

EDITORIALS

THE COLUMBIA AFFAIR

Even a confirmed optimist must look upon the deplorable happenings in Columbia, Tennessee, last week with definite misgivings. About the most one can hope for is that the kind of thing that happened there is not the first in a series of such disgraces to the nation which sets itself up as a model of justice, freedom and fair play for the rest of the world, and which has deplored in millions of words the terrorism practiced in other countries against minorities.

No one as far from the scene as this could know at this time the whole story of what happened at Columbia; it may be that the whole story will never be known to the general public. But on the basis of news stories published in white newspapers these things stand out starkly:

1. The trouble started when a white man slapped a Negro man or woman on both, and they retaliated. 2. As a result of the rioting which followed more than 70 Negroes and only one white person were arrested, the majority of the Negroes being held on a blanket charge of attempted murder. 3. There was a general disarming of Negroes, apparently in violation of all constitutional guarantees against unwarranted search and seizure, with no corresponding procedure against whites. 4. All measures of protection were aimed to secure whites against injury by Negroes, and Negroes were guaranteed only such protection as the authorities felt disposed to give them.

One of the most tragic things about racial disturbances is the strong undercurrent of fear, which, being present under the surface as a constant factor, breaks out and rages when some incident touches off the explosion. That the Negroes have a very sound basis for mistrust is shown by what happened at Columbia. The only way to remove that mistrust is for the peace officers, from governor down to patrolman, to show conclusively that they propose to protect the innocent and suppress the guilty, with complete disregard to race. Since the administration of justice and the maintenance of

SIGNAL HONOR

The appointment of Dr. Charles S. Johnson, distinguished Negro educator and scholar, as a member of the educational mission to advise General MacArthur and indirectly Japanese officials on problems having to do with reconstruction in Japan is a signal honor to Dr. Johnson personally. It is also significant for his race that our government has recognized as proper that a person so well qualified as the eminent sociologist should not be passed over because of his color. The Southern Sociological Society, made up largely of white scholars and leaders in the field, showed its esteem for Dr. Johnson when it elected him last year to the presidency of that organization. That in itself was a remarkable event. The selection of the same man for this latest special mission adds another to the honors accumulated by Dr. Johnson, and shows again that recognition of competency and merit can triumph over race.

THE RED CROSS

In time of war or time of peace the work of the American Red Cross goes steadily on. But it is well to recognize during the present campaign that the Red Cross is by no means finished with the war. It will be many months before its wartime tasks and the work created for it by the war will be finished for the Red Cross. In some of its activities the aftermath of the war will keep it busy and cost money, not for months, but for years to come.

In relief work in devastated countries, and in services to veterans and their families — services not undertaken by the Government or by any other organization — the Red Cross stands always ready to function efficiently. It must have funds if it is to continue to fulfill its unique mission of aid and succor in this often cruelly forgetful world. Your generous response to the call of the Red Cross is always needed. This year the need is hardly less than it was a year ago.

WATCH DIPHTHERIA

Authorities of the State Board of Health have been calling attention to the fact that in North Carolina the attack and death rate of diphtheria was about twice as high in 1945 as in the years immediately preceding. They attribute this condition to the fact that the people are getting slack about having their children immunized.

The law requires immunization of all children before they reach a certain age, and provisions are made so that no child need be without immunization. Parents of small children should not take the risks involved in allowing them to miss the amply available and effective precautionary measures against the disease, which is quite dangerous, especially to young children. An ounce of prevention in this matter is worth many pounds of cure.

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That a possible lynching was averted last week in Eastern North Carolina is to the credit of the Governor and state law enforcement agencies. That it was necessary for the state officials to take extraordinary measures to insure the orderly processes of the law does not reflect any credit on the citizens of the local community, or on the local peace officers. One must wonder how much of the spirit which prompts these manhunts, and the deputizing of hundreds to track down one man, is the product of a thirst for justice, and how much it represents an enjoyment of the chase, an outlet for deep-seated primitive impulses, and an excuse for indulgence in mob behavior under the cover of respectability.

POOR BRITAIN

Britain's affairs in the East are in a bad way, and may get worse before they get better. The Bombay incident was particularly serious, because it involved mutiny of Indian seamen, regular sailors in the British navy, as well as civilians. Britain sits on a keg of dynamite in India, and things seem to be moving farther away from peaceful and satisfactory settlement, rather than toward it. The Englishman must soon begin, if he is capable of thinking dispassionately on the subject, to wonder how much longer it will pay England to try to maintain its imperialist hold on the vast Indian country, with its teeming, unhappy and continuously more rebellious millions.

