

REFLECTIONS ON THE CITY ELECTION

The city election is over, and Raleigh settles down again, if it may be called settling down, after so mild a campaign.

Without wishing to cast any aspersions in the direction of the present and sixth-sevenths re-elected city council, the CAROLINIAN wishes to call to the attention of its readers that the persons making up that body all reside in the newer sections of the city.

Is there anything wrong with this overwhelming preponderance of residents from one area of the city in the city's governing body? All seven members of the council are persons with reputations for fine character and public spirit.

Soon after the first city council election two years ago, the NEWS AND OBSERVER remarked editorially on this distribution. The editorial writer advocated at that time a change in the method of electing the council, proposing that the mayor be elected on a city-wide ticket and the other members of the council from geographical districts, one or more from each district, depending on the size of the districts into which the city would be divided.

The fault of the present system lies not with the people who run for and get elected to office. The fault is in Plan "D", the only system of selecting members of the council offered the voters when the proposal to change from the commission to the city manager form of government was presented to the Raleigh electorate.

There is no reason to believe that the members elected this month to the city council would consciously fail to do what they consider best for all of Raleigh, but the fact remains that with the great majority of the council members residing in a limited area of the city, other areas and their needs might be relatively neglected simply because there is no one on the council to speak for them.

PRETTY GOOD NOT ENOUGH

"Doll" Haywood made a pretty good showing in the city election. But "pretty good" is not good enough. Mr. Haywood should have been elected. Why did he fail of election?

There are several factors which entered into the situation. One of them was that

the campaign to elect a Negro to the council, an aim which was recognized as proper and praiseworthy by most Negroes and a large number of white persons, got a slow start, and a late one. The campaign should have begun months ago, with a concerted effort (1) to get qualified Negroes registered; (2) to enlist the support of interested white persons, so many of whom recognize the fairness of the proposition that Raleigh's large colored minority, under a social system which at so many points differentiates between white and black, should have direct representation on the city's governing body.

After the campaign for registration of qualified and non-registered voters the next step should have been an intensive campaign to get the registered persons, new and old, to the polls on both the primary and the final election day. There are several true and tried methods for accomplishing this, all of which call for planning and hard work, and include actual contact with the voters. They do not by any means necessarily include any shady or questionable tactics.

It was this kind of thorough organization and intensive work which elected Dr. W. P. DeVane in Fayetteville.

It is estimated that there are about 24,000 potential voters in Raleigh. At least 4,000 of these, probably more, are Negroes. With the considerable support from white voters for a worthy Negro candidate, as might be expected on the basis of the returns in both the 1949 and 1947 elections, he could win. "Single shot" voting is not the answer to the problem. It represents both bad strategy and poor tactics when there is no form of cumulative or preferential voting in an election in which several persons are to be elected on a city-wide polling basis.

It is perfectly obvious that it was not the way the Negroes voted that defeated Mr. Haywood. In all fairness it should be added also that it was not so much the way the white voters voted which defeated him. It was the way Negroes did NOT vote which turned the trick. But their failure to vote is not chargeable only to those who stayed at home on the registration and election days. Part of the failure may be charged to the late start and the slow motion of those who should have been leading the way. In that group are a lot of people, including the staff of the CAROLINIAN.

NOT IMPORTANT

According to the NNPA News Service, Paul Robeson has said that the reports reaching this country of what he said in a speech at the Paris "Peace Conference" were distorted. It is possible that this is true. It is possible also, on the basis of his utterances made at various times in this country, that Mr. Robeson would be personally unwilling to take up arms in defense of the United States against Russia.

There are lots of other Negroes in the United States who would be very reluctant to take part in another war, and lots of people of other colors than black who feel the same way. But the vast majority of them, the white, and certainly the black, do not feel the way they feel because of any love for Russia and Communism. That is probably where they are different from Paul Robeson.

