

Desegregation Issue Splits White Churchgoers In South

By AL KUETTNER
United Press Staff Correspondent
NEW ORLEANS (UP)—The racial desegregation issue is splitting white churchgoers into bitter rival camps in the Deep South.

It is turning church members against each other, pitting clergymen against their congregations, rousing community anger at ministers who side with the Negro on any aspect of integration.

There are those who feel that if true racial equality is ever to come in the South it must certainly come early in the houses of Christianity.

There are others who are determined to keep the churches racially separate. They say the Negroes themselves definitely prefer to worship in their own churches, with their own race and in their own deep-rooted rituals. This group is in the vast majority.

The plain fact is that, right or wrong, there has been no real attempt by Protestant religious groups to attempt integration.

FEVER-PITCH FIGHT

The Roman Catholic Church is another matter and the fiercest religious fight over the problem is now at fever pitch here in New Orleans, a city with large Catholic population and influence.

A pronouncement has come out from Archbishop Joseph L. Rummel, highest Catholic authority in this area, that segregation is a mortal sin and that parochial schools under his jurisdiction will be desegregated. Earlier he closed a rural parish which refused to accept a Negro priest.

His stand has brought flat, unprecedented resistance from many Catholic laymen and unrest among a segment of the priesthood.

Actual tests of integrating the 800 Negro and 20,000 white parochial students probably will not come before next September, but the fight already is on.

E. A. Wagner, staunch Catholic member of the Orleans Parish School Board, and father of five children in parochial schools, is among lay leaders openly opposing Archbishop Rummel.

CAUSED SERIOUS DIVISION

"The situation is causing the most serious division within the Catholic Church in this area in my memory and has shaken the faith of those not too strong," Wagner says.

"I feel it has reached the point where Pope Pius should take a position for or against desegregation. I believe it is of sufficient worldwide importance for his holiness to make a pronouncement to set at rest the confused condition of intellectually sincere Catholics."

Most Catholic authorities feel it is most unlikely the Pope will intervene.

The Catholic situation is, however, only a small segment of the overall church picture in the overwhelmingly Protestant South.

Most Protestant churches have treaded gingerly around the issue or acted as though it were not there.

A number of church boards have met quietly, pondered the problem and decided privately to stay segregated and say nothing.

Some denominational groups, notably the Southern Presbyterian Assembly, have declared themselves against segregation in principle.

MERGER DEFEATED

It is important to note that Negro church groups themselves are bringing little real pressure for integration. Memphis Negroes voted down a proposed merger of white and Negro ministerial associations on grounds that already racial animosity has become so intense that at times it has been explosive.

The flareups have come in cases where individual white ministers aligned themselves on the side of the Negroes. In most places where clergymen have taken a positive stand for integration, reaction has been swift.

The pastor of the Batesburg, S. C., Baptist church, where Gov. George Bell Timmerman formerly attended, was dismissed for stating privately the Negro segregation was wrong. A Methodist minister in that state was quickly transferred after he criticized the White Citizens' Council.

In Montgomery, Ala., a white Lutheran minister, the Rev. Robert Grimes, has become the subject of hot controversy for his open assistance to Negroes who have boycotted buses since Dec. 5 in a dispute over seating arrangements.

The "passive resistance" demonstration there was organized and kept at almost 100 per cent effectiveness by Negro ministers led by a young Baptist pastor, Dr. M. L. King Jr.

CHURCHMEN SYMPATHETIC

A protest leader in South Carolina who asked that his name not be mentioned said most leading churchmen appear sympathetic toward desegregation in principle, but like most moderates they feel they are in a no-man's-land, being shot at by both sides.

The Rev. Thomas O. Paris, head of the White Ministerial Association in Memphis, puts it this way: "Desegregation will not come in church life immediately, but will be a slow and gradual procedure. Whether that is as it should be is a different question. We must be realistic."

A quiet-spoken Jewish rabbi here in New Orleans sits on the sidelines, counseling that both sides agree to a "cooling off" period to give reason a chance to prevail over emotions.

Asked his own views on the stand churchmen should take, Dr. Julian S. Feibelman said he possessed a discussion on the subject that pre-dated the Supreme Court's civil rights decisions by almost 2000 years. He reached for a Bible, turned to the book of Amos and there, in the ninth chapter, seventh verse, he read:

"Are ye not as the children of the Ethiopian to me, o children of Israel?"



