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U. S. Court Delays Decried

By Roscoe Drummond
Written Especially for The Christian Science Monitor

The functioning of the federal courts has been deteriorating for a number of years. It isn't the quality of justice which is strained; it is the courts which are strained by the work load. And the litigant, who could be any of us, is caught in the middle of excruciating, mounting, wasteful delays.

These delays are not merely inconvenient. Delays of a year to four years in getting a case tried in a federal court now are so common that they are a source of positive injustice—unfair to the public, hurtful to the judiciary, and unnecessary.

The situation is getting worse, not better, and nothing adequate is being done about it. Year after year after year, almost without interruption for the past 15 years, the unfinished case load of the federal courts has increased, new civil cases almost constantly exceeding those terminated. There have been a few spotty improvements, but in most districts the problem is critical bordering on the desperate.

The immediate reason why this condition continues is that Congress does not provide the judicial manpower to cope with the increasing volume of litigation. Our society is more complex, our federal laws are more numerous and complex. The need for efficient justice is constantly greater. Today Congress appropriates for the running of the whole judicial system about what it costs to build a light cruiser.

But what lies behind this congressional neglect of the courts? Why isn't Congress more responsive to the needs of the judiciary? It certainly isn't from lack of recommendations from the judicial conference or from the Department of Justice.

It isn't congressional perverseness, I am sure. Congress is itself, often hurried, sometimes overworked—and never feels the hot breath of public criticism when it puts off again and again dealing with the courts.

What is lacking is an informed and aroused public opinion which Congress could not safely turn aside. There is one simple, important, and necessary step which could be taken to help create such a public opinion. That would be to turn the spotlight of national attention annually upon the accomplishments and operating difficulties of the judicial branch of the government by having the Chief Justice of the United States address a joint session of Congress on the needs of the judiciary.

This proposal has had an able and persistent advocate during the past year in Assistant Attorney General William P. Rogers. It has been endorsed by the American Bar Association and has the unanimous approval of the judicial conference. Judge Parker of the Fourth Circuit has put it this way:

"Congress must provide the funds and pass the laws necessary for the proper administration of justice. It is important that it be advised correctly as to what funds and what laws are necessary for that purpose; and there can be no better way for this to be done than for the Chief Justice, who as chairman of the Judicial Conference of the United States knows better than anyone else the needs of the judiciary, to lay these before Congress in joint session. In this way, not only would all members of Congress be fully advised of the needs, but the public presentation by the Chief Justice would attract the attention of the citizenship at large to the work that the judiciary is doing and the importance of giving it adequate support."

Public and professional reaction to this proposal has been almost entirely favorable. But three objections have been raised, and they should be looked at.

It has been suggested that the appearance of the Chief Justice before Congress might tend to impair the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. The Chief Justice is the head of the judiciary conference and as such is required by law to submit an annual report to Congress. For him to do it in person would simply enable him to discharge his duty more effectively and enhance both congressional and public awareness of the requirements of the courts.

It has been suggested that the Chief Justice might not year after year have sufficiently important developments to report to justify an address before a joint session. I think that most congressmen and most citizens would value hearing the Chief Justice once a year. But if the argument had validity, one solution would be to make the invitation permissive, not mandatory.

It has been suggested that since no Chief Justice has ever addressed Congress, it should not be started. The answer to that is that if tradition does not serve its purpose, it should be broken, not preserved. "We cannot," says Assistant Attorney General Rogers, "permit the legitimate needs of the judiciary to go unattended because they are presented in such form and manner that they miss the mark."

One can understand how Congress, preoccupied with many pressing things, is fairly casual about how it responds to the appeals of the judges. But Congress would not be casual about responding to the appeals of an informed public opinion to bring justice up to date. A personal report from the Chief Justice—who would have to be invited by Congress—would put the needs of the courts on the front pages, where it is obvious they will have to be if anything adequate is to be done to bring justice up to date.

Doctor Who Never Practiced, Dies At 102

Washington, D. C. (CNS) Dr. James Edward Simpson, who had a degree from Louisville Medical College though he never practiced medicine, died at his Washington home this week at the age of 102.

Born in 1854 in Brownsville, Pa., the Negro doctor's father was a riverboat steward and he himself studied at Pittsburgh and Wilberforce Universities before he came to Howard University in 1877. He earned his medical degree at Louisville Medical College and claimed that he didn't practice

medicine because he was only interested in the knowledge to attend to his own family.

He became a teacher instead and taught Latin. In 1925 Dr. Simpson was the first teacher in the public school system of Louisville to be retired. On celebrating his 100th birthday, his hearing and eyesight were excellent and he knew the Bible well from memory.

He lived by the verse: "What man of you would live long and see many days, let him keep his lips from evil and his tongue from speaking guile."

Highways for the Nation

By now Senate and House conferees will likely have reconciled differences on ways of imposing additional taxation for the multi-billion-dollar road program. And what is perhaps the most ambitious and tremendous peacetime project in American history will shortly come before Congress for final passage.

