

**THE SYLVA HERALD**  
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FEATURES  
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**The Negro: North and South**

(Davis Lee, Negro publisher, in The Newark, N. J., Telegram, a weekly Negro Newspaper)

I have just returned from an extensive tour of the South meeting both Negroes and whites in the urban and rural centers.

Because of these personal observations, studies and contacts, I feel that I can speak with some degree of authority. I am certainly in a better position to voice an opinion than the Negro leader who occupies a suite in downtown New York and bases his opinion on the South from the distorted stories he reads in the Negro press and Daily Worker.

The racial lines in the South are so clearly drawn and defined there can be no confusion. When I am in Virginia or South Carolina I don't wonder if I will be served if I walk into a white restaurant. I know the score. However, I have walked into several in New Jersey where we have a civil rights law, and have been refused service.

The whites in the South stay with their own and the Negroes do likewise. This one fact has been the economic salvation of the Negro in the South. Atlanta compares favorably with Newark in size and population. Negroes there own and control millions of dollars worth of business. All the Negro business in New Jersey will not amount to as much as our race has in one city in Georgia. This is also true in South Carolina and Virginia.

New Jersey today boasts of more civil rights legislation than any

other state in the union, and state government itself practices more discrimination than Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia. New Jersey employs on Negro in the motor vehicle department. All of the states above mentioned employ plenty.

No matter what a Negro wants to do, he can do it in the South. In Spartanburg, S. C., Ernest Collins, a young Negro, operates a large funeral home, a taxicab business, a filling station, grocery store, has several buses, runs a large farm and a night club.

Collins couldn't do all that in New Jersey or New York. The only bus lines operated by Negroes are in the South. The Safe Bus Co. in Winston-Salem, N. C., owns and operates over a hundred.

Negroes and whites get along much better together in the South than Northern agitators would have you believe. Of course I know that there are some sore spots down there, and we have them up here also. But it is not as bad as it is painted. The trouble in the South stems from dumb, ignorant whites and Negroes, not from the intelligent, better class element of the two races.

The attitude of the Southerners toward our race is natural psychological reaction and aftermath of the War Between the States. Negroes were the properties of these people. They were not the peers and were not even considered human in the true sense. The whole economy of the South was built

**N. C. CAN EXPECT LESS POLIO NEXT 15 YEARS**

"North Carolina probably will have a 5-to-15-year period of grace after the present emergency as far as another polio epidemic is concerned, according to Dr. Robert B. Lawson, associate professor of pediatrics at Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

Dr. Lawson said today that after an epidemic has run its course, it takes from 5 to 15 years to build up a new crop of children and per-

sons who will be susceptible to the disease.

He added that every day somebody calls in a suggestion concerning a source of the disease. In making suggestions, he said, people cite one reason why a certain condition might cause polio without recognizing a great many other reasons why it could not. The public still is not aware of how much the medical profession knows about poliomyelitis, Dr. Lawson declared. "We have known the cause of the disease for 25 years, and have amassed a great many facts through research."

He added that, since 1915, the States showing the greatest incidence are Connecticut, Massachusetts, California, Minnesota, Montana, and Vermont.

During the epidemic year of 1944, when North Carolina had a large number of cases, Virginia is reported as having had a still larger number. A listing of the two leading polio areas—starting with 1944 shows: 1944—New York and Delaware; 1945—Utah and New Jersey; 1946—Minnesota and North Dakota; 1947—Idaho and Delaware. North Carolina and Texas will lead this year's list of offenders, present figures indicate. The statistics indicate that the disease strikes simultaneously at areas which are far apart.

"The disease," Dr. Lawson asserted, "will hit every State sooner or later."

The South, he added, has been relatively free of the disease in comparison with the rest of the country.

around slavery. Certainly you couldn't expect the South to forget this in 75 or even 150 years. That feeling has passed from one generation to another, but it is not one of hatred for the Negro. The South just doesn't believe that the Negro has grown up. No section of the country has made more progress in finding a workable solution to the Negro problem than the South. The entire race problem in America is wrong. Our approach is wrong. We expend all our energies and spend millions of dollars trying to convince white people that we are as good as they are, that we are an equal. Joe Louis is not looked upon as a Negro but the greatest fighter of all times, loved and admired by whites in South Carolina as much as those in Michigan. He convinced the world, not by propaganda, but by demonstration.

Our fight for recognition, justice, civil rights and equality, should be carried on within the race. Let us demonstrate to the world by our living standards, our conduct, our ability and intelligence that we are the equal of any man, and when we shall have done this the entire world, including the South, will accept us on our terms. Our present program of threats and agitation makes enemies out of our friends.

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