

EDITORIALS

DR. FISHBEIN FIGHTS LOSING BATTLE

The American Medical Association under the leadership of Dr. Morris Fishbein, is apparently about to take a step which will aid the cause of what the eminent doctor and many of his fellow physicians call "socialized medicine", which they abhor. It has been proposed by high officials of the Association that each member of a constituent county medical society be taxed \$25 to raise a slush fund for attacking the Federal Administration's plans for legislation to insure medical care to those not able to buy it under the present system of every doctor (and every person needing medical services) for himself.

There is something obviously wrong with our system of medical care. As a matter of fact, there is no system. The rich and well-to-do can buy health services because they can pay. The very poor often get them free. But the majority of the bills for adequate medical attention of the current income or small savings of average wage and salary earners is a task too heavy for many of them. Consequently they very often get the service "too little and too late." They are expected to pay, and often they have no resources with which to meet the extraordinary demands of illness. A system of health insurance is as logical and as much needed as a system of unemployment insurance.

But the big shots at the head of the American Medical Association seem to be much less concerned with adequate health care for all the people than they are with keeping the medical profession "free." They may find, however, that the lay public and not a few physicians are far less afraid of "state medicine" than they are of the inadequate medical care provided for large numbers of persons under the prevailing conditions.

The moguls of the AMA are more rugged individualists than even the typical captains of industry. The Association is opposed even to organized voluntary health insurance on a national scale. All Dr. Fishbein and his associates want is to be left alone to run the healing trade as they and they alone see fit. Such an attitude is outmoded and shows a narrow-mindedness difficult to comprehend. The American people are getting tired of it, and a \$25 tax on each member of the Association to finance an "educational program" in opposition to progressive ideas about how to make medical care available to all may well work out in reverse, to produce exactly the results that Dr. Fishbein and company are trying to forestall.

TALMADGEISM AGAIN IN THE SADDLE

The Talmadge white supremacy program has started rolling again in Georgia. Son Herman, true disciple of his late father, Gene, has announced plans by which he expects 80 per cent of the Negro voters whose names are now on the registration books in the Peach State to be disqualified. His cohorts in the legislature have greeted his plans with enthusiasm, and when the legislature meets laws will be enacted the avowed purpose of which is to disfranchise as many Negroes as possible. The laws will be aimed not at those Negroes who have not been able to qualify for the ballot, but at those already registered.

Governor Talmadge, who has never

made a secret of his devotion to the cause of white supremacy, says that the whole thing will be legal but effective.

The sadly ironical feature of the proposed new measures to bar Negroes from the suffrage is that the hope of their success rests on the failure of Georgia to provide education for its black citizens. Freely admitting that Georgia has not given its colored population equal opportunities for schooling, Mr. Talmadge and his legislative associates gleefully proclaim that the Negroes can be penalized for their relatively low educational status, for which Georgia should be ashamed instead of boastful, by withholding another right, the ballot.

The whole thing is so disgusting that decent people all over the United States will feel as sorry for the rulers of Georgia and its people as a whole as they will for their Negro victims. One of Talmadge's legislative cronies has said that the ignorance of the Negro voters was indicated by their voting in bloc. What he means of course, is that Negroes vote against their avowed enemies running for office, and it must be plain to all that to do otherwise would be the real proof of ignorance. This argument about bloc voting is as hollow as a toy balloon. There was never a solid bloc than the Talmadge wool-hats, to whom the elder Talmadge appealed on an out-and-out anti-Negro platform.

Racism is a blight. It places a premium on injustice, duplicity, insincerity, cunning and hatred veiled thinly in pseudo-respectability. It encourages contempt of the decencies of honest men. It develops a type of hypocrisy that attributes high motives for base deeds while admitting at the same time the real goals.

America is about to be treated to another spectacle of the kind that has given Georgia its long-standing unenviable reputation. Upright and justice-loving men everywhere will wonder why such zeal and enthusiasm for keeping the Negro down could not have been applied by the officials of Georgia to solving the recent lynching in that state. They will discount to the zero point the protests against outside interference as they reflect that a white business man from Ohio is more responsible than all the government of Georgia for starting the process of bringing the accused lynchers to justice.

