

EDITORIALS

THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY

The fact that the students of white colleges making up the membership of North Carolina's Student Assembly voted two to one to invite representatives of the Negro colleges to next year's session of the Assembly is far more important than is the fact that Secretary of State Thad Eure would not have had it done, had it been left to him.

The students used the refreshing procedure of facing a problem on its merits. They were undeterred not only by the representations of Mr. Eure, but by any other considerations except the point at issue: i. e., Why should students who happen to be Negro students be excluded from an important student organization whose whole concern is with understanding problems which affect and are the concern of all the people?

No ill will come of the action of the Student Assembly. On the other hand a good deal of good may result. The fine example they have set their elders may be one of the greatest of these goods.

A MATTER FOR CONCERN

According to the daily press seven of the eight persons in State Prison condemned to death and awaiting the result of their appeals to the Supreme Court are Negroes. This fact should furnish food for thought to every Negro citizen in North Carolina; for it means that either our people are far more criminal than the white citizenry, or that the machinery of justice is biased, or both.

North Carolina; for it means that either our people are far more criminal than the white citizenry, or that the machinery of justice is biased, or both. Whichever of these alternatives is true, it offers a challenge not only to the law enforcement officers and the community as a whole, but especially to the law-abiding Negroes of our state.

THE LIBRARY CAMPAIGN

The campaign to raise \$10,000 for a permanent, library-owned home for the Richard B. Harrison Library has begun, and already gifts are being received. Before February 1, the date set for the reaching of the goal, the relatively small sum of \$10,000 should be over-subscribed.

The call to assist the Richard B. Harrison Library should make a strong appeal to the citizens of Raleigh and Wake County. Its great service, and the rate at which that service has grown, amply justify the project to secure enlarged and self-owned quarters. Any public institution which has so commended itself to its constituency that in ten years it has outgrown quarters which were originally big enough for it to rattle around in, has every reason to be supported in a public campaign for enlarged and permanent quarters.

It may be worth while to recall two facts. One is that the operating revenue of the library is derived from public funds. As is entirely proper the Negro citizens have not been called on, nor are they being asked now, to support the library directly out of their own pockets. Nor is there reason to doubt that the purchase of a library site will be assisted by public funds.

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The second fact is that the Richard B. Harrison library is not a branch of the other city library, or any other library, for that matter. It is a library for Negroes, managed by a bi-racial board and administered by Negroes, with city and county financial support. In this respect it is an uncommon institution; and for this reason it may appeal to all the citizens, and especially to the Negro citizens, for hearty support in this campaign.

"BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS"

There is hardly an annual campaign that needs publicity as little as does the Tuberculosis Christmas Seal sale, so well known to the American people. To millions the little stamps are as much a part of the Christmas season as are holly and carols and frenzied list-making and shopping. But for fear there may be someone who has forgotten, it may be said again that everyone ought to buy the seals; the sale of which furnishes so much of the money for the nationwide fight against tuberculosis. The fight is slowly and gradually going our way, but we are not far enough ahead to afford a let-up.

Particularly should Negroes feel the responsibility for promoting in whatever way they can the campaign against tuberculosis. It is still one of the three or four leading killers of our people, and the facilities for combatting it among Negroes are still far too meager.

In Raleigh a few public-spirited persons are intensely interested in the anti-tuberculosis work. For several years Mrs. Nan Frazier has efficiently led the seal sale campaign among our group. She and her co-workers deserve our full support.

POOR FEPC

The situation regarding the FEPC, already bad enough, is deteriorating. Congress has done nothing toward putting it on a permanent basis, despite President Truman's recommendations to that effect, and Congress had already failed to provide for the continued existence of the agency as an emergency wartime bureau. The personnel has been reduced, because of the failure of Congress to provide for it in a regular way in the budget.

Now, as revealed by Attorney Houston in the statement which accompanied his resignation from the Committee, President Truman himself not only failed to back up the FEPC's directive in the Washington transit case, but actually stymied the Committee's action already taken.

