

EDITORIALS

WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY?

HAPPY EASTER

The reversal of the court-martial sentence imposed on the four WACS in Massachusetts makes a much happier ending to a disturbing episode. Their restoration to their previous status and return to duty is an even happier postscript.

JUSTICE BLACK

The presentation of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Award of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare to Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black reminds once again of certain facts which are all too likely to be neglected.

MINORITY REPRESENTATION NEEDED

Representative John W. Umstead, of Chapel Hill, a member of the past General Assembly, in a recent public statement pointed out that he did not vote to confirm the new State Board of Education, the basis for whose membership was recently changed, because the Board "is lacking in a representative of labor, a representative of the minority party, and a representative of the Negro citizen."

This is the first public statement noted by THE CAROLINIAN as coming from outside the Negro group, in which cognizance has been taken of the absence of, and desirability of, Negro representation on the State Board, though there has been some comment on the failure of Governor Cherry to appoint a Republican to the body.

Under the new plan the Board is appointed by the Governor, one representative from each of eight districts of the state, and two members at large. It is hardly to be expected that at any time in the near future a Negro will be appointed as one of the district representatives.

EDITORIAL SHORTS

A pet theory is the enemy of the truth. It is always the right time to buy a War Bond. What goes on in the minds of children is surprising.

Not long ago the 25,000th Negro soldier previously classified as illiterate was graduated from the Special Training Unit of the Fort Benning reception center.

Coming with a feeling of gratification that adult illiteracy in the United States has been reduced that much by army action at just one camp should go a feeling of shame that in the United States in the twentieth century, after many decades of "universal free public education," adult illiteracy should be so extensive among young adults.

The existence of illiteracy on such a scale is one of the severest possible indictments of the states' rights theory. It is a reflection on the whole nation, though the greater fault may be laid at the doors of the southern states which have maintained under the shelter of states' rights gross inequalities in educational opportunity.

It is not only Mississippi and Louisiana which must suffer the results of southern poverty and the other factors which have made for the generally inferior educational facilities which exist side by side with, and help to explain, though not to justify, discrimination against Negroes.

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PREPARE FOR VICTORY GARDENING NOW!



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

The current issue of Reader's Digest carries an article, from The Progressive, by Major R. R. Wright, the educator-turned-banker. One of the less-publicized outstanding Negro personalities, Major Wright is a truly remarkable character, and it is fortunate that a magazine so widely read as the Reader's Digest has included the sketch.

Major Wright, who is 90 years old, is one of the few Negroes left in public life who were born slaves. Two decades ago there were many of them. So not the least striking thing about him is that at his age he is still not only alive, but active, vigorous, optimistic and alert.

When he decided on Philadelphia as the place to launch the bank, he was advised against it, we are told, by all those in a position to know. Philadelphia had enough banks Wright knew nothing about banking. The articles

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Lest We Forget...

By W. L. GREENE

The San Francisco Conference is of considerable interest to all of us who are interested in the future of the United Nations. It is evident to scholars and thinkers who reason from cause to the effect that such a conference as is under consideration for all groups who will be affected is a problem of the first magnitude.

The colored American is concerned about the representation of colored peoples living in the other regions of the world because they are considered by the great powers as of minor importance in international affairs.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: Pioneers of Faith. — Gen. 12:1-9; Heb. 11:8-22. Key Verse: By Faith Abraham, when he was called—obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. — Heb. 11:8.

It was not unknown in Babylonia and had nothing to offer to the Hebrews. In fact, when ever god gives a command, whether we understand it or not, it is ours to obey because there is always something in store for our good.

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Some Observations

By GEORGE F. KING Rural Journalist

Extension Work A Kaleidoscopic Factor In The Life Of Americans One well remembers when the first Negro County Agent was appointed in North Carolina. The late Dr. James B. Dudley, president of A. & T. College, was completely sold of the needs, programs and objectives of the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The foregoing paragraph is pregnant with facts that are basically involved in present-day functioning of the American way of life. It reveals the vision and objectives—resulting in the abnegation of self by those who pioneered so constructively for peoples of this generation.

The late illustrious T. Thos. Fortune, who is regarded as the most outstanding Negro editor of his day, did much in espousing fundamentals for the betterment of rural life among Negroes. He was influential in publicizing Dr. Washington's objectives and, was, in no uncertain degree, a virile factor in selling the needs of the rural Negro to the country.

Had it not been for the pioneering adventures of the men and women in the Extension Service Negro farm families in North Carolina would not have been a potent element in the state's progress and such consistent fighters on the front lines here at home.

"Negro farmers in North Carolina operate 57,428 farms, according to the latest Census data, at an average of 47.5 per farm. These farms comprise approximately 21% of North Carolina's total value of the land and buildings on these farms in 1940 was \$106,293,329.00 and the value of farm implements and machinery was \$3,901,150.00.

"North Carolina is largely a rural State. Approximately one-half of the Negro population in the State lives in rural areas and derives its living from the soil. North Carolina has long since recognized its rural heritage and has encouraged the development of its agricultural resources. It has placed the best practices of agriculture at the door-steps of its citizens through the agricultural

SHORT OBSERVATIONS ON SCRIPTURE TRUTH

"The entrance of Thy words giveth light" (Psa. 119:130)

"My soul cleaveth to the dust; quicken thou me according to Thy Word" (Psa. 119:25)

"Do you ever get 'down in the dumps? If you do, and if you are a Christian, take the same remedy the Psalmist took—the Word of God. Why live in habitual depression of spirits when you can have above the circumstances, not 'under' them. Too many today are 'savoring their souls and exchanging an unnecessary misery of the soul through neglect of the scriptures. "Snap out of it" by reading on the Word!"

"The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust to Him" (Nah. 1:7)

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SCRIPTURE TRUTH TESTS BY P. O. BOWEN Atlanta 17