

The Victory in the Louisiana Sit-In Case

Hidden on the back or inside pages of southern newspapers this week was the story of the freeing of six participants in the sit-in case of Louisiana by the U.S. Supreme Court. Instead of the usual glaring headlines, when a reverse ruling of a federal court in a segregation case is handed down, the southern daily press, as a whole, made as little noise as possible about the verdict. Either there was fear of encouraging a continuance of sit-in attacks on the crumbling walls of segregation or there was journalistic shame for the futile efforts of the southern press to influence the Supreme Court in rendering a verdict more in keeping with segregationist desires.

Whatever the reason for the little note given the Supreme Court's verdict by southern daily newspapers, it is certain a majority of them will tread more cautiously in the future when it comes to giving support to the cause of segregation, especially where sit-in participants are concerned. The verdict slaps

down previous rulings of the lower courts in such matters and settles for all time police attempts to charge Negroes with trespassing merely because they enter waiting rooms in bus and train stations that are designated "for whites only."

The verdict is certain to be received by Negro leaders all over the nation with a degree of satisfaction. We trust, however, that it will also serve to remind them of the tremendous cost in time, money and energy that it takes to obtain even this small amount of freedom. The victory in the Louisiana case should be good for several hundred thousand new memberships in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and other organizations that are waging relentless fights to secure basic rights for Negroes in this country. Without such organizations, it is not hard to imagine what the future would be for southern Negroes.

The Future of Negro Children at Stake

If Durham becomes the scene next year of numerous sit-ins, picketing, federal suits and other efforts of Negroes to secure their rights as American citizens, the people of this city will have its Board of Education to thank. No group of people has ever been handed a rawer deal than that which the Board is now attempting to perpetrate against the Negro school children of Durham. If their parents allow this crime to go unchallenged, they are unworthy of the name of American citizens and unfit for the sacred trust of parenthood.

As pointed out in an article appearing elsewhere on this page under the caption "Durham's Board of Education Plans Robbery of Negro School Children," and again and again in previous editorials of this newspaper, the City Board of Education does not intend to comply with the federal court order to integrate the schools of Durham. On the other hand it is plainly evident that Negro citizens here have one, and only one, chance to secure equal educational advantages for their children, and that is to seek a restraining order in the federal courts that will prohibit the

schools from operating under the segregated pattern as planned by the City Board of Education.

Because of the seriousness of this black and vicious crime plotted against Negro school children, we call upon their parents, relatives and friends to rise up as one man in their defense, whatever the cost. This is no hour to quibble, this is no hour to shrink from duty; this is an hour when the future of not only your children has been threatened but perhaps that of your country. For who knows but that the very fate of America may be determined on tomorrow by the kind of education all of our children receive today.

If providence decrees in the years to come that the destiny of our country, standing at bay with the common enemy, should fall into black hands for determination, let it never be said that they were unprepared because a damnable set of vicious little men, blinded by prejudice and race hatred, denied them the right to equal educational opportunities in their own native land.

Bishop S. G. Spottswood Favors Methodist Merger

In the crusade to bring about the unification of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, we are happy to welcome to our cause Bishop Stephen G. Spottswood of the AME Zion Church. On page 5-B in this week's issue of the Carolina Times, we have published an announcement of a statement made by Bishop Spottswood on the subject that deserves careful and thoughtful consideration by every member of all three of these branches of Methodism, from their senior bishops on down to the humblest member. After such a union is accomplished Bishop Spottswood hopes for a union of all Methodists, without regard to race with the ultimate goal, a union of all protestant churches.

It is our hope that other bishops and leaders of the three denominations will give public utterances to the cause and lend their influence and energy toward its ultimate achievement. Especially lay leaders should

give their full support to the movement; for after all is said and done it is they who pay the fiddler, or should we say the three fiddlers of the AME, AME Zion and CME denominations. Although Bishop Spottswood did not mention any economic reasons for unification, it is our belief that several hundred thousand dollars could be saved annually in salaries of general officers and other expenses, if the three branches of Methodism could be united into one organization.

