

LIGHT

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Number 8

THE REVEREND ECCLESIASTICUS EGGNOG

By Kenneth J. Foreman,
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"Behold, thou art neither cold nor
hot . . ."—Revelation 3:15.

Mr. AT Capp, known to lower-bracket readers as the creator of Li'l Abner, has made himself known to highbrow-bracket readers with an article in one of the slick magazine on humor. His theory is deplorable, being nothing else than Mr. Hobbes done up in modern style. But, of course, even Mr. Hobbes could sometimes be partly right. Part of the fun of following Li'l Abner comes from the pleasure of finding, at last, someone even less smart than ourselves. This mean pleasure may be at the root of the appeal of one of Mr. Capp's recent creations, Mr. Elderberry Egg-nog.

For the benefit of our more fastidious readers, it should be explained that Elderberry Eggnog is (or was till the other day) being groomed for the Presidency of the United States in 1956. He lives in a palatial log-cabin of some thirty-five rooms, accessible only through a steel chamber known as the Loyalty Tester. The point of Mr. Eggnog's candidacy is that he has never been caught doing or saying anything wrong. This miracle has been simply (though not easily) achieved by just not allowing him to say or do ANYthing. He has never offended anyone by word or deed. He hasn't an enemy in the world. When called on for a statement on any subject whatever, his standard reply is "No comment." His friends must likewise be without reproach, aseptic like himself, far from the breath of scandal.

It may not be so well known that Elderberry has a cousin, the Reverend Ecclesiasticus Eggnog, who is also being groomed for some high position. Possibly for the degree of D.D., though, like his cousin Elderberry, Ecclesiasticus is much less ambitious than his managers. There is a college which will be almost certain to grant him this degree if only they can be assured that in doing so they will not offend any group in the church. Up to now E. E. has not seemed quite old enough to be a D. D.—there is no telling when a youngster may break out. But if he lives a few more decades along his present line there is every hope for his being elevated to this pinnacle of his profession.

No scandal has ever been connected with his name. When he was a boy he did not play with the bad little boys of the neighborhood. He never played with the little girls either; perish the thought. He has been brought up by hand, first by his mother, later by his wife. He has never been known to express any positive ideas. Controversy he abhors as being not only beneath the dignity of the Cloth, but as an indication of an unseemly interest in the ephemeral. He will talk on the Eternal

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MINISTRY OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOSPITALS TO NEGRO PATIENTS

Southern Baptists own and operate 28 hospitals valued at more than \$43,000,000. These hospitals have a total of 6,440 beds. In 1949 they rendered 1,839,304 patient-days of service to approximately 175,000 patients.

Negro patients are admitted to 15 of the 28 hospitals where approximately 300 beds are available for them. The ratio thus is one bed for Negro patients to every 20 beds for white patients.

In 1950 2,368 nurses were trained in 20 Baptist hospitals. Negro nurses receive training in two of these 20 hospitals. At the Baptist Memorial Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, they are being given limited training for practical nursing. At the Mississippi Baptist Hospital, Jackson, Miss., this year 38 Negro nurses are receiving their training along with 138 white nurses.

This training is fully accredited and to date there are 54 Negro graduate nurses who have completed their training.

In their ministry of healing, Southern Baptists have undertaken a challenging task. Their ministry to the medical needs of minority people makes even greater that challenge.

IMMORALITY OF WAR

A quick, penetrating view of the immorality of war may be found in the often repeated charges made in Washington by L. C. Warren, comptroller general of the Federal Government. He reports convincing evidence that one out of seven war goods contracts involves excessive or fraudulent payments. Several times Mr. Warren has brought the situation to the attention of Congressional leaders, pointing out that a "sampling" of 26,566 war contracts made by the Army and Navy and other agencies revealed a high percentage of crooked deals by businessmen in their settlements with the U. S. Government. Out of the contracts investigated 1,233 were found to have cheated the Government out of a total of over 25 million dollars! This sampling of the total 323,933 "settled" contracts shows that the Government's loss might run well towards a half billion dollars,—money extracted from the taxpayer for defense purposes—but going instead to enrich the war contractors, who had no scruples against excessive charges and fake and fraudulent deals. —Between The Lines

MARATHON CORPORATION AND ITS LABOR UNIONS

"There has never been a strike or a lockout at the Marathon Corporation," begins case study number 8 in the series on the Causes of Industrial Peace. "Arbitration has never been employed, neither the company nor any of the unions has resorted to the courts. Only twice has conciliation been used, and governmental agencies have been called in on labor relations matters only when the law required it."

