

# EDITORIALS

## HALF WAY AGAIN

Let no one become overoptimistic because the House of Representatives has passed a sensible and sound anti-poll tax bill. It is the fifth such measure to pass the House in recent years. It will be adequately dealt with in the Senate, in all probability. There it will probably die in committee or be filibustered to death if it is reported out.

But even the House vote was something to delight the cynics. The southern delegation was almost solid in its vote against the bill. All but one of the voting representatives from North Carolina, a state which boasts that it eliminated nearly a generation ago the poll tax as a qualification for the suffrage, joined their Dixie colleagues. The same was true of the congressmen from other non-poll tax southern states. The South reacts with an emotional solidarity even when there are clear and logical bases for intellectual differences of opinion.

That emotional reaction, sometimes rooted in fear or timidity, is one of the greatest and most durable obstacles to progressive action in the South — to the modification of outmoded and logically indefensible patterns of behavior. Probably the majority of the southern members of the House of Representatives saw the absurdity of Representative Rankin's statement to the effect that the move to abolish the poll tax was another expression of the Communist trend in the United States. Certainly the North Carolina delegation would not agree with Mr. Rankin. But when the vote was taken, they voted the same way Mr. Rankin did. They voted along with other southern representatives whose political lives, like that of Rankin, depend on a small electorate. They voted with the States' Righters, who follow the line that it is proper to let anything go on under the guise of the "rights" of the States, no matter what wrongs may be done in the process to millions of people who live in the state.

Probably one of the most telling arguments in favor of a federal law to abolish the poll tax as a requisite for voting in federal elections and primaries is that only those qualified to vote under the present laws of the states having the poll tax can vote on the poll tax abolition issue. So it is not really States' Rights versus Federal interference which is at issue, it is the State interference with the right of the people to vote for Federal officers, including members of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate. The number of the former to which each state is entitled is by the U. S. Constitution based on population, and this includes blacks as well as whites, non-poll tax payer as well as those who do pay, or have the tax paid for them.

If the southern bloc in Congress continues to refuse to let the poll tax be eliminated, and argue righteously that the anti-poll tax legislation would be unconstitutional, it might be extremely interesting to see what would happen if a part of the U. S. Constitution as it now stands were invoked. It reads:

When he is right to vote at any election for the choice of Electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any male inhabitants of

such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States... the basis for representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in each State.

## ONLY ONE ANSWER

The people in Longview Park who are opposing the York rental housing development for Negroes just east of St. Augustine's College are already occupying their homes. They think they know their interests. On the other hand the Negro citizens who would live in the proposed new houses are not yet a crystallized group. This leads to the peculiar condition of some white people advocating a movement of extreme importance and value to Negroes and other white people, opposing it, while Negroes themselves are virtually silent on the subject.

It has been pointed out by the promoters of the proposed Negro housing project, and emphasized editorially by the local dailies, that rental housing is desperately needed for Raleigh's Negro population; that the area in which it is proposed to erect the houses is a Negro residential area of long standing; that the Longview development is really the interloper, if here is any interloper, having been placed near an old Negro neighborhood; and as a matter of fact displacing some Negro families; that the areas into which Negro homes may be expanded in Raleigh are definitely limited and practically non-existent except for a few spots such as that selected by the York interests.

Since there is no organized body of home occupants yet to defend their interests against the Longview Park residents who are already entrenched, it is the duty of all organized bodies of Negro citizens to support Mr. York and those tentative Little and the editors of the fair-minded white citizens such as Representative Little and the editors of the Planning Board and the other city authorities do not interfere with the eminently proper plans to put up the new houses.

