

Editorials

The Carolina Times

Comments

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SATURDAY, JULY 23rd, 1938

SLUM CLEARANCE IN DURHAM

What is this city going to do about slum clearance? With all of the aid the federal government is giving toward eradicating slums in other cities, Durham has failed to get in line to obtain help towards clearing up certain sections of the city that are nothing more than crime breeders.

Killing, robbery, and bootlegging are some of the results which this city is reaping as a reward for its negligence in clearing up certain sections that are worse than hell holes when it comes to vice. It is a tremendous price which this city has to pay apparently to make it easy for merciless landlords to reap a harvest on broken down property that a hog would object to inhabiting.

We are building playgrounds, new school buildings, streets and appropriating money for various other improvements, many of which are less important when it comes to providing safety for the life and health of Durham citizens, but we have sadly neglected to make a move towards making it possible for many of Durham citizens to appreciate our schools and playgrounds. We have neglected to force landlords to paint up and renovate many of the dives they maintain which are conducive to crime, a bad disease.

Durham may feel that those in high places are not affected by this negligence of its poor. Durham may feel that its aristocracy can escape the ravages of venereal disease, tuberculosis and crime which lurks within its vice ridden slums. Durham may as well realize that the highest branch of society is so interwoven with the lowest that an epidemic of devastating disease knows no bounds. We should have learned this truth during the influenza epidemic of 20 years ago.

THE CAROLINA TIMES has always done what it could to advance the cause of all Durham citizens. It proposes in this fight on slums in Durham to publish pictures of filthy tenement houses.

It proposes to publish the names of the owners of these houses and the amount of money they are receiving from their miserable tenants for them. We are doing this because we believe those owners to be as much a menace to decent society as the criminals they are responsible for breeding.

In our fight on the slum sections of Durham we are suggesting that our readers lend us their support in order that this city may be made more beautiful and a safer place in which to live.

SUNDAY FUNERALS

One of the greatest evils of modern times is the tendency of Negroes to hold their funerals on Sunday. Hardly a Sabbath passes in the average city of any size, but what the day is not broken into by a slowly moving long line of automobiles that ties up traffic for several blocks in what is known as a funeral procession.

The CAROLINA TIMES would like to see a law enacted against holding funerals on Sunday, except in cases of absolute necessity. Such a law would do much to discourage the attempt to put on a show by undertakers and bereaved families, as well as provide more time for Sunday worship for employees or morticians. Other persons who are called upon to interrupt their Sunday rest to attend a funeral show and parade would also benefit from such a law.

In fact we have never seen the necessity of funerals anyway. Most of those we have been forced to attend, in our judgement only serve to quicken the grief of the bereaved, instead of memorializing a worthy person who because of death has been removed from society.

It is our opinion that it would be far better to have a person who has lived a worthy life come to a church or other public place while he is living to attend a testimonial in his honor, than to wait until he is dead to eulogize him. Certainly such an occasion would do more to encourage those among us who are still living to try to make a contribution towards bettering the condition of mankind, than all the empty words uttered after ones toes point straight upward.

Rev. Miles Mark Fisher, alert and distinguished minister of White Rock Baptist church, started a crusade against Sunday funerals in Durham several years ago, but doubtless Rev. Fisher discovered that he was too far ahead of his time. Several months training may do much to tame a lower animal, but it takes years and even centuries to get human beings to discard ancient and uncivilized customs that give them an opportunity to show off, even at a funeral.

THE DAISY SCARBOROUGH NURSERY

An institution that is destined to play an important part in the development of Durham is the Daisy Scarborough Nursery, established as a memorial by J. C. Scarborough, prominent business man of Durham, in honor of his wife the late Mrs. Daisy Scarborough.

Although the nursery has operated only a short while on its present scale it has for several years been an important factor in caring for small children whose parents have been forced to leave them to provide food, shelter and clothing.

The attempt of the board of directors to have the home made tax free ought to meet with the approval of all of Durham citizens of both races. Certainly North Carolina, nor the city of Durham does not need one cent for taxes from an institution that is going to help some unfortunate child, be he white or black in having opportunity for full development. The CAROLINA TIMES believes it voices the sentiment of most of Durham's thinking element when it says that the state ought to eliminate the home from paying taxes so that it can better serve the community.

There are a large number of criminals in all our cities today who would not be criminals if they had had the care of parents during their childhood.

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE EIGHT)

Kelly Miller Says - -

WHY NOT A THIRD TERM FOR F. D. ROOSEVELT?

Will Franklin D. Roosevelt be chosen for a third term? Read the answer in the Stars For Mortals do not know. No President knows at the middle of his term whether or not he will stand for re-nomination, whether for a second or third term. His political mind is not his own but is controlled by political eventualities. With the political horoscope he must consult the of the planet in the political heavens.

