



Dr. Littell

Meet the Radical in the Woodpile

JUNE, 1967

DR. FRANKLIN H. LITTELL IS QUOTED in the *New York Times* (November 19, 1966) as calling anti-Communists, Conservatives and fundamentalist Christians . . . "kooks" and "flesh eaters." Who is this vicious man, so filled with hatred of fellow Christians and with ridicule for sincere anti-Communist Americans? Who is this man whose name now figures not only in the activities of the Institute for American Democracy but also in Thomas Altizer's "God is dead" movement?

In official IAD publications, he is "idolized" as a "prolific writer" . . . "ordained Methodist minister, a Ph.D., a *Phi Beta Kappa* . . . a registered Republican . . . recognized expert." But, the official publications of the leftist IAD conveniently overlooks some of the other interesting facts about this individual.

For instance, the instigator of the blasphemous "God is dead" movement, Dr. Thomas J. J. Altizer, gives Dr. Littell full credit for having introduced him to his heretical thinking. In his new book, Altizer admits he is indebted to Franklin H. Littell "for introducing me to radical Protestantism."

Little wonder that Littell hates Billy James Hargis and Carl McIntire. Actually, his controversy is with the God they preach and the Christ they defend. Dr. Littell's fight is against New Testament Christianity, and he is not loath to recruiting political Liberals to help destroy the advocates of religious orthodoxy.

According to a *Corpus Christi* newspaper, November 19, 1962, "a theologian advised fellow Protestants to bury the belief that the founding fathers created a *Christian America*. 'It is a lie,' said Dr. Franklin H. Littell. I ask in all sincerity, does this statement by Dr. Littell sound like a true Christian or an anti-Communist American?"

The first Communist front ever organized in the United States was the Methodist Federation for Social Service. Today this organization is called the Methodist Federation for Social Action and is still listed in the latest edition of *Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications*, printed by the U.S. House of Representatives, as a Communist front. Dr. Littell has been a contributing author to this Communist-front publication. If

he is such an outstanding anti-Communist, I am sure the heads of this Communist front would have refused to carry his articles. In fact, in 1945, he wrote a series of three articles for "Social Questions Bulletin," official publication of this Communist front, Methodist Federation for Social Action.

You may be interested in knowing that the "Social Questions Bulletin" is still being published by the Communist front, Methodist Federation for Social Action. This group was cited as subversive by the Internal Security Subcommittee in 1956. It was actually organized in 1906 and was cited time and time again as a Communist front. Yet, in spite of this public information, the new allegedly anti-Communist, Dr. Franklin H. Littell, was a frequent contributor to this front publication.

In February of 1945, he wrote an article entitled "A Cell in Every Church." In March, 1945, his article was called "Protestantism Is a Success." In April, 1945, he titled his article "Formation of the Group." In July and August, 1945, his article was called "How Socially Effective Is the Church?" In March, 1947, his article was entitled "Methodism and the Ancient Bondage."

ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 15, 1962, at the Baptist Student Union, Wichita Falls, Texas, Dr. Littell was asked if he had been a member of the allegedly pro-Communist group, "American Youth for Democracy." Littell replied in the affirmative. Later in his appearance in Harlingen, Texas, he denied this membership.

On the same night in Wichita Falls, Robert F. Campbell, Jr., asked Dr. Littell what he thought of the anti-Communist film put out by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, "Operation Abolition." Dr. Littell heatedly said that the film was slanted and distorted. Campbell pointed out to Dr. Littell that J. Edgar Hoover had endorsed this film in writing. Littell then showed great irritation, according to several witnesses.

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(above)

On the same evening, a Mr. H. Dustin Fillmore produced certain documents concerning the past of both Dr. Littell and his father. When Fillmore produced six citations about Littell and twenty-three more concerning his father, Littell sprang forward and struck Fillmore in the face.

According to the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* of January 10, 1963, Dr. Littell spoke January 7-10 on the campus of Texas Christian University. Here he was again charged with having "far-left" connections. Of this charge, Dr. Littell said: "Extreme right-wing critics have followed me in all of my speaking engagements."

In January, 1961, Dr. Littell was involved in racial agitation demonstrations across the campus from Southern Methodist University. A newspaper published in Dallas, the *Park City's North Dallas News*, January 12 and 19, 1961, reported Dr. Littell's involvement in and leadership of the "sit-in" demonstrations.

