

The Carolina Times
EDITORIALS

A Champion Gets His Rights Back

The U. S. Supreme Court's reversal by an 8-0 vote of the lower Federal Court in Houston, Texas, which had convicted Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) of draft evasion and sentenced him to 5 years imprisonment and fines of \$10,000.00 is regarded as a battle for freedom, black freedom.

Immediately thereafter, both super and pseudo patriots, wrapped themselves in the flag and without compunction, prejudices the issue. The moguls of the Boxing industry, an industry with a limited reputation for virtue, lifted the championship from Ali, prior to final adjudication of the fundamental legal issues. To them, justice is not only blind, but hasty also.

Many who have lived through gangland killings, lynchings and assassina-

tions now ask how will the champion carry out his religious beliefs. We believe that it will not be in the "Gantry" style. But we would suggest that Ali will bring new luster to the Boxing game and will continue to inspire all the youth of the nation and the world.

The superjustice of the Boxing industry will probably continue their unrelenting search for the "great white hope." We only hope that in their unrelenting search, which drove them to truncate on the fundamental constitutional rights of all the people, will cause some serious soul searching. An 8-0 decision are unusual odds.

Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) by his recent comments have already indicated his religious tenets, - To err is human, but to forgive is divine.

Food For Thought

Jobs are a real crisis today. A record breaking number of college graduates from all over are finding out this summer that what they had heard all spring is really true. The job market is unusually or unseasonably cold.

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the civilian work force of persons 16 to 24 years of age will increase this July by one million over the previous July. A large proportion of the increase was attributed to cutbacks in the size of the Armed Forces. Thus college graduates looking for jobs will compete with high school graduates, college students seeking summer positions, and Armed Forces veterans.

A growing number also of the so-called "Middle-class" are discovering that only the thickness of a regular pay check separates Middle America from the slums and ghettos. In the pre-occupation of the superfluous glitter of an affluent society, we have failed to discover that true affluence must be backed by ownership. So called Middle America does not hold title to its affluence. Precarious status is usually purchased on time payments. Our most prized possessions become worn out and obsolete when title passes to us. The parasitic feeding on our earnings by the "affluent" consumer economy thrives on all of us. Frugality nor industry seems to allow us to escape the clutches of this big bear.

We see that more and more workers are becoming surplus and labor market-reports substantiate these facts. Certain Ph.D. holders are more plentiful than job offers, if one notes the plight of Ph.D.'s in science programs. It seems that Doctoral candidates are affected even more by the job shortage. The higher the degree, the higher the salary they demand, and they're finding it difficult this year to even find jobs. Many business firms have now specified the B. S. degree in their recruitment requests.

On reports that black school graduates are getting breaks in the job market, it was reported by some placement directors that there were fewer jobs and the graduates with B. S. degrees appeared to be getting more money due to the reluctance to pay the higher salary of a Master's degree holder. Parkinson's law now seems to come to fore and it would appear that trivial, superfluous work expands as more and more people become available to do it.

America has a dangerous problem of unemployment and it is rapidly growing. The highly visible presence of theoretically disenfranchised minorities is only the manifestation of fact. The U. S. has always had the highest unemployment rate in the western world.

The population of America has increased by 26,000,000 in the past decade. Each day industry learns to produce more by using less people. This is the pressure that is being felt throughout the working force. Among, and included in, the rising work forces are women workers and the majority of them are indeed heads of the household. The number of working mothers has continued to increase at a particularly rapid pace.

So the real issue here is jobs. America must somehow really create new jobs for its spiraling population. Short term subsidized training does not always work to the benefit of people. Perhaps it will only temporarily remove them from the welfare rolls.

It is apparent then that we must face the immediacy of the task before us at all levels, city, state and national. We must plan and think in terms of more creative solutions and or programs so that all people who desire to work will be able to perform at their highest capacity in our society.