Hypothecating good health, the decision whether to run or not to run is dictated by the welfare of his country and the exigencies of his party. President Roosevelt has made the New Deal the ideal of American democracy and the objective of the nation's political and economic program. His success in formulating a new doctrine and his ability to impress it upon the nation as a program of practical action stamps him as the greatest political genius of this generation. Having taken hold of the plow of this political and economic gospel, he dares not look backward. He is the only American with the rugged individuality, intrepidity and courage to push this proposition to full fruition. So long as the ultimate success or failure of the New Deal hinges upon his leadership he is in duty bound to keep the rein in his own hands.

If within the next years, prior to the nominating conventions if a lieutenant emerges upon whose shoulders he can safely transfer the mantle of leadership, he would undoubtedly be glad to be relieved of this superhuman burden. But so far no such leader looms the horizon with the requisite grasp, power and personality. He must for a while longer bear the cross, alone, for in the popular estimation besides him, there is no other.

The American people are irrevocably committed to a program of liberalism. Conservatism and reaction have been thoroughly discredited as belonging to the horse and buggy age. President Hoover, the apotheosis of conservatism is most highly honored and respected as an ancient and honorable statesman of the days gone by. Franklin D. Roosevelt is without a doubt the most dynamic liberal and constructive statesman since Andrew Jackson. This can be said with all due respect to Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson who laid the foundation upon which Roosevelt erects his superstructure. Dr. Glenn Frank, Chairman of the National Republican Policy Making Committee, has frankly declared himself a Reluctant Rebel against the New Deal. In substance, both parties effect to endorse liberalism of which F. D. Roosevelt is the most conspicuous exponent. Unless conditions vitally change within the next two years to liberal sentiment of the nation will demand the re-nomination and re-election of Franklin D. Roosevelt regardless of partisan affiliation. The bug-bear of the third term traditions has no terror for the genuine liberal. The example

of George Washington in declining a third term has lost its sacrosanctity. There was genuine reason why George Washington should have refused the proffer of a third term, but no such reason exists today. At that time there was genuine danger of a life tenure of the President, which the sanction of the august personality of the father of his country might have made a part of the Constitutional procedure more binding than the Constitution itself. But after the lapse of one hundred and fifty years the American people feel perfectly free to elect calculated to promote the national welfare regardless of the third term tradition. There was no national necessity for Washington's election for a third term. His continuance in office would not have settled the issue between Jefferson and Hamilton which continues as the divisive political principles down to the present day.

The third term tradition doubtless would have been broken had Abraham Lincoln not fallen victim to the assassin's bullet in the issue growing out of the election in 1867.

Theodore Roosevelt would have been re-nominated and re-elected for a third term had he not misplaced confidence in his lieutenant, William Howard Taft, to carry on and carry out his progressive policies. But even so his defeat in 1912 was due rather to the fact that he bolted his party and did not allow himself sufficient time to perfect his new political organization, rather than to the hobgoblin of a third term.

Had Woodrow Wilson's health not broken down in the midst of his second term, he doubtless would have been nominated and elected for a third term, with commission from the people to bring the United States into the League of Nations. Never before in the history of American politics had the continuance of President in office for a third term been so clearly demanded by political, economic and social conditions.

President Roosevelt has as tight a grasp upon our foreign as upon our domestic problems. Should represent forbodings lead this nation into war the capacity must needs continue in his hands. For the homely philosophy of Abraham Lincoln still holds good, it is dangerous to swap horses in the middle of the creek.

Franklin D. Roosevelt is the only American President whose third term is demanded by the trend of events. From the present posture of political and economic affairs, it is a safe venture to predict that if the Presidential election were held today instead of 1940, Franklin D. Roosevelt would be chosen for a third term by an impressive majority comparable with that which he received for his first and second terms. But who dares predict what changes the two intervening years may bring forth?

So far as the colored voters are concerned they are as largely in favor of Roosevelt's re-election as they were in 1932 and 1936.

KELLY MILLER

BYPU Meeting In Edenton

(Special to the Carolina Times)
EDENTON, N. C. July 21.—The Baptist State Sunday School Convention of North Carolina meeting jointly with the BYPU Convention, will hold its Seventy-third annual session beginning Tuesday the Ninth of August through Thursday the Eleventh. The Conventions will be held in the Providence Baptist church of Edenton.

The Theme of the Convention is "Training for Service," and built upon this theme a well rounded program has been arranged. There will be three full days of organized study courses divided into departments and seminars covering the divisional classification as taught in the modern Sunday

courses will be under the instructional guidance of a group of specially selected teachers who are experts in their fields.

The evening session will be given over to Inspirational Addresses affording an opportunity to hear some of our leading thinkers, on religious subjects. Addresses by Judge W. M. School and BYPU. These are Harrison of Chicago, and Dr. R. P. Daniel, President of Shaw University.