"This is a remarkable record," the introductory paragraphs continue. "It is even more remarkable because it has not been achieved at the expense of the company, the employees, or the consuming public. The employees have been well paid, profits have been satisfactory, and there has been no collusion against the consumer through arbitrarily high prices."

Marathon Corporation is 40 years old, second largest employed in Wisconsin's paper industry, and has 3,000 production workers who are all members of one of 7 unions.

Because of different unions and towns, bargaining is on a local basis (not industry-wide as in the case of Crown-Zellerbach, Case Study number 1). "Neither side calls in lawyers or outside consultants . . . Both groups come armed with the authority to make a decision though the action of the union representatives is subject to ratification by the locals. Experience shows that the achievement of a meeting of minds takes one to three days."

Twenty separate reasons are isolated by the research men for Marathon's long record of industrial peace. They're worth recording here, briefly. (1) The paper industry as a whole has a better record for peace than industry at large. (2) Employment has been stable. (3) Investment is heavy, giving a company the incentive to reduce turnover of workers.

(4) No one paper company has to set pace for the rest in wages. (5) Individual plants are small, permitting personal contact between management and workers. (6) Cities in which Marathon plants are located are also small.

(7) The company believes in maintaining wages and working conditions equal to any others in the area. (8) Continuously expanding employment has eliminated questions arising out of technological changes. (9) Line execu-

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THE REVEREND ECCLESIASTICUS EGGNOG

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Verities, but never on Contemporary Issues. His reading has been carefully selected. Like his cousin, Elderberry, whose reading has been confined, officially, to the Congressional Record and the speeches of the Presidents, Ecclesiasticus has never been known to read anything less than a \$3.50 book. He never reads commentaries or Bible helps written since 1890, fearing contamination by the Restless Modern Spirit.

When he attended college he avoided courses in science, having been warned that these might upset his faith; also courses in literature, writer's morals being what they are. He confined his studies to the Department of Religion, as much as possible. In the seminary he was diligent in his studies, but it was never known what his views were, since even on examination papers he prefaced all positive statements with "It is said," giving the correct bibliographical references. On his presbytery examination he came through with flying colors, having memorized the Catechism to good purpose. In his present pastorate, thanks to his good platform presence, his tactful avoidance of all that might offend any element in his church, and his wonderful bedside manner, he has come clear of all the usual pitfalls. His friends, like his cousin, Elderberry's, are hand-picked and sanitary. He is interested in the Lost—he has often said so. But they must be lost on the better streets. He cannot risk his reputation by being seen in the more disreputable district. His sermons on Mother's Day and Christmas are masterpieces of pulpit eloquence, but he avoids the observance of such occasions as Brotherhood Week or Labor Sunday, feeling that by doing so he might stir unfavorable comment.

Ecclesiasticus has been deeply shocked by the scandal which at last overtook his cousin Elderberry. (If our readers will promise to let this go no farther—Cousin Elderberry reads the comics.) This has led the Rev. Mr. Eggnog to matter. He has found it desirable to discontinue all his church papers, for two of them deal in controversial matters and the third runs a column of jokes, one of which some years ago (as his wife pointed out to him) might possibly be capable of misconstruction. This leaves only the Assembly's Minutes, in which our Mr. Eggnog wishes it were possible to dissociate the ministerial directory from the rest of the book. Reports and recommendations, he says (though he would not wish to be quoted), are after all only matters of opinion, and a minister cannot be too careful.—Presbyterian Outlook.

We are a people with a faith in reason; and when we lose that faith and substitute for it faith in weapons, we become weak and are lost, even with our super-atomic weapons.—David E. Lillenthal.

It is not the hydrogen bomb that constitutes the great danger of today. It is the human temptation to use it.

—Quoted in London News Chronicle

BAPTIST THEOLOGISTS WORK AT INTER-RACIAL PROJECT

Putting legs under Christian belief might well have been the theme of a group of students who moved in force into a one-story brick dwelling in a Negro community in Louisville, Ky., and set about to make the premises habitable for a laborer, his wife and their eight children.

Participating were students from Simmons university, Louisville Municipal college, two schools for Negroes in Louisville, Presbyterian Seminary, University of Louisville, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and W. M. U. Training School.

Their objective was simple—the basic purpose was to meet this example of great human need by Christians with Christian resources in a Christian manner, since the group felt that Christian love is not complete unless it finds expression in everyday life.

The house needed flooring, roofing, plastering, general cleaning and painting. And the children needed clothes. The students did the manual work. Necessary funds were contributed by interested friends, churches and the students.

