

HODGES CLAN SHOWS FARMING AT ITS BEST



THE TALE OF SIX CITIES

BY PERRY J. THOMPSON

Well, here we are again after the span of a fortnight without a line on "The Tale of Six Cities."

A few days ago I picked up a weekly newspaper in Washington, D. C., called "The Capital Times," whose general manager is North Carolina's own native son, Alexander Barnes, a widely known newspaperman and promoter.

He began his article by informing the Lord, "This is a prayer coming up from the editorial room of the Capital Times." He continued assuring the supreme being of our awareness of the fact that He is busy with the many things that have to do with "Your first hand information of what is going on down here in America, kingdom and the earth."

"But," prays Barnes, "We are making this prayer to give you the country that was founded to be the home of the brave and the land of the free. It has turned out to be the land of the spread and the home of Burma Shave."

Then with all the earmarks of heart rending pathos, Barnes almost bet the Lord that He wouldn't know the old place if He were to come back now, as he gave Him the inside information that the bigots, the race haters and the demagogues had taken over. "I can see Alex," now, as he gestures to drive home the point, "First I want to tell you about the church that You died to save, Lord, the white folks have changed things around so that we have to have our own churches in order to worship You. I did not know that Your religion was founded on color, Lord."

Getting deeper and deeper in the spirit of his prayer Barnes told the Lord of the ghettos we live in, how we are barred from many decent places to live because of covenants, and if we do, in many cases buy in so-called restricted areas, the KKK imperils our lives, burning crosses warning, "Danger lurks in and around." He tells the Lord that we are not given decent schools in some sections of our "fair land," but rather give us schools in the mud, half equipped, poorly heated and understaffed. The Lord was informed of the differential of more than \$80 per child, in some section of this "so-called democracy."

As if the Lord didn't know it "praying Barnes" told Him, "They have a law where they claim to provide separate, but equal education. They are set in their ways that they will get Uncle Toms and Aunt Hannahs to head these schools and make us keep our mouths shut about the treatment our children are getting."

The Lord then heard about the two major political parties as He was reminded they were both controlled by our white brothers which didn't make much difference in their attitudes and actions. The point was made that the Republicans gave us Lincoln who "freed us to save the Union." Although Lincoln has been dead since 1865, Barnes injected, "the Republicans think we should still vote for him."

Referring to the late F. D. R. as the "Great White Father," the greatest politician we ever had who could inveigle anybody, the writer mentioned that Roosevelt told us to let the Lord lead us and He, Roosevelt, that is, would feed us. Barnes continued, "the most of my people decided to do that and as a result we were lured into the most squalid position any race has ever found itself in."

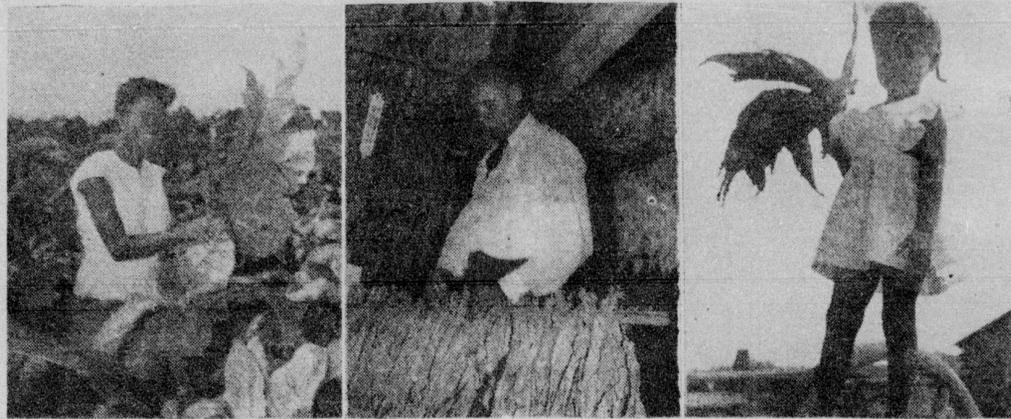
"Now Lord, we are in a quandary. The Democrats have nominated Harry Truman, who has just recalled Congress to do something about our rights and the high cost of living. Lord, you know something needs to be done, but I am asking You to please reveal to me whether he is in earnest or whether he is playing politics to get the northern Negro to vote him back. Lord, you and only you know, Lord I tell you what he has done, however, he has split the Democratic party down the middle and he has scared the devil out of the Republicans."

Mr. Barnes then brought attention to Tom Dewey who seeks the presidency, as he asked the Lord what he thought of him. Then he spoke about the south being "all messed up over the voting question." "Some of them got so mad the other day in Philadelphia that they walked out of the Democratic Convention." Continuing up this vein Barnes admitted he was wrong for what he was about to say, but asked the Lord to forgive him in front, as he proceeded to confide in the Lord, that he wished that they had walked straight to hell.

After praying over a few other faults of our white brethren Barnes settled down to tell the Lord of some of the shortcomings of the minority. He prayed this prayer and rightfully so, "When you send your fire down to burn up sin, you will have some burning to do among us."

