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## AMERICAN INDIANS WILL RECEIVE ASSISTANCE

[EDITORIAL NOTE: In the July, 1954, issue of the *Scottish Rite News Bulletin*, there appeared an item entitled, "American Indians Again Being Victimized." We are glad to present additional information on the subject. The following article contains excerpts from an address delivered May 5, 1954, by the Hon. Glenn L. Emmons, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, before the annual meeting of the Association of American Indian Affairs, New York City.]

"THERE are two thoughts which I want to emphasize at the outset because they will help to point up the kind of administration I am trying to achieve in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. One is the need for all of us in the Bureau to maintain a humane and warmly sympathetic approach toward Indian affairs, bearing constantly in mind that we are dealing, not with inanimate objects, but with human beings who must be treated with dignity and respect. The second thought is that our most important job in the Bureau is to help the Indian people in solving some of their more fundamental problems and in eventually reaching the stage of economic and social development where they will be able to fend for themselves.

"With this objective in mind, we are now concentrating our efforts primarily in three main fields where the needs of the Indian people are most critically urgent and where the opportunities for constructive accomplishment are consequently greatest and most challenging. These fields are (1) health, (2) education, and (3) economic development....

"All of you, I feel sure, are familiar with the really appalling statistics—tuberculosis rates among certain tribes running eight or ten times as high as the national average, even higher rates in some cases for certain infectious diseases such as dysentery or measles, widespread and frequent infant mortality, and, in many cases, a span of life expectancy which represents only a fraction of the national average. These conditions, of course, do not prevail uniformly in all Indian areas, but

wherever they are found they represent, in my judgment, one of the most important negative factors in Indian life—one of the chief forces holding back large numbers of Indians today and keeping them from a full realization of their potentialities as American citizens and as human beings.

"Because I believe that this is a problem of absolutely fundamental importance in the field of Indian affairs, we are planning to attack it with a vigorous program of preventive medicine using all the skills and techniques that modern science has devised....

"One other health problem which I want to mention briefly is the serious shortage of doctors which now looms up before us in our hospital administration program....

"Now let us turn to the field of education where there is also a big and challenging job to be done on behalf of the Indian people. Illiteracy, like poor health, is one of the major factors now holding back a large part of the Indian population, and will continue to be a handicap for many thousands of adult Indians throughout the remainder of their lives. Although there is obviously very little we can do about this unfortunate situation, we can—and, in my opinion, we must—take action right now to prevent illiteracy from continuing as a blight on the prospects of future Indian generations. Today, there are more than 20,000 Indian children of school age who are growing up without the basic American advantage of an elementary education. Personally, I regard this as one of the most critical problems we face in the whole field of Indian affairs....

"Since approximately 13,000 of the Indian children now out of school are on the Navajo Reservation, we are concentrating our initial efforts in that area.... Just recently we submitted a request for a supplemental appropriation of about \$4,500,000 to cover the operating phases of this program, and our request was sent forward to the Congress by President Eisenhower with

his full endorsement and recommendation....

"The third major goal on which we are now focusing our attention is to provide the Indian people with wider and more diverse economic opportunities. As you all know, comparatively few of the Indian people living on reservations today are enjoying what most of us would regard as acceptable American standards....

"Now, I am definitely not one of those who believe that Indians are 'naturally lazy' or that they lack the inherent capacity of other Americans to make a decent living. The major cause for widespread Indian poverty, in my judgment, lies not in the character of the Indian people but in the nature of their environment."

Commissioner Emmons then discussed the various programs for bettering the economic conditions among the Indians. Space limitations make it impossible to outline these in adequate detail.

When President Eisenhower signed what became Public Law 280, he accompanied it with a statement that he hoped Congress would soon pass amendments to it which would eliminate its inequities. Commissioner Emmons submitted what was known as H.R. 9506 (83rd Congress, 2nd Session) introduced June 9, 1954, to correct these abuses, as the President had requested. But, owing to a disagreement over the use of the word *consult* instead of *obtaining consent*, the bill was not passed, and Public Law 280, unamended, still remains on the Statute Book. S. W.



## "THE AMERICAN WAY"

VERY recently we received in our mail two copies of a pamphlet bearing the above title followed by the words, "To Jobs, Peace, Democracy." It carries the subtitle of "Draft Program of the Communist Party." In its foreword it is described as a draft to be "subjected to frank and constructive criticism . . . by 'all groups concerned with saving our nation from fascism and war'." We are happy to oblige.

