

# EDITORIALS

## VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

The nearest thing to an endorsement by a prominent white southerner of the President's civil rights proposal to meet our eyes was contained in a speech made recently by Jonathan Daniels. The editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, addressing the lately reorganized Young Democrats at the University of North Carolina, advised them to shun equally "the reactionaries and the leftists who are today engaged in trying to tear apart the liberal Democratic Party which is the hope of the South and the world."

According to a report of the address appearing in the News and Observer Mr. Daniels "expressing doubt as to the wisdom or necessity" of some of the items in President Truman's legislative program to insure civil rights; but he said also:

"All the traditions of the Democratic Party in North Carolina, however, are in line with the goals the President seeks in the elimination of lynching, the freedom of the franchise and greater economic opportunity for the Negroes of the State."

It might be said that Mr. Daniels' statement could have been much more vigorous in approval of the civil rights legislation, but it is certain, true that in this speech before the students he has said more than any other prominent North Carolinian has said for the record. Our two senators and our congressional delegation have not said anything to indicate that they do not regard the whole program with unmitigated disfavor, and so far as we know no candidate for office within the state has raised his voice except in opposition. So far North Carolina has been distinguished from other southern states on the civil rights issue chiefly by a generally greater reluctance to split the party and ditch Mr. Truman over the issue.

The editor of the News and Observer is to be congratulated on his courageous liberal stand. Doubtless there are many other white North Carolinians who share his views, but who have not had the opportunity or the occasion to express themselves. Doubtless there are also others who find discretion to be the better part of valor in this instance.

## FREEDING OLEOMARGARINE

The various taxes and restrictions placed years ago on the sale of margarine represent one of the most flagrant cases of discrimination against one industry in favor of another ever to be established by law in this country. The dairy industry, under the pretext of protecting the public from the fraudulent sale of butter substitutes masquerading as butter, was really and obviously seeking to protect itself from the competition of a product which could be offered for sale at a much lower price than butter when it pressed for and succeeded in getting the discriminatory laws passed. Even with the burdensome taxes oleomargarine, ruled by dietary and medical experts as an entirely satisfactory food when compared with butter, sold at a substantially lower price than the latter. Margarine has therefore come into extensive use, and during the war countless additional consumers switched to it.

Several bills were before the present session of Congress to repeal the burdens placed on margarine and its users, not the least of which burdens is the ten per cent tax on margarine colored before reaching the consumer. (Although butter may be and often is artificially colored without any legal interference or penalty whatever.) The sad fact is that the House Agriculture Committee has voted to kill all the 18 bills which would have changed the situation as to margarine in varying degrees. In an election year the Repub-

lican Congress, sensitive as all congresses are to the pressure of organized agricultural interests, has betrayed the interests and rights of the consumer and the margarine manufacturers.

But, we are told, the fight is not over. Senator Fulbright, of Arkansas, has promised that ways will be found to keep before Congress measures designed to free oleomargarine from the unjust and unwarranted discrimination against it.

## IT WON'T WORK

It is possible that Superior Court Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn found himself placed in a rather embarrassing position last week. In an address to the Harnett County grand jury he took occasion to express himself on the subject of the proposed civil rights legislation. A short time before he had aired his views from the bench on the same subject to the Johnston County grand jury.

In Lillington the jurist said, according to the News and Observer, that the "bill was written by people not familiar with the ways and life of the South, but by well-meaning but misguided people led by enthusiasts." He also said that "the real danger confronting us today is the radical element, those who advocate radical change."

A day or so later the two white men under indictment for the murder of a Negro under most aggravating circumstances came up for trial in the Harnett County court presided over by Judge Burgwyn. After many prospective jurors were excused or dismissed when they admitted racial prejudice, the special venire of 50 called from townships other than the one in which Angier is located was exhausted before a full jury was drawn.

Judge Burgwyn deplored this evidence of prejudice, and openly expressed doubt that the State could get a fair trial in Harnett County. It was not a radical nor a well meaning but misguided person who questioned the probability of a fair trial of white men who were charged with killing a Negro; it was Judge Burgwyn himself, the man presiding over the trial.

There is no doubt as to the sincerity of Judge Burgwyn's misgivings, or of his probity. He was truly grieved at this rank and open evidence of prejudice, and as a representative of the law, as was vocal over this attitude making justice impossible as he sees it, of Federal legislation to protect citizens in their rights.

