

INFORMATION for all persons of good will toward Almighty God. RELIGION is a snare and a racket. GOD'S TRUTH shields and strengthens the upright.

KINGDOM NEWS

DEVOTED to the principles of justice, truth, equity and kindness as exemplified in the acts and sayings of The Creator of the Universe and of His King Christ Jesus.

. . . the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, . . . of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end . . . The zeal of JEHOVAH of hosts will perform this.—Isaiah 9:6, 7.

Vol. 1

New York City - April 1941

No. 8

IF THE BILL BECOMES LAW In Your State, Concerning "Discrimination" Then What?

CARDINAL GIBBONS could be fined,

if alive, \$5,000 for saying and publishing: "That the various Protestant denominations differ from one another not only in minor details, but in most essential principles of faith, is evident to every one conversant with the doctrines of the different Creeds. The multiplicity of sects in this country, with their mutual recriminations, is THE SCANDAL OF CHRISTIANITY, and the greatest obstacle to the conversion of the heathen. Not only does sect differ from sect, but each particular denomination is divided into two or more independent or conflicting branches." (Quoted from *The Faith of Our Fathers*, page 9)

FATHER HARNEY, a Paulist Father, could be imprisoned for three years

for saying, as he did at New Brunswick, N.J., in answer to the question: "Does the Catholic Church regard Protestants as heretics, and does it not believe and teach that heretics should be punished, even with death if necessary?" thusly: "In a way, I say yes, Certainly the Church does consider Protestants heretics, in a way. . . . No man, by sinning himself, should be allowed to lead others into sin. I do not doubt, if they were strong enough, that the Catholic people would hinder, even-by death, if necessary, the spread of such errors through the people. And I say, rightly so." (Reported in the N.Y. *Herald*, May 7, 1901)

Why fine and imprisonment?

Because the statements above incite "hatred, violence, or hostility against" Protestants by reason of "religion or manner of worship". (Maryland Bill H.D. No. 291, of February 11, 1941)

NOAH WEBSTER, and his publishers, could be fined \$500 for his published definition: "WHORE. 2.a. A community or a religious group accused of idolatry or idolatrous prac-

In the Legislatures of New York, Connecticut, Maryland, and other States, lawmakers are now submitting Bills, all very alike in form, seemingly for the innocent purpose of controlling "the dissemination of propaganda". This is being put across without the general knowledge and discussion of the people, and is a grave danger to American Constitutional rights and liberties.

tics;—commonly applied (more fully WHORE OF BABYLON) to the Roman Catholic Church or its head in the 16th and 17th centuries." (Quoted from Webster's *New International Dictionary*, 1935 edition)

WHY? Because this publishes "the records of any proceeding" of an "organization, association, corporation, society", that incites to hatred or hostility against Roman Catholics by reason of "religion, or manner of worship". (Connecticut Bill S.B. No. 721, of January 31, 1941)

JESUS CHRIST would be fined \$200

or/and sentenced to prison

three years for saying to the religious clergy: "They bind heavy burdens, and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they . . . love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers! how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" (Quoted from Matthew 23:4-9, 14, 28, 33)

WHY FINE AND IMPRISON JESUS for this? Because His utterance applies to religious clergymen who do the same things today, and it exposes to public ridicule and incites hatred and hostility against religionists by reason of "manner of worship". (New York Bill S. No. 323, Int. 311, of January 23, 1941) Also any

Christian caught distributing the very Bible could likewise be fined or imprisoned, or both, for circulating or giving away a book "which in any way, in ANY PART thereof, incites, counsels, promotes or advocates hatred, violence, or hostility against any group or groups of persons . . . by reason of race, color, religion or manner of worship". The like punishment would apply to any Christian distributing a book quoting Jesus' words from the Bible and making a modern-day application thereof to those committing like religious sins today. Thus the proposed legislation could be used to suppress the Bible itself and all publications for Bible study.

Why Bad?

Backers of such legislation openly admit that it is aimed to punish citizens who dare to publish THE TRUTH, even though such publication exposes to everyone a creed or practice that is extremely vicious and harmful to the public welfare.

On the face of it, such a law prevents freedom of speech and protects error and fraudulent practices. Therefore it is misleading, deceitful.

