

THE GOVERNOR AT DURHAM

Governor Gregg Cherry did some pretty straight talking in his speech before the Conference on Race Relations at North Carolina College in Durham last week. According to an Associated Press dispatch the chief executive of North Carolina said that if North Carolina is to maintain its leadership among the southern states it must guarantee its Negro citizens equality of educational, economic and political opportunity.

It is encouraging to hear the Governor say that. Sometimes our leaders give us no little reason to believe that they think North Carolina has already reached perfection in the matter of racial justice, because the state is obviously so far ahead of many others in this respect. It is good to know that the head of the government, though justly proud of North Carolina's reputation, does not share the illusion that nothing is left to be done.

There are places in this state, and not too far from the capital, where well qualified Negroes find it difficult or impossible to register to vote. There are still many. The lag in vocational and economic opportunity is still tremendous. It can be seen, a great deal of it, without leaving the state capital and office buildings.

Governor Cherry showed that he shares with a growing number of southern states men and thinkers the knowledge that the welfare of the South or any state or community in it cannot be soundly planned for while ignoring the important and a rightful part of the Negro citizenry in it.

The Governor sounded a note of warning that Negroes might well heed, when he said in effect that equality means rivalry. No Negro individual can ask for equality and at the same time expect to hold to special concessions or privileges. Neither can the Negro race.

"The time will come soon," he said, "when a colored man need not expect to get a job, or his race a percentage of jobs, on the basis of color, but each individual will seek a job on the basis of skill and efficiency as a person."

Ideally, what the Governor predicts is what we are supposed to want. What we must look out for is to be ready for it when it comes. Our level of preparedness and efficiency must be such that we can

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On the other hand it is only just that before "Negro jobs" and special standards be eliminated, every door of vocational opportunity be opened impartially to all, and every opportunity for preparation, without exception, be equally available to Negroes as to whites. That day appears to be a long way off yet, and until such time as it approaches, Negroes have every right to try to hang on to whatever privileges and prerogatives they have, in the way of job opportunities. And they are going to find it necessary to be pretty watchful in the post-war period, to see that the era of free rivalry does not come ahead of the era of equal opportunity.

MORAL VICTORY

The moral victory represented in the final passage of legislation by both houses of Congress providing for the continuation of the war-time FEPC is greater even than the immediate concrete benefits which will proceed from the extension of the life of the agency for another year.

As a matter of fact, in one sense, it may be expected that the FEPC will be

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have to work on half the budget it asked for. But this handicap will be greatly compensated for by the prestige it won by getting through Congress after all hope seemed gone; after its sworn enemies had apparently scored a complete victory, by using every parliamentary artifice, from mulish obstinacy to a maze of trickery so intricate that even the tricksters were themselves mystified.

The nub of the moral victory lies in the fact that for once the forces of justice and fair play did not back down before the threats and wiles of the perennial Negro-baiters and anti-intermarriage shouters. They stuck it out. They met determination with determination, parliamentary maneuver with parliamentary maneuver, endurance with endurance, strategy with strategy. For once an issue intimately involving the Negro was not dominated and finally determined by a small minority of men whose primary stock-in-trade is contempt of the Negro's rights and welfare, and opposition to his progress through governmental action designed to bring him closer to equality of citizenship.

It is probably true, as its opponents charged, that some of the supporters of the FEPC, Republican and northern Democrat, had their eye on the future Negro vote. There were undoubtedly some in this category who were not anxious to have the measure come to a vote on the floor, hoping to be saved the necessity of going on record either for or against. But how about the opponents? Most of them could take a pose of disinterestedness and condemn their fellows, because they themselves are protected by disfranchisement of Negroes, and by the sentiments of most of their voting constituency.

As a matter of plain fact, however, most of those who fought through for the FEPC were conscientiously in favor of it. They felt, like Senator Truman, that to eliminate the FEPC as a war measure with the war still on would be "unthinkable." They felt that America could not consistently take the lead in championing world justice and the principles of the Four Freedoms while its own legislature repudiated at home the barest fundamentals of equality of opportunity for work, even in the production of materials to carry to a successful conclusion a war for freedom and justice.

