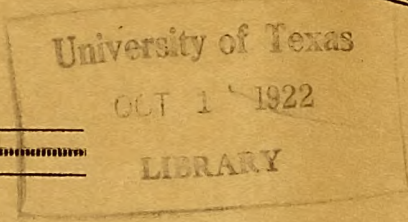


The
**CHRISTIAN
STATESMAN**

Founded in 1867

Jesus Christ is Civil Governor Among the Nations



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Protect the Nation from the Vociferous Minority

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An Assumed Declaration of Independence

Exponent of Rule by the People

"For Such a Time as This"

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OCTOBER

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Assumed Declaration on Political Rights and Principles

BY THE PEOPLE OF HERRIN, WILLIAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

The following satirical article from the pen of one of our most highly intelligent and esteemed readers—R. M. DOWNIE, Secretary-Treasurer of the Keystone Driller Company, an organization of international name and fame—is designed to throw into clear relief the natural result of the secular theory of the State with which our nation is being leavened—a theory that is undermining the whole sacred fabric of our Government. The leaven of that theory merely came to the surface in the striking Herrin mob.

The prevalent and growing contempt for law proceeds directly, naturally and logically from the assumption that law is naught but a mere set of varying rules adopted by a self-centering majority for its benefit. The sacred fabric of constituted authority and law is largely lost sight of by the masses. The following article is intended to quicken the public mind into an apprehension of the danger that impends.

Editor, THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN.

The unfortunate but necessary killing of a few outlaw scabs at this place on June 22nd of this year has caused such wide comment in the press of the country that in self-defense we feel obliged to state frankly the position and rights of the people of this community in regard to the matter. The people of Herrin merely asserted both their natural and Constitutional rights.

We would respectfully refer our critics to the wording of the United States Constitution itself. In its preamble it locates its ultimate and only source of Governmental authority in the people. Accordingly what the people want they should have and have the right to take. The Constitution states in plain words that "We the people * * * do ordain this Constitution" and this means also all the laws and treaties made under it. It recognizes no higher authority, for the reason that there is no higher.

Abraham Lincoln, in his famous Gettysburg address, refers to ours as a "Government of the people, by the people and for the people." There is no higher authority than this recognized, either by the Constitution itself, or by the people of this country. We of Herrin, therefore, merely invoked an established principle that is consentedly recognized by all citizens of the United States. Instead of being held up to scorn the people of this county ought to be commended for their courageous out-and-out Americanism.

The fortuitous circumstances leading up to the events of June 22nd were that the Honorable William J. Sneed, a state senator of Illinois, anxious to guard the inherent rights of the coal miners of this country, inquired of John L. Lewis, head of the Miners Union, by what right the steam shovel scabs were mining coal in this county. Mr. Lewis promptly wired back that "representatives of the Coal Miners Union are justified in treating this crowd as an outlaw organization, and in viewing its members in the same light as they would view any other common strike-breakers."

Mr. Lewis, whose fidelity to the Constitution need not be questioned, spoke for that great body of Americans who compose the Miners Union. What followed, therefore, was simply the practical application of the above stated basic principle of the United States Constitution, for the benefit of the people

of this community. These steam shovel men were mining coal and doing work which belonged to the miners of this county. The miners had and have a Constitutional right to this work and therefore were obliged to stop this unlawful and unjust invasion of their rights and to prevent the mining of coal regardless of the consequences.

Some of the papers in criticising us even go so far as to claim that a crime was committed in killing the scabs. These well-meaning but illogical editors forget that the sovereign people of Williamson County were simply asserting their will, and that those who were hurt ought to have kept out of the way.

Others argue that these scabs had a God-given right to run the steam shovels and that therefore it was morally wrong to kill them. These would thus argue that there is somewhere a higher source of authority than the will of the people. This we deny. The Constitution of the United States, by its silence on this point, also denies that assumption. True, the United States has at times gone outside of its stated authority to assert its will by the force of arms, as in the days of the Rebellion. But in doing so it asserted an *assumed* right, by an appeal to might. The people of Williamson County merely did the same thing. The verdict of the coroner's jury in the case is in line with this view.

Thus if the State of Illinois, or the United States Government, assumes to call us to account for the happenings of June 22nd they must show an authority higher than the will of the people, and higher than anything they have hitherto claimed. They must invoke the barbarous doctrine of Germany that mere might makes right. They will be obliged to break down our will by their stronger one.

