

The Carolina Times

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L. E. AUSTIN, PUBLISHER WILLIAM A. TUCK, Managing Editor ALBERT K. TILLERY, Business Manager

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WE ESCAPE MANY EVILS:—He shall deliver thee in six troubles, yea, in seven, there shall no evil touch thee. Job 5:19.

As the bird trims her to the gale, I trim myself to the storm of time, I man the rudder, reef the sail, Obey the voice at eve obeyed at prime: "Lowly faithful, banish fear, Right onward drive unharmed; The port, well worth the cruise, is near, And every wave is charmed."—Emerson.

THEY TOOK WHAT THEY COULD GET

The fire at Natchez, Mississippi in which 198 Negroes lost their lives is a direct result of discrimination on the part of those who deny the race the protection the law affords other people in this country.

From the description given by the newspapers, carrying an account of the awful tragedy, the building in which the victims of the fire sought a few moments of relief from the burdens which Mississippi places upon the shoulders of its Negro citizens, should have been declared unsafe by the law for a gathering of any kind. The accounts say there was only one exit, and the windows had been carefully barred to keep out "gate crashers."

Here in more civilized sections of North Carolina where the law prohibits public gatherings in buildings that do not have ample exits, it seems preposterous that the city of Natchez had not declared such a building unsafe for dances and other forms of entertainment that would attract a large number of people. But Natchez, like many other southern cities, enacts its laws of public safety to protect its white citizens and not its miserable black citizens.

The 198 cooked Negro bodies tell a grim and bloody story of unequal opportunities for Negroes in the southland. There is in Natchez, better dance halls, but all of them are no doubt as securely barred against Negroes as the windows of the fire-trap that cost the lives of those 198 helpless black citizens. So these humble Negroes took what they could get in which to have their dance, and what they could get took 198 of their lives.

The fight of Negroes for better housing, better schools, better street working conditions, better pay, better hospitalization and better police protection involves more than a mere struggle for the better things of life. It involves their very existence.

Yet Negroes in Natchez and all over the south are too satisfied to take what they can get, not only in the form of entertainment, but in the more important things of life. Consequently they are often victims of diseases, ignorance and many other injustices that are daily costing the lives of thousands of the race.

We think the 198 Negro victims of the Natchez tragedy have not died in vain if it means an awakening of Negro leaders and fair-minded white people that quite often what the Negro can get is a menace to not only his existence, but to other American citizens as well.

REGISTER AND VOTE

The small number of Negroes registered last Saturday in Durham is evidence of a lack of interest on the part of Negro leaders into whose hands the responsibility of bringing out a large Negro vote has been placed. From all appearances there was little or no sign of an organized effort to register Negroes, or if there was an organized effort it was miserably weak.

The primary to be held on May 25th will find very few Negroes voting unless a great effort is put forth in the next two Saturdays to get a large number of them registered. What is actually needed is more work and less talk. It has been our experience that it is impossible to talk people on the registration books. About the only way we know to get them registered is to make a door to door effort and take them to the various registration places and see to it that they are registered. This cannot be done sitting in office and at home.

Durham ought to have at least 5,000 Negro voters when the books close on May 11, and the CAROLINA TIMES proposes that those who claim to be leaders get out and WORK toward that end. Every minister ought to be glad to make an appeal from his pulpit to their congregations to register and vote. Every teacher should urge the children in her class room to ask their parents to register and vote. Every Negro of intelligence should see to it that every Negro man and woman registers and votes.

This matter of the Negro exercising his political rights involves every right he has as an American citizen and should not be considered lightly. Long distance leadership is not going to get Negroes on the registration books to protect those rights. It is going to take work and plenty of it.

What applies to Durham about getting Negroes registered applies to other cities as well. If an honest effort is put forth throughout North Carolina, at least 75,000 Negroes will be ready to vote in the primary, and another 25,000 can be added by the election in November.

So called Negro leaders can make big speeches until they are blue in the face, but unless the Negro get hold of some money or some votes those speeches will amount to nothing. Since there is very little possibility of them getting hold of any money we recommend that they interest themselves in getting hold of some votes. The goal should be 5,000 Negro voters for Durham and 75,000 Negro voters for North Carolina. It can be done and the CAROLINA TIMES urges every Negro man and woman to register and vote.

