

# Virginia Changes Its Course

The about face of Virginia's Governor J. Lindsay Almond in his state's battle against integration in the public schools is a shining example of the lack of statesmanship that is too often found among many of the persons elected to public office in the South. A few months ago, Almond was definitely thumbing his nose at federal authorities and urging the people of Virginia to stand pat against the mixing of schools.

On Monday, Almond urged the General Assembly to let each city and county choose its own course in the matter of integrating schools. Throwing his support behind a legislative study commission that recommended financial aid for private education to any locality that does not want integration, he recommended that those who do want it be allowed to do so. He now praises the so-called freedom of choice program as the wiser course instead of that of "massive resistance" which he formerly recommended.

Said he: "The program recommended by the commission is not one of defeatism or surrender. It may be that we have witnessed Gettysburg, but if we unite and together for the best interest of Virginia there will be no

Appomatox." This, he says, is better than the course of abandoning the public schools as recommended by the segregationist elements.

That Governor Almond belatedly discovers that resistance against federal authority is futile and, above all, that resistance against the new era of world-wide freedom for men of all races, creeds and colors is more futile is a sad indictment of his leadership as the governor of Virginia. When it comes to stupidity, we are unable to say whether he or Governor Orville Faubus of Arkansas takes the cake.

In spite of what Almond says, the course he now recommends is a complete surrender to federal authority in the matter of public school integration. If he has been able to "save face" by having the legislative commission make the recommendations that he should have made as Virginia's chief executive, let him have the ball to play with. The fact remains that the change from "massive resistance," which has been declared unconstitutional by both federal and state authorities is replaced with a "freedom of choice" program. "A rose by any other name would smell just as sweet."

# The White Church Is Catching Up

After 300 years of hymns and anthems the white church appears to be catching up with the rhythmic singing that is more often found in Negro churches from one side of the nation to the other. At Norwalk, Connecticut last Sunday morning the St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church began mass "with the ripple of a jazz piano" while many members of a standing-room-only crowd looked on, listened, swayed and tapped their feet as "the four-piece combo pierced the dim interior of the church."

Of course many of the staid old New England church members debated whether this kind of music should be played in the house of God. But officials of the National Council of Churches and the National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church who attended

the services as observers were all for jazz music, provided it is real American jazz.

Ministers, officials and members of Negro churches, with the exception of those few that have tried to pattern their services after the cold white church, will wonder why there has to be so much fuss about jazz in a church. They will be amazed that our white brethren are just catching up with how much the rhythmic beat can add to a religious service. Jazz music, with all of the rhythm found in a modern-day dance orchestra, has been played, jumped, tapped and shouted to ever since the Negro church was started. If our white brethren have just discovered what it can add to religious worship, they don't know what they have been missing.

# Complacency of Negro Students

Now that the Easter season is over and the students in our colleges and universities are back in their classes from Spring vacation we would like to call the attention of our readers to the apparent general complacency existing among them on the question of civil rights. This was observed during the travel of thousands of students to and from their homes during the Easter season in the use of waiting room accommodations in Durham, Greensboro, Charlotte, Raleigh and Winston-Salem, the principal cities in which the leading educational institutions of the race are located in North Carolina.

In the face of the fact that the federal courts have long ago struck down separate waiting room facilities, especially for interstate passengers, we know of no single instance where a student in one of our educational institutions has taken advantage of the privilege of not being segregated in waiting room accommodations. On the contrary, our students from N. C. College, A & T College, Winston-Salem Teachers College, Shaw University, St. Augustine's College, Bennett College and Johnson C. Smith Universities have gone right on accepting the indignities of segregation with an apparent relish.

It might be a revelation to some of these students who are now attending our schools and colleges with so much complacency to learn that it was a student, Raymond Hocutt of N. C. College, who struck the first blow in the nation against segregation in state educational institutions. Hocutt brought court

action in 1935 against the University of North Carolina, in spite of the opposition of the N. C. College administration and others. His efforts were followed later by students in other states and finally by another N. C. College student, Floyd G. McKissick, who brought action against North Carolina on account of the then inadequate facilities of the N. C. College Law School. Not only did McKissick's efforts result in more adequate law school facilities at N. C. College but eventually the opening of the Law School at the University of North Carolina to Negroes.

