

Comment

Speaking of the consequences for the Christian of the new life in Christ, St Paul in Colossians ch. 3 says that we have “put off the old nature with its practices, and have put on the new nature which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator”. Then he goes on to state that in this new nature “there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all”. That vision of renewed humanity, free from religious, economic, ethnic and racial division and oppression, and free for mutual upbuilding in love, is unlikely to enthrall members of the National Front and their like.

For them, the major criterion which tests whether our society is healthy and flourishing and British is whether it is sufficiently and dominatively white anglo-saxon. Anything other than white anglo-saxon is polluting and corrupting, and therefore to be ruthlessly and systematically purged. So, wogs, pakis, niggers, jews, (and even perhaps paddies if they weren't so typically confusing with their white skins), are social bacteria insidiously insinuating themselves into our white society in order to sicken it fatally by taking our jobs, forcing us out of our white houses, swamping our white culture, putting in peril our white skins through inter-racial marriage. The racism of such groups is brutal and frank. The creeping racism of British immigration law and its practice in our ports and airports has been almost as brutal but in no way so frank.

It may well be that the British Home Secretary, Mr Whitelaw, (with, we must say, uncharacteristic perspicacity), is correct in his assertion that the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, the Catholic Commission for Racial Justice, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants and many other ethnic groups are quite wrong in their judgment that the new Nationality Bill currently going through Parliament is racist. It is far more likely, given the history of British Immigration law, that their judgment is quite correct, and that the new Bill is a further ratcheting of the laws to keep black people out of Britain, to make it even more intolerable for those already settled, and even to facilitate at some future date another “progressive

overhaul of legislation" (Mr Whitelaw) for their deportation. As it is, under the terms of this bill, a black person who, because he has already settled here since before 1973 is entitled to British citizenship, but through negligence or forgetfulness or ignorance fails to apply for such two years after the bill becomes law, will lose that entitlement. What happens to him then will depend on the fiat of the Home Secretary, whose decision, (arrived at by ludicrously vague concepts such as 'good character' or 'ordinarily resident') will be absolute, whose reasons will be secret, and against whose judgment there will be no appeal. One can imagine the possibilities of harassment of non-whites that could result from that.

All the fears of church, ethnic and political groups were, said Mr Whitelaw in Parliament "Wholly misplaced . . . We are doing nothing new in suggesting our citizenship should give a better idea of where people actually belong". Quite! But one appalling result of this Bill will be that one group of people (entirely non-white of course), who thought that they were British and who hold British passports, will *not know* where they belong because they *won't belong anywhere*; they will have no right to settle anywhere in the world. This Bill will create, simply on grounds of race, a new group of stateless persons.

The creeping racism of the immigration laws passed in Britain over the past twenty years has been a disgrace to both major political parties. With enemies like them, the National Front has no need of friends. One can only hope that the Labour Party's opposition to this Bill is not the usual charade of a party in opposition, but a sign of genuine repentance and conversion and that they will commit themselves to repeal it as soon as they return to power.

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