

# EDITORIALS

## THE GRAY INCIDENT

All that the Negro press has so far reported as the forced resignation of Dr. William H. Gray from the presidency of Florida A. and M. College would indicate that his undesirability to the educational and higher authorities of the state developed largely out of his unwillingness to compromise his manhood. It seems that there were other charges and accusations, but those who accused him and put him on trial have failed to make them public. The public, and especially the people of Florida, have a definite interest in the case, and are entitled to the facts about this sudden ousting of Dr. Gray from the presidency of the state's leading institution for Negroes. Florida A. and M. certainly made great progress under Dr. Gray's administration and he had established a good reputation as an educator and administrator.

According to the Negro press, not only was his resignation forced without the opportunity of a hearing, by star chamber proceedings of an unusual nature, but he was ordered off the campus and out of the city at once, as though he were a common criminal instead of a distinguished educator and citizen of the community and state.

Dr. Gray alleges that one of the things which made him persona non grata was his refusal to endorse a proposed statement to be signed by Negro teachers in Florida. One of the questions to be answered in connection with this statement was, "Have you ever taught or expressed yourself as being against any of the provisions of the race segregation laws of the State of Florida?" Apparently Dr. Gray and the overwhelming majority of his faculty objected to answering this question in the negative, as most intellectually and spiritually honest Negroes would. Ideological opposition to segregation has nothing to do with Communism, and there is nothing subversive about such opposition, which is really quite compatible with the highest ideals of American democracy. Dr. Gray and his faculty worked in a system of segregation, peaceably adapting themselves to it to whatever extent necessary. But they were called on to go further, to endorse something which works to their disadvantage in many ways, and which they could not believe in.

It is alleged also that Dr. Gray incurred the displeasure of various Tallahassee merchants by upholding faculty members who did not enjoy spending their money in stores in which the employees refused to accord them courtesy titles; that he was not enthusiastic enough about the segregation-perpetuating aspects of the Regional Education plan, in which his own governor has taken a leading part; that he had not been active enough in dissuading Negroes from applying for admission to the graduate departments of the state's university system.

In other words, Dr. Gray did not conform closely enough to the pattern set by those who rule the state educational system of Florida for the headship of a state institution for Negroes. On the basis of the information made public, that is an inevitable conclusion.

What has happened at Florida A. and M. is another demonstration of the continuing need for private colleges for Negroes in the South. It gives evidence of

what sometimes must be given in exchange for high presidential salaries, extensive building programs and bigger budgets at Negro institutions in some southern states. And it throws a great deal of doubt on the proposition that Florida belongs among those southern states which have made the most progress toward liberalism.

If these conclusions are wrong, Florida officials should come forward with the facts to refute them.

## CAN'T SURVIVE UNMASKED

Things are happening at an unprecedented rate on the Ku Klux Klan front. The law began to move in Alabama about a month ago, with the legislature banning the wearing of masks in public and with the indictment of a number of alleged masked floggers. Now the first sentences have been meted out under the new anti mask law, and oddly enough the culprits turn out to be Negro youths, inspired by the example of older white men to punish what they allegedly thought to be wrongdoing, under the cover of a mask. It is too bad they had not learned that lawlessness and taking into one's own hands that which is not one's own business is not the proper way to correct evils, even when such evils are real.

Next we read of a group of white citizens of a small town in Georgia which halted a Klan parade with firearms. The town council had passed an ordinance forbidding parades or assemblies of masked men. A mob of masked hoodlums had previously attacked the mayor of the town.

It is a rough and dangerous way to teach a lesson, but maybe a show of force is the only way to convince the Klan members, who seek to set themselves above the law, that they are not everywhere welcomed with open arms, even in Georgia. Arrogance and stupidity often go hand in hand, and the two seem to be indispensable qualifications for Klan membership.

Now the grand what's-his-name of the Klan has issued an order absolutely banning the wearing of masks or hoods by any and all members of the order in public. He had previously resisted the passing of ordinances and statutes by city councils and state legislatures to do the same thing, but evidently in this crisis he is trying to save his beloved and (to him) profitable organization from quick and complete extinction by the blasts of public indignation and contempt. But it is a losing struggle. The Klan can exist only under cover of secrecy and anonymity. Removing the mask and the hood means the end of the Klan as an important organization.

