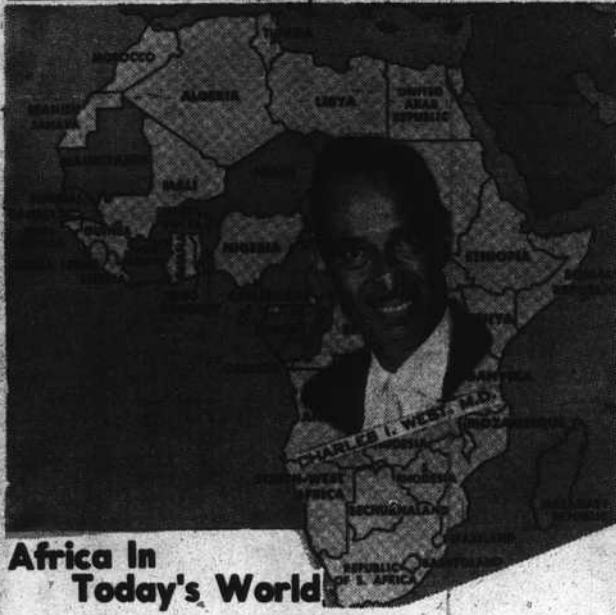


EDITORIAL



Africa In Today's World

By C. I. West, M.D.

It was less than a century ago that serious, and consequential exploration of Africa's interior was undertaken. The inhabitants, who dwell within the interior of the continent, had no stimulation to explore unknown lands, because nature had endowed their land with all of the necessities of life. The Africans had no change of seasons to cope with -- they had summer the year round -- no winters to plan for, so consequently, they had no motivation to venture into distant lands. Their lands were lands of plenty, so they stayed close to home, living leisurely off nature's generous endowment. The Europeans did not venture inland, and the natives did not wander coastward, so there was limited communications between the two. Routes of travel from the coast to the hinterland were not established until after the middle of the past century -- a scant century ago.

European sailors began plying the Atlantic coast, making contact with West Africa, the Cape, and the South east coast of the continent at the turn of the 15th century. They were searching for a new passage to the Orient, which had supplied Europe with its winter foodstuffs via the laborious overland route of Marco Polo.

The Spanish, Portuguese, English and Dutch sailing ships began trading with the Africans in the newly discovered areas in the mid-16th century. It was a century later, in 1652, when Dutch expeditions established the first European settlement at the Cape. This Cape settlement was set up to serve only as a half-way supply post for the ships sailing to the Orient. A few trading posts had been set up on the West coast by the Portuguese, the British, the French and the Spaniards. They dealt chiefly in slaves and spices. Two centuries elapsed before the European nations took more active interest in colonizing the continent.

In the early to mid-19th century, the European countries experienced an industrial revolution which demanded new sources of raw materials, and foods which were critically low in Europe. Factories which had sprung up all over Europe had exhausted the supply of basic raw materials. The population shift from rural to urban areas had created critical shortage in food supplies. This situation demanded serious interests in the exploitation of Africa. In the mid-19th century, the European nations started a land grab of Africa. Each nation seeking and searching desperately for new resources for survival. Near the end of the nineteenth century, the entire African continent was under European control except three established sovereign states: Ethiopia, Liberia and Egypt, the latter being a British protectorate. In 1910 the Union of South Africa became the fourth independent nation as a member of the British Commonwealth.

The colonized territories has their geographic boundaries fixed by arbitration. The boundaries were artificially contrived by the bargaining powers, but did not become permanent until the early twentieth century. The size and choice of location of the colonies was determined by the military and industrial potential of the powers. Belgium and Portugal were exceptions to this general formula, because of squatters rights established by their early exploration and settlement of certain areas. This size of each nation's slice was commensurate with the nation's might. England and France cut off the largest slices, Portugal and Belgium got slightly smaller pieces, while Spain, Italy and Germany divided the crumbs.

The Colonial governments confined their exploration and development only to the coastal areas, penetrating no more than 150 miles inland. The intense jungles plus fear of disease and disaster, limited overland travel. The peculiar topography of Africa rendered its many waterways un navigable to sailing ships. Africa has a low flat coastal area that extends inland 50 to 150 miles. The central structure of the continent is a huge, elevated plateau, which abruptly ends the flat, gradual slope of the coastal plains, causing the rivers flowing to the sea, to become cascades that ship cannot pass. This barrier to navigation kept the interior of Africa a dark secret, which remained a mystery to civilized man until the advent of the gasoline engine and aviation. A few exploratory missions did attempt to penetrate the hinterland, but most of them never returned, and the few which did, brought back incredible tales and conflicting reports. Authentic knowledge of what secrets were contained within the interior of Africa was not revealed until after the middle of the last century. Our present stockpile of African information is hardly a century old. Much of the record was distorted or purposely deleted to fit the pleasures and purposes of the colonial powers.

The Right To Select Our Leaders

By Charles Kellar

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights. That among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The right of the Negro people to select their own leaders is one of these fundamental rights. Can you imagine what chance the prisoner would have of getting an acquittal if the prosecuting attorney could choose who would represent him as defense counsel? The interests of the District Attorney and those of the defense counsel are divergent, to say the least! It is a fundamental right of a democratic system that one accused of crime shall have the right to be defended by a lawyer "of his own choice, at every step of the proceedings." It is equally fundamental that the Negro community must choose their leaders without white interference.

