

Mon Mar 29/65 - 4:30 PM

Holy Love Dove (Testimony)

GOD'S WORK GLORIFIED

Clippings and Testimonies — Regarding Integration Attempts In Louisiana and Australia, and Experience of First Freedom Riders In The Peace Mission Movement

GIVEN
IN THE CHAPEL-LIKE DINING ROOM
— WOODMONT —

THE MOUNT of the HOUSE of the LORD
SPRING MILL and WOODMONT ROADS
GLADWYNE, PA.

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1965 A.D.F.D.
4:30 P.M.

(One of the Secretaries firstly read a clipping from the Sunday Bulletin, March 28, telling of Louisiana Governor John J. McKeithen meeting with a group of dark-complected parents in Jonesboro, Louisiana to iron out present-day difficulties, and telling them, "Come, let us reason together," in racial problems that have beset the rigidly segregated community. The clipping continued: "McKeithen had flown here from Baton Rouge — a gesture of extraordinary personal diplomacy for a Southern governor. It was the first such trip McKeithen has ever made," the clipping reported, "and is believed to be the first of its kind by a Southern governor.")

(At its conclusion we all joined in singing the following inspirational song:)

The Triumphant March of Righteousness is on,
The Triumphant March of Righteousness is on,
Rally All! Rally All! For GOD is leading us on!
Through all the generations right has been opposed
For if it had free expression they knew it would take control,
But in this Dispensation of the Reign of Christ
It goes on unabated, for GOD leads this fight!
As a mighty man of war HE goes forth
And stirs up jealousy,
For mankind knows that through Righteousness
Invincible is HIS Army!
Right shall triumph, and every opponent
That comes in the wake of it
By the Power of GOD shall be extinct,
The Triumphant March of RIGHTEOUSNESS is on!

MOTHER DIVINE:

Peace FATHER Dear, Peace Everyone: We have evidence, here, of this Triumphant March of Righteousness going on throughout the world, and we know so often when FATHER has Spoken about the emancipation of the people HE has referred to the Aborigines in Australia! So in light of that, we thank FATHER to read this clipping that came from the N. Y. Herald Tribune under date Sunday, March 28. It is called:

ALABAMA in AUSTRALIA

(She reads in part:)

... A group of 27 university students, borrowing tactics from Martin Luther King, launched Australia's first freedom ride through

the state of New South Wales to publicize examples of racial segregation.

They rode more than 1,000 miles by chartered bus through country towns, staging sitdown strikes and demonstrations at hotels, clubs, theaters, restaurants and swimming pools where aborigines are barred.

They proved it may not be such a long way from Australia to Alabama as some of their countrymen would like to think.

In the first few days of their tour, the freedom riders were nearly killed when their bus was deliberately sideswiped by a truck and run off a lonely country road near the outback town of Walgett. The incident occurred after they had picketed a Walgett Veterans Club, equivalent to The American Legion, which does not admit aborigines.

In the rich farming center of Moree, 450 miles northwest of Sydney, the students were punched, spat on and pelted with fruit by a mob of 500 as they attempted to escort aboriginal children into a local swimming pool. They staged a sitdown strike at the pool and were carried away bodily by employees of the local council, including the mayor.

When the tour reached the halfway mark, the driver of the student's chartered bus refused to go on, claiming it was too dangerous. A replacement driver was flown up from Sydney.

The incidents stunned a public which tended to think of the aboriginal problem as too small to worry about. Church and civic leaders throughout the nation are now calling for immediate action to combat the apparently deep-seated racial prejudice in many walks of Australian life.

The freedom riders — 18 young men and nine girls from Sydney University — were all "Caucasian" except for their leader, Charles Perkins. At 29, Perkins is the first aborigine to enter the university. He is the son of a "Caucasian" father and an aboriginal mother and is a member of the Arunta tribe from the Northern Territory. Overnight the tour catapulted him into national prominence as a leader of Australia's widespread aboriginal population.

Perkins has been described as the Martin Luther King of Australia, but there are certain obvious differences. He is a tough professional soccer player, noted for his quick temper on the playing field, and he made it clear more than once in dealing with mobs that passive resistance does not come easily to him. He told a heckler in one country town "I would like to paint you and family black and put you in a tin shack 10 miles out of town and see how you make out."

Under Perkins' prodding, the aborigines, one of the world's most primitive races, are showing the first signs of revolt against color bars. However, there are vast differences between discrimination "downunder" and that practiced in America. . .

