

# Editorial Viewpoint

## WORDS OF WORSHIP

"Consider the lilies of the field," Jesus exclaimed, "they toil not neither do they spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." That was all very poetic, very nice, but it did not fool Judas—the treasurer. He knew that you can not get anywhere in the world without money, and it was his job to find the money. The

other disciples had similar worries. They wanted to get it clear as to their relative positions in the new Kingdom; they were concerned because outsiders, not properly initiated into the organization, were claiming to be followers of Jesus and doing miracles in his name. They fretted because there was so much work to be done and the days were too short for doing it.

## Negro Woman's Sentence Indefensible

Sometimes it would pay us to take our eyes off politics, international wrong doing, Negro demonstration and school desegregation to protest a local injustice like the one meted out in Tampa, Florida, last month. The injustice was so flagrant that one sickens in shame.

The TAMPA TRIBUNE reported that a 24-year-old Negro woman, whose two children died in a fire, with a third one in critical condition. The woman was convicted of child neglect and sentenced to pay \$500 or spend 100 days in jail. The woman stated she had been baby-sitting for another family when the fire broke out.

The neglect is inexcusable; it cannot be defended. But her punishment is also indefensible—it has no relation to her "crime."

The fine of \$500 is, to her a million dollars; and shall she know how to become a better mother by spending 100 days in jail? Surely this woman must be suffering enough already from the death of her two children, and who is to take care of the third child while she is in jail?

North Carolina cannot act smug about this matter, for any number of mothers have been sentenced for child neglect, and we cannot be sure when an indefensible fine will be placed upon a mother in this state.

Oftimes, under certain circumstances, the law should not be rigidly enforced; but rather, it should be tempered with mercy, followed by a program of counselling for the mother.

## Hints For Avoiding Traffic Crashes

Every citizen in this country naturally is interested in reducing our horrible tragedy on the highways. There are many ways this can be done.

To begin with we might take the license away from the driver who caused death on the highways for a period of ten years. This should cause drivers to think twice before taking the fatal chance.

There should be more impressive signs at many railway crossings and dangerous intersections. Many accidents are caused by trying to beat the train to railroad crossings.

We suggest that a law should be enacted forbidding huge trailer trucks from proceeding in a long line. Many accidents are caused by motorists attempting to pass three or four trailer

trucks which are traveling close together. A law that would require the trucks to be spaced at least a 1000 feet apart would help to increase safety on the highway.

There are, of course, other improvements that we have not mentioned. And while we have advocated the enactment of more safety laws, it would be unwise to create new driving laws and not enforce them.

A number of persons are advocating that a law should be passed to take away a man's driving license if he kills someone with his automobile on the streets or highway. We would not go quite this far, because often a driver kills someone on the street and the responsibility does not rest with him—for instance, a child dashing out on the street from behind a car or hedge or tree.

## Negro Establishes Scholarship Fund

It is not often that we hear of Negroes establishing scholarship funds for needy and worthy and scholarly students. But about a month ago an Upson County (Georgia) Negro set up a \$25,000 college scholarship endowment at the University of Akron in Ohio, and it is to be used without regard to race, creed, color, sex, or national origin of the recipient.

The man we are speaking of is George Washington Matthews, 77, who was born near Thomaston, Ga., the eldest of 10 sons and a poor farmer. He attended rural schools in Upson County.

Matthews' rise to success is phenomenal in that he was willing to begin at the bottom to reach the top. He is described as a "successful business man and one of the leaders of Akron's Negro community." For years this man operated Matthews' Hotel and a barbershop.

At the bottom rung of the ladder, Matthews was a stock boy, later a hotel porter who saved enough to open a small restaurant. By 1919 he

had saved \$1,100 and decided it was time for a vacation. He went to Toledo, Ohio, to witness the Dempsey-Willard championship fight.

On his way home, Matthews stopped in Akron, liked what he saw, and returned to the city in 1920. There he put every penny he had into an 11-room house for boarders. From then on it was growth. He added a barber shop, then a beauty shop and saw the boarding house become the 55-room Matthews Hotel.

We wish we had more Negroes who thought as much of others as they do of themselves and shared their worldly goods to train a youth's mind and hands for the responsibilities of life. Let us hope that the Matthews idea will spread throughout these United States of America.

You can't take your worldly goods from this earth; if you do, others will often waste it foolishly. But money left in the form of scholarships will be as "seed sown in good soil and bringeth forth much fruit."

## We Must Throw Hats In The Ring

To get training in running and campaigning for political offices more Negroes must "cast their hats in the ring" in the South and elsewhere. If they do this year after year, who knows, they may just upset the expert's prediction that they don't have a possible chance.

