

EDITORIALS

NO DISCRIMINATION?

If Raleigh Speller is guilty of the crime of which he has been three times convicted he should pay the penalty decreed by law for it. Rape is a horrible crime, and rapists are unfit to be members of society. If the evidence adduced against Speller is true it was an especially aggravated case of rape.

But since the crime is an enormous one and since conviction of rape carries the extreme penalty, conviction should occur only on the basis of absolutely conclusive evidence after a trial in which the accused has been accorded every right due the defendant.

The clock-like regularity with which Negroes accused of assaults on white women are found guilty and sentenced to death in North Carolina and the South generally would indicate that Negro defendants are at a distinct disadvantage when on trial in such cases. The southern mind, when it comes to sex cases across race lines is not likely to be distinguished by lack of bias.

So when four commissioners of Vance County testified, concerning discrimination on the selection of a jury for Speller's 3rd trial, that they had never known any racial discrimination in the selection of juries in their county, while the register of deeds testified that he had never known a Negro to serve on a Vance County jury, anyone could tell that somebody was wrong. Yet the presiding judge rules that he had heard no information showing purposeful discrimination in jury selection. With one third of Vance County's population colored, it is mathematically impossible that over a period of years no Negro would qualify for jury, except by design.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

The Washington Terrace merry-go-round continues in full swing. It goes 'round and 'round and it is getting Raleigh dizzy.

Now the City Council has approved the rental apartments proposal. Just before that happened Mr. York had withdrawn his request for authorization to go ahead with the rental project, but had signified his willingness, under certain circumstances, to build detached homes for sale. The embattled residents of Longview Park had said all along that they did not object to the erection of homes for sale, but when it appeared that the promoter might possibly complete plans for such construction, they come forward with not one but three more exceptions, modifications and conditions qualifying that stand.

One was for rezoning the 30-acre plot to reduce drastically the number of houses permitted per acre under its present classification. A second, which is highly illuminating as regards their real feeling toward the prospect of Negro neighbors, is a request that the city insert a park between Washington Terrace and Longview Park, evidently as a geographical barrier. The third is another delaying tactic against the original project — a legal technicality admittedly dug up out of limbo — an ordinance requiring the approval of the materials and so forth that go into apartment houses by the City Board of Adjustments, and which requires at least two weeks before an application can be acted on.

The CAROLINIAN is glad that at least the prospect of some housing development for Negroes at the proposed site is not yet lost. It hopes that none of

the various devices so far employed, and none that may be brought forward, will prevent the development of Washington Terrace for the use of Negroes. All Negro citizens, or at least an overwhelming majority of them, are united on that wish, however they may have varied in their opinions as to the most advantageous use of the plot as to type of housing.

DEATH STALKS HIGHWAYS

The extent to which we have failed to control the dangerous features of that generally beneficent device, the automobile, was reflected in the almost casual and callous manner in which the nation's press predicted (and accurately) a record-breaking death toll from motor accidents over the holiday week-end. It was conceded beforehand that a certain number, and a very large number, of Americans, were doomed to death while pursuing business or more likely pleasure during the Labor Day period. If the newspapers could have named names and thereby warned the persons destined to be victims, it would have been wonderful.

The tragedy is that life on the highways is so cheap. Except for the survivors of the accidents which proved fatal to their traveling companions, and the relatives and close friends of the victims who died, too few will regard the figure of over 300 deaths for the week-end as anything more than a statistic. And the same kind of thing will happen, on a somewhat smaller scale, every day and every week-end, until next Fourth of July, when another "holiday toll" will be compared on the front pages of newspapers with those of previous holidays.

Our own North Carolina ought to be shocked by the fact that in only four other states in the country did more people die in traffic accidents during the Labor Day period this year. But is it?

Our legislature, spurred by the insistence of many automobile owners, repealed this year a measure designed to reduce the hazards of the highway, because the provisions of the law were too irksome. Small fines for serious and life-endangering violations of traffic laws, including drunken driving, continue to be the prevailing pattern. Persons whose licenses have been revoked for violations keep driving, and in some cases get their licenses back. The right to drive is one of the most indulgently handled rights.