There is no need for such a law. Existing laws provide adequate relief to those who have been slandered or libeled. Every GROUP is made up of individuals. Laws that afford a remedy for one person also afford an adequate remedy for any number of persons constituting any group.

Such a law is unconstitutional. Here be reminded that the Constitution of every State provides, substantially, that no person shall be deprived of the inestimable privilege of worshiping Almighty God in a manner agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience.

No one will deny that there is a tremendous difference between the worship of Almighty God and the practice of RELIGION.

How Used?

Astounding beyond words are the cruelties that can be imposed upon the people by enforcing this new brand of libel law.

FOR EXAMPLE: Under such a law persons can with impunity promulgate their belief and manner of worship with the bold claim that the worshipers must appear nude and indulge openly in practices now well defined and recognized as immoral. If a person opposed to such RELIGIOUS ceremony should dare to publish the truth about the teachings of that group, their creed and practices, such publication would necessarily subject that group to

shame, ridicule and contempt, and the person so publishing THE TRUTH subjects himself to a severe penalty even though he dared to do RIGHT.

The proposed law, therefore, shields and stimulates indecent conduct under the mere claim that such practices and beliefs are "religious".

Shields Extortion

As a further illustration, let us suppose that a religious group promulgates a creed and form of worship which provides that the one ministering can pray, supposedly to God, to relieve from a "purgatory" or other torment the "soul" of one who has died, and that the condition upon which such prayer is to be made is that the pastor or priest who prays must be given a sum of money by the surviving relatives of the deceased. Should anyone call attention to the Scriptures, showing that such religion and practice is contrary to God's Word, is a form of Devil-worship, and is a fraud upon uninformed people, that would certainly hold up such religious group to contempt, ridicule and disapproval, and yet it would be the TRUTH, for the reason that God's Word plainly states that when a man is dead prayers in his behalf are useless and that no one has authority, right or power to justly receive money from a living person to utter prayer in behalf of one who is dead.

So, under such a law everybody could be forced to acquiesce in or subscribe to or at least remain silent as to the false doctrines of any institution that parades under the name and form of RELIGION, and which group of religionists might be doing so wrongfully and obtaining money under false pretenses.

Destructive

Let the members of your State legislature be reminded that the enforcement of such a law is DESTRUCTIVE in this: That if anyone were found in this state with a Bible opened at the twenty-third chapter of Matthew and pointing out to another the language of Jesus Christ therein printed and which He spoke against religious priests and other ecclesiastics of His day, and if such person should say to another that the words of Jesus apply now with equal force in this state to certain religionists who do the same things that Jesus denounced, the person so having the Holy Bible and thus publicly exhibiting it would be guilty of a violation of that bad law and would subject himself to severe punishment.

That law therefore destroys the right of every person to exhibit to his neighbor THE TRUTH contained in the Bible and to make effort sincerely to help his neighbor to understand right principles set forth in the Bible and the application of those principles during these trying times.

Hypocritical

Such a law begets habits of hypocrisy and meanness, in this, that it provides a cover for all manner of false and fraudulent practices as carried on under the name of RELIGION. Making it a criminal offense for one to mention such hypocritical and false practices is directly con-

trary to the underlying principles of the American government.

Centuries ago attempts of Jesuits and other professional religionists by temporal punishment to prevent citizens from speaking the truth and worshipping Almighty God as He commands in His written Word caused the forefathers to lay the foundations of this government on the bleak shores of New England. Then they provided, in the Constitution of the United States, for freedom of worship and freedom of speech and of press. These fundamental personal rights, secured and safeguarded also by every State constitution, have been defined and declared afresh in numerous recent opinions of the nation's highest court. In one of those unanimous opinions (*Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U. S. 296), after pointing out that often religious institutions wrongfully try to prevent individual citizens from availing themselves of the benefits of these constitutional provisions, the Supreme Court said:

"In the realm of religious faith, and in that of political belief, sharp differences arise. In both fields the tenets of one man may seem the rankest error to his neighbor. To persuade others to his own point of view, the pleader, as we know, at times, resorts to exaggeration, to vilification of men who have been, or are prominent in church or state, and even to false statement. But the people of this nation have ordained in the light of history, that, in spite of the probability of excesses and abuses, these liberties are, in the long view, essential to enlightened opinion and right conduct on the part of the citizens of a democracy."

