Book Review

By Saunders Redding

REVELATION TODAY, by James R. C. Pinn. Vantage Press, 120 West 31st St., New York. 337 pp. $5.00.

Though this reviewer himself is not much on religion as a metaphysic, he recognizes religion's transforming power in the lives of others, and he knows when a man has been touched by the religious spirit.

Mr. Redding

James R. C. Pinn has been touched, and every reader of his book will know it, for it is evident even to this reviewer's cold and critical eye.

The book attests to a fine fervor of missionary zeal. It burns with the dreadful imprecations of the "old time religion," and it gathers force from the awful splendor of its old time religious symbolism.

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NEVERTHELESS Revelation Today bothers me.

I cannot take the Rev. Pinn's religion, though undoubtedly thousands can and will — and more power to them.

In spite of his considerable theological training, the Rev. Pinn leans heavily on the Fundamentalist's concept of the "divine plan."

He writes of heaven and hell as though they were actual places geographically located and physically accessible.

He has been instructed in a faith that holds to the doctrine of original sin and rejects man's divinity.

He derives his ideas from the Old Testament, which is the primary source of this doctrine and the only source, excepting the last book of the New Testament, of his apocalyptic visions.

One must, I suppose, grant the Rev. Pinn the satisfaction of his religious insights; one does not, however, have to trust them.

They speak more of pain and punishment than of peace and salvation. The Rev. Mr. Pinn does not see man as lifted up by the divine grace of Christ. He sees man as damned by the vengeance of God.

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THIS RELIGIOUS proposition is strongly implied throughout the book, and it leads to what seems a basic contradiction. Indeed, the contradiction is in the very theme to which the Rev. Pinn adheres.

Man, he says, is hastening to his doom; "the last sands of the hourglass speedily flow out."

But if this doom, foretold in Revelation, is irrevocable, why all the missionary zeal to save man?

What good are preachments if man is damned with or without them? This, it seems to me, is the contradiction that **Revelation Today** does not resolve.

But in spite of this fault — and it is a major one — The Rev. Mr. Pinn's book has force and it has sincerity.

It will probably satisfy the religious Fundamentalist, but I think it will do a greater service by confirming Christians of another kind in a more tolerant and comfortable faith.

Our Readers Write

If you have a problem, let us help. Make letters short. Address AFRO Magazine Section, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

EARRINGS

Baltimore, Md. — I have a pair of gold earrings, each with a forearm, wrist and hand attached.

The fist is clenched with the thumb held between the first and second fingers.

The forearm, wrist and hand are of a red stone, ¾ of an inch long, that looks like a ruby when held to the light. One of the earrings has a gold band around the wrist which is lacking on the other.

They are the gift of an old German friend. Should I wear it. Can any AFRO reader tell me what these German earrings mean?

M. ALLMOND

ROY CAMPANELLA

Chattanooga, Tenn. — Would you please print Roy Campanella's address. I would like to send him a get well card.

ANNIE BELL BRIDGES

Address mail to Roy Campanella, Glen Cove Community Hospital, Glen Cove, N.Y.

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UNEMPLOYMENT

Baltimore, Md. — Can you tell me what becomes of the checks at the Department of Employment Security that are signed for, but are not received by the applicant.

My nephew has been going there for seven weeks without receiving any benefits.

CATHERINE MURPHY

Unless there are special problems, such as ineligibilities, unemployment checks should be received after the third visit.

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ROCK AND ROLL

Baltimore, Md. — I am a teenager and have a very strong crush on some of the rock and roll groups. Is it possible to get the addresses and personal pocket-sized pictures of some of these groups. If not, why?

I would like to know about the Pastels, Chantels, Spaniels, and Demons.

LINDA JOHNSON

Unfortunately, many of the rock and roll quartets are never heard from again.

Unless they record for a well-established company with a good public relations department, it is difficult to get pictures of quartets until they prove they are going to be on the scene for a while.

HALL OF FAME

Washington, D.C. — Where is the Hall of Fame, located, and are there any colored persons in it?

EARLINE HUNT

We assume you mean the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, which is on the campus of New York University. To be eligible for enshrinement the nominee must have been dead 25 years. There is an election every five years for members.

The last was in 1955. Booker T. Washington is the only colored American in the Hall of Fame.

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SONIC

Newark, N.J. — Exactly what is the speed of sound? I argue that it is variable, depending on weather conditions, the medium in which it is sounded, etc.

JOHN JAMESON

The speed of sound is generally placed at 1088 feet per second at sea level at 32 degrees F. It varies in other media and different temperatures.

Sound travels faster in water than in air, and even faster in iron and steel.

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TIME ZONES

Philadelphia, Pa. — How many time zones are there in the United States, and what are they?

BOBBY SCOTT

Four. Eastern, Central Mountain, and Pacific, with one hour's difference in each going from East to West.