SOME GROUND FOR HOPE

A short time ago it was observed in these columns that down in Alabama a new approach to rape cases involving white males and Negro females seemed to be working out as two white men were sentenced to 45-year terms for rape of two Negro women. The sentence followed a guilty verdict brought in by an all-white jury which had heard an appeal from the district attorney for real justice instead of the kind of thing that usually happens in such cases.

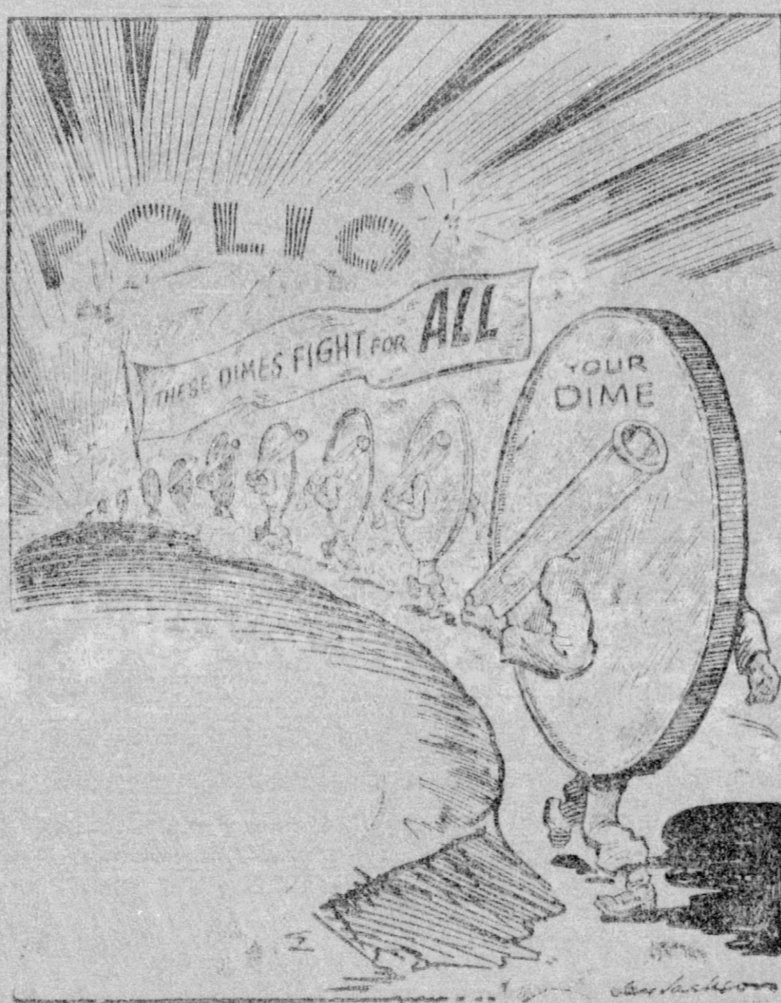
Since then an all-white jury in Tampa, Florida, in twenty minutes found a white man guilty of criminal assault on a colored woman and the judge sentenced the culprit to 20 years. This sentence is even more remarkable, since no charge was made, apparently, that rape actually occurred.

The attention of North Carolina is invited to these two happenings in the Deep South.

Now from Georgia comes the news, via the Associated Negro Press, that the Court of Appeals of that state has reversed a ten-year sentence of a Negro who shot a man "in defense of himself and his family."

The dark side of this picture is that such obviously just verdicts and sentences have been so rare in the past that when they come they are front-page, tooth-jarring news. The bright side is that the South may be awakening to a new sense of color-blind justice. Two swallows, or even three, do not make a summer, but they do give some ground for hope.

Onward Into Battle



Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

Ever since the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Morgan case of a few years ago the states of the South have been whittling away at the principle established in that case that racial segregation of interstate passengers by common carriers was unconstitutional.

At the very first there was a tendency on the part of state courts to interpret the decision literally and in the spirit of the high court's mandate. This attitude necessarily followed the reasoning that the decision rendered invalid state laws and local ordinances providing for racial segregation, insofar as interstate passengers were concerned. But it was not long before various state courts, including those of highest appellate jurisdiction, began to find grounds for exalting these state statutes and ordinances above the Supreme Court's dictum. One way of doing this was to take the position that the carriers had the right themselves to adopt reasonable regulations for the segregation of passengers. (The language just quoted, by the way, was that of a decision handed down not by a state court, but by the United States Fourth Circuit Court, sitting in Richmond, Va., and sustaining a state court decision.)