Whatever else Truman's action may mean, whatever the reason for his stand, Congress and the nation will interpret his previous recommendations about the FEPC as lip service, prompted by a sense of duty, and possibly by sincere personal wishes, but not to be backed up by any positive stand in a concrete situation. The whole thing now appears to be on a political basis, rather than on the basis of statesmanship.

That the President's action, or inaction, should have been associated specifically with a case arising in the nation's capital, is especially unfortunate. That Washington is a southern city helps to explain his attitude, but does not justify it, or relieve him of his responsibility as chief executive of the United States.

NEGRO DEMOCRATS VOTE IN GA.

According to an ANP dispatch hundreds of Negroes voted in the Democratic primary in Athens, Ga. It was the first time in 40 years that Negroes had taken part in a primary in that section. The clerk reported that 75 per cent of the 500 Negro registrants voted. The skies did not fall; it is understood; in fact election day was "without incident."

The story told by the despatch goes on to say that a few days before the election the Clarke County Democratic executive committee voted nine to one to comply with the ruling of U. S. District Court Judge Davis in Georgia that Negroes could not legally be barred from the Democratic primary. The rest of Georgia and the South will fall in line. In some places it will be done gracefully, in others it will be much harder. But in the end it will happen everywhere.

Peacetime Saboteur



Security Thoughts

It has been less than two years since the basic salaries of North Carolina's public school teachers were the same as those of the white teachers. One of the results of this equalization was a drop-out in qualified personnel from the profession. These figures show that the average salary of Negro public school teachers was somewhat higher last year in North Carolina than the average salary of the white teachers.

Another related fact is known to the well-informed schoolman in the state, though it has not been generally publicized. It is that a goodly percentage of teachers in white schools for the past three or four years have been working under emergency certificates. This means that such teachers are not qualified for regular certificates, but they must be employed, since sufficient fully qualified white teachers have not been available. On the other hand the number of emergency certificates issued to Negroes in North Carolina has

been much better than in other fields. For the Negro teacher and prospective teacher the same conditions did not hold, or at least not to the same degree. As a result the Negro teaching force in the state as a whole averaged higher in the combined factors of training and experience.

During the war years hundreds of white teachers with superior training and longer experience left the schoolrooms to go into lucrative war work, and many young persons who would have gone into teaching also found

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Test We Forget. By W. L. GREENE. A short story or editorial piece.

One of the worst things that could possibly happen to the youth of North Carolina would be the failure of the students in the colleges slated to be invited to participate in the next Student Legislative Ass. in v. to encourage the group who would extend the invitation. Too long have the sons of the former bondservants of the South allowed themselves to be the objects of electrolysis and patronizing activities. The time has come for them to seek responsibility and opportunity commensurate with their understanding of public affairs.

Fear and economic pressure have dictated the course of action of over ninety per cent of our current leaders. It has been a common thing to hear the fathers of our current corps of educational leaders say, "We've got to fool the white folks to get anything out of them." For a time some of the white folks were fooled. The latter and undeserved praise heaped upon the holders of public purse strings was pleasant to the ear and cleaving to the ego. Even after the truth became known, white folks were inclined to enjoy the songs of praises ever given them by grateful retainers. All this was good in its time. All of this time is not yet passed, but the sun of that day is low on the horizon of human affairs. Today is the day of scientific fact and philosophical truth. Gone is the day of traditional mis-beliefs and fanciful rationalization of popular error. The issues of World War II demonstrated clearly the folly of hypocrisy into which we are about to fall. The same error which made the regimes of Hitler, H. Duce, and Tojo is popularly the way of life for too many American "blind" who can't see

beyond the film of popular prejudice which makes them seem to themselves to belong to a superior race. The students of North Carolina are not moving too fast. Any motion, even in the physical sense, must overcome inertia; most of the motion must overcome friction; but in this day of "necessary" change there must be forward motion against the braking effect of traditional conservatism and social inertia. Some of us who saw the need for pressing forward toward the lower caste Americans in the war effort were called potential traitors. Those who would discourage the students trying to apply scientific knowledge to the improvement of human relations will be recorded in history as traitors to the new world which is certainly "a coming."