Crisis In Classroom

WHEN CHARLES E. SILBERMAN reported that the nation's schools are oppressive, grim and joyless (*Crisis in the Classroom*, Random House, \$10.00), he opened a debate on the nature and purpose of education which will grow in the years ahead. His concrete examples—from Britain and the United States—showing students learning excitedly and effectively in informal settings — may upset many teacher training colleges.

In endorsing Mr. SILBERMAN's analysis of what is wrong with most of our schools, ALBERT SHANKER, president of the *New York United Federation of Teachers*, has written that the typical elementary classroom is a "form of cruel and inhuman treatment of children."

"If a parent sat her youngsters down at home and ordered them to be still and listen to a lecture for five hours," insists Mr. SHANKER, "the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children might well intervene."

Instead notes Mr. SILBERMAN, in the informal classrooms, there is "great joy and spontaneity and activity" coupled with "great self-control and order." Shouldn't more of our schools try that approach?

Good Riddance

The end of the Saturday token sessions of the General Assembly marks the end of an era of sorts, the sort for cheers instead of tears. Saturday sessions became meaningless a number of years ago, as soon as transportation developed to the point that legislators could go home for weekends. The token sessions merely filled a constitutional requirement.

The state's new constitution does not require Saturday sessions, and so the token sessions are at an end. The riddance is refreshing.

ROSEDALE, QUEENS, N.Y.

MARKING PENCILS "STAMP OUT NIGGERS" "WE HATE NIGGERS" ON THE WALLS OF THE HOUSE.

THE INVESTIGATORS QUOTED ONE WOMAN AS HAVING YELLED "SEND A COPY OF A PICTURE OF THIS TO HARLEM TO SHOW THEM WHAT HAPPENS IF NIGGERS TRY TO MOVE INTO THIS NEIGHBORHOOD."

ONE POLICEMAN SAID "WHO DO YOU ARREST, A WHOLE BLOCK? I MEAN IF THERE WAS THREE OR FOUR GUYS, MAYBE..." HE SHRUGGED.

N.Y. TIMES



Death Penalty Key Ruling Coming

The U.S. Supreme Court has moved nearer to a ruling on the key constitutional issue raised by opponents of the death penalty with its decision to consider for the first time, in cases called for arguments in the fall, the cruel and unusual punishment aspect.

From its docket of 150 petitions from death row inmates across the nation, the court will hear arguments in four cases limited to a single question: "Does the imposition and carrying out of the death penalty in this case constitute cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments?"

The court's answer to that question, the outstanding question concerning capital punishment, presumably will clear the fogged air from the death penalty issue. The 38 states with the death penalty on the books presumably will know how to proceed following several years of confusion.

Assuming that the question is answered clearly, they either will be given the green light to proceed with executions from death rows crowded during the long moratorium or they will be told that executions are a thing of the past, that the Constitution prohibits society from inflicting the cruel and unusual punishment that the death penalty is upon those who have com-

mitted certain crimes.

The court's decision will bring the long-awaited showdown. Hopefully it will mean the end of capital punishment, a relic of the past that has no proper place in the present or the future. But if it doesn't, it at least will put the issue in better perspective by removing the cloud that has cast its shadow over capital punishment cases.

In a ruling unrelated to the major issue to be decided later (except that it deals with an aspect of the death penalty), the court has reversed the death sentences (but not the convictions) of 35 persons on grounds that prospective jurors with reservations about capital punishment were excluded from their trials. That action, in line with the court's ruling in the *Witherspoon* case three years ago, effects six of the 14 persons under death sentences in North Carolina.

While that action was a significant development in itself, it was greatly overshadowed by the announcement on the same day that the court has agreed to review the larger challenge in cases scheduled for the fall. The fact that the court has agreed to review the major issue comes as a highly welcome development. The whole area of capital punishment has been in a state of confusion too long.

Blooper Forces Tighter USIA Controls

WASHINGTON — Belatedly and under irate congressional prodding, Frank Shakespeare, director of the United States Information Agency, is tightening the controls over who talks under the auspices of his agency — and what is said.