We have noted that in this state a number of Negroes are running for political offices in our state government and municipalities. Right now, for example, a 58-year-old Negro, George H. McDougall, of Spring Lake is campaigning for the office of constable in the Manchester Township.

In Richland County, S. C., 10 Negroes are campaigning for the 10 county seats in the South Carolina House of Representatives. Besides, four other Negroes filed as candidates for district school boards in Richland County of which Columbia is the county seat.

Two South Carolina Negroes have filed as candidates for the House in Greenville and Orangeburg counties.

Not only must we register and vote, but we must run for office in larger numbers. In this way, the people of the South will get used to the idea.

## Is Freedom Farm A Jail?

A Negro tenant of the widely publicized "Freedom Farm," founded near Mason, Tennessee, by the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., of which Dr. J. H. Jackson is president, said recently the farm is like a prison.

The "like prison" charge was made by Earl Anderson, 41, who had a large family of eight members, and who was the first to move onto the farm from the "tent city" encampment located near Somerville, Tenn.

"We can't make enough to live on, much less to get ahead enough to buy some land of our own," Anderson said. "It ought to be called prison farm instead of Freedom Farm. Anderson believes that the Freedom Farm idea is all right, but it hasn't worked out because it hasn't been handled right."

In answer to the tenant's charge, Dr. Jackson, however, was just as insistent that the farm has been a success. He said, "We have created an opportunity on the 404-acre farm for all people who desire to be productive for themselves. We cannot create in people the desire to seize these opportunities."

Because of the counter charges and argu-

ments, it is difficult to conclude who is right. But we can, at least, do some speculating.

While the Baptist Convention has provided the opportunity, has it given the first tenant the proper training and guidance, know-how, and equipment to succeed? Has it screened farm applicants with the greatest care so as to find farmers with this creative desire to succeed?

From the viewpoint of the Negro tenant, does he have the needed amount of capital, machinery, business acumen, drive, and know-how to make an abundant crop? Is he farming with the members of his family and mules? Does he know that successful farming now days must of necessity be done with high-priced machinery?

Without taking sides with who is at fault, an experiment like Freedom Farm must be designed to give all the help that is needed to teach men how to farm successfully.

Yet when the two farm tenants present are convinced that the farm is like a prison of the "sharecropping era," we can't help but wonder about the handling of Freedom Farm.

## Just For Fun

BY MARCUS H. BOULWARE

**HOT ROD NUN**  
IN PARIS: Disbelieving crowds stopped and stared recently when a woman dressed as a Carmelite nun climbed into a gleaming white sports car and drove it off down the Champs Elysees.

The "nun" behind the wheel turned out to be French actress Denise Duval who was in a hurry to get to the Opera Comique where she is currently playing a lead role in "Diaglogue des Carmelites." (Oh, no!)

**IT WAS FUNNY:** In Saigon, South Viet Nam, a wedding 50 miles northwest of Saigon was broken up recently when the bridegroom's common-law wife crashed the ceremony and did a strip tease. (Ha-ha-ha-saah.)

The bridegroom, a mechanic named Le Ngoc, was just about to tie the knot when his uninvited common-law wife appeared. As she stripped and danced, she sang that—Le Ngoc had abandoned her with two children.

The bride-to-be fled! (I would have too, under the circumstances.)

And the bridegroom grieved with a broken heart.

**A LEARNED FRIEND:** We read recently in the Fayetteville Observer a story that Nero, the wicked Roman Emperor, did not

fiddle while Rome burned, as fiddles were not even invented at the time.

The way it happened, according to a narrator, was that Nero was all upset and undecided about this when the fire alarm sounded. As the fire jumped from pillar to post he just piddled around. Years later fiddles were invented and nearly everybody was fiddling around. A historian undertook to tell this story of Nero's personal and the part that Nero did not play.

The historian mistook piddling for fiddling, and so his history came out reading that Nero fiddled while his favorite city burned to the ground.

**POPULAR SALESWOMAN:** One young lady behind the counter of a candy store was always busy. Customers waited in line for her, rather than have the other girls wait on them.

"Why," asked her boss, "are you so popular."

Her answer was simple, but wise.

"When a customer wants a pound of candy, the other girls scoop up too much and then take the excess out of the box. I always scoop up a little, and then add more." (Very good, psychology.)

## Letters To The Editor

**To The Editor:**  
How many times does a man have to be told NO?

How many ideas does one have to work on before success is attained?

Who guides us to do wrong, "willingly," "wholeheartedly?"