It became obvious, therefore, that the U. S. Supreme Court needs to clarify the situation. One of the reasons for the uncertainty of the status of interstate segregation grows out of a weakness in the Morgan case decision. The Court made its ruling in that case, not on the right of the passenger in interstate travel in consideration of the convenience of the carrier, which according to the Court should not be bothered with the nuisance of having to shift its patrons

about at a state line.

There are two ways in which the issue can be cleared up. The Supreme Court can give a decision on the basis of the right of the INTERSTATE PASSENGER to be free from segregation and discriminatory practices based on race. The other way, and one which may be preferable, is for Congress to pass a law ending discrimination by carriers as it affects interstate passengers. Such legislation is included in President Truman's civil rights program, and it is quite possible that Congress will enact it. If the filibuster in southern state legislatures is apparently as a people device, while condemning the Negro minority's "undue influence" in certain states under the present electoral system can be curbed.

It is quite probable that should Congress pass such a law, it would lead the Supreme Court for a test of constitutionality. In that case the Court would have the opportunity and the clear obligation to decide the question of segregation of interstate passengers on the ground of its violation of non-violation of the constitutional rights of the passenger. Then the issue would be cleared up, and the harassed Negro passenger would know whether he could ride unmolested, or whether he was still supposed to be subjected to abuse by bus drivers, interruption of his journey, and fines and jail sentences, all at the caprice of minor employees of transportation companies, any local police official or judge of a magistrate's court into whose hands the tender mercy of a brakeman or bus driver might turn him over. That is, if he isn't shot by the employee to save time and trouble.

THE ROAD TO HEALTH

HOLIDAY MISHAPS BY C. L. HAWKINS, D. D. Denver, Colorado

The Christmas-New Year season is apt to be a busy time for doctors. There are severe colds, sore throats, sick stomachs and various accidents with new Christmas toys. A few years ago the Stone family in the town where I lived had one of the most hapless Christmas holidays they had ever known — and the sad part about it was most of their misfortune could have been avoided.

First Mrs. Stone caught pneumonia and had to go to the hospital the week before Christmas. I discovered later that she had become completely run down from the rush of Christmas preparations. She had skipped meals because she was busy had sat up late each night making gifts had neglected to dress properly against the stormy weather when she shopped and finally had failed to take care of a bad cold.

Her husband, Paul, cut his foot severely when the handle of the axe he was using to chop wood flew off. When I got to his home right after the accident on Christmas eve, he confessed that he had known the handle of the axe was loose, but that he didn't want to "take the time out" to fix it.

With Mrs. Stone in the hospital and Paul laid up, that left Bobby Stone, their oldest boy, to finish up the Christmas preparations. Then he, to get to the Christmas tree decorations on a high shelf, placed on a chair on top of another, climbed to the top of the "make-shift ladder," lost his balance and fell, breaking his arm.

Mrs. Stone's sister was summoned from a neighboring town to take care of the baby, but it was a sad Christmas for the Stone family.

Thousands of accidents, many of them very serious and some of them fatal, could be avoided if we would remember the old maxim, "The more haste, the less speed." People grow more careless during busy holiday times, when they are excited or pressed for time.

Certainly no doctor would advise anyone to be too apprehensive about health or avoiding accidents, especially around Christmas and the New Year, when happiness and good times are, and should be, in the foreground.

But we can better insure full enjoyment of the holidays and the days following them by using a little common sense and taking fewer chances.

This article is co-sponsored by the National Medical Association and the National Tuberculosis Association in the interest of better health of the people.

"THEN AND NOW" By John Henrik Clarke for ANP When I was a little boy, About half past three, All the world was a garden to me, Rain and other things from the sky Was the grace of God passing by. But now, I bow by head and sigh As bombs fall and babies cry, In a world wreathed in wild confusion, I have lost every trace of my beautiful illusion.

WITHOUT ENVY By William Henry Huff for ANP I'd rather with a pleasant voice From deep within confess How much it makes me to rejoice At every one's success. The seed of envy never can Find lodgment in my heart, And how I wish that every man Would say to I, "Depart."

IN THIS OUR DAY

BY C. A. CHICK, SR.

WE ARE RISING

When John G. Whittier addressed some Negro students at Atlanta University in 1869, he closed his remarks by asking them what message he might take back to their friends in the North. Major R. R. Wright, who later became a banker in Philadelphia, but then a small boy, raised his hand and said tell them: "We are rising."