We object to the invocation of any assumed divine source of supreme authority by the United States Government. The Government, we are glad to point out, has settled its policy beyond dispute. In the very first treaty made under the Constitution (with Tripoli) it is stated that the Christian religion is no part of the supreme law of the United States. It cannot therefore consistently at this late date reverse itself.

We are awaiting the outcome, confident that the Government will not be swerved by those fanatics who would have it

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assume divine authority to interfere with us in the exercise of our liberty. Even President Harding has inconsiderately said that "government is somehow a contract with the Almighty". But he does not tell us how, when or where any such contract was made. It is not so nominated in the bond—the Constitution—the fundamental law of the land. The idea that "civil government is a divine institution", or that "the State is a moral person" amenable to laws it does not itself make, or that it is responsible to any higher power for carrying any such laws into effect, is altogether repugnant to the whole theory of the United States Constitution. The first amendment to the Constitution settles this. Liberty means the freedom of the people to make their own laws and do as they please. The acknowledgment of any higher authority is unconstitutional.

God and his laws have no authority in civil affairs. Justice is simply an affair between men and communities. Rights and liberties are only and exclusively what is willed by those who enjoy or wish to enjoy them. This is not only the theory of our Government, but it is the theory in practice in Herrin. The Constitution guarantees to us the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; but the sole authority under which it acts in making this guarantee is the power lodged in it by the will of the people.

The Constitution will always be mighty dry reading for the wets.

CHRISTIAN STATESMEN

BY CHARLES ARTHUR CARLISLE

Constructive, efficient, unselfish service is the policy that will help solve many difficult world problems.

If one will take the map of China and note the result of the policy of the various nations of the world, he will see that Great Britain has taken Hong Kong and no doubt intends to control the coast all the way up to Shanghai and then up the Yangtse River embracing the richest valleys in the Orient; France has captured and now controls the southwest of China with Canton as its open port to the sea; Germany took the Shantung province because, in her judgment, this province was the richest of all in its fisheries and mines but, as you know, Germany was compelled at the close of the war to hand over this great concession to Japan. And Japan hopes to control all northern China, which is like the great north-west of the United States and the neighboring rich grain fields of Canada.

All the great nations in settling their disputes with China have grabbed all the land they could get hold of—all, that is, but the United States of America. Our policy has been the Open Door Policy with everything above board and on the table. The result is that while others have rich concessions in lands and material wealth, the United States alone holds the richest treasure of all, because we hold the *heart of China*.

The people respect and honor us and the great credit that comes to the American people is due to this policy of helpfulness and of co-operation. It was this influence and policy that compelled Japan to return to China the Shantung province and it will be this influence and policy that in time will restore to China all the concessions that others have taken and place China in the line of great republics—(China for the Chinese) as America stands for Americans. It was a great inspiration that led Hay and the American Government to back the policy of the spirit of Christian statesmanship and the day is not far distant when China will deliver to its people a unity of centralized government that will develop a republic second only to the United States.

Christian statesmanship inspires the ethical conscience of a people, and provides a fundamental of constructive, efficient, and unselfish service. In the interest of the United States and all the people of the world and the governments that shall guide their destiny, the following suggestion is offered:

Organize in every church and in every society of every creed and class and kind, the local, state, and national society of Christian Statesmen, under the leadership of **THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN** and with the motto **JESUS CHRIST THE CIVIL GOVERNOR AMONG ALL THE NATIONS**.

The object of this organization shall be to amalgamate the service and interest of all the members of the church both men and women, to assist the pastor, and in like manner to influence and assist the civic, state and national governments in all problems of civic, state and national interest and "to maintain existing Christian features in Government, to promote moral reforms and bring governments to an acceptance of the moral laws of the Christian religion."

The slogan shall be—*Every Member a Christian Statesman*—and *Every Christian Statesman a Member*.

Every local chapter shall have a representation in the county, the district and the state organization and a voice in selecting a member of the national body, which shall be located at Washington. Just as the National Chamber of Commerce is organized for commercial activities so shall the Christian Statesmen organize for developing the ethical conscience or soul in the individual, and in the homes and the civic, state and national governments of the people.

What the pastor of a local church needs most is the united co-operation of all its members, both men and women, and in like manner what the local government needs is the united help of all good men and women. That will mean better government, better citizenship, happier homes and a more profitable people—not alone in material gains, but in the richer and more lasting gain, the victory over selfishness—the glory of the love of Jesus Christ.

Old Satan fashions his temptation exactly to fit your weakness.