Reason for the tardy reform is off-the-record remarks made

Letter to the Editor

Dear _____
Women-In-Action for the Prevention of Violence and Its Causes, Inc. since its beginning in 1968, has been concerned about the problems of Public Housing, especially as they relate to the mounting tensions existing between the tenants and the Housing authority.

We consider the presentation made by the tenants steering committee at your June 7 meeting fair and reasonable, and hope it will be given favorable consideration by the Council.

We have studied carefully the suggestions made to the Council by the League of Women Voters on June 7. We believe this to be a well-considered and constructive approach toward solving some of the tenant-management problems, and we give our full support to this statement.

Women-In-Action for the Prevention of Violence and Its Causes, Inc. offers its assistance to the Housing Authority, to the tenants, and to the City Council to help in any way, appropriate to the organization, that would be meaningful toward the solution of some of the problems that are causing continued tensions.

Very Truly yours,

Mrs. A.T. Spaulding
President

to newsmen by Parker Hart, assistant secretary of state in the Johnson administration, in which he evinced pronounced pro-Arab bias. Among other things, Hart charged Israel with stalling on withdrawing from conquered territory in the hope the Democrats will win the 1972 election.

Hart, now head of the Middle East Institute, a privately financed strongly pro-Arab organization, voiced these dynamite-loaded views at a meeting in the Foreign Press Center in Washington. USIA operates such centers in the capital and New York for the background information of foreign newsmen. Hart spoke anonymously, but later was identified in press reports.

Since then, embarrassed USIA and State Department officials, under sharp fire for the incident, have been disclaiming responsibility and giving assurances it won't happen again.

Shakespeare disclosed the new tight regulations at a session of the House Appropriations subcommittee in charge of the USIA budget, after being caustically taken over the coals for the Hart blooper.

That the affair was a distressing mistake was readily admitted by Shakespeare.

But he maintained forceful steps have been taken to "preclude this happening again."

"We have seen to it," said Shakespeare, "that the scheduling of all speakers at the Foreign Press Centers in Washington and New York will be carefully screened by USIA au-

thorities so that the best judgment will be exercised on who does speak. Secondly, I have issued explicit instructions that in all cases, no matter who appears, if he is a private citizen he must talk on the record and for attribution."

Rep. John Rooney, D-N.Y., committee chairman, questioned Shakespeare sharply on whether these new rules are verbal or in written form. Caustically, Rooney reminded the USIA head of another snafu that had caused considerable embarrassment.

KICKED UP STAIRS — Shakespeare revealed, under questioning, that the USIA official credited with having invited Hart to talk "is in the process of being reassigned to an overseas post."

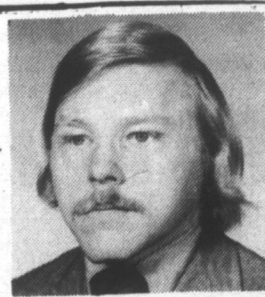
"Is that the way you kick them upstairs for making a boo-boo like this?" asked Rooney. Shakespeare sidestepped a direct answer.

Rooney noted that Hart, in addition to heading the State Department "desk" on the Near East also had been ambassador to several Arab countries in the Johnson administration. Asked Rooney, "Isn't it rather dangerous to invite someone who is very likely to take a position hostile to Israel to a meeting of this kind?"

Shakespeare readily admitted that.

"There is no question this was a serious mistake," he said. "If Mr. Hart, or any private citizen, appears at a press background discussion under the auspices of USIA, it must be wholly on the record. It should never be off the record."

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK



By JOHN MYERS

Georgy Dobrobolsky, Vladislav Bolkov, and Viktor Patsayev had spent 24 days, longer than any man on earth, in space. They were coming home. Their country awaited them with flags, parades, and guest appearances. Their families anxiously awaited their return after almost a month's absence. Radio contact was perfect as the men made their re-entry into our atmosphere. Everything was going to plan.

