

STATE ROLE IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS GROWING

By JOE SHEPARD

Long overlooked or confined to a minor role in national affairs, the Tarheel State is at last coming into its own as a major factor in the social, economic and political affairs of the nation.

A major evidence of this growing importance is to be found in the calibre of the visitors who have come into or are planning to come into the state as speakers or consultants, and in the types of meetings or other gatherings of national or sectional importance held here.

By no means the first, although the most remarkable, evidence of such growing importance was noted during the past presidential campaign when all four of the "major" Presidential candidates found it expedient to appear and to speak in the state.

President Truman's visit marked the first visit to the state by a Chief Executive of the nation during the lifetime of most of its inhabitants. (Continued on page 8; first section)

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FILIBUSTER WAR RIPPING RANKS OF MAJOR PARTIES

NEW 'SCOTTSBORO CASE' UP

DEMOCRATS NIP GOP ATTEMPT TO END FILIBUSTER

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Jealously guarding their newly-won control of the Senate, Democratic members voted down a motion Monday to discharge the Rules Committee which is studying the Knowland measure which would put a halt to filibusters.

Discharge of the Rules Committee, which is conducting hearings and studying measures aimed at permitting the legislators to put a halt to lengthy debate by a majority vote, would have the effect of bringing the measure to the floor for immediate action.

Defeat of the discharge motion was by a vote of 56-31 with seven Republicans joining the victorious Democrats. All of those who supported the motion, however, were Republicans.

While the defeat of the motion might appear at first glance to be a victory for Southern Democrats who have been traditional users of the filibuster to block liberal legislation, Capitol observers were inclined to place small importance upon this side of the picture.

They pointed out that the action had been the result of a previously announced determination on the part of the Democratic leadership to "do things their own way" and



ATTEND FREEDOM DAY RITES — Delegates to the National Freedom Day Association ceremonies in Philadelphia gather at the Liberty Bell to join in the tribute

to those who gave their lives for freedom. They include, left to right, Robert Miller, Chicago; Rev. J. Quinlan Jackson, Philadelphia; Mrs. M. B. Gaillard, of

Alabama; Mrs. A. White, of Chicago; Mrs. Eleanor Wallace, Massachusetts; Chaplain Arthur Williams, Philadelphia; and J. A. Hamme, North Carolina.

SEVEN AWAITING HEARING ON VA. ASSAULT CHARGE

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Memories of the notorious Scottsboro case in which nine Negro boys spent more than a decade fighting for their lives and freedom after they were charged with criminal assault upon a white woman were aroused in Martinsville last week.

The occasion was the arrest of a group of seven boys and men, all residents of East Martinsville, on charges of engaging in a criminal assault upon Mrs. Glen Floyd, a 32-year-old white woman resident of the town.

The prisoners, who are being held in two jails outside of Martinsville, were scheduled for a preliminary hearing to be held on Friday of this week.

The victim of the alleged attack, however, is undergoing treatment at Duke Hospital at Durham, N. C. for injuries which she contends were inflicted by her assailants.

As a result, Commonwealth Attorney I. W. Culline said that the hearings would be postponed "indefinitely".

The seven defendants, who have been imprisoned since January 9, the day following the incident, include five youths whose ages range from 18 to 20 and two men 21 and 37.

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CUPID KAYOED AGAIN—Mrs. Marva Louis, wife of Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, who is now in Mexico seeking a second divorce according to a statement issued Monday by 4-24 in Chicago. The couple was divorced in 1945 after Mrs. Louis charged the champion with desertion. They were remarried shortly before the birth of their second child, a little more than two years ago. They were first married in New York in 1935.

Women Hear Message From Welfare Aid

State Welfare legislation slated for presentation to the general assembly was discussed Saturday by Dr. Ellen Winston, state commissioner of public welfare and guest speaker at an executive board meeting of the North Carolina Federation of Negro Women's Clubs.

In addition to outlining the program which is to be submitted to the legislature for action, Dr. Winston discussed the background and plans for the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy, which is to be held in Washington in 1950.

