

...and THAT  
By G. R. A.

## HOW CERTAIN CLERGYMEN MAY BECOME "ANTI-CAPITALISTIC"

Just how far the average minister of the Gospel should go into the strange fields of today's social, political and economic problems is a subject that has aroused much interest and concern on the part of many clergymen and laymen in the United States today.

From time to time, during the past scores of years (and more especially in the past four or five years) you have read about the pro-beral and even pro-leftist utterances of numerous men high in the Protestant clergy of our country.

Perhaps the most bewildering and sensational of such episodes has been the case of Methodist Bishop G. R. Hooten, whose recent testimony before Congressional Committees has been startling. To say that Bishop Hooten—however honest and sincere may have been his motives—has been associated with various Communist-front organizations for many years.

ALTHOUGH HE swears that he is loyal to the cause of democratic principles, the Bishop certainly has revealed himself as a naive and gullible adult... even perhaps the slightest touch of insanity in the people who would change our nation from democracy into Socialism.

And, as a student that many of us persons know, Socialism is but the threshold of a form of Statism whose offshoots inevitably are Fascism and/or Communism.

Recently I have received a copy of a publication called "News and Views," published in Cranston, Ill., by the National Laymen's Council Church League of America. This organization is composed of men and women who are fighting the tendency of sections of the Protestant pulpits to lend its voice to these domestic and alien agencies which seek to change our form of government into an anti-capitalist State.

ONE PARAGRAPH of this publication strikes me as most revealing in setting forth the problem in its effort to enlighten. Calmly and objectively, it sums up the problem in these words: "The broad issue that the church field, let it be stressed again, is NOT Communism (per se) but coming to grips with the Communist system. This must be understood to avoid confusion. Basically it is the kind of mental and spiritual mentality—a type of philosophy that easily develops into a hate-motivated and instituting socialism."

This starts with brooding over the fate of mankind which is apt to develop into a perfectist attitude. A search for a formula to give all good things to all people. This good thing is the rise of socialism (in various forms) throughout the world.

"THIS TENDENCY has been stimulated by three major factors: (1) their Left intellectuals—especially those who have colonized in the theological field; (2) the extra-curricular activities with political and conspiratorial movements; (3) the political and conspiratorial movements supplied by the rise of socialism (in various forms) throughout the world."

To me, the most significant sentence in the above paragraph is the one that reads: "The tendency with brooding over the fate of mankind which is apt to develop into a perfectist attitude." This "brooding," even on the part of a most sincere clergyman, is likely to bring him into areas of economic and political fields about which the average clergyman has had very little tutoring or basic understanding.

IT THUS allows him to drift into those theoretical channels of thought, where unwittingly, he may attack the economic system under which he lives and has lived. He may become a "tool" of subversive agencies.

It is not unusual for a politician, an economist, or a sociologist embarked into the academics of religion, to become a "tool" of subversive agencies.

For three years now, bands of juveniles from high schools in southern Oakland county, and even from Detroit, have been invading "The Hills" in a search for "haunts" and hunted houses.

This diversion on the part of youngsters has reached the point that so far in 1953, 200 teenagers, male and female, have been hauled in on charges of trespassing and vandalism to four old buildings in the city, according to Chief I. C. Banks.

# 1953 Torch Drive Now Is Under Way

## Volunteers Canvassing Local Area

"Standing Room Only" signs at the annual Torch Drive on Monday marked the kickoff of the annual Torch Drive in the Birmingham area, and demonstrated the tremendous enthusiasm behind the United Foundation campaign this year.

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## City Churches Plan Reformation Service

Birmingham's fifth annual Reformation anniversary service will have the Rev. Dr. Henry Hitt Crane as its principal speaker.

Sponsored by the Birmingham Council of Churches, the service is scheduled for Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. in the First Methodist church on West Maple.

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R. SKAFFE R. VOGELER M. E. ANDERSON MRS. G. M. BRUNO Speakers at MEA conference on rostrum in B'ham High gym (Eccentric Staff Photo)

## Vogeler Calls Teachers "Bulwark Against Reds"

"The traditions of the American way of life, learned in schools as a child, helped to lighten the heaviest hours of my 17 months of imprisonment by the Communist government in Hungary," Robert Vogeler told 4,000 Oakland county school teachers at the Michigan Education Association conference held in the Birmingham high school last week.

Vogeler stressed that teachers in American schools as developers of future generations, have a great responsibility to inculcate the ideas of honesty and fair play in the minds of their students as a bulwark against the philosophy of Communism.

VOGELER, a vice president of International Telephone and Telegraph, was arrested by the Hungarians and sentenced to 15 years of solitary confinement in November 1942.

Through pressure of the United States government, his release was secured in April 1945.

At that time he spent a good deal of time on lecture tour to bring the meaning of the three of Communism home to Americans.

