

EDITORIALS

WHAT ABOUT THE NEGRO VOTE?

Editorial writers, newspaper and radio columnists and other political analysts have written and spoken at length on the subject of why Truman was elected and Dewey defeated, and about the poor showing made by Henry Wallace. The labor vote, the farm vote, and the housewives have all been mentioned as being responsible for swinging the election from Dewey to Truman. The president's success in presenting a program acceptable to the western farmers his positiveness in outlining his proposals, as against the vagueness and cautiousness of Dewey, the lambasting of the 80th Congress in Truman's speeches, and a number of other factors have been examined in the press and on the radio as explanations for the unexpected victory of the Democratic candidate. Mr. Truman's dogged determination to carry on the fight, his humility, his sincerity, his symbolizing of himself as an average man in there swinging in behalf of the average man, and even the traditional American sympathy for the underdog — all have come in for their part in accounting for Truman's triumph and Dewey's downfall. But not a single writer or speaker we have read or heard has mentioned the Negro vote!

This failure to include the Negro vote in the post-mortem accounting is all the more strange in view of the fact that southerners — Dixiecrats and those who remained true to the Democratic party alike — attributed Mr. Truman's promulgating of the civil rights program to his scheming to snare the Negro vote in northern and border states.

The Negro press in its analysis of the election results reports that colored voters all over the country overwhelmingly supported Mr. Truman. Harlem went for him two or three to one. Several Negro Republicans in Philadelphia who were running for local offices were swept away by the Truman-Democratic tide. Negro Chicago remained Democratic in spite of strong Dewey leadership among colored politicians.

In his bid for the Negro vote Dewey could point to his record as governor of New York, and one may be sure his campaign managers did not hide that record, which included many good appointments of Negroes to important state jobs, as well as the New York State FEPC established during his administration. Yet Harlem followed Truman by a big majority.

What happened in the South? Just one small example. Raleigh's Precincts 10 and 16 gave the Democratic candidate 638 votes, Dewey 209, and Wallace 107. The reports from the South in general indicate that wherever the Negroes voted they voted as overwhelmingly and consistently for Truman.

Negroes were influenced by the same set of factors as the other voters of the country, and in addition were grateful for Mr. Truman's courageous advocacy of a cause unpopular with millions of his own party members. Most of them doubtless felt that Mr. Dewey would be at least as trustworthy an advocate of civil rights for minorities as would Mr. Truman; but they felt that Mr. Dewey's stand on the issue represented no sacrifice or political risk on his part. He didn't stick his neck out on any issue.

Several influential Negro newspapers, South as well as North, declared for Mr. Dewey; but the Negro press was evidently as powerless as the white press in determining the trend of the voting.

Finally, Wallace's very poor showing throughout the country among colored voters came as a surprise to many. The most outspoken of all the candidates in his advocacy of the Negro's ideal con-

ception of his proper role in American life, he nevertheless ran a poor third among Negro voters. He did no better with Negroes than did Thurmond with the whites of the South, or not as well. Either the colored voters did not trust him or any real headway toward getting close else they did not trust his ability to make good, and preferred not to "waste their vote."

In spite of the fact that little is being said about it by the commentators, one may be sure that Truman and the national Democratic high command are well aware of the importance of the Negro vote in contributing to the Democratic victory. Illinois, Ohio and California were carried by the Democrats by small margins, and the Democrats could not have won without those states.

Nonetheless the Negro vote was not a bloc vote anywhere. The vote was distributed among the candidates, except that Thurman and Wright were naturally passed over. With that exception, a complete analysis of the vote, if such were possible, would probably show a close parallel between the Negro vote and the vote of the general public.

EQUALITY BY LOWERING

There have been two recent developments in the King George County (Va.) struggle for equal school facilities for Negro children. The reader will recall that the Negro citizens of that county, represented by colored lawyers, won a court order from a Federal court enjoining school authorities from continuing the providing of unequal school plant and other inequalities existing between white and colored schools.

In a recent bond election in which few citizens voted, the majority vote authorized a \$120,000 bond issue for the erection of a new school building for Negro children.

But to meet the inequalities in another direction the school board voted to remove from the curriculum of the white high school certain subjects now taught there, and for which no provision had been made in the Negro school.

