

EDITORIALS

TIME FOR ACTION

In the same issue of a Raleigh daily last week appeared news of the indictment in Federal court of two Brunswick County registrars charged with illegally refusing to enroll Negro prospective voters for last May's primaries...

Both items remind us that North Carolina has not yet outgrown everywhere the barred from voting. The essential qualification for registration in this state is ability to read and write. Our law is defective in that it permits bigoted registrars to violate its spirit by deciding that a prospective registrant cannot read and write well enough to satisfy him...

It is time for the decent people of North Carolina to quit winking at the violation of election laws by election officials themselves. High officials of North Carolina when presented with evidence of the misconduct of some North Carolina registrars reacted only with indifference, or worse, with hostility toward those making the complaints...

19 CENTS A DAY

Some time ago an announcement that the prisoners in Wake County jail were being fed at an average cost of 19 cents per day per person caused considerable astonishment, if not downright skepticism. After thinking over the situation the average person probably thought next, in consideration of present food prices, "How can it be done?" and wondered if the prisoners were not going hungry.

A good deal of the doubt and mystery was cleared up, however, by a news story in the September 15 issue of the News and Observer. An examination of the typical menus set forth in that story shows that the 19-cents-a-day budget is met by the simple expedient of holding down to a low level the quality and quantity of the prisoners' diet.

This is in no sense a criticism of Mr. and Mrs. Cutts, the jailer and dietitian of the local jail. Apparently they are really doing wonders with the resources allowed them. But the fact remains that a dinner consisting of "potted meat sandwiches, pork and beans, crackers and jello," ought to work out to be pretty inexpensive, as well as as slightly unsatisfying over a period of time. The news article also pointed out "the helpings are not lavish," which is probably no exaggeration.

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It is also noted that the prisoners do no heavy work, which hardly needed to be added. Nor is there likely to be much eyebrow-raising over the intelligence that "some of the prisoners complain about both quality and quantity."

Any housewife or householder despairing over the size of the food bills at home can get some suggestions from the information made public about what Wake's prisoners eat. Whether they will adopt any of them is something else again.

Nobody believes that the county's free boarders have the right to expect \$6 a day hotel fare furnished by the taxpayers. But the real question is, does Wake County meet reasonable standards of diet for its prisoners? If not it is not the fault of the jailer necessarily. The onus lies on the people of Wake County. Wake County saved a lot of money last year, according to the fiscal report of its officials.

CO-OP OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The long-heralded opening of the super market owned by the Wake County Mutual Consumer Co-operative has taken place, and neither curious visitors nor serious patrons were disappointed in what they saw on opening day or since. It is a finely appointed and well stocked food market. There is every reason to expect that this co-operative venture, a proof of the imagination, business skill and ability to work together of a large and representative group of Raleigh's Negro citizens, will succeed and grow.

The co-operative movement is not an answer to all economic problems, but it is one avenue open to those of moderate means to improve their own status, making their dollars go farther by buying from and selling to themselves through joint action, therefore eliminating the necessity of supplying profits to others. Another contribution that the co-operative makes to the Negro community, along with individually owned Negro enterprises and profit-seeking corporations, is the opportunity for employment of a number of persons in a field ordinarily not opened by other business concerns of the community.

The consumer co-operative pattern is more extensive than is apparent at once. Mutual insurance companies, burial societies and building and loan associations are all essentially co-operative in conception, though because of the apathy of their members they are usually run by a very small proportion of the concern.

One of the things that will help to keep the new co-op supermarket successful is a growing and functioning membership which buys from its own store and which takes an intelligent but not obstructionist interest in its management.

IN THE COURTS AGAIN

Quite apart from the merits on either side of the controversy many non-Methodists as well as millions of members of the A. M. E. Church regret that another bishop of that church has been brought into the courts by a fellow-member of the denomination. Bishop Gomez, raised to the bishopric only a few months ago, is already not only in hot water, but also involved in litigation concerning church matters.

It is unfortunate that the great African Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the most powerful forces in Negro life, and a credit to the race throughout its history, cannot settle its difficulties within its own confines. An unfavorable impression as to the capabilities of Negroes leadership is bound to be given by the constantly recurrent appeal to the civil courts to straighten out matters which should be handled within the church.