It was Hocutt and McKissick who led the way to new horizons of freedom for their people while their elders and many of their fellow students objected, were non-cooperative or looked on with contempt. Needless to say when the victory was finally won, many of those who objected, were non-cooperative or looked on with contempt were the first to take advantage of Hocutt and McKissick's successful efforts.

In Africa, India, China and elsewhere in the world, oppressed people are moving against their oppressors. The wave of freedom now stirring in the souls of mankind is not confined to any particular nation or section; it's world-wide. It is, therefore, high time that students in our Negro schools and colleges tune in on this way of freedom. It is high time that they at least make use of the privileges already obtained, even if they do not have the courage to strike for improved conditions.

# We Say Let Them Bolt

The utter desperation of Dixie segregationists can be seen in the decision of first Alabama and now Arkansas to send unpledged delegates to the National Democratic convention.

Thus, these two states join with Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi in the abortive

scheme to withhold their 49 electoral votes from the Democratic presidential candidate unless he and the convention knuckles under to their segregationist demands.

An indication of how ill-conceived their scheme is the fact that the worst Dixiecrat conspirators could possibly do would be bring about the defeat of the Democratic candidate.

We don't see how this could be possible, but for argument's sake, let's concede that this may happen. They, thus, would insure the election of a Richard Nixon or a Nelson Rockefeller, neither of whom has anything in common with their 19th century states rights philosophy.

We say let them bolt. The sooner the better. We would view such an event as good riddance of very smelly rubbish.—AFRO AMERICAN (April 4).

# Same Old Threat, But It Must Not Work This Time



## SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

By REV. HAROLD ROLAND

# The Redeemed Must Help Save Others By Telling Christ's Story



"And a great number that believed turned to the Lord... Acts 11:21"

The word of salvation has power to captivate the souls of men. The Gospel in its simple, spiritual beauty has power to grip the souls of men and turn them from their sinful and evil ways to God and his righteousness. This Gospel of God's wondrous, fascinating and redeemed lost souls in every age for two thousand years. It is ours to tell the story of Jesus and his love, and there will be some believing souls.

The story of Christ and His cross will turn men from a life of sin to lives of righteousness. Souls redeemed and aflame with a holy passion have gone telling the story of God's redeeming love; and may have believed and turned from sin to become great saints, burning with a passion of love and service.

If you will witness as to what Jesus has done for your soul, you, too, can cause someone to believe and turn from a life of sin to a life of righteousness in

Christ Jesus. Why don't you tell somebody what Jesus has done for you? Tell some lost soul about the healing power of Jesus. You can tell the sin-sick soul there is healing in Jesus. Just tell the story and someone will believe and turn to the Lord.

We need more people to live it, and we need more people to tell it. There is someone lost in sin near you, and you can find that lost soul and tell the story of God's redeeming love in Christ Jesus. Just tell the story of Jesus and His redeeming. And someone will believe and turn to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The redeemed are to witness before the unredeemed of God's redeeming love. If the redeemed fail to tell it, the story of the Good News of Salvation will not be told. You—the redeemed, must tell it. Tell the unredeemed that God in Christ is ready to save his soul.

Many will believe and turn to God if you will just tell them of the Savior's love. Some lost soul is just waiting to be told about Jesus' love. You can issue the call of Salvation to some

lost soul. Your witness for Jesus may rescue or save some perishing soul today. Your personal witness may mean peace and joy for a soul and a home today.

Have you as a redeemed soul ever caused just one soul to believe and turn to the Lord? Or do you belong to that ninety-five so-called redeemed souls who never lead a soul to Christ? Why not today become a witness for some soul to believe and turn to the Lord? There is a "matchless joy" in leading a soul to Christ. What a blessing to help a soul escape from a prison cell of sin; and find the joy and peace of the new life in Christ Jesus. You can do it. How? Just ask God to help prepare you to be a winner of souls. If Christ has saved you, God can prepare you to tell the lost of this salvation.

Anyone who can tell the story of God's redeeming love with a passionate conviction can help the unsaved believe and turn to the Lord. Yes, "A great number believed and turned to the Lord" because a redeemed soul—Peter—told how Jesus saved him.

