

Religion in the News



REVEREND T. N. NOFFA

Members honor pastor

The members of the Church of the Living God are honoring their pastor, Elder T.N. Noffa with a week-long celebration of his Fourth Anniversary. Services are held each evening at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. with guest ministers officiating.

The Saturday Evening Song Festival will feature the New Hope Baptist Choir; the Morning Star Baptist Church Choir;

the Golden Eagles; the Portland Aires; the Rising Stars; the Christians; Local No. 9 -- President Hodson; the Singing Revelations; and the Mighty Warriors of Seattle. Ira Mumford will be the Master of Ceremonies.

Chairman for the Anniversary week is Sister Kathryn Bonner. The public is cordially invited to attend all services.

Black Jews plan Jerusalem summit

The Jerusalem Summit for Profound Men of the United States and Africa will be held in Jerusalem, Israel on November 14th to 16th. The conference is sponsored by the Original Hebrew Israelite Nation of Jerusalem. The Nation consists of blacks from America and Africa who claim to be Jews.

Shaleale Ben-Yehuda, one of the organizers of the Summit, explained that "Black men who migrated to Israel via Liberia, West Africa, have confirmed our presence at Jerusalem as the fulfillment of the Signs

of the Times."

"Our people must be made aware that the blood, sweat, and tears shed by our people on the development of America, was not a voluntary effort but mostly slave labor under unbearable conditions. These acts were committed against the 'People of Promise'. America with her pseudo democracy and foreign propaganda cannot stave off the prophetic chastisements awaiting her for the injustices committed against the millions of helpless and deprived conditions caused by actual and defacto segregation."

Jesuits back McGovern

More than one hundred Pacific Northwest Jesuits, men from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Seattle University, high schools, and parishes throughout the Northwest, have signed a lengthy statement endorsing Senator McGovern for President.

Basically the men are "one in their conviction that it is of the greatest moral urgency that George McGovern be elected the next president of

the United States."

President Nixon takes a hard line on amnesty; he is insensitive to the legitimate moral demands of minorities.

It is acknowledged that the involvement of religious and/or priests in political matters is a controversial issue. The endorsement of a presidential candidate by members of a Roman Catholic religious order may be unprecedented in American politics.

Soul Purpose

by Chuck Singleton

"Silver and Gold, have I none."

In the city of Detroit last year there was a total of 700 homicides. I was told in a recent visit that one half of these homicides were a result of family quarrels. They say the crime rate is so high, that you can rob a bank and get mugged en route to the getaway car.

The divorce rate in this country rose to 11 divorces for every 17 marriages. In one area of sunny California there are 4 divorces for every 3 marriages and I haven't managed to fit that together yet.

In today's world it's quite conceivable that if God let's the affluent society "slide" he must apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.

The confusing society is confronted by a questioning black man who wants to keep up with the Jones' as long as he doesn't have to process his hair. Many brothers and sisters wear Afros but are still deceived into thinking that a Cadillac and twenty-grand is successful living.

Somehow many black folks, college-age like myself have been tricked into thinking that banks and finances, homes and lands, pots and pans, are all the solution for us. But the proof is in the pudding, because you see the white community has banks and finances, homes and lands, pots and pans and they've got psychiatrists on every corner.

The missing ingredient is the resource, the power to perform this thing we call life.

I talked for weeks with a successful journalist who had been the sports editor of one Kentucky newspaper, the editor of still another. He knew the Kennedy's and the Roosevelt's and seemed quite successful in his field. Yet his life was as ragged as a jilted pimps pocket book. He was on the verge of his second divorce. He was trying desperately to embrace the affections of his children without much success. The fact was "the man knew how to make a livin' but he didn't know how to live."

Peter and John, two disciples of Christ, walked past the beautiful gate and stumbled upon a lame beggar who sought financial aid.

Many people had passed this man and given him silver and gold coins but they're coins never met his real need. The man wasn't hungry, he was crippled. Like the many thousands of handouts black folks receive from benevolent agencies, the gift never changed his position but simply placated him in his present position.

But Peter and John looked at the man and said, "silver and gold have I none, but what I do have I give unto you. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk." (Acts 3:16).

It might serve well for many of us church-going Christians to observe that when the church was able to say "silver and gold have I none" it was also able to say "in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk".

AME registers voters

The General Conference of the A.M.E. Church has announced that its Department of Urban Ministry will launch a massive national voter registration and education drive.

