

Plain Talk By Dan Gardner

ON BEING KIND

BY RUTH TAYLOR

IN THE WAKE OF THE NEWS

BY ATTY. ROGER D. O'KEILLY

SPIRITUALS GO TO WAR

In the North Carolina Sharecropper's shanty where Glenn Settle grew up, his mother used to sing the old Negro spirituals to him...

guilt that makes us uncomfortable in the presence of preaching. Our low ideals and coarse materialism have taken such a hold on us that we try to bluff our way past fundamental ideals by minimizing clear-cut enunciation of our misconduct and crime.

THE COUNT WAXES

NEW YORK — On a special recording date last week, Count Basie waxed three sides for Columbia with 12 strings complementing the full Basie band, and NBC songstress Lynne Sherman sang featured vocally on two sides.

The Count recorded an oldie, "This Old Feeling," and a new hit ballad, "This Heart of Mine," from the forthcoming 20th Century-Fox musical production, "Ziegfeld Folies."

With the added strings joining the mighty Basie brass, reeds and rhythm, the full aggregation rocked out on a free-swinging jump special, "Avenue C," which the Count penned in collaboration with his personal manager, Milton Ebbins.

This marks the Jump King's initial experiment with strings, and from all indications, the new Basie discs may well become the Count's most sensational products to date.



Returning to the east to resume his position of assistant band leader of the Army Base Band at Boston, Mass., is Sgt. Robert W. "Nuts" Chestnut, of Dedham, Mass. Inasmuch as the 372nd Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Regiment's military band is inactivated, Sgt. Chestnut's duty calls him back to the outfit he left when he entered the Army.

A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, a performer on the trumpet, piano and trombone, Sgt. Chestnut has won the Regiment's undying gratitude for writing its Regimental Marching Song, "Faithful and Ready."

THE PORT CHICAGO MUTINY TRIAL — A CHALLENGE, II

Were the 50 Negro Seamen sentenced to 588 Years Given "Hot Foot" by Navy Because of Race Bias?

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles on a subject that is of vital concern to Negroes and whites everywhere who would see that justice be done and who would not want the postwar teaching of a minority group bemused or impugned because of race, creed or color in the machinations of military justice during wartime.

The Port Chicago Mutiny Trial, in which fifty Negro seamen were sentenced to terms as follows — ten men to fifteen years, twenty-four men to twelve years, eleven men to ten years, five men to eight years — is as rank and disgusting a spectacle of justice miscarried as any kangaroo court set up in the deep South or in the rickety cell of some two by four jailhouse where a bunch of ragged prisoners gang up and give the works to the timid new-comer.

BOYS GET NAVY "HOT FOOT"

These boys, it appears were given the "hot foot" by the Navy in this case and the term "hot foot" is a mild manner of describing something that would probably have a more vulgar description if the boys on the corners were asked their views on what actually went on. The spectacle of fifty men, unnerved and shaken by their fellow workers who were killed in one of the most horrible explosions of ammunition on record, ordered to pick up the heads, arms, legs, torsos, and entrails of the victims and load them in baskets certainly isn't a pretty one to add to any official collection and, if the Navy is proud of it, a new high in callousness has come about in official circles.

Despite their classifications in other kinds of skills, the fifty men now in a Federal Penitentiary, had been placed on a monotonous assignment in loading high explosive ammunition from three to seven months. It has been said that until the time of the alleged "mutiny" their record for conduct had been perfect. Yet, before the seven-man General Court Martial Board that was held at Yuma, Yuma Island, California, headed by Rear Admiral H. W. Osterhaus, the Advocate General, Lt. Commander James F. Coakley, in prosecuting these men called them "insolent," "smart-alecky," "cowardly," "without character," and many other epithets in his summary.

question of race.

258 MEN INVOLVED IN CASE. The American Civil Liberties Union — News at San Francisco, California said that about 258 men of the 228 men who were star players in the grim drama that took place at Port Chicago previously refused to load ammunition on August 8, 1944. In this case it would seem that the Negro seamen, who were court-martialed and herded off to jail were victims of some kind of discrimination that tends to show that people were picked a random as against in the trial. These seamen want to know why fifty men were picked for court martial and why the whole 258 were not picked.