# WATCH ON THE POTOMAC

By ROBERT SPIVACK



# De Sapio-ism, Recalcitrant South May Be GOP's 1960 War Cry

Washington—The Democratic Party, as everyone knows, is a collection of smaller political parties, each with a special background, special problems and a special appeal. The "party" has never, as such, been a cohesive, tightly-knit political organization.

To many Northerners there are the "Southern" Democrats, often spoken of as a single bloc. Actually there are Southern Democrats who speak for the "New South," such as Lister Hill, Albert Gore, Estes Kefauver, and Ralph Yarborough. Then there are Southern Democrats who speak for special interests, such as Speaker Sam Rayburn, Lyndon Johnson, Sens. Spessard Holland, John McClellan, Robert Kerr and others of the oil or private power bloc.

Besides these there are the Southern Democrats who speak and yearn for the "Old South," with its suppression of the Negro citizen. In this group belong Sens. James O. Eastland, Strom Thurmond, Richard Russell, and Herman Talmadge.

With a presidential campaign coming up, the Republican Party undoubtedly will make much of the North-South split in the opposition and that is perfectly

acceptable political operating procedure. It would be surprising if the Republicans did not make the most of these cleavages—and still others they could exploit.

The Democrats, however, have another problem besides "The South" and unless it is faced squarely they are likely to find themselves on the outside, looking in, at the White House as they did in 1952 and 1956. It's the question of bi-city "bossism" which seems to grow, with each passing year, rather than diminish.

Right now the New York Democratic organization, still smarting from its resounding defeat at the hands of Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, is engaged in a bitter struggle between reactionary machine politicians, headed by Tammy Boss Carmine DeSapio, and a liberal bloc led by former Sen. Herbert H. Lehman, Eleanor Roosevelt and former Air Secretary Thomas Finletter.

In terms of getting maximum personal publicity and trying to create the illusion that he is a "new" kind of Tammany boss, DeSapio has done very well for himself. In terms of ending the sort of political corruption that characterized the O'Dwyer Ad-

ministration in New York, DeSapio has been a colossal flop. Those who know tell me that in many ways things are worse now than they were 10 years ago.

## Made To Order For The G.O.P.

Sen. Lehman recently spoke in Washington on the disintegration of the Democratic Party in New York under DeSapio. He recalled how New York had long led the nation in liberal leadership and in the field of ideas. In 9 of the last 10 Democratic conventions, he noted wistfully, a New Yorker was either nominated or a leading contender.

Now all that has changed. The image the American voter has of the New York Democrat is either the sleek DeSapio or the blurred image of Mayor Robert Wagner, who has been called by some critics a "municipal Eisenhower," equally well-meaning and equally indecisive.

In carrying his fight against DeSapio, Lehman makes the point that it was the boss' ruthless tactics in the 1958 Buffalo convention that cost the Democratic ticket its victory. "I might add that on every occasion I can remember when the bosses have won, the results at the succeeding general election have been disastrous," Lehman said.

# Georgia Headed Toward Showdown In Schools Issue

As public opinion mounts against closing, however, Georgia's rubber-stamp legislature continues passing the governor's segregation bills in complete disregard of their crippling impact on the state. The latest such effort is the college age limit bill which decrees that no person over 21 years of age may be admitted to a Georgia university for undergraduate work, and no person over 25 for graduate work.

This has met tremendous opposition, because like any other racist law, its effects are as harmful to white as to Negro citizens. In this case it hits particularly hard, denying education to people from all walks of life simply because they are older than the average college student.

**NO MORE STUDENTS**  
Since the successful suit of three Negro students against the Georgia State College of Business Administration, that college has frozen applications and will take no new student. Classes there now are composed entirely of persons who were already enrolled before this suit was decided. When they finish their work and leave, unless new loopholes are found, Georgia State will probably be forced to close.

At Georgia Tech at the present time are applications from qualified Negroes who ask to be admitted for the coming year, and the same policy is being followed there.

Even if the situation should be changed to allow some desegregation, however, many would-be students, who have applied at schools where they will be sure of attending next year, will be lost to Georgia.

## PUBLIC SCHOOL SUIT

A second suit is now pending in the Federal District Court. This is one against the Atlanta Public School system. Georgia officialdom, according to statements made by various legislators, expects the court to rule that such a segregated system cannot be continued. This may well bring us to the peak of the crisis, the question of the hour: Will the schools close?