No less an authority than one of the epistles counsels Christians against resort to the courts. When church leaders cannot follow that admonition even regarding church affairs, it is indeed unfortunate.



His Feathers Are Gradually Being Clipped



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

Secretary of the Army Kenneth Royall, a North Carolinian, delivered a few days ago an address in Columbia, South Carolina. The speech was primarily an attack of the States' Rights and Progressive parties, urging the people of South Carolina to support Truman and the regular Democratic ticket in the coming election.

These attacks do not worry me. I am a crowd of being a southerner. But I would not be frank if I did not on the other hand assert to you fellow-southerners my strong feeling that the issue which is so discussed down South today is not a one-way street. There must be progress here and elsewhere — progress in the exercise of political rights and in added economic opportunity for Negroes — progress toward an improved scale of living for them. They are Americans.

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ADVISORY COLUMN

N. I. M. — I finished high school here in Chicago in '46. I took a commercial course. Here lately mother has been after me to take a civil service examination for stenographer but since I haven't practiced since I was in school, I am afraid. Should I take this examination?
Ans: Enter night school and brush up on your shorthand and typing. When you feel you are qualified, arrange to take the examination. Your mother is eager to see you make a success in the line of work for which you were trained.

I. W. H. — I think your advice to others is wonderful. Tell us what to do. My husband and I just can't seem to be able to get ahead. We can't save any money. It gets under my skin when my husband says I spend too freely and that causes us to argue and say things that hurt. Now who is to blame?
Ans: You need to get your heads together and work out a systematic plan for saving. It will prevent a lot of the misunderstandings that now arise about finances. The chief reason your husband blames you for not getting ahead is the fact that you handle all the money. I would like to have you send a dollar for the book HOW TO KEEP YOUR MONEY AND ATTRACT GOOD LUCK. It has some fine ideas that will help you.

R. B. — Help me with my problem. I am a young man, had a good job but I quit it to join a group of singers. Now I find that I was doing much better on my job than I am now so did I do right and what do you advise?
Ans: Go to your former employer and ask for your old job back. If it is not available, look for regular work in other places of business. A day time job would enable you to continue singing with the group as most of their engagements are booked for evenings.



BETWEEN THE LINES BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

STONEWALL TRUMAN

We have heard much about Stonewall Jackson, a majestic figure in the War of Secession. The name "Stonewall" was given him because in the thick of one of the great battles someone remarked that Gen. Jackson was "standing like a stone wall" and henceforth he was to be called Stonewall Jackson.

May this column present another majestic figure standing like a stone wall? His name is Harry Truman from Missouri! Truman has surprised the nation and has easily become one of the most majestic moral figures of the times. And it is just as well for us to know that Harry Truman is not going to be anybody's pushover in the coming elections. It is true the various "polls" are counting him out but these polls have a way of getting over what certain interests want. It is by no means a foregone conclusion that the dolt Republicans will sweep the country.

There are millions of men and women in this country who admire a real man who will stand up and slug it out. Truman is such a man and to his everlasting credit be it said, he absolutely refused to play dead when the Dixiecrats walked out on him! Instead of retracting his stand on civil rights he came back slugging and these self same polls are now whispering that "Truman is gaining." It was noised about when Truman first took his civil rights stand that certain elements in the south would revolt and say mean things about him. Truman simply replied that he was elected to uphold the Constitution of the United States and that he did not give a damn what they said.

To date Mr. Truman still had not given his damn. There are a lot of people in this country with votes to cast who rather like a man who takes a stand for God and righteousness and who does not particularly give a damn what the hecklers say or do. If Truman had not been serious about what he said, the Dixiecrats would have swung him long ago. But Truman really and honestly was sincere about the damn-giving business and because of that millions of whites and Negroes are going to the polls to let the world know what they think of a man who takes a stand for righteousness not giving a damn what the hecklers and Dixiecrats say.

Truman is on safe ground, why should he give a damn? He has the Bible on his side; he has decency and civic righteousness on his side; he has the constitution on his side; he has time and right on his side; he has God on his side. Why, will someone tell us, should he be interested in giving damns? It is true that I cannot use the same language but he came pretty close to expressing my sentiments.

