

The Carolina Times

117 E. Peabody St. Durham, North Carolina
Published at Durham, North Carolina
Every Saturday by
THE CAROLINA TIMES PUBLISHING CO., Inc.

Entered as second-class matter at the Durham Postoffice, under act of March 3rd, 1879.

PHONES: N-7121 J-7871

L. E. AUSTIN, PUBLISHER

E. PHILIP ELLIS, MANAGING EDITOR

WILLIAM A. TUCK, BUSINESS MANAGER

For information pertaining to Nat'l Advertising Write to Todd and Todd, Adv. Representatives

143 W. 125th Street, Room 16 NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

SATURDAY, MARCH 11th, 1939

THE POWER OF THE WEAK

Mahatma Gandhi, brown little weak man of India, the British will tell you, has picked an inopportune time to start a hunger strike. With another world war imminent this is no time for Britain to have to send an army to quell what may result in a Gandhi die.

Should the people of India become aroused to the point where they would strike a blow for their freedom from the yoke of England, their actions may be followed by the African possessions of the mother country. Thus it appears that the frail, half starved and half naked little weak man of India has become the strong man. The British are wise—too wise to not see the danger which lurks in the Mahatma's fight to free the people of his native land.

This is being written Tuesday evening at nine and we are not afraid to wager that before next Tuesday at this time the British will have seen just that the demands of Gandhi are met.

It is possible to fight fire with fire, bullets with bullets, but you cannot fight sincerity and intelligence with either. The latter are intangible and beyond the reach of the weapons of mortal man. Gandhi seems to have discovered a new and effective, but formidable weapon, that is accessible to most all underprivileged groups.

It has been truthfully said that "no man is bigger than the ideal for which he will die." The Mahatma, whose weight is less than a hundred pounds, has no army, navy, nor aviation corps, but his willingness to die for the ideals of liberty and freedom make Gandhi one of the biggest men in the world today.

Negroes in America who have suffered under a yoke nearly as hard as that of the people of India should take cognizance of the activities of the Mahatma, and follow the leaders of the race who are willing to forget selfish ambitions long enough to truthfully lead their people. Mahatma Gandhi is a powerful force—too powerful for the Great British Empire.

THE CITY ELECTION

This editorial is written as a means of forewarning the colored population of Durham that it will be necessary for them to prepare now to participate effectively in the city primary to be held April 18 and the city election to be held May 2.

Already there are several candidates in the field, and in a few days peanut politicians and political crooks will begin their usual raid on those seeking seats on the city council. It will be necessary for Negroes of Durham to have a well organized political group if they are not to be sold out for the highest dollar.

There are many things to be considered in the coming election and Negro voters, especially, should be instructed by those who have no personal axe to grind. In the past peanut politicians have made themselves a nuisance by hounding office seekers with the promise that they can deliver the Negro vote if they are paid enough money. Every self respecting Negro in Durham should start organizing now to prevent political crooks from getting the upperhand in the city primary and election.

Better police protection, better streets, lights and schools are some of the things badly needed by Negroes in Durham. Neither of these interests political crooks, however much they may pretend they do, and they should not be depended upon to obtain them. The only thing they are interested in obtaining is the biggest amount of money they can from the pockets of the office seeker who is fool enough to listen to their lies.

The Committee on Negro Affairs can do a great service by organizing at once honest Negro citizens into a zealous group of workers to participate in the city primary and election. The members of the group should be given some kind of badge so they may be identified by candidates and workers as being honest in their endeavors to secure a bigger and better Negro vote.

THE WAR ON SYPHILIS

The war which is now being waged on syphilis ought to be endorsed by all well thinking citizens of America. The disease is one of the most destructive known to the science of medicine and has played havoc among Negroes because of ignorance and their inability to pay for medical treatment.

Several pamphlets which have just reached our desk tell of the large number of deaths caused by the disease each year, and call upon every person in America to make a fight to rid America of it. According to one pamphlet more than 100,000 persons die each year from syphilis and more than 40,000 die each year from syphilitic heart. More than 25,000 babies die each year from the disease and more than 10,000,000 persons in America have had or now have syphilis.

Negroes especially should be interested in the fight on the disease and should acquaint themselves with methods now being used to become cured. There is no need to remain a victim of syphilis because of not having money to pay for treatment as the state and most counties will provide treatment free of charge.