Two outstanding features of the convention will be a symposium on Wednesday evening, covering the work of the unified church, and an Oratorical Contest on Thursday evening at which time a prize will be awarded to the young man or

Calvin's Digest

BY Floyd J. Calvin

NEGRO BUSINESS

Negro business was recently lectured at Cleveland by one of its prize exhibits. We say lectured because that is the word for it, although the speaker was listed as guest, since he was not identified with group (insurance which he addressed). The text of the address was later published, so that those who were not sure they heard aright had an opportunity to remove their doubts. While there some good in the address, there was through it the spirit of disdain, based primarily on the supposition that much stock is sold without the payment of dividends.

We are familiar with the history of American business, on both inspirational and practical side, and we say it is a fact and not a theory that business is a gamble at best, and there is no rule by which it can be insured absolutely against loss. There are good, bad and indifferent business managers, there are honest and dishonest executives, but in the Negro field we would wager that there is no less a proportion of success based on opportunity than there is among any other set of business men. Of course some Negro business enterprises have not paid dividends, but that is no argument against Negro business, nor is it an argument which might properly be made the theme of discussion at an insurance meeting of national executives, since insurance is, admittedly, the most successful division of Negro business. Reference might properly be made to mismanagement of some Negro business enterprises, but only to point out what should be avoided, and not to imply or to indicate a trend.

The speaker took time out to point to HIS OWN success in paying dividends. But the speaker was addressing people who had no personal knowledge of how his business grew. The speaker would not like it known that for years some of his employees learned over backward for their pay, to put it mildly, while he paid dividends. Nor would he mention the extreme speculation that played so important a part in the success of which he boasted politics. Hardly any business man in his right mind would approve of politics to make the cash register ring, although sometime it is the long shot that wins.

Let Negro executives continue to push forward, particularly in the insurance field, as they have done for the last forty or more years. They have won first place in the place in the group on that line of promotion the slow but safe line—not the mushroom line represented by the speaker.

NEW TECHNIQUE APPROVED

We are pleased to see that editorial reaction in the white press to the exposition on the new technique of fighting our economic battles as was made recently in the Saturday Evening Post in favorable. The St. Louis Dispatch says: In Saint Louis, 45 Black Belt blocks have been organized by the Urban League into units, each unit containing 50 to 100 per cent of the residents of the block. When a chain store doing business with Negroes refused to employ Negro help, the block units went into action with a boycott which accomplished their purpose. When a milk company refused to employ Negro drivers to serve Black Belt route the Urban League went to a competitor and got six Negro drivers employed. The competitors sales soared 40 per cent. The original company capitulated. Similar pressure techniques prevented the discharge of Negro coal truck drivers brought about employment of Negro salesmen for bakeries, Negro girls in a 5-and-10 cent store, Negro motion picture operators. Even more ingenious is the campaign to be started (already begun in Harlem against the public utilities. Unless they agree to give Negroes their share of jobs, the utilities will have to deal with the Co-ordinating Committee of Employed, backed by 178 Negro organizations.

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DEFENDANT SLEEPS

(Continued From Page 3)
very life, and it was while in an effort to slay her that he met his death.

Several witnesses for Mrs. Brown told of the cruel treatment and beatings that Jones had directed toward her during the seven years they lived together as man and wife.

A motion for a new trial was filed by Attorney Porter and will be heard by Judge E. G. Stooksbury on Saturday morning.

The Key Business Of The Modern World

BY A. T. SPAULDING

PAYMENTS TO LIVING POLICYHOLDERS

Not only do life insurance companies pay out enormous sums because of the first Great Hazard of Life, dying too soon, they also distribute enormous sums to living policyholders. During 1937 more than \$1,740,000,000 was distributed among living policyholders much of which went to minimize the discomforts which might have been caused by the second Great Hazard of Life, living too long. COMES TO RESCUE IN EMERGENCIES

Life insurance has been called upon many times during the past few years of frequent

woman delivering the best oration on some phase of church activity.

The committee on arrangements, headed by Rev. L. G. Nichols, states that everything is in readiness to entertain this State-wide body. A large delegation is expected.

emergencies to save homes, to preserve family entities to hold business organizations together and many other important duties which could not have been accomplished had the policies not existed. A few stories follow:

1 During the bank holidays the cash value of a policy was called upon to release a trainload of coal in Detroit—zero whether it was carried by a wholesale coal dealer.

2 The loan value was called upon to save a farm. There was a heavy snow on the ground, taxes were overdue and the farm of a Minnesota farmer was to be sold at noon the following day. The policy loan was secured by wire and the farm saved.

3 A temporary loan of a \$25,000 business policy bought for protection against death kept a business firm alive in Birmingham, Alabama, and all the families dependent upon it for employment and support.