Negroes will fight for their country, just as other people will. They will fight to protect and defend their loved ones, and themselves, and the things they like and believe in. Should Negroes as a whole ever show any disloyalty, it will not be because of their adherence to Communism or friendship with Russia. It will be rather because they will have become so thoroughly disillusioned, so completely convinced that their hopes for the solution of the American Dilemma are beyond reach within any reasonable time.

Paul Robeson has little to do with all this. The people of America have a lot to do with it. It is not what Paul Robeson said or didn't say that is really important. It is what America says and does about its Negroes that counts.



THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL WOULD HELP.



Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

Marion Garvey and his United Negro Improvement Association are all but forgotten today. The rising generation of American Negroes might find the name of the man and the organization he founded and led completely unfamiliar. But there is something remarkable of the Garvey movement of the past. Father Divine and his organization were organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina in the month of April, 1919. Garvey was then in the city of New York, the S. S. A. A. C. P. or the "Sane and Sane Association" leaders and leaders of the American Colored Population, the "Sane" to the South Africa.

Their motive for the desired withdrawal of the racial group leaving the United States, hence in this country, except the fugitive to the Southern Hemisphere, is their belief that black people can never be real and accepted citizens of the United States. Walter White has accurately and succinctly summed up this attitude in the single word "separatism" but it must be understood that any American Negro might at times share these feelings of the founder of S. S. A. A. C. P.

But the vast majority of Negro Americans, despite occasional and individual lapses into pessimism, have no desire to disembark from the U. S. A. A. C. P. permanent stay. The United States Negro already wishes to regard himself as an alien to his native land. When the time comes to "Sane" the Country, "Sane" they do not need, expect the Negro to keep his

mouth shut. He sings it, and he means it, and he knows that there is no one with a better right than he to do so. Despite all the pressure, direct and indirect, to make him feel less than of some here, he refuses to embrace the doctrine that this is a white man's country. He goes on the assurance that it is his country, too, and prefers to make a move so rather than less.

Most United States Negroes do not propose to give up the United States as their home until such time as they take to residence in that city whose streets are paved with gold, and where there is no need for either the sun or the moon by night.

The "Sane and Sane" in its new organization's name is proudly declared on the basis that it advocates strict segregation of its races while we sojourn in the United States waiting for the boat with the long name and, by the way, no organization with a name so long could ever prosper, may win its friends and influence some people, but if so, overwhelming majority of them will be white, and quite a few will likely be members of the Ku Klux Klan, or prospects for that organization. Most Negroes will continue to remain and work in one way or another for, first class citizenship in the United States and in the state wherein they reside. As the good old U. S. Constitution puts it:

And, finally, who has invited us to South America? We believe that the Southern continent is inhabited, and that practically all the holdings lots down there are owned by somebody or other.

SENTENCE SERMONS

BY REV. FRANK CLARENCE LOWRY FOR ANP

Some people's religion acts like the new style zipper — when you think they are about to stop up it is then they show you their teeth.

A lot of people seem to think Christianity is something to talk about rather than to walk about. They take a lot of time in empty phrases and deprive their God of His worthy praises.

They would rather have you think they are better than they are and would never for Christ, but the slightest fear of the Lord, Christ, heaven and heaven must not fall too heavily on their praying.

They want to take part in every body's every body, and don't want to be led that way, it is not their business to be a leader.

Christianity to them is a matter of convenience, and they keep their own books on conviction and repentance.

To them nearly everything is righting and not too serious to set aside and when a commandment is in too close, they find it easy to let them slide.

The church is being ridiculed and called a funny racket, all because too many of her followers have double-crossed and impaired her power and spirit.

The power of God is the same today, tomorrow, and ever will be, but you and I must not continually keep His only begotten son nailed to a tree.

The Church of God must this day change this terrible situation, and can only redeem itself by earnest prayer and consecration.

If then becomes the personal education of every believer and follower of Christ, to daily exclude this madness, Exemption and willing to pay the price.