POKER LAW

Raleigh, N.C.—Please settle thos little "discussion" for us. I claim that Hoyle, who everyone claims as the bible of poker law, never played poker.

Naturally, I was roundly disputed, and we wound up with a little wager on it, and ask you to be the judge. Who is right?

THE BOYS

You can collect. Edmund Hoyle, the Englishman whose name has become a synonym for poker law, not only never wrote a book about poker, but never heard of the game. He was a whist player. Poker was invented after he was dead.

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GRIPE

Boston, Mass. — I think I have been a victim of some sharp business practices, and want to report the case to the Better Business Bureau.

How can I get in contact with them?

E. A.

The national organization headquarters is: Association of Better Business Bureau, 5405 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N.Y.

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SPRING

Hagerstown, Md. — When does spring officially begin in 1958, and what is its name?

JOAN MORRIS

The vernal equinox will occur March 20, 1958 at 10:06 p.m.

If you want to look ahead a bit summer begins June 21, 4:57; autumn, Sept. 23, 8:10 a.m., and winter, Dec. 21, 3:40 p.m.

Your Prayers Are Asked

For a very sick woman who needs understanding . . . For a sick daughter whose mind may be healed. . . . For Marie Smith. . . . For Willis who is sick in the mind. . . . For Annie and Lottie. . . . For my daughter Ida that she will feel better from her leg trouble and kidneys. . . . For Oletho Edward. . . . For a Brother Robert that he may gain weight and be healed. . . . For Kenneth and Chris that they may be reunited for the sake of their daughter. . . . For Loretta and Puddin that they may prosper as entertainers in show business. . . . For a mother that she may be completely healed and be able to return home. . . . For the removal of evil influences. . . . For a son's life. . . .

And for all sick and suffering people wherever they may be, that it may please God to heal them. And that Peace may prevail in the world.

Looking For Someone

If you want to locate missing friends or relatives, enclose $1 in an envelope along with a description of the person, where and when he was last heard from. Send it to Missing Persons Editor, AFRO-AMERICAN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

Persons with information concerning these missing people address all correspondence to Missing Persons, c/o AFRO-AMERICAN, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 1, Md.

Miss M. L. Irving of 376 Mayes St., NW, Atlanta, Ga., who was looking for Willie T. Brown (W.T.) can locate him at 252 N. Dallas Court, Baltimore 31, Md.

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Mrs. Lillie M. Kirk of Asbury Park, N.J., is looking for her husband, John Kirk, who was last seen in July, 1945 in Cross City, Florida.

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William Whitten of Baltimore, Md. is looking for his mother, Mrs. Mary Frances Whitten who was known to be living in Cincinnati, Ohio.

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Martha Johnson of Northfork, W.Va., would like to know the address of Mrs. Marie Johnson of Washington, D.C. She is trying to locate her father who was last known to be living in Grenchier, S.C.

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Mrs. Delores Robinson of Virginia is looking for her son, Elbert Robinson.

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Mrs. Sallie Coleman, of Baltimore, Maryland is looking for Mr. Abe Washington and his wife, Doll. They were last heard from living between Fairmount and Clargsburg W. Virginia in 1938. Mr. Washington was a coal miner.

Miss Lillian Carson of 224 2nd Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., is looking for her brother, Robert Carson. Light brown-skinned, had gold tooth on left side, height 5' 5" and weighs about 190 pounds.

* * *

Mrs. Ellen Calhoun, 2708 Fisk Rd., Baltimore, Md., is trying to locate a cousin living in Chicago, Ill. His name is Vernon Magrinne. He formerly lived in Greensville, S.C. and later resided in Baltimore. His father, Gip, and a sister, Ruth, still live in Greensville.

LOOKING for someone . . .

Mrs. J. Smalls of the Bronx, N.Y., is looking for her brother, Nathaniel Smalls, from whom she has not heard since 1923. Originally from Savannah, Ga., he was last heard from in Lyon, Ga.

* * *

Mrs. E. Blunt of New York, N.Y., is looking for Marvin Mitchell, age 22, whose last known address was 2308 Diamond St., NYC.

Legal Advisor

By ROBERT WATTS
Baltimore Attorney

I have paid a lawyer $50 as a down payment to start divorce action. The fee is $200. I have now changed my mind about getting the divorce and want to know will I get any of the money back that I have paid? Do I owe the lawyer anything else?

ANS: This all depends on your attorney and what he has done. More than likely he has prepared the necessary papers and consulted with you. He is entitled to be paid for this. If he filed the case he has to pay court costs. There is no law saying he must give you any of the money back.

* * *

I STAY in the house seven days a week and only have one or two lady friends to talk with. My husband even objects to this. Would you call that a man who loves his wife or is he trying to nag me crazy. I don't go anywhere — not even to the store. Could you give me some advice?