The people, white and colored, are disgusted with the board because of this unheard-of method of bringing about equality — that of lowering the better down to the level of the poorer. Whether the board was motivated by pique, or malice, or what not, it certainly seems like cutting off one's nose to spite one's face. White children are being made to suffer. The white school may lose its rating.

The Negro does not want the white man pulled down to his level nor the white man's child pushed down to the level of his own. His only idea of equity is that of equality on a high and ever higher level, to be attained by raising the Negro to the prevailing status of others, and then advancing together from there.

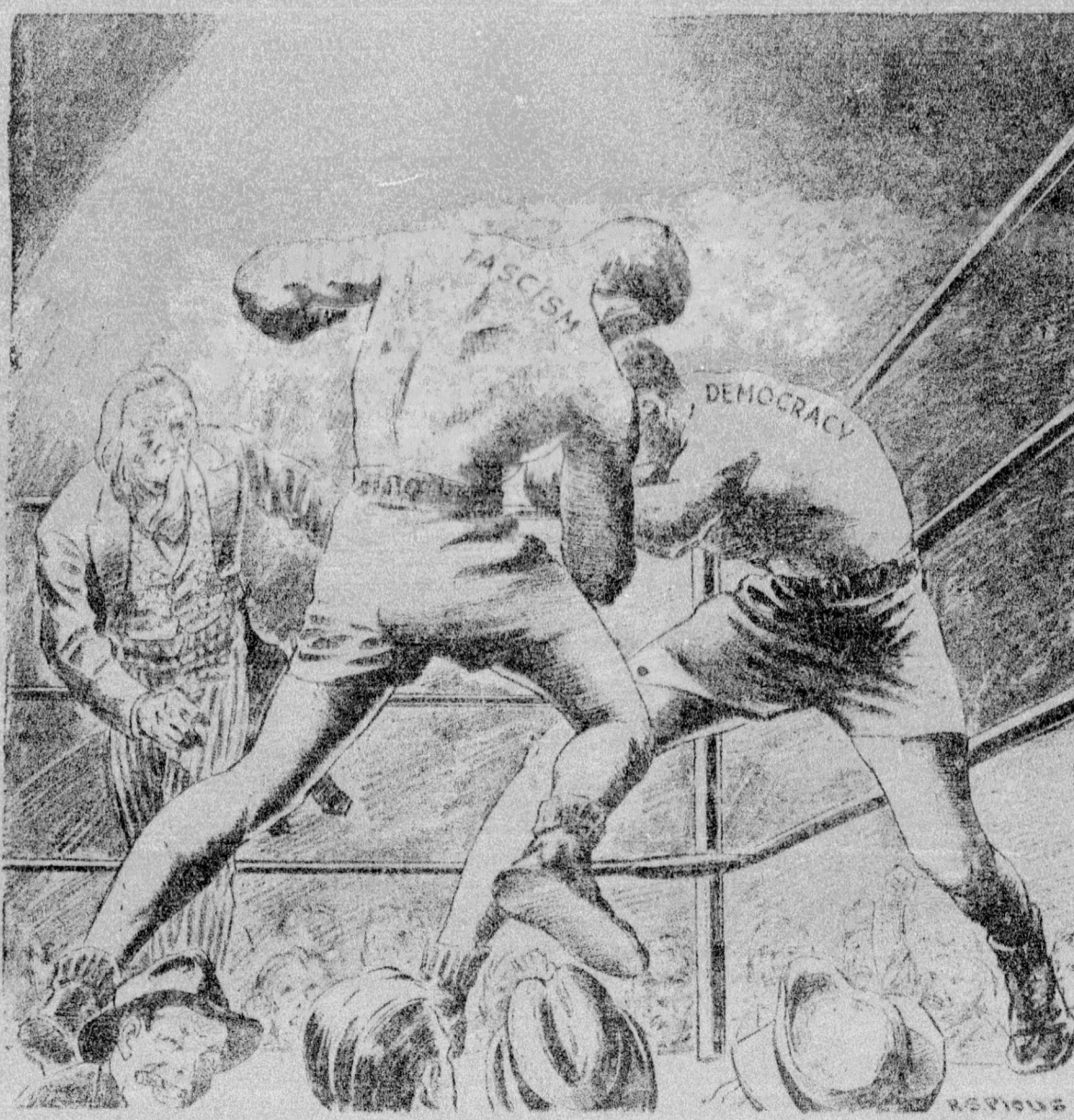
FIFTEEN CENTS A MEAL

Dr. Eilen Winston, state commissioner of public welfare, and members of the state welfare board have appeared before the Advisory Budget Commission with a request for funds during the next biennium sufficient to allow an average grant of \$27.50 for old age assistance clients and about \$21 for dependent children per month. At present the average is about \$19.73 per month in North Carolina for the dependent aged, as compared to a national average of \$38 a month. Dependent children in North Carolina are receiving \$13 a child, says Dr. Winston, or about enough to provide 15 cents a meal if the mother does not eat, and with nothing left over at all for the other expenses of living after the 15 cent meal has been bought. Dr. Winston prints out also.

With the cost of bare subsistence 50 to 60 per cent higher than it was seven years ago only trifling increases in assistance allowances have been made available to North Carolina's needy. It should be understood also that under the Social Security laws the United States Government is providing half of the magnificent allowances made for the state's needy children and aged.

Meanwhile the state's revenues continue to increase and pile up, and we are proud of our solvency as a state — our ever-increasing public revenue and surplus. The budget commission and the Legislature should face Dr. Winston's figures with shame rather than gloat with pride over the surplus reported from the fiscal offices of the state. Then they should do something positive about the requests of the Department of Public Welfare for a little better break for the underprivileged of the state who are facing heartbreaking problems in trying to live on the pitiful sums of which North Carolina supplies only half.

It is an axiom that a government collects from its people no more than it needs to perform the services it undertakes. Why continue to collect heavy taxes and at the same time operate the welfare services on such a niggardly basis?



Editorial: In The Fight Against Fascism At Home—As Well As Communism Abroad



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

