

EDITORIALS

MORE SUDDEN DEATH

A curio review of the casualty list of two rather unusual days last week showed that at least ten persons met their death on North Carolina highways in that short time. The usual average is a paltry two a day; but there are occasional red-letter days. The red letters are written in blood.

Mr. T. Boddie Ward, an official who ought to know, says that the biggest factor in the rising post-war toll of automobile accidents is speed. Extra fast driving, or fast driving under unfavorable circumstances, is inviting disaster. Every driver knows what those unfavorable circumstances are.

In one of the worst of last week's highway tragedies the driver crashed headlong into the rear of a standing truck. Why? Well, it is pretty clearly indicated that the driver of the death car couldn't stop soon enough. Old car? Faulty brakes? Whatever the answers to those and other questions, it is certain that he was going too fast under the set of circumstances which prevailed. It is worth noting also that there were three full-sized persons plus a baby in the front seat. Can a driver, except under the most favorable circumstances, have complete split-second control over his vehicle when so encumbered?

The speed of which the modern car is capable is one of its most valuable attributes — when it is under control. When it is not, the car becomes one of the deadliest weapons available for the use of the ordinary civilian citizen. It is a potential dealer of death to the one driving and those riding with him, and to sane and careful drivers of other cars as well, not to mention the hapless pedestrian.

Every time a motorist places himself behind a steering wheel, he should remind himself that a car is a wonderful mechanism, but it doesn't have any brains. The driver has some, and they are given him to use. And if he doesn't use them they may become — suddenly and permanently — useless.

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It would appear that President Truman's sticking by his appointment of Mr. Pauley has gone past the point of loyalty and has arrived at old-fashioned stubbornness. A lot of the President's troubles have come from outside, but it seems he is bringing this difficulty on himself. The repercussions promise to be far-reaching and long-lasting, whether Pauley finally gets the undersecretaryship or not.

THE MERIT RATING ISSUE

There is nothing fundamentally wrong with the idea of varying the pay of public school teachers according to their efficiency and other considerations of merit. The trouble would come in the matter of working out and administering a fair system of merit rating which would definitely exclude the operation of prejudices, favoritism and bias of any kind. Until such a system is definitely assured the present system of equality of pay for all with the same training and experience comes nearer to guaranteeing equity.

NEGRO WAR MOTHERS

The Negro War Mothers of North Carolina followed the only dignified course

left open to them when they severed their relations with the erstwhile parent state, and national bodies and applied for a charter to establish themselves as an independent organization.

"Auxiliary status" would have been repugnant, and since there was reason for it and no sensible explanation whatever for it, it did not have to be tolerated. If anybody appears small, undemocratic and silly in this situation it is not the Negro War Mothers. There may be those who would wish to deny that they are war mothers, but that can hardly be arranged. "The line" can be drawn only up to a certain point.

THE BEAR GROWS

The truculence of the Russian bear is amazing. However, his history may explain his touchiness, his bad manners and his belligerence in season and out, the fact remains that his behavior is disquieting.

The official reaction of the Soviet government to the discovery and exposure of Russian espionage in Canada is a wonderful demonstration of both "nerve" and churlishness, or at least it would seem so to the ordinary observer. Practically admitting the charges brought by the Canadian government, Russia charges Canada with being unfriendly in revealing and protesting the situation. It looks very much like adding insult to injury, and reminds one of the fellow who gets mad when he is caught in a mean trick because his victim is mean enough to resent the injury.

Stalin's far from pacifist pronouncement on Red Army Day, following so closely on the spy incident and Russia's attitude toward it, will add nothing to the place of mind of the other nations of the world. It would seem that the war of nerves is far from over. Will it ever be?

IN GEORGIA

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One of these occasions was the recent participation of Negroes in large numbers in a special congressional election in the district which includes Atlanta, or at least part of it. Not only did Negroes vote; their ballots were the deciding factor in a close election. The margin of the successful candidate, a woman, by the way, was so close that there was no doubt that she could not have won without her Negro supporters. The same is a very important fact. Office-seekers and office-holders cannot laugh of a group to which they owe or may owe their election.

At least as epoch-making as the large scale voting of Negroes in certain Atlanta precincts was the fact that Negro election officials conducted the balloting. Doubtless it has been many years since such a thing happened in Georgia, if it has ever happened before.

For a good while now the CAROLINIAN has been claiming that the trend of affairs indicated by the Atlanta event is inevitable. With the Texas primary case as the bulwark of their claims, and with insistent but intelligent action to obtain their indisputable rights, Negroes will more and more win the indispensable right to suffrage. In Atlanta and other places leaders have taken it upon themselves to train potential voters in their rights and duties, and for an intelligent exercise of the ballot, at the same as they were using every legitimate and proper means for opening the polls. Such procedure is bound to win.

Victory will come first in the cities, where the majority of the citizens, as in Atlanta, have other things to do and think of, and consequently cannot devote so much of their time and effort to thoughts of the Negro. It will come in cities and in seats of learning, large and small, where a small but growing minority of people are beginning to face the "American Dilemma" with intelligence and courage. And it will spread from those places to ever widening circles.



