

Taking A Breather

This is Cleaner Air Week throughout the nation, and that in itself has a special significance in North Carolina.

Not that the problem of air pollution is overwhelming in the Tar Heel State at this time, but it's growing. And the week of October 19th is a good time for us to take a good look at the potential for smothering in our own atmospheric wastes right here in North Carolina.

The idea of Cleaner Air Week is just that. It gives everyone a chance to focus in on the problems that are threatening our health and draws a public awareness to the conditions of our environment.

As has been pointed out many times before, North Carolina stands to suffer a great deal if we suddenly start pouring huge volumes of wastes into our atmosphere. For one thing, the air currents in many areas of this state are not the type that move pollution out rapidly. Therefore, we are often caught in an inversion situation which keeps old air down and traps it. We could possibly use the same air day after day until the inversion gradually changes.

According to a handbook published by the National Cleaner Air Week Committee, this special week has three objectives which, it believes, make the observance more than or-

inary value: To create better understanding of community, state and regional problems related to the protection of our fresh air supply; to promote cooperative effort toward the solution of such problems; and to encourage individuals and groups to coordinate control efforts, particularly at the community level.

The secret of any successful campaign of this sort, of course, is participation by interested groups and individuals. And this participation must always begin on the local level where the pollution threats are clearly in mind and meaningful steps can be taken to head off additional problems. This organization goes to state and national levels in the form of support anti-pollution legislation. But it all begins with the individual who has a serious concern for the environment in which he lives.

It might be difficult to imagine at this time, but there may come an era when our air is so polluted that even the open fire places in our homes have to be used for rock gardens instead of burning wood. This is an extreme, but if we don't try to prevent pollution, we may have to suffer from it in more ways than one in the future. The North Carolina Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association supports Cleaner Air Week. We hope you do.

The Generation Gap

THERE IS NO question in America today as widely discussed as the Generation Gap, except the propriety of sex education. In all circles from churches to neighborhood clubs Americans are discussing the problems connected with the gap between elders and youth or parents and their children.

There is a vacuum in the Negro community. It is a condition which blocks the steady and successful development of Negro businesses or organizations. This problem is one that should claim the full and intelligent attention of the black community. Negro businesses too often become one-generation efforts. There are exceptions, of course, but sadly too few. The father starts the business, but too often it dies with him.

Over a generation ago a Negro had a successful meat market in Farmville, Va. One of his best customers was the Farmville State Teachers College now Longwood College. This energetic and frugal businessman sent his son to St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School, now Saint Paul's College at Lawrenceville, to prepare him for a trade and to be prepared to take over his business. But this man had to sell his business when he retired, and it was reported at the time that it was bought by a white business.

Too many businesses and worthwhile organizations exist for only one generation. Anyone entering the business world takes a great risk. The problems exist for all business groups, whites, Negroes or Jews. The point we make here is that too often when the Negro business fails it goes out of the family, which is like saying it goes out of the Negro race.

The process is not without some bright spots. The National Benefit Life Insurance Company of Wash-

ington, D. C., failed years ago, but the training young Negro men received with that company paid off. The three charter founders of the Virginia Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, B. T. BRADSHAW, H. A. M. JOHNS and C. L. TOWNES SR., came from the National Benefit Life Insurance Company.

A similar account could be given of other Negro businesses which furnished training and experience that gave the Negro a lift in the business world. But Negroes have lost too much by short-lived business ventures. Civilization depends on the progress and continuity of events. The security and freedom of Negroes must have an economic base sustained by a heartfelt and invigorating psychology of the worth of the Negro and his place in human society. This is why it is so important that Negro businesses and community organizations survive from one generation to another.

The survival value of a Negro business or organization is its ability to change with new requirements. It must be ready to meet modern techniques and the changing modes of the consumer mind and his needs. No Negro business can expect to live by appealing to race pride. It had better rely on the ability to keep up with a fickle public on styles, tastes and sometimes plain fancy.