While the "worst rebellion since the great Sepoy Mutiny in 1857" gave the harassed British government plenty of headaches and nightmares, demonstrations and bloodshed in Egypt showed how dissatisfied the Egyptians are with British dictation and domination in their country. Maybe the promulgation of the Atlantic Charter was a grisly error. It seems that peoples all over the world who were not supposed to hear about it were unresponsive enough to be listening, and unreasonable enough to take literally and apply to themselves what they heard. Britain has got a mess on her hands, and very little sympathy from the rest of the world.



BETWEEN THE LINES

By DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

HITLER WINNING THE PEACE  
Ours is indeed a curious world. Like the fabled Irish general who, on the eve of battle, exhorted his soldiers to trust in the Lord but keep their powder dry, the nations are talking peace and getting ready for war. Even while the United Nations organization was sitting in solemn conclave, atomic bomb manufacture was in full swing in this our great country and Russian spies were prowling in Canada in search of scientific secrets. There is every indication that the regnant nations are just playing for time in which to prepare for World War III, which will possibly destroy civilization and humanity.

Very little is being done at present to meet such distressing eventuality; for our parleys are so obviously deceptive that their deceptions cannot be concealed, even to the most unsophisticated observer of men and events. Unless there is a heart-clinging among men and the nations the terrible tragedy in the making will not be averted, and our scientific achievements will turn upon us with the fury of an avenging angel and destroy us from the face of the earth.

While Hitler's henchmen are being hunted and hanged, his spirit and doctrines are permeating the earth. Whether Hitler is dead or alive matters little so long as his ideologies dominate the 20th century world. His racism is easily one of the powerful influences in the life of mankind. The imperialism of the past is being supplanted by a rabid racism of the present and this very fact makes peace impossible. If our great men with their wisdom have anything better than that offered by Jesus Christ as a remedy for the ills of mankind, they had better bring it forth at once if our critical situation is to be saved. Matters are desperate and dangerous; and what is more, they are not changing for the better.

With Hitler's anti-Semitism and color-phobias sweeping the earth and with Hitlerism incubating in Argentina and Spain and with incipient Hitlerism eating at the vitals of the Anglo-Saxon bloc of the United Nations organization, we are face to face with a dreadful possibility. When Hitler saw that he had lost the war, he sought to win the peace by driving a wedge between Russia and the other allies. He is succeeding in a very pronounced way.

Minutes of the recent UNO proceeding will reveal that the nations have ganged up on Russia. In almost all of the diplomatic talks it was England and the United States leading the smaller nations against Russia. The very fact that England and Canada were called into a secret session on atomic science, while Russia was excluded; that Stalin delivered one of his seldom speeches on the eve of the Soviet election without even the faintest reference to the United Nations organization; that Russia was outvoted on all but one or two matters taken up at the London meeting; these things indicate the chasm between the war-time allies. They indicate how clearly Hitler is dominating the peace.

Nor does the fraternization of Americans with Germans in the conquered territory prove other than that Hitler's racial ideologies are dominating the peace. The farewell reception given the crew of the Prince Eugene upon the eve of their return to Germany shows the way the winds are blowing in this country. In other words, it matters little whether Hitler is dead or alive so long as his thinking dominates the present scene. He contended that force was the answer to the question of survival; we are at present committed to this policy. Hitler made race a major consideration in his programs and policies, so do the allied nations. Hitler was determined to break the unity between the allies; that unity is broken. Hitler is winning the peace!

The Right To Dissent

By RUTH TAYLOR  
My favorite war story was the one about the Cockney soldier who, when one of those annoying people who ask questions quizzed him as to his reasons for fighting, replied: "We're fighting the war to keep

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The right to dissent is the most important freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, for upon it hang all our other freedoms. All of our rights are rights to disagree. Freedom of religion, freedom from unwarranted search and seizure, of trial by jury — what are they but freedoms to dissent from the majority opinion?

Some of the decisions of the Supreme Court which are most remembered are those dissenting opinions of the Great Dissenter, Justice Holmes, who in his non-assenting opinions represented the liberal reason of thought of his day. However, only as we fulfill our responsibilities do we entitle ourselves to the right to dissent. Only free men can afford to disagree.

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2. Big courses makes for calmness and steadfastness. 3. You Will Keep Him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on the Lord. Heb. 12:2. 4. "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Matt. 6:24.



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

Negro Newspaper turned out attention to the vast strides made by Negro journalism in the past twenty or thirty years. In appearance, in technical and mechanical excellence, and in news coverage, the Negro newspaper of today bears only slight resemblance to that of thirty years ago. Circulation has gone up, advertising both local and national has increased, and the number and variety of subjects treated has been greatly expanded. Today one or two Negro journals are at the very top in the field of weekly newspapers, and many others are not far behind.

As a business the publishing of our newspapers rank high among successful enterprises owned and managed by our people, both the investment and the size of the composite payroll being appreciable. One of the great contributions of the press is the employment of a considerable number of skilled workers. It would hardly pay Negroes to learn the

secret of their trade if the outlet furnished by the Negro press for the exercise of these skills.