The last major difference has been resolved rightly, in my opinion. That is to base distribution of \$2,000,000,000—the total cost of the government's 90 per cent share of the cost of the 41,000-mile national highway network—on the relative size, population, and length of rural mail routes of each state. This seems far sounder than the other method voted by the House: accepting the states' own estimates of costs. This formula would have put states under temptation to boost their shares by refraining from "sharpening their pencils."

In the long run, no doubt, federal-state sharing will have to meet what experience proves the roads actually cost. And the conference compromise may prove a wise one in limiting the plan of distribution to three years.

The money released, in effect, to the states by so large a federal assumption of the cross-country network's cost should now be used to relieve congestion in and around metropolitan areas. Otherwise each such bottleneck could nullify quite a little accomplished by the width and straightness of the open road.

In fact, the whole vast project must be thought of as amenable to continual updating. One needs only to glance back 10 years to realize that yesterday's thoroughfare may seem like a winding country road tomorrow.

Seein' Stars

By Dolores Calvin

New York (CNS) Rose Morgan-Louis is back on the job at her stunning Rose Morgan House of Beauty in New York. Mrs. Morgan had been suffering from nervous exhaustion and was warned by her doctor to take it easy. Now the bride of Joe Louis is slowing down considerably though it's difficult with two careers under the same roof.

Louis Armstrong and Sammy Davis, Jr. were simply magnificent in giving of themselves to the TV marathon for Muscular Dystrophy as staged by Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin. Sammy sang and sang, danced and danced and then added a number on the drums. Louis sang and played on the wee hours of the morning. The whole affair was a local New York telecast.

What's this of Eartha Kitt having a new admirer in the heir of the A and P millions and he bringing her home to mama? But Eartha was supposedly to have been quite haughty about it all and handled herself rather badly though she didn't dampen the ardor of her admirer. Eartha's always been able to attract men with loot but holding on to them—either she just doesn't care or else she just enjoys toying with them all.

Harry Belafonte drew the biggest crowd in the 39 year old history of Lewishon Stadium with 25,000 admirers on the inside of the huge amphitheater and thousands outside trying desperately to get through. It was a terrific tribute to so nice a guy as Harry. With that kind of box office appeal, he can name any price in the books and get it.

Impressario Billy Shaw died of a heart attack. Billy was never our ideal of a manager—a run of the mill guy on what Negro talent should and should not do and what place it belonged in. But he did handle several lesser known names—specializing in race talent and thereby earned his money. We suppose many will shed tears.

Count Basie led the Castle Hill Summer Concert season the last days of June with a surprising kickoff. Usually it's the classical

Strawberry Pie with Sweetened Condensed Milk for Year Round Serving



Strawberry Cream Cheese Pie

- 1 baked 9-inch pie shell or cookie crumbcrust
- 1 1/2 cups (12-oz. can) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup lemon juice
- 1 package (8-oz.) cream cheese
- 2 eggs, separated
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup sliced strawberries, with whole berries for garnish

Put sweetened condensed milk and lemon juice in bowl and stir until mixture thickens. Beat cream cheese, softened to room temperature, until smooth. Add one egg yolk at a time, beating after each addition. Add fruit and mix well. Fold cream cheese mixture into sweetened condensed milk mixture and pour into pastry shell. Garnish with meringue made of egg whites and sugar or with whipped cream. Add strawberries for decoration.

IT'S YOUR MOVE-- Here Are Money Savers

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Good News—Plus Warning

Sometime in the next few days Congress is going to raise the debt limit temporarily once more. But there is good news in the fact that this year the administration has asked for only half the boost voted in each of the last two years. This time a temporary lift of \$3,000,000,000 will enable the government to get by until the spring flood of income-tax collections comes again.

Indeed, the Treasury expects to close the current fiscal year on June 30 with a \$1,800,000,000 surplus. There is good hope that this can be used to cut the national debt below its current \$273,000,000,000. That will be moving in the right direction—toward using boom-time surpluses to balance deficits which may be necessary in poorer years.

For still another reason it is wise to make a payment on the debt instead of wiping out the surplus with a tax cut. For the prospect is that federal costs will continue to rise in the next few years. Certainly there should be continued pressure for economy. But the American people are demanding more services, and things such as school aid and road-building will add to outgo.

If prosperity is maintained and the national economy continues to expand, tax revenues will rise. We must hope that they will permit further debt reduction, so that temporary increases in the debt ceiling will not be necessary. But careful estimates warn us that as costs are now moving this surplus could be the last for some time, and citizens had better enjoy that comfortable feeling while they can.