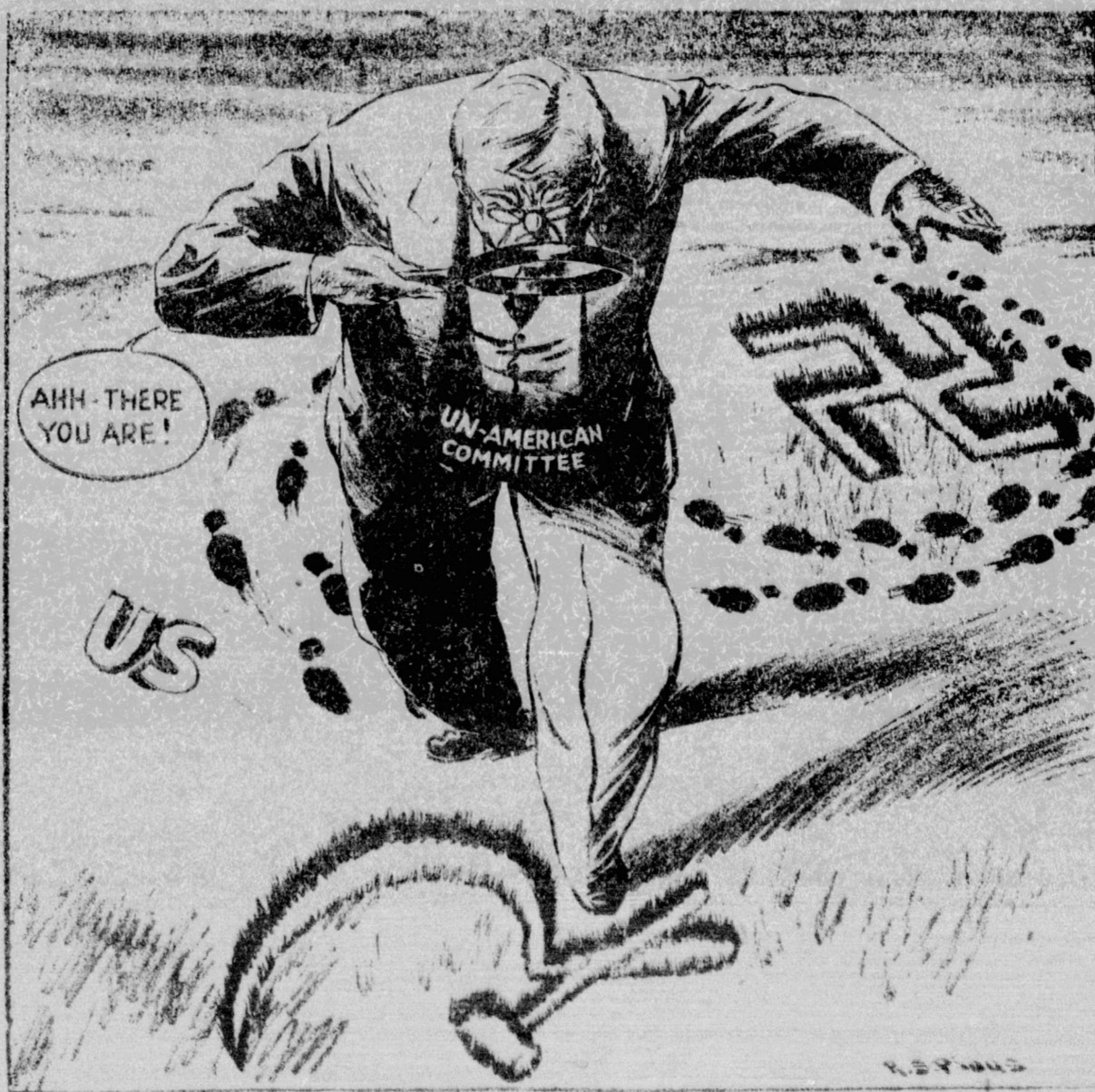
## MORE NEGRO POLICEMEN

Two Negro police officers have gone on duty in Goldsboro, and the city council of Statesville has authorized the appointment of one colored officer. So the movement spreads in North Carolina and the South to give qualified Negroes a part in law enforcement. For many years the Negro populations of southern cities were almost exclusively on the receiving end insofar as police activity was concerned.