The War Department is said to be especially sensitive to news and comment appearing in the colored papers. There an employee reads 45 newspapers and prepares a weekly report of "Trends in the Negro Press."

The Library of Congress likewise makes available in such form several Negro newspapers, and keeps files of others. It seems that many congressmen and other officials, who would not advertise the fact, keep in regular and attentive contact with the Negro press.

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secret of their trade if the outlet furnished by the Negro press for the exercise of these skills. Division of Public Intelligence of the Budget Bureau with information about what the Negro press is saying on matters with which their various departments and bureaus are concerned. According to Mr. Hicks this information bureau has "readers" through numbers of Negro journals each week and clip articles, which are in turn sent to the government agency concerned with the particular subject. There the clipping is made available to the

fact, keep in regular and attentive contact with the Negro press. I is evident that the day has passed when Negro newspapers were read only by Negroes. The indirect tributes to their growing influence, as well as the direct acknowledgements of their importance as informants and interpreters of the nation's largest minority, bear testimony to the fact that the Negro press is one of the powerful factors in American life and thought. Their influence will continue to grow.

Lest We Forget. By W. L. GREENE. Includes a portrait of W. L. Greene.

The greatest link to the colored American seaman, entrance into organized professional baseball leagues of the high-salaried player-type has been the alleged undisciplined behavior of the average colored semi-pro performer. A new higher standard of behavior has kept out of the game and the public has been evolved since 1939, largely because of the keener competition for places in salaries positions in baseball. This has happened while the colleges and high schools in our region for colored youth have kept out of baseball and the result can be tragic in its consequences if we stay out of such longer sand-batters are going to develop skill in the game. They are going to organize neighborhood teams and develop neighborhood ship. Small local amateur and semi-pro teams, and clubs are going to develop the game to some extent but they can't expect to come to this level.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: A People In Contention — Judges. Printed text: Judges 2:7-23; 7:2-4. Key Verse: "The Lord is my helper, I will not fear." Heb. 13:6. During the period between 1275-1065 B. C. the Israelites, in their new homeland, forsook Jehovah, the God of their father, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and fell away from their allegiance to Him. In the midst of their confusion and trouble, Othniel, Ehud, Shagarat, Beroak, Deborah and Gideon served as Judges. None of these Judges were of the priestly family, however they raised the spiritual level of the Israelites to such an extent, that Jehovah heard their cries and gave them rest of intervals. None of us like trouble, but it is the best thing that can happen to individuals, races and nations. The Gentile nations left in Palestine did more to bring the Hebrews to acknowledge the one God than perhaps anything else. The Midianites and Amalchites made yearly raids upon the Israelites — taking their grain, cattle etc. for seven years. In the midst of this oppression and punishment, God tempered justice with mercy and sent an angel, who called Gideon to serve as Judge and deliverer. NUMBERS DO NOT ALWAYS COUNT. Gideon's thirty-two thousand soldiers and their ammunition to three hundred who was the greatest battle in Israel's history is an illustration of what God can do with a small number. This should be very inspirational to those whose cause is just, but numbers are few. Consideration, courage and willingness to obey the leader are qualities to be desired, if we would be good soldiers for Christ. It is not in the number of years we live, but what we do while we live. Not how old a church is, but what the church is doing for mission and education. Not how many members a church has, but what that number is doing to make the community a better place in which to live.

GOD AND A MAN. Let those who would shrink from making a contribution to home, society, state or nation study the life of the outstanding character in our lesson, Gideon. The first thing the angel found him busy doing was — hiding himself in a hidden winepress. His people are oppressed, but what can he do about it? The Angel tells him: "The Lord is with thee, for thou art a mighty man of valor." He yields himself to God and asks for signs to confirm his faith which the Lord gave. His first work after dedicating himself to God was to destroy the Thebanite playing centers of the Association, provides, ready made geographical organization. The time to reinstitute interscholastic baseball is now.

THEY'LL NEVER DIE By Elton Fax. Includes a portrait of Alexander Dumas and text: BORN IN FRANCE IN 1802 ALEXANDER DUMAS WAS THE ONLY SON OF THE FEARLESS WAITIAN-BORN GENERAL THOMAS DUMAS. IN HIS YOUTH HE WAS AS A LAWYER'S CLERK AND LATER BEGAN TO WRITE FOR YEARS HE MET WITH BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT BUT FINALLY 'CLICKED' WITH A PLAY 'HENRI III' HIS SUCCESS WAS THE ASSURED AND HE BECAME ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR NOVELISTS. HIS 'COUNT OF CHRISTOPH' AND 'THE 3 MUSKETEERS' ARE WORLD FAMOUS! THE ELDER

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