Second Thoughts

By C. L. HALLIBURTON



Dr. J. W. Seabrook, in a Race Relations Sunday address at St. Augustine's College, gave his hearers food for thought. It was not the kind of oration often heard on such occasions, for he devoted little time to outlining the Negro's grievances against the American scene. By this it was not meant that the speaker was not acutely conscious of these grievances, he was. Nor does he believe that the rising young black American should accept, either willingly or reluctantly, second class citizenship. What Dr. Seabrook tried to do was this. He tried to give his hearers a philosophy and a technique which would make them better able to contribute from their side of the color line to the improvement of their status in American life. And what could be more practical, or for that matter, more ideal?

An underprivileged people need to consider not only their goals, but also and equally, their strategy by which these goals are to be obtained. Indignation has its place, in that it impels action and furnishes drive, but indignation does not supply any plan. What a minority wants the majority to do is one thing. What the majority can accomplish itself is without its own control, and therefore quite another. And what the minority must bring about among the majority must often depend on action of the proper procedure. In this selection of procedure it is never necessary to sacrifice principle or compromise one's manhood or dignity. More likely one may find oneself called on rather to give up personal preference and the approbation of powerful persons and forces. Cynicism which makes for opportunism is not the answer, any

more than is pessimism, bitterness or resigned acceptance of what is. Dr. Seabrook stressed the value of individual worth and individual achievement. The world respects, however hesitantly, excellence, efficiency, and solid worth. Everyone has many opportunities to demonstrate these, though the opportunities are not plentiful as they might and should be, and though those which exist may not always be obvious. Our young people must be taught the importance of thoroughness, dependability and like humely virtues, along with the other things they need to know or will learn inevitably whether they are taught or not. The message that Dr. Seabrook passed on was that there is much we can do to improve our own lot. For leaving such things undone we have only ourselves to blame.

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Lest We Forget.

By W. L. GREENE

The literature available to the teachers of North Carolina in the field of scholastic activity is as produced in the State and comes from writers who are accustomed to writing for audiences that such activities are almost inevitable a part of the high school program. Because, then, we see the emphasis on the continuity of such programs in our state bulletins coming from the State Departments, we have slipped into the common thinking that such activities are non-essential, something could be farther from true. Sports seasons are more properly called recreational seasons, and they are spaced over the calendar of the school year in terms of the three major American pastimes, Football, Basketball, and Baseball. No foreigner would be impressed with the Americanism of a school, after reading about

American scholastic life in the standard American literature, if that school did not include baseball in its interscholastic contest program. The region of the CIAA is the only American region which actually uses up scholastic baseball as a major sport beginning with the depression of the thirties. True, the CIAA has been and is the most publicized educational sports organization representing the "separate schools" of the United States. But we have developed "separate" must be equal. The CIAA has, because of more routine difficulty, taken on a voluntary inferior in the field of recreational education traditionally carried on in the spring months in American high schools and colleges. This is not as it should be. The high schools in the region of

the CIAA have followed the lead of the colleges to the detriment of all. Financial difficulty is the excuse but character education and student body morale are the issues standing before us as a challenge. High school baseball does not have to be expensive. Studies are desirable but not indispensable. Night game facilities are desirable but not essential to the main purpose. Boys want to play baseball. The newspapers and radio make all America baseball conscious and the game does not have to be sold to any student body. Sand lot baseball is played in every American community. All the schools need to do to make an educational tool for character building out of the baseball in the Community is to organize the activity and give it purposeful direction.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: A People Finding A Homeland. Joshua. Printed Text, Joshua 1:1-4, 24:1-11, 24:14, 15, 24, 28.

Key Verse: "Thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee." Deut. 10:10.

There are some very striking similarities between this lesson which occurred about 1400 B. C. on the east of the Jordan River and events which are happening in this and other war torn and war weary countries today. A great number of the refugees now are Jews and it was the Hebrew nation then. The refugees now are looking to the United States for a new home. They are being welcomed to their homeland occupied by enemy forces. If they will keep true to the promises of the Atlantic Charter, not only the refugees will be restored, but all people everywhere now under the domination of other countries will be given their freedom to achieve that which is peace, justice and religious freedom, we need men and women in the UNO who have the faith of Abraham and the courage of Joshua. Faith in God's word and courage en-

ough to warn the nation of the dire results of disobedience characterized Joshua's leadership.

JOSHUA'S COMMISSION "Moses, my servant is dead; therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give thee. I have given thee every part of the land, even to the children of Israel." Joshua is now putting his stamp of approval upon the man, whom Moses appointed more than forty years ago, as his minister. Joshua's trust in God, his training under Moses and his experience with Israel will qualify him to assume command of "A People Finding A Homeland." He is to serve as a leader, interpreter, statesman, historian, ruler of fund and leader of a new nation in a new land.

