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AFFAIRS OF STATE

By CHARLES M. HILLS



FACING FACTS

Rep. Jim Mathis, of Leake, has introduced in the lower assembly of the state legislature a bill designed to halt political activities by employees of the board of trustees of Institutions of Higher Learning.

Boiling down the stilted language of the brief bill, the conclusion is reached that the law-maker would muzzle persons who live off the state and its bounty and yap at the heels of our commonwealth.

And that reminds that a few days ago, one of our state senators took the floor in the upper assembly and castigated a professor at the University of Mississippi.

If this man "wants to be placed in the very sewer of society," Sen. Corbett Patridge of Schlater, said, "then I say, let's place him there, now and forevermore. But let's do it now. If there is one man who is opposed to this procedure, let him come forward now."

Sen. Patridge named the professor and at one juncture in his rather lengthy discussion, compared the educator to "Benedict Arnold."

It has been repeatedly spread in the news that the professor has preached integration, which is offensive to the average Mississippian and certainly to Sen. Patridge.

INTERESTING THOUGHTS

Whether the legislature acts to oust the professor or not, Sen. Patridge came up with some interesting observations, and a few excerpts are given here:

"Ten years ago, the United States Supreme Court stipulated that my children must go to school with negro children," Sen. Patridge recalled.

"Being a realistic individual and one who works with negroes on my farm in the Delta, I know that integration on any basis—either amicable or hostile—is absolutely impossible.

"I do not now, nor have I ever, advocated the destruction or mistreatment of the negro race, no do I want them to destroy us. I can honestly

state that some of my best friends are the negroes on my farm and some of the negroes who live in my community," Sen. Patridge asserted.

"As to being prejudiced—Webster defines the word as: 'to pre-judge.'

"It is not necessary to pre-judge a negro or for him to pre-judge a white man," Patridge explained. "We both know that each exists and that we each have a line of thought.

"Mine is to work, accumulate and build for the future. His is to work and enjoy the fruits of his labor and to make every Saturday night Christmas Eve," Patridge declared.

The senator has painted a familiar picture.

COMMUNIST MADE

A new bill, perhaps more far-reaching, has just been introduced by Rep. Charles Blackwell, Jones county, which would have Communist made goods identified as such in vending places in this state.

The title of the act is self-explanatory, as follows:

"An act concerning the sale or disposition of or having in possession, for the purpose of sale or disposition thereof at retail, of certain goods or

chattels manufactured or processed in Communist-controlled countries, and providing penalties for the violation thereof."

Blackwell names the countries which the bill stipulates as Communist-controlled, as follows:

As used in this act a "Communist - controlled country" shall include the Russian Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Czechoslovakia, the Republic of Yugoslavia, the People's Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Cuba, the German Democratic Republic, the Republic of Bulgaria, the People's Republic of Rumania, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, and Albania will be added.

LEGION INTERESTED

The leadership of The American Legion in this state has shown close interest in this bill, and, that seems to us important.

No organization under the sun has taken a more active part in the continuing fight against Communism than the American Legion.

Smear tactics have been attempted against the Legion, but even the most gullible are hesitant to accept attacks on the veterans of the wars.

We stand by the Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans and other Congressionally-chartered organizations of men who offered all for the defense of their nation.

If The American Legion favors Rep. Blackwell's bill . . . then the rest of us might do well to take a good look . . . and act.