

Readers Speak Out On What Bothers Them

Do You Agree?

EDITOR:

Each year we strive to improve the Farmington Founders Festival so I recently requested a Farmington Clergy Association to investigate the possibility of holding an interfaith-community-wide worship service on Sunday evening, July 28, to add a fitting finale to the festival.

This was accomplished last year in Brighton with the service being held in the stadium having Rev. Robert E. Willoughby of Dearborn, as the speaker. My wife and I attended and by appearances the service was a real success. Today I received a reply from this group rejecting my proposal.

It is not the rejection that disturbs me because I realize much effort would be required and the time is now short; however, the three excuses listed greatly disturb me and I quote:

• On vacation at that time, question the validity of that kind of service.

• Worry over the style of service because of the type of people who would be present.

It is difficult for me to believe that the churches shut their doors during vacation time and I would not presume to interpret excuses two and three.

I am sure that the reply given to me is not a true representation of community conscience and I suggest that local church members agree that lethargy is not the answer to modern man's problems, that they talk to their own minister and encourage participation in community affairs.

There is no question about the success of the Joyce Prayer Breakfast a few months ago but if the service club's responsibility to do God's work? If action is taken today we will have a greater Farmington because of it.

HARRY WINGERTER JR.
President
Farmington Board
of Commerce

God Doesn't Hate

EDITOR:

May I remind Mr. Heaton that it was the white man who brought the enormous number of Africans to our country, robbed them of their identity, subjected them to enormous indignities and raped their women.

It wasn't God who mixed them up and created hate—it was the white man.

I do not believe that Gov. Romney nor Mr. Hudson have their "own private unwritten segregation law." I believe either of them would welcome black neighbors.

The blacks are trying to help themselves—that's what Black Power is all about, to give themselves self respect, self de-

termination and a belief that they are not sub-standard citizens.

Separatism is a fact today, and the black leaders want to control their own areas. They know their problems and how to deal with them better than the whites.

However they do need help—monetary most of all, but also advice and training programs such as many of our industries are beginning to provide.

I do feel that more help and involvement should come from the black upper and middle classes. I believe the reason the clergy is involved, is to create love, not hate.

They are following the teaching of Jesus who said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." The converse is true—one cannot love others until one has love of self, which is what the black leaders are trying to instill in their people.

I should like to suggest that Mr. Heaton read "Crisis in Black and White" by Charles Silberman, which is available in the Garden City Library.

I feel this book gives a tremendous insight into racial problems.

DOROTHY BUCKLEY
Painful Prophecy

EDITOR:

"Tragedy is a tool for the living to gain wisdom, not as a guide by which to live." These are the words of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy and to those who loved him, they seem painfully prophetic. A part of the legacy he left us.

This is to let the world know that we have not given up. Arlington has claimed another general; the army still stands. He left us a vital spirit... a concern for America... and a feverish will to do something about "the way things are."

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faith in us...the younger generation." As they said, many times, "We can make this the best generation or we can make it the last."

We buried a man with a blueprint in his hands—a plan we salvaged. We buried a man, but we refused to bury his dreams.

I do not believe that America is spiraling down a road of interior decay and self-destruction; I believe she is a nation in the birth pangs of a

new age...an age in which a second "Revolution" will make the first one keep its promises: equality and brotherhood in the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.

If this sounds trite then it is time to be trite! Senseless tragedy is getting a bit repetitive itself.

"Our future may lie beyond our vision, but it is not completely beyond our control" (RFK). We've got to work to-

gether now...to make the age fit the dream.

CAROLYN SIDLOSKY

Poor People Pay

EDITOR:

One of the most shocking and brazen situations in the country is the rules and regulations used in collecting income taxes. Believe it or not, much over 50 per cent of all income taxes come from people

making under \$6,000 per year. It's the relatively poor who are carrying the load today.

1962 is the last year that the government released figures on taxes paid. In that year, one individual making over \$5 million paid no income tax whatever. Three individuals making between \$1-5 million in income paid no tax whatever.

In that year, 30 individuals making between \$500,000 and \$1 million paid no income tax whatever and 28 per cent of that entire group paid less than ten per cent in income taxes.

In that year, a considerable number of corporations making very substantial profits paid not one penny in income taxes.

There are several reasons for this outrageous and untold situation but the main reason, of course, is the 27.5 oil depletion allowance which Lyndon Johnson has fought so vigorously to protect and maintain

ever since he left Texas for Washington.

The American people have tolerated this highly explosive and fraudulent tax setup for far too long for their own good. This evasion of taxes by the rich has brought the most serious trouble to country after country and it will do the same here unless we have the intelligence to correct existing abuses and do it soon.

CHARLES C. LOCKWOOD

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