

# BEHIND THE HEADLINES

BY CHATWOOD HALL

## NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Look who is claiming that old-line American Negro citizens are pressing too energetically for their legal civil rights!

In a recent poll conducted by the distinguished New York Times, 61 per cent of the Irish, 58 per cent of the Italians, 67 per cent of the Germans, and 48 per cent of the Poles living in New York felt that Negroes were pushing too fast for their full and equal civil rights as American citizens.

It would prove highly revealing to know that proportion of those

ethnic minorities or their parents were born abroad.

It can be assumed with certainty that most of them or their parents were pushing fast to board ship and escape from oppression and deprivation in their old countries to enjoy the freedoms and opportunities they felt existed in America.

Far too many people seem unable to realize that the Negro is not an outsider. His American ancestry goes back many generations in this country.

Instead of expressing opposition to the Negro's current struggle to make America a more democratic

country for all, ethnic minorities should praise the patience of Negroes in waiting 100 years before shifting into high gear in the direction of reaching the goal of their obstructed Constitutional rights as old-line American citizens.

The three most biting labels for any ethnic minority group that opposes equal civil rights in this country are un-Christian, anti-American and pro-bigot.

How foolish can some people get on the question of race? A person who is 9-10 visibly and physically white was recently employed by a large New York investment firm.

It was stated in the press that he is the first Negro to be employed by this firm.

In another case a family that is 9-10 visibly and physically white recently moved into an exclusive and all-white suburb near a northern city.

The newspapers reported that this is the first Negro family to move into this suburb.

Such "reasoning" could lead to the following conclusions:

1. Place a drop of water into a bottle of Scotch whiskey. Ergo, the Scotch becomes water!

If this line of "reasoning" were followed to its logical conclusion, injecting a drop of the devil's blood into God would make God a devil!

Or take the Arabs out in the mid-

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of the East. They have absorbed into their race millions of African slaves that they imported during many past centuries.

Are they Arabs or Negroes? One in the Middle West, in Chicago, the education authorities, plagued by integration and segregation problems in the schools, were desirous of learn-

ing the racial composition of students in the schools.

It was considered unwise and tactless for schoolchildren to be asked their race. So the school-teachers were ordered to make a slight count in their classes.

You can yell yeeah, yeeah, yeeah and bet your boots that that count was far from being accurate.

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## Widow Goes Into Hiding After Witnessing Slaying

NEW YORK (NPD)—It may be that some of the pressure on Congressman Adam Clayton Powell to pay the \$46,000 libel damages to 67-year-old Mrs. Esther James will temporarily be lessened, now that she has withdrawn herself from public view.

Last week Mrs. James witnessed a gang-style slaying on a Harlem street corner, and after telling police what she saw, went into hiding because she was "scared stiff" and feared that she might be next.

The victim of the shooting was Arthur Powers, 36-year-old alleged numbers operator who was reportedly gunned down for failing to pay off a \$10 hit to a white policy banker.

Mrs. James, a domestic worker who lived two doors away from the scene of the slaying, was only a few feet away when the murder occurred. According to police, Powers was noted for his tendency to talk at paying off winning hits and for using hoodlum tactics.

The account of the slaying was that Powers drove up in a rented 1960 automobile with three Negroes, all in their 20's. After sitting in the car for a while, Powers got out. Two men followed him, and one pulled a gun and shot him below the right ear in his neck. The gunman and his companions then walked back to the car and drove away.

## Dixie Judge Frees 9 Bombers "Because CR Workers Provoked Them;" Says They Need Chance

JACKSON, Miss. (NPD)—Southern justice has been known for years to favor the white man over the black, but at least the Dixie bench has not been so openly partial to the white offenders against Negro rights, as was Circuit Judge W. H. Watkins.

This jurist last week set a new "low" in justice when he claimed that nine white bombers were "provoked by civil rights workers," and that they "deserved another chance" despite their admission or plea of no contest in the dynamiting of three Negro homes.

He gave the nine suspended sentences of up to 15 years, and fined six of them \$500 each. He added the stipulation that they are prohibited from possessing firearms, live ammunition or dynamite during the probation period. In addition, he said their clemencies would be revoked if racial violence broke out anew in McComb whether the defendants were responsible or not.

Billy Wilson, 22; and Paul D. Wilson, 25, pleaded guilty to three counts of unlawful use of explosives and were given three five-year sentences, to run concurrently.

Jimmy D. Wilson, 38; Gerald Lawrence, 21; Hilton Dunaway, 36; and Ernest F. Zeech, 25, pleaded guilty to one count of the law and received five-year sentences.

Negro leaders throughout the nation were quick to react to this "perversion of justice."

Charles Evers, NAACP state field secretary and brother of the slain Medger Evers, declared, "Mississippi justice is a disgrace to the na-

tion. Such a decision simply gives a license to lawlessness and violence.

## Miss Archie To Reign Soon As Winston 'Queen'

WINSTON-SALEM—Miss Carolyn Archie, a senior in the School of Nursing at Winston-Salem State College, will reign as queen during the college's homecoming the weekend of Nov. 13-14.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Archie, Jr. of Winston-Salem, Miss Archie was a nationally ranked tennis player in The American Tennis Association prior to entering Winston-Salem State. On campus she is president of The Student Nurses Association and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Two years ago she was elected "Lady of the Year" in a program sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Her court will include: Miss Virginia Barr, a senior of Rocky Mount; Miss Wilma Southerland, a sophomore of Durham; and Miss Magdalene McDowell, a freshman from Lumberton.

"I feel so wonderful," Miss Archie said after being informed that she had won the election. She continued, "This precious moment shall certainly reign supreme among all of my unforgettable memories."

Miss Archie's coronation by President Williams in ceremonies at the college during the midweek assembly on November 11 will usher in the beginning of the 1964 Homecoming celebration at the college.

"The jobs open to me are all being eliminated."

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