THINK OF THY NEIGHBOR: "Learn to think of those who live around thee in selecting for their freedom your kind sympathies, devotions and love. Don't be like a cabbage that heads up for itself, instead reach for that upward goal that means happiness security in life.—Fannie Reid Bratcher.

Neither timidity nor recklessness is really brave.—P. Brooke. The highest of us is but a sentry at his post.—W. Melville. Fortune never helps the man whose courage fails.—Sophocles.

Calvin's DIGEST

BY L. BAYNARD WHITNEY

WANTED; THE HAPPY MEDIUM

The drama made me cry. Booker T. Washington" was brought to life on a tiny stage in a wee auditorium in the basement of a Harlem Branch N. Y. Public Library by the ambitious and very capable, young Rose McClendon Players recently. Arthur Wilson rendered a most commendable portrayal of the famous educator, and the author, William M. Ashby, left nothing to be desired in dramatic interest.

It was not for Washington and his struggles that I wept, but rather for my people. I wept to see Dick Campbell's efforts to create a community theatre go unappreciated thru lack of community support, both in attendance and subscriptions. Campbell's genius as a director and organizer deserves the best rewards. But my heart was heavy upon realizing that many of our own stage people who have influence are so afflicted with a poverty of vision that they cannot see the tremendous influence for good to the race that such a play would be if presented in the Broadway manner under august sponsorship. The New York Negro public, also, has proven in the past that it does not appreciate, or will not support, or is not ready for plays of this character. The crowds will pay well for laughter, but shun anything which may cause them to think. Just how far can we blame them?

This question poses a sociological problem, in which is hidden (or revealed) the answer to another important question: What is the level of consciousness of the average Negro public? The cogent facts on the anti-democratic poll tax situation, recently published in Equality Magazine, disclosed that in eight Southern states, the vicious poll tax racket discriminated 8,988, 873 adults: In the Presidential election of 1936 only 2,879,473 out of the adult population of 11,606,046 many of them Negroes but the majority of them white cast their ballots.

While an Alabama Negro pays \$36 for the privilege of voting, thousands of lazy Negro citizens in the North, where in some cases they hold a balance of power neglect the most potent weapon for their freedom in a Democracy the ballot. Fortunately, these sleepers shall suffer a rude awakening; the ruder the better.

happy medium, it seems to me, would require astute salesmanship and a more fundamental approach; meet the crowd WHERE IT IS and at the same time make it wish it were further on, and do it most entertainingly.

Meanwhile, the great numbers of appreciative Negro theatre-goers should strengthen everywhere such sterling talent and efforts as displayed by the Rose McClendon Players and keep striving to raise the consciousness of the race. The Way may be dark, but there is Light ahead for all those who persist.

PAID \$36 TO VOTE Some time ago Trthar Grover Means of Birmingham paid a cumulative Poll Tax of \$36.00 in order to cast his vote. This contrast is not less than violent to conditions in some Northern states where Negroes are sometimes PAID to cast their vote. The contrast is more than significant.

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A New South

BY WILLIAM PICKENS

This new congress of Southerners, of all races, which has set itself the task of improving the civilization of its section and its country, is now a reality,—and it's going places.

In Chattahoochee in April, Maury Maverick's address was a worth crossing the continent to hear. It took courage and he had the courage. President Graham, of the University of North Carolina, chairman of the Congress, made on the closing night, in presenting the Thomas Jefferson medal to Will W. Alexander, a plain, clear, clean factual and thoughtful talk, which showed loyalty to and pride in the South, patriotism for his country, and a brotherhood feeling for all mankind. The biggest genius running through this congress is the conviction that the southern whites must elevate and advance the blacks if for no other reason than the fact that they cannot advance themselves with the Negroes, potent part of their population, held down.

Lynching, poll tax, school robbery, court injustice, race prejudice itself, must all go, if this congress wins the fight in the long run. They will win, but it will require much time and more pains. The war will not be over next year.