Practically everywhere Negro police officers have admittedly made good. They have proved a distinct asset on the side of law and order and crime prevention.

It has been said that North Carolina leads the South in the use of Negro policemen. Gastonia, with a Negro population of reputedly less than 4,000, has five colored officers, which is, according to the *Afro-American*, the highest ratio to any city in the country.

Raleigh, one of the earlier cities of the state to have Negro officers, still has only two. City Manager Braden recommended in his budget that provisions be made for the appointment of two additional ones. So far they have not been hired. Certainly Raleigh needs at least four Negro police-



Fight For Equal Rights Will Continue Until Won, Without The Aid Of Either.



## Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

Some weeks ago the Raleigh News and Observer commented on the fact that a higher proportion of the graduates of Raleigh's Negro high school indicated their intentions of continuing their education than the graduates of one of the two white high schools. Forty-nine of the 79 graduates of Washington High School hoped and planned to go on to college, while only 56 of the 143 graduates of the white school indicated such plans. However, the other white public high school, located in another part of the city, had 160 graduates planning further education out of a total of 188. This second white school on the whole serves a group of higher economic status than the one in which only 41 per cent of the 1949 graduates look forward to college.

In seeking an explanation for the higher percentage of the graduates of Washington High School seeking higher education than those of Hugh Morson, the first mentioned white school, the News and Observer editorial writer said:

"There may be a greater premium on education among Negroes in terms of economic opportunity than there is among white people. Sometimes in the past it has almost seemed that a Negro must be a teacher or a laborer."

It has often been remarked that when Negroes are education-conscious and more and more of them have become so, they tend to have an extra measure of that faith in formal education which is one of the outstanding American characteristics. A college degree for many Negro parents is something their children must be provided with at all costs, and it is hardly to be doubted that in proportion to income, class for

class, more Negroes than whites go to college.

But although a great deal of value is placed on education and degrees *per se*, there is also, as the News and Observer writer intimates, a practical reason why Negroes go to college in such numbers, in proportion to their ability to pay for a college education—the "teacher-or-laborer" alternative in vocational choice. Of course the teacher-or-laborer is an exaggeration for emphasis, but it is too near the truth.

The opportunities for employment open to a Negro youth out of high school are much more restricted than those of a white high school graduate. They are not as restricted as the pessimists make out, and imagination, initiative and increased opportunities for employment in Negro-owned businesses can widen the horizon; but the field of opportunity is nonetheless much narrower than for white youth. In a city like Raleigh the stores and offices are full of young white men and women who have gone to work with no more than a high school education. The many departments and bureaus of the state government employ hundreds who have at most had a year in a business school after high school graduation.

And teaching is offering less and less as an outlet for the Negro college graduate. Obviously the public schools cannot continue to absorb a major proportion of the ever-increasing army of Negroes with bachelor's degrees.

Fair employment practices, whether by law or not, and preparation for other vocations rather than drifting into teaching, represent the solution to the problem of what to do with the increasing numbers of schooled Negroes. It is easy to say, but not so easy to bring about.

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

### GOING TO COLLEGE

I am dedicating this column to those of you who plan to enter college this fall. If you followed the practices of those young people with whom I am personally acquainted, you began early in your senior high school year, or even before then, selecting the college that you will attend. No doubt you have read the catalogues of a large number of colleges.

Well, my dear freshman-to-be, it is a fine thing to be able financially and mentally to enter college. It is a grand privilege, in spite of the fact that there are many people who regard it as a natural right of youth. Yet there are certain things which you should be on your guard against when selecting and entering a college to further your educational plans.