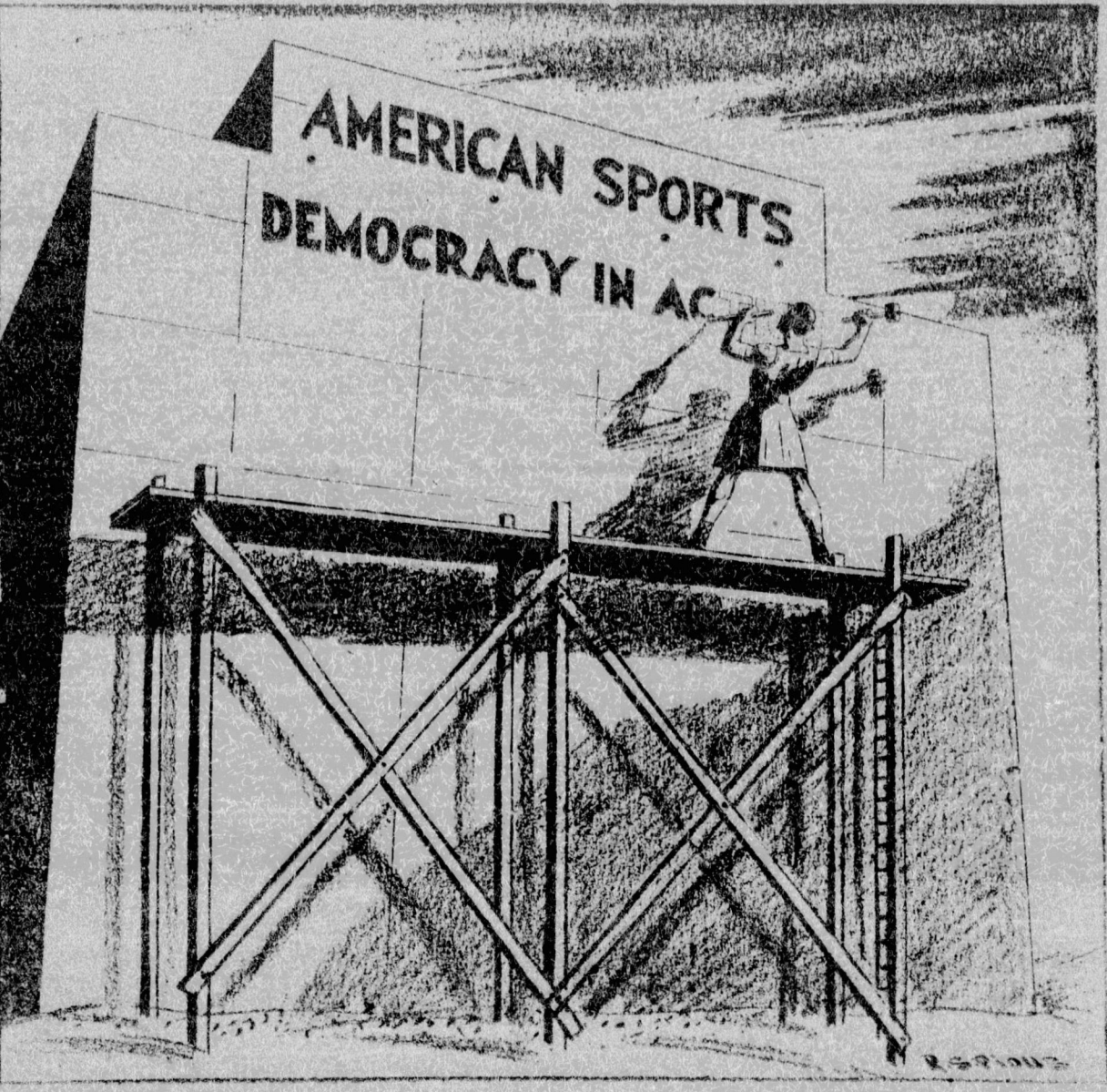
RALEIGH AND LOTT CAREY

Raleigh is proud of the election of Dr. O. S. Bullock to the presidency of the Lott Carey Foreign Missions Convention at the meeting of that nationwide Baptist society in Norfolk recently. The long and distinguished career of the local pastor as a leader in the Baptist denomination locally, sectionally and nationally, merits the honor tendered Dr. Bullock. He belongs particularly to Raleigh and North Carolina, having spent his entire ministry in two charges within the state, and the great majority of his ministerial years as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh. Measured by whatever yardstick, few have been more successful laborers in the vineyard.

The Lott Carey Society now finds itself under good North Carolina and Raleigh influence, for not only is its presidency held by a Raleigh man; the executive secretary is, and has been for a number of years, the Rev. Dr. W. C. Somerville, on whom Raleigh has claims. Anyone who has ever seen Dr. Somerville at a Shaw football game will know that in spirit he could never far outside the city limits.

DEITY OATH OUTLAWED

Maryland lost its right to make public officials swear to belief in God or Christianity. A town councilman-elect, barred from office as a Pantheist (one who finds God in the universe as a whole), challenged the century-old law, won when the courts held the oath unconstitutional.



"And This Can Be True In Every Endeavor"



Second Thoughts

BY C. D. HALLIBURTON

Some months ago under the caption, "Admission of Fraud," the Raleigh News and Observer published an editorial commenting upon a statement by Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Dr. Erwin had said that there were many high schools in North Carolina which needed to be cut from the accredited list. "We're just fooling the children and the parents," he observed in reference to such standard schools.

The editorial writer went on: "One of the saddest things about it is that it does not permanently fool even the parents and children. Indeed one of the most tragic things in this State is the arrival of a student, loaded with good marks from a North Carolina High School, at a North Carolina College where he discovers that despite his counterfeit A's he is inadequately trained for the work he has to do."

The danger of such a condition is that it will not merely cheat some of the sons and daughters of the State but all of them. It will not be strange if some parents and children insist that the phony certificates of preparation... be negotiable not only for admittance to State