But there is a deeper tragedy reflected in the Angier situation which so moved the judge. It is that one cannot expect that traditions of inferiority may prevail in some areas of the thinking and behavior of a people without being transferred to other areas, and that so many well-meaning southerners do not realize that fact, or refuse to acknowledge it. The superiority of whites and the inferiority of Negroes cannot flourish as a pattern of thinking and conduct everywhere else and then be excluded from the precincts of the courts of justice. Negroes cannot be second class citizens and persons in every other area of the life of the nation or the section and suddenly assume the stature of first class citizens in court cases.

We wonder if the judge and others similarly placed ever gave a thought to the fact that in the whole South it probably has not happened in years that any Negro citizen has ever sat on a jury trying a white man for a serious offense against a Negro? Or that the machinery of justice in many areas is in the hands of men chosen by an electorate from which Negroes are largely excluded, because to admit them to the ballot would involve, as the judge says, "a mode of living contrary to the customs and traditions of the people of the South?" Or that the courts are by tradition often used, not necessarily with the approval of the judges, to uphold the basic principles of white supremacy, as interpreted by such people as are likely to be called for jury service?

There can be no guarantee of justice in the courts when inequality outside the courts is looked upon as normal and proper. There can be no guarantee of justice when first class citizens and second class citizens are involved in the same situation. There are some who realize this, and they are not misguided, whether they happen to live north or whether they live south of the Mason-Dixon line; whether they are white or whether they are black. Until that realization comes to be widespread, there is no occasion for surprise that such things as have occurred in connection with the Harnett County incident from its beginning up to now should have happened.



"THE SABOTEURS"



# Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

The newspapers claim that Governor Thompson of Georgia scores a point against federal anti-lynching legislation when he ordered a white killer returned without extra guard to the county in which he had committed the murder. Citizens of the locality in which the aggravated crime had been committed were so aroused that the murderer had been moved elsewhere for safe keeping. To show that there was no danger of lynching, Governor Thompson commanded that the prisoner be returned in broad daylight to the county having jurisdiction, to be placed in the county jail. The time and route of the trip were announced in advance, an ornery guard force was employed, and the man was transferred without mishap.

Governor Thompson deserves commendation for his insistence that Georgia pass laws to curb the Ku Klux Klan. (A fiery cross ceremony had recently been held in the county seat to which the murderer was returned.) His stand in favor of orderliness and against intimidation is fine. But his demonstration that an anti-lynching law is a needed fallacy for a demonstration, for the following reasons:

In the first place the prisoner

was a white man. It has been a long time since any white person has been lynched in Georgia, and lynchings of white persons anywhere in the South have always been rare. The Klan may administer a few beatings and so on to whites who incur the displeasure of the great and courageous organization, but the lives of whites are not taken by mobs. That activity is reserved for the education of Negroes.

Secondly, the prisoner was returned to the county in which he had run high several days after the crime had been committed. It was safe to send him back partly because feelings had cooled down in the locality. A better demonstration might have been effected had the prisoner been left in the jail where he belonged in the first place.

In the third place Governor Thompson's demonstration did not show what Georgia is ready to do in the way of punishing persons who have already perpetrated a lynching. Of course it is a far better thing to prevent lynching than to punish lynchings after the fact. But it remains true that the most shameful phase of lynching as it relates to state and local responsibility is the failure to

punish those who have taken part in lynching. In recent years Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina all have demonstrated their unwillingness or inability to bring lynchings to justice. The lynching problem is not solved as long as the situation is such that members of lynching mobs are immune to punishment, no matter how vigorous and conscientious the efforts to prevent lynchings. The situation in general seems at present to be that state and local officials are active and alert to prevent lynchings; but the fact remains that lynchings do not always announce their intentions, and lynchings can still occur. Any plan for the control of lynchings therefore must obviously include the legal punishment of lynchings. And until the states can demonstrate that they can handle that also, no demonstration such as that staged by Georgia's governor is a sufficient refutation of the argument that Federal legislation is needed.

When the South becomes more concerned with what is right and less concerned with proving to the rest of the country that everything is all right when it is obviously not, more progress will be made.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: Eternal Life (Easter Lesson) — John 21:1-14; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 John 5:11, 12.

Key Verse: This is eternal life, that they know thee, the only true God and Jesus Christ who thou hast sent. John 17:3 R. S. V.

The message of Christ's resurrection tells humanity how the way to a new life is made available. His atoning death is venerated. As Lord and Savior He imparts to us the blessing of eternal life. The Church can look on Easter as God's Hallelujah — yes — as a never ending Hallelujah. The predictions of Moses, Isaiah and the prophets are fulfilled as: "The Lord is risen" resounded throughout the world. May we ask: Has Christ risen within your soul?