No Negro any longer can afford to act like he will get a break just because he is black or because some of his ancestors were slaves. A Negro in business has to meet the exigencies of the business world like anyone else. Cooperative effort is important and appeal to race can help, but the ability of a business to serve the people while it meets the demands of the business world is better.

—THOMAS L. DABNEY.

Things You Should Know

SONNI ALI
1490

HIS REAL NAME WAS ALI KOLON, HE BEGAN HIS CAREER AS A COMMON SOLDIER. HE FORMED HIS OWN ARMY, AND, IN 1468, CONQUERED ALL THE LAND FROM TIMBUCTOO TO THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, / THUS, HE . FOUNDED THE VAST EMPIRE OF TIMBUCTOO AND RULED IN PEACE UNTIL HIS ACCIDENTAL DEATH IN 1490. HE WAS SUCCEEDED BY HIS SON, ABU KEBR./



SONNI ALI FEATURES

This Is No Time To Back Up



THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS HAS BLUNTLY STATED A WHAT HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY EVIDENT - THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IS PERMITTING A MAJOR RETREAT IN THE STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL SCHOOL DESEGREGATION. MR. FINCH AND OFFICIALS IN HIS DEPARTMENT'S CIVIL RIGHTS OFFICE ARE HONESTLY DEDICATED TO RACIAL EQUALITY, BUT THEY LACK BACKING OF THE PRESIDENT WHO IN HIS EFFORTS TO PLEASE SOUTHERN CONSERVATIVES HAS REFRAINED FROM SPEAKING OUT ON THIS CRUCIAL ISSUE.

N.Y. TIMES

Letters To The Editor

WHERE TOBACCO IS KING

It is apparent that Durham's image, is slowly, but surely, being phased-out in industry, health-welfare, and devotion to the city.

A pioneer citizen said: "All the day long and all through the night, for a number of days, people were moving. Many were walking, some on horseback, passenger trains, box cars, buggies, wagons and Oxen-drawn carts." Durham's leading industry - the W. T. Blackwell's tobacco factory - had closed down.

Sometimes lightning strikes twice in the same location. The Utah Senator, might succeed in having an anti-tobacco Moss Act passed. Some folk suspect that cancer-research money is being used for adverse tobacco advertisements. Many eminent doctors claim that there's no proof that tobacco causes cancer, but strong opposing forces might close-down tobacco industry in 21 states: N. C., Ky., Tenn., Md., Va., S. C., Ga., Fla., and others.

News headlines stated that Duke, Watts, and Lincoln

would get over \$9,000,000. Lincoln Hospital received about \$23,000. Black folk were disappointed that Lincoln didn't get \$3,000,000. The Duke Endowment has helped Black folk tremendously, but the transaction has been mutual, black labor helped to make the Duke Endowment. Besides, a Negro discovered and developed the art of curing bright yellow tobacco.

Unless we keep faith with those who vote, love and devotion to our city will diminish. Citizens cast their votes for an improved Lincoln Hospital; any other plan would not keep the faith. Our pioneer fathers didn't phase-out institutions, in the name of progress. From the remnants of Blackwell's factory, they developed a multi-million dollar tobacco empire; they preserved Trinity College, used it to produce Duke University - these establishments have helped to make "Durham Reknown, The World Around."

Frank George Sowell
1508 E. Pettigrew St.
Durham.

--Clement

(Continued from front page) Committee on Negro Affairs, a director of Scarborough Nursery, and treasurer of Penn Community Services. He is also past chairman of the Durham District of the Boy Scouts of America and in 1968 was chosen one of Durham's five "Fathers of the Year." The first black man to be selected.

Clement is a trustee of White Rock Baptist Church and past president of the Talladega Alumni Association. Married, he has six children and six grandchildren.

--Seminars

(Continued from front page) in and taking all to a stance of new imperialism which means to basically set up a puppet government so that they people will think they are still controlling their own destinies.

Manning also pointed out that is almost next to impossible to get out of the war because the industrial and economic giants of this country will not let the government get out.

The second seminar held in the B. N. Duke Auditorium, was composed basically of students who have an interest in the Viet struggle.

