

Race Discrimination Called 'Insult to God'

By LOUIS CASSELS
Of the United Press International
CHICAGO—Jewish, Catholic and Protestant leaders, speaking with one voice, called Thursday for an end to racial discrimination because it was

immoral and "an insult to God." In a historic united plea, the religious leaders ended the four-day National Conference in Religion and Race with an "appeal to conscience."

"Racism is our most serious domestic evil," they said. "We must eradicate it with all diligence and speed."

They admitted churches and synagogues "have been slow" to enter the struggle for justice. And they also indicted all sections of the country — North, South, East and West—for practicing segregation.

"We repent our failures and ask the forgiveness of God," declared the statement adopted by the 700 delegates to the conference. "We ask also the forgiveness of our brothers, whose rights we have ignored and whose dignity we have offended."

"We call upon all the American people to work, to pray and to act courageously in the cause of human equality and dignity while there is still time to eliminate racism permanently and decisively."

Adopts Specific Proposals
The conference backed up the words with a program of specific calls that called for religious bodies to:

- Help Negro families obtain homes in all white neighborhoods.
- Work for the "stabilization" of changing neighborhoods in the inner city.
- Invest pension and endowment funds in such projects as interracial housing developments that will promote "equality of opportunity."
- Insist that all contracts for church construction or supplies include a pledge of no job discrimination.
- Arrange for opportunities for whites and Negroes to meet "on equal status" and get to know each other as human beings.
- Solicit "open occupancy" housing pledges and establish "service centers to bring together buyers and sellers who are willing to integrate their community."
- Help conduct voter registration drives among Negroes in the South.
- Stress "education for racial justice" in all church-related schools, including Sunday schools.

Use the pulpit for hard-hitting sermons on practical racial problems.

Actively seek Negroes to serve on the staff of church-related institutions.

Use church funds to facilitate mortgage financing for Negro home buyers.

Demand that all federal grants—including aid to schools and hospitals—be given on the condition of "assurance of non-discriminatory admission policies."

"Lead, Not Follow"
The leaders said it was time for churches and synagogues to "lead, not follow" in the transition to an integrated society.

"Even worse," the joint statement said, in conceding the major faiths had been timid in racial matters, "religious institutions have participated in perpetuating segregation in their own houses of worship, schools, hospitals, welfare institutions and fraternal organizations."

The conference called for establishment of local interfaith organizations to tackle specific portions of the "action program."

It said plans already were under way for creation of such interfaith machinery in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Atlanta, New Orleans, San Francisco, Oakland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Seattle and San Antonio, Tex.

Cards Come Back
BUDAPEST, Hungary, — Bridge clubs, barred during the Stalinist period because the card game was "associated with the upper classes," are staging a comeback here under official sanction. Dr. Ferenc Bartal, Hungary's top bridge expert, said 70 teams would compete for Budapest championship.



Given Parole

(AP Wirephoto)
Former Illinois State Auditor Orville Hodge smiles after hearing the news Thursday at Menard Prison that he will be free on parole in about 15 days. Hodge, 58, has spent 6½ years in prison for embezzlement of \$1.5 million in state funds.

'Round the State

Students Protest Dorm Fee Boost

CORVALLIS — A group of 50 or so Oregon State University students staged a chanting protest march Thursday to show their disapproval of a proposed increase in dormitory fees. The students carried posters and chanted outside the offices of Oregon State President James Jensen. He was out of town. The demonstration was orderly and lasted for only 20 minutes. One reporter on the scene said it was "really just sort of a 20-minute stroll across the campus ending at the president's office."

The demonstration stems from a decision of the school officials to increase dormitory rates by about \$40 a year and omit one meal a week. The State Board of Higher Education is expected to act on the matter at its Jan. 21-22 meeting.

The increase would affect all colleges and universities in the State System of Higher Education.

Oregon State officials said the increase was being sought because of higher costs of building and operating the dormitories.

If approved, the increased fees would go into effect this fall term.

Dormitory fees now range down from \$684 a school year.

