

EDITORIALS

THE LOGICAL STARTING POINT

In a precedent-setting move, the United States Civil Service Commission instructed the Postmaster at Winston-Salem, N. C., recently, to consider for the next vacancies in the Post Office 16 colored clerk-carrier eligibles who were passed over because of race in previous appointments.

The above, quoted from the Afro-American of January 8, represents the kind of action the Federal Government may legitimately take, and without question, toward opening up equality in job opportunities for Negroes. The various objections offered to congressional action on fair employment practices just do not apply to positions in the Federal service itself. The U. S. Government has not only the right, but the duty, to eliminate discriminatory practices in its own employment, and the sincerity of the Administration in its advocacy of FEPC is always open to question as long as the departments, bureaus and various administrative and service offices of the Government anywhere maintain racial qualifications for employment. When such employment is under Civil Service regulations the Administration is especially vulnerable.

The Afro-American news story reported that the Winston-Salem postmaster had been quoted as saying that as long as the field office there would never be any Negro carriers or clerks. It has long been an additional saying in North Carolina that no Negroes were employed in the postal service west of Durham. The CAROLINIAN cannot vouch for the complete accuracy of that saying, and it may be a tradition which has been broken; but we do know that few Negroes have been given jobs in the postal service in the western half of the state, at least in recent years. Evidently Winston-Salem has been one of the cities in which Negroes were barred from clerk and carrier jobs.

What the Civil Service Commission has done in Winston-Salem it can and should do everywhere there is racial discrimination in awarding jobs in the Federal Civil Service. There is no justification for its not doing so. There is every reason why it should.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LEDGER

The Negro press called attention recently to the fact that E. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard University, presided at the sessions of the American Sociological Society held in Chicago late in December. Dr. Frazier, an eminent scholar, was elected president of the learned body whose membership is overwhelmingly white, on the basis of his outstanding contributions to knowledge in his field. He was not chosen for this distinction because of his color, just as he was not passed over because of his color, but rather on his worthiness, regardless of his color.

One is reminded that a few years ago the Southern Sociological Society, also overwhelmingly white in membership, elected Dr. Charles S. Johnson, now president of Fisk University, to its presidency. In both instances respect for the demonstrated ability of the men was the chief, if not the sole cause for the honor paid them.

It is of more than passing significance that sociologists, who more than any other group of scholars have studied objectively the meaning of race, are notably emancipated from race prejudice, and are more likely than others to judge men by what they are, have done and can do, rather than by their racial origin.

Such demonstrations as these of the

growing tendency in this country to

judge and treat men according to their qualifications and merits should be heartening and inspiring to Negro youth. The honors paid to a Frazier a Johnson, a Dunche, and to a large and growing number of colored men like them, are good and potent medicine for counteracting the poisons and soporifics of prejudice and discrimination. They are tonics for building up debilitated faith in the "American Way."

ISSUE TILL BEFOGGED

The ruling of the North Carolina Supreme Court upholding the convictions of the Fellowship of Reconciliation team for violation of the State's Jim Crow travel statutes did not settle anything, so far as legal principles are concerned. Taking advantage of a technicality in the circumstances surrounding the case, as courts often do, the North Carolina high court avoided the issue of whether the State's statutes are in conflict with the U. S. Supreme Court's decision as to interstate passengers in the Morgan Case. For our State Supreme Court took the position that the evidence showed the defendants to have been passengers on an intrastate journey.

The legal right of a state to require racial segregation on common carriers in intrastate travel has not been at issue as yet, and the defendants in the North Carolina case were basing their defense on the contention that they were interstate travelers.

So nothing has been settled by the North Carolina court's ruling in the case at hand. It is not known yet how the State Supreme Court reacts to the apparent rights of interstate passengers in the light of the Morgan Case. The Court has recently had two cases before it, but in neither of them has it been found necessary to issue a clear-cut opinion as to the status of Negro interstate passengers on buses and trains whose journey is not wholly within North Carolina. In the previous case it denied damages to a Negro passenger on another technicality, and without passing on the issue raised by the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in the Morgan Case.