I hope that in choosing a college to enter this fall, the size of the institution was not the sole determinant. I hope you have not concluded that a small school may not be an efficient one. The efficiency of a factory may be judged by its size, but this may not necessarily be true of an institution of learning. We are able to produce a high quality as well as large quantities of goods by the assembly line method. However, the same method may not work in training human beings.

are concerned, the small colleges may have many advantages for him not found in the larger colleges and universities. Foremost among these advantages are the individual attention and guidance a student may receive from the instructors as well as the general official staff in a small college.

Further, I hope you did not choose to enter a certain college just because a large number of your friends and acquaintances are already attending that college or plan to enter there with you this fall. Moreover, I hope you did not choose a college simply on its athletic record, or according to the number and popularity of the fraternities and sororities in the colleges.

On entering college you must be mindful of the fact that a college, so to speak, is somewhat like a large show within which are a large number of small side shows. Some of these side shows are beneficial if they are kept in their proper proportions.

But there are many people in life who spontaneously go to the large show but who never see it because they spend so much time in the side shows. Be sure that you attend the college and not many of the side shows that you will find in every college.

## SENTENCE SERMONS

BY REV. FRANK CLARENCE LOWRY FOR ANP

Though the natural sun shines ever so bright, men seem to be in darkness and with unpaired sight.

Their inner visions seem to darken their outward view, so that of right thinking men, there appears to be all too few.

Thus the snatch-and-grab habit for honors and place has become most predominant in the human race.

Youth, standing in the sidelines is bound to get the wrong perspective but still looks hopelessly to the church for a proper objective.

The world that now must be built if it is going to stand, must be framed by human hearts — the best fruit of the land.

Men must, by sincere living bring this new day about, or forfeit the high standards for which our fathers fought.

The time is now — the day is far spent, and hardly is there time left for men to repent.

Yet deception, as a graceful queen continues to wield her magic wand with confidence bold, and men shivering and full as she takes her staggering toll.

Even in high places Evil seems to be having its day, while "Charity" that suffereth long and is kind, appears not to have even PARKING SPACE in the side.

But there is a brighter side if all the ransomed Church of God will keep close watch over the present day youth and in their God truly abide.

It is a new day; plans for depicting the very best that youth can offer, must here and now, be well on their way.

Then will come that mighty challenge that youth cannot flout, and wise will be that boy or girl who toward God makes a start.



## BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

### UNHAPPY FOREBODINGS THESE

When Cardinal Spellman unlimbered his politico-religious batteries against Mrs. Roosevelt, he was doing a desperate and dangerous thing. Far more important than what he said was the spirit in which he said it and Mrs. Roosevelt's calm and studied reply put the cardinal to flight.

Just as little David with his sling and smooth stone felled the giant Goliath, so Mrs. Roosevelt in words that breathed strongly with the spirit of Jesus slew the giant cardinal that in the final analysis God was the only judge of human worth she uttered a rebuke that was justly deserved.

When the Cardinal contended that he did not want support for Catholic education, but merely for "auxiliary" support, he threw his case to the winds and became a penitent crying for mercy at the hands of the American reading public.

I have heard many adverse things about the Roosevelts, but I have never before the cardinal's indictment, heard anyone call them intolerant. But the Cardinal found out to his utter dismay that Roosevelt's cannot be pushed around.

Personally this writer believes that it would have been a far wiser move on the cardinal's part had he retracted his statement out right, instead of the specious explanation that it was not support for Catholic education but auxiliary support that he was demanding.

There is precious little education and feeding him while he gets it. It is true, in the crowd that stoned Stephen there were some who did not hurl stones, but they held the cloaks of those who did, and they thereby became participants criminis to the tragic affair.

I am a Baptist but I do not want the U. S. government to finance Baptist education lest the U. S. government regiment Baptist thought and thinking. Denominational choice is a spiritual luxury that the individual and his denomination should finance.

The most ominous thing about the controversy that Cardinal Spellman's ill-considered pronouncement has kindled is conviction forced upon many that Federal aid to education is a lost cause in the current Congress and that the demise of the bill was designed in the cardinal's attack on Mrs. Roosevelt.

If one Roman Catholic cardinal can thwart in such fashion the

will of the people, it is high time that we take stock of our political and social heritage in this country. Could the anti-Catholic forces wish for better ammunition in their fight against the Catholic church?