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Four Freedoms while its own legislature repudiated at home the barest fundamentals of equality of opportunity for work, even in the production of materials to carry to a successful conclusion a war for freedom and justice.

The record shows that some of the champions of fair play were not as much concerned with the particular issue at hand as they were with parliamentary honesty. They wanted the issue settled by the honest and orderly process of a vote, rather than by capitulation to the snide tricks of mountebanks and professional white supremacy tub-thumpers afraid to have the issue settled solely on its merits. Men like Democratic Senator Chavez, of New Mexico, who has only a comparative handful of Negroes in his constituency, have served notice on the Confederate delegates in Congress that they are no longer willing to turn over every question arising in Congress involving the Negro to be settled according to the dictates of men like Bilbo and Rankin.

CRACKING DOWN

The new team of Judge Smith and Prosecutor Lloyd in Municipal Court has started off with a bang. Lawbreakers of both races and both sexes have had it brought forcibly to their attention in the past few days that penalties will be applied more or less according to the books. More specifically, the Court appears to intend to "crack down" on violators of the conditions of suspended sentence.

It is certainly in the interests of the community, however it may operate to the apparent disadvantage of the law violator, that the suspended sentence be properly administered. Otherwise it becomes like the warning of an indulgent parent to a child: "The next time, you won't get off so easy." Only he does.

Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

Refutations of Senator Eastland's base and baseless charges against Negro soldiers have come in abundance, and the Senator remains strangely silent. Assistant Secretary of War Patterson has made it pretty plain that the generals who were so unanimous in giving a bad name to our overseas troops before Senator Eastland are mythical. The stories of mass rape have been shown to have been made of whole cloth. Senator Eastland, if he has any sensibilities at all, must feel pretty badly.

Especially bad for his reputation and prestige was the public announcement, so soon after his harangue, of the award of another Distinguished Service Cross to a Negro soldier, an officer at that. According to the citation, Lieutenant Vernon J. Baker, an officer of the much-discussed 8888 Central Postal Directory, 2nd Division, on April 5 knocked out singlehanded three enemy machine gun nests, and killed or wounded 20 Germans. We know as well as Senator Eastland that

one swallow does not make a summer, nor any example a case; but we also know, as probably does the Senator, that the instance of Lieutenant Baker is not an isolated one. Two other Negroes have received the Distinguished Service Cross. Numbers have received the Distinguished Flying Cross, although Negroes were represented in the flying service by only one fighter group. From the very day of the Pearl Harbor attack, Negroes have distinguished themselves, in spite of the fact that their services have been so overwhelmingly in the non-combat arms of the forces.

The 24th Infantry received special praise from the Inspector General for its fine work in the Pacific Islands, and other units have received Presidential citations. The testimony of the high ranking officers of our army, both as to the efficiency and bravery of Negro service and combat troops, has been all but uniformly laudatory.

None of this stack of evidence is needed to refute Senator Eastland. He stands condemned by his own act, however, of something more serious than error. He reveals the depth to which race hatred can carry a man, even one charged with the responsibilities of high office. Hatred can destroy every vestige of honor and sense of fairness.

It was thus that Hitler and his lieutenants began their campaign against the Jews in his book, "Mein Kampf." Hitler revealed the philosophy which lies behind such acts. When a man reaches the conclusion, because of hatred, that the end justifies the means, there is no telling where he will stop in his efforts to vilify and discredit the group to which he has dedicated his implacable enmity.

Senator Eastland has given us a warning of what we must be alert for during the difficult days of post-war readjustment, when racial tension may become even more severe.

Lest We Forget... By W. L. GREENE

Listening in on a group of experts discussing the role of the church in "race" relations as related to earning a living brings up many timely reminders. We heard a prominent churchman, a bishop with high office in the inter-racial organization, speak at length on the subject and never challenge anything that has become an evil stereotype in church attitudes toward the colored communicant. In his last sentence he mentioned, as a platitude, an integrated society which he did not advocate in any way in his argument. We heard a pastor of a small congregation bear witness that the church was at the "tail end" of attempting to do something real to remedy the "racial troubles" of our economic order. A liberal leader of Southern Churchmen pleaded for positive action