Among the many categorical statements made in the pamphlet are some which are specially illuminating. It is, for instance, claimed that the monopolists "are preparing to put the American people through the wringer" and that they will "throw millions of workers on the streets and attempt to cut the wages of those employed. . . . They want to . . . push the small owner to the wall and to foreclose on his home and property." The building of air bases abroad, the strengthening of our military alliances, and the giving of financial assistance are stated to be prompted by the desire of Wall Street to dominate the markets and resources of the world "behind the myth of Soviet aggression." No information whatever is offered to show that these "monopolies" and "corporations" are underwritten by thousands of small shareholders who, through their investments, are in reality working for themselves under management chosen by themselves.

The program states that it proposes "Democratic Freedoms and Peaceful Coexistence," and indicates that "the Government has the responsibility to guarantee jobs and living standards." It insists on the inclusion of "People's China" in any big-power agreement for peace. It demands "no intervention in the internal affairs of other nations and the recognition of the right of all nations to govern themselves. This means an end to the Dulles policy of instigating civil wars in other countries. . . ." Have the Soviets recognized this right in Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland,

last elections seem to have told the story.

After stating that the Communist Party is based on "the scientific (?) principles of Marxism-Leninism" and branding "as a lie the charge that it advocates the use of force and violence in the pursuit of any of its immediate or long-range goals," the pamphlet, note it well, has this to say:

"The Communist Party of the United States has its roots deep in the history and struggles of the American people and its labor movement. It is the inheritor and continuer of the best in American democratic, radical and labor thought and traditions. Its devotion to the true national interests of the American people is the source of its deep and abiding patriotism. That patriotism has been sealed in the blood of hundreds of members of the Communist Party who have died in defense of our country and our people.

"The false and despicable charge that Communists are 'agents of a foreign power,' or 'spies,' emanates from the monopolists who want thereby to cover up their own betrayal of the true national interests of the American people."

After reading this we may well remind ourselves that it was Lenin who said, "There are no morals in politics; there is only expediency." It was also he who advocated killing those who spy on Communists, robbing banks to obtain money for the revolution, and blowing up police stations. These were in part the methods employed by the Communist Party in expediting its infiltration into the countries which, one by one, it has taken over.

A more elaborate tissue of malignant fraud, deception, and brazen lies has seldom been seen since the days of Josef Goebbels. The plain intention of this pamphlet is to mislead those who read it into the belief that they are the abject slaves of a kind of fascist McCarthyism with no choice, if they desire freedom, but to adopt Communism. Its writers follow the usual Communist procedural pattern of taking such words as peace, democracy, and freedom, emptying them of their real and traditional meaning, and filling them with insane and opposing connotations that are meant to confuse and deceive. With this, they weave in a few half-truths to make their statements seem plausible and, to the ignorant and unthinking, factual.

This is not a new tactic. It was used centuries ago by one Niccolo Machiavelli; it is the same system that is still

being employed in subtle fashion by the papal hierarchy, but with a slightly different twist, when it denies its opposition to those principles which are embodied in our Constitution and Bill of Rights. And it will continue to be used until people understand that Communism has no moral principles and that Marx's *Manifesto*, which declares that its "ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions" means precisely what it says.

This "Draft Program" is pure, unadulterated, poisonous bilge. N.S.M.

### RELIGIOUS SUBSIDIES

The Santa Monica (Cal.) *Evening Outlook* for July 22, 1954, reports that the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles obtained a reduction of about seven million dollars on the assessment levy against 206 parochial schools there. The reduction is reported to have been granted by the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, sitting as an equalization board on the ground that the properties have no resale market value.

In the same dispatch it was reported that the Seventh Day Adventists of Southern California were also favored with a reduction of nearly \$300,000 on 24 of their schools.

Assessment reductions of this kind, when stripped of all excess descriptive verbiage, are nothing but subsidies given by state authorities to specific faiths to the exclusion of all others. Hence, by their nature they are unfair, not only to other denominations which neither ask for nor receive special favors of this kind, but to all taxpayers of different faiths who are, by this means, forced to contribute to the support and welfare of institutions teaching religious doctrines with which they cannot agree.

There seems to be no end to the subterfuges that are employed by an avaricious priesthood in order to gain access to the public treasury. N. S. M.

The late Clarence Darrow, eminent Chicago criminal lawyer, was one evening the principal speaker at a meeting of a women's club. After his speech, he found himself engaged in conversation with a couple of ladies who insisted on discussing birth control.

"Now, Mr. Darrow," said one, "what do you think of birth control for the masses?"

"My dear lady," replied the famous lawyer, "whenever I hear people discussing birth control, I always remember that I was the fifth child."—*Masonic News*.