One student from the Baptist Seminary reported, "It enable the participants who came from different schools, different religious denominations and different races to understand one another better by working together. Although the project was interracial, the emphasis was placed on Christians working together."

"Then too," he continued, "the project gave students first hand information about housing, health, segregation, education and the Christian teachings and human need."

While work was going on, programs were held in the home. Saturday and Monday nights a panel discussion and workshop were held.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS TO ATTEND WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

The President of the United States has invited the following persons to attend the Mid-Century White House Conference on Children and Youth: Dr. T. B. Maston, Professor of Social Ethics, Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; Dr. Wayne Oates, Professor, Psychology of Religion, Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. Joe Burton, Editor, Home Life Magazine, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. and Dr. Hugh A. Brimm, Executive Secretary, Social Service Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, Louisville, Ky.

The conference is to be held in Washington, D. C., December 3-7.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE FORMED

An epoch-making event in the field of Temperance was held in Des Moines, Iowa, November 20-22. Two great active organizations were united. The National Temperance Movement with headquarters in Chicago merged with the Temperance League of America, Washington D. C. to form the National Temperance League. The merger climaxed months of study and planning by a committee from each organization.

Dr. R. G. Lee, President of the Southern Baptist Convention was elected President of the new organization. The Rev. James Swedberg, another Southern Baptist was elected Secretary. Offices will be maintained in both Chicago and Washington.

WHERE WILL IT STOP?

Representative Sabbath of Illinois speaking in the Congress recently pointed out that prices of goods to the armed forces have increased from 25 to 300 percent since the outbreak of the Korean war.

He stated that many of these increases came almost overnight and without any reason or justification. In some instances, steel price increases ranged up to 100 percent and on the west coast, fuel oil prices to the Armed Forces increased 54.5 percent.

In 1939, Mr. Sabath pointed out, a destroyed could be built for \$7,000,000. Today its counterpart costs \$40,000,000.

SERMON NOTES FROM TWO METHODIST BISHOPS

"Had Jesus taken advice to live a normal life, keep out of trouble and avoid raising bothersome issues, we would never have heard of him . . . In his day Jerusalem was the richest bank and strongest citadel in the Middle East. He entered it against the militarism and financial interests of his time. Jesus had the Mosaic Law and the prophets, but he narrowed them where they could mean something. He gave the widest truth the sharpest edge. It brought him to Calvary, but Calvary released new strength. Today Christian Truth . . . needs more narrowing down to the realities, and cutting edge. It needs more Calvaries."—Bishop F. J. McConnell.

"For a vast number the church is successful if it has no criticism, enough money to pay bills and a sweet meaningless message for people not bad anyway, and represents to established interests something never questioned . . . Christianity will never adjust itself to the status quo. There will always be something to upset the comfortable. If you can sit beside social evils and be concerned with nothing but inner spirit, you can be a Buddhist, not a Christian."

—Bishop Gerald Kennedy

NO BLOODSHED ON THE SOUTHERN SCENE

According to the New York Times there are more than 200 Negro students in twenty-one colleges over the south-land today. These same students would have been barred from attendance just two or three years ago.

Recently Mr. Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP announced that there were 1,000,000 qualified Negro voters in the South today. He has predicted that the number will be increased to 2,500,000 by 1952.

One still hears the frantic cries and frenzied screams of race baiters and hate mongers who talk of bloodshed and race riots if racial barriers fall. Even the voices of some preachers have joined in the chorus to predict dire and devastating results if traditional patterns are disturbed.

Barriers are falling, sacred traditions are crumbling everywhere about us in the South. The hooded cowards of the Klan are more and more criticized and held in contempt by decent and respectable citizens. The prophecy of bloodshed has proven empty and meaningless.

Reports from the colleges where Negro students are in attendance not only reveal that there have been no disturbances of any sort, but that there has been an amazing demonstration of acceptance of the new students. These same results have been noted in the Armed Forces where racial barriers have been discarded.

A new South is rising it knows a deeper and more significant Christianity and Democracy. Thus a major battle against Communism is being won.

BAPTIST PASTOR ADDRESSES LOUISIANA STATE LABOR CONVENTION

The Rev. John S. Hurt, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Jonesboro, La. preached a Labor Day sermon at a giant rally in Bogalusa on September 5. Earlier in the year he preached at the State Federation of Labor Convention. His message has been published in the Pulpit Magazine.

In a letter to the Editor of LIGHT Brother Hurt said, "The field is wide open to any Southern Baptist who wishes to carry the cross to labor."

