

EDITORIALS & COMMENT

"If you will protest courageously and yet with dignity and Christian Love, when the history books are written in future generations, the historians will have to pause and say, 'There lived a great people—a black people who injected new meaning and dignity into the veins of civilization.' This is our challenge and our overwhelming responsibility." — Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Experimental Housing

The selection of Durham County as one of the communities to experiment with the HUD housing allowance or rent subsidy program should enable more low-income persons to find more standard housing made available to them.

It is well that approval was granted to Durham County Social Services Department by the Durham County Commissioners to move ahead with the program as well. Tasks in the administration and survey area will define and delineate the feasibility and possibility involved for nationwide rent subsidies for the many families now desperately in need for more and better standard homes that may be rented by low income families. It is also nice to know that HUD will supply in the form of a grant, sufficient funds to carry out this planned program.

One of the big questions that will attempt to be answered by the experiment with 500 families in Durham as well as in the other eleven communities will be to see how families will use their rental allowances and what kinds of housing they get.

Specifically, also in Durham, will be tested the ability of the Durham Department of Social Services to administer a rent subsidy program.

The idea for such rent subsidies has been kicked around for years since the 1930's, and in some instances as late as 1965, people who lived in privately owned housing got a boost. In that instance, the rents went to the owners of new or rehabilitated housing who would rent to low income people or to public housing authorities who would lease private dwellings and then sublease them to poor families.

So with this experimental program after the two year period, the Housing Authority would then take on the responsibility and lease and sublease the housing to families falling in the required rental categories.

It must also be remembered that the program will not become a cure-all for all housing problems, but at least it will create new interest and lash away at some of the results left from the current freeze on housing.

The World of Money

One of the most intelligent and helpful ways for parents to teach their children thrift, management of finances and good earning habits is to encourage them—at an early age—to take a summer job.

With health permitting, one of the finest experiences a high school youngster can have is putting vacation time to productive use.

Myriad jobs are available for the young student that can not only reward him monetarily, but will prove as highly constructive incentives to his or her future character and earning abilities. Whether your child takes a position as summer camp counselor, clerk, receptionist, baby sitter or mother's helper, or newspaper carrier, there are certain ways in which you can both help and encourage him.

Some ways to mention a few are: See that he finds the job himself—through classified ads or notices posted. You and your friends are good references, but he should be on his own when he lands a job. Stress the importance of appearance and decorum.

Make him aware of the significance of honesty in stating qualifications, giving dates he will be available for work, being dependable—and being on time.

Impress upon him that the summer job can be the first step in his

business career. What he does to prove himself in this beginning work period will show up later on.

Encourage his saving a portion of his salary each week. Now is the ideal time to get him acquainted with financial planning—and thinking of the future.

Let him know that his taking a job is a way of justifying his existence in the community. He is not only working entirely for money—but for meaningful contribution and occupation.

Your own personal attitude toward your employment can be an excellent guideline. Children have a tendency to imitate their parents. If you grumble about your boss and co-workers, chances are the kids will do the same thing.

Point out the virtues of a sense of humor and loyalty. Try to always accent the positive outlook. Give advice only when he asks.

And above all—let him or her know you think he or she is A-OK, or soulfully together.

We would hope that as we continue to climb the ladder of success, more and more youngsters will realize the importance of getting an early insight as to the economics of money and the powers that it can offer if the values are channeled into the correct direction for greater self-awareness and self-development.

'Forgotten Minority'

Around the turn of the century American society, especially the "industrial barons," were concerned about the development of the virgin West. During that time, the West was and still is the territory to develop, or is it plunder.

Man in his haste to turn a profit, has ignored the ecological balance of nature, thereby imperiling man as an endangered species. Outraged citizen groups have been making efforts to alert the overall population of the impending crisis. At first, such groups as Common Cause, Save the Earth Committee, Earth Day Committee, were considered "crackpots"—fanatics. Now, with swelling air and water pollution, the Federal government has seen fit to establish special departments to rectify conditions already out of control.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR rather than the Federal government has been the protagonist for such needed reforms. Perhaps it is time to stop and consider whether our government is of the people, for the people, and by the people, or if it is of the dollar, by the dollar, and for the dollar.

Whenever the Federal budget comes up for consideration, the first areas cut, it seems, are Health, Education and Welfare. Apparently, "the powers that be" have decided

that services to be provided for the people can be sacrificed for the maintenance of something they like to refer to as "national security." Granted, both are important; however, priorities need to be reviewed. Those who have worked all their lives to enable this nation to grow are the "forgotten minority;" the elderly of this country.