ANS: Actually this does not present much of a legal problem. He can't legally make you stay in but of course he has the right to suggest you do what you are doing. I would suggest you talk to your minister or a marriage counsellor, for your problem is essentially a moral, rather than a legal matter.

* * *

IF A MAN brought me some furniture in his name and I have the furniture at my house and he stops paying for it and gives the store my name and address, do I have to pay for the furniture? What can be done to me?

ANS: If there is money due on the furniture you either have to pay the balance or let them have the furniture. It's titled in his name and of course the store has an interest in the furniture as security for the balance owed them so they can take the furniture. If you like it and want to keep it, arrange with the store to finish paying for it.

The Bridge Table

Neither side vulnerable
North dealer

NORTH
♠—A J 10 8 5 3
♥—6
♦—A K 7 6 3 2
♣—

WEST
♠—9 7 4 2
♥—
♦—Q J 9 4
♣—9 8 7 4 3

EAST
♠—K Q 6
♥—Q 9 7 3 2
♦—8
♣—J 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠—
♥—A K J 10 8 5 4
♦—10 5
♣—A K Q 10

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl.	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead: nine of spades

Recognizing a misfit hand is one of the toughest things to do, but arriving at the best contract, then bringing it in, is an ever severe test of skill.

There were 36 points in the combined North-South hands in this week's hand, more than enough for a grand slam according to modern point-count standards, yet it took astute play on the part of declarer to bring home a small slam contract.

After North's spade opening, South jump-shifted in hearts, North jump-shifting in diamonds and rebidding diamonds at his first opportunity to show a two-suit hand.

REALIZING THE NATURE of the hand, South took it upon himself to contract for a small slam try. East doubling, and West following instructions by leading the nine of spades.

Declarer put up the jack in dummy and ruffed East's king. The 10 of clubs was then ruffed in dummy to preserve entries and the 8 of spades ruffed in the closed hand.

The ace of hearts was next led. West showing out, and declarer's face dropped as he cursed the "distribution."

But he didn't give up. There was still another chance. He entered dummy via the diamond ace, and cashed the ace of spades, dropped the king, and his future looked bright.

* * *

EAST WAS NOW in a vise. Declarer had only to play spades until East ruffed, shedding two clubs and a diamond in the process. As it actually was played, East discarded clubs on the last three spade tricks, then ruffed the king of diamonds which declarer overruffed.

The queen of hearts was conceded to East for a nice, fat score for the North-South partnership.

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CARMEL CARRINGTON MARR

Lawyer For Diplomats

Her ambition is to learn to play the piano. At her job with the United States Delegation to the United Nations, she is called upon to interpret legal opinions involving international law.

By Alvin E. White

For one of the most impressive titles in our quasi-diplomatic circles — and a job to match it — meet Carmel Carrington Marr. She has both.

She is "Advisor on Political and Legal Affairs to the United States Mission to the United Nations." And for the past five years, she has filled the post with distinction.

This Brooklyn - born girl is an outstanding example of how well trained young colored women are now filling important positions.

A graduate of New York's Hunter College, she got her law training at Columbia.

And ever since she graduated, the unexpected has played important parts in her life.

For instance, she says she never expected to marry printer Warren Marr — and again, most certainly, she didn't expect to land this important position with the United States Mission. But as she says:

"It's all in the way the ball bounces."

* * *

IN HER airy, well appointed office on the 23rd floor of the United States Mission quarters at 2 Park Avenue, Carmel told the AFRO something of her life and her work.

"As for getting this job, well, several big names were under consideration too. At the time, I was practicing law in Brooklyn.

I was called in for an interview, then I tried to forget it. I weighed everything and told myself that the job wouldn't come to me. Imagine my surprise when I was called in and told the job was mine. That was in 1953."

The attractive brown-skinned girl with the winning smile and the big job with the long title, was sitting comfortably at her uncluttered desk — shoes off, since no one could see that anyhow — talking earnestly about her work and her associates.

On a nearby rack, a distracting, eyecatching hat demanded explanation. It looked like swank Park Avenue.

"Oh that?" Mrs. Marr said, turning on her most charming smile. "That's one of my own creations. This one is a mush-room type made of soft white fur, and of course those red and green doo-lollies." On Carmel Marr, it looked good.

* * *

WHEN SHE got up to point out the Russian zone of influence on the huge wall-map, she slipped on her shoes.

"I like comfort," she apologized, wiggling into the pumps.

"No, I don't agree that the United Nations is a debating society," she said in answer to a frequently raised criticism.

"For that matter, you could say the same thing about the United States Congress, if you were unfamiliar with the way it works," she continued.

"Too few people actually know what the work of the United Nations is. Adequate information about the United Nations and acknowledge of how it works are greatly needed.

