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A SOLID SOUTH ONCE MORE

Elesewhere in this issue are two reprints of articles which appeared last month in a Richmond newspaper and a Washington, D. C., paper, concerning certain activities of President Hoover.

It was a coincidence that these articles were turned in to The Herald by two different people, neither knowing the other's action. It was also a coincidence that one of the President's actions (his speech on racial equality) was mentioned in the other article. We reprint both wthout comment in the news columns.

But we plan to comment here and now We cannot say our estimate of the President has been increased by his words and actions in these two recent episodes. And it must be remembered that Mr. Hoover now assumes a dual personality: as President he commands and should receive all the respect which that high office deserves; as Candidate, he must and will be held accountable for every act, deed and thought, be they official or private.

And it is as a Candidate that we indict his actions in these two counts.

His speech at Howard University, Negro college, was a typical, vote-getting, smooth, high-sounding and hollow Hooverism. It recalls his 1928 campaign speeches of "prosperity" "two chickens in every pot," "noble experiment," "universal harmony" and "Republican leadership."

Mr. Hoover tells the Negro graduates they deserve "an equal opportunity to share in the full measure of citizenship with their brethern of other races." And he further says they have "the natural right" to the same privileges and rights as enjoyed by any other citizen of the republic.

Theoretically, Mr. Hoover is as right as can be. He trod on safe ground in making such broad statements. With millions of Negro voters (mostly Republican) in the North and East, he was making a cracking good political bid for their votes.

But as a matter of practice, Mr. Hoover was all wrong and he knows it. No need for any Southerner to go into a discussion of that phase of the question. As a matter of fact, we get along with the colored people a lot better than the Northerners do and they like us better.

We wonder, if as those high-sounding phrases dropped from his lips, Mr. Hoover could visualize the millions of Chinese coolies who slave in the Far East and on whose backs he and his associates rose to wealth and power, when as an engineer he worked them in droves under the boiling sun for a dish of rice a day. Whatever Mr. Hoover said about the Negro should apply also to the Chinese coolie.

His address at Howard University will not please any Southerner and it should not please many colored people, when they realize it was not from the heart but was simply a bid for votes.

However, we could forgive him for that speech and overlook it as "politics" if it were not for the action of the President on the very next week, when that brave little band of Confederate veterans went from their regular meeting place at Richmond all the way to Washington "to parade for the President," perhaps to shake his hand.

They were ready to forget the past; he represented the highest office of the land they had always loved; and they braved the mid-summer heat in order to pay homage to the Flag and the chief executive of an united people.

Read the complete account of that in another portion of this issue Picture the chagrin and disappointment of these old warriors when they found their parade would not be witnessed by the President; that he did not even show them the courtesy of letting them walk to the White House and shake hands with him; but instead he slipped away to Rapidan and left a few henchmen to do honors.

"Too busy," said his YesMen. Too busy with one lone appointment on his books for the entire day? Too busy, when he could drift down to his private camp and talk politics with his strategists? Too busy to show honor, respect and due

THE WORST SPOT ON THE ROAD

By Albert T. Reid



consideration to old age? Too busy to have the common decency to reciprocate when these old men had come particularly to see him and he had been give ample notice of their intentions?

Mr. President, you were not too busy the week before to go before the graduates of a Negro school and tell them about their equal rights and privileges.

It is plain to see the Republicans have given up all hope of carrying a single Southern State in November.

They know they cannot repeat the 1928 debacle. We Southerners have grown up since then.

Therefore, one week last month, Mr. Hoover flaunts the South in the face with his "equal rights" speech and then completes the gesture by a cold and deliberate display of selfishness and inconsiderateness toward the last of our beloved Confederate veterans.

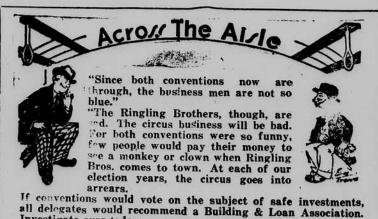
Go back to your sunny Southland homes, you wearers of the Gray. Just for a little while.

For when a few moons have waxed and waned, there vill be another in the big White House: a great and good nan, whose kindly eyes have looked into the face of death, lso, and who can smile the smile of victory; a Democrat, n all the word implies, who will welcome you with outstretched arms and who can talk your language.

This man knows our problems of the South for is not Georgia his second home? He loves the South, for did it not bring him back from the brink of death well and strong again?

Just a little longer, Men of the Confederacy, and you will be welcomed by your new President, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Just because you don't like one man on the team is no eason for you to root against your home town team; like-vise, minor disagreements should never make us forget loyalty first to our home town.



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