When a POINT or a LAW is made, why do we argue and fight about it?

Who makes our laws—Is it not a body of men "trusted and tried" who know how the other half lives?

If all men were created equal, why do we have classes or, for that matter, clashes?

Who amongst you declare yourself superior! (Who said that?)

Many more of these type questions do not need ANSWERS. The answer lies in your heart. NO INDIVIDUAL has a right to hinder progress by flaunting that his religion, or his race, or his color, can withhold people from seeking a simple life and be free. A king once said, "I'll give my kingdom for a horse." Likewise, strange as it may seem the rich man in the desert, said, "I'll give my fortune for a drink of water." It's a strange anomaly—that all this wrangling about integration and civil rights may go on and on and eventually lead the world to chaos and destruction, only because there will be no workers and only mechanics. Only engineers and no guinea pigs. Only automation and no humans!

In answer to all this, I am resolved that there is a big job ahead. "To Give Freedom To All Law Abiding Citizens," spend more time learning trades with general education. Learning how to SPEAK as well as READ. Listen to your neighbor and evaluate him so that both of you can progress and improve your conditions. ISN'T THIS TRUE? The most important question of today, "IS INTEGRATION?" In the last ten years nothing has been accomplished. Some places have recognized committees with fancy names.

In Raleigh, we have the Raleigh Inter-Racial Council.

In the State of North Carolina, we have a similar name.

Without question, the men on these committees are our most learned and distinguished men. SO WHAT! Have they FUNCTIONED? NO!

Six months ago, I submitted 100 prominent names to the mayor of Raleigh to prove that I could qualify for the chairmanship of a committee to render service willingly and honestly for our community. Whether I agree in principle, what should be done, was not my choosing—rather to have the committee as a whole, do what it sees fit. For example, Boy Scout Law Calls For, "A Job Cannot Be Done by a LONER."

It takes cooperation and coordination and hard work by a group of people to do "A JOB RIGHT."

## ONLY IN AMERICA

BY HARRY GOLDEN

**NOW IT IS IN THE OPEN**

I did not know my mother had a cancer of the spine until she was already in the hospital and I happened to overhear the doctor's diagnosis accidentally.

My mother died in the early 1920's a time when cancer was a taboo word. You never told anyone a relative had cancer. It was tantamount to revealing that someone had a venereal disease or leprosy.

Thinking back, I am amazed at how recent our enlightenment is. In the early 1900's tuberculosis was also a taboo subject. It was not until people felt safe in confessing its affliction that successful treatments came in profusion and it is no longer always a lethal disease.

My mother never smoked and I think the only vice she ever drank was on Passover when she said, "I only wet my lips with it." I recall no accident to her, no sudden blows or bad falls. She rarely left the kitchen except to attend the sym-