by church leaders to remake attitudes in the church and pioneer for real Christian approach to solution to our social problems. A pastor of a large congregation reminded us that preachers who did not preach the whole gospel should quit preaching; that preachers of the whole gospel sometimes went in jail; and that somehow our preachers are not going to jail. He spoke of a wish that churches might foster cooperatives to improve the living standards of the membership. This listening in revealed two opposite extremes of conservatism and courageous, positive Christianity. An extreme conservative said, in platitude, that the church will have to get more of the spirit of Christ to change our unsatisfactory attitudes in the field of "race" relations. A law-

yer and scholar pointed out that there is no "natural" prejudice but a learned attitude; that it was not to destroy the Jews in his book, "Mein Kampf." Hitler revealed the philosophy which lies behind such acts. When a man reaches the conclusion, because of hatred, that the end justifies the means, there is no telling where he will stop in his efforts to vilify and discredit the group to which he has dedicated his implacable enmity.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: Abraham Practice of Brotherhood. Gen. 13:15. Printed text: Gen. 13:11-12.

Key Verse: Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee: for we be brethren. Gen. 13:8.

At a time when tribal warfare was an ever increasing threat to unity and brotherhood, near the wicked city of Sodom, about 1850 B. C., we find the principle of brotherhood illustrated in the acts of Abraham.

ABRAHAM AND LOT - CONTRAST

Both, perhaps came up under the same influences, one the uncle and the other the nephew. They grew up together - one generous and the other selfish. One let things - money, possessions, material belongings bring out the high and noble traits of character in him and the other let the gain of worldly things lead him into more trouble. As a result of the strife, because the pasture for the grazing of their cattle became competitive between the servants, Abraham, who, by all customs and rights had the power, yielded the terms and gave Lot the power. This act

stamps Abraham as a man of God with a Christ-like spirit centuries before Christ came.

There are two views to consider in making a decision. A short view - the immediate results and possibilities and the long view - the ultimate results and lasting benefits. Lot chose the short view in making his decision. Abraham made the wise choice or low view in making his. There is wrapped up in one's decision a fate which determines his destiny. During these war years many have made

choices of a partner for life which were looking to the immediate returns either financially or for beauty, which already are proving disastrous. Then there is a choice one makes for his life's work. Some decide because it looks promising without taking into consideration the sacrifice and cost - ere long he gives up in despair. Another choice which all of us are forced to make is that of choosing our friends. Their influence may be a deciding factor in the shaping of our lives. Then the greatest of all choices is that of decidedly for or against Christ.

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Why Do We Have Sin?

By J. WESLEY COPELAND

We mean by this question who was it that brought sin into the world? Who is it now that keeps a large number of our people religiously corrupted and on the side of the devil?

In answering this question at first we would say that Adam was the guilty man because he bit the forbidden fruit and brought death into the world. We also remember that Eve was tempted by the serpent, and Adam was tempted by Eve.

That is a brief idea for the beginning, now let us look at the present and the things about us. Who do we find today that is causing sin and immorality to flourish? These are the individuals who are operating gambling houses, sporting houses. These are the individuals who are selling and encouraging the consumption of alcoholic beverages. These persons poison or help to poison the minds of our people. This is the group that is working for the serpent that is spoken of in Genesis, 3:1-3. Man has the power and the mental capacity to choose Heaven or Hell for his eternal home. This power places him above the minds of our people. God created man with the image of our Father, Genesis 1:27, and placed above the lower animals, Genesis 1:26. We remember that Paul said "We all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. The people must realize the need for forgiveness and the power of prayer. Because we have an evil spirit on earth. There will always be someone who is leading the people down the road of sin.

The Mountains Of The Heart

By RUTH TAYLOR

Every heart has its own mountains to cross.

Several years ago on my way back from the West Coast, I stopped off in Colorado and one never-to-be-forgotten day I drove out to visit a few of the editors of the small town papers. One place I stopped, was just a little street town nestled into the heart of the mountains. I stood with the editor at the front door of his office and looked around at the mountains circling the town. It was sheer, undulating beauty and I said enviously, "How fortunate are you who live here!" He smiled a soul-weary smile and said, "I know what you mean - but our hearts are always striving to cross the mountains."

