program of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Lt. Col. Adams pointed out that the WAC was organized against much opposition, both on the part of congress and the regular army. She said that the worth of the women's unit had long been proved. Just as Negroes oftentimes are judged by one or two individuals, so were the WACs judged by some of the narrow-minded cases and attempts made to evaluate them on this criteria, the officer said.

Experiences encountered with the postal directory were related, commencing with the 40,000 packages that awaited the Negro WACs upon their arrival in Europe down to the delivery of Christmas cards through December. The officer praised the work of the WACs as members of the only postal service unit sent overseas.

There is no substitute.

In the language of Dr. Merritt, "the churches should be comfortable, where people will feel as relaxed and at ease as they do in a movie house or high-class theater," which has no comparison with the warmth of heavenly fellowship and the assurance of sincerity as experienced at these two parties. For at a movie or theater, however high class, there could be kidnapers hiding and hell-hounds of prejudice laughing.

Until the churches—white, black and of every color and creed—move humbly toward God for their every need, worldly men will never change their opinions about them, though millions may be spent for publicity. Christ still cries to a bewildered, war-torn, and distressed world:

"If I be lifted up from the earth, I'll draw all men unto me."



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## Medic Gets High Army Award

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz.—(ANP)—The army's highest non-combat medal, the Legion of Merit medal, was recently presented to Lt. Col. Harold W. Thatcher here for exceptionally meritorious performance of outstanding duties at Station hospital No. 1. Recommendation for the award was made last year by Col. Midian O. Bousfield, commanding officer, before he retired.

According to Col Bousfield's recommendation to the war department, dated Aug. 9, Lt. Col Thatcher made an outstanding contribution here in the field of race relations as well as in the medical profession. Acknowledged as one of the most brilliant dermatologists in America, he is credited with the selection of Fort Huachuca's hospital as one of the test centers for penicillin, the "wonder" drug.

Born in Kansas City, Kan., 37 years ago, Lt. Col. Thatcher received his professional training at the University of Minnesota. He resigned from Chicago's Provident hospital staff to enter the army medical corps on June 15, 1942. He made his contribution to better race relations through intelligent professional service to white army officers and civilians.

"His fame since assignment here as a Negro physician and colored officer in the medical corps of the army has spread over an area of 100 miles radius," Col. Bousfield's recommendation to the war department read.

## Race Relations Name Changed

CHICAGO—(ANP)—The city council voted last week to change the name of the Mayor's Committee on Race relations while approving its 1946 budget. The new name will be the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, Edwin R. Embree, chairman said.

## RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY

OBSERVED AT THE HUGHES MEMORIAL CHURCH  
FEBRUARY 10 . . . 1:30 p. m.  
2413 N. Albina Avenue  
Rev. Albert Wilson  
Pastor of the Montavilla Methodist Church  
Will Be the Guest Speaker

## FRATERNAL CAFE

1412 N. Williams Ave.

## CHICKEN

Fried Southern Style Steaks & Chops  
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LUNCH - DINNER

Mrs. Talmade Coleman Cook  
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## Old Timer Completes 28 Years; Reenlists

by CPL. W. A. HAGINS

FT. BENNING, Ga.(ANP)—To make a 30 year army career is one of the distinctive features of Sg. Tassie Devaux, of Beaufort, S. C., who has already made 28 odd years of this time.

He was honorably discharged from the service at Fort McClellan, Ala., last Sept. 29, but has reenlisted for three more years. The first sergeant has taken his 90-day furlough and is here at the reception center awaiting assignment. Although he can retire with 28 years of service upon request, he has turned it down to make 30 years his ultimate aim.

Grades held by him since entering the service are as follows: private first class in 1920, corporal during 1931, a sergeant in 1932 and on March 25, 1941, he reached the First Sergeant grade.

Now, this veteran of World War I and II seems to be a friendly sort of fellow and likes to mingle with others. He can be seen chatting with other soldiers here in a friendly way. Undoubtedly he and the old timers are reviewing their accomplishments and comparing the two wars, while the youngsters are seeking first-hand information on the regular army.

S. Tassie Devaux is wearing nine hash marks, but no over seas stripes as he didn't go across during World War II. "I don't know why I didn't go across this time, but they 'fenced me in' during the first World War", the veteran of two wars declared.



LT. ROBERT DEIZ

Portland's own No. 1 hero, Lt. Robert Deiz.

Lt. Deiz will be remembered as the ace of the 99th Pursuit Squadron who led them on 93 missions and is credited with bagging a number of enemy planes. He was also chosen by the War Department to have his portrait painted for the War Bond Poster that received nation-wide circulation.

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