Generally the consensus was that the war is not a war against communism or a war to liberate the South Vietnamese, but a war to make money for this country and to continue the country's present policy of oppressing people.

Though some of the speeches disagreed on the surface, essentially the theme was the same -- Blackness. Three of the speakers were veterans who vowed they would use the skills of mayhem taught them

to fight the "real enemy" when the time came.

Many of the persons participating in the moratorium did not support the protest as a whole. Their basic concern seemed to be not the moral aspect of the war, but the political issues. An underlying question was when would such an effort be engendered for black people.

The moratorium was all but ignored by the Malcom X Liberation University. According to Chuck Hopkins, students and staff will travel to Greensboro Wednesday evening to participate with the students of A&T in their observance.

"We are sympathetic to the idea that the Viet Nam war is related to the struggle of black people in this country for freedom. Our standpoint is that this war is just another episode in America's continuing policy of exploiting other people around the world," Hopkins said.

Ben Ruffin, director of UOCL, commented that though the moratorium might be a good idea, he was far more concerned with the problems here from a black standpoint.

"Rather than just the violent aspect of war, I am interested in those people who fight a constant war with roaches, rats, poor housing and inadequate jobs. We need to do something about these things," he said.

--Teacher

(Continued from front page) earned her MA in Education at Hunter College. She also has a Professional Certificate in School Supervision and Administration from Hunter.

Mrs. Gordon is also a Registered Nurse, with State certification in Vocational Guidance Counseling.

Her first teaching position with the city's public schools was as a teacher of nursing at the former Yorkville Vocational High School where she later moved to the position of a counselor in Health and Vocational Guidance.

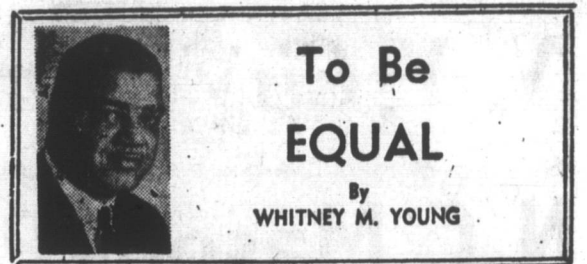
--Appointed

(Continued from front page)

Ricans, Indians and others must increasingly be encouraged to enter the field of business, both in the areas where they now live and in the larger commercial community -- not only as workers, but also as managers and owners.

"This council," President Nixon stated, "is a means of bringing together some of the best minds in America to eliminate roadblocks on the path of economic opportunity for every citizen."

Berkeley G. Burrell of Washington, D. C., president of the National Business League, was named vice chairman of the commission.



To Be
EQUAL

By
WHITNEY M. YOUNG

Bias On Culture Front

MOST PEOPLE are familiar with the facts about job discrimination against Negro workers, but an indication of just how pervasive such discrimination is can be seen by the unofficial ban on black artists by some cultural institutions.

An instance of this is a current case before the New York City Commission on Human Rights. Two musicians with wide symphony orchestra experience -- one was a cellist with the Pittsburgh Symphony for four years -- are charging that the prestigious New York Philharmonic refused to hire them because they are black.

The Philharmonic says no, color doesn't have anything to do with it, they're just not "qualified." But since the men have such high reputations, and since the orchestra has hired only one black man in its hundred-year history, that explanation isn't very convincing.

A look at other major orchestras reveals the same picture: one black musician in Cleveland, another in Boston, other orchestras with no blacks. The numbers of black symphony musicians in major orchestras can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

We're 'Born With Rhythm'

If there is anything Negroes have been known for in this country, it is musical skill. White Americans sing and dance to music written, played, or inspired by black writers and performers. In fact, one of the stereotypes black people have been subjected to is the myth that we're "born with rhythm."

How strange it is, then, to hear the Philharmonic's music director explain to the commission that his 99 per cent white orchestra's audition standards take into account the "warmth that emanates" from a player, and his "rhythmic understanding." The stereotype is used against blacks, and then discarded when it comes to evaluating black musicians for jobs that supposedly value the very same qualities.