In addition to attacking the film "Operation Abolition," Dr. Littell is on record as opposing the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In his Harlingen speech, in answer to a question from the audience, he said: "The House Committee on Un-American Activities has had the misfortune over a period of twenty years to be largely in the hands of adventurers. The poorest political representatives that we have in the House again and again have been allowed on the Committee. Now, the reason why I advocate abolition of the House Un-American Activities Committee is because they constantly spread across the countryside unappraised and unsifted material, much of it false."

The thing Dr. Littell has forgotten is that all of the testimony given before the House Committee on Un-American Activities is given under oath, the same as it would be in a court of law, and any person who testifies falsely would be guilty of perjury and if that happened the Department of Justice would bring indictments against him. The abolishment of this Congressional Committee designed to protect the internal security of the United States is a prime objective of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

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The Parley in Chicago On Religion and Race

By WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

AN APPEAL to the conscience of the American people to rally in a united front of action against the menace of American racism — Jimcrow, segregation and racial inspired injustice came out of the Jan. 14-17 National Conference on Religion and Race in Chicago.

The conference was unique in many respects and worthy of unusual study. Individual religious bodies have met in our country to discuss "The Negro Question" on several occasions. Nothing came of it. This was an effort to create a new collective, to discuss the question and to do more, to help put an end to the "Question." In this factor there is obviously enormous possibilities to correct whatever weaknesses were found or were inherent in other conferences.

The program that came after deep and sharp discussion, dealt with:

1. The responsibility of the Church individually and collectively for the status of Negro citizens, and the consequent deterioration of national morality and integrity and the weakening of the prestige of the Church.
 2. The responsibility of the Church to aid all seeking equality of rights and opportunities in the U.S.
- It approached that aid in terms of ideology, politics, economics and especially morality.
- It appealed to the conscience of the American people to help save our democracy and to make it real.

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HOW FAR this Conference will go in the implementation of its splendid program only history will answer but youth, women, men, labor, Negro organizations are challenged by what it did and said and implementation can be inspired from many sources.

The Chairman of the Conference was the Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, President of Morehouse College and an internationally known fighter for Civil Rights. The Vice-Chairman, The Right Rev. Bishop Germanos of Syna-don Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America.

Others prominent in the Conference were the most Rev. Paul J. Hallinan, Archbishop of Atlanta Georgia, Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman of St. Louis, Bishop B. Julian Smith, Presiding Bishop First Episcopal District Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. Franklin H. Littell, the Very Rev. Msgr. John J. Egan who spoke on: The Responsibility of Church and Synagogue as Institutions in the community and a veritable host of dignitaries and prominent men and women.

A panelist, William Stringfellow, a New York Attorney long active in progressive affairs said that it was: "Too little, too late, too lily white." He said that the church had been absent from the scene of struggle and that as a consequence its statement of

THE WORKER, official publication of the Communist Party, thinks highly of the NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RELIGION AND RACE... Note the significant contribution made to this project by Dr. Franklin H. Littell.....

- 56 SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS
- ** METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION
1. "With an eye to religious groups, the Communists have formed religious fronts such as the Methodist Federation for Social Action * * *"
(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 91.)
- ** Franklin H. Littell (McCormick Theological Seminary, University of Michigan, Boston University, Bethel College, Methodist clergyman)
- (1) Methodist Federation for Social Action -- nominee for executive committee -- 1947 ballot, page 1
 - (2) Methodist Federation for Social Action -- nominee for national committee -- Social Questions Bulletin, February-March 1949, page 48
 - (3) Methodist Federation for Social Service -- writer for Social Questions Bulletin -- issues of February 1945, March 1945, April 1945
 - (4) Methodist Federation for Social Service -- nominee for executive committee -- 1945 ballot, page 1
 - (5) Methodist Federation for Social Service -- member of executive committee -- letterhead, April 12, 1946
 - (6) Rosenberg Clemency Appeal -- signer -- Daily Worker, January 13, 1953, page 2

Franklin H. Littell is featured on NET-TV programs nationwide and lectures constantly. He forms such organizations as IAD (Institute for American Democracy, Inc.), a tax-exempt organization which he now heads as Chairman. At the same time he endorses organizations which have been cited by the Internal Security Sub-committee and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Bulletins such as the "Guide to Subversive Organizations & Publications" the Committee Reports of the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Reports of the Committee on the Judiciary of the Internal Security Sub-Committee, may be obtained from the United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20401