I suspect that readers are getting pretty tired of post-mortems on the presidential election now as this writing more than two weeks old. But I ask the indulgence of my tremendously large and fabulously intelligent reading public as I raise the subject again. I also give notice that this is not necessarily my final say on the subject, so every column for the next several months had better be approached by the reader with caution if he does not want to encounter more opinions about the election.

I voted for Truman. There are lots of people who are probably saying the same thing, what with the secret ballot and so on. But I really did vote for him. I don't think he would win for like most of America, I had been misled by the distorted observations of the politicians and other experts.

I voted for Truman not because I thought he would be a better administrator than Dewey. I thought he would be. I did not vote for Truman because I thought he had a better chance of remaining about first class citizenship for me and the millions of my race than did Dewey.

If anything, I still think it might have been the other way around. I confess I voted for Truman for two reasons. One is that I like Truman and the New Deal to which he was committed. The other is that Dewey had no personal appeal for me. In this I was like millions of other Americans.

I had a little tenuous contact with Mr. Dewey, and I think that what happened on that occasion was a good index to his personality. He was friendly, which is more so than anything else except when he will not be the next president to be inaugurated.

A short time after Mr. Dewey was inaugurated four years ago to run "round" it would be hard to say. I had the opportunity of attending the annual convention of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association in New York. It was arranged by Dewey and some of his Negro political friends that he should meet the delegates in a social hour at a downtown hotel. Every delegate was anxious to speak and certain that Mr. Dewey would take that occasion to make some significant public statement on the subject of vital interest to the Negro writers, publishers and readers as-

sembled there. To my mind, an hour or so after the gathering got under way under the sponsorship of Mr. Dewey's Negro political friends, the governor himself arrived. He began to move around the room, pausing to chat with and ask perfunctory questions of the newspaper men clustered in small groups. However, he kept waiting for the important and important little speech that all were sure he would make. But after a few minutes of passing among the crowd and exchanging small talk, he disappeared, not to return. The crowd was greatly disappointed.

As a Republican candidate for the presidency, Mr. Dewey had seemed to me to be a man of the heart of every man there. But his overbearing cautiousness probably defeated him. He took no stand. He did not "go in for it."

