

Editorials

The Challenge In Boston Is Beyond Busing Issue

President Ford's statement last week on busing shocked a great many people and rightly so. At his news conference President Ford said that a court-ordered busing plan was not the best solution for the

however, say what the best solution should be!

We can understand Mayor Kevin White of Boston who has accused the President of giving aid and comfort to those in Boston who are exploiting the situation there. The President will do much better to lend the prestige of his great office to all the people of Boston by showing that he is not supporting one section and ignoring the other section. Mr. Ford is no more the congress man from Michigan. He is the President of the United States. What he does and what he says as the President are looked upon by many as the thinking of the Government.

What the people of Boston need is a time to cool their tempers. The President will be more helpful to them by telling them that enough is enough rather than by making statements that may be construed by many as an encouragement to defy the law.

It has long been a thing of the past in the Southern States for politicians to fan racial hatred for some political gains. It is hoped that those in the North may copy these Southern examples and put them to useful practice. Cheap popularity has a way of backfiring and true leadership is measured not by shortsighted gains but by one's ability to see beyond the present. Such leaders are like the writing on the tombstone that withstand the weathers. The actions of a statesman live to be remembered at all times with respect.

We do not know why the President choose to make his statement at this time. What we do know is that he can help the people of Boston and Mayor White in many other ways than by saying that he does not agree with the court-ordered busing. Some in Boston may interpret his statement to mean that they are justified in not obeying the law of the land.

Hammerin' Hank Refuses To Be Figurehead

Hank Aaron's continued refusal to be a figurehead in baseball's corporate management should be cheered by every black American. Too often "token" blacks are hired in well-paying positions to fill a government quota... and it is about time that qualified blacks start refusing to be hired for nothing.

Many times we are overly demanding of a black, especially in government, who holds a high position (and rightly so). However, sometimes that person may not be a part of the decision-making process (which so often happens) and, consequently, he is seen as something other than black.

It is abhorring to see someone with the talent to achieve treading water in a position that is non-functional. We all have to eat you might say. But if once we assume a position and we do not assess its role and function, then we are committing an offense not only against ourselves but against the black race.

Every chance Aaron gets to make his position known, he does so. He knows that an inside corporate "desk" job will mean absolutely nothing. Hank Aaron has a knowledge of baseball that can best be served in some other position outside the "office"

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"BOSS, I GOT A SACK OF CHICKENS FOR YER, A DOZEN GOATS, AN' TWO DOZEN COWS!"

To Be Equal

by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

National Director of Urban League

Watching television film footage of anti-busing riots in South Boston was like taking a giant step backward into the past. The old familiar images of New Orleans mothers spitting at black children entering desegregated schools, and of rock-throwing mobs in Little Rock and other Deep South towns in the 1950s and 60s float up from the memory.

Boston's anti-busers have their apologists who spout forth all the old arguments about neighborhood unity, school safety and "unfair burdens of desegregation" but the plain truth is that, whatever their excuses, the opposition to busing is founded on racism.

South Boston was festooned with "Nigger, Go Home" signs and buses bearing black children on their way to their new, desegregated schools were attacked by stone-throwing adults who made no attempt to cover up their hatred for black people.

If blacks had engaged in some of the practices seen in Boston, they would have been labelled "rioters," but instead, we just hear about "protesters" or "demonstrators." But violent attacks on black children entering the all-white neighborhood under the guard of hundreds of policemen make it plain that this is a white riot designed to overthrow the rule of law and the decisions of the courts.

Northerners ought to wake up to the fact that there is no difference between the U.S. Army enforcing desegregation decisions in Little Rock and the Boston police enforcing similar decisions in South Boston. Both steps were made necessary by violent racism that strives to maintain white supremacy. The South's historic race-baiting has moved North, with vengeance.

The riots have also stripped away the double-talk about busing - the elaborate excuses and rationalizations designed to convince people that racism is

not a factor in opposition to busing.

The rock-thrower in South Boston is out there in the streets because there has been a failure of national leadership over the years to stand up for integrated schools and to help win acceptance of the constitutional rights of all children to an integrated education.

Former President Nixon, instead of supporting the courts went on an anti-busing rampage that stirred up violent emotions such as those seen in Boston. The Congress went along too, recently passing an education bill that includes some anti-busing provisions.

And the Supreme Court, which produced a long line of decisions declaring segregated schools unconstitutional and supporting busing as a means of integration, joined the crowd this summer with a ruling that bars busing between predominantly black urban school districts and white suburban districts.

That decision, a narrow 5-4 ruling, did two things. First, it closed off any hope of integrated education for millions of children in center cities and suburbs alike. Second, it provided fuel for the anti-busing crowd in that it gave white urban residents the argument "Why should we have to integrate our schools when the rich people in the suburbs don't have to?"

The Court, in erecting barriers to suburban integrated schools, encourages further white flight from the cities and deepens the antagonism of moderate income whites still in the cities. The rage the poor whites of South Boston and similar places feel towards a system that leaves them relatively poor and insecure is turned onto black people, who serve as scapegoats. Instead of working together with black people to make the schools better and the society more just, there people lose themselves in a self-defeating frenzy of racism.

Letters to the Editor

Sir,
It is fascinating and thrilling to tell you how much I am enjoying the Chronicle. I was born in the Twin-City and I am always pleased for any advancement there.

I know you must be proud to see the Chronicle take roots. A very close friend subscribed to it for me.

May the Chronicle grow and grow beyond your expectations in the community.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Annie Lewis Bond

Dear Sir:

4-H is for any boy or girl 8-19 years of age. There is a wide variety of 4-H programs, projects, and activities available in Forsyth County for urban, suburban and rural youth. We stand ready to make these opportunities available to the youth by assisting interested persons in the formation of clubs and special interest groups.

Our office is located in the Agricultural Building, 1450 Fairchild Drive, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27105 and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If we can be of further assistance, please call us at 767-8213.

Sincerely yours,
(Mrs.) Helen H. Prince
Assoc. Ext. Agent, 4-H

Sir:
How proud and happy we all are for you! Dr. James routed the Chronicle over for us to see and we had a general celebration.

Come over and see us when you have time.

Congratulations and best of luck on your new venture. Enclosed is a check for \$8.00 for a subscription.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Emily S. Rothrock
Counselor