It is shameful for a major cultural institution, one that gives concerts in a beautiful new hall financed by public subscription, to cling to the color bar while other fields are in the process of discarding it.

To claim that there aren't enough qualified black musicians is an ugly untruth, especially when New York also has the Symphony of the New World, an integrated ensemble. About 38 of that orchestra's 90 musicians are blacks, and the group has had excellent notices in its five year history.

While the Philharmonic says it can't find qualified blacks and refuses to hire 2 eminently qualified musicians, the Symphony of the New World found 38. But while the Philharmonic gets fat contributions to give summer concerts in the parks, the integrated Symphony of the New World can't raise enough money to give concerts for schoolchildren in the ghetto. Behind the red and gold facade of our major cultural institutions is the rotten stench of racism.

Prejudice In Other Fields

It extends to other fields, too. The movie industry depends on black stars like Sidney Poitier and Jim Brown to fill the movie houses, but the high-paying craft jobs behind the cameras are still lily-white.

The same story holds for television. The performers out front may include black stars, but behind the cameras, it's different. At the same time that racial barriers are crumbling and black performers, at least in the star category, are given the chance to play to prime-time national audiences, black craftsmen are frozen out of top-dollar jobs.

This kind of discrimination is hardest to bear at a time when black writers, artists, musicians, and actors increasingly come to dominate the nation's cultural life.

By far the most exciting plays, books and paintings these days are the work of black artists who are leading a cultural renaissance not seen since the 1920's. Their success will make it increasingly difficult for our cultural institutions to cling to outmoded racism.

terprise was created by executive order from The White House on March 5, 1969. And, Thomas F. Roeser was appointed director and Abraham S. Venable, Deputy Director.

The Advisory Commission included an impressive array of distinguished leaders from virtually all walks of American Life -- industry and labor, business and the professions, education, religion and the minorities.

In another advance, the Office of Minority Enterprise in the Commerce Department released three important brochures designed to help minorities make their way into business careers. The brochures catalogue federal opportunities for contracts, some 300 companies that offer franchises, and groupings of foundations, organizations and private interests that aid minority businessmen.

--Fuller

(Continued from front page)

not necessarily have to meet prerequisites of degrees but rather in the words of Fuller, "be competent and be able to relate this competency to black people." "If we find people who have something to give our people, they may not hold high school degrees, but we're not hung up on degrees. We're hung up on what do you have in your head to give, and we don't care what kind of degree you've got."

Funding for the university could not be revealed at this time although many area contributions have been received as well as those from around the country. (A recent report has indicated that some \$40,000 is being awarded to the university through an Episcopal grant.)

Fuller reiterated the ultimate intention of the university and its family when he said, "We view Malcom X Liberation University as an integral part of the Black community; therefore, we will be involved in any

community."

In closing Fuller emphasized the following: "we want to state very clearly that there will be neither guns nor drugs or any kind in the building located at 426-428 East Pettigrew St.; therefore if this building is invaded by so-called law officers of a federal, state, or local variety on the pretext of looking for guns and dope, it will be just that -- a pretext. We mention this because several Black operations have been vamped on throughout the country under the guise of searching for guns. Once inside, the so-called law enforcement officers have destroyed the contents inside the building as well as its physical structure.

We will be about educating Black people. This building will serve as a base for that education. We will not take any invasion of it lightly. We will consider any invasion as an act of aggression against the Black community that this university is set up to serve, and we will respond accordingly."

Klan Wizard Has Article Published

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — The Ku Klux Klan Wizard, Robert M. Shelton, for the first time since he was jailed on a contempt of Congress charge, has an article in the organization's magazine.

The article, which appeared recently was headlined "Observations from the Cell of Robert M. Shelton." The date-line was "FBI Texarkana, Tex." FBI stands for Federal Correctional Institution.

IT WAS SHELTON'S first article in the "Firey Cross" since the March issue. He surrendered to federal officials Feb. 14 and the March article was written before he left for the federal facility.

Shelton did not mention how he was being treated at the federal center, but he warned his followers not to allow themselves to be influenced by

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