Some of the men, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, said they were never called to court martial. It is believed from the American Civil Liberties Union that the white officers just got names indiscriminately.

The menial, monotonous tasks to which the majority of the Negroes in the Twelfth Naval District are assigned are as dreary and hopeless as picking cotton with a chain around one's neck, under a scorching sun in a field in Mississippi. The men who worked as the Navy Supply Depot were put to work as operator handlers and laborers regardless of their past experiences and qualifications. These boys who were court-martialed were "scarred" by their jobs after being eye-witnesses to the terrible trial that took the lives of 322 of their mates. Such fear was normal and would be experienced by the bravest men regardless of station in a training camp.

HERO'S JOB FOR NEGRO PRESS

The job for the Negro Press, Negro organizations, and the individual citizens to see that these boys get a new trial, President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces should order a new trial immediately for these men and at the same time, and I am here quoting Edgar G. Brown of the National Negro Council, "issue an executive order enjoining the Negro Press to stop publishing anything that would tend to prejudice the public against the Negroes."

Whatever the average person thinks of Edgar G. Brown, credit must be given him for his tenacity in pushing issues that are really pertinent for the well-being and welfare of the American Negro and the nation as a whole. Right now Edgar G. Brown is circulating petitions for one million signatures to immediately order a new trial for fifty colored sailors accused of mutiny and sentenced to 588 years in prison at Port Chicago in San Francisco. There has been a singular silence on this whole matter of these fifty men by press, pulpit, and organizations which should be all the more alert to appear in outrage as occurred in the sentencing of these men. There should be a national day of mourning set up and

What kind of a person do you like best? What quality appeals to you most? I think if I were asked that, I'd say I liked kind people most. Most people would agree with me. Wouldn't you?

There's one man I know who is liked by everyone who knows him — even by those who don't agree with him. Why is he so thoroughly appreciated? I asked someone once. The answer came after a little thought. "It's because no matter how trivial a thing you go to him with, he listens courteously and answers kindly."

That's a pretty fine tribute. I watched him for a day at a convention. (The speeches were unusually dull.) He didn't go out of his way to hunt up people. He sat quietly and calmly — but everyone who came up to him received the same consideration and courtesy. He had made an art of being kind.

This is one virtue any of us can possess. We can all give kindness. And it is one measure we can safely let overflow. Always try to be a little kinder than necessary. We have all suffered from the people who are so intent on keeping all they can get for themselves. They try to knit everyone who seems to get in their way. Let us not be like them. Let us rather be helpful to all — need help. "Giving can never be a crime" as a favorite line of my mother's. And I need to know anyone right in my friends. There is enough for everyone. The greater the man the greater the courtesy.

Think over today. How much easier it would have been if those whom you met had offered kindness. But — were you kind and courteous to all with whom you came in contact? It works both ways you know.

The Lenten season is a good time to prove this truth. Make a habit of being kind and courteous to those you meet or with whom you work. You will find it will pay great dividends in ease of heart. You will have done your share.

Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves — a great man said once. And a still greater said: "Do unto others as ye would that men do unto you." The Golden Rule is still the most practical rule of life.

SOUTHERN PINES

Cleoro Carpenter, Jr., celebrated his fourth birthday Sunday, March eleventh at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Emmaline Graham of Southern Pines, N. C.

Cleoro is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleoro Carpenter.

There were twenty guests which helped him celebrate. His cousin of California was special guest, also Lillie Caldwell.

VETERAN TURBO GIFT TO INVENTOR

A turbosupercharger with a top ranking operational record of functioning flawlessly on 102 Flying Fortress bombing missions against German industrial and military targets was presented as a gift from the 381st Bombardment Group of the Eighth Air Force in England to Dr. Sanford A. Moss, inventor of the turbosupercharger, at the Lynn, Mass. Works of General Electric Company.

But investigations in workshop seem to be heavier than last year says Howard Stamey of State College, after attending a number of horse and mule clinics in the mountain counties.

SAFER FLYING

Army Air Force field operations have instrument landing systems at strategic airports along their 100,000 miles of military airways which make it possible to bring planes down through low ceiling conditions within 50 feet above the center of an airport runway.