This writer is a Baptist and bitterly and stubbornly opposed to Baptists running this government or even aspiring to do so, but he is just as stubbornly and bitterly opposed to government by Catholics.

So far as power in us lies this must forever remain a government of people, by the people, and for the people, rather than a government of Baptists by Baptists and for Catholics by Catholics and for Catholics. Tolerance in religion, politics and race, happens to be one of the fundamentals of my life's philosophy.

I have the highest regard for all sects and shades of thought. I respect the Holy Roller for his religious convictions just as much as I do Baptists and Catholics. It so happens that I know just how the Holy Roller got that way and do the Baptists and Catholics.

I bow in humble reverence and respect to any religious devotee who claims that his religion is as good as mine, but I utterly abhor and pity the one who says his religion or belief or creed is better than mine! Religiously there is no difference between Catholics, Baptists and Holy Rollers; individually there is.

I believe in the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God and not in creedal or denominational or sectarian superiorities. Bishop Oxnham's recent indictment of the Catholic Church is a serious one. He points out parallels between Communism and Catholicism, and Cardinal Spellman's bitter attack on Mrs. Roosevelt makes even the most tolerant ask what truth is there in Bishop Oxnham's indictment?

Cardinal Spellman's attack and the spirit in which it was made makes it extremely unwise to dismiss without gravest consideration — Bishop Oxnham's grave charge. Let us hope that the controversy has been climaxed and that tolerance and the spirit of Jesus Christ may be the ultimate criterion of life for the individual, for the religionist and for the state. Cardinal Spellman's bitter and intolerant attack on Mrs. Roosevelt and Bishop Oxnham's grave indictment against Catholicism, could easily be solemn warnings of unhappy forebodings. God forbid!

## Letter To The Editor

Housing is a great word, and the reason is because Christ was born without shelter; the colored man seems to have come into the world likewise. The birds have more consideration. We cook clean and do all kinds of work with very little consideration. Our needs cost us as they do our white friends. Since our town has outgrown our bus line and not too many of us know how to ride them, we don't get a chance to ride them as we need that.

The Bible says "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak." Also, "See ye the Kingdom to heaven and all other things will be added unto us."

I was born and reared in East Raleigh. I hope the good people of Raleigh, there are quite a few, will say Amen to this: Let the colored man live while on this earth. The consideration which Mr. J. W. York is trying to give the colored people is very much appreciated. May there be others like him.

Training a child from birth is a great advantage if it enable him to live. LET THE COLORED MAN LIVE.

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## WHO SAID THE CITY WAS DANGEROUS?

CHICAGO — Choose up sides, for here's some ammunition in the age-old country versus city controversy.

Driving a car is more than twice as dangerous in rural areas than in city areas, according to the 1949 edition of the National Safety Council's statistical yearbook, "Accident Facts."

Of the 32,000 motor vehicle deaths in 1948, 21,500 occurred in areas. The mileage death rate was for here's some ammunition in the age-old country versus city controversy.

There were about twice as many urban pedestrian deaths as rural — 6,200 compared with 3,650 — but there were more than four times as many rural pedestrian motor vehicle deaths as urban — 17,850 compared with 4,300.

## THE L NEVER DIE By Elton Fox



CHARLES HENRY TURNER, BORN 80 YEARS AGO IN CINCINNATI, OHIO RECEIVED HIS EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI AND THE U. OF CHICAGO. FOR A TIME HE SERVED AS ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR AT BOTH INSTITUTIONS. HE LATER TAUGHT AT CLARK UNIVERSITY AND HAYNES NORMAL & INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. BOTH IN GEORGIA. DR. TURNER SETTLED AT SUMNER DR. SCHOOL IN ST. LOUIS, MO. AS A BIOLOGIST AND CHEMIST DR. TURNER RANKS WITH THE FINEST OF THE WORLD. HIS SPECIAL FINDINGS IN THE FIELD OF ANIMAL BIOLOGICAL BEHAVIOR HAVE EVOCKED THE HIGH PRAISE OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

CHAS. H. TURNER  
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