The interests of the white power structure and the Negro people in Las Vegas, and everywhere else in the State of Nevada, are in conflict. The power structure wants to maintain the status quo, at least with as little change as possible. If the Negro people are to achieve any of their natural goals, they must work to change things. They want some of the jobs now "reserved for whites only" in the hotels, restaurants, casinos, retail businesses and all branches of government. They want to move into integrated housing when they have the means and the desire. They want to be cashiers and tellers in banks. They want to be secretaries, bookkeepers and stenographers as well as porters, maids and street cleaners. They desire to be apprentices in the trade unions so that they too may aspire to earn \$30-\$50 per day as journeymen.

Negroes aspire to be teachers, principals and administrators in all schools, not only the "Negro" ones. Just as the white person is eligible to teach and administer the school in the Negro section, so the Negro ought to be eligible to do the same in the white area. The Negro who passes the police tests wants to be a policeman -- not a "Negro policeman." He wants and ought to be assigned anywhere -- not just in the Negro section. What is wrong with this? The Negro is entitled to have these rights, privileges and opportunities.

But the power structure dictates otherwise. Its interests and desires dictate doing what it can to thwart these worthy ambitions of the Negro people. It is, therefore, desirous of selecting Negroes who will "cooperate" to keep the status quo as nearly status quo as possible. Although it is beginning to consider some changes, it says, "Not so fast." Like Slattery and Baring it cries, "The Negro never had it so good." Did Slattery and Baring ever have it better? Are they not trying constantly to improve their lot? What is wrong with the Negro having the same ambition and making a similar effort?

Negro leaders who have both the intelligence and courage to buck the powers that be are a danger to the status quo. They are feared, resented and shunned. To minimize the influence of these Negro leaders, the white power structure selects white stooges to initiate whispering campaigns. They charge the selected leaders with subversion and other heinous character deviations. Since many Negroes think that white approval is essential to progress, this creates doubts in the minds of sections of the Negro masses. The next step is to urge the selection of Negroes of lesser training and ability. Negroes have the same ambitions as everybody else and there will always be persons who are willing to be used. Insecurity will prevent them from doing anything but the bidding of those who elevated them to power. Fear of loss of status and face will dominate their thinking and behavior.

The white power structure will brazenly say, "I will sit down only with Joe, Jack or Sam." They would prefer to sit down with those whom they believe they can out-wit, out-talk or out-think. The white man who thinks the Negro is equal and is ready to treat him as an equal is rare. The average Caucasian thinks the Negro inferior and wants to keep him "in his place." He resents Negroes who are not patronizing, or who are his equal economically, educationally, intellectually or otherwise. God help those who are superior to him in any of these areas!

They resort to the most secretive and foul means of preventing the Negro from earning a livelihood. They see to it that bank loans and public licenses are denied him on the flimsiest of excuses. When these fail, they resort to whispering campaigns against the leaders. By innuendo, character assassination begins. "Divide the Negro;" "Separate him from his natural leaders;" Support instead the weak Uncle Tom -- the fawning smiling Negro "leader" who is satisfied with "a little." It is in the interest of the power structure to keep the Negro leadership weak and dependent. It serves their purpose to keep the community splintered and ununited.

The Negro community must choose the Negro leader who is dependable, courageous, honestly interested in the group welfare and possessed of enough daring to brave the wrath of the white man. Then he must be supported. Whatever leader you select

WALTER BARING MUST BE DEFEATED

Any Negro who votes for Congressman Baring will be sticking a knife in his own back.

When Baring, or anyone speaking for him, comes to seek your vote, ignore him. He has forfeited every right to expect any Negro voter to extend the common decency of engaging in conversation with him. Baring has become a turncoat to our cause. He will attempt to make you believe that he has been misquoted by the press. When he makes this statement, ask of him, how many suits he has filed for libel, or for slander.

Baring is quoted, as recently as February 5, 1964, as saying, "I cannot, in good conscience, support the Civil Rights Bill in its present form, particularly in view of the fact that it would create too much government control. In addition, the Nevada State Legislature has turned down almost identical legislation several times, ..."

Walter Baring is more interested in States Rights than he is in human rights. The kind of States Rights that Baring wants, is the Right To Do Wrong as far as equitable treatment of minority groups is concerned. Baring believes that, "Civil Rights is only 10% civil rights, and 90% extension of Federal control over States Rights." My answer to Baring is, "Walter, you take the 10% for the rest of your life, and let me have the 90% for a while."

My 1964 wish for Cong. Walter Baring is total defeat at the polls, and the right for him to walk in my shoes for the rest of his States Rights life.

REMEMBER THE SLOGAN "BARING NO MORE AFTER SIXTY FOUR"

Charles I. West, Publisher

A TALE ABOUT BARING

There once was a Congressman named Baring,
Who cared less how Negroes were faring.

He tried to kill
The Civil Rights Bill
By giving the measure a paring.

We thought the issues were clear,
A Civil Rights law for this year,
But Baring did holler
From under his collar
"Federal control is the thing I fear."

This same Congressman spoke loud,
Right along with the Dixiecrat crowd,
"No morals to legislate,
"Or bigots to regulate,
"Racial injustice must be allowed."

The United States Civil Rights Commission,
Asked Congress for its permission,
To get some power
If just for an hour
To carry out a Civil Rights mission.

Up jumped the Congressman Baring,
Again with his big mouth blaring,
He let out a roar,
Upon the House floor,
"About Negroes we should be caring?"

When the time comes for re-election,
And each voter must make his selection.
As for Baring,
And how he's faring,
Let's cast our votes in another direction.

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show the white adversary that you will respect and bargain with whatever leader you select if you say, "That is my leader; if you want to deal with me, you will have to deal with him." They don't select the white trade union leader, the white political boss, or the white banker; why should they select the Negro leader? I ask you, does it make sense to permit it? NO! THE NEGRO MUST SELECT HIS OWN LEADERS, WITHOUT WHITE INTERFERENCE!