MAN HELPS LEAD SON ASTRAY

WILSON — In the first case of its kind in the courts here, a father Hyman Jackson, 35, was found guilty of contributing to the delinquency of his son, age 14, Andrew, and was sentenced to 90 days on the roads.

The case was tried in Recorder's Court, as part of a program of the police department here to fight juvenile delinquency in Wilson.

EXHIBIT ATTRACTS ATTENTION IN N. Y.

NEW YORK (IPS) — A 22-panel exhibit of "The Races of Mankind" held at the offices of the African Academy of Arts and Research, 55 West 42nd Street, February 14 to 23, from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. daily, in celebration of Negro History Week drew the attention of hundreds. The public was cordially invited with a special invitation extended to teachers and their pupils.

CLAXTON DEFINES PREACHING AS TEACHING WITH A DIVINE PLEA FOR OBEDIENCE

Preaching is primarily the art of teaching with an urgency, the Rev. Dr. Allen E. Claxton, the pastor said Sunday March 11th, in his sermon at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Emmaline Graham of Southern Pines, N. C.

There is a great deal of loose talk these days about preaching which tends to minimize the importance of sermons, he said. "Don't preach to me" is an idiom which carries the implication that preaching is not only ineffective but positively harmful.

This attitude toward sermons and exhortations indicate the spiritual temper of a bad boy who feels that he has done wrong and is trying to deny the sense of guilt and is trying to bluff and bluster his way out of a frank facing of the facts. Caught in the act, he says, "now don't tell me I'm wrong."

Our large and small dishonesties, our impurities that range all the way from common vulgarity to adultery have given us a sense of

James F. Coakley, in prosecuting these men called them "insolent," "smart-alecky," "cowardly," "without character," and many other epithets in his summary.

The record of the Navy toward the Negro has been "stinky" and no other term that is polite enough to put in a newspaper can describe the prejudices, discriminatory practices, contempt, and indifference with which the Negro has been regarded by the Navy all along and all this despite the attempt recently of the Navy to change its clothes any try to join the company of other branches of the Service that have at least passable records of tolerance and understanding on the

more alert to appear in outrage as occurred in the sentencing of these men. There should be a national day of mourning set up and observed about these unfortunate boys. The work should be carried on ceaselessly and every resource at our command should be put into action to gain justice where obviously injustice has been done. Let us not forget that these boys, too, are the sons of Negro mothers.

No ration stamps in War Ration Book Four will be good for canning sugar this year. Local boards will issue home canning sugar coupons good through November 30.

JACK DAVIS



JIM STEELE



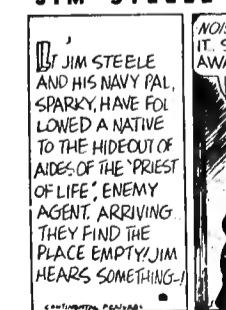
By TED WATSON



By MELVIN TAPLEY



BREEZY



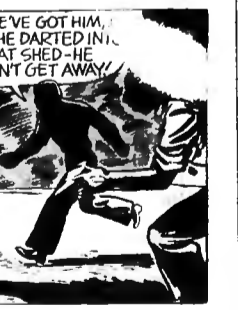
By T. MELVIN



By T. MELVIN



By T. MELVIN



LEGAL NOTICE

EXECUTRIX NOTICE Having qualified as executrix of the Estate of Georgiana Wall, late of Wake County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at 915 South State Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, on or before the 8th day of March 1945 or this notice will be placed in bar of their recovery.



Pile Sufferers Urged To Avoid CONSTIPATION Hot Water and Kraschen Salts Before Breakfast. No Forcing! No Straining!

BUY AN EXTRA BOND! NERVOUS, RESTLESS HIGH-STRUNG, BLUE FEELINGS

On "Certain Days" Of The Month? Do functional periodic disturbances make you feel nervous, irritable, cranky, fidgety, tired and "dragged out" — at such times?

Give To The Red Cross. Lydia E. Pinkham's VEGETABLE COMPOUND

Advertisement for My Shop featuring Easter dresses, coats, blouses, and handbags. Includes prices like \$5.99 to \$12.99 for dresses and \$19.99 to \$34.50 for coats.

BREEZY



By T. MELVIN



By T. MELVIN



By T. MELVIN