He maintains that the United States has more to fear from a gradual infiltration of Communist ideology into the nation than an outright attack by Communist nations.

"The Communists realize their inability to match the United States and free countries on the battlefield," Vogeler said. "They will employ the tactics that brought them success in enslaving 600 million Europeans and Asians. They will spread class hatred, prejudice, and disrupt the economy to create the conditions of poverty and degeneration upon which they thrive."

VOGELER TOLD the audience of the drawn-out process of "brain washing" that reduced him to a state where he confessed to crimes he never committed.



DR. HENRY CRANE

Petersen, minister of music, will be heard.

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## Delinquent Pooch Disgraces Owner

Once it was said that because of a dog he had been to the dog pound and possibly destroyed. The owner had not looked for it, so he was surprised to find that the animal was kept by one Ralph Riley, dog warden for the City of Birmingham.

Mr. Keogh, 1833 Cole, found a stray dog around his yard for several days, seemingly perfectly happy in its adopted home.

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## Realty Board Asks Smoke Ordinance

In a letter this week to the city commission, the Birmingham Real Estate Board urged some immediate action on smoke, abatement within the city.

Real Estate board members assured the commission that they would support any controls placed on excessive smoke.

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## 150 Services Benefit from UF Campaign

The hundreds of Birmingham women who are now in the midst of the campaign to raise \$152,000 for the Torch Drive between now and November 12 are the city's biggest community enterprise story.

The over-all metropolitan campaign links 150 separate health and community service agencies in Birmingham and Cranbrook.

All of them serve the Birmingham area either directly or indirectly.

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## B'ham Man Escapes Fatal Plane Crash

A Birmingham man was injured in the Sunday crash of a light plane that brought death to the chief of police of Frankentown, Mich.

Charles Arducci, 29, of 1175 Harrow, was reported in serious condition at St. Mary hospital in Saginaw.

Albert Arducci, father of the flier, said that his son suffered fractures of both legs, a contusion of the head, and concussion.

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## City Ready To Study Suggestions

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

The "Northwest Quadrant Parking Report," concerning proposed off-street parking facilities at the northwest corner of Willard and Woodward, was made public Tuesday by the city commission and the sponsoring group.

The nine-page document, submitted by Jacobson's President Nathan Rosenfeld on his company's behalf and the Wabcock Corp., headed by William J. Wabcock, estimated that the project would cost \$337,000, by Jacobson's Wabcock.

It outlines four conditions under which the sponsoring group would be willing to sell its present holding in the back yard.

Lists immediate, short-range, and long-range objectives to bring the program to reality; and

SUGGESTS FOUR possible methods of financing this off-street parking program.

Mayor Ralph H. Main, speaking on behalf of both the commission and the businessmen offering the plan, stated:

"This report, submitted to commissioners several weeks ago, brings one phase of our continuing parking problem up-to-date. The city now can and must take the initiative in making a more equitable and economical solution to the dilemma."

The northwest quadrant sponsoring group—chiefly the Wabcock Corp. and Jacobson, Inc.—have presented us with some interesting possibilities which they believe may answer their particular problem.

THE COMMISSION intends to take the report and carefully consider it. In all probability, there will be several committees of the whole sessions at which commissioners will quite candidly express their ideas about the project.

"Public discussion will be required, so we can learn the ideas and obtain comments from the citizens of the city, and the residents of the neighborhood who are not going to rush into any final decision, nor do we propose to drag our feet in our deliberations. We want to arrive at a decision as quickly as possible, as economically as possible."

IN A LETTER which accompanies the report, Rosenfeld said: "However, we wish to clarify our position in one important principle. We are only willing to sell our property for integration into a complete parking program which involves the following points:..."

## Birds Woo Foo Police There, Too

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## Acting Postmaster Has Been Selected

A longtime Birmingham resident, active in service club, civic and public affairs during his residence here, will be Birmingham's acting postmaster, The Birmingham Eccentric learned this week.

Official announcement of his appointment awaits only the completion of a routine postal department inspection of his background.

He will replace Bernard Fowler, who has before it for action a nomination that he is being removed because of "unsatisfactory conditions" in the operation of the Birmingham post office.

Those modernistic houses that bring the outside inside give some folks a feeling that everything's turned inside-out.

## Strictly Fresh

Washington is talking about levying a "manufacturers' excise tax." No matter what they call it, you know who'll pay it.

If there is really a need for all these thousands of beauty aids and figure improvers advertised in the newspapers and magazines, American women must be the ugliest and most shapeless gals in the world.

Thanksgiving's coming — and Mrs. Joe Joakes says she'll be thankful if the can afford to buy a turkey.

Those modernistic houses that bring the outside inside give some folks a feeling that everything's turned inside-out.



CHARLIE