There is no point in striking back at the residents of Longview Park. The case for the new development for Negroes can rest firmly on its own merits. The Longview residents deny that racial prejudice enters into their attitude toward the projected development. One may have one's own opinions as to that. But as the News and Observer observes editorially:

"Nobody suggests that Raleigh does not desperately need more decent low cost housing for Negroes. This project is the only one presented which provided any real hope for it. This project is designed to kill that project. No talk of 'density,' 'deconcentration' or anything else will change the fact that these white owners who recently became the neighbors of a long-established Negro neighborhood want to prevent decent housing for Negroes in their own neighborhood. If it should become an established rule that white residents can move up against a Negro neighborhood and then prevent a project to provide decent housing for Negroes in that neighborhood, it would be simpler just to make it against the law to provide decent housing for Negroes anywhere."

And again, from the same source: "Negro citizens are as much entitled to enterprise which will make Raleigh a good city for them as white citizens are to such enterprise."

It would be contrary to the best interest as well as the best tradition of Raleigh to sidetrack this housing development. Work should have started on it already. We hope and believe that it will soon start, with the full approval of the city authorities, and of most of the people of Raleigh.



Passing Of The Housing Bill Should Help Remove These Vicious Practices.



## Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

Some weeks ago there appeared on the editorial page of the Raleigh News and Observer a remarkable article quoted from the Charlotte News. The news piece was in turn a commentary on an article by Hodding Carter, the well-known editor and publisher of the Delta Democrat-Times, Greenville, Miss., appearing in Collier's for July 3. The burden of Mr. Carter's article was that there is a growing liberalism in the South, especially a growing liberal leadership. Mr. Carter himself is often classified in this group, though of course he does not make any personal claims in his own article. Rather he denigrates the fact that this liberal leadership receives such little recognition and credit for taking the unpopular side, which is so often the right side, in inter-racial matters.

Mr. Carter himself describes this typical southern liberal, whose numbers are increasing, as follows: "You don't hear too much about him. He is an educator, an editor, a churchman, a representative of organized labor, a writer, a political leader, a business or professional man, a farmer. Usually he would be embarrassed if you praised him for his courage, or labeled him a liberal."

The commentary in the Charlotte News is remarkable in that it holds that things are not so rosy as Hodding Carter makes them out to be. In this matter of the growing southern liberalism, characterized by the article written by Mr. Carter as "optimistic," it also calls the piece "misleading."

"There are some liberals in the South," it goes on, "but all those who admit to what Carter calls 'liberalism, progressiveness, vision,' are not liberal, progressive or forward-looking. They are more often mild and cautious conservatives who cannot stomach the Rankins and Talmadges of the far right, yet fear the clear-cut decisions required of the liberal mind. To be liberal in the South is still dangerous — in the business of making a living and in the business of living with your neighbors. To be liberal in the South is still dangerous — in and a milder lover."

"It is an old story. The layman who champions the cause of organized labor, his fellow liberals whose aim is black of the Southernites — to make Southern professional union organizers or full-time race workers. 'The Southerner whose thinking is chained by conditions long exacted holds that the Southerner who practices liberalism is perverse, an enemy of his own kind and a traitor. They are a lonesome crew, these liberals.'"

"We can agree with Carter that some Southerners have found the firm path out of the swamps of racial hatred, have found their way out of the illusory fairyland of vanguardism reliance upon unusable tradition. But it is slow, slow."

It is rare to find a writer in a southern newspaper with such a clear-eyed vision of the true state of liberalism in the South as set forth by the writer quoted from his remarks give one some insight into the hard way to travel, and it increases one's appreciation of those who do travel that hard road, in spite of the hazards and hardships. As the Charlotte News writer intimates, there are not many of them. There are many who will condemn lynching, ostentatiously express themselves in favor of "more" and "better" than for "our colored citizens," and that is all to the good. But the real believers in complete and equal rights and privileges for Negroes are still very few in number — and they have to watch their step.

## SENTENCE SERMONS

BY REV. FRANK CLARENCE LOWRY FOR ANP

The smiling, under-handed deceptive man, must eventually face the results of God's unchanging plan. Since God admonishes us to be fair and to love one another, no one can sidestep and expect never to suffer.