The significant thing about this Congress is that it is an organization. We southerners know that these always have been such individuals in the south, white and colored,—but never before have they been organized. An individual can do very little by himself,—very little against a great evil except to run from it. And even when running, he might be caught.

At last we have organized the most hopeful movement that the South has started since the Civil War. If the self-seekers and the enemy do not sabotage it, what may it do for us? We shall see—we shall see—and we shall see.

Because of the close proximity of New York to Baltimore, it will be found that there is a very little, if any, different in the round trip fare, with stop-over privilege of thirty days granted with the purchase of a ticket. Many delegates will desire to visit the World Fair in New York City. Those who motor to Baltimore may consult road maps as to the best routes. Baltimore is located on U. S. Route number 1, which goes to points north and south. Route 40 will bring those to Baltimore from the west.

On Tuesday evening, June 25, at Bethel AME Church, a public meeting will be held. Dr. C. C. Spaulding, President of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, will be the principle speaker. Greetings will be delivered by the Governor of Maryland, the Mayor of Baltimore, the State Insurance Commissioner, and the President of Morgan State College. Other greetings will be delivered by distinguished citizens and visitors.

All of the business session will be held at the Masonic Temple daily. The detailed program of these sessions will be available at a later date.

On June 26, a luncheon will be held at the Convention Headquarters in honor of the past president of the Nat'l Negro Insurance Association. Following the luncheon the delegates will go on a sight seeing tour of Washington, D. C., as the guest of the Washington Underwriters Association. The Washington Association will be host at dinner following the sight seeing tour.

On June 27, at 3 p. m., a lawn loupe cucumber and eggplant. A determination as to that of the lady and gentlemen mentioned in this article is equally as important to every family in city or

Views Of A County Extension Agent

BY W. C. DAVENPORT

Mecklenburg County Agent Using what you have is a fine weapon and, especially when seen from an economical point of view. There is a tendency on the part of many farm families to devote all of their land to cash crops without the one thought that it is proper to first plan for your home food budget and then set out for market production. The idea of a good garden is not only of rural interest but urban as well. While traveling through the county here of recent a very interesting and hard working homemaker was proud to relate her garden progress. "I have nineteen different vegetables growing, said she, and when the soil is called at the next county-wide meeting I expect to stand on my feet and tell of my progress through extension methods.

Upon my return to the city and parking my car, I noticed about a 2-10 acre backyard lot where there stood a man with a long handle shovel in his hands. Being without horse power and

farming implements the long handle shovel and back bending was making possible a good job in turning the soil. The gentleman said that he would be able to bridge a wide gap by using his shovel, hoe, rake and spade time in planting a good home garden because eating was essential and stocked pantry during the year would help you to with stand many hazards.

A good home garden should provide an abundance of food, either fresh, canned or stored for every month in the year. It should contain at least five or six leafy vegetables such as cabbage, kale, lettuce, Swiss chard, turnip salad, tender green, collards and mustard; five or six of the root vegetables such as beets, carrots, onions, potatoes (white and sweet), salsify, turnips, radishes, rutabagas and parsnips; five or more of other kinds of vegetables such as beans snap and lima, corn, garden peas field peas, peppers, tomatoes, okra, pumpkins, squash, chita-

25,000 Babies Die Yearly As Result Of Syphilis

Most people know vaguely that syphilis is a disease that can be transmitted from parents to their children. They do not know, however, how this infection of the children is brought about, how it can be cured if it does occur, and most important of all, how it can be prevented. Lack of knowledge is at the root of much misunderstanding concerning this particular disease. This article is one of the series approved by the Durham-Orange County Medical Society in its effort to reduce infant mortality.

If a syphilitic mother becomes pregnant, the minute cork-crow germs of the disease may circulate in her blood and reach the baby in her womb. After the baby becomes infected, several things may happen. The baby may be so poisoned by the syphilitic germs that further life and growth are impossible, and a miscarriage follows. It may be that, though the baby may continue to live in womb for some time, the accumulation of syphilitic poisons in its body will cause it to be born dead, often prematurely. If by chance the infant is born alive, premature-

ly or at full term, he may be so enfeebled that he may die in the course of a few weeks. Or the baby, if born apparently healthy may develop the symptoms of syphilia weeks, months or years later. For example, they may have: Wasting, skin rashes, sores that leave ugly scars, deformed bones, bad teeth, blindness, deafness, paralysis, and feeble-mindedness. On the other hand, many of these syphilitic children show none of these external signs or symptoms, and unless blood tests are made during routine physical examinations, the disease may not be detected.