As pointed out by Bishop Spottswood, the present trend is toward mergers of churches with "similar polities and comparable theologies." Certainly, there are no three different denominations in America more similar in polity than the AME, AMEZ and CME churches. We think the time has come for the ministers and laymen to demand their unification now in order that they may be stronger and better qualified for eventually uniting with other denominations that is sure to come if the trend in church mergers now underway continues.

Time For Fortright Action

The Carolina Times joins the alumni and friends of Shaw University in expressing regrets at the present upheaval of the students of that institution. Those close to Shaw, including the members of its trustee board, have known for a long time that there was a ground swell taking place at the school and that there was a definite need for forthright action. Therefore, the present explosion did not come without forewarning, but because Shaw's governing body, the trustee board, appears to have been whistling in the dark with the hope that the existing trouble would abate itself.

We are unable to say who was directly at fault at the beginning of the upheaval at Shaw University, the students or the administration.

It does appear, however, that the trustee board has failed to live up to its full responsibility by failing to act in the past on a condition that a child could plainly see needed positive action to keep it from getting out of control. Thus, members of the trustee board will now have to face up to a major operation at the school which may even include that of securing a new president for Shaw.

One thing is certain, the school cannot hope to make the progress it should under existing circumstances. There is a definite need for an administration with vision and imagination. After all, Shaw University is bigger than any person or persons connected with it; and if it takes the removal of one or more of its present faculty for the betterment and future of the school, its trustee board ought to have the moral fibre to stand up to its responsibility and act.

SCHOOL DESEGREGATION LAGS IN N. C.

In spite of impressions to the contrary, North Carolina has made little progress in school desegregation. The vast majority of our public schools remain completely segregated. Only Chapel Hill, which desegregated the first grade last year, and Durham may be said to have made beginnings toward desegregation. Durham, by court order, will make geographical assignments to elementary schools for the fall term.



ACTION OF INTEGRATION ANALYZED

Durham's Board Of Education Plans Robbery Of Negro School Children

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article, prepared by the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs, analyzes recent action of the Durham Board of Education in establishing seventh grades at several Negro elementary schools, and shows how this action fits into a general policy pursued by the Board on the issue of public school integration.

The pupil assignment resolutions for the 1962-1963 school year, recently adopted and announced by the Durham City Board of Education, demonstrate again the incidence of that Board on matters that comply with the clear requirements of constitutional law on desegregation in public schools by its continuing to organize and operate the Durham schools on an almost totally segregated basis. These new resolutions also point directly to items of serious inequality between Negro and white schools of this city that were outlawed twelve years ago and that have not yet been eradicated by the local school authorities.

In its 1954 opinion in the School Segregation cases the Supreme Court of the United States said:

"Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. To separate Negro pupils from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone. Segregation of white and colored children in the public schools has a tendency to retard the educational and mental development of Negro children and to deprive them of some of the benefits they would receive in a racially integrated school system."

The Court concluded that by reason of segregation Negro pupils are deprived of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. A year later it directed that local school authorities should proceed with all deliberate speed to accord to Negro pupils their constitutional right to be educated in public schools organized and operated without regard to race.

Now in 1962, seven years later, the Durham School Board has adopted pupil assignment policies for the next school year which have the studied design and purpose to effect for one more year as nearly one hundred per cent racial segregation in the local schools as can be had under the restrictions placed on this Board recently by the Federal District Court.

This Board simply refuses to see the Negro pupils of Durham as free American citizens, equal to all other pupils in the school system, and fully en-

itled to enjoy equal, unsegregated education; it has taken not one single voluntary step in compliance with this constitutional law regarding the rights of these Negro pupils. Rather, this Board has taken the position that it will move toward school desegregation only if, as, and when it is specifically ordered so to do by a court, and even then it will resort to every possible stratagem it can devise including some morally questionable ones - to keep the races segregated in the Durham schools.

It is the purpose of this article to analyze the stratagems now being resorted to by the City School Board and to cite some evidence of marked racial inequalities in the schools; it will appear that discriminatory acts of the Board add up to a dishonest and immoral program of action that sullies the honor and integrity of the City of Durham and its school system.