IT APPEARS SLABS of cement, steel girders, and asphalt have priority over the blood, sweat, and tears of generations of hard working men and women. They have been cast aside like molded bread to waste away in nursing homes and dingy, decrepit buildings. True some children make efforts to help their parents; true, the government offers subsistent support via medicare and social security; fact, ends just do not meet.

More money is not all that is desperately needed; efficient management and an overall housecleaning are also among the needed remedies. A streamlining—not a study committee—of the bureaucratic "chain of command" within the Department of Social Security would be the first step toward efficiency. Not only is there a need for better management, an ailment of all bureaucracy, but an improvement of attitude.

— JOURNAL AND GUIDE!

It's Time To Face The Problem



NEWS OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

By Alan L. LaBar, President, National Association of Insurance Agents

HIGHWAY FIGURES BAD—HOPE SEEN FOR FUTURE

A 28 year old managed to compile a driving record in 10 years which included convictions for hit and run, reckless driving, driving while license was suspended, speeding, jumping traffic signs, and several other violations. He was also involved in seven accidents.

A 40 year old from the same state put together a record in 19 years of driving including four convictions for driving while intoxicated, six for reckless driving, and \$1 for driving after license suspension or revocation. He had two accidents involving bodily injury.

These two drivers are no longer on the roads. Virginia saw to that under provisions of its Habitual Offender Law. However, these are only two, representing a group of heedless or arrogant drivers who may number as many as five million across the United States.

Last year, Americans established records for deaths, injuries, accidents and economic loss by the way they drove. The actual statistics are: 56,500 dead, 5,100,000 injured, 23.5 million accidents and \$19.1 billion lost to our economy.

Partly due to the record carnage, 18 state legislatures are considering adoption of Habitual Offender laws this year. These, as in the 15 states which previously passed them, are being sponsored or actively supported by state associations affiliated with the National Association of Insurance Agents.

Similar to the strong measures taken in Virginia, the new habitual offender laws are aimed at that group of people who cannot or will not drive intelligently. They are intended as a step toward protecting the rights of 110,000,000 conscientious drivers to use our highways in safety.

- Congressman
- Hawkins'
- Column

By REP. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS

The Abandoned Poor

The President's proposed budget is a clear indication of the Administration's abdication of human responsibility. While problem solving has not been one of the virtues of the Administration, the obvious attempt to abandon its responsibility toward millions of citizens, old, infirm, disadvantaged and minorities, is now "perfectly clear" through the proposed budget.

The efforts to scrap social programs—manpower training, education, day care—under the guise of reducing the role of the government in the economy while at the same time imposing controls on the wages of working people, allowing prices and profits to rise and even promoting guaranteed loans to large corporations is inconsistent by all prudent standards.

WHILE SOCIAL PROGRAMS are among the hardest hit, the Administration is attempting to shift its responsibility by "giving the states and localities more power through several revenue sharing plans." The fate of the Community Action Programs would be left entirely up to the local and state governments. The probability of local governments to finance them is highly unlikely. Subsequently, more than 15,000,000 of the nation's disadvantaged would be affected.

A Revenue Sharing plan would replace community development programs such as Model Cities and Urban Renewal and permit local governments and decision to select which programs to pursue.

THE PROPOSED BUDGET offers a special Education Revenue Sharing plan which would be allocated for five specific areas to cover disadvantaged children, handicapped children, vocational and adult education, impact aid and support services. The dollar volume would be the same as the 33 individual programs it would replace. The ERS money could be shifted from one area to another. It can be assumed that with state and local officials determining the priorities many of the disadvantaged (and minorities) would have considerably less money allocated for their programs.

The philosophy behind revenue sharing is that local governments are more knowledgeable about and are more responsive to the needs of their residents. It was the result of this kind of philosophy that created the need for the War on Poverty. To think that local government in today's political climate would look favorably upon community action programs, would be stretching the imagination.

THE BUDGET IS QUITE GENEROUS in the area of defense. With the cessation of hostilities in South East Asia, it would appear that reductions would be in order for the Pentagon. Instead there are increases.

It is quite apparent that the President's unwarranted attempt at abolition of anti-poverty, manpower education and health programs under the guise of fighting inflation and preventing a tax increase, is without a doubt a political farce.

THUS, IT APPEARS that in abandoning its responsibility to the millions of disadvantaged by shifting it through the "carrot" of revenue sharing to the states, the Administration has once again eluded the greater responsibility of problem solving.