There is an obvious tendency on the part of the courts of the southern states to sidestep the principal issue. It will probably continue until the U. S. Supreme Court itself hands down an unequivocal opinion as to the rights of the interstate passenger, or until Congress passes a clear and understandable law defining those rights.

THE REAL AMERICAN WAY

The Associated Press as well as Negro newspapers featured the year-end story of Perry Langster, the former Negro shoeshine boy who took office on January 1 as prosecuting attorney of Lake County, Michigan. Mr. Langster represents another Negro "first," and a very interesting and inspiring one.

He was elected, not appointed to office. He defeated a white opponent in a county in which the Negro vote is very small. He met with dignity during the campaign the charge of his opponent that a Negro prosecutor would favor colored persons accused of crimes. According to the Associated Press Mr. Langster ignored most of these attempts to discredit him because of his color, but did make one statement in reply:

"There is no more reason to believe that colored persons will 'run wild' in Lake County when I am prosecutor than to say that white persons ran wild during the administration of my predecessor. The law treats all persons alike and law violators among my race will be prosecuted as quickly as white violators."

Another instance is added to the growing list of cases in which the American people decline to place color above merit and every individual instance represents an advance toward the American ideal. One may be sure that Stain's news bureaus did not circulate the story of Perry Langster.

TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAKE DURING THE INTERMINABLE SERMONS AT ONE TIME COMMON IN ENGLISH CHURCHES THE BEADLE WENT ROUND THE Pews WITH A STAFF WHICH ON ONE END HAD A FOX "BRUSH" THE OTHER A BRASS KNOB. THE BRUSH WAS USED ON THE WOMEN, THE KNOB ON THE MEN. IN CATHOLIC EIRE, CATHOLIC QUEBEC AND THE CATHOLIC CANTONS OF SWITZERLAND, Protestant schools are maintained by the State equally with Catholic schools. There are 800 CATHOLIC HOSPITALS staffed by nuns in the UNITED STATES, catering for about FOUR MILLION PATIENTS ANNUALLY. FOUNDER & SUPERIOR OF THE FRIARS OF ATONEMENT. FR. PAUL FRANCIS SA A CONVERT BORN 1865 IN MARYLAND, VOWED AT AN EARLY AGE NEVER TO TOUCH MONEY. THEREAFTER HE NEVER TOUCHED, LITERALLY ANY COINS AT ALL.



Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

No one can accurately forecast at this time the extent of success that President Truman's civil rights program will meet with in Congress, but it has already produced one precedent-breaking result before a single bill on the subject has been introduced. That is the open advocacy by some southern members of Congress of civil rights legislation favoring the rights of Negroes. That in itself is such a phenomenal development that one may begin to wonder whether antiracist sentiment of some kind of success for some parts of the President's proposals.

The victory of the civil rights advocates in the Democratic convention of last summer followed by the surprising spectacular triumph of Mr. Truman in November on a party platform including his civil rights proposals and backed by his full and positive personal endorsement, has inevitably caused some sober thinking along new lines by many of the more open-minded and intelligent of the South's political leaders. They have seen that the South can no longer rely on dictating in Congress the national policy on racial questions. So we find that southern congressmen are for the first time giving open consideration to the positive side of legislation for the securing of the rights of Negro citizens. They are men who, seeing the trend of things, hope by compromise to insure some consideration for the South's traditional views.

It may be that some of these men, and many outside of Congress, do not regard all the civil rights proposals as an unadvised civil, but they certainly want the South to be able to have some say about what laws are to be passed on the subject, and they realize that no longer can past tactics and attitudes be mounted on purely to block any and every legislative move toward the securing of basic citizenship rights for American minorities. So they are coming forward with substitute proposals aimed to reduce the civil rights program to something more to their own liking.