The announcement stated in part, "One of the most radical changes in our society during this century of radical change is the overwhelming penetration of government into the life of the people. The ballot box is the only way provided by our system to give the citizens a voice in directing this vast power which affects their

lives. Failure to use it will mean that abuses will increase until frustration finds an outlet in violent revolution.

"The church therefore believes that in this drive to bring another two million persons into the political process it is making a real contribution to achieving the stability of our political process which is required for continued growth and security.

This is the first time a major Black denomination has become involved in voter registration on a mass scale.



Pied Piper

Little Tommy raced across the street to buy a strawberry cone from the ice cream truck. But as he started back, he stepped into the path of an oncoming car. Tommy was seriously injured, and his family sued the ice cream company for having failed to warn him of the danger.

At the trial, the company protested that its driver had no obligation to take care of other people's children. But the court ruled otherwise. Ordering the company to pay damages, the judge said: "The sense of haste is purposely aroused in the children by the tinkling of bells and flashing of lights. The responsibility of one who provokes into action the natural recklessness of children ought (to) be proportionate to the danger he creates."



There have been a number of these "Pied Piper" lawsuits in which a street vendor has been held liable for tempting a child into jeopardy. However, some courts have rejected such claims, at least when special circumstances come into the picture.

Consider another case, also involving injury to a youthful ice cream purchaser. This time, the boy had walked some distance around the rear of the truck before starting back across the street. Moreover, he was a vigorous 10-year-old, the kind of youngster ordinarily well able to cross alone.

Denying damages, the court said the driver could not fairly be blamed for assuming that the boy was "on his own."

Furthermore, the victim himself may be guilty of negligence. Thus:

An 11-year-old boy leaped onto the running board of an ice cream truck, out of the driver's line of vision. When the truck began to accelerate, the boy fell off to the pavement.

In the lawsuit that followed, he acknowledged that he had been aware of the risk he was taking. Turning down his claim, the court said:

"All the essential ingredients of contributory negligence were present."

A public service feature of the American Bar Association and the Oregon State Bar Association. Written by Will Bernard.

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Zest of Life

By Carnegie "Happy" Pullen

MINISTER DIED FOR THE WRONG CONCEPT OF THE GOSPEL. About thirty-five years ago, a minister, I believe it was a Methodist pastor, in Missouri, had a strong faith in Christ, but was much concerned because he was unable to work any of the miracles of Christ.

This minister was much impressed by the quotation of Jesus in the last chapter of The Gospel of Mark, as follows: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And those signs shall follow them that believe: In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall

recover." Mark 16:16-18. According to Mark these were the last words of the risen Christ before "He was received up into Heaven."

My whole comprehension of the Message of Christ in the Gospels is that to truly believe in Christ means to believe in Him enough to believe His words are true. And if we study His words carefully we know that followers and disciples are commanded to obey "every jot and tittle" of His instructions. Matt 5:17-20; Matt. 7:21-26; Matt. 28:19-20. To believe that Jesus Christ is the Saviour, and not believe that He spoke the words of God, the Father, gave Him to speak to men as imperative instructions for them to obey, is a paradox and a travesty. This minister, although he believed, evidently believed

according to the "least carnal denominator" found in the doctrines of the Apostle, Paul, namely, he had been convinced it was not necessary to obey fully the commandments and sayings of Jesus.

The minister announced to his congregation and to his family that he would go on a hunger fast until such time as he was able to work miracles. Newspapers published the account of his decision to fast, until death, if necessary in order to receive from God the miraculous "signs following," as evidence of his faith.

The minister retired to his home and family and the newspapers reported the death of this fasting minister.

Long ago God had said, "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, your sins have hid his face from you, that He will not hear." Isa 59:2. And Jesus stated plainly: "And why call ye me Lord, Lord and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46. Apparently this minister did not give proper consideration to these significant words of Scripture; such as most ministers and Christians today fail to do.

Ignoring and disregarding the words of Christ is disobedience; and disobedience is sin, which is the "transgression of the law;" because Christ's words are the will of God, and they are the law.

"He... that receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." John 12:48.

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Minister
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Vesper 5 p.m.

Let us enter to worship and depart to serve.

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1222 N.E. Skidmore

288-7241

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Sunday morning worship: 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening worship: 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening prayer: 7:00 p.m.
Friday Worship Service: 8:00 p.m.

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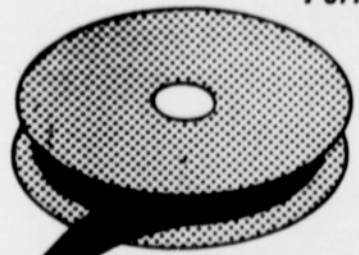
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