## HOW TO OBTAIN ETERNAL LIFE

You will notice in the first sentence of our lesson that the resurrection of Christ makes a new life available — that is salvation is possible. But only those who ac-

cept are saved. The eternal life is in His Son and "there is no other way except through Him, who was crucified, buried, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven." With the heart man be lively unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Ye that hate the Son hath the life! He that hath not the son of God hath not the life!

## CHARACTERISTICS — ETERNAL LIFE

In Colossians 3:1-4 our union with Christ is taught — we died with Him — was buried with Him, rose with Christ, ascended with Him and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. We can at least look at two outstanding characteristics of eternal life — heavenly and the life of Christ. "Set your affection on things above." The believer in Christ thinks on things which are worthy while. Paul admonishes: "Whatsoever things are of good report — think on these things."

It is a pretty good index of a

man's character by his general conversation "As a Man thinketh so is he." The Christian life is an organic relationship in which the very life of Christ is manifested in our mortal bodies. These virtues are obtained thru the aid of the Holy Spirit and by studying the scriptures — all this is made possible by the resurrection.

## VIRTUES EXHIBITED

The people of God exhibit certain virtues which all the world — even the vilest sinner — will acknowledge — kindness, meekness, lowliness, long suffering, compassion and love. We are expressing today too much temper, too many name-calling, not enough compassion, but plenty of ego and very little trust in one another. As we celebrate this Easter, will any of these sins rise and remain in the grave and only those things which Christ brought with the resurrection remain? These virtues are ours. They are made available through the Son's resurrection. Have you accepted them?

# ADVISORY COLUMN

M.C.G. — I am running a small beauty shop here in this town and I need someone to help me. Can you send someone down here to work in my shop? I surely will appreciate it.

Ans. Get in touch with the Beauty Culture College in the city nearest you and ask their assistance. Write to them explaining your requirements, salary you wish to pay and etc. You will probably have to board the operator temporarily or find her desirable living quarters. Be sure to mention this in your letter.

I.C.J. — I have been reading Problems of Humanity for a long time and now I present my problem for your help. My wife seems to love me very much. She says like she is not satisfied unless I'm

in her sight. Does she really love me or just acting like that to make me do better?

Ans. It's true love — she idolizes you, in fact. You're a very lucky guy.

L.A.R. — I have in mind to open my house to care for old people and crippled children. Do you think I will be successful?

Ans. Yes, I do. You are already confined there at home all of the time nursing your sister who is an invalid and you could very easily manage to care for one or two more dependents. Don't take too many tasks to care for unless you plan to have some help.

F.P. — I have been living with this man 21 years and he keeps on telling me that we will get married but we never do. He is real nice to

me. Please give me some advice.

Ans. Stay on with your mate. Take the initiative and coax your mate to go with you to the Court House and apply for a license and make your marriage legal on your coming anniversary. He will cooperate if you put a little pressure on and act real sweet. You are too lippy and have accumulated too much during the past 21 years to think of separating.

"Dear Abbe: My letter is to thank you. I received your kind letter the other week and highly appreciate the information you gave me concerning my problem. The Guide is a great help to me and I have found new courage and a greater determination to live right and to get ahead since reading it." Signed B. R.



## BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

### TRUMANISM WILL TRIUMPH

The governors of a few of the southern states would crucify President Truman for no other offense than that of advocating civil rights for all the citizens who have shared the responsibility for making this country what it is.

It is more than passing strange that their latest meeting brought out only seven of the 13 governors of the southern states. Maryland did not string along and neither did Kentucky. North Carolina was absent as was Louisiana. The list of the absent governors is significant and their very absence is an augury of good fortune for the cause of righteousness.

Wedge between lamentable Virginia and belligerent South Carolina, North Carolina stands upon its own hind legs and faces the signs of the times. Reconstruction has been over in North Carolina for some time due in large part to the fearless leadership of able and far-sighted men who could look over the shoulders of their times. We had hoped that Virginia was facing front also but the latest developments led by Gov. Tuck make proud Virginians hang their heads in dismay. Virginia trailing North Carolina morally as she trails, them athletically!

There was some excuse for Carter Glass out precious little for Sen. Byrd and Gov. Tuck. They should know better than to try to stem the tide of righteousness that is slowly rising in the world. They should use their powers to better advantage than that of trying the old, old scheme that has failed a hundred times — holding the Negro down. With communism battering at the gates of the nations and with bankruptcy facing civilization, these men honored with high positions by a state with honorable traditions of great men are facing the west, not the east with its sun-rise.