In addition to the marching and chanting at Thursday's demonstration, an effigy was hanged on a lamppost at the entrance to the administration offices. There was a sign on the effigy, reading: "This guy ate dorm food."

Two Youths Killed
ARLINGTON — A fiery automobile crash on U.S. Highway 30 some 10 miles west of Arlington Thursday claimed the lives of two young men.

They were Michael O. West, 20, Arlington, and Elmer E. Thompson, 20, Aurora, a serviceman stationed at Fort Bliss, Tex.

Police said the car they were riding in hit a bridge railing, plunged into a cattle crossing below and burst into flames.

Both men were killed outright. Police said the youths were en route to La Grande.

Dog Track Issue Left To State Body

PORTLAND — A proposal to build a \$2½-million dog racing track in Clackamas County was back in the hands of the Oregon Racing Commission Friday after the county's board of commissioners refused further action on the subject Thursday.

The three-member board, in a letter to the racing commission, asked that the state group reschedule a hearing on the proposed track near Wilsonville. The letter was sent to Thaddeus Bruno, chairman of the racing commission.

The racing commission Wednesday night called off a hearing on the proposal and suggested that the county commissioners look further into the matter. The action followed a storm of protests.

"We will not conduct a supplementary study as suggested in your letter of Jan. 16 nor will we hold a hearing, as we believe the statutes give you and you only the authority to issue a license," the Clackamas board said.

"Therefore, it is your obligation to inform yourselves with first hand information regarding the wishes of the majority of the people in our county and affected areas," it also said.

The letter was signed by county commissioners Darrell Jones, Ed Latourrette and Stan Ely.

David Funk, who heads a group which plans to build the track, spoke at a meeting on the proposal at Wilsonville Thursday night. Several hundred residents and property owners in the area attended the meeting.

Funk said that he "anticipated being a good neighbor who would help and not harm you. Dog racing is entertainment."

Publication Available For Shutins

A monthly publication for youngsters with long-term illnesses or other conditions which make them shut-ins, "Pitter Patter," is now being distributed free of charge.

The newsletter, a mimeographed publication with games, stories and other items, is sponsored by the Oregon Heart Assn. and Multnomah County chapter of Alpha Phi social sorority. Parents who would like their shut-in or ill children to receive the magazine on a monthly basis may write to the Oregon Heart Assn., 1133 S.W. Morrison, Portland 5, Ore.

Much of the material in the newsletter, the association said, is written or prepared by the children themselves. Students at Portland's Roosevelt High School aid editor, Mrs. Richard Wintermute of Portland, with the actual publishing.

Supplements Needed
SALEM — The State Tax Commission said Friday that many taxpayers are not filing supplemental schedules required with their returns.

These supplements are required for all business and farm income, gains or losses of any amount on property, and income from interest, dividends, pensions, annuities and other sources.

The commission said these supplemental schedules are available at all Tax Commission offices.

Baby Chimpanzee
PORTLAND — Honey Bug, a six-year-old chimpanzee at the Portland Zoo, gave birth Wednesday. She guarded the baby so closely officials could not tell whether it was a boy or girl.

Eymann Submits Tax Measures

SALEM — A move to bring other financial institutions into the same nine per cent tax category as banks in order to save as much as \$25 million for the state was taken Thursday in the Oregon House.

A bill that would identify corporations such as General Electric Credit Corp. as "financial institutions" was introduced by Rep. Richard Eymann, D-Marcola, chairman of the House Tax Committee.

Under a decision of the State Tax Court, such corporations have a six per cent tax rate, while the rate for banks is set at nine per cent.

At issue are taxes either paid by banks under protest, or not paid, since 1937.

State Tax Commissioner Charles Mack said the sum could go as high as \$25 million.

The banks have protested the three per cent additional tax, charging discrimination under provisions of a federal law, and those that have paid are asking for a refund.

The bill would make all financial institutions taxable at nine per cent, retroactive to 1937.

Eymann also introduced a series of tax bills he termed "housekeeping measures." They included restoration of Eastern Oregon timber appraisals to county assessors, and tax changes for timberlands owned by centrally assessed companies.