LOADING SNOWSHOES recently on a Greyhound bus for the Grants Pass branch of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. was Klamath Falls branch installer-repairman Jack Ballantyne. The snowshoes were needed by the repair crews of the Grants Pass office to get to broken telephone lines in the recent heavy snow in that area. — Photo by Jim Cronin

Hurricanes Blamed On Man

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A scientist suggests that man himself may be partly to blame for the recent jump in the number of hurricanes that hit the East Coast.

This was brought out in testimony, released today, at hearings before a House Appropriations Subcommittee on U. S. scientific plans for the 1957-58 International Geophysical Year (IGY).

Dr. Roger R. Revelle, director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California, said IGY scientists will study the increasing carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere and the seas to determine its effect on climate.

Fuel-burning man is adding "tremendous quantities of carbon dioxide in the air," he said, and "IGY scientists think this may cause a remarkable change in climate" by raising atmospheric temperatures.

Revelle assured inquiring subcommittee members that carbon dioxide, a waste product of fuel burning, is not directly harmful to man and does not contribute to smog.

But "the increase in the number of hurricanes on the East Coast," he added, "is certainly tied in one way or the other with the general northward movement of the warm air."

The subcommittee was asked to put up \$28 million, in addition to \$12 million already appropriated, to finance U. S. participation in the 55-nation IGY. This is a worldwide program to get new knowledge about the earth, and space.

Dunsmuir FHA To Host Girls

DUNSMUIR — Dunsmuir high school chapter of the Future Homemakers of America plan to welcome more than 200 girls from central portion of Northern California on Saturday to the annual Section II meeting of the FHA.

Following registration on Saturday morning, Rae Eastlick of Etna, Section II president, will conduct the business meeting and there will be an election of officers.

McArthur and Tulelake chapters will lead a discussion on family relations and public relations. Redding and Weed chapters' discussion subject is improved membership and spirit; Yreka and Etna chapters' FHA responsibility for individual, chapter, section and state.

Luncheon will be served at the Hotel Dunsmuir and chapter exhibits in keeping with the meeting theme, "The Family—Heart of the Nation," will be shown in the hotel lobby.

LaVerne Hencraft of Anderson, Section II vice president, will preside at the afternoon session and newly elected officers will be installed.

Special features of the meeting will include a tour of Dunsmuir in the late afternoon and a party at the Hotel Dunsmuir on Friday night for those who can come early.

Eleanor Siri is president of the hostess chapter and has been assisted in making meeting plans by Mrs. Charlotte Samuelson, chapter sponsor.

SP Rail Hearing Set For April

SALEM — Hearings on Southern Pacific passenger service to Southern Oregon will be held at the courthouse in Roseburg April 24, and in the federal courtroom in Medford April 26. Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Helzlsouer announced Tuesday.

The railroad cancelled its passenger service between Eugene and Ashland last summer. The hearing is on a complaint by three state senators, Gene L. Brown, Grants Pass; Paul E. Geddes, Roseburg; and Philip B. Lowry, Medford.

"They want passenger service restored. The hearings were to have been held this week, but were postponed."

Police Receive Murder Break

CHICAGO (UPI)—Police asked the people of Chicago today to help them follow up the first major break in their manhunt for the sadistic killers of three young schoolboys.

The clue consisted of microscopic fragments of an unusual kind of steel which were found underneath the fingernails of one of the murdered boys.

Patrolman Dealey, chief of detectives, said they indicated that the boys were probably murdered in a metal-working shop last Oct. 15 or that their bodies had been hidden in such a shop before they were discovered Oct. 18.

He credited some of Chicago's top scientific brains and two world famed laboratories with nailing down the evidence. He asked the Chicago public to help take it from there.

Anybody knowing where the rare steel — AISI scientific stainless steel No. 309 or 310 — is being used should telephone police, Dealey said, and "then we may be on our way to catching the murderers."

Jiskiyou Sheriff's Office Warns Of Caps

YREKA — The sheriff's office reported that Ralph Dias, Yreka, found a large quantity of dynamite in an old building which he was tearing down. The dynamite had evidently been in the building for some time.

Sheriff Cottar cautions persons finding dynamite or caps, or any other explosive, regardless of apparent age to report the finding to the sheriff's office so that the material might be removed by specialists, thus avoiding any possible injuries to the finders.

British Search Cyprus Church

NOCISIA, Cyprus (UP)—British paratroopers searched a 16th Century Greek Orthodox church today for the murderer of an unarmed English policeman.