Where From?

Who aside from professional religionists, one may well ask, would be interested in having such a law put upon the statute books of this state?

It is noteworthy that in attempts to stop distribution of the message of God's Kingdom many who deliver that message to the homes of the people have been arrested and imprisoned, wrongfully, at the behest of religionists. All of these facts strongly point to the real backers of these oppressive laws who now hide behind some screen labeled "RELIGION". In the State of Connecticut it was publicly advertised by the backers of such a law that it is aimed directly at Jehovah's witnesses.

It is also highly significant that the well-known international leader of the most prominent sect of "organized Christianity" has recently notified his agents in all parts of the world to do everything possible to stop the proclamation of the message of God's Kingdom by Jehovah's witnesses, as is further shown in the booklet *Theocracy*.

That most prominent religious sect of "Christendom" is the comparatively small number of eminent clergymen who call themselves the Roman Catholic Hierarchy. Its seat of government is not in this land, but at Vatican City. It is admittedly in league with the two "axis" dictators of Europe who, with their "comrades" at Moscow and Tokyo, now push the most atrocious assault of all time upon the liberties and rights of all free peoples of the whole world. The chief of that Hierarchy and his fellow religionists back up and "BLESS" the tanks, planes and killers now carrying out the dictators' wicked program for world domination.

Let no one misunderstand. Let no one foolishly say this is 'stirring up hate'. In thus rightly identifying the faithless and ungodly conduct of those eminent leaders of RELIGION no reflection is intended here on the millions of humble, God-fearing persons in this land and elsewhere who are subjects or children of the far-flung Catholic system and whom its clergy have wrongfully taught to obey the Hierarchy of Authority instead of obeying only the Word of ALMIGHTY GOD. So draw your own conclusions as to where these pernicious and hypocritical "laws" originate and for whose benefit and against whom they are stealthily enacted. When by law the press and the citizenry of this land can be prevented from publishing and speaking THE TRUTH about any religious group, then with equal certainty can the law prevent criticism of any political group. Tyranny would be enthroned. Carefully consider other harmful results described in the booklet *Conspiracy Against Democracy*.

Warning

To attempt by law to interfere with the work which Almighty God has commanded His witnesses to do in the earth at this time in the public interest is the height of folly. Rather, let right-thinking and sober-minded men heed the advice given by Gamaliel, a learned counselor of ancient time, who said concerning Jehovah's witnesses:

"Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought; but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."—Acts 5: 26-42.

FIGHTING AGAINST GOD is a most dangerous business. See many scriptures in the booklet *God and the State*.

Consider also the God-given advice now being heeded by every upright person, namely, to 'turn away from leaders who have a form of godliness but deny God's power, and who draw near to God with their lips while their hearts are far removed from HIM'. (See 2 Timothy 3: 1-12.) Now is the time to ABANDON RELIGION and instead quickly LEARN AND OBEY THE LAWS OF ALMIGHTY GOD written in His Word, the Bible, and to serve only Him and His King Christ Jesus in sincerity.

WARNING is therefore published here in the interest of all persons of good-will who love righteousness and hate iniquity. Dangers to liberty were never greater in this land of liberty than in this hour of peril. Far greater, however, is the danger faced now by anyone who willfully attempts to hinder or obstruct the swift and irresistible progress of the "strange work" Almighty God is performing now in all the earth by His witnesses, to provide security, comfort and knowledge for every upright person who gladly obeys His King Christ Jesus and the law of His Theocratic Government. See Zephaniah 2: 1-3.

FOR FURTHER PROOF THAT such proposed legislation is against the Bill of Rights against Democracy, and against God's Kingdom message,

read
**CONSPIRACY AGAINST DEMOCRACY
THEOCRACY
GOD AND THE STATE**

All three booklets, neatly covered, totaling 160 pages, mailed postpaid to you on your contribution of 10c. Send to:

WATCHTOWER
117 Adams St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

KINGDOM NEWS

is published by
WATCHTOWER

117 Adams St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

\$1 per 1000 copies - Single copy 1c