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EDITORIAL (Continued from page 2)

lent colored youths from every point of view and from good homes—are deprived of certain clinical privileges in the final years of their medical course is a terrible blot upon this Christian civilization and the Christian Church.

That such a condition exists in a Christian world cannot but weaken the power and influence of religion and the work of the church. How can the church present to a thinking age, under such circumstances, the Gospel of this prince of peace, who came to earth, not in the form of an Anglo Saxon aristocrat or of his descendant made rich by exploitation and oppression of the poor but in a manner that shocks our very thinking?

Whenever the church sets a better example to the world and becomes bold enough to challenge and denounce oppression and exploitation which has weakened the social fabric of our civilization even to falling then it will be fully entitled to the respect it has erstwhile lost. There is much criticism about Rev. Father Coughlin and his methods, but it seems to thinking people who noted the Method of Jesus and his social gospel that Father Coughlin has caught a vision of Jesus. It is the duty of the church to denounce sin, personal and social, and to set wrongs right. If Father Coughlin treads on the corns of anyone that person has the privilege of examining his personal and social conduct and of rectifying the ills when found. Jesus stood with the poor for the simple reason that the forces of the strong were too much for Him. They lacked a leader to defend them. That is the work of the church, to boldly denounce sin, and lead the way to righteousness justice and love. When the church fails in these respects it has lost sight of an important phase of its mission. It is to lead the way and bid men to follow.

The Negro has been branded with the stigma of being lazy and this brings us to the question of the presentation and interpretation of the gospel to the present age. Is not laziness or laissez-faire policy of the Negro due to the teaching of the church? Have not the figures or the piper been interpreted literally. He has not been told that "take no thought for the morrow" can only be interpreted as take no anxious thought for the morrow which makes a vast difference.

He has been presented with a sort of crystallized theology which when analyzed resolves into nothing short of a form of the platonic "other worldness." The real is the unseen.

What we ordinarily see and feel and consider as material and real is the unreal. Our bodies are corrupt, base to be despised; Heaven is real and worth while being worked for; earth and its possessions are transitory, useless, and not worth the effort of striving for. This sort of false teaching must have some reactionary effect upon a race, or people who swallow it whole, without thinking or asking and adapted to the methods of exploitation and oppression.

By a people robbed, oppressed and

despised the tendency has been to become rather somewhat mystical and to believe themselves coming into full possession of that other unseen world where milk and honey and shining streets of gold abound. The result is they lose all interest in their present surroundings and become indifferent to very life itself in the hope thereby to attain the next world. They fail to see, as Booker T. Washington realized that it will be rather too big a jump, a transition from a hovel here to a "platonic" castle there.

Jesus brought us abundant life and that is the complete life, a life lacking in nothing. Man has temporal and spiritual needs and wants. The church must realize this, and show him how both are to be attained. Peace and goodwill will result when temporal and spiritual needs are equally met. Then men and women will not experience hunger and want in a land of plenty for the community of spirits will not suffer such conditions to prevail. The rich will realize that his wealth is a trust given him from God and to be used to glorify God. International goodwill and lasting peace will be an accomplished fact. This is the time we are longing for and if the scriptures can be accepted as truly recording the mission of the Christ King this is the purpose of his mission on earth to bring lasting peace on earth and goodwill toward men. While we enjoy ourselves during the holidays let us remember that at his coming "there was no room for him in the inn" and welcome Him into our hearts and into our homes this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS

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