(Several songs are sung, including "We're living in a new day now," after which one of the Followers spoke, stressing that we started living in a new day years ago when FATHER first

picked each of us up and caused us to live as we are living today through HIS Principles of Righteousness, Truth and Justice and true Brotherhood! She spoke with feeling of the marches and parades the Followers had under the Banner of FATHER DIVINE in the City of New York and the boroughs of the Bronx and Brooklyn, marching together, integrated, through the streets, and being heckled years ago, as the marchers are today, yet going on victoriously because FATHER DIVINE GOD ALMIGHTY paved the way! She added that it "sticks and stings" so, not to hear one of the civil rights leaders in this day mention these things that FATHER DIVINE has already accomplished for the people, not only here in these United States but all over the world. It was after this that our Beloved MOTHER arose again to speak briefly as follows:)

Peace FATHER Dear, Peace Everyone: The thought just came to mind concerning Freedom rides, as well as marching, that FATHER'S Children participated in years ago. We have spoken about the marches, and although FATHER didn't Personally journey in these particular Freedom Rides from the west coast but it was due to FATHER Personally and because of the Followers' recognition of HIS Deity that they were trying to carry out FATHER'S Desires to travel as they did, enacting the Bill of Rights together! But I think of the many delegations of Followers that came from the west coast to the east coast in the early thirties and early forties; we have some right here today that were on those bus trips; and how they went through the deepest parts of the south and they came as one man at Jerusalem. If they would not accept one in the group, then they all would not accept the accommodations or services that were necessary; and they underwent hardships, but they stood TOGETHER. And it was not talked about in those days, but I know it was FATHER'S MIND and SPIRIT that was PAVING THE WAY, and some stories can really be told of their experiences, when they were on those "Freedom Rides"!

(Miss Holy Love Dove speaks up, as MOTHER resumes Her Seat, telling of her experience in the bus she travelled in with a group of Followers, as follows:)

Peace FATHER Dear, Peace MOTHER Dear, Peace Everyone: I would just like to say that I was one of those witnesses, one of those marchers and Freedom Riders; and when we went through Texas and Oklahoma and Arkansas — the sisters in the group — and we didn't know all the things that FATHER had Personally gone through, like we do today, and yet FATHER had put HIS Spirit in us to STAND TOGETHER, and we walked down these streets, and afterwards we really shook in our boots to know what could have happened to us — integrated as we were — but we knew and we were willing to stand. If they got one they would get all of us as one!

And sometimes we would go into a restaurant and they would say, "Well, we can feed some of you in the front and we can feed some of you in the back," and we would say, "Well, we either all sit in the front or we will all sit in the back!" and they said, "Well, we couldn't do that — we couldn't serve anybody (of a certain complexion) in the back! Go on the other side of town!" So we obediently would go on the other side of town and they didn't want us over there either! (Merriment resounds.) So we didn't complain. And the thing of it was, we didn't know each other; we weren't friends, I mean, of long standing or anything like that, we were strangers to one another; yet we were willing to die together or stand together, it didn't make any difference, because we knew what FATHER stood for and we were willing to stand the same way! And so plenty of times we drove miles and miles and hours and hours not eating because they wouldn't accept any of us; and the deeper we got in the south, the less they wanted of us! And some would say, maybe eight o'clock in the morning, "Well if you come back tonight after ten o'clock we'll feed you!" And so we didn't — we'd just all get in the bus and we'd start praising FATHER — and we got this little song together: "We thank YOU FATHER for a restaurant where we may all dine as one!" And then we'd start to sing, you know, and you'd think we had really been fed, and were just as empty as anything! And we came from a warm climate, going deeper and deeper into a cold climate, and hot food really would have been appreciated — but we didn't care. We didn't care a bit!

So somehow or other one morning when we really had been through something and we stopped in this little place in Oklahoma and it was right on the highway — you could see the whole thing in one look. And so they said they were getting out to see if they could find a place to eat, so I didn't get out of the bus; and here comes this sheriff down the street with a ten-gallon hat, spurs on his boots — and there was one building, it must have been the bank, it must have been the post office and it must have been the jail! — and of course, the bus we were in, it wasn't disguised in any way. It said, "West Coast Delegation going to see FATHER DIVINE" — and across the top was this big PEACE! And so I was the only one in the bus, and this sheriff, he really looked in there you know! So pretty soon everybody came back and got in the bus and we drove off. And before we had left Los Angeles, the mayor had given us a letter, and we did not know the contents of that letter at that time. And we were just driving along — it was cold and we hadn't had any coffee or anything — so somebody in the back starts to sing, "Keep your cups a-going and your blessings flowing free!" and so we thought, you know, well, we have to be optimistic! And so, however, somebody patted me on the shoulder, like that (she demonstrates); so here comes this steaming cup of coffee. So, you know, manna in the wilderness! So I was patted again, so I patted the next one — they got their cup of coffee. So there we had coffee! Then the next thing — tapped again — we had doughnuts, we had rolls, and fruit — and you can tell that we sang that day! (Again merriment resounds.) We sang "We are feasting at FATHER'S Table in this land," and "Keep your blessings flowing in" and I mean that bus never hit the pavement, we were just floating!