Item 1. Having been told by the District Court that its use of separate school attendance maps for assigning pupils to its schools - one for white pupils and another for Negro pupils will not be tolerated, the Board has drawn a new map that is gerrymandered so as to confine elementary pupils into racially segregated schools as thoroughly as can be done on a single map. Careful study of this map has shown that its boundaries for elementary school zones were ingeniously drawn along streets, along backyard fences, along creeks and along other clever routes so as to separate Negro residential neighborhoods from adjoining white neighborhoods. That this map is gerrymandered along racial lines rather than according to capacities of the respective school buildings will be clearly evident next September when it will be found that some elementary school buildings will be overcrowded while other elementary schools will have empty classrooms. The fact that even first grade graders from four Negro elementary schools to remain in those schools next year for the first year of their junior high school work is evidence that the school zones, having been gerrymandered to effect racial segregation, will have created empty room space in those four buildings, while at the same time other buildings will be overcrowded.

If the Board were to honestly draw a school zone map based on building capacities, geographic locations of pupil populations, on a nonracial basis it would rid the elementary schools of their overcrowded situations. Last October Durham's eighteen elementary schools had room space for 526 more pupils than there were enrolled in them.

But the Board's preoccupation with race created building capacity in the ten white elementary schools for 754 pupils more than the number enrolled in those schools, while the eight Negro elementary schools had 229 enrolled pupils beyond their capacity. One Negro school had 122 pupils beyond its capacity while four white schools had capacities for 138, 153, 122, and 102 pupils beyond their respective enrollments.

Item 2. After representing to the Federal Court and to Durham that it would use a single map for the elementary schools for next school year, the Board threw the map out of the window for all but the first grade of the elementary schools by resolving that if the new map will place any pupil above the first grade in "a school attended predominantly by pupils of another race" the said pupil shall be assigned to the school he attended last year. This provision assigns thousands of pupils for next year on the basis of the out-lawed dual maps that governed last year's assignments. To plain, honest people this means that the School Board has repudiated its pledge to the Court that the future use of dual attendance area maps was discontinued effective as of July 27, 1961.

Item 3. In spite of this pledge the Board has also refused to draw single maps or attendance areas for junior and senior high schools respectively, and it has assigned high school pupils separately by race by the same system that has been used in the past and that the Court declared to be intolerable.

Item 4. In spite of its representation made last August to the Court that in the future it would use certain criteria and standards - specifically excluding race - for pupil assignment, the Board continues to use race as the dominating criterion in its assignment of pupils. This repudiation of its own standards and of its pledge to use them is evident in the items mentioned above - drawing the racially gerrymandered map, discarding that map for all but the first grade pupils, refusing to draw high school attendance areas, and also in another item which is the continuation of its "feeder system" which assigns the graduates of each Negro elementary school to a Negro junior high school and assigns the graduates of that junior high school to the Negro senior high school; similarly this system assigns pupils from all white elementary schools to white junior high schools and then to the white senior high school. This "feeder system" is therefore designed to keep every pupil in the Durham schools in a segregated school during his

God's Word Imparts Courage to Stand Trials.

By REV HAROLD ROLAND

"I make my defence with confidence . . ." Acts 24:11.

What things are essential for one to stand with confidence amid false accusations? A certain knowledge of the rightness of one's cause will enable a human being to stand with courageous confidence. Paul knew that he had not wilfully done anything deserving of his arrest and imprisonment. Thus we see the preacher of the Gospel standing with confidence in perilous times. Hatred is ready to explode with violent fury against him but he stands with a rare kind of confidence in the face of threats. So we hear him say: "I make my defence with confidence . . ."

The man who is standing with God Almighty can always stand with confidence. God promises to stand with his servants. It is a blessed assurance to know that you can count on God's word. The word of the High and the Holy One will never fail you.

God's word will stand when the world's fading glories have perished. All created things will pass away but God's word will stand forever and ever . . . "The grass withers, the flower fades but the word of God shall stand forever . . ." The guarantee of God's word then is the secret and the basis of this man of God's confidence amid the perils and threats of his arrest and imprisonment. Joseph stands in Egypt with confidence amid the evil schemes of unholy men. The secret of standing with confidence is to take your stand on God's Eternal word.

Righteousness gives an unshakable confidence. Wrong is ultimately weak for it has no power to undergird nor support it. But right, thank God, is a mighty moral power. Yes, right is power because it has a Divine back. So to be able to stand in this world of sin and evil you must try to be

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