The ardent prayer included a plea to help give light to some of our group who didn't respect the Lord, their parents or anybody else, adding that the churches, the schools and other institutions don't seem to do much about it.

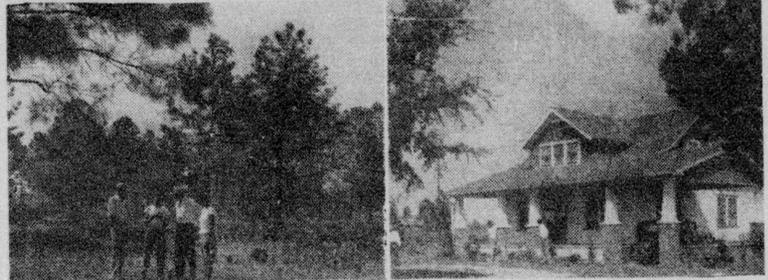
Climaxing the prayer with, "Amen, amen, amen." The dear brother who must have been in tears by now, assured the Lord that he did not pray the prayer, asking Him to remove these handicaps, but to give Him an idea of what a Christian country is like. "I am asking You to give me and the rest of the people of America who believe that we deserve a better break, the courage to fight, the strength to stand firm and faith enough in You to believe that You worketh together, with those who love You."



AS THE TOBACCO COMES IN—At the right little Cassandra Hodges holds a hand of the tobacco which brought hustle and bustle to the Cumberland County area this week as the Fayetteville tobacco markets opened.

At the center Samuel Hodges takes time out from his Sunday activities to inspect a barnful of the tobacco which he is curing for the Fayetteville market. The barn which he is inspecting is one of the two which now remains on the Hodges farm since one was burned down last June while it was loaded with wheat.

At the left Miss Gwendolyn Hodges stands in a field of the tobacco from which her father expects to realize approximately \$2,000 this season although he is not, as he puts it, "placing any great emphasis on tobacco this year."



FARM HOMESITES — At the right Samuel and Alexander and Miss Gwendolyn Hodges point out to a visitor the site on which the new Hodges homestead will be constructed in the fall. At the left is shown the home of a member of the Hodges family which is located across the road from the site shown in the left. The family land holdings total more than 1,200 acres.

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Support Civil Rights, Southern Negroes Ask

WASHINGTON — Disproving the contention of Dixiecrat politicians that southern Negroes are satisfied with existing conditions, NAACP branches in Alabama and Florida have sent communications to their respective senators asking for passage of the anti-poll tax bill and other civil rights measures.

Expect 250 Agents For Mmc. C. J. Walker Annual Convention

Indianapolis (ANP) — More than 250 agents, beauticians, salesmen, principals and instructors are expected to attend the 15th national convention of the Mmc. C. J. Walker cosmetic firm in Indianapolis Aug. 23-25.

1,200-ACRE FARM IS OPERATED AS FAMILY VENTURE

FAYETTEVILLE — "The farmer is no longer a countryman." That statement was made to me recently by a friend of mine as we travelled down the Fayetteville-Lumberton Highway a few days prior to the opening of the Fayetteville Tobacco Market.

Its truth, however, was borne out a few minutes later when we turned into a sand road a few miles below Fayetteville and entered the farm holdings of the Hodges family who are the owners and operators of one of the largest farm tracts controlled by Negroes in their section of the state.

The homestead, comprising approximately 1,200 acres, has been in the family for more than 60 years and has been operated by three brothers and two sisters of the Hodges clan since the death of the father of the family about a year ago.

CASH CROP — After turning into the sand road we travelled for more than a half mile between long rows of corn, sweet potatoes, cotton, tobacco and other cash crops.

The road finally widened out (Continued on page 8, 2nd Section)

BRONZEVILLE TO GET NEW LOOK IN SHOPPING AREAS

CHICAGO (ANP) — Fifty-four merchants in the block on 47th Street between South Park and Vincennes Avenue have agreed to remove the iron bars from their store windows. In taking this forward step the merchants state they are attempting to do their part toward making Bronzeville as beautiful and as wholesome and appealing as that in any other part of Chicago.

The owners of the properties in this block were so enthusiastic about this program that they agreed at a cost of some \$25,000 to themselves, to install as their contribution the most modern street lighting system in the city. This new white-way will be illuminated with two 1000 watt bulbs on each post lining the street, replacing a single 500 watt bulb. The posts will be the newest and most ornamental yet designed. The lights will be larger and brighter than the system now in use in the loop on State Street.

In addition, many property owners and merchants are making plans for new, modern store fronts. A seven point code of ethics was drawn up, involving national brand merchandise of standard quality at standard prices, courteous service, plus an active interest in a well-organized program of community welfare.

COUNCIL HELPED — The city council has done its part toward making 47th Street one of the most beautiful shopping centers in the world by recently ap-

Home Of Governor Of Sierra Leone Robbed

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (ANP) — Thieves entered Gov. Richard O. Ramage's second official residence (called Governor's Lodge) and made away with a number of articles valued at approximately \$150, it was disclosed here recently. The lodge is on the European reservation at Hill station, about four miles away.