There is another side to this matter that we are tempted to forget and that is, there are millions of whites in the south who are not Dixiecrat in their sympathies. Negroes therefore not only owe their support to Harry Truman who refuses under pressure to give a damn for the Dixiecrats, but they owe it to those southern whites who are resolving to support him in this no-damn-giving campaign.

If the sizeable voting contingent of the white south is added to the sizeable voting contingent of the Negro south here is a possibility that Harry Truman may be swept back into the White House on one of the most miraculous political tides of history. Negroes who admire Truman and who plan to vote for him must refuse to believe this he is already a political dead bird. Far from it. With the Negro vote solid and the vote of the white south split most decidedly, Truman has more than the proverbial gambling chance.

Truman has something of the Roosevelt spirit in his national outlook and we need just such an outlook today. Honestly this writer is afraid of the Republican party and therefore afraid of Dewey who will be its rubber stamp. If he refuses to be this rubber stamp, we shall have another case of President and congress at loggerheads. The Republicans crowd that hopes to take over is the same old crowd that politically destroyed Hoover and came near destroying the country. They may have another standard bearer but it is the same old Republican party that never forgets anything and never learns anything. This column is supporting Harry Truman who refuses to give a damn even under Dixiecratic pressure!!!

HERE AND THERE

Five will get you 10 that Dr. Ralph Bunche does not meet the fate of Count Bernadotte in Palestine. Could be, too, that the brilliant American Negro mediator will get a break with the Arabs and Jews that the Scandinavian nobleman could not obtain, simply because he is a member of the darker races. Maybe Nordic international influence is on the decline, no? (Biblical quotation: "And Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hand, etc.")

When that cavalcade of the representatives of vets groups met Big Joe Albright, VA's popular aide, at the Nashville airport, citizens say it was the first time to their knowledge that a visiting Negro had been honored with an escort of white policemen.

The Veterans administration official responded to this courtesy with a stirring address before an interracial vets rally in the Mt. Olive Baptist church which brought applause that literally rocked the historic edifice. (P. S. He was promptly invited back to the city again to deliver an Armistice day address.)

Government agencies are deeply alarmed over increase in venereal cases. Look for an all-out drive against VD, probably spearheaded by the armed forces. Incidentally, Negroes being infected at about a 10 to one ratio.

In case you haven't heard, the NCNW (National Council of Negro Women) will converge on Washington in annual session on Oct. 10-13. Prediction is that the conclave will erupt in some spectacular fireworks, being election year and all.

That Wilberforce State-Tennessee State football game at the National classic in Washington (Oct. 23) is looking better by the minute. Both teams won their opening games impressively, and both have a mad on for each other since that game last year. And bye-the-bye, don't be surprised if they pack Griffith stadium (35,000 fans, that is). Be there, chum!

You haven't heard the last of that DuBois-White feud in NAACP, just you wait and see. Nominations for the role of a woman who is both very charming and very smart: Isobel Chisholm, Guild organizer for the National Urban league.

Advice to veterans: Don't get stuck with the purchase of a home in an inflated market. You can bet all the cattle in Montana that it won't be long now before these here good times won't be so good. It will be awful tough paying on a \$15,000 home which will be worth about \$5,000.

Question for the week: How will Larry Doby do in the world series? (Answer: bet he does all right.)

Warning to "professional Negroes": Little Joe and Mary Doakes are seeing you (and smelling you, too). Better quit trying to SAVE the race; your racket is running out. What you are really trying to do is to SAVE yourself, and don't think we don't know it, lame-brain.

My Neighbors

By BILL FALLSON



"I reckon I must be a fool of Wall Street. I own a 1938 car, one \$4300.00 on my term, and don't like Communism with a damn!"

SAD CHILD

By JOHN HENRIK CLARKE For ANP

I am a strange child, In a strange land. The West is neither my home nor my haven My music is the 'tom-tom' Not the saxophone. You may root me here In this alien soil. But I will not grow. I may never go back to The East, where I belong. But I will forever nurse the desire In the hours when I am alone, I'll turn my pagan face toward The East, and cry.