Syphilia in children who are innocent victims of their mother's disease, is curable only if treatment is begun early enough and is carried out systematically and thoroughly. The best time to cure the disease is before the baby is born. If a syphilitic mother begins her treatment early in pregnancy, during the first three months, infection of the baby can be prevented altogether. Treatment drives the syphilitic germs out of the mother's blood, so that they can no longer travel into the womb to the baby.

Even if the syphilitic mother's treatment is not started until the fourth or fifth month of pregnancy, there is still a good chance for the baby to be healthy. No stage of pregnancy is too late, and something can still be done to help cure both the mother and baby even as the ninth month. From the child's point of view, one treatment of the mother before confinement is worth several given to the child after birth. Children whose mothers have received insufficient or no treatment before their birth, and who are either born with a develop symptoms of syphilis can still be cured. Treatment should be continuous for from 75-85 weeks.

When a child is found to have syphilis, it is important that the mother and father and also the brothers and sisters should be examined, and receive treatment if necessary, otherwise any of them may develop various distressing symptoms of this disease at some late period in life.

Diagnosis and treatment of syphilis in adults before they become parents prevent the transmission of the disease to their children. Many adults who have had syphilis neglect to obtain a complete cure and often marry before it is safe for them to do so. Again, people may not know that they have been infected with syphilis. Such persons may infect their husbands, wives or children with disease.

In order that syphilis in children may be prevented, every woman should have her blood tested by her physician as soon as she thinks she is pregnant. In fact this blood test is now required by law. This measure is the only way at present to stamp out syphilis in children. An expectant mother also should have a complete physical examination and visit her physician regularly during her pregnancy. The test also requires a physical examination and a blood test (Wassermann), indicating the absence of venereal disease in both partners before a license to marry can be issued. These laws should be of great asset in the prevention of this preventable disease in children. Further more, county boards of health and the Reynolds Fund, free clinics for the treatment of syphilis have been established throughout the state. In Durham, syphilis clinics are held at the places and times listed below. Approximately 3,000 patients are being treated in Durham today, and there is no excuse for anyone to fall to be cured if he or she will find out whether syphilis is present by having a blood test (Wassermann) done and taking adequate

Baltimore Preps For Insurance Convention

Baltimore is to be host to the 20th Annual Convention of the National Negro Insurance Association which will convene on June 25, and close on June 28. In order that every detail may be ready the insurance men of the City and other interested citizens have formed several committees. The General Chairman of the Committees is Willard W. Allen, President of the Southern Life Insurance Company. He is assisted by W. Emerson Brown of the same company. Secretary to the General Committee is Joseph A. Bush, also of the Southern Life Insurance Company. The Treasurer is John L. Berry of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

On the evening of June 27, a smoker will be held at Edgewater Beach with the visiting insurance men as guests. On June 28, the local committee has arranged for a cruise down the historical Chesapeake Bay. All delegates to the Convention will be the guests of the Baltimore Underwriters' Association on this occasion. The cruise will end at Annapolis, the Capital City of Maryland, and the home of the United States Naval Academy. A guide tour through the Naval Academy has been arranged.

Some time between these events a sight seeing tour of Baltimore City will be arranged and the hour announced at one of the business sessions.

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Students Visit N. C. Mutual

NOTE: The following is an account of the Hillside Seventh grade Mathematics Club's recent visit to the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company home office as it has been told by Edith Tapp, a member of the club. All of the students who made the trip wrote their own accounts but Edith's has been selected as the best and she was awarded a prize.