Every heart has its own mountains to cross. No matter where we live, we feel that happiness lies on the other side of the mountains. We forget that they in turn condemn us for not realizing how fair our own pathways are. Intolerance preys on both sides of the mountain, whether it be a physical one or a mountain built of our own prejudices and ignorance. Mountains are too often but misunderstandings. They look impassable to those who only see them from afar. But those who live among them know that there is always a way through.

The trials of understanding are not easy. No trial that leads upward is ever an easy road at the start. Carved out of the living rock by the explorer, made by his sufferings and hardships, it requires the footsteps of many to make it smooth. No road can ever be made alone.

But the reward of effort is great. When one reaches the summit and sees both sides of the mountains - then is the way made clear. Then (as the Bible says) "The spirit of the man and the justice of the cause. This is brought out in his happy experience with Welch-Zedek (Gen. 14:18-24). As we face the dangerous scenes of life in pursuit of right and justice, God reveals Himself each step of the way for our encouragement. Abraham had the faith of regeneration (Rom. 4:7) that faith renewed into perfection by use and obedience when he gave up Isaac (Gen. 22:2). Certainly he could practice brotherhood because he had a living moving and growing faith. Rom. 4:12.

Abraham made a wise choice. How about yours?

FAITH TO FOLLOW THROUGH

It is not enough to be generous; to make a wise choice. Character, ability, faith and implicit trust in God are required to attain the goal. Abraham could easily have said: "I tried to be brotherly, but you made the wrong choice now make the best of it I am through." He went to Lot's rescue. Many have wondered how Abraham could overcome Chedorloamer and the confederate Kings with such a small army, but it is not always the size of the Army that

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SPEAKING OF FOREIGNERS

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ALONG THE WAY

By C. L. BRYANT, JR.

AN ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT

Love inspires men to great achievement; without this magnetic influence the noblest acts of man would remain in the embryonic stage. There is no force which arouses, to a great degree, the desire to do one's best than love. For ages men have blindly sought to define this very much needed part of life. It is strange, however, that this period of enlightenment finds us with a somewhat distorted view of something vitally essential in the development of a well-rounded life. Can you conceive of what the world would be like without some evidences of love being manifested? Well, if you can, you'll believe that more could be achieved than any you have ever envisioned. Life upon this earth would be comparable to Hell, if expressions of love were not showered upon us at times.

Men search diligently for truths because of the burning desire to expand their scope of knowledge. Did you ever think of what was behind these desires? Their likes possess a deeper meaning and they are now guided by love. If we simply like to do a thing, the measure of our success is not as great as that caused by love. An indescribable satisfaction is the reward of all those who become, one hundred percent, a part of what they are striving to achieve. Let the love of doing your daily tasks open avenues of greater pleasure and more complete satisfaction.

The impulse to help some deserving soul is aroused and stimulated by love. We are much concerned about individual achievement in this life. The barrier of selfishness must be replaced by love before we actually see the need of sacrificing what we have with our brother. Good deeds spring from desires within to improve the lot of those less fortunate than we are for the moment. Love arouses an appreciation of human worth; it does not allow us to remain content because our needs are not of a pressing nature. Love worketh no ill towards anyone; it is false to say he killed because he loved. Love never incites one to murder or to entertain desires that would lead to such an act. We should not assign acts of a beastly nature to a virtue that binds inseparably members of the human family. The spirit of ingratitude never engulfs the soul whose sympathies have been greatly encouraged by the love of a friend. We are inspired to do our best because of love; we aspire to reach noble heights because of it.

Much wisdom abounds... what the poets have had to say of love. We might consider just here some precious thoughts relative to this important matter. The following verse contains much over, which is in quest of peace might ponder.

"O happy race of men, if love, which rules the Heaven, rule your minds."  
—Boethius, Consolations of Philosophy

Where love is the order of the day, goodwill flourishes. The seed of love must be planted before our planet becomes one of peace. Our fears and hates are driven into a state of futility by love.

What is life without love? Simply Hell, probably, adequately describes the state of mankind when love does not abide. A most vivid emphasis is given of the role of love in life here in the lines written by F. W. Bourdillon on Light—

"The night has a thousand eyes,  
And the day but one;  
Yet the light of the bright world dies  
With the dying sun.