The Last Word

By Elizabeth Davis Pittman

One of the most important meetings of the decade sounded the gavel for adjournment on Sunday, July 1, 1956 when the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People blasted its last bigot. Why is this meeting to be remembered? Why was it so important? It was important because Alabama and Louisiana have tried to declare the N.A.A.C.P. illegal within their boundaries while Mississippi has attempted to belittle the import of the organization, the organization and its sympathizers as well by setting up a unique "tattle tale" spy system which will gnaw at the core of the group until it has about as much impact and effectiveness as a well planned lawn social. The halls of justice will resound when the case involving the injunction in Alabama is tried. We have already quivered with fear, apprehension and horror at what happened in Louisiana when the organization was declared illegal. What could be more tyrannical than to deny freedom of association and the right to try legitimate grievances in the attempt to gain the dignity entitled to all men?

This organization known as the N.A.A.C.P. is important to the American Negro for two reasons. It doctors his state of mind by keeping him informed, vigilant and militant. The frame of mind of the individual is all-important in his quest for equality. We are beginning to realize that the psychological approach is more and more the answer to our racial problem. The Negro must know they are equal, that they deserve the same opportunities as all other peoples. For generations there has been the partially successful attempt to instill in the Negro, as a race, the feeling of inferiority and dependency, the

subconscious fear that they cannot do this, that they must not do that; and that if they attempt, they will be met with failure. The Negro is at the place where nothing beats a trial but a failure. The Negro must defeat his defeatist attitude.

Secondly, the organization is interested in the general establishment of full citizenship rights for the Negro. The Negro, after the Civil War, was awarded his freedom. Naive, unprepared and trusting, they were easy prey for the carpetbaggers, who chose to exploit them for their own selfish interests. By the time the Negro had acquired sufficient experience to separate the wheat from the chaff, the harm had been done, and all means were being taken to deprive them of their newly gained rights. Since that day, they have had to fight anew—they have seen rights given to those who are, historically, less deserving than the Negro. The Negro has been deprived of property rights—which rights have been returned via the Supreme Court, he has journeyed to Washington, D. C., the capitol of the nation and has seen, in some instances, such discrimination as is experienced in the more backward sections of the South. The Negro has been deprived of numerous civil rights which can only be regained by legal prosecution, one of the tasks of the N.A.A.C.P. and a responsibility which it is anxious to shoulder—much to the woe of the deep South.

The securing of the entity known as the "whole citizen" is the objective of all the organization, manifested in the N.A.A.C.P., is the hope of the many people who are dealing with the problems of discrimination in the present and who are looking into the future. Let us hope that this dream will become an actuality.

Florida Boycott Has Cost Bus Co. 60% of Revenue

Tallahassee, Fla. (CNS) Cities Transit moved quickly to cut its overhead since it has lost 60% of its revenue because of Florida Negroes boycotting over seat segregation. The bus company is accordingly indefinitely its 13 buses and 22 employees after the City Commission rejected a final proposal by the Negro inter-city council for ending the bus boycott.

The city of 48,000 persons of which 14,000 are Negroes will be without any transportation except taxis.

Heart Disease More Deadly Than War

Three times as many Nebraskans are killed every year by heart and blood vessel diseases as died in World War Two.

This appalling fact comes from the Nebraska Heart Association, which reports that there are approximately 7,000 deaths annually from these diseases compared to 2,290 War fatalities.

In fact, heart deaths in just four of Nebraska's largest counties—Douglas, Lancaster, Scotts Bluff, and Hall—exceed the last War's deaths by almost 150.

"But heart research, including Heart Fund-supported studies at Nebraska's two medical schools, is making remarkable advances and saving thousands of lives," says an Association spokesman.

"Today some forms of heart disease can be prevented and a few can be cured. Almost all cases can be helped by proper treatment, especially if started at an early stage," he continues.

To help fight the main types of heart trouble caused by high blood pressure and hardening of arteries, the Nebraska Heart Association is doubling its research budget and increasing by 25% its program to keep doctors abreast of the latest advances.

"Nebraskans can join this fight by guarding their own hearts through an annual physical check-up, a sensible diet, weight control, regular exercise, and maintaining a peace of mind," he added.

Heart and blood vessel diseases constitute one of Nebraska's major health problems, afflicting more than 80,000 persons of all ages and causing 54% of all deaths.

The Nebraska Heart Association also points out each year in this nation about 800,000 persons die of heart trouble, only 130,000 less than the total deaths in our five major wars.

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Article in Reader's Digest Reveals Jittery Pre-Menstrual Tension Is So Often a Needless Misery!

Do you suffer terrible nervous tension—feel jittery, irritable, depressed—just before your period each month? A startling article in READER'S DIGEST reveals such pre-menstrual torment is needless misery in many cases!

Thousands have already discovered how to avoid such suffering. With Lydia Pinkham's Compound and Tablets, they're so much happier, less tense as those "difficult days" approach!

Lydia Pinkham's Compound has a remarkable soothing effect on the source of such distress. In doctors' tests, Pinkham's

stopped... or strikingly relieved pain and discomfort 3 out of 4 women got glorious relief!

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*By noted doctor



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