CIVIL RIGHTS BODY RAPS MARSHALL'S STAND ON FEPC

NEGRO CHAIRMAN PICKED IN MIXED TEXAS PRECINCT

BEAMONT, Texas (ANP) — At the primary elections held here recently, Aaron Jefferson was elected precinct chairman of Precinct 15 to become the first Negro to be elected to such a position in a mixed area in several decades.

He was elected by a vote of 167 to 168 over white W. S. Lee, who had held the position for eight years. The area contained 492 Negro voters and 339 white voters.

Airplane Crackup Makes Hero of Vet

DALLAS (ANP) — Being injured in an airplane crackup in Germany during the war has made veteran J. D. Johnson a life saver today. This crash is so important because it led to the discovery that Johnson was one of the few persons who had the rare RH negative blood.

Only one Negro in 5,000 has this type of blood, Johnson has learned. This blood is especially valuable in transfusions in cases of pregnancy and newborn babies.

After his accident Johnson was confined to several hospitals before he was finally helped after two years. He wears a silver plate in his head now. At Letterman's General Hospital in San Francisco, his physician, Dr. Edgar T. Pfeil working with Dr. Alan Nash discovered that he had the rare RH negative blood.

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Dixiecrats Candidates Makes Heated Tirade Against Civil Rights

CHERRYVILLE, N. C. (ANP) — Opening his campaign for President here at a watermelon festival, Dixiecrat nominee Gov. J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina denounced civil rights in any form as he sharply criticized President Truman, Gov. Dewey and Henry A. Wallace.

He told his audience that he did not fight on the beachhead of Normandy to come home and find federal anti-lynch taxes, FEPC and other laws breaking up the heritage of the south. He said, "I did not risk my life on the beach of Normandy to come back to this country and sit idly by, while a bunch of back politicians whistles away your heritage and mine. As for me, I intend to fight."

POLL TAX REPEAL — On p.p. taxes he said, "I have advocated that we repeal the tax in my state. But I cannot agree that the Federal government has the right to force my state to abolish this tax if the people of the state want it."

Speaking of lynching he said, "Lynching is murder. And murder is a violation of state laws. We do not intend to let the federal government come in and take over our state courts."

Attacking fair employment practices, Gov. Thurmond said, "Unless a man is willing to hire the kind of people the FEPC tells him to, he must go to jail. Tom Dewey has already set up the FEPC in New York State. Harry Truman is demanding that the so-called civil rights be forced upon every state. And Henry Wallace is the daddy of them all."



AS THE WEED WENT TO MARKET — Above is shown one of the scores of tobacco handlers who assisted in the unloading and marketing as farmers of the

New School Lunch Law Benefits Explained

WASHINGTON (ANP) — More than half a million Negro children going to school should benefit from the federal school lunch program. Last week the department of agriculture allocated \$58,800,000 to the states for the program. Congress had appropriated \$75,000,000 for the school lunch activities.

Schools participating under this program will give children free or at very little cost a more nutritious lunch. Negro children, particularly in the south, should benefit because the law says:

"If a state maintains separate schools for minority and for majority races, no funds made available pursuant to this act shall be paid or disbursed to it unless a just and equitable distribution is made within the state, for the benefit of such minority races, of funds paid to it under this act."

SPONSOR NEEDED — What does a school do to be included on this program? Any interested community group such as a parent teacher association, service club or other civic group may work with school officials in starting one. A school board or official must be the sponsor.

The sponsor must operate the lunch program at the school. He provides facilities for preparing and serving the food as well as getting the additional funds



THE "GRAND" COMES TO RALEIGH — J. Finley Wilson, Elk "Grand Exalted Ruler," is shown as he spent an informal few minutes with Elks of Eastern North Carolina Lodges during a convention held in Raleigh on Saturday.

NAACP Award Won By Colorado Branch

COLORADO SPRINGS (ANP) — The parent NAACP body presented its national award, the Thalheimer prize, to the local branch here recently, and the branch in turn sent the award to the Ingram Defense fund to aid Mrs. Ingram and her sons to regain the liberty they lost in defending their home against aggression and tyranny.

The award was presented at services conducted by Community center, by the Rev. T. J. Townsend, pastor, in making the presentation, he stated that the national association had awarded the branch the

urgency support of civil rights state conference vice president, legislative secretary of the Florida State Conference, NAACP, wrote to Senators Claude Pepper and Spessard L. Holland: "Florida Negroes are heartily in favor of the legislation recommended by the President's Committee on Civil Rights, and we respectfully urge you to support such bills in this session of Congress. We also urge that you actively oppose any attempt to defeat those bills by filibuster. The way Negro citizens vote in future elections will be determined largely by the action taken on civil rights legislation."

ing a convention held in Raleigh on Saturday.

Shown with him in the group at Raleigh's Elks' Rest are Harvey L. Harris, Commissioner of the Shriners and Grand Inspe-

tor of Wexchester County, N. Y.; Edward Littlejohn of Oxford, N. C.; Mr. Wilson, Jasper Carpenter, State Deputy; and W. G. Brown, of Abokio.

Cumberland County area moved their tobacco crops into the Big Farmers Warehouse on the Fayetteville-Lumberton Highway for sale on the Fayetteville market.