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WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1963

Glad Mr. Allen Is Atlanta's Mayor

Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. last week became the first southern public official to testify in behalf of the Kennedy administration's prize package of civil rights legislation, particularly for the so-called elimination of discrimination in public accommodations.

Mr. Allen, one recalls, is indebted to the large Atlanta Negro vote for being mayor of that city, so his testimony in Washington last Friday can be viewed in that light as far as judging its impartiality.

Mr. Allen expressed the fear that without Congressional action, "cities like Atlanta might slip backward." In essence, that without the compulsion of federal law, individuals might presume to make individual choice in their associations and the disposition of their property and services.

At no point in his rather lengthy dissertation to the Senate Commerce Committee does Mr. Allen deplore dangerous and provocative street demonstra-

tions which have impeded public safety nor does he condemn the destruction of individual rights at the hands of mobs who demand the right to their own set of laws by defying those with which they do not agree.

Presumably Mr. Allen sees nothing wrong in having the federal government move as fast as it can into areas of private rights on the specious ground that so-called "anti-discrimination" measures enjoy a "moral" priority in national affairs. What he would promote is the basically un-American notion that Negroes must be set up as a special minority, not only to be afforded equality of treatment but, in fact, made by federal compulsion a special category of citizenship more than "equal."

Mr. Allen, we have pointed out, is mayor of Atlanta. We are grateful, indeed, his peculiar philosophy is at least far removed from Rome. We doubt if it represents majority thinking in his own city.

GE Shows Community Pride

Employees at GE's Medium Transformer Department here in Rome are indicating the pride they have in their company as well as community by displaying unique license plates advertising that "Transformers For The World" are made in Rome, Georgia. These blue and white plates which are displayed on the front of their cars will certainly be carried far and wide during the two weeks GE employees enjoy their two-week vacation shutdown.

gram all the more gratifying. The fact that GE employees want to voluntarily advertise their company and community wherever they go is certainly helpful to Rome and Floyd County in bringing to the country's attention that we are a center of a worldwide market for products made in Georgia.

We hope that this spirit of pride in their work and the place in which they live as exhibited by GE employees is just



DAVID LAWRENCE

Role of the

WASHINGTON — What is the true function of the clergyman in the racial controversy nowadays? Is it to instigate and lead "non-violent" demonstrations that may become violent? Is it to get one's self arrested by the police for disturbing the peace in order to dramatize the grievances of a group in the community? Or is it to inculcate a spirit of human brotherhood among parishioners and to help them seek divine guidance in the relations of man to man?

These questions arise not only because church groups of various denominations have announced that they will participate in the "march on Washington" on August 28, but because wide publicity