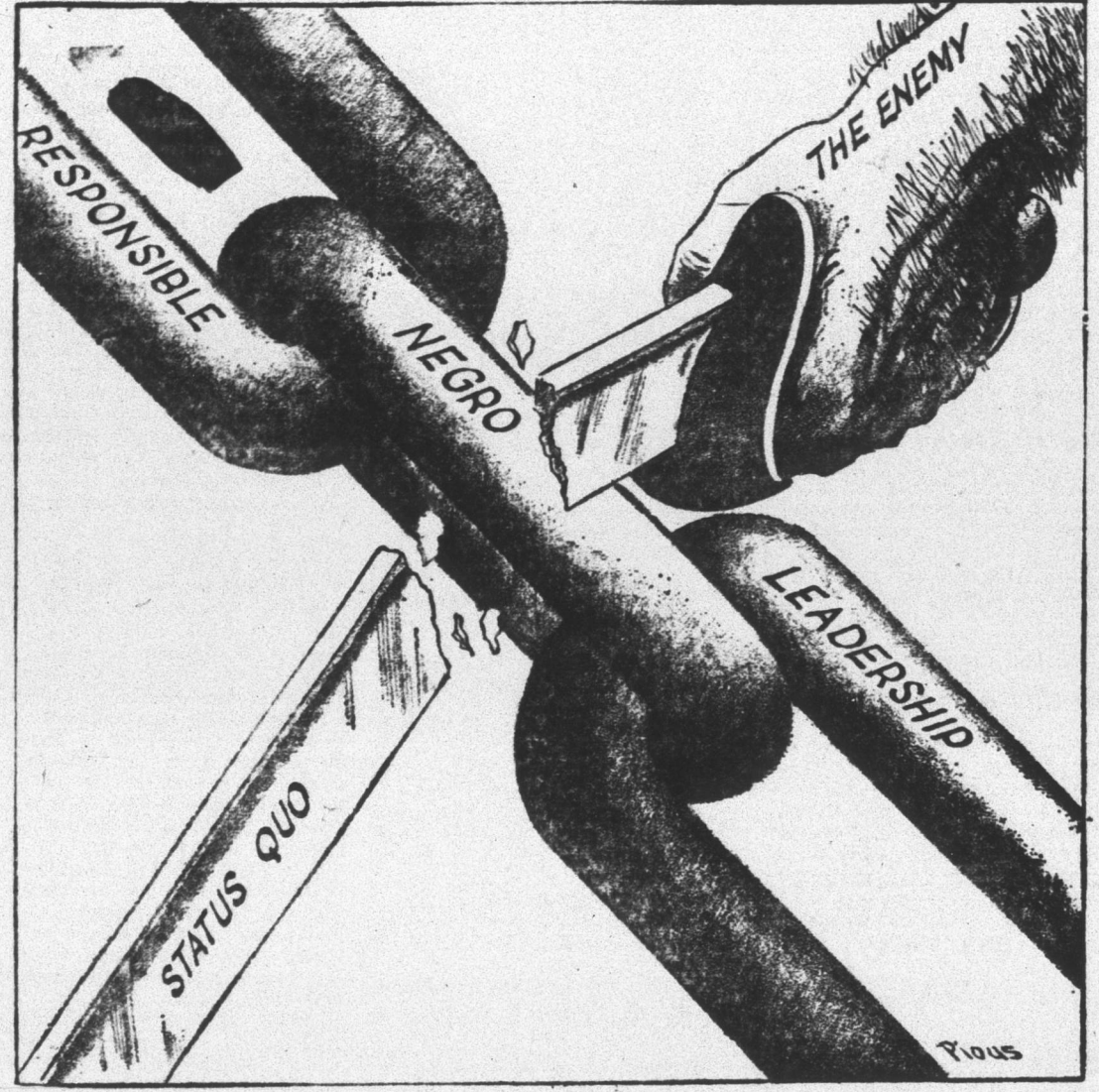
posite and to do the shopping. In those days all the women worked hard at sewing and cooking and preparing the kids for school. Her leisure consisted of an hour on a rocking chair, looking out the window with her arms folded, sometimes leaning on the sill.

My mother's cancer caused her death, of course. From the time of her first pain until she succumbed was less than two months. By that time, my brother Jacob was doing well and the family could afford to take her to famous Mount Sinai Hospital and engage one of the great surgeons of the day, Dr. A. A. Berg.

It was Dr. Berg whom I overheard. He told my brother, "We dare not operate. The cancer has already affected the brain."

We told everyone my mother was suffering from an infection of some kind resulting from a bout with pneumonia. People talked about pneumonia. They whispered about cancer. Cancer is no longer taboo. It

## Unity



Gordon B. Hancock's

## BETWEEN THE LINES

**OLD SOUTH FIGHTS BACK FURIOUSLY**  
This column has never been deluded into thinking that the Old South would sit humbly and passively by, and let segregation go by default. From the very beginning of our current fight for freedom, we have sounded the warning that the Old South would launch its counter-attack with all of its retaliating powers, and that is just what is happening.

Some months ago it was rumored that a large sum had been appropriated by legislatures of the Old South to propagandize the nation, by giving the "South's side" of the struggle and we have reasons to believe that the Old South's strategy is paying off, for not only have there come into being various new organizations, but decent organizations are being revived to help beat back the Negro in his current fight for freedom.

The Ku Klux Klan illustrates the latter point. This anti-Negro organization was well nigh out of business; but with the Negro's current drive for freedom, the Klan is bristling with new life and energies and abetted by new recruits, some overt and some covert. The propaganda campaign is amounting to a brain-washing for the Nation for all practical purposes the nation is being brain-washed into believing that the civil rights bill now being debated is the worst of all possible evils of legislation.

We here in the South are being daily fed on a new diet designed to weaken our faith in the proposed legislation. Of course the Negro press coming once a week trying to give us the truth of the matter cannot compete with the dailies espousing the cause of destroying the civil rights legislation. The most we hear from the Southern white press is what is wrong with the bill. We search in vain for any word of approval of what is right with the bill and nothing is right.

Of course that is propaganda in its crassest form, for our social psychologists tell us that he who simply tests one side of a question is a propagandist in the truest sense of the word. The Southern press harps on the point that passage of the Civil Rights Bill would take away freedom

from the white man and give it to the Negro. But this argument is only designed to muddy the public sentiment and political waters. It has come to light within recent days that the strategy of delay is calculated to give further time for brain-washing the nation in the momentous question. Such will be the design of the impending filibuster.