Landing rockets were fired slowing the ship for set down. After the landing rockets were fired, there was no further radio contact. Silence prevailed for the remainder of the landing procedure.

With the observance of a successful soft-landing, the recovery vehicle sped to the ship to transport its heroes back to the space center. Upon opening the ship's hatch the three Cosmonauts, Debrobolsky, Bolkov, and Patsayev, were found dead in their seats. Their country mourns.

What happened to these men? The world awaits. There has not been sufficient time to determine why these three men, who spent 24 days in space, died so close to home.

It is a Russian tragedy, but it affects the entire world where ever there are pioneers or memories of pioneers. These men belong to the handful that have set out to conquer new frontiers. They belong to the few who valued their reason for life and its fulfillment over their deaths. Men such as these founded our present day world. They built it, preserved it, and spent their lives trying to better it.

These three men belong to the world. Their deaths will have the greatest impact upon their home country and their families, but the world has lost. We all have lost three more valiant men of which there are so few. These three men knew the dangers of space exploration, yet this was what they felt they had to do to make their lives meaningful to themselves and to the world.

The United States also lost three men in our space project due to a fire on the launch pad. Our world is now missing six men who "ran where angels fear to tread."

Probably, our major consolation is the knowledge that these men died in the performance of their lives. They lived for what they did, and they died for the way they lived. I don't believe a man can have a finer epitaph. In Russian sorrow and United States' tears, we salute you.

To Be Equal Revenue Sharing

By CERNORIA D. JOHNSON

Director, Washington Bureau National Urban League
EVER since the President revealed his plans for revenue sharing, writers have discussed the pros and cons of that issue from virtually every angle imaginable, with one exception. The one angle which has not received "equal time" in the Nation's mass media and in private conversations is the black angle.

The proposal to spend \$16 billion in improving the plight of the states and local governments seems, on the surface at least, to be harmless enough. In a general way, even the "no strings" provisions can be explained with a minimum of effort.

It sounds sensible enough to allow "local priorities to determine the ultimate allocation" of funds among various governmental programs. This is especially true when we are assured that no person will be "excluded from participation in . . . or be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin" under any program or activity financed with Federal funds.

But on closer inspection one begins to feel that these assurances are not really enough. The facts presented in arguing for unencumbered distribution of Federal funds to states and political subdivisions simply do not tell the whole story. The black perspective has been completely overlooked.

'Idea' Whose Time Has Come

On the other hand, black people cannot afford the luxury of summarily rejecting the concept of revenue sharing, for it is surely one of those proverbial "ideas" whose time has come. The objections of key congressional figures notwithstanding, some form of revenue sharing program designed to pump Federal funds into our cities will be enacted. If not in this Congress, then it will come in the next one — or the one after that.

Revenue sharing, by whatever name it be called, will come because an increasing number of large cities are on the brink of bankruptcy and Congress simply cannot afford to let American cities decay.

At the same time, many of these cities are becoming predominantly black. This means that black people must begin to argue for a program of general fund sharing through which benefits will accrue to them. They must begin to form coalitions — to join forces with other groups whose basic goals offer the greatest good.

It goes without saying that many cities will try, in every way possible, to utilize Federal funds in ways which will not benefit black communities. One only needs to observe the frequency with which improved public thoroughfares end abruptly at the entrance to black neighborhoods to comprehend the seriousness of the problem. Public transportation systems often "turn around" at the edge of the minority community. Public parks and other recreational facilities are rarely planned and developed for non-white areas.

'Poor People's' Lobby Needed

It is one thing to monitor legislation after it has been enacted. It is quite another to help fashion legislation so that valuable time will not be wasted on endless enforcement activity. Black people need to initiate a national activity akin to a "poor people's" lobby. The choice lies between helping to shape "good" legislation and trying to deal with "bad" legislation after the fact.

And "good" legislation invariably means laws that don't apply piecemeal solutions to wholesale problems; laws that set performance standards for governmental agencies; and laws that provide positive incentives for such agencies to do the right thing.

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