The people of Atlanta are watching developments with intense feeling. The Virginia decisions especially have given the "open-school" forces new ammunition. But the only voice to speak out for sanity among the "elected" representatives of the state, is that of "Muggsy" Smith of Fulton County. (Atlanta) He has not only opposed the governor's ruthless segregation measures, but has offered counter-proposals in an attempt to save the schools. Of course these were voted down.

The present legislative session is a joke; almost every part of the governor's program, which is reactionary not only to the

schools, but in every phase of Georgia life, has gone through with no real opposition.

In the meantime, there is a definitely growing sentiment among the people to avert this impending catastrophe. PTA's, church groups, letters to the editors, and the resolutions of such organizations as the League of Women Voters, evince a determination to keep the schools open.

In large measure, this overwhelming desire has not quite crystallized into any mass movement. The people who are beginning to see the extreme reaction of Georgia's legislature have not yet come to the realization that it is they who must do something about the situation.

## SOME SPEAK

Some of our citizens are speaking up. Charles Mathias, international representative of the United Steel Workers Union, which has many Negro members said recently—"Our union is for the brotherhood of God. We are in favor of any child going to any school that is suitable."

Mrs. Ray Mitchell, vice-president of the League of Women Voters, says her organization is definitely in favor of integration rather than closed schools. Certain business interests are being so hurt by the situation that murmurs of protest are coming from their direction also.

Lockheed Aircraft's tremendous facility here is having trouble getting scientists and other qualified men to come to Atlanta. And many of our finest teachers are looking around for other places where they will have security in their work and certain public schooling for their children.

## NO TURNING POINT

At this point it appears that no significant turning point in this struggle has yet been reached. There are still a number of vicious, racist organizations threatening and bullying those who would desegregate. There are also a number of groups that are making arrangements for private schools, but since the progress in Virginia, people seem to be losing faith in the private school plan as any sort of solution. Opposed to these "status quo" organizations, we now have two new liberal groups: HOPE (Help Our Public Education) and SOS (Students for Open Schools.) While both of these are small they are indicative of a trend.

As the months go by there is a noticeable, steadily growing strength among those who want to keep the schools open. This feeling, however, has not made itself heard in the chambers of Georgia's lawmakers, and unless something is done the schools will close.—Southern Newsletter (March)

# Hail To Women of Achievement

The news columns relate the truly remarkable achievements of women in widely divergent fields of endeavor and in widely separated locales. Both are Negroes, one African-born, both American-educated. That each achieved distinction in highly competitive and immensely difficult career areas is all the more noteworthy.

One, just 27 years of age, is the author of one of the few plays of the past decade to receive unanimous critical acclaim. It has just opened on Broadway, and she is the toast of the Great White Way. No doubt, she is on her way to greater fame and riches beyond her fondest dreams.

She is pretty and talented Miss Lorraine Hansberry, writer of "A Raisin in the Sun." She is the first woman of the race to reach Broadway as a major playwright (Langston Hughes preceded her as the race's first Broadway playwright. In all, nine Negro men

have been authors, co-authors, or collaborators of Broadway plays or musicals or collaborators of Broadway plays or musicals of varying success.

The other is Miss Angie E. Brooks, a member of the Liberian delegation to the United Nations, now appointed Liberian Assistant Secretary of State (concerned with foreign affairs), a former assistant attorney general of her country, the second on the continent to gain self-government under black Africans.

In this country she won degrees from Shaw University and the University of Wisconsin, then went on to further study at London (England) University. She has taught law in her native country, is a member of course of its bar, and a counsellor of the Supreme Court of Liberia.

African women have been notably handicapped until recent years. That they, like the men,

propaganda line despite another observation made by Lehman, a point that will probably get lost in a national campaign. "In most other states, the Democratic Party organizations have become more and more democratic," he notes. "In one state after another the power of the old-line party bosses—the Hagues of New Jersey, the Pendergasts of Missouri and the Crumps of Tennessee—has been broken upon the rock of public disapproval." What it all boils down to is this: "Boss" DeSapio—unless he quits—could end up being the Republican's secret weapon for 1960.

This is likely to be the GOP

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