Something is right with the impending Civil Rights Bill and that it is designed to right a wrong that has been perpetrated for a hundred years. During these hundred years every advance that has come to the Negro has come by way of the courts, and not from Congress. As has been said many times in this column, Congress is South-ruled and its primary purpose is to see that the government of the land shall be a government of the white man, by the white and for the white man and shall not perish from the earth.

It is difficult to see why the white man with his power would be afraid to let the Negro go. Of course common sense would tell him that when Negroes see the scum of the white race entering the best that this nation affords, white loyal and worthy Negroes must struggle for the "security" of freedom wherever and whenever he can find them, the Negro's patience and good nature would come at last to an end; and the Negro would press for the rights and responsibilities of full citizenship.

The Negro's current appeal is to the conscience of the New South and the conscience of the world. And in spite of the propaganda machinery so well-oiled by the millions of the Old South, the Negro is making headway. The moral conscience of the nation and world are not dead. What then is right with the Civil Rights Bill? It seeks to right a wrong of a hundred years; it seeks to save the soul of the nation; it seeks to give democracy once more some standing in the world; it seeks to give our nation its only hope of survival.

More is involved than the Negro's full freedom; a nation's survival is at stake. Communism is already sitting upon our door-steps. They are calling for filibuster.

## ISSUES: GOOD AND BAD

BY P. L. PRATTIS For ANP

Are we Negroes the pioneering sort? Are we the ones to take a chance in strange places? Why did not our forebearers discover the western Hemisphere before Columbus, or even Lief Eriksson? Africa is much closer to the hemisphere than Europe. It can be conceded that Africans were not building ships which were large enough or sturdy enough to risk in ocean travel. But even if they had the ships would these Africans have had the spirit and the daring to sail into the unknown?

The foregoing questions are pertinent in the light of things as they are happening in the world today. There are just as many places in the world today where a man might go to better himself as there were 400 years ago. In fact there are many more such places. We Negroes rightfully complain about how the white American shorts changes us in every manner possible. He doesn't give us a chance to learn. This in a period when more and more learning is required we find ourselves behind the eight ball.

As the bars of segregation and discrimination are let down, we are forced to admit that we are not ready, not prepared. Once upon a time, we were prepared. As slaves, we learned the trades and did the work. But since then, the jobs we once performed have been taken away from us. These have become white men's jobs. They have been passed from father to son, uncle to nephew, cousin to cousin. As a rule only the dirtiest and heaviest jobs have been left for us.

During slavery days, Negro boys were sent abroad to Canada to get education. There were many white fathers who wanted their progeny by Negro women to grow up as free men. They saw to it that their children were educated and freed. One such man saw one of his sons become the

Roman Catholic bishop of Maine; another, rector of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Boston; another president of Georgetown University in Washington, and another, a commander in the United States Navy.

After being put on their feet by Uncle Sam after the war, the western European nations are going to town. While our unemployment and public assistance rolls in this country grows larger and larger, most countries in western Europe are plagued by a manpower shortage. Even as this is written, Sweden is trying to induce unemployed Americans to come over there. Workers are needed in France, West Germany, England.

Does it occur to any of our aspiring young men that given a little help they might go to these Old World countries and learn the skills required in this technological age? There was a time when this could not be done. These countries had all the workers they needed. Every job was reserved for a native first. But that is not true at this point in history. The industrialists in Western Europe want the money that can be made from full-scale production. They know what workers are the producers. Thus the more workers they have the more money they make. They care nothing about the color of the worker. They are concerned only with his competence.

It would seem that some of our young men might look into the matter of employment or apprenticeship in some of the countries abroad. There is a chance for them to learn skills which can be used either in the United States or Africa in order to take advantage of the opportunities which exist today. We must be bold and venture some. We must be pioneers.

## THE AMERINDIAN

The segregationists have suddenly become deeply concerned about the American Indian. They write letters demanding, "Why don't you do something for the Indian?"

After a lecture they complain: "Why all this agitation for the Negro? How about the American Indian?" Indians have been almost totally segregated for the last

century. Some legal suits are pending now where Indians have left the reservation and are trying to break down the segregated schools.

I answer all pleas about the American Indian with the information that the Negro is fighting for the American Indian. If the Negro achieves first-class citizenship, it will become increasingly difficult, if not impossible to legally segregate anyone else.

**THE NEGRO PRESS**—believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every man regardless of race, color or creed, his human and legal rights. Hating no man hating no man—the Negro Press strives to help every man on the firm belief that all men are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