\$6,000 ANNUAL PENSION FOR TWO MONTHS' SERVICE

According to the New York Times, a former chauffeur of Mayor O'Dwyer was pensioned after two months of service in a new job to which he was appointed in August. His pension for the rest of his life will be \$6,000 per year. We don't know of any Baptist preachers and few laymen who can retire with such an income after pouring out their lives in Christian service.

MORE ON CO-OPS

(Continued from Last Month)

The Classic principles of co-operative business are these:

- Open membership
- (No racial or creedal barriers)
- Democratic control
- (One person, one vote regardless of amount of stock holdings)
- Limited interest on capital
- (No melons cut to stockholders at the expense of patrons)
- Savings according to patronage
- (Patron-owners share "earnings;" there are no profits)
- Neutrality in religion and politics
- (Non-sectarian and non-partisan)
- Sales for cash at market prices
- Continuous expansion
- Constant education

The growth of Co-ops in America has been phenomenal:

Getting their first firm roots in the 1870's

American Co-ops, according to 1947-1948 figures, numbered:

- 8,500 farmers marketing Co-ops.
- 4,500 purchasing Co-ops. (both farmer and urban consumer)
- 10,000 credit unions (co-operative banks)

Volume of business:

\$3,635,000,000 annually in farmers Co-ops alone

Yet today, U. S. farmers market less than 20% of their produce and buy less than 15% of their farm production supplies through Co-ops.

Reasons why people join Co-ops:

They expect to save money.

Co-ops charge market prices, but return to patrons in cash or stock the margins between cost and selling price.

They seek improved quality.

Co-ops can test products as the individual cannot. Since the patrons are the owners they will have no interest in cutting or misrepresenting quality.

They find in the Co-op a yardstick.

Co-ops furnish a test of the efficiency of other forms of business and a check on exorbitant profits and monopolistic practices.

They see a new society coming.

Co-ops are, to many, the symbol of a new economic order in which greater justice and equity will be achieved through the co-operative system of patron ownership and non-profit operation.

According to the Southern Regional Council there are now 77 cities in 13 states of the South where Negro police are employed. In uniform are 369 policemen. In addition there are 41 plainclothes men and 17 policewomen who bring the total to 427.

So far as the writer knows there have been no instances where, having once employed Negro police, a city has gone back to its old policy of "white only."

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION AVAILABLE

Professor A. McLeod Bryan, Mercer University, has prepared an illustrated slide lecture which he offers for the use of pastors and others who are interested in studying the role of the church in the many areas of contemporary social problems.

There are 100 slides in full color. These were prepared by Prof. McLeod during the past summer when he made on-the-scene studies of the work of local churches all over the South.

The areas investigated for the study include: Rural Life, Labor and Management, Race Relations, Slums, Displaced Persons Rehabilitation, Alcohol, Marriage and Family Relations, Cooperatives, Community Church and Ministry to French-Indians.

The lecture and slides can be obtained by addressing your request to Professor G. McLeod Bryan, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia.

DR. ELLIS A. FULLER

To the innumerable tributes already made to a great man of God now gone from us, we add an expression of our gratitude and appreciation. Dr. Fuller was interested in the work of the Social Service Commission to the extent that he generously made space available on the seminary campus for its office. He was a frequent visitor to the office and on occasions requested up-to-date facts on various social problems which were used in his messages.

Dr. Fuller will long be remembered and honored among men who walk in the Christ way. He lives on in the lives of those whom he touched.

HAVANA STORY

IN a HAVANA office building, it is reported, there is a sign over the elevator which reads: "Since there is a stairway in the building the management is not responsible for damage incurred while using the elevator."

In the same building, another sign—this one over the stairway—reads: "Since there is an elevator in the building for persons with legitimate business above the second floor, the management is not responsible for damages incurred while using the stairs."

LABOR LEADERS IN THE CHURCHES

A recent analysis of WHO'S WHO IN LABOR shows that only 32% of labor leaders did not list themselves as members of some church. 24% are Roman Catholics, 39% Protestants, 3% "Christians," 2% Jewish, and less than 1% Orthodox. Of 1,450 Protestants, 372 were Methodist, 294 Baptist, 173 Presbyterian, 150 Lutheran, 109 Episcopalian, 49 Congregational Christian and the remainder were scattered among other denomination.

RECENT RELEASES FOR YOUR PAMPHLET FILE

SOCIAL SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Box 38, St. Matthews Station, Louisville 7, Ky.