On the state scene Dr. Winston cited the acute and grave need for boarding and foster homes for the aged and children. In this and several other areas the speaker cited opportunities for service by the Women's organization.

Mrs. Ruth G. Rush, president of the federation served as chairman. Dr. Winston the conference with the Arcade Hotel for a business session. Reports of the activities of the organization were made by Mrs. Rose

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VARINA FARMER WINS CONTEST 4TH TIME

While many of the nation's farmers are shooting at a goal of 100 bushels of corn per acre, W. D. Pegram of Varina, Route 1, is shooting at a goal of one-and-one-half times that.

Mr. Pegram, winner of the Wake County Three-3-One corn contest for 1948, made his acreage yield 142.5 bushels to the acre to make it four times in a row that he has won the competition which is sponsored annually by the Raleigh Merchant's Bureau which awarded a total of \$100 in prizes.

Joe Louis Adams of Raleigh Route 3 won the 4-H club division with a yield of 76.1 bushels, while Otis Gill was runner-up in the adult division with 131.4 bushels and Robert Parham placed second in the 4-H bracket with 52 bushels.

Mr. Pegram and Adams won prizes of \$20 each while Parham received \$10.

Priest Blasts Va. 'Insults' To Race

RICHMOND, Va. — A local Catholic priest went to the microphone of Station WRNL here recently and deplored the burning of a cross in the yard of a Negro's home on Richmond's Barton Heights.

The priest was Father Robert E. O'Kane, who spoke over WRNL's Legion of Mary program. Father O'Kane pointed out that the father of the Negro family holds a bachelor of arts degree, the mother expects to receive an A. B. from Virginia Union University this year; two of the daughters are high school students and the son attends George Mason School where his father is a teacher. Their home, he said, is a big corner house, well furnished.

SHOCKED — Father O'Kane said white neighbors, whom he interviewed, were shocked. He quoted one woman as saying, "They've given us no trouble, why should we tolerate anyone giving them trouble?" Another

South's Progress Cited

Sharply disagreeing with some of the provisions of the President's civil rights program, but presenting a glowing picture of improving conditions in the South, Senator Estelle Kefauver told the Institute of Religion Monday that the South is "on the way out of being 'The Nation's Number One Economic Problem'."

Senator Kefauver, who spoke on "The Recuperating South," declared that the region is making great progress not only economically, but in the realm of understanding between the races as well.

"We are making great headway in our way toward solving our admitted problem," he said. "It would have been much more to our mutual advantage if enforcement of moral rights had not been proposed by legislative fiat. This is the opinion of thinking leaders of both races."

Senator Kefauver, who during his tenure as a member of the House of Representatives acquired a reputation as one of the more liberal

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M. C. HILL NAMED WINNER OF TOP SCOUTING AWARD

M. C. Hill, leader of Explorer Post No. 32, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Raleigh, was awarded the Silver Beave, Sunday during special services at the church.

The award, the highest made by the Boy Scouts of America to local council scouters, is for distinguished service to boyhood and was presented by H. K. Witherspoon, council treasurer. Assisting in the presentation were R. Brooks Peters, Jr., chairman of the Wake District, Roy M. Liles, scout executive, Zack Ellis, divisional commissioner, George F. Newell, field executive and M. H. Crockett, Wake divisional chairman. The selection of Hill was made (Continued on page six)

Business League Ready With Plans For Meet

Plans were completed by the Progressive Business League on Monday night for the presentation of Dr. Vernon Johns, noted lecturer and business authority, at a city wide mass meeting scheduled to be held at the Martin Street Baptist Church on Thursday night at 8 p.m.

Slated to appear on the program in addition to outstanding Raleigh businessmen are Sister Gary's All Girl Chorus and the Washington High School Chorus under the direction of Mrs. E. M. Kelly.

Other business undertaken by the League at its Monday night meeting included discussion of plans for a permanent meeting place, regular meeting dates, and completion of the group's constitution and by laws. Charles R. Frazier and George Mitchell were named as additional members of the committee on constitution and by laws.

Marva And Joe May Re-Divorce

CHICAGO — Joe Louis, the ring champ who never had a close fight with the same man twice, seems to have lost his second decision to Dan Cupid.