It may seem a smart thing to amass a fortune and slide by tax concealment will pick when all other things fail. The little honor and applause a man can pick up by being sly, even dies long before the under-taxer, drives him swiftly by.

We miserably rob ourselves of the joys we should ordinarily share, by practicing tricks and treating others unfairly. If one loses by being honest, it is still valuable gain, for upon such a head good fortune will eventually rain.

Stress should be laid upon daily proper living, for the highest results are obtained when men learn the secret of giving. The take-in-only process robs one of the benefits that might accrue, and when leaving this world it will surely be found that love's payments are far over due.

Life's acts are contagious and as you pass by, you should make sure that by your conduct, all men on you can rely. So weaving a fine thread of moral fabric each day we strengthen our own lives and keep sin away. This is the kind of moral atmosphere you and I should create, and the practice must be daily, and not started too late. With such a fine spirit in you emanating from God, the Kingdom of God is within you and on your street, in proportion as you and such neighbors, sin and Satan strive to defeat.

### BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DIAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

JACKIE ROBINSON INTER-RACIALIST

It was the conclusion of this column many months ago that one of the most hopeful signs in the realm of better race relations was the forthrightness with which non-southern Negroes were speaking these days. There was a time when non-southern Negroes seemed to glory in "riding" southern Negroes for their seeming submission to the prescriptions and regulations of segregation.

est opportunity that can come to any people. It is far better to have the ability and be denied than to have the opportunity and fall short on ability. Within their straitened circumstances Negroes are exhibiting daily their equality in every noble endeavor in the nation. In fact it is generally conceded that such handicaps as are imposed upon Negroes are imposed for reasons of prejudice and not for reasons of the Negro's incapacity. When this point is proved — as it is — beyond any reasonable doubt, the Negro has won his fight and the acquisition of the opportunities commensurate with these practical abilities are more incidents in the final analysis.

Today the greatest difference between the non-southern and the southern Negroes voice of contention for full manhood rights is one of tone and the tone is more and more becoming the same. There can be no doubt that the deck is being cleared for constructive action intra-racially and inter-racially. Even today some southern Negroes are trying to pick out and cold at the same time, in the fear that they may avert the non-southern Negroes wrath which is more and more becoming non-existent in their words Negroes are coming together in their thinking and speaking and in this there is brought into view unparalleled vistas of possibilities which hitherto were obscured by intra-racial insunderstanding.

This article is inspired by the recent deliverance of Jackie Robinson before the committee on Un-American Activities. Unfortunately Jackie had to appear against Paul Robeson, erstwhile idol of the medical world. It is exceedingly unfortunate that Paul Robeson has been maneuvered into a position where his loyalty to his nation is being questioned. I have little doubt that Paul Robeson at heart is a hundred per cent American Negro. He could not do anything else and what they say to the contrary is publicly deluged. But Jackie's deliverance is a classic of common sense and intelligence. Jackie speaks for about eleven-tenths of the Negro race Paul Robeson included. When Jackie sets forth the subtle horrors of being a Negro and in spite of this shows the undying loyalty of the Negro race he speaks as a man inspired. He speaks the heart of every intelligent Negro in this country.

Jackie did not attempt to minimize the plight of a stricken race. He merely indicates how the Negro could rise above his traducers and love a nation that time and again has cold-watered the Negro's aspirations to full citizenship. It was the irony of fate that Jackie Robinson, could ascend to such magnificent heights of moral grandeur while the 81st Congress revealed in the waltz of moral politics that smeared the standing of the nation in the eyes of the world White gouchy Republicans and Democrats coalition in a moral political coalition Jackie Robinson rise to giddy heights of moral grandeur as a master inter-racialist!

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## IN THIS OUR DAY BY C. A. CHICK, SR.