colleges. They may insist with some logic that college standards conform to the high school training. That would mean the reduction of the value also of degrees from our colleges and the quality of the equipment they give the sons and daughters of North Carolina.

Every thoughtful person connected with a college realizes how much truth there is in the above statements and observations. The meaning of many high school diplomas has become dubious, and the danger that college standards have been affected by the graduation of high school students ill-equipped to continue their education in college is real.

This situation is by no means confined to North Carolina, however. Comparable conditions exist everywhere, or nearly so, if we are to judge by the students coming to the college where I work with high school diplomas from more than half the states in the Union.

The following letter of inquiry which reached a North Carolina College by a roundabout route some time ago is fortunately not typical. It does show, however, what can happen. The writer is a graduate of an accredited N. C. high school. She was not applying for admission to a college, and it is doubtful that any college in North Carolina would have accepted her willingly. The fact remains, however, that she has a North Carolina high school diploma. The letter was addressed to the State Hospital, Raleigh.

"Dear Sir: Do you train color girls in the hospital with a month salary? I am a high school graduate. I like to become a nurse. If you know of a hospital that train color girls with a monthly salary will you send me the address please. Your truly"

THE POLIO FIGHT

Of all the problems faced by American families in 1949, few have caused more anxiety than the grim threat of infantile paralysis. The blackest polio year of this generation has brought tragedy into thousands of young lives. Many have died. Many more have been severely crippled. And throughout the country epidemics continue to take heavy toll.

During this emergency, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis is faithfully carrying out its pledge of leadership in the fight against polio. Its representatives are on the spot in every epidemic zone, covering March of Dimes funds into service to the stricken. That service has taken many forms — direct payment of patients' medical expenses, transportation and payment of nurses and physical therapists, procurement of vital hospital supplies and equipment, and an overall plan of action that has minimized to a remarkable degree the ravages of this crippling disease.