It related the above incident as a basis for the subject of this article, namely, "We are rising." The space allotted me in this column will not suffice for a complete review of the many ways in which Negroes are advancing in this country. Therefore, this article will be confined to citing a few examples to point out that sentiment among white people is rapidly changing in favor of Negroes' ambitions for full citizenship rights in this country.

The Greensboro (N. C.) Daily for November 14, 1948, carried an article announcing that the North Carolina Baptist Student Union (white) reached a decision at the nineteenth annual convention to include Negro college students in their future conventions. If there were any objections to this decision, they were not mentioned in the news article. Not only will Negro college students be invited to future conventions, but it is significant that they will be given a voice in shaping the policy of that body, the convention having voted to place a Negro on the council. So far as this writer has been able to ascertain, there has been no popular sentiment against that noble action on the part of the white college students.

In contrast with the above movement, it may be recalled that something over a year ago, the North Carolina Student Assembly (white), a mock legislative body, voted at its annual meeting to include Negro college students in the future. Immediately there was a wave of hostile sentiment against this student action of fair play and racial good will. So strong was the sentiment against the Student Assembly for this simple act of justice that thereafter it apparently died a martyr's death.

On September 19, 1948, the Southern Regional Council, one of the most highly and widely respected interracial groups in the South, released an article to the newspapers saving in part: "Every honest Southerner must admit that the Southern States have often been less than scrupulous in meeting their responsibilities to all their citizens, and some of the states where the cry of states rights has been the loudest have been the most at fault."

Such statements as above coming from strong and influential organizations are destined to have far reaching results on social thought in the South, as elsewhere, regarding the rights of minority groups. It is significant that all of the above organizations are composed entirely of Southern white people cannot say: Outcast, unclean and unfair Southern white people cannot say: Outsiders are meddling into the Southern way of life.

At its fortieth anniversary convention, in December 1948, the Federal Council of Churches, an organization composed of twenty-seven different denominations and representing 28,000,000 members adopted one of the most sweeping resolutions on human rights ever drafted by an American church body. The resolution challenged American churches to work for the creation of a non-segregated society. There was not a single voice raised against this resolution. About two years ago, however, a much milder resolution dealing with segregation adopted by this same body was strongly protested by many of the white Southern churches.

HERE AND THERE . . .

(BY ANP) When the Washington hotels said that they could not accept the Negro members of the contingent, the entire lammy delegation from New York to the inauguration said they would not attend. That's the kind of stuff that will soon put an end to this segregation mess in the capital. Just keep showing it up for the rotten, stinky deal that it is. (Nice going, New Yorkers.)

And the Capitol is all in a tizz over the coming of the Alpha Kappa Alpha girls. Charming ladies will no doubt lay Washington by the social ears. And from what has been seen of some of these lovelies, no one — at least the males — will object.

You can bet the rent money that the second edition of the report of the National Committee on segregation in the Nation's Capital will be rougher than the first one, which has already shocked the country. (Want a copy of the first one? Send a buck to the committee at 4901 Ellis Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.) Everyone should read this document.

Lt. Dennis Nelson, the dynamic Negro public relations biggie for Navy, has scored again. UNESCO is reviewing his famous treaties on segregation in the our navy. (Yes "our" Navy, junior; we help pay for it.) Seldom has Washington seen a more honest and effective member of Afro-America than the handsome Nelson.

Sam Dapley, occupational analyst in the labor department, is just

BETWEEN THE LINES BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

CHRISTMAS A GLIMPSE OF GLORY

It takes no seer or sage to appreciate the faith that humans have come far short of some blessed estate. Mankind in no age has lived up to its possibilities. We have lived as humankind rather unfortunately, and I am becoming more and more convinced that we are what we are in spite of our efforts rather than by reason of them.

Brother William Shakespeare was coming pretty close to the truth when he said that there is a Divinity that shapes our fortunes, the fortunate and the happiness of the happy. Before ends, rough-hew how we will. The guidance of this Divinity God and therefore nature, we all have sinned and come short of some blessed state; and it was some over-ruling mercy that bade our golden moments to roll on.