So Senator Sparkman, of Alabama, has proposed a thorough investigation of discrimination on a nationwide basis, and especially of the relation between discrimination and economic conditions. Professing to believe that President Truman's proposals were made as a bid for minority group votes, and muttering darkly of a senate filibuster, the Alabama senator nonetheless went so far as to admit that discrimination does exist — and there are those who have blandly denied its existence, as well as others who have justified it. Senator Broughton and others are proposing that the poll tax be abolished, but not by act of Congress. They say it should be done, but by constitutional amendment. Outstanding politicians and publicists of the South have heretofore condemned the poll tax, but advocacy of its elimination by Federal action, even through the amendment method, has not been much heard of before from the South. The southern proponents of poll tax abolition have almost always wanted it done by action of the few individual states which still maintain it.

Some southern congressmen seem to think that there is no longer any point in using even the filibuster to defeat the anti-lynching section of the Truman proposals. True, among them are those who are willing to let an anti-lynching law pass primarily because they feel lynching is no longer a problem, and that if the South doesn't want to lynch, there is no point in putting up a fight against legislation aimed at eliminating it, or for continuing the lynching privilege without Federal interference.

The filibuster threat and other weapons are still in the arsenal of the anti-civil rights boys, or at least until it has been demonstrated that the Senate (which is more in a mood to do so than any previous one in history) can curb the filibuster. But there is a lack of assurance among the southern delegation such as has never before existed in recent times, and the better and wiser of them are willing and ready to make some concessions which would not have been thought necessary or even expedient no longer ago than last year this time.

THE ROAD TO HEALTH

CLIMATE AND TUBERCULOSIS. BY PAUL T. ROBINSON, M. D. Member of the Surgical Staff, Flint Goodridge Hospital, New Orleans, La. One of the questions Mrs. Glen asked me when she learned she had tuberculosis was whether she would have to move to another climate. She would not mind going to a sanatorium, she said, if she would not be too far away from her family. Mrs. Glen had had an X-ray during a community-wide survey and it had showed suspicious shadows. After additional tests, it was discovered that she had tuberculosis in an early stage. She was fortunate that her illness had been found early, before it had reached a more serious stage. When Mrs. Glen told me she had heard somewhere that people with tuberculosis usually had to go to a warm, dry climate and said she was worried over going for news, I reassured her immediately. In your case, it isn't even necessary to go outside the county, Mrs. Glen, I told her. "There is a sanatorium not many miles from your home where you will get excellent care. Your husband and your relatives and friends will be able to get there by bus to see you." As soon as arrangements were made, Mrs. Glen went to the sanatorium in her own county. There she cooperated cheerfully with those caring for her, looks forward to the visits of her family and friends, and is making good progress against her illness. The way she is improving she will probably be able to go home again in a few more months. Some people still believe, like Mrs. Glen, that they must go to some rare, distant climate if they wish to be cured of tuberculosis. But the records of sanatoriums show that the results of cure are about the same in every part of the country. The tuberculosis patient can save much needless expense by

IN THIS OUR DAY

BY C. A. CHICK, SR.

THE CHANGING SOCIAL ORDER

Immediately after the outbreak of World War II (before the United States entered the actual shooting phase of it), this writer attempted to point out through the columns of Negro newspapers what were certain to be some of the effects of that War on the general social order.

Writing on the subject, "The Changing Social Order and Negro Education," the present writer said in part: "Whatever may be the results of the War, even if we are not drawn any further into it than we are already, this writer believes it will stimulate further government activities in economic spheres that were formerly thought of as the fields of private business alone. I believe that the Federal Government will take on more direct activities itself. Moreover, it can be expected that the Federal Government will regulate in the future more than it has in the past those activities left in the hands of private business."

I quoted the above paragraph from a previous article of mine not that I wish to be known as an "old-you-say." But rather it was related as a way of emphasizing that judging from the President's address on "The State Of The Union" we are in for more government economic activities than ever before, in times of peace. In almost all phases of our economic and social order, the President called for more and more government activities that the standard of living of the masses of the people may be raised as well as to strengthen our National Defense program. Space will suffice for only one illustration pointing out the extent to which the President went advocating a "planned economy."

He proposed legislation... to authorize an immediate study of the adequacy of production facilities for materials in critically short supply, such as steel, and if found necessary, to authorize government loans for the expansion of production facilities to relieve such shortages, and further more to authorize the construction of such facilities directly if action by private industry fails to meet our needs."