BETWEEN THE LINES

By DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

SOUTH CAROLINA SECEDES AGAIN. Secessionism still survives in South Carolina. The Palmetto state was the very first to secede from the Union in the 1860's. But in 1945 South Carolina is threatening to secede again and this time not from the Union but from the old traditional "keep-the-Negro-down" south. Reports have it that there are white South Carolinians who are not only supporting the Negro's contention for his rights to vote but who accompany Negroes to the ballot box to see that nothing is done to circumvent this right.

When white southerners are so determined that Negroes shall vote that they are willing to go with them to the ballot box, we are witnessing "strange things today." That those white southerners are South Carolinians is one of the moral miracles of the 20th century. As we were informed some months ago, these same South Carolinians favored letting Negroes vote in the primary; this same group met and made a statement in rebuttal to the shameful legislative attempts to thwart the Negro's rightful contention for political participation. Now these same whites are so determined that justice shall be accorded Negroes in their rightful attempts to exercise their rights of suffrage that they accompany Negroes to the ballot box.

Interracialism is reaching a new high in constructive action when it assumes the proportions and momentum now manifest in South Carolina. Things are stirring in the south and although the short time prospects leave abundant room for hope. These latter day secessionists in South Carolina are the hope of the south and the nation. Without them the Negro is lost; and then the nation!

It must be kept definitely in mind that the fight for justice for the Negro is not a fight merely for the Negro. It is a fight for the south and nation. Long live these latter day secessionists in South Carolina! May their numbers increase. This secessionism is a redemptionist movement calculated to save the moral face of the south no less than its heart.

LITTLE BY LITTLE. Little by little Negroes are advancing in their legitimate aspirations toward full integration into the body politic of this nation. Little by little those forces designed to thwart these aspirations are weakening while those favoring these aspirations are strengthening. It would wreck civilization and democracy to permanently subjugate the Negroes in the United States or the Indians in India. The subjugating nations are strictly on the defensive and it is only a matter of time and their position will be untenable.

Britain is still fighting. Britain dares not cease fighting. Fighting is the life blood of the far-flung British empire. But fighting will in time destroy Britain and if she does not fight, rapid disintegration will set in and final dissolution will become inevitable.

Once the United States can be convinced that we are no longer justified in fighting Britain's imperialistic wars, Britain's strangle hold on India and Ireland and China will be broken forever. The sooner the British empire disintegrates, the sooner will appear prospects of lasting peace. There is no way at present to stave off war if Britain is to keep intact her vast empire. But unfortunately the handwriting is now upon the wall, and even the most dull-eyed Britons can read it. Imperialism is a form of isolationism and the survival of mankind depends upon the abolition of isolationism. Little by little forces of abolition are at work just as little by little forces are at work for Negro liberation here and elsewhere.

The Negro athlete symbolizes the underlying spirit of the nation. Little by little these Negro athletes are coming into their own. Joe Louis has probably contributed as much to improved race relations as any Negro of this generation. He is the greatest symbol of interracialism. His success has been of the interracial kind, but there would have been no success had he not wrought it with those "million dollar mauls" which we call fists. Now comes Jackie Robinson crashing the major leagues as ball player. If Jackie can deliver the goods he is going to be a blessing to the cause of better race relations. If Jackie does not deliver, some other Negro will. We are inching along, little by little.

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The Responsibility of Victory

By RUTH TAYLOR

At first hearing that sounds like one of the catch phrases adopted by the campaign orators, a phrase that rolls so easily from the lips that we overlook its meaning. But it is very much more than that. The responsibility of victory means that upon the victor lies the twin burden of making and keeping the peace.

The victor not only has the task of rebuilding the rubble of war, but of building anew. To this task the victor must apply the same selfless devotion to a cause that he applied in war. To this end he must drive through obstacles once making sure what he is after. He must not be swayed by personal inclination nor prejudices.

The responsibility of victory must be above revenge. Hatred cannot solve the problems of peace. A way must be found for nations to live together in amity. The victor must act with justice, not as a victor, but as a man, and clearly, coolly, fairly and with an eye to the future.