Negro churches, schools and other public institutions should start educational programs among children so that they will learn early how to avoid the disease.

The false modesty of the past has already been discarded and the flashlight of intelligence has been directed at the disease in an attempt to uproot it from the American people. The effectiveness of the campaign against syphilis depends upon the co-operation each individual is willing to give the health agencies of our country.

THE CAROLINA TIMES calls upon its readers to lend their efforts toward ridding the race and nation of this disease by seeing a doctor and requesting of him a blood test. If you have syphilis, you certainly owe it to yourself and your posterity to place yourself under the care of a doctor at once. If you do not have the money to secure private treatment, your state or county board of health will tell you how you may secure treatment free of charge. DO IT NOW.

The Digest

By Floyd J. Calvin

MORTAL WOUND

The ramparts of race prejudice are so securely built in this country that few persons there are who would dare open assault. But it remained for a woman to step out and inflict a mortal wound on the monster within—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt took the dare.

In discreetly resigning from the Daughters of the American Revolution because it so flagrantly insulted all decent-minded people in its brutal refusal to allow Marian Anderson to sing in Constitution Hall, Washington many of those who have been unjustly complacent in their prejudiced views will stop and consider, now, before risking public censure or public rebuke for their attitude. Even the hide-bound members of the DAR must be—if they have any self respect left—a little sick of their position, now that the spotlight of world publicity has been focused on them.

To Mrs. Roosevelt, who has on more than one occasion shown that she is truly a great woman, we offer our weak words of thanks and praise. For in an act so magnanimous she can hardly distinctly symbolical of the spirit that we so devoutly wish to be that of America, praise is futile. Either a person is great, or she is not great. Not for approbation could one take such a stand. Only because one wants to do it, and because one believes it the right thing to do, could such an action be taken.

Apart from this being a mortal wound to the monster that is race prejudice, it is an example of tolerance and good will live in the memory of this generation, causing it to pause when intolerance and bigotry are rising to prominence in our national thinking. If for no other reason than that she took this stand, the First Lady of the land is truly the First Lady of the land now. She is first by tradition because she is the President's wife; but she is also first because out of the welter of possible bitterness that might follow the cruel and unreasonable banning Miss Anderson in the National Capital, Mrs. Roosevelt took prompt and direct action that at once upheld the principles of Americanism, rebuked bigotry, and showed that the White House is still representative of the best that America affords.

NEW LAWS

A splendid precedent is being set by the State of New York in financing an official inquiry into the condition of the Colored population for the past two years, at the cost \$55,000. Now the results of the investigation have been presented to the Legislature, and fourteen reform laws are asked.

Among the reforms requested are: laws to deny benefits of the State-Labor-Relations Act to labor organizations which deny persons membership or equal treatment by reason of race, creed or color; strengthen existing provision of the law regarding employment by public utilities and provide for maintenance by all public utilities of a merit system of employment with provision for public announcement of vacancies, rating of applicants and maintenance of eligible lists; strengthen existing legislation prohibiting racial discrimination in employment and to set up procedures for inquiring into and rectifying any such discrimination; amend the Civil Service Law by requiring appointing officers who may pass over an eligible in favor of a lower eligible to make sworn certification of reasons therefor; make provisions for extending to all cities in the State formalized procedures in the selection of teachers in the public schools, such as now are in force in the cities of New York and Buffalo; prohibit racial discrimination or segregation in any housing project operated by a public housing authority or owned by any limited dividend company enjoying tax exemption; regulate the procedure for admission to public educational institutions to insure that qualified applicants for admission shall not be excluded by reason of race, color or creed; supplement existing statutes to insure all persons equal facilities and privileges in places of public accommodation; amend the law to deny exemption to non-sectarian corporations and associations which deny use of facilities to persons by reason of race, color or creed; amend the penal law to make discrimination in civil service employment, by reason of race, creed or color, punishable by fine or imprisonment.

We trust other states will copy New York's attempt to bring equal justice to all its citizens.

Why They Fear The Voice Of Marian Anderson

BY MARTIN McCALL (Crusader News Agency) RACE and color prejudice, with its essentially political and economic motivation, has never been absent from the sphere of the arts. Its tendency for more than a generation has been toward "gentility": its virulent aspects have been concealed sometimes subtly, oftentimes not and it has developed a technique of apparent disinterestedness.