According to a statement which the Champ issued here Monday his beautiful wife Marva, whom he remarried, by whom he was divorced and whom he remarried, is now in Mexico seeking a second divorce.

Louis who has been on a boxing tour in the South, returned to Chicago Monday and told newsmen that upon his return he found that his wife had gone to Mexico. At that time neither Louis nor his attorney, Truman K. Gibson, would confirm or deny rumors that the purpose of Mrs. Louis' trip was that of obtaining a divorce. On Tuesday, however, the Champ issued a second statement prior to the Mexican Consul a request from her today to appear and sign and forward my consent to her proceeding. "I appeared this afternoon before the Mexican Consul and signed all of the necessary papers (Continued on page eight)

Chance To Speak Denied Publishers

NORFOLK, Va. — The Senate Labor Committee up to Sunday morning had ignored the request of the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association president for an opportunity to testify during current hearings on the proposed new labor law.

A telegram dispatched last Thursday to Senator Elbert Thomas, chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, by Thomas W. Young, NNPA president, included the text of a suggested provision to be included in any new legislation to safeguard "the right to work of all minority groups, including fifteen million American Negroes." It follows:

"Any agreement between an employer and a union requiring employees, as a condition of employment, to be members of any union which by its constitution, bylaws, regulations, rules or long established practices, denies full membership to any person because of his race, religion, color or national origin is hereby declared contrary to public policy, and shall be unenforceable in the courts of the United States or of the several states, or by the National Labor Relations Board."

Young's request to be heard by the Committee, he said, was "present evidence showing necessity for such a provision in new labor law if freedom of employment is to be preserved for workers and employers alike."

The present Taft-Hartley law includes a section preventing unions because of discriminatory rules or constitutional restriction from forcing employers to discharge employees in a union shop if they are not members of the union.

In cases of such discrimination, the union shop agreement is not binding upon the employer. The text of the Taft-Hartley section dealing with this reads:

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LAST RITES HELD IN RALEIGH FOR FRANK WILLIAMS

Mr. Frank Williams, a local veteran of World War I, died at his home, 716 South East Street after a brief illness.

He is survived by one brother, Fred Williams, five nieces, Mrs. Isa Mae Reks, Mrs. Alice Henry, Misses Lulu, Dorothy and Mary Williams and two nephews, Richard and James Williams. Funeral service was held at the Manly Street Christian Church with the Rev. Hannas officiating. Burial was completed at the National cemetery. (Continued on page six)

At Freedom Day Fete FDR's Widow Is Heard In Keynote Role

The climax of the 1949 National Freedom Day observance was reached on Tuesday evening, February 1 at Town Hall, with a dramatic appearance of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late President Delano Roosevelt.

Mrs. Roosevelt was introduced to the body by the National Freedom Day Association president, Emanuel C. Wright, who presented her with a citation in behalf of the body as an outstanding citizen of the United States. The scroll also cited Mrs. Roosevelt for her continuous effort in spreading the cause of Freedom throughout the world.

In response, the late President's widow expressed her belief in the principles to which the United Nations are dedicated, and indicated her confidence in the future of that organization for obtaining world security.

White the appearance of Mrs. Roosevelt constituted the high point in the three-day ceremonies commemorating the forwarding to Congress by then President Abraham Lincoln of the resolution requesting the abolition of slavery, other distinguished guests paid tribute to the occasion which was framed by the late Major R. R. Wright, Sr., in 1941. This year's observance was the (Continued on page six)

THE NEGRO AND JUSTICE SET AS AIRSHOW TOPICS

NEW YORK — "American Justice and the Negro" will be discussed on a nationwide network Monday night, February 14, it was announced today by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE), sponsors of a regular weekly program over this network.

Mr. Gaeth is brought to a national audience every Monday night by the UE which represents more than 600,000 men and women in local unions throughout the country employed in the electrical manufacturing industry. Each week Mr. Gaeth brings to the air important and informed personalities and goes into the homes of average families to discuss urgent issues of the day.