The church is in the Greek quarter of the city which was placed under a virtual state of siege as the British maintained unprecedented pressure on their hunt for the assassins.

They rounded a black-bearded orthodox priest before dawn and ordered him to accompany the search party. He signed a statement later saying there was no desecration of the church.

Soldiers with mine detectors combed the church grounds for buried caches of arms or bombs which have been used in eight killings in the Greek quarter in recent months.

The red-bearded paratroopers, heavily armed and carrying spades and mountaineering ropes, also searched homes and public buildings in the area.

The intensity of the search, coupled with a stern new warning from War Minister Anthony Head served to make the Cypriot extremists fighting for unity-with-Greece feel the bite of Britain's new "get tough" policy.

The quarter, comprising a maze of narrow, winding streets in the heart of the city, was sealed off with barbed wire and placed under a 24-hour curfew.

The dead policeman was killed with a sten gun Wednesday as he walked through the area. A Cypriot policeman with him was wounded.

Third Burned Body Found

TRENTON, N. J. (UP)—Searchers Wednesday night recovered the body of the third victim of a fire that gutted historic St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral and an adjoining rectory.

The body of Miss Mary Brennan, a housekeeper, was found in the charred ruins by workmen after an all day search. The bodies of Msgr. Richard T. Crean, 55, and Miss Mary Dupillon, another rectory housekeeper were found earlier Wednesday.

Msgr. Crean, rector of St. Mary's and vicar general of the Trenton diocese, died in an heroic attempt to warn those in the rectory of the fire.

Police and fire officials today launched a full-scale investigation into the cause of the blaze which destroyed the 85-year-old gothic structure, built on the site where General Washington and the Continental Army defeated British and Hessian troops in the Battle of Trenton in 1776.

The blaze which caused damage estimated at close to \$3 million, was detected at 4:30 a.m. by a passerby who turned in an alarm. Firemen rescued three priests and a rectory cook, all of whom were hospitalized. A fourth clergyman escaped unscathed.

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Legislature Mortality Rate High; Only 41 File For '57

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM — Oregon's 1957 Legislature will have to do without at least a third of the members of the 1955 session.

This high mortality figure may be increased further if 1955 members are defeated in the primary or general elections.

Only 41 out of the 68 House members have filed for re-nomination. In the Senate, which generally has a higher percentage of veteran members, eight of the 30 senators have stepped out.

The reasons are twofold: House members want to become senators, and legislators are finding it increasingly difficult to find the money and the time to serve in the long grind every two years.

The House finds it difficult to get enough good leaders because the more capable House members die in the Senate.

The Democrats, with 25 members in 1955, reached their highest proportion of state representatives in 18 years. That gave them hopes they could capture control of the House in 1957.

But 11 Democratic representatives, including some of the most capable, won't be back. Eight of them want to be senators.

Here are the Democratic House members who are running for the Senate:

Ward H. Cook, Alfred H. Carbett, G. D. Gleason, Jean L. Lewis, and Walter J. Pearson, all of Portland; R. F. Chapman, Coos Bay; Roderick T. McKenna, Sixes; and Boyd R. Overhulse, Madras.

Three Democratic Representatives aren't running for anything. They are Kay Meriwether, Portland, who married a Republican; V. T. Jackson, Roseburg, and Mrs. Richard L. Neuberger, who quit because her husband's a U. S. senator.

Of the Republican House members, Elmer Dees, Canby, is running for the U. S. Senate, John D. Hare, Hillsboro, and Speaker Ed Gearty, Klamath Falls, aspire to the state Senate.

Other GOP House members who won't be back are Dr. F. H. Dammasch, Portland, who died; Al Loucks, Seaside; William W. Braden, Burns, and Lloyd E. Haynes, Grants Pass.

The Republican senators who won't be around next time are Gene L. Brown, Grants Pass; George Ulen, Coquille; S. Eugene Allen, Portland; O. Johnson, Tigard; Stewart Hardie, Condon, and Elmo Smith, John Day, who now is governor.

Democrats Joseph K. Carson Jr. and Harry Gearty, both of Portland, didn't seek reelection, either.

Four other senators are seeking higher office. They all are holdovers, so if they are defeated, they still would be in the new Senate.

They are Mark Hatfield, Salem Republican, and Monroe Sweetland, Milwaukie Democrat, both running for secretary of state; Carl Francis, Dayton Republican, running for attorney general; and Robert D. Holmes, Gearhart Democrat, running for governor.

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