The cost has been tremendous. In hundreds of hard-hit communities, National Foundation chapters have seen their resources wiped out under the staggering burden of record-high case loads. They have had to

call upon their office for millions of dollars in emergency help to see them through the crisis. How long can these emergency funds last? The answer has just come from the National Foundation's home office. The total amount that will be needed — \$14,500,000 — is more than National Headquarters received from the 1944 March of Dimes! In other words, there just isn't money to do all the things that must be done — today.

THE ATOM BOMB AND JUDGMENT DAY

BY WILLIAM HENRY HUFF FOR ANY The atom bomb may take the place of that long talked of Judgment Day. So we're here may never face That Judgment resurrection day. We've heard about down through the years. The bomb may do the little trick Without teeth gnashing, groans or tears. Before an old wall clock can tick.

The Road To Health

A HEALTHFUL START TO SCHOOL

BY O. M. WHITTIER, M. D. Of San Antonio, Tex., for ANP Six-year-old Jimmy Bradley made a mistake when he tried to ride his older brother's big two-wheel bicycle. When he fell to the pavement he bruised and scratched the skin on his face, legs and arms. His mother hurried with him to my office because she thought that his painful swollen nose was broken.

Fortunately, Jimmy's nose was badly bruised, rather than broken. I set to work treating the tearful boy's cuts and bruises to relieve his pain and prevent infection. "Honestly, doctor, it's not easy raising boys," said Mrs. Bradley. "Jimmy is supposed to start school in a few weeks and I figured if he was badly hurt we would have to postpone it."

I assured his mother that Jimmy's would be healed in time for school. Mrs. Bradley then said it didn't seem possible that Jimmy was old enough for school and I agreed. I had treated Jimmy for minor illnesses when he was smaller, but it occurred to me then that I hadn't examined the child in over two years.

I asked Mrs. Bradley if Jimmy had had a physical check-up in recent months. When she said he hadn't I reminded her that it was important, especially since the child was planning to start school. Mrs. Bradley hadn't thought of it, since Jimmy appeared to be in good health, but agreed that it was a sound idea. The child and his mother came back the following week. Jimmy's height and weight were satisfactory for his age and build. I could see he was getting the foods he needed for health and growth and the proper amount of sleep and rest.

Jimmy's vision was sound too. But when I examined the boy's ears, I found an accumulation of wax which could impair his hearing and which had to be removed. Mrs. Bradley seemed surprised at the news and said she has always been careful to keep her children's ears clean. I explained that the wax in the outer ear is nature's way of protecting the delicate hearing apparatus against injury and infection. But sometimes too much wax accumulates and should be removed by the doctor to restore a person's hearing efficiency. The accumulated wax in Jimmy's ears was removed. If his ears had been neglected, his hearing would become impaired and serious ear trouble might have developed. Jimmy did get his clean bill

BETWEEN THE LINES BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

OUR DOUBLE CALAMITY

Two dreadful calamities are being currently visited upon the Negro race in particular and the country in general. As the late William Shakespeare so truly averred, troubles never come singly but in battalions. Paul Robeson and Walter White erstwhile Negro idols are bringing to the Negro race some unwanted publicity and to the country a measure of unwholesome excitement. However unreasonable it may be the country and world do not think of Negroes in terms of individuals but in terms of race.

It is still true however tragic it may be that whenever a Negro does something worthwhile it is accepted as the accomplishment of a Negro individual, but when he does something criminal, it is regarded as the deed of a race. Our heroes are so many individuals; our criminals are the representatives of the race. This will not always be true, even here in America, but the time for the broader way of thinking is in the distance future.

Fortunately or unfortunately, as the case may be, this country is allergic to Communism and he who embraces Communism must be prepared to pay the price and that such person is a Paul Robeson makes no difference. Robeson's great popularity — as a singer cannot save him from damnations which come to him as a Communist.