Since the symbolic burning of the books in Nazi Germany, and the subsequent in-tensification of the world crisis, our ideologists of discrimination in the arts have begun to keep pace with their spiritual kin in the Senate. The vanguard of reaction, at least, has scrapped the old technique in favor of direct action.

Because the singer possesses an artistry that come perhaps once in a generation, she consistently performs to sold out houses and Marian Anderson has great audiences.

There are fires of the same hue, and those that consume books have the same lurid glare as those that burn human flesh. The patriots who feed the fires do not burn a hundred books or one man. These burnings are insidiously intended to represent the whole people, their culture and their aspirations. The Nazis, who "reach for a revolver" when they hear the word "culture," are developing disciples among us: the people should never cease to be alert in their business of identifying, exposing and isolating these little Hitlers. The universal response against the Washington injustices is promising.

The new conditions underlie the recent events in Washington, D. C. were the world-famous singer, Marian Anderson, was denied the use of a concert auditorium or her scheduled recital. The use of Constitution Hall, which had originally been let out for the recital, was withdrawn by its owners, the Daughters of the American Revolution. Local school board officials were then approached for the use of the Central High Auditorium, and they refused.

The new crop of book burning inspired activities has arrogantly created the present issue. Formerly the discriminators had a public smile for a Paul Robeson or a Roland Hayes, and were sometimes seen with them in public places. I have Negro friends, was the tactic. The new tactic more directly political is provocation.

Marian Anderson's rise to prominence as a singer occurred under very ordinary conditions, and it was very difficult. The former Philadelphia choir singer made her debut as a concert singer and caused a minor flurry, but she was one of the best contractors of our time. Her fame grew during her long stay in Europe, and her singing was duly evaluated principally in the Soviet Union and in pre-Nazi Vienna. Her perpetuation preceded her return to America three years ago.

REFLECTIONS

By S. Wycliffe Garlington

GOOD THINGS MUST BEGIN

It is often said: "Good things must come to an end." Yet, it is equally true that "All good things must begin." Therefore last week—February 27 through March 5—the nation celebrated its first NATIONAL NEGRO BIGGER AND BETTER NEWS PAPER WEEK.

National Negro Bigger and Better Newspaper Week is sponsored by Delta Phi Delta, Inter-collegiate Journalistic Society, and is directed by Moss Hyles Kendrick, one of the three Morehouse College students who founded the society in 1937.

The primary object of this project is to familiarize America with the accomplishment and possibilities of the Negro Press—its history and status. It is further hoped that this project will stimulate a greater interest in Journalism among Negro youth of America.

If America's "Tenth Man" needs anything, it is what this project aims to promote—an appreciation of the purpose and efforts of the Negro Newspaper, and a greater interest in its possibilities. When this will have done by a larger portion of the Negro population, Negro newspapers will begin to receive the support (financial) that they are now in need of—if they are to better serve their readers and the Negro race in general.

As it is, we have too many Negroes who pride themselves on the fact that they "never read Negro papers." Why do not these Negroes read race papers? In almost any group of Negroes, whenever the press is discussed, one will hear one or more unfavorable criticisms to every favorable comment.

DRAWBACKS OF THE NEGRO PRESS?

If one would list the unfavorable comments of the Negro newspaper they would be somewhat as follows: (1) Too sensational (an over stress on sex, crime, murder and morbid details); (2) Lack of proportion of news (too much of one kind); (3) Headlines misleading—too many "screaming" headlines—usually extra or too large and colored; (4) Technical set up is terrible—"Bad type," illegible type, faint pictures, and indications of lack of proof readers; (5) news usually stale, and (6) advertise too many "Quack products" (such as "Good Luck Charms," and the like which is not progressive from the standpoint of the race).

Taking the (approximately) 150 Negro newspapers as a whole, one will have to admit that most of these comments are more or less true. But, let us look at the reason for such before we "pan" the papers. P. B. YOUNG Sr., nationally renowned newspaperman, gives us sufficient authoritative information to destroy the first three points mentioned as possible "drawbacks" of the Negro press. His partial views follow:

SOCIALIZING VALUE

"Quite often persons who glance at a Negro paper may interpret a bold headline as meaning sensationalism, of typical of scandal, crime gossip. It is not true that the Negro papers play up merely the ultra-sensational. A survey undertaken as the basis of a graduate thesis involved the reading, classification, measurement and analysis

of 58 Negro newspapers (eight regular issues of seven representative papers) totalling 1,104 pages totalling 1,104 pages and 112,198 column inches of reading matter. These papers (were) read by about one and a half million people weekly.