The responsibility of victory demands clear minds — full knowledge of why and what we have fought, how we have won and what we must do to prevent the recurrence of man-made tyranny or aggression — not in our life-time but for all time.

Our long time responsibility is the well being of men. Only as we, the victors, build a strong new world in which men are free to live as individuals with the Four Freedoms brought into active use everywhere, can any man be free from the twin burden of making and keeping the peace.

It is now up to us to show to the people of all the earth, how universal is our democracy and how, as it acted as one to fight the battles of war, so will it act as one to win the battles of peace.

There are 1,700,000 boys and girls in U. S. 4-H clubs and more than 90 thousands of them are in North Carolina.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: Exalting Christ In The Life of The Nation. Luke 9:27; Luke 9:38-39. Key Verse: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isa. 9:6. The two passages of scripture for our printed text in our study: "Exalting Christ In The Life of The Nation" should be read and studied if we are to get a partial glimpse into their real meaning. The prophet wrote at a time when conditions in Jerusalem and the surrounding countries were every thing but normal and God-like. Luke, the physician and scholar wrote as an eye witness. Both writers were certain of Christ coming in fact. Isaiah was so certain that he stated his declaration in the present tense even though it was more than seven hundred years before Christ was born. It is interesting to note God's love and faith in men and nations from the beginning. He called Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses — the Kingdoms — the Babylonian and Roman Empire. During all these years despite the prophets warnings and God's patience the people still walked in "darkness. It is natural to ask why? There can be but one answer. Failure to Exalt Christ. No Christ was not born then but their disobedience of God's messengers was the same as if he had been. It should be of God's messengers was the same as if he had been. It should be noted that the Redemptive official — especially the Pharisees — had a form of Godliness, but their hearts were far from God. As we look at the key

verse there are given reasons why we should exact the child of which Isaiah wrote: 1. Wonderful. He is wonderful in his birth, as a teacher in his death, resurrection; 2. Counselor by His Counsel is on the safe side of this and after life; 3. Mighty God. He is the only complete revelation of God; 4. The Everlasting Father. He lives and abides forever; 5. Prince of Peace. He is our peace only when He is enthroned in our hearts. The world stood in dire need of a Savior when the angels sang Glory to God and on earth peace. A few people accepted Him then and began exalting His name above every other name. They suffered some died, but they, the few, won more converts who in turn established His church and down through the ages the Christian Church has been holding high the

banner of the Cross telling men to look and live, and men have looked and they have lived. It is true our schools in our churches and have at times left Christ out of the picture and whenever and wherever that has happened men and nations have gone down. And whenever Christ has been exalted others have been brought to see the light. If I have lifted from the earth, will draw all men unto me." Jno. 12:32. At this particular time this lesson should certainly be heeded by us. Then we think of what happened to those who exalted themselves as leaders of Nations and caused such slaughtering of lives and sufferings of untold millions of all nations of the earth — its time to pause and take stock of how and where we are traveling. We are at the crossroad — Will we exalt Him in our government, in our homes, in our schools, in our churches. Will the political leaders hold up Christ? Will the Church members put Christ first and keep the Christmas spirit three hundred sixty five days during the year? Will the churches have to

close during the summer while the church members go on vacations to the beaches and elsewhere. Will the churches wait for members at night time while the theaters are crowded? Will the work of mission suffer for lack of friends while its members spend for pleasure and good time? And those who have been fortunate to go over and engage in battle amid shot and shell — almost in the jaws of death — yet by a power beyond their control — as a result of the prayers of the saints who exalted Christ — have returned safe and sound — Will you exalt Christ by your service? Do not boast America because you have won a great titanic struggle. Do not boast in the cross of our Lord (Gal. 6:14). And we who are here to see the light in a Christian Civilization, enjoying the good things of this life, face our problems fairly and squarely with faith in God and an attitude of Christian brotherhood and solve them in the Spirit of Christ then we will be exalting Christ in the nation and God, even our own God shall bless us.