The writer does not wish, in the past to be interpreted as one who is opposed to increasing government activities in favor of the masses of people as well as for our national defense. But rather he is simply endeavoring to point out that governments, no less than private business, cannot increase their activities without generally increasing their number of employees.

The writer feels, therefore, that Negroes should turn their attention more and more toward seeking government positions — local State and Federal. With opportunities to vote increasing for us, we should look forward within the immediate future of being elected in larger and larger numbers to political offices. Moreover, we should anticipate holding in the near future more and more government positions — appointive and civil service.

In the past it has been difficult for us to secure positions with the Federal Government, because formerly the Federal Government, in many instances required a certain amount of experience in addition to passing an examination.

Employment being so limited to us in private industry that it was almost impossible for us to acquire the needed experience. But now the Government has quite a few trainee positions open. In these positions a person who has a certain amount of formal training will be employed by the Government and given an opportunity to acquire experience on the job. This new policy should prove to be a tremendous advantage to Negroes in securing government positions. Let's wake up and strive for more government positions!

Nomination for one of the finest women that God ever made: Mary Church Terrell.

Hooray for brilliant vet, Moss Kendrick! At long last, his ability is being fully recognized. When NEA (National Education association, 775,000 teachers) appointed the suave Moss to its Legislative-Federal Relations division, a resounding "first" was scored in the field of Negro entries into new and better jobs.

going to the sanatorium nearest his home. Perhaps he is eligible for free or low-cost treatment in his own community, which he would not be able to get elsewhere. The patient also needs mental as well as physical rest and relaxation, which are difficult to obtain if he has to worry about travel expenses and hospital bills. In a sanatorium or tuberculosis hospital in his own county or state the tuberculosis patient is less apt to get lonely or impatient during the time he is getting better. Cheerfulness and contentment are important to the patient, and they come easier if he isn't far from home.

This article is cosponsored by the National Medical Association and the National Tuberculosis Association and released through the Associated Negro Press in the interest of better health of the people.



BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

THE MAN OF THE YEARS

If President Truman is the man of the year of 1948, Walter White is the man of the many years, as director of the destinies of the NAACP. The Negro race in particular and the friends of human freedom in general, owe to this intrepid son of a noble sire, a debt of gratitude that it would be difficult indeed to discharge.

Quite naturally when Dr. DuBois and the late James Weldon Johnson had done their best in the preparation of the NAACP and its programs and policies, the Negro race realized what a tremendous task was looming to fill the national and international niche in world affairs that was made vacant when the labours of these moral stalwarts for the NAACP were ended. Whatever there may have been of anxiety and misgivings was soon dispelled when Walter White took over. He took hold with both hands and a stout heart, and how well he has carried on through the years is a matter of modern history.

Walter White has been an unrelenting fighter who like Napoleon's Old Guard, would die but never surrender. It is doubtful if it were really possible to find a man who could more successfully have succeeded men of the mould of DuBois and Johnson. But Walter White filled the requirements fully. There have been times when his program appeared ill-advised, but time has vindicated him on almost every count.

He like his distinguished predecessors first concentrated on segregation in the North and discrimination in the South. But White soon moved over and began his fight not alone against discrimination in the South, but against segregation also.

Of course we all know that it was the valiant DuBois who taught the Negro the art and science of fighting for his rights. Events have vindicated his point of view, for it is apparent to even a casual observer that the Old South will not surrender its fight to dominate and subjugate the southern Negroes without a bitter fight.

So when Walter White took up the burden of advancing the NAACP he took over the DuBois method of moral warfare and how effective he has been in the pursuance of his course every Negro in the world must be glad to testify. Walter White has done the impossible in the race relations in this country. Of course it was trench warfare, but little by little he has won for the Negro race a recognition that amazes thoughtful men and women everywhere. Because Walter White stood up to his task instead of backing down before it, the gates of full-fledged citizenship in this country are somewhat ajar, as we stand upon the threshold of 1949.