It was the same kind of a fiasco which made people shy of the civil defense candidate in the primaries and turned them toward the warm-hearted, forthright and outspoken Truman, who would not even cough out to stick his neck out.



BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

OUR GREAT VINDICATION VOTE

The returns of the recent election showed not only an upset in the prevailing opinion, but they in many ways showed a vindication vote of the people. One of the majestic strengths of democracy is this selfsame capacity of the American people to register in an unmistakable way their opinions on public matters.

It is true that there are some Republican die hards who are trying to disparage the intelligence of the American voter, but to these we say, the same American voters have formerly registered themselves in favor of that which is Republican, just as they have recently declared themselves in favor of that which is Democratic.

In 1946 the American voter turned Republican, and gave republicanism a "break" but the old line Republicans muffed their chance by engineering an obstructionist policy through the 80th Congress. The American voter became disgusted with such flagrant display of midget politics and renounced such tactics in the recent election.

The recent Democratic vote and victory was a vindication of the lamented Franklin Delano Roosevelt who sleeps at quiet Hyde Park. It was the genius of Roosevelt that saved this nation from the throes of a bitter revolution. The Republicans had not set the stage for this tragic eventuality, but Roosevelt was too resourceful and too imaginative in the promise. It is true that he brought off the revolution with American billions but ours was the better of the bargain.

Our ship of state that was listing badly resumed an even keel under the magic touch and genius of Roosevelt. Truman's promise to continue the New Deal inaugurated under Roosevelt appealed to the people and their vote vindicated Roosevelt. It is true that since his passing there are those to disparage him and even malign him; but this is merely a case of rats coming out to play when the tom-cat is away.

The vote was a super-vindication of Truman, the abused, the maligned, disparaged, the ridiculed, the despised and rejected of the Dixiecrats. And why? Simply because he advocated the most unpopular doctrine of civil rights for Negroes. It must be observed however that the cause of civil rights for the Negro is not nearly as unpopular with the people as with the press.

Herein lies the bright hopes for the cause of race relations. The recent vote was super-vindication for a man with moral courage to stand up and be counted as unequivocally committed to civil rights for all the people, Negroes included. It was this stand that enraged the Dixiecrats and their northern sympathizers of whom there are not a few.

The election was a vindication for the better south. With Tuck of Virginia and Thurmond of South Carolina trying to stampede the south against Truman and his civil rights program we witnessed one of the superbest flatter campaigns ever waged in the south. Of the 13 southern states the flat tire Dixiecrats carried only three states, the writer here is giving Alabama the benefit of the doubt and assuming that had Truman's name been entered he would have carried Alabama. The name was left off by the "leaders," and not the people, who spoke in the other nine southern states.

The writer repeats what he has often asserted that the south is growing in moral stature in ways too often obscured by the Thurmonds and Bilbos and Rankins and Tucks. The fact remains the liberal South swallowed Truman, civil rights and all and this to its credit must be said.

The election was a vindication of the Negro in his stubborn fight for full citizenship in this country. As we predicted in a pre-election release, the election would in many ways be a race relational poll indicating just how fast and how far the Negro had gone in his fight for his rights. The election returns were gratifying. The election was a vindication of the people in particular who defied a reactionary leadership and registered their own convictions at the poll with astounding results.

The American people are doing their own thinking, thanks be. They are not to be herded any more like dumb driven cattle. The great American people takes over! Our great vindication vote!

Sentence Sermons

By REV. FRANK CLARENCE LOWRY (FOR ANP)

To you, progress toward success may seem much delayed, but if your aims are good ones, with determination you will make the grade.

Those who are looking for something good must be prepared for its reception. Success doesn't light on everybody, only those who make preparation.

Today, in this land of plenty, with modern improvements, luxurious travel, and temples royal of creed and choice, man for the most part has become worldly minded, and to God, won't even raise his voice.

How can a man expect to really prosper, arrayed in luxury like a king, yet never raises his hat to thank God, much less His praises sing.

Ingratitude is the curse of the fortunate; it is eating at the vitals of the race. . . . thus man is liable to crowd himself out backwards, without sufficient space to hide his face.

But now let those who know their God and His matless matches mercies to all mankind, renew their faith, increase their love and give endless thanks to the father above.