It's Smarter Not to Drink, by R. V. Seliger (25 cents); **These My Brethren: A Study of 570 Negro Churches and 1542 Negro Homes in the Rural South**, by Ralph Felton (40 cents); **Southern Baptists and Race Relations** (10 cents); **Tobacco and Health** by Arthur H. Steinhaus and Florence M. Grunderman (50 cents); **Building Your Marriage** by Evelyn Millis Duvall (20 cents); **Petting Wise or Otherwise?** by Edwin Leavitt Clarke (25 cents); **Understanding Sex** by Lester A. Kirkendall (60 cents); **Race in the News** (Free); **The Black Book of Repeal** (10 cents); **The Races of Mankind** by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish (20 cents); **Gambling in a Nutshell** by Orval H. Austin (10 cents); **Guiding the Adolescent** (20 cents).

FREEDOM PAMPHLETS. Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (11 Pryor St., SW, Atlanta, Ga. 25 cents each). **Unesco in Focus**, by James L. Henderson; **Group Dynamics and Social Action**, by Kenneth D. Bennes, Leland P. Bradford, and Roland Lippitt; **How Do You Talk About People?** by Irving J. Lee.

NATIONAL PLANNING ASSOCIATION PAMPHLETS. Washington 6, D.C., The Association (800 21st St., N.W.), 1950. 50 cents each.

Federal-State-Local Relations in Agriculture by John D. Black; **The Development of a Policy for Industrial Peace in Atomic Energy**, by Donald S. Strauss; **Causes of Industrial Peace** (\$1.00 each).

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PAMPHLETS. New York, Public Affairs Committee (22 East 38th St.) 1949-50. 20 cents each.

unless otherwise marked; series of 12, \$2.00.

Mental Health is a Family Problem by Dallas Pratt and Jack Neher; **Making the Grade As Dad**, by Walter and Edith Neisser; **Prejudice in Textbooks: So You Think It's Love; Dating—Neeking—Petting—Going Steady**, by Ralph G. Eckert; **Three to Six: Your Child Starts to School**, by James L. Hynes, Jr.; **Can Labor and Management Work Together?** by Osgood Nichols and Thomas Carskadon.

BAPTIST COUNCIL ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL PROGRESS PAMPHLETS.

New York 16, The Council (152 Madison Ave.), 1950. 5 cents each. Three "program pamphlets."

Commercialized Gambling, by Ralph Davie; **The Quest for Peace**, by Mrs. George Martin; **Human Rights**, by Mary S. Thomas.

PRESBYTERIAN SOCIAL EDUCATION AND ACTION PAMPHLETS.

Philadelphia 7, Presbyterian U. S. A. Board of Christian Education (Witherspoon Bldg.).

Alcohol and People, (35 cents); **Christian Labor Relations Not in the Headlines**, by James Myers (free); **The Church and Industrial Relations** (10 cents).

BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS. 5th ed. Lake Success, N. Y., Dept. of Public Information. U. N., 1950. 15 cents.

Facts and Figures About the United Nations: A New Dimension in World Cooperation. Washington 25, D. C., U. S. Supt. of Documents, 1950. 5 cents. (Dept. of State Pub. 3930.)

OUR RIGHTS AS HUMAN BEINGS: A Discussion Guide on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Lake Success, N. Y., United Nations, 1949. 10 cents.

CHILD LABOR FACT BOOK, 1900-1950. By Florence Taylor. New York 16, National Child Labor Committee (419 Fourth Ave.), 1950. 25 cents.

JOE STALIN—TAKE NOTE

Orlando Florida—White people raised more than \$800.00 to pay for the uninsured loss suffered by a Negro war veteran whose house was burned by night riders.

MARATHON CORPORATION AND ITS LABOR UNIONS (Continued from Page 1)

tives participate in labor relations work. (10) Unions were accepted without a battle. (11) Rival unions have never been a serious problem. (12) Unions operate within the framework of "the traditional American political economy."

(13) The company does not try to drive a wedge between unions and employees but accepts union representatives. (14) Unions do not challenge company security, and company has granted the union shop. (15) Both sides have respect for the contract, and are willing to make changes when daily experience shows them necessary. (16) Many supervisors have come from the union, thus understanding it. (17) The company early established a reputation for absolute integrity, and a willingness to sit down and talk with workers. (18) Unions have repeatedly shown their responsibility.

(19) Use of the Allied Printing Label (which depends upon presence of printing unions in the plants) is now important in terms of customer demand. (20) A strike would mean permanent loss of customers (the industry is highly competitive) and would be serious for both management and unions. (Published by the National Planning Association, 800 21st St., Washington 6, D. C. \$1.00).—Labor Letter a bulletin of Congregational Christian Church Industrial Relations Committee.

In a third world war there will be no victors, only victims.

—Louis Mumford

War knows no realism except the toll of the wounded and the dead.

—Hanson W. Baldwin

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