### ENCOURAGING SIGNS (Installment II)

Several weeks ago Miss Joan Rankin, a Negro girl, was elected governor of the Ohio Girl's State. Being the chief executive of the Girls' State entitled her to attend the meeting of the Girls' Nation in Washington, D. C., August 21-27.

However, the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary, the sponsor of the Ohio Girls' State at first took the position that since Miss Rankin was colored she would be humiliated by Washington's jim crow pattern. Therefore it declined not to send her. All of which sound very discouraging to Negro Americans.

However, it is encouraging that public sentiment throughout the country forced its auxiliary to rescind its action. So the auxiliary of a recent meeting decided to send Miss Rankin to the Girls' Nation in Washington.

In the second place it is encouraging that Dr. Paul Douglas, president of American University, the (AUCM) host to the Girls' Nation made the following statement: "We have an absolutely open policy at American University. Negro students have lived in the boys' dormitory here for several years. One Negro woman (Miss Marie Boykin of Popular Bluff, Mo.) is now living in one of the residence halls here while attending the Institute on World Affairs. We have accommodated Negroes at past institutes of this kind and will do so in the future. Miss Rankin will have a good time here." In the third place it is encouraging that the American Veterans Committee extended Miss Rankin an invitation to live in their non-segregated clubhouse in Washington.

Mr. Jim Crow, in Washington or anywhere else, for that matter, cannot for ever withstand the pressure of such noble words as well as deeds as those cited above. When organization with strong prestige, and especially educational and religious institutions, speak and act against segregation it is evidence that Old Brother Segregation is dying. The death may be a slow one, all too slow, but it is dying just the same.

There are still those, far too many, who for political and economic personal gains, will resort to inciting prejudices of all kinds. But in the face of such enlightenings as those mentioned above those who preach hatred and prejudice of any nature for the purpose of dividing the people cannot stand. But rather they along with the un-American influences must be, and will be, crushed by the spirit of love and cooperation.

## THEY'LL NEVER DIE

THE SON OF SLAVE PARENTS HARVEY W. JOHNSON WAS BORN IN VA. 124 YEARS AGO. HE WAS EDUCATED BY QUAKERS AND AT WAYLAND SEMINARY FROM WHICH HE WAS GRADUATED AT 29. HE WENT IMMEDIATELY TO UNION BAPTIST CHURCH IN BALTIMORE, MD. GIVEN A TRY CHARGE OF 240 MEMBERS WHICH HE BUILT INTO ONE OF THE POWERFUL CHURCHES OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD. DR. JOHNSON'S IDEALS WERE HIGH AND HIS WORK WAS BROAD. HE HELPED OPEN THE DOOR TO THE LEGAL BAR FOR BALTIMORE'S COLORED LAWYERS. HE AND OTHERS PAVED THE WAY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF BALTIMORE'S FIRST ACCREDITED COLORED TEACHERS. THEY WERE DR. JOSEPH LOCKERMAN AND MISS FANNIE L. BARBER. IN EVERY PROMINENT NATIONAL BAPTIST CIRCLE THE NAME OF THIS GREAT AMERICAN WILL LIVE FOR ALL TIME!!

REV. HARVEY JOHNSON  
GREAT BAPTIST LEADER OF MARYLAND

## THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

PROFITS OF U.S. CORPORATIONS IN 1945 WERE THE LOWEST IN FIVE YEARS, AND THEY STILL ARE DECLINING.

NEW TARGET — A TRANSPARENT ENVELOPE MADE IN VARIOUS SIZES FOR SHOP ORDERS, BLUEPRINTS, MAPS, AND RECORD SHEETS.

THE TELEGRAPH WAS USED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TRAIN OPERATION IN 1851!

ACCIDENTAL INJURIES OCCUR IN AMERICAN HOMES AT THE RATE OF ONE EVERY SIX HOURS AND A HALF SECONDS.

THE WATERS OF THE RIVER JORDAN WERE BELIEVED BY THE ANCIENTS TO CURE LEPROSY.

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