Things You Should Know

William S. B. BRAITHWAITE

BORN IN BOSTON, MASS., IN 1878,

HE LEFT SCHOOL AT THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER,

TO HELP SUPPORT HIS MOTHER / HE WAS COMPLETELY SELF-EDUCATED, YET BECAME LITERARY CRITIC IN THE BOSTON TRANSCRIPT /

A RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY ON LITERATURE —

AND POETRY — HE AUTHORED MANY WIDELY-

READ BOOKS AND ARTICLES ON THE SUBJECTS /

HIS OWN POEMS, PUBLISHED AND SOLD ON

A NATION-WIDE SCALE, WON CONSIDERABLE

ACCLAIM /



TO BE EQUAL

By VERNON JORDAN

Executive Director, National Urban League

Great American Game

Major league baseball has returned to the playing fields for another season and not one team will be without a black player. The front office, however, is another matter. Twenty-six years after the late Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier, baseball has still to see its first black major league manager.

I cannot believe that in this period of time there have not been any blacks within the sports who possessed managerial capabilities. The reasons for their absence must therefore lie in other directions. I suspect that at least part of the explanation is to be found in the way the sports establishment has traditionally seen the black athlete, not so much a man, as a machine.

Not too many years ago, the highest accolade that could be paid black athlete by white fans and sportswriters was that "he is a credit to this race." This meant essentially that the athlete was good at what he did, he did not concern himself with social issues, and if he had any human weaknesses, he at least had the good sense not to display them too often in public.

WE DON'T HEAR MUCH OF this anymore, but there is still a reluctance to accept the black athlete on any intellectual basis. Thinking athletes are in a sense, dangerous. They can't be pushed too far, they are liable to question the decisions reached by management, and of course, they may decide that there is more to life than playing games. This upsets some people who think athletes should be the strong, silent type.

For several years after Robinson put on a Dodgers' uniform, he was under orders to keep quiet on and off the field. Later when the tensions had eased to some degree, the restrictions were removed and Jackie was able to reveal his true competitive and aggressive nature. Some baseball followers never forgave him for that. It was one thing for Robinson to steal a base, but it was quite another for him to vocally insist on the right to act just the same as any other ball player.

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF HIS career when he was still Cassius Clay and projected the image of a brash, bold, overgrown youth, white fans had an amused tolerance for the Louisville fighter. When he changed his name to Muhammad Ali, announced his conversion as a Muslim, and refused to submit to the draft, he was swiftly stripped of his title and thrown out of boxing as an undesirable.

Given boxing's reputation for conniving, cheating and dishonesty, there was a strong odor of hypocrisy about the treatment meted out to Ali in the name of morality and patriotism. One has to wonder whether it would have been the same had he been white, or not so outspoken.

SOME SPORTS FANS CLING to the belief that an athlete, and particularly a black athlete, owes his sport and-or his team a special kind of blind loyalty that requires him to submerge his own personality and beliefs for the "good of the game."

Increasingly, black athletes are saying they are no longer willing to do this. On the college campuses they are striking out against what they consider prejudiced coaches and athletic departments. Curt Flood challenges the right of one team to sell him to another like a piece of furniture and then walks away from a lucrative contract because all the fun has gone out of the game. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar insists on his right to be a private individual, whether the fans or press like it or not.

THESE ARE HEALTHY SIGNS of a coming-to-maturity of black athletes. By not being willing to accept things as they are, just because they are, black sports figures can help end the discrimination that still exists in sports. The plain fact is that as long as they are silent, things will remain as they are.

As to a black manager in baseball, I think the move is long over-due. I recall the many expressions of sorrow that came from the baseball world when Jackie Robinson died last year. I recall too that in his last public appearance he spoke of his wish for a black manager in the game he served so well.

To see Robinson's dream come true this season, just might justify describing baseball as truly the Great American Game.

In Our Time

BLACK SOLDIERS HAVE SERVED WITH THE U.S. ARMY SINCE THE CIVIL WAR. THE 9TH AND 10TH CAVALRY UNITS, "BUFFALO TROOPS," SERVED IN THE FAR WEST WITH HONOR DURING THE 1860'S. THE MEN PROTECTED WAGON TRAINS, SMALL RANCHES AND ISOLATED TOWNS FROM ATTACK.

A SPECIAL HISTORICAL BLACK SOLDIER MUSEUM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT FORT CARSON, COLORADO, COMMEMORATING THESE EVENTS.

TODAY THERE ARE NINE BLACK GENERALS IN THE ARMY, SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN NATIONS. THE LATEST BLACK OFFICER ELEVATED TO BRIGADIER GENERAL IS ARTHUR F. GRESS, ARMY STAFF OFFICER.

IN 1887, HENRY O. FLIPPER BECAME THE FIRST BLACK OFFICER TO GRADUATE FROM WEST POINT MILITARY ACADEMY.

THERE ARE 141 BLACK CADETS IN THE STUDENT CORPS AT WEST POINT.



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