A BIG JOB TAKEN SERIOUSLY Many men and women too often study with profit, Joshua's approach to the job at 1:7-9. He immediately called the people together and told them to prepare for passing over Jordan. He instructed them what to do, how to do and when to do. Confusion and a lot of lost energy are usually caused because the leader is lacking in definiteness. It is inter-

esting to note that the Israelites harkened and entered into a covenant to obey all that was commanded of them. Crossing the Jordan was the first minute detail instructions to be carried out the next, feeding of the people. Then the conquest of the hostile inhabitants and finally dividing the conquered land into divisions according to tribes. Joshua's unique way of doing this was by lot. With the job almost done, Joshua well stricken in age again calls the elders first and the congregation next together and gives to them the pre-requisites for future prosperity.

MAKING A CHOICE "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve" could properly be on the lips of every leader in the nation, pulpit, school teacher and whoever has to do with helping to shape the lives and policies of a people. We in America are blessed with resources beyond our fondest dream. A land literally flowing with milk and honey. We will be thankful and bless the Lord our God for Christ and the good things of life. If we make the wise choice we may rest assured that our future happiness is secure.

Some Observations

By GEORGE F. KING

Rural Journals

President Whittaker of S. C. College Virilo Land — Grand College Executive

That the attitudes of presidents of Negro Land-Grant Colleges toward movements to make the life of Negro ruralists wholesome and profitable have much to do with the progress of these country-folk are evidenced by the activities of Negro ruralists in the South. The administrations of several Negro Land-Grant College presidents, as noted by this observer, have miserably failed to function for the good of Negro ruralists. It is true that the agricultural departments of the colleges in question have deteriorated to the extent that they are merely a sham. In the meantime this observer has carefully investigated the influences at work among Negro ruralists in the states where the several Land-Grant Colleges are located without a sustaining influence and contact with the Negro farm families in their respective states, and one finds that such movements as the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture are the only educational constructive agencies at work with appropriate programs to help Negro farm families. The states where this condition prevails are strictly agricultural states. Yet, it is heartening to stress stimulating facts exhibiting outstanding administrations of the majority of Negro Land-Grant College presidents. They are actually really and directing the activities of Negroes in city, urban and rural areas of their states into channels of worthwhile usefulness. One hasn't merely visited a college and allowed misleading influences to create the impression that the college is really doing what it claims on paper to be accomplishing, but one travels in every section of the said State and assembles tangible evidences of what the college is actually doing for the good of the people of the state. It is supposed to serve. This I did in South Carolina while enroute to the deep South. In South Carolina I found a typical example of the progressive element of Land-Grant College presidents in the person of President Whittaker of South Carolina State College, Orangeburg. In every section of the Palmetto State I found that the administration of President Whittaker was a potent factor in community progress and the things making for the advancement of the race and a sustaining cooperation between white and colored citizens. One wish that one could say the same about the states with colleges that made a poor impression on a large number of people of both races working for the functioning of their respective Negro Land-Grant Colleges. Negro farm families in South Carolina are loyal to their State College, because the administration of President Whittaker has done much for their advancement

and security. I found that this quiet and very unassuming educator cooperates with every educational advanced movement that will help Negro farm families improve their status and make rural life more abundant to them. Of course President Whittaker is not lopsided in his educational objectives. He is well-rounded and consistent in projecting the programs of the college. One found him strikingly interested in every phase of cooperated activities to improve the spiritual and material spheres of the masses of Negro ruralists. He supports, in no uncertain way, the educational agricultural departments, vocational agriculture and the extension service of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, working among Negroes in South Carolina with headquarters at his college. Therefore he is a potent factor in the achievements of these splendid rural workers in South Carolina. To this observer he is a real exponent of the objectives for which all Land-Grant Colleges should strive to obtain.

The recent report on Extension Work Among Negroes in the South by John W. Mitchell, Field Agent Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture will accomplish a great deal in attesting to the fact that the college at Orangeburg is a component element in the programs of extension workers. His report says: "The farm men and boys who were left on the farm one month in Carolina put the major part of their farming time on the growing of cotton, tobacco, corn, wheat, and sweet potatoes and growing improved beef cattle as well as hog raising."

"Cotton and corn crop contests were conducted on a State-wide basis. In the cotton contest, 6 farmers in the 5-acre contest grew 46,450 pounds of seed cotton and 16,940 pounds of lint valued at \$4,152.00. In the corn contest 18 farmers on 80 acres grew 3,225 bushels of corn, averaging 36 bushels per acre. The State average is 12 bushels per acre.

"There were 2,425 farmers who participated in growing improved sweet potatoes. Three farmers in Arden County grew 678 bushels on 4 acres, which was valued at \$1,434.50.

"Six farmers fattened 68 beef calves that were valued at \$8,442.45. Six farmers keeping 49 cows had 18 monthly milkings of \$420 from the sale of milk to a nearby milk plant.

"To help in meeting the feed demands, 9 farmers in Chester County grew 284 tons of lespedeza hay.

"Projects were completed by 4,709 4-H Club boys. Pigs, calves, poultry, garden, potato, corn, peanuts, tobacco, and miscellaneous activities were included. The total value of these projects was \$282,344.72.

"Next week we will attempt to say some things about the girls and women in the rural districts of South Carolina.

To My Darling Sweetheart

By J. WESLEY COPLAND

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