The National Director of the U. S. Savings Bonds Program, Vernon L. Clark, Des Moines, Ia. business man is an outstanding volunteer worker, serving for 5 years, without pay.

More than 80 million Americans today own U. S. Savings Bonds.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Conflict of careers—but we're still good friends"—Actor Tyrone Power, re. split with wife Anabella.

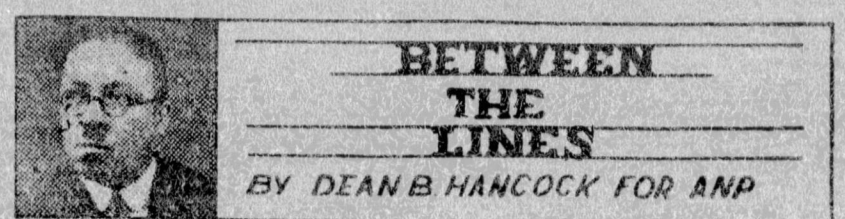
"You know, the styles have changed so"—Mrs. Clarine Kassebaum, ex-wife Chicago husband for separate maintenance, asking \$1,000 a month for clothes.

"Kittenish dames give us the win wams"—Bachelors Club of Hollywood.

"The American people still believe in equality before the law for industry and labor."—Robert K. Watson, pres., National Association of Manufacturers.

"An armed Communist advances upon you, and you react against him. Therefore you are a reactionary."—Winston Churchill.

"I hate people who own new cars."—T. E. Oliver, Detroit, charged with threatening 1946 models with his jolopy.



BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

LESSON FROM THE FIGHTING IRISH

South Ireland has at last won her independence after a long fight that has lasted 700 years. And when we remember that this fight was between two white countries, we get some idea of how strongly bound are they who are bound by an oppressor. If dominating England fought voluntarily to keep the Irish enslaved, how would she have fought to forever enslave those not of her blood? I have never under-estimated the struggle that Negroes must make the world over if they would be free.

Personally, this writer believes it is much better to acquit the Negro with the brutishness of the first that he is being called upon to make them to try to fill him into the unwarranted belief that the struggle is simple and will soon be over. Human nature's caprices are so simple. The struggle for freedom is a bitter one and history ancient and current is sufficient proof thereof. The was football coach does not underestimate the value of the opposing team to do so, he is in the victor's camp. It is just come about that almost every football coach of great repute creates within his team, on the eve of a great struggle, the under dog feeling in his team, for it is the under dog feeling that so often draws out the fight in a team. Only the really foolish coach on the eve of a crucial game inspires the team by pointing out the weakness only of the opposing team. Negro leadership which is coaching the Negro in the final fight for his full freedom would be reluctant to a high and holy that it did not keep before the Negro race the bitterness of the fight in which we are engaged. This is not saying that Negroes will have to fight 700 years for the full-fledged citizenship to which they aspire, but it is saying that we do our share of irreparable injury by underestimating the determination of certain elements in this country to eternalize the subjugation of the Negroes.

The Negro at present is caught between a social revolution that is too slow and a social revolution that the white man the world over is promoting and all of us have resolved to stem. A few months

ago our writers were making much of a social revolution that was supposed to be upon us. What has become of such revolution? The Ku Klux Klan and the Dixiecrats of the south are offering one answer and the reactionary Congress is offering another. Moreover, a widely discredited press is arrayed on the side of the opposition to the Negro's full citizenship. This is being written in the full knowledge that public sentiment in this country is far in advance of the press. This is the higher hope in the promise.

The power by which the Negro must extricate himself from his present position of social subordination is moral power and this power is conditioned upon the infiltration of enlightenment. But it is the firm conviction of this writer that if the race is guided for the right, and not flattered and fooled in the assumption that the powers that be will relinquish their strangle hold with out a tremendous struggle, we are bound for the Promised Land of full citizenship. But therein we are to have hope-born but to die-inspired as we all are, we are doomed to great disillusionment.