And so we drank our coffee and we ate our rolls, and we picked up all the things like you are supposed to and passed them all back to wherever FATHER had them back there, and got on the highway, and we had been dragging kind of slow, you know, not to spill the coffee —

and here comes this car and did like this (she demonstrates) right in the front of us! If we had been going fast we would have struck it or we would have gone in the ditch. So the driver said to us, "Everybody keep their mind on FATHER." So nobody said anything, you know, just "Thank YOU FATHER, thank YOU FATHER" — and here comes this sheriff. He said, "And what were you doing back there in that town?" We said, "Well we were merely trying to find a place to eat." And he said, "Don't you know you stayed just too long!" So the driver just takes out this letter and gives it to him, and we didn't know what that was all about or anything. So the sheriff opens up the letter and he reads it and gives it back to him and says, "Okay." So we went on our way. But the beautiful part was, in every big town that we went in we wired FATHER and told HIM where we were and that everybody was in one accord, and that we were singing and praising HIS Name. The children confessed their sins, they told what FATHER had done for them, they read HIS Messages. We just kept busy twenty-four hours a day — we didn't stop at night or anything, we kept right on going!

And so afterward when we got to New York we were so happy and so tickled, you know — we finally made it in! — (we came through Philadelphia too) but we stopped in Allentown, and all that time, we stopped there at twelve o'clock and we asked for someplace that we could eat — that we were going to see FATHER DIVINE. They said, "Anybody from FATHER DIVINE is welcome in here!" (Loud applause rings out.) They still remembered that FATHER had Personally been there just a little while before that and they were still talking about the meeting and all the things that FATHER had said and done during that time. So it was twelve o'clock at night — and we didn't dine again until we dined with FATHER Personally at twelve o'clock the next day in Bridgeport, Connecticut!

So getting back to New York, when we got to, like, the first street we said, "second, third" — we just kept counting until we got to 112th Street, 113th Street, 114th Street — and when we got to 115th Street everybody yelled because we had finally got to where FATHER was Personally!

So anyway, before we drove in to 115th Street the driver said, "Now don't be disappointed if FATHER is not Personally there — HE might not be there Personally." So of course everybody went, you know, kind of down. So sure enough, FATHER was not Personally there. So the driver went in and the Secretary on duty said, "I cannot tell you where FATHER is Personally, but if the Spirit tells you where HE is I will give you the telephone number!" So the driver said, "The Spirit tells me that FATHER

is Personally in Bridgeport." So the Secretary gives him the phone and gives him the number and he called. But before he had gone in he said to us, "Now everybody stay in the bus, because if FATHER asks me, 'Where are the children?' I want to say, 'FATHER, they are all in the bus waiting YOUR orders!'" So we all stayed in the bus. And so when he called he got FATHER PERSONALLY on the wire! — (Thunderous applause resounds.) and I mean this was around six o'clock in the morning! It wasn't afternoon or anything. But the first thing FATHER Said — "Where are the children?" and he told HIM, "FATHER, they are in the bus waiting YOUR orders!" and FATHER said, "Well, you may bring them to Bridgeport."

So we went to Bridgeport! — and FATHER Personally met us in the yard, and HE Personally took us to the Table just as we were! — nine days and nights! (Merriment rings out.) And we had a beautiful Banquet with FATHER — the other children from the City hadn't got there — FATHER had stolen away! So then after we got all through with that Banquet FATHER said that we might all refresh ourselves there! We brought in all our bags and all our necessary things — and the next Banquet we went to, we really looked civilized! (Again merriment rings out.) So by that time all the children from the City and elsewhere had gotten there too!

So I'm saying this to say that if you make a sacrifice for Righteousness' sake, which FATHER said in HIS Message that day, "No man has forsaken all these things lest he gain an hundredfold more, and in life to come, Life Everlasting!" I thank YOU FATHER Dear.

(Thunderous applause and cheers resound, after which Miss Holy speaks again as follows:)

Peace Everyone: I forgot to tell you that the contents of that letter were. It was from the Mayor of Los Angeles, and about that time Los Angeles was about a million and a half population, and this little town that we had gone through was probably fifty people — not any more than that — and the letter said: (She quotes from memory:) "This is a West Coast Delegation going to the East Coast to see FATHER DIVINE, and any courtesy extended to them on their journey will be appreciated by me." Signed, the Mayor of Los Angeles. (Again applause and cheers resound.)

(Several other significant testimonies are given about various trips by bus from the west coast in the years 1933 and 1934, and still another from the midwest, but time and space will not permit editing all — for as was said of the Son so with the FATHER — if all the things said and done by HIM could be written, volumes could not contain them!)

God Is In The Church Now

— Father Divine

REMARKS AND READING OF NEWS ARTICLE

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1965 A.D.F.D.
5:45 P.M.

(Directly after Miss Holy Love Dove's testimony one of the Secretaries arose to read another clipping:)

Peace FATHER Dear, Peace MOTHER Dear, Peace Everyone: In line with what Miss Holy has just said about eating together and everything, a clipping came to our attention a few days ago which shows how FATHER is getting into the Churches now and making them do what HE said they should do, because, as FATHER said in HIS Message "GOD is in the Church now!" (She reads:)