"The reading matter studies was arranged under ten heads: 1 Political, administrative and civic news; 2 Economic news; 3 Cultural news; 4 Sensational news (Crime, murder, sex, stressing of morbid details); 5 Sport news; 6 Personal News; 7 Opinion; 8 Human interest stories; Magazine (feature material); 10 Miscellaneous matter.

"The investigator found that the papers, taken together, run less than 10 per cent of sensational news and approximately 40 per cent of news is categories definitely of 'socializing value.' This conclusion differs, from some other surveys, but in most criticisms of the Negro Press, those speaking consider the printed pages only."

One commentator recently said that newspapers are seldom more than their readers make them. Thus, when we realize that to a large extent it is the man without so-called "social position" that supports Negro newspapers, one must expect some sensationalism which appeals to the basic elements of human nature.

Maybe this should not be, if not, then it is high time that the so called "upper class" or "educated persons" come to the aid of the press (in a much greater degree) and make their influence felt on the press. This must be done by financially supporting the papers and their advertisers (telling them it was because of a certain published something you like when they print something you do not like. After all is said and done, any newspaper will cater to the masses which support it.

What about the other so-called "drawbacks" of the Negro Newspapers—such as "bad type"—illegible type and faint pictures? Lack of proof readers? Who make corrections? Stale news, and advertising for "Quacks"? All of these features will be improved or discarded as the Negro Press gets two or three steps beyond the poverty level. That is, the circulation of most Negro newspapers is entirely too small, therefore, they do not get high priced advertisements, and because of such they do not make much (if any) or enough profit to buy necessary mechanical equipment or to employ enough full time (trained) men. And in case you did not know—it no newspaper can run successfully on circulation alone—And, since the circulation is so small to get so-called "classified advertisements," most Negro papers will have to advertise anything they can get—whether Quack or what not, because they must live.

It seems to me that the only problem that confront the Negro press is none support on the part of the people it so successfully serves. Thus, if we are to have BIGGER AND BETTER NEGRO NEWSPAPERS we will have to religiously support them. As the Negro population increase it will return become BIGGER (Please turn to page five).

An Open Letter To The Editor

My dear Mr. Austin: I have always been an admirer of your editorials; I don't know of any words at present which would adequately express my feeling of admiration towards your ideas concerning the problems of higher education among Negroes.

It appears to me that you are the only outstanding Negro in Durham who is not willing to sacrifice the future of the Negro for a "mess of pottage." For the sake of me I cannot see one ounce of merit in the proposition suggested by so called leaders of both races. If the money

that North Carolina has spent in education has not educated enough liberal minded people of both races to settle this problem like grown people then I think a bomb shell should be thrown into all our schools. For they do not justify their existence.

I hope you continue to editor alize on this matter. Please let the world know that the interests of Durham Negroes in the race extends beyond the Durham city limits.

You have every good wish of mine in your attempt to continue to let the public know that to you there is no compromise on human values.

Respectfully yours, CARL DeVANE

Kelly Miller Writes -

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WITHOUT THE NEGRO

The Republican Party which for the past six years has tasted the stigma of defeat is now frantically staging a comeback by appealing to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. The 160th anniversary of the birth of the martyred President was dramatized by Republican Clubs all over the nation, in the hope to revive the fortunes of the Grand Old Party. The keynote sounded by ex-President Herbert Hoover seemed to be strangely out of harmony with the spirit and genius of the backwoods statesman.

Not once was the Emancipation Proclamation mentioned, nor the cause which lead up to the consequences which grew out of it. The voice of no member of the benefited race was heard on the air in connection with this celebration. The rejuvenated leadership of the Grand Old Party, like the later pharaonic dynasty of Egypt, know not the Freedom of the Negro and manhood rights constituted the impelling motive of Abraham Lincoln's career as well as the foundation principle of the Republican Party. Its crowning achievement is registered in the three human rights Amendments to the Constitution. The Grand Old Party cannot hope to rebuild its fortune upon any other foundation than that which has been laid. President Hoover in keynote address spoke of "the liberties of man," but there was a far cry between his interpretation of the liberties of man and Abraham Lincoln's meaning of human rights. The first Republican President heard much in his day of the Liberty of the rugged individuals to exploit their less fortunate fellowmen for their own enrichment. Against this brand of liberty Lincoln rebelled

with all of the energy of his soul, and would, if living so rebel today. It is futile to attempt to graft Republicanism of Taft, Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover upon that of Lincoln. The graft simple will not thrive.