A bill to repeal the controversial 1961 ambulance regulation law was introduced by Rep. C. R. Hoyt, R-Corvallis.

Other House measures expressed sorrow at the death of former Representative Mark D. McCallister, called for safety standards for dry cleaners, and provided for filling legislative vacancies.

The first tax plan was read for the first time in the House. The plan, supported by Senate President Ben Musa, D-The Dalles, and introduced in the House by his wife, would broaden the state income tax base but still retain most exemptions and deductions.

Appointments made in recent months by Gov. Mark Hatfield were submitted for Senate approval by the governor, and assigned to committees for study by Musa.

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Agency to Buy Surplus Pears
WASHINGTON — The Agriculture Department plans to purchase 407 carloads of surplus winter pears, including some from Oregon, for distribution through the school lunch program, Sens. Wayne Morse and Maurine Neuberger of Oregon report.

They said 78,880 boxes will be purchased from the Hood River area at prices ranging from \$2.68 to \$3.22 per box. Some 149,408 boxes will be purchased from the Medford area at prices ranging from \$2.29 to \$3.49 per box.

Labor Spokesmen Outline Program

By ANN H. PEARSON
Of the United Press International

SALEM—Labor's legislative program was outlined here Thursday afternoon before some 200 labor leaders from around Oregon. It includes measures on workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance, a minimum wage law, an "anti-strike-breaker" law, and repeal of the labor management law passed two years ago.

The meeting was conducted by organized labor's veteran corps of spokesmen at the Oregon Legislature—J. D. McDonald, James Marr, George Brown, and Thomas Scanlon of the Oregon AFL-CIO.

Marr said labor is supporting the "two and one-half way" workmen's compensation program advocated in a report to Gov. Mark Hatfield by a special advisory committee of labor and management spokesmen.

But he said labor's final stand will depend on whether the bill to be drafted by the governor follows the report.

"Three Way" Opposed
Labor fought a holding action two years ago to defeat a "three-way" bill that would have opened the workmen's compensation field to private insurance firms.

The new bill would only expand the role of private firms in writing re-insurance.

It also would make changes strongly advocated by labor, including a separate board to review impairment cases such as the loss of a leg.

It would expand coverage. The jury trial would be retained at least until 1967.

Marr said no compromises would be accepted that would sell labor down the river.

The unemployment insurance program backed by labor would increase maximum benefits, according to current pay levels, from \$40 to about \$49. It would require increases in employer contributions into the fund.

\$1.25 Minimum
The wage-hour bill would set a minimum wage of \$1.25 and also would cover agricultural workers.

The delegates were told the 1961 state labor-management law has been abused. The law was passed as a procedure for union elections. Labor said it has been used, contrary to legislative intent, in an effort to "bust up existing contracts."

Support for its repeal was strong from the floor.

The strikebreakers bill would prohibit the use of professional strikebreakers in labor disputes.

Other proposals include collective bargaining for public employees, inclusion of a fringe benefit guarantee in public contracts, prohibition of wage garnishment until a court ruling has been issued, and tax exemptions for labor temples similar to those granted for grange halls.

Labor also said it will oppose a proposal to reduce railroad work crews.

Sift Successful
TORONTO, — It took a day's sifting through 10 tons of garbage but Jean Sinclair recovered her husband's \$130 pay envelope. A friend and several trash collectors helped her rake through a dump after her son put out the family garbage, the money with it, and a truck hauled it away.

The chapter meets each Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Westminster Presbyterian Church, Coburg and Harlow Roads. Visitors are welcome.

Don Robison, retiring president of Cascade Chapter, is new president of Evergreen District of SPEBSQSA, which includes 35 chapters with 1,400 singers in Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Montana, Alaska, British Columbia and Alberta, Canada.

Oregonian Honored
NEW YORK — Gertrude Jensen, Portland, Ore., was one of three persons given citations this week for work in the preservation and conservation of natural resources. The awards were presented by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

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