MY VISIT TO THE NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL BY EDITH M. TAPP 7-2 GRADE

The children of the seventh grades who had maintained 'A' or 'B' averages in arithmetic were offered a trip to the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. We left school Friday, April 19, about one o'clock. We arrived about one thirty or one forty-five. When we arrived we went on the elevator from the first floor to the sixth floor where we were seated Mrs. Winslow introduced our club to Mr. W. D. Hill. He talked for a few moments and gave us a hearty welcome. He instructed Mrs. Carr to show us over the building. On this floor we saw table and chairs for the clerks to eat. The clerks are given 45 minutes to eat or maybe have a reception, or they may do anything they wish in that time. We also saw in this same room a clerk typewriting.

After visiting the sixth floor we came down to the fifth floor where we saw the Claim Department. All kinds are made in this department. We also saw a little room called Mr. Williams' room where a kept records checks up

and prolonged treatment by their own physician or at a clinic, if they cannot afford private care. If adults would only avail themselves of the facilities in Durham, syphilis would disappear and children would not be infected by their parents. FIND OUT BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE, AND BE CURED.

Durham Syphilis Clinics Health Department, Court House 9 a. m., daily except Saturday and Sunday; 9:00 a. m., Saturday 6:30 p. m., Monday. Watts Hospital: 1-30 Monday. Lincoln Hospital: 7-00 p. m., Monday (men); 1 p. m., Thursday children; 7 p. m., Thursday women. Duke Hospital 9:00 p. m. children and 6 p. m. adults, Thursday.

White Rock Baptist Church Parish House, Fayetteville St. 1 p. m. children Wednesday.

Churchman Tells Whats Wrong With Methodism

Continued from Page three have, and they can't find out. They can only guess. The visitors in the local churches are afraid to report. If they report a decrease in membership which ought to be known, they are afraid they will be punished or removed. But what is more tragic, if they report an increase, they are afraid of increased general assessments. They, therefore, give in the lowest possible figure that will permit them to hold their pulpits, which often is not a true figure.

"There are three major elements in our current church machinery which seem to me gravel obstructive and in need of prayerful consideration and perhaps revision. First is the power of Appointment and Removal of Preschers. This power at present is an accepted part of our church machinery, but it is a part that does little good. Most of the wasteful politics of the church, clean, dirty, and otherwise, center around this power, it would be like throwing out of the window a whole mass of fights and fears and schemings and corruptions which are not at all necessary to the functioning of the church, but are simply a useless hangover from the past."

"Second, the Presiding Eldership. There was a time when

this office was vitally necessary. In the days when travel was difficult, when communities were cut off from from other, when pastor and people were both largely illiterate, we needed a circuit-riding supervisor to go the rounds for the sake of instruction and unity of the church. But today when communication is rapid and easy, when both pastor and people often go from town to town in a single afternoon, when education is at a much higher level, and a well written letter can reach hundreds in a day, the district supervisor is really superfluous. An active bishop living in his district can get the preachers and people together as often as is necessary for the unity of the church and the raising of general funds. Since many presiding elders are distinguished pastors, they could well be reestablished in the pastorate, where many of them would be glad to be.

"But the office need not be abandoned. There is a much higher use that may be made of it. The presiding elder could be converted into a REGIONAL SOCIAL WORKER whose duty would be to work among the members of an area, to help them in making certain social adjustments which right now are badly needed, Negroes, and our members among them, are suffering from today, such as unemployment, poor housing, bad health, bad race relations, bad farm life, and so on.

Third, The Rural Church. More than half of all colored Christians are rural people, and more than two-thirds of all colored churches are rural churches. Yet for this great proportion of our membership, we do a lot have the slightest sign of a program. We send the poorest preachers that we have. They get the smallest share of general funds and general attention. When a preacher is set to serve them he goes forth with his head down and his heart broken, as though he were going into penal servitude.

"Of course, the country people are poor; they are backward and terribly needy. But this simply means that they are forgotten and neglected. As a matter of fact, they are almost despised. Who would ever think of a poor country preacher being elected bishop? We just don't think in such terms.

"I am pushing no candidate. I honestly wish each candidate would win. But beyond the ambitions of a handful of men, I see the great good which must live and work in God's great world. I am only anxious that we do the things that shall enable the church to live and work."