Truman is guilty, with honor, of trying to intimidate him with their threats of reprisals which are in the last analysis meaningless. There is absolutely nothing that these governors can do to Truman that will not hurt themselves and the south more. Trumanism will triumph at the last. God and Time and Right are on the side of Truman and Trumanism. It should be borne in mind that while only a few Trumanists will stand up and be counted there are thousands who are mustering up courage that will tell at the ballot box.

It is fervently to be hoped that in the not too distant future every Trumanist will stand up and be counted for they are not a few. Only God knows who will be the next President of the United States, but makes but little difference so far as the moral stature of Truman is concerned. He will go down in history as a moral giant of towering proportions. This writer was one of the very first to impute to his commissions on civil rights and education political motives. Be that as it may he has shown himself worthy of the respect of democratic and Christian men everywhere. His defiance of the southern governors and their threats of retaliation marks him as a great man.

That he is from Missouri and the south is more than passing strange. Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? See Truman and his courageous stand on the civil rights pronouncements. Trumanism will triumph even though the Negro may be called upon to suffer in the process of that triumph. Negroes must not be dismayed but must stand their ground and wait and work and vote until their changes come. Herod, who sought the life of the Christ child, died and Joseph was cauled out of Egypt. So in due time these who seek to forever subjugate and humiliate and segregate the Negro citizens will die.

Just as Talmadge and Bilbo died, death will end the career of everyone opposed to civil rights to those who fight and die to safeguard those rights. The blood of the thousands of Negroes slain in this country's wars cries for vengeance before the judgment seat of God. Trumanism though crushed to earth will rise again, like truth the eternal years of God are hers. It is really humiliating that the nation can see Virginia's political club foot. The role Virginia is playing in this drama is pathetic.

# SEPIA GI FABLES

THE PARABLE OF THE GREEDY PRIVATE

By JOSEPH F. ALBRIGHT FOR ANP

In a certain army outfit made up of the brethren, there was once a private with GREEDY INSTINCTS whose chief concern in life was depriving sundry other GIs of their FILTHY LUCRE. This Joe could think up more DEVIOUS DEVICES with which to accomplish this SEPARATION SCHEME than there are ways to use the soy bean. On payday he would patiently wait in ambush for the boys, with all the pleasant anticipation felt by a famished tiger upon viewing the INNOCENT APPROACH of a flock of oversized lamby-lambies.

Why the CONVIVIAL VICTIMS never seemed to get hep defied all the laws of reason. But 'twas so. Everybody admitted his luck, but no one questioned his honesty, which was a most UNFORTUNATE BELIEF because in reality the guy was so crooked that by comparison a black marketeer was a HALLOWED SAINT. So he went right on, playing his ARTFUL STRATEGEMS, while his roster of chumps sweated it out from payday to payday. Ho, hum.

He could mess around with a deck of cards and make it unload the best hand (for him, that is) whenever the FOLDING MONEY in the larger quantities turned up in the pot; and when the dice were in action, he came up with some kind of an Aladdin's lamp routine. Regardless of the color or size of the bones, he produced passes with an EFFORTLESS PERSISTENCY which soon had the SIMPLE SIMONS in the game so broke that if the entire Air Force had been on the block for an INFLATED YEN they collectively couldn't have bought the whirr of a propeller. Whereupon, having picked his prey as clean as a new billiard ball, he would tenderly voice his usual remarks of commiseration, count the swag, get his pass, and head for town and Bacchanalian joints of the more RIOTOUS CHARACTER. In these bistros of UNRESTRAINED WHOPEE, he and his GENEROUS LOOT were tendered a fond welcome such as a St. Bernard dog with a keg of juice would get from a freezing wayfarer.

But as Honest Abe once said you can't fool 'em all forever. Which apt statement was definitely proved to be the GOSPEL TRUTH one night during a hot game of draw poker, when a perverse sergeant from Missouri, whose NATIVE SKEPTICISM had not been calmed any by the fact that his JOY INDUCING pat ace-high straight had been neatly topped by our subject's successful two card draw to fill a house — on his own deal, too, mind you — suddenly ordered everybody's hands placed on the table while he, the sarge, cased the deck.

You could have sliced the atmosphere of PAINED SURPRISE with a knife when it was discovered that the joker, employed to help ace, straights and flushes, was AWOL! But you can let your imagination run wild to picture what happened when a vigorous SHAKEDOWN of the players themselves disclosed that the DECK STRAINER all the while had been neatly concealed up the sleeve of our now thoroughly EMBARRASSED MACIGIAN.

Upon leaving the hospital, he assumed the status of a disabled veteran who had undergone a great MORAL REFORMATION. MORAL: BOTTOM DEALERS BECOME BOTTOM FEELERS