Someone has said that economics is a dismal science, and this could with equal truth be said of history, whose myriad tongues tell a sickening story in the rise and fall of nations and the ups and downs of mortals with their swift change of fortunes. The pages of history are darkened by man's inhumanity to man as the Bard of Avon told in plaintive tones. Greed and gain still possess the hearts of men and the hearts of nations.

That loud voice we hear in the market places of the ages, is the voice of mammon crying for the sordid things that may fill for the moment but can never satisfy the deeper longings of the human heart. One of the higher providences of God's power and wisdom is exemplified in the lack of satisfactions which accompany material pursuits; in the insufficiencies related to knowledge which stops short of faith in God; in the decree that nothing is settled until it is settled right, in the hunger and longing for some Promised Land where the spirits of men may be made perfect and where the wicked shall cease from troubling and the weary soul shall be at rest.

It was a great blessing of the Divine plan that decreed earth shall be no resting place and that the thither calls of the Thither Lands are ever ringing in the souls of men. It is a mean and foul desire of worldly men that they would dismiss as non-essential the lure of some Great Beyond.

The claim is most blatantly made by blatant men that preaching should be centered only on the here and not the Hereafter; and so it has become fashionable to dismiss from our sermonic discourses allusions to Heaven and the hereafter. And this in spite of the fact that the peoples of the earth who live are but a handful as compared to the millions that slumber in earth's bosom, as was told by William Cullen Bryant.

The real fact of life is, we live this life to better advantage when we live it in reference to life hereafter. The poor mortal who concentrates only on this life fails gloriously to grasp this life in its fullness. As Paul said, it in this life only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable!

Christmas teaches that Jesus came to earth; and Easter teaches that Jesus left the earth as mysteriously as He came. We are told that when Jesus arrived in Bethlehem, his arrival was attested by the angels and the Heavenly hosts and that there was great joy. The holy episode hardly does more than to give unto mortals a glimpse of the glory that surrounds His advent, whether into the world or into some lowly human heart.

It can hardly be imagined that mortals can withstand the glory of God in its ineffable effulgence. Even as the Israelites who shrank at the foot of Sinai, unable to behold the glory of God that lingered upon its smoking summits, so poor mortals cannot contain a reality or imagination, the glory of God or the glory of the God-filled man. We are treated at Christmas to a mere glimpse of the blessedness and the glory of the reign of the Son of God.

The Christmas spirit is but a glimpse of Christ glorified in human life. The outgoing of human hearts at Christmas time is a projection of an age that is on the way! Christmas is not in our conditions, but in our spirits; it is a glimpse of glory that comes with the Advent of Christ!

Sentence Sermons

Men who know not how to choose will pass up gold for a bottle of booze.

Some men are so physically weak they can hardly move, but can always find a way to keep up with race horses.

One man won't let another cheat him, if he knows it; but too often they cheat themselves.

If men lived by the desire only to be honest and true, then heartaches and trials in this world would be light and few.

But because there are men who think they are wise, but do otherwise you and I have to suffer by the tricks they devise.

Thus the paths of all men are ensnared with thistles and painful of thorns all because so many deceivers are smiling beneath a pair of horns.

If men could only sense the Master's wisdom in His admonition of "preferring one another" there would always be plenty of everything good to go around to every man and his brother.

But so few men learn to use horse-sense and develop an honest heart, is the reason why nations are so far apart.

Being our brother's keeper makes every man a reaper and a discouraged weeper.

This world is full of sorrow and fear because men persistently evade God rather than to Him draw near.

The newspapers daily would carry a much different page if men by their own foolishness weren't always in a rage.

But just as sure as the night follows the day, this old world will have sorrows as long as men live any kind of a way.

about tops in his field. Another in-ranged for Congressman Dawson stance where ability and training could well be the biggest event of his kind ever thendered a Negro pro. Sam knows as much about labor trends in vocational fields as anyone to a more deserving guy either.

Honoray for the Baltimore Medical Society!! These white medical men have just voted — unanimously, grinning to take shape. The popular chum — to admit their septia associates to their organization. We're marching, ch!

And down in Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Lowell Wormley famous Ne. Urban League's grand publication, the Phoenix Hospital. Another wall but Lester Cranter and his great staff usually know exactly what they are doing.

Nomination for one of the most charming and beautiful women in America: Mrs. Bessie Eblon, popular Los Angeles matron. Yes, Yes! That testimonial dinner being ar- Or doesn't it matter?