"At the United States Mission, we have a limited staff and don't have the personnel to hand out such information.

"As for the success of the United Nations, it depends upon support of all the people all over the world."

* * *

MOST IMPRESSIVE to her however is the important part women are playing in the UN.

"Two of the most fascinating people I ever met were Dow Myow Sein from Burma and a woman from Nigeria whose name escapes me at present. They worked constantly with a deep sense of responsibility and sincerity. These are the people who will make the United Nations successful.

* * *

"PEOPLE in developing countries are not waiting for us to help them. Most of all, they want guidance.

"To a large extent, this kind of assistance has greatly advanced as rapidly through democracy. Our biggest problem is to overcome these nations' doubt of our sincerity.

"As I see it, all people want peace, only, they have different ideas of what peace is and how to achieve it.

"To me, every opening meeting of the Assembly is impressive and thrilling. But nothing thrilled me more than my first White House dinner.

"It was a dinner for the Cabinet members. Then, the luncheon for President Tubman of Liberia was another thrill. Since then, I've been to a number of affairs at the White House."

Of her job, Mrs. Marr said:

* * *

"I AM frequently called upon to explain the workings of our democratic government to U.N. members. Then, I am also called upon for interpretations of legal opinions involving international law.

"No, there is little 'bloc voting' in the U.N. except on the part of the Soviet Sattelites. Those nine nations hang together as the Soviet dictates.

"In the UN there are several similar 'blocs' with common interests — the Latin countries forming one and more recently, the Asiatic - African group another.

"However, they seldom vote together as a 'bloc' on matters of international importance.

* * *

"THE United Nations is a round of conferences, dinner meetings, receptions for arriving and departing members — all of which serve a useful purpose.

"At these affairs, you have opportunities to get close to individuals and pass on ideas to them as well as get their reaction to other things.

"You really get to know them in this way. However, they can be real time consumers, especially when you consider we have to attend briefing sessions before each Assembly meeting, with all kind of committee meetings sandwiched in between and afterwards.

"I marveled at Congresswoman Frances Bolton of Ohio when she was Alternate Delegate to the UN.

Mrs. Bolton made all of the affairs, attended every Assembly meeting as well as briefing sessions and committee meetings, besides finding time to write a newspaper column of her doings for her constituents back in Cleveland.

"With it all, she was charming and fresh as a proverbial daisy. She is a great American and one of the most exciting persons I've ever known."

Mrs. Marr excused herself to answer her phone.

* * *

LOOKING AROUND, the office impressed one as a working place, neat, almost barren; yet carrying a woman's touch to offset its sternness.

"Personally," Mrs. Marr said, returning to our chat, "I go in for handicraft, rug making, needlework, sewing and millinery — like that hat. I love dancing.

"As for music, well rock and roll is all you can hear these days. Now here's a real secret. I am taking piano lessons.

"I am about to realize the one ambition of my life — to learn to play the piano. As much as I love to cook, I have little time for it.

"I have to do a lot of reading — I like it — research mostly — and then I read nearly every newspaper printed — from cover to cover.

"I couldn't do much without my jewel of a mother—she really keeps take care of my two growing sons."

* * *

MRS. MARR won't tell her birthday ("write down any date and I'll deny it") she laughed gleefully and "You are so kind to put my weight down at 135 (in truth she doesn't scale much over that) and to a size footer, she's almost eye-level.

At the Mission, her day begins promptly at 9 and winds up whenever she can leave —

(Continued on Page 4)

WOMAN AT WORK — Rep. Charles H. Mahoney and Mrs. Carmel Marr of the United States Delegation to the ninth session of the UN General Assembly, discuss a point shortly before the opening of a plenary meeting.

No Gentleman

Diplomat that she is, Mrs. Marr refused to finger the most difficult personage she has met. "But I've met some," she laughed.

However, on the other hand, she didn't hesitate to praise Henry Cabot Lodge, not only as a dynamic personality, but as a master in dealing with the cold war situation.

* * *

"Mr. Lodge has amused us more than once. I remember one instance." He called upon the 'gentleman from Russia.'

"That dignitary arose and promptly declared he was not a gentleman. Mr. Lodge asked his pardon saying he had forgotten that the member was not a gentleman. That was the funniest thing I've heard in the staid and decorous Assembly meetings."

He Didn't Dance

"A sorority sister introduced me to Mr. Marr. We were at a dance. Four of us were in the party. Everybody seemed to be having a good time—except this fellow. He just stood in the corner, speaking only when he was spoken to. Yep, you guessed it. He was Warren Marr.

"If anyone had told me I'd marry him, I'd said they were crazy—not as well as I liked to dance and he didn't dance at all.

But marry we did—ten years ago this April—and our marriage has worked out beautifully. We have two sons, Charles, 7, and Warren Junior, 4."