Real success is founded on virtues that cannot be bought. . . . there are counterfeits that can be picked up like diseases that can be caught.

But the kind of success that really lasts, is the kind that puts real first things, first.

Any man who tries to reach success by any uprighteous course, have plenty of time in his old age to drink from his cup of remorses. The two surest routes to success are those known as "Truth and Honesty" no double-crossers are familiar with those highways, and the crossing flagmen are men of integrity.

Success comes by hard work; it offers no rewards or emoluments to those who think they can shirk.

The folks who believe only in luck get so far down the road that success to them begins to fade because they substituted the wrong thing for pluck.

Real success also hides its face from those who feel that, with "pull" alone, they can evade hard work and ascend the throne. Success starts with "S" and ends that way too, and you will have to possess all of the parts before success will recognize you.

Success building, is a slowly arranged, well planned and prayerful operation; it is like a skyscraper. . . . the higher it reaches in architectural perfection, the stronger and deeper must be its foundation.

examination and treatment for know the facts, to encourage use those persons with whom he has of the excellent facilities for treatment in close contact. Thus he will ment and to make every effort to not only protect himself from re- correct those conditions which infection but he will also protect lead to the spread of venereal dis- eases.

Cooperation and knowledge, com- munity. A community will further aid in bined with modern therapy, will the eradication of syphilis and rid our country of these serious, gonorrhea by its willingness to rectly diseases.

VENEREAL DISEASE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

By Felix Marshall Murray, M.D. New York For ANP

Sympathy and a willingness to give assistance, when necessary, are our first thoughts when we hear of the illness of a friend or neighbor. If the illness is communicable and infectious, we also think of ourselves and our families and take necessary precautions to avoid infection.

Most communicable diseases are well controlled through the combined efforts of health departments, physicians, and the general public. Researchers seek tirelessly to provide new and greater knowledge in all fields of medicine, and to make available for the benefit of all the best methods of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. The citizens in this country have great confidence and rightly so, in our continued progress toward better public health.

The venereal diseases are communicable, but it is not widely realized that they are far more prevalent than any other serious communicable disease, including influenza. Furthermore, this statement is based on reported cases only. It is estimated that about 145,000,000 of those persons who acquire venereal disease do not apply for diagnosis and treatment, and thus are not reported. That so many infections are undiagnosed and untreated is the result of evasion, fear, or complete unawareness of infection. Too many years of "hush-hush" and lack of knowledge fostered these mistaken attitudes.

It is now recognized that ignorance of facts is the cloak under which syphilis and gonorrhea have spawned such a strong lead in prevalence. What is why you, as a citizen, are reading and hearing more and more about the venereal diseases — their symptoms, their dangers, how they are treated, and why examination and treatment are so important to the early

THE ROAD TO HEALTH

stands of infection. A community these personal tragedies need not which knows and suspects the facts about disease is a community which can eradicate disease quick, and convenient for the patient. Daily instruction can be given in the physician's office or in a clinic without serious interruption of a patient's work or home activities.

Such treatment is available to anyone who needs it and who will faithfully abide by the medical procedures outlined for his benefit.

The patient must know when to suspect infection, and he must be alert to the advantages of getting medical examination and treatment as soon as possible. The earlier a venereal infection is treated, the better are the chance of curing the disease before it causes organic damage. The patient must understand too the importance of

THEY'LL NEVER DIE By Elton Fax

BORN A SLAVE IN GA. 1848, WILEY JONES WORKED AT ALL SORTS OF LOWLY JOBS, ALTHO WITHOUT FORMAL SCHOOLING HE WAS ALERT AND SHREWED AND SOON EARNED A TINY SUM FROM THE TOBACCO BUSINESS. AT THE AGE OF 38 HE SECURED THE CHARTER FOR AND RAN THE FIRST STREET CAR LINE IN PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS. THE COMPLETE OWNERSHIP OF A RACE TRACK AND A LARGE PARK SOON FOLLOWED. WE SALUTE THE MEMORY OF THIS PRACTICAL MAN WHO SUCCEEDED IN SPITE OF HANDICAPS.

WILEY JONES
OWNER OF A STREET CAR RAILROAD!!

Continental Features