The thing that most of all elated this writer when he would extol the greatness of Walter White is the fact that Mr. White deliberately chose his poison, and that was a share of the ignominy and odium and indignity and the embarrassment of being a Negro.

Walter White could have passed as we are wont to say, if he had dangled before his youthful eyes the emoluments and the endless advantages of being white in a white man's country; he had the opportunity of enjoying the dubious luxury of looking down upon a race with scorn and contempt, he might have enjoyed the pleasures of the court of the Pharaoh of white supremacy, he might have basked in the sunshine of the prestige that a white skin gives one in this and other countries. But Walter White, like Moses of old, chose to share the afflictions of his enslaved people. There is something in the choice of Walter that is majestic and enthralling, that should inspire Negroes for endless generations. A man who was white might have lived white but preferred to live Negro. The greatness of Walter White indicated in the choice he made will stand out in history as one of the moral epics of the twentieth century.

The fight for freedom is forced upon most of us by sheer necessity; but it was not so with Walter White. He looked as did Paul and saw the things that awaited, but none of those things moved him from his high and holy purpose. We hail Truman, our great President, as Man of the year. Let us hail Walter White as the man of the years!

SENTENCE SERMON

People who report to duty here on only 'pay day, need not expect in the end an eternal pay-day.

When men and women live only to take in, they leave no time for rewards to even begin.

Those who do things for show and not out of love but vain glory will find they have used too many capital I's when forced to compile their final inventory.

When real folks repair to their mansion on high, the greedy folks will have ample time to reflect how they cheated and got by.

When the real Christians are drinking milk and honey all others will begin to realize that their one-way selfish drive wasn't funny.

Those who have been boasting about getting everything they go after, will discover they have left nothing for the great hereafter.

Life's reward for men and women who insist upon having their own way will be a terrible disappointment when they come to collect their terminal pay.

When folks get and keep all they can while here on the ground, they will learn all too late that their thinking was far from being sound.

Man has allowed his animal nature to influence him so far from right that is becoming quite obvious he is suffering from his own bite.

The itch to grab and hoard the very best for one's self, demands a constant scratch—only finally to have to leave it on an earthly shelf.

The undertaker will finally carry us all away, but the finer parts of us, our virtues and spiritual accomplishments will be remembered here and beyond forever stay.

HERE AND THERE

BY ANP Abolition of discrimination at D. C. airport may have resounding effect on all airport service in the south. At any rate, look for acceleration in tempo of fight to completely remove discrimination in travel facilities. (Prediction by 1955 all discrimination of this type will have gone down the drain — and good riddance, too.)

Defeat of hate mongering Rankin-Cox-Smith combine in last Democratic caucus of 81st congress presages the beginning of the end for the Negrophobic clique. Only 20-odd Southern votes could be rallied to string along with Rankin's crew. Verily, are we on the march.

Warning: 1949 is our year of destiny. Let us be relentless in our opposition to irresponsible Negroes whose bad manners and poor taste can lose us many a new found friend. (That's right, junior, if you haven't got any thing worth while to say, KEEP YOUR BIG MOUTH SHUT.) Don't look now but the grapes vine has it that Big Joe Albright, VA aide, is about to get some redneck assistance in his long effort to have VA's hospitalization policy altered. (Under the law, only the administrator makes policy.) Tipoff was given when Albright's critical analysis of the interracial shortcomings in the VA hospital in Jackson, Miss., brought some prompt corrective action from the administrator. Big Joe is rallying some of the younger white executives in medicine and surgery to his banner, too. (And in case you don't know it, the outspoken VA special assistant is backed to the hilt by Congressman Dawson.)

THE CAROLINIAN Published by The Carolinian Publishing Co. 113 East Hazlett St. Raleigh, N. C. Post Office at Raleigh, N. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. P. F. JERVAY, Publisher C. D. HALLIBURTON, Editorials Subscription Rates One Year, \$2.50; Six Months \$2.00. Address all communications, and make all checks payable to The Carolinian rather than to individuals. The Carolinian expressly repudiates responsibility for return of unsolicited pictures, manuscripts, etc., unless stamps are sent.