It is true the right to be a Communist is one that inheres in our democracy, but it is also the right of any one so inclined to spurn Communists and Communism. Robeson has been caught in a current of unpopularity and he must be prepared to pay the price.

Mr. Robeson's predicament is an unhappy one indeed and is becoming seriously embarrassing to the Negro race. And so the average American will conclude that it is not worthwhile to lift a Negro to the giddy heights of fame and fortune for it means ultimately that he will turn with ingratitude against the nation that lifted him.

The charge that one is ungrateful is one of the most serious that can be laid to one. The extent that Robeson's turning communist jeopardizes the Negro's good name as a loyal patriot in these United States and the world, is the extent to which his current unfavorable publicity's a calamity. It will serve as a shot in the arm to decadent Ku Kluxism in the south.

It must make men like Rankin giggle with glee as they point out Robeson as representing a real opportunity in this country. And how many Disleptic "Amens" he will receive when he makes bold to thus deface himself.

Equally calamitous is the marriage of Walter White to her Anglo-Saxon antecedents. Walter White has as much right to marry whom he will as Robeson as to be what he will, ideologically. But White's fellows and admirers have equal right to appraise his actions.

Walter White's departure has two dangerous implications. This writer was the first to take violent issues with Lillian Smith's Strange Fruit, for it implied that the highest ambition of the educated Negro woman was to become a concubine of a poor dissolute white man. Certain sectors of American thought could as easily conclude that Walter White's decision to marry beyond the pale carries with it the implication that Negro leaders are just looking for a good chance to marry white.

The calamitous thing about this conclusion is that it is false. Of course White and others may be bucking the tide of public opinion when they cross over, but they must be willing to take such opprobrium and calumny as the world may see fit to cast upon them.

Mr. White, like Mr. Robeson, of an unpopular action they very well, and it can not be doubted that the price in both of these cases is the forfeiture of leadership as the one he has occupied with such consummate dignity and effectiveness these many years.

Moreover, White leaves a race and a nation deeply in his debt for one of the most conspicuous illustrations of leadership to be found in the Twentieth Century world. Just as Mr. White's marriage may give a false impression as to the marital inclination of the Negro race, so it might imbue Negro youth with the notion that marrying white is one of the weightier consummations of Negro leadership. Robeson's Communism and White's interracial marriage are easily a double calamity.

IN THIS OUR DAY

BY C. A. CHICK BACK TO WORK

time) are all over and whether we like it or not, we return to our jobs. Yes, regardless of how unlikable, tiresome, or monotonous our jobs may be, we must return to them. Well, we may console ourselves by turning the old adage around and saying:

All the foregoing summed up, mean that one who has had a vacation should be a more efficient worker and a more efficient citizen as well as a more desirable citizen of the home, the church, the school, and the community at large. From the standpoint of sound economies the foregoing is one of the reasons many employers have developed the policy of giving their employees vacations with pay.

Advertisement for Col. Robert Harlan, featuring a portrait and text: 'ALT. 0 BORN A SLAVE (1816) IN VA. ROBERT HARLAN KNEW LITTLE OF SLAVERY. HE WAS EDUCATED AND TAKEN TO KENTUCKY BY HIS FAMILY. THERE HE FIGHT THE BARBER'S TRADE UNTIL HE WAS 32 HE OPERATED HIS OWN BUSINESS AT A GOOD PROFIT - HEADING THE GOLD RUSH HE WENT TO CALIF. AND RETURNED EAST WITH \$45,000. MR. HARLAN HELPED SECURE THE FIRST SCHOOL FOR NEGROES IN CINCINNATI, O. AND LATER BECAME A TRUSTEE OF ALL COLORED SCHOOLS IN THAT CITY. HE TRAVELED ABROAD RETURNED AND ENTERED POLITICS - AT 70 HE WAS A REPUBLICAN MEMBER OF THE OHIO STATE LEGISLATURE. Col. Robert HARLAN BUSINESSMAN AND POLITICAL LEADER OF OHIO'.

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