The mind has a thousand eyes,  
And the heart but one;  
Yet the light of a whole life dies  
When love is done."

Could one find a thought more forceful and complete than the one just read? It is hard to believe that our search would reveal a truth more valid.

When love grips the mind mutual respect and appreciation characterize our actions. Love enables us to behold those noble and God-like qualities which lie just beneath the surface. The following expression gives most light relative to love.

"Two souls with but a single thought,  
Two hearts that beat as one."  
—Von Munch, Bellinghausen, Ingomar the Barbarian (Maria A. Lovell, trans.)

Love is as essential to life as fuel is to the operation of a locomotive. The world would hardly be a desire to continue this monstrous life if there was not radiated the spirit of love. Tennyson said in his, In Memoriam—

"'Tis better to have loved and lost  
Than never to have loved at all."  
May your life be merrier because you have seen the need of love. It was God's love for man which caused Him to give His Son for redemption. Strive to love and you'll be loved.

Some Observations

By GEORGE F. KING

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EXTENSION SERVICE EMANICIPATING RURAL LIFE IN THE SOUTH

Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, through the cooperation of the Southern states, is emancipating agricultural life in the South from provincial farming activities that have greatly impeded the progress of the South. The natural resources of this area of the country, because of the campaign of extension workers, will do much in making the South a potent factor in the economic progress of the Nation. Ignorance, poverty and allegiance to backward methods are the things that have made the South economic problem number one. The programs and objectives of extension workers, who are cooperating with forward movements for the wholesome development of the rural population, are doing much in removing this stigma which is reacting against the South.

In the South, the masses of the Negro population will be found in the agricultural areas. The past and present conditions of this rural group of people is well known to the average reader. Agencies working for the betterment of rural folk are doing some effective work by transforming the life of rural folk to the level of the philosophy of the late Dr. Booker T. Washington, and Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, father of the extension movement, have become a sustaining source for aspiring and achieving ruralists.

Because of this campaign of enlightenment, in many instances, especially in North Carolina, the wealth of the race and a life of real independence today is more abundant for the rural Negro than for the masses of urban and city Negroes. There are more small "captains of industry" among rural Negroes than among urban and city Negroes. Today rural Negroes in North Carolina are more inclined to cooperate for their economic security than city Negroes. The following recent news release is a concrete example of what Negro extension workers are doing for Negro ruralists in a cooperative way:

Negro farmers of the Friendship and Holly Springs sections of Wake County have pooled their resources to purchase farm machinery cooperatively for better farming practices. The equipment includes a tractor and attachments necessary to carry on better farming. C. N. McCullers and Ernest Booker of the Friendship and Holly Springs communities, respectively, are co-sponsors of the farm machinery co-op.

The co-op is an agreement with 19 community farmers and aggregating more than 381 acres of farm land to be serviced by the way of tilling and discing. Other attachments such as a mowing machine, hood-saw and stump puller to become a part of the outfit. About 50 members of the co-op, community and non-community farmers will be serviced by the sponsoring group.

According to W. C. Davenport, agricultural agent of the State College Extension Service, these farmers are experiencing their first co-op venture and at a time when there is a great need because of the farm labor shortage. The machinery busy at work and serving the needs of the respective communities. With the gradual release and locating of major farm equipment, other farm groups will benefit from such community services through co-op channels.

North Carolina is really going places because of such educational rural movements. Better homes, schools and rural economies are being exposed for Negroes in the rural areas of North Carolina, and rural Negroes are not being kept backward because of FEAR - as some people would have us to believe. Of course in some sections of the South the feudal system is keeping poor Negroes and whites in the status of dire want, but the time will come when large plantations will no longer be conducted to the detriment of the development and progress of the people who are enervated by the static plantations.

The NEW DEAL agencies that are now giving white and Negro rural folk a "main chance" for existence, in some areas in the South, have been attacked by an element of folk who have been waxing fat on the exploiting methods. Here in North Carolina such deplorable situations are passing from the scene. Therefore the day is at hand for the advancement of ruralists in this progressive state.