The chief reliance of the reformed GOP rests in the hope that the New Deal may slip in order that it may slip in. It is entirely possible that some new political organization devoted to economic and industrial reform may come to may come to power by profiteering upon mistakes and mishaps of the New Deal; but it must stem from the same root and thrive on the same substance as the New Deal which it would supplant. Its keynote must be the welfare of the forgotten man rather than that of rugged individuals else it would be a travesty to appropriate the name of Abraham Lincoln only to prostitute it.

A Political party such as that proclaimed by the Lincoln Birth Day Orators would certainly not be the party for which Abraham Lincoln lived and died.

As a matter of practical politics, it is difficult to see how the GOP can hope to gain power in 1940 by ignoring its erstwhile black ally.

Through neglect and indifference the overwhelming majority of the Negro vote in the North and West has shifted allegiance and joined the fortunes of the New Deal under the sponsorship of the Democratic party. This new alliance has been confirmed by practical recognition and advantage of incalculable value for which the new Republican party offers no off set.

As matters now trend the Negro vote in 1940 will support Roosevelt and the New Deal as overwhelmingly and as enthusiastically as it did in 1932 and '36.

KELLY MILLER

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Gordon B. Hancock

SEXIFIED MOVIES.

At the risk of being called a prude, this writer wishes to register his objection to the picture "The Birth of a Baby" recently presented in Richmond. As an experienced teacher, I feel that sex education has its place in the study of every youth, but the time and place and circumstance are matters of the greatest importance.

It is true that hitherto much of sex education has given in the streets and imbibed in the streets by the youth of the land. This has been unfortunate for the youth and the community.

A new day has dawned in the sex has its place in the educational scheme; and sex is no longer to be regarded as something indecent or degrading but but it is fast coming to be regarded as the high and holy thing it is. Herein lies the danger. To make too much of sex is trying to beautify it and idealize it to destroy its beauty and sanctity. Man is so constituted psychologically that he cannot worship that which is common and it may be for this same reason that his Creator screened from view the eternal verities of the hereafter. To make things of sex too common is to degrade them eventually.

"The Birth of a Baby" as a cross section of movie education may not appear illicite or undesirable, but as a trend it is horrible! The unsophisticated and gullible public does not know in the long run what is best for itself. The public must be saved from itself by those who understand the foibles of human nature. Nobody denies that pregnant mothers need the attention of their physicians; that information relative to the pre-natal development of the child should be made clear; that certain examinations are pertinent to help condition and that labor pains are a part of the ordeal through which every mother must go to bring into the world a child. Everybody knows in a way the part the physician plays in the delivery of a child. But for the producers to screen every detail of this solemn procedure before mixed audiences in the

name of educating the public is deplorable to say the least.

It would be a fine picture for expectant mothers and prospective fathers but for the general public it is simply another play up of sex for the commercialization of one of humanity's most sacred passions. Picture producers are not necessarily interested in improving the morals of a nation and the world. They are primarily interested in selling a screen production and although they in many ways do much good, the said good is a by product.

One man who asked his objection to restaurant food and he replied, "restaurant food is not cooked to eat but to sell." While this is not true of all restaurants it can be applied to the producers of screen pictures. For so long matters of sex were taboo that we are coming to the other extreme and make them too common. Herein lies the possibilities of moral degradation! It has come about that every picture has its love scene with its embracing and its inevitable "mushy kissing." All kinds of suggestive things spoken and acted before the gaze of immature persons. From one degree of sexiness to another the movie is going. If this generation accepts the "Birth of a Baby" the next will be none "The Begetting of A Baby, etc."

Somebody ought to call a halt to this debasement of the only passion that makes life worth living. Something of its privacy and beauty should be safeguarded. There is no particular point to be served by showing a baby coming into this world head-foremost assisted by a physician and nurse. There is nothing that a movie audience can gain from hearing a mother groan in labor. The movie producers (Please turn to page five)

A BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

WE CANNOT FIND IT BY OURSELVES: The path of life is in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.—Psalms 16:11.