4 The loan value of a \$5000

BETWEEN THE LINES

BY GORDON B. HANCOCK

(For ANP)

THE VIRULENT STAGE

It need not occasion surprise to observe that the Negro race is afflicted with degree-itis in its very virulent stage. In the very nature of things getting degrees is a comparatively new experience for the Negro race. I stood last August upon the campus of the great university at Cairo, Egypt, founded over a thousands years ago. It was my great privilege to take courses in International Politics at Oxford last summer and to pass in and out of buildings many of which were more than 600 years old. For hundreds of years then whites have been receiving degrees, and only since our emancipation have we been recipients thereof.

Naturally, degrees are new to us and just as naturally, we are going to overemphasize them. The epidemic of influenza that scourged the earth in 1918 recurred the next year and each year since, but the latter stages have been less virulent. Syphilis, the venereal scourge, is becoming less virulent and is not nearly as deadly as when Columbus and his crew brought it into the New World. Tuberculosis, that possibly had its beginning in Scandinavia, is less deadly in that land, and seems to be less deadly to the white man among whom it doubtless originated. There is every indication that the headlines with which tuberculosis preys upon Negroes is due not alone to their poorer living conditions, but to their limited immunity resulting from their more recent contact with the disease. The longer prevalence of any scourge has an immunizing influence. The same holds true of degree-itis among the Negro race.

We shall gradually become more immune to the notions and obsessions which invariably accompany our degrees today. We need men and women with degrees today. We need men and women with degrees, and we sorely need their leadership; but we do not need the self-importance that too often goes along with our degrees. Although 'degree-itis' is a natural concomitant of our educational endeavors and aspirations, we hope that right soon we may get over the virulence of the attack and get down to the business of using our degrees most advantageously. There will never be any substitute for old fashioned common sense, known

sometimes as 'mother-wit.' Some call it plain 'gumption.' When a man gets up to address an audience, his degrees matter little; the people want a message, and a message they must have if their assent and support are to be had.

Degrees are fine things to be forgotten by those who have them! There will never be a substitute for character. And when the thousand of young Negroes faring forth from our institutions of learning with advanced degrees came into direct contact with life, they will find that the Old Bachelors of Common Sense can teach them many things they never could get in school.

This article is inspired by an ominous report that has come from one of the finer churches of the East. The former pastor of this church was a man of many degrees. The pastor has gone to other fields, and the vacant church is in search of a pastor with the stipulation, he must not have a degree. They have heard so much about degrees and learning that they are anxious to hear something about Jesus, and they think their best chance of hearing about Jesus is to get a man without degrees. They are mistaken, to be sure, but there may be some point to their policy. Unfortunately the minister who was highly degreed did not commend a degreed successor as he easily might have done. He had a big way what for too many of us have in a less big way. We are paying entirely too much attention to degrees and not enough to those who have them.

Who has the degrees is far more important than the degrees themselves. The name that goes before is far more important than the degree that comes after! The degree also needs some distinction, a fact too often minimized. The fact must never be forgotten that men live through their hearts and not their heads. In its essence, real life is felt and not thought. The finer things of life are things of the feelings and not mere cogitations.

By all means, let us have more and higher degrees by women and men who are big enough to forget them in a consuming desire to serve their fellowmen. We hope now soon the more virulent stage of "degree-itis" may pass away.

What To Read

Oliver Higgins Prouty, author of "Stella Dallas," now has a written "Lisa Vale." If you are one of those who want a novel whose very human and fallible characters draw a quick response from the reader then you will certainly want to read the story of "Lisa Vale," an outsider who successfully adapted herself to Boston's best

social circles; of her debutant daughters and her eligible sons, smooth, intelligent, and modern, with ideas of their own.

Let us remind you that there are some books probably a bit older than "Lisa Vale" but no less interesting. Sinclair Lewis hasn't lost his magic name; judging from the number of copies of "The Prodigal Parents" sold in one month enough to last an ordinary novel for one year. Have you read it? If not come in and get it soon.

You enjoyed "The Good Earth," both the picture and book, now try "This Proud Heart" by the same author. Since we are dealing this week almost entirely with good back numbers let us also remind you to be sure to read "Gone with the Wind" before the "movie" is released.

In the non-fiction class "How to Win Friends" by Dale Carnegie is still well worth reading. A newer arrival to this field is "The Tyranny of Words." This book is creating a good deal of discussion. It has caught the fancy of newspaper people and the intelligentsia generally. You can't afford to miss it.

All of the above books may be borrowed from the DURHAM COLORED LIBRARY. If you would like a guide to the best fiction mailed to you each month from your library please leave your name and mailing address at the desk when you come in for your next book.

SELENA W. WHEELER,