

# EDITORIAL



**Africa In Today's World**  
By C. I. West, M.D.

Recent racial incidents behind the Iron Curtain might possibly have great influence in the IDEOLOGICAL EAST-WEST POLITICAL COLD WAR. The Cold War is fundamentally being waged between advocates of opposing systems of government, which are CAPITALISM and COMMUNISM. The DEMOCRATIC IDEOLOGY CHALLENGES THAT FORM OF SOCIALISM WHICH IS PRACTICED BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN, and visa versa.

All of the African nations, except Liberia, have attached their destiny to the ideology of SOCIALISM which advocates government operation as a WELFARE STATE, in contradistinction to our democratic system of FREE ENTERPRISE. The African nations comprise one third of the voting strength of the United Nations General Assembly. The direction in which those votes are cast will have ever increasing importance in the way the tide goes on the world scene of conflicting political ideologies.

It is important that we have an intimate understanding of what differences there are between Communist Socialism and emerging African Socialism. We gather a fairly adequate grasp of the major points of difference from writings and speeches of some of the more articulate of African leaders. Exerpts from three have been chosen for our readers, from papers delivered at a colloquium on African socialism held at Dakar, Senegal from December 3 to 8, 1962.

Senegal's Leopold Senghor, in his opening address: Socialism in our eyes is... the rational organization of human society, taken as a whole, according to the most scientific, up to date and efficient methods. It's aim, according to Francois Perroux's definition, is "from good living to higher living," or more exactly "the development of all men and of the complete man in more individual." (Perroux's L'Economie du XXe siecle, Presses Universitaires de France, p. 195). This means that, from the beginning, socialism calls for freedom and equal opportunities for peoples and individuals.

It is clear that our socialism can no longer be exactly like that of Marx and Engels which was elaborated about a hundred years ago according to the scientific methods and the circumstances of the nineteenth century and of Western Europe... Our African socialism, then, will be elaborated not in the dependence but in the autonomy of our thought, and it will choose the most scientific, up-to-date, and, above all, the most efficient methods and institutions and techniques of the Western world and elsewhere. But in the final analysis, they will be efficient only if adapted to the African situation as it is, above all to our geography, history, culture and psychology. Our separation in this way from the Marxist theory after it has been assimilated is all the more necessary as Marx and Engels were not anti-colonialist. The latter defended slavery in ancient times and the former British colonialism in India in the name of history!

It is clear that agricultural development conditions all other development even in the so-called "developed countries." Marx did not understand this; Lenin began to understand it; Mao Tse-fung has understood it perfectly. The nature of soils and plants but above all the nature of man, especially the farmer who is neither a theoretician nor even a polytechnician, must be taken into consideration...

We will take care not to forget that a plan of economic and social development is made by men and for men; it is not governed by haphazard development. Its implementation requires first and foremost the conscious will of men and consequently their moral and technical training. This truth is Marx's principal discovery although too many "Marxists" forget about it these days and put greater trust in machines and techniques rather than men.

I have spoken earlier of the wrongs of the colonial system and of its policy of passive assimilation. It is a policy of active assimilation that an African assimilation of foreign -- and not only European -- sciences, methods, and techniques, raises the problem of the reform of education which will be transformed from instruction into education by which I mean culture. General education will be transformed through the

## THE EDITOR'S ??? and VIEWS TO THE REVIEW JOURNAL AND THE LAS VEGAS SUN

Even if both of you decided to merge, you would still be a long way from printing a good newspaper and as it is right now, both of you would be in a world of trouble if Associated Press and the other wire services ever closed shop. If they gave out awards for dismal newspaper creations both of you would run a dead heat for first place.

Both of you, who are editors of these papers(?) had better believe this: If 1,000 Negroes had been milling about Jackson Street the other day, you would have sent everything you've got down there that could write his name including yourselves. One of you were so on top of the situation that you sent a lone photographer with a flashbulb, a pencil and a scrap of paper and he arrived at the scene some two hours after the incident.

You have been twisting the course of the Negro events in this city for a long time but this is your last time. As long as I sit behind this desk, you won't be able to twist the cap off a bottle of coke on the West-side without my knowing about it. Running a few Negro's pictures in your papers (?) could never erase your twisted blunders. You have made us look bad for the last time and that you had better believe.

Your days of sugar coating a select few and smearing the majority have suddenly come to one very sudden halt. You might as well dig in because Progress is about to kick your damn door down and you ought to jump for joy that I'm giving you enough time to keep from being caught with your pants down.