The great lesson we may learn from the Irish is that they kept up the fight through thick and thin for 700 years. They went through a hundred hells, but they kept fighting and kept faith in the righteousness of their cause. As the Negro race comes of age, it must not be fooled into believing that our fight is an easy one or that full-fledged victory is right around the corner.

It is far better to bid for a long hard fight that certain fortuitous circumstances may and speedily than to bid for a skirmish and find a siege and a long campaign before us. Better a thousand times to over-prepare than to under-prepare. Even now Ireland is not free in total because there is Ulster of northern Ireland still tied with Britain's empire strings. This writer remembers well the freedom fast of McSwiney, Irish leader which stirred Ireland and the world. De Valera never made the sacrifices some other Irishmen made, but he kept the fight in Irish eyes. There is a light ahead of the Negroes of this nation and the world.

IN THIS OUR DAY

BY C. A. CHICK, SR.

FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION

The Senate has passed by a sizeable majority the bill granting federal aid to public education. The expressed and undenied purpose of the bill is to equalize somewhat educational opportunities in the poorer states with those in the more wealthy states. In other words, the wealthy states, if the bill passes, the House will make annually an educational donation to the poor states, the federal government acting in the capacity of collecting and distributing agency.

It is not the purpose of this article to evaluate the pros and cons of the many arguments pertaining to the bill. So far as this writer has been able to ascertain through the newspapers by any large Negro leadership is heartily in favor of the bill.

On the other hand, judging from editorials and articles in Negro newspapers, Negro leadership in general has vigorously condemned the Southern Regional School Plan. Negroes have criticized the Plan primarily on the ground that it is a scheme by the Southern Whites to perpetuate racial segregation and its accompanying evil, racial discrimination, in education. Apparently Negroes have reasoned that with so many court decisions backed up by a sizeable public sentiment, ordering segregated school systems to equalize their educational facilities for all races that the expenses involved in complying with the court orders would eventually become greater than the Southern States could bear.

Therefore, apparently it is reasoned by some Negroes that, were it not for the scheme of the Southern Regional School Plan, the Southern States, not being able to bring their Negro schools up to the standard of the whites, would rather have to give up the costly history of segregated schools or lower the educational level in its schools for white children. It is not the purpose of this article to criticize, pro nor con, such reasoning.

However, it should be pointed out that the bill granting federal aid to public schools in its present form is by far a greater financial aid to segregation in education than the Southern Regional School Plan is. The bill details that the Federal Government shall have no authority in local school administration.

Therefore, it appears to this writer that if Negro leadership condemns the Regional School Plan, chiefly on the ground that it grants segregation in education a new and indefinite lease, to be consistent, it must also condemn the bill in its present form granting federal aid to public education. The Regional School Plan will enable the South to bring its higher educational system, on a racial segregated basis, somewhat in line with higher education in other sections of the country. By the same token, federal aid to public schools, as now proposed, will enable the South, on a racial segregated basis, to raise its public schools to a level approaching the levels of public schools in other sections of the country.

Women's Clubs, Veterans Organizations, Service Clubs, Lodges and other national groups will furnish the volunteers who will help to meet the quota of \$1,040,000,000 of E Bonds in the U. S. Savings Bonds Opportunity Drive closing May 16.

More than 150 Rockingham farmers recently witnessed a dynamic ditching demonstration on the farm of M. M. Joyner in the Beta-amy Community.

J. H. Satterwhite, Edgecombe County farmer of Route 1, Tarboro, has completed plans for a three-year pasture program. He will seed a total of 150 acres of pasture.

A Lenoir County farmer, C. W. Carey, realized a gross return of \$2,900 from five acres of sweet potatoes last year.

Some lettuce growers in the St. Helena area of Pender County are experiencing a 75 per cent loss on their crop this year. Most of the damage apparently is being caused by lettuce drop disease.

Have U. S. Savings Bonds—safe and sure as the credit of the United States—the bet on earth.

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