

ATLANTA THE INQUIRER

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1960

LET FREEDOM RING

By Lonnie King

The shouting and the tumult have died after the cessation of the student sponsored demonstrations. Atlanta has achieved a sort of uneasy quiet, and the anti-progressives are beginning to think that its all over. It is all over.

It's all over except the desegregation of the lunch counters. It's all over except the hiring of Negroes on an equal basis. It's all over except for a removal of "Negro" and "White" identification signs from rest rooms and drinking fountains. It's all over except for a realization on the part of the merchants and the Atlanta conservatives that freedom is here to stay and must be granted now.

When the above conditions are met and when discrimination in the areas mentioned above has been eliminated, many people will sigh and hope that they have let enough freedom go to satisfy the hungry Negroes. They do not seem to be able to conceive the overwhelming desire that consumes today's youth.

Too many people talk about the evils of segregation and too few really do anything about it. We see students who went to jail, we see adults who can always be counted on for a contribution or a gift, we see ordinary citizens who are always ready to lend a hand. But we also see too many people who are ready to take a giant step when the barriers are removed, who are ready to accept credit when the battle is over, who are too willing to receive thanks for a job actually not done at all. The lapse presented to this nation by the words "with all deliberate speed" has given too many people a chance to gather all deliberate methods of subterfuge. These people are not always the arch supremacists or the militant segregationists. They are too often respected members of our community. They are too often men who are able to stymie the demands of hundreds of thousands of people who simply want to be free.

Organizations like the NAACP and SCLC that constantly carry the struggle against discrimination to the front lines are always in need of your contributions. Money spent in a week for cigarettes by many of the readers of this paper could be much more profitably used by these organizations.

The demonstrations have been halted for a period. Atlantans who are still dissatisfied with segregation can demonstrate quietly and effectively by refusing to send their dollars to feed this evil. You don't have to pay to be segregated. Withhold your dollar and you will be paid off in freedom.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

By Reverend John A. Middleton

The Bible is a great book because it speaks to all ages. One reason why it speaks to any age is because its message was pertinent to its particular age and time. Each book of the Bible attempted to bring a message to the age when it was written. Because it met the challenge of its own age it is worthy to be called our "eternal contemporary." Great truths of the Bible are as old as the hills and at the same time they are not as modern as this morning's sunrise.

Let us take Moses to illustrate the point. Moses lived about thirty-three centuries ago. From the Midian wilderness God summoned him to a great task. His specific job was to liberate the

own possibilities is often not an easy task. This is one point at which the Bible speaks directly to our times. The Holy Bible reminds us again and again that we need not accept ordinary limitation if we have faith in the great God who knows no limits. With a firm trust in God, limits may well be mere starting points. The old saying that "man's extremity is God's opportunity" is literally true. History supports this and so does science. But the question that still remains unanswered is this. How can we convince some of our people that they do not have to accept some of the seeming limitations of life? The slave complex says "you can't". The spirit of Moses says "yet you

"As Long as They're Working"

Another brave chapter was added to the saga of antiseptic racism the other day. Four Atlanta Negroes who had been taken along to serve a group of bankers at a picnic in Union County were asked to depart the premises by an agent of the man who holds the lease.

Deeply interested in their welfare, the agent had informed the Negroes that he could not guarantee their safety if they remained. This odd collapse of the customary assurances of law and order is no new thing for most Negroes. The four unwanted helpers were put in a car and sent back to Atlanta, leaving Union County safely Anglo-Saxon once more.

We are not told who served the white picnickers. We trust they enjoyed their outing on land leased by a government which is sometimes puzzled over the lukewarm behavior of African and Asian nations.

But most of all we hope that nobody's appetite was spoiled by puzzlement such as beset the Union County official quoted in the press. Evidently a man who believes in honoring the old traditions, he is quoted as saying that he saw no reason why the Negroes had to leave the park "as long as they were working."

VOTE "NO" ON 3 AND 10

Nobody suffers more already from the various weaknesses in our State educational set-up than we do as Negroes. Nobody will suffer any more quickly, directly or deeply from any change in the governing structure of state education which could lead to playing politics with the needs of our children.

We hope nobody will be so busy voting for national candidates that he forgets to vote No on Amendments #3 and #10.



Mr. Gray Says Nay

Hopes were high among officials of one of the networks that Editor-and-Party Leader Gray of Albany was really going to face Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on television. The debate was to deal with the "sit-in" demonstrations, but Mr. Gray declined.

Seems it came to his attention that Dr. King, like Gandhi, like Thoreau, like John Bunyan, was a "lawbreaker." Mr. Gray appears to feel it will not help his reputation to appear on nationwide TV in a debate with Dr. King. On that point we think he is right.

Mr. Gray is as proud of his Anglo-Saxon heritage as though he invented it, or the Anglo-Saxons themselves produced it out of thin air with no borrowings from others. He linked the DeKalb sentence and the hastily-devised trespass law with the respected tradition of Anglo-Saxon law and clearly placed himself in the company of those who uphold the law.

We can only hope that this represents a true conversion. For only a few months ago the same gentleman was prominent among those who missed no opportunity to preach defiance, direct or indirect, of the law of the United States as interpreted by the highest court in the land.

visited Dr. King in jail a few days ago. Dr. King was the epitome of courage and dignity — greatness glittering through prison bars. In jail or out of it God through Dr. King says "Let My People go free."

Grant O God that we may ever be sensitive to Thy presence and

Letters to the Editor

Statue of Liberty Cartoon

Dear Editor:

I wish to first congratulate you on the publication and the successful circulation of the Atlanta Inquirer thus far. I have enjoyed reading it. As for the truth you are wanting and searching just as much as any other newspaper.

I am enclosing the front page of your last edition and have circled the picture I have very strong objection to. No matter what point you are attempting to get over the only idea that could be conveyed to our children, and likewise some adults is that a woman is being kicked, and stabbed in the back by a man. This is hardly the way to teach true democracy to our children.

While we are in search for equal opportunities, and justice and mercy under the law, we want above all else to realize a love and concern for all who come under the framework of our Federal Constitution, and all who come under a watchful eye of a Heavenly Father. It is a great chal-

lenge, but we must not forget it is a Divine Promise.

If I can be of any service to you, I shall be happy to give what assistance I can.

Wishing for your continued success. I remain

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Mary Powell

Ed. Note:

Thank you for your letter.

The Statue of Liberty cartoon (last week's issue), like most cartoons, was an attempt to present an idea graphically, through the use of symbols. The evil of segregation which the cartoon attacks has been shown much more sharply in its very real form on television screens and in new pictures for all to see: earlier, the physical abuse of children Little Rock; more recently, Jacksonville.

We can only hope that very few readers of any age group react to our cartoon simply as the mistreatment of a woman by a man

IMPORTED
COFFEE 1.25