Phillip Waddell,  
Editor

## THE VOICE STEPS OUT...

**NOW: Distributed each week in  
Reno, Nevada**

**SHORTLY: To Negro Travel  
Agencies in Los Angeles and  
and New York.**

**Read The VOICE  
Each Week -  
The Only Newspaper  
In The State of Nevada  
That Can Project  
The Voice of The Negro**

reform of programs and the adaptation of text books to African needs.

But it is not only a question of training "able minds" and skilled technicians -- from the worker and the farmer to the engineer. It is rather a matter of training conscientious citizens with a will to change their collective situation: men with a taste for work well-done and for creative innovation; above all, men with a sense of common interest. Rather than the utilization of the most efficient techniques, socialism is a sense of community which is a return to Africanism. It involves a merciless struggle against social dishonesty and injustice: excessively high salaries, embezzlement of public funds, illicit trading and bribery. Again, it is a moral alertness which must be maintained from the lowest to the highest, particularly at the highest. How can this be done? By strict control exercised by the dominant or single party which will positively stimulate both the urban and the rural masses. The spirit of stimulation which we have introduced into Senegal, not without success, will perhaps finally represent Africa's original contribution to socialism.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

## Publisher SPEAKS OUT!!

## TAKE PRIDE IN BEING A NEGRO

It was not through days of slavery alone that the Negro made outstanding contributions to the progress of industrial America. In the midst of the hard struggle for developments in the United States since the Civil War, the Negro has not only proved his ability to accumulate property, but by his inventive genius has contributed much toward the economical progress of this nation. As to the number of Negroes, the exact number that is, who have appeared in the field of invention, statisticians are still doubtful. But patent attorneys and inventors themselves have established the fact that there are records of one thousand and five hundred inventions made by Negroes in the United States patent office.

J. E. Matzelliger invented the shoe lasting machine which will automatically adjust a shoe, arrange the leather over the sole and drive the nails. The popularity of this invention inspired the founding of the famous and world renown United Shoe Company which absorbed more than forty smaller corporations and is now operating with a capital stock of more than three million dollars. It employs 500 operators in factories which cover more or less than twenty-five acres of land. Within 20 years from the time of its incorporation, its production increased from one million pairs of shoes to fourteen million.

Benjamin Banneker, a Negro astronomer and philosopher born in Maryland in 1731 was a grandson of an African King. Banneker was especially fond of mathematics. In 1770 he invented the clock which struck the hours of the day. This was the first clock of this kind to be constructed in America. George Ellicott, a white man of culture opened his library to Banneker and gave him astronomical instruments to experiment with. These he used to such good purpose that he became able to predict eclipses, after which he prepared an Almanac annually, which was published by Goddard and Angell of Baltimore, who called it an extraordinary effort of genius. It has met with the approval of several distinguished astronomers of America today.

Thomas Jefferson commended his work and invited Banneker to assist him and the commissioners selected him to lay out the lines of the nation's capitol. (District of Columbia).

Elijah McCoy, Detroit inventor, has taken out fifty patents in the United States and as many as ten in Europe. The universally used lubricating cup for machinery is one of his inventions. Norbert Rilleaux invented the vacuum pan that revolutionized the sugar refining industry.

Madame C.J. Walker is not only one of America's outstanding manufacturers of toilet articles from her original formulas, but holds a noteworthy and prominent place with other firms in the manufacturing of toilet articles. From profits of these toilet articles she accumulated more than a million dollars worth of property. The products of this manufacturer rank in the class of America's best. There is hardly any line of industry in which the Negro has not been engaged from master blacksmiths to successful bankers.

*We have found wealth  
when we have found enjoyment  
in unbought pleasures*

### INTRODUCING OUR STAFF:

- Charles I. West, M.D. .... Publisher
- Phillip Waddell ..... Executive Editor
- Sandra Reid ..... Society Editor
- Robert Johnson ..... Advertising Manager
- Robert Reid ..... Business Secretary
- Dee Allen ..... Women's Activity
- Charles Lofton ..... Distributor Director
- Willie Gibson ..... Advertising Sales
- Clarence Ray ..... Advertising Sales
- Sheri Tate ..... Youth Page
- Virginia Kenard ..... Youth Page
- Clinton Wright ..... Photographer
- W.B.D. Public Relations Firm ..... Publication Representatives

Editorial & Advertising Offices at 812 West Bonanza Rd., Las Vegas, Nev.—Distributed Every Wednesday (Weekly Publication).

Advertising Rates Available upon request  
Subscription Rates — 10c weekly  
Telephone Number — DU 4-1276