

Urges Greater Cooperation On Interracial Day

Dr. Mathews, Dean of University of Chicago Tells Ministers They are Dealing with New Negro Who Knows He is Not Inferior

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 30.—Dr. Shailer Mathews, dean of the divinity school of the University of Chicago, has announced a movement for an "interchange of pulpits" among white and colored protestant congregations throughout Chicago February 14th.

In an address to the monthly union ministers' meeting at the Central Y. M. C. A. Dean Mathews urged the interchange as a "concrete proof of mutual respect between black and white Christians."

The commission on interracial relations of the Chicago Church Federation is sponsoring the movement and Dean Mathews is chairman of the commission. Similar interchanges have been accomplished during the past two years "on an experimental scale," but the "Interracial Sunday" next February should have much wider adoption, said Dr. Mathews.

Urging the proposition of interracial equality, the dean said:

Dealing With New Negro

"We are dealing with a new Negro, no longer content with hearing nice platitudes about gentle southern mam-mies. The Negro doesn't want to be patted condescendingly on the back. He knows he is not inferior. And he is not.

"Look for instance, at Negroes in the ministry. Two, or perhaps even three, of the five greatest protestant ministers in Chicago—greatest from the standpoints of ability to preach and ability to organize—are Negroes.

"But we Christians, even ministers, are acting narrowly, without much intelligent purpose, toward Negroes. When churchmen are asked what they will do for the Negroes they say with great gusto, 'We will love them.' Pooh, Pooh!

"That is sentimentality. And sentimentality may be defined as an emotion you enjoy, but won't do anything about. A great sentiment or emotion gives.

"The Interracial Sunday will be an accomplishment, not a sentimentality, for it will be a visible proof to the world that we Christians, black and white, respect each other. Another practical method white Christians should adopt is to reform the vocabulary. Rule out forever humiliating nicknames for nations and races."

Laughs at "Nordic" Myth

Dean Mathews laughed at the "Nordic myth."

"I don't know what a Nordic is," he said. "Maybe he's an individual who by some mistake, instead of falling with the devil, rose with the angels. But I'm as much Nordic as the next man, probably more so, for I came from Maine, and the proudest Nordics of all are folks that came from Maine but don't live there any more."

Before Dr. Mathews' address the Armour Jubilee Singers, a group of seven Negroes, sang Negro spirituals to the ministers.

Mitchell may be fired, but he has a House Committee on Altruism and a good deal of Gen. Patrick's report on his side.

With the ...