

The Carolina Times

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BE COURTEOUS, CONSIDERATE AND PATIENT; "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.—Prov. 15:1.

Afoot and light reared I take to the open road, Healthy, free, the world before me, The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose.

WPA DISCRIMINATION

The Federal Bureau of Investigation ought to look carefully into the WPA setup in North Carolina, as it pertains to Negroes. The constant grumbling among Negroes against the many unfair practices of WPA in this state will not remedy the condition.

The CAROLINA TIMES attempted several weeks ago to investigate the reason for the many complaints now going the rounds, but found WPA officials in Raleigh and elsewhere experts in evasiveness, when questioned concerning the discrimination against Negro workers in the WPA setup.

If WPA officials in North Carolina are discriminating against Negroes, or any other group of American citizen, the federal government ought to see to it that such officials are put out of control of their offices.

We do not feel that any agency will be able to get an actual picture of what is going on in the state office of WPA, unless it is the FBI. Our attempt at the job has taught us, that even though we are almost assured that something is going on wrong, it was impossible to get definite proof from WPA officials in Raleigh, because of their refusal to disclose information that the public ought to have.

What is needed is an investigation of WPA in North Carolina, from top to bottom. We believe some interesting facts, if not sensational ones, will be revealed.

SUCKER TOWNS

Charlotte, Winston Salem, Greensboro, Durham, Raleigh, Rocky and a few other cities in North Carolina have been labeled "sucker towns" by big dance orchestras from northern cities, who boast of their ability to play a one night stand in any city in this state, and mop up a thousand or more dollars. The money comes from the pockets of small-town hicks who have been known to pawn their clothes, shoes, hats and even steal to get the price of admission, which is usually from three to four times as much as the orchestras are able to get for paid admissions in northern cities.

The northern booking agents, who are experts at the game of playing suckers, usually starts the "deal" by sending a telegram to the head sucker, who has styled himself a promoter. He advises him that such and such an orchestra can be had for a thousand dollars guarantee for a one night's stand. Of course the head sucker is swept off his feet by skilful wording of the message which makes him feel that unless he hurries, all of the dates will be taken or a bigger offer to play elsewhere the same night may keep him from closing the "deal."

The head sucker, finally through hook or crook, raises a deposit of from one third to one half of the thousand dollar guarantee with orchestra and the great deal is on.

The self-styled promoter then begins to whoop it up until the final night of the dance when rain, empty pocketbooks or other attractions cut his crowd and the promoter suddenly awakens to the fact that he is not a promoter but a sucker. Further down the road he also discovers that what he thought was a square deal, is truth a raw deal.

Instead of accepting its part of the loss experienced, the orchestra management closes in on its prey and the sucker promoter is forced to fork up the remainder of the money or become embarrassed to the extent of disgrace. As soon as the money is obtained the orchestra goes on its merry way, the management feels "hoty-toty" smacks its chops and wonder when it can come back for more.

One might think the sucker-promoter would have enough by now, but instead he goes back for more, sometimes before he can pay off the note on which he borrowed the money to pay the orchestra, he is in it up to his neck again with a one in five chance to win. The orchestra never loses.

Smart business men, college professors, physicians and even ministers have been played for suckers by the management of these northern orchestras who have found North Carolina a fertile field for fools.

Few, if any of these men, would invest one dime in a worthwhile community project. But they will continue to dump their perfectly good money into a losing proposition. It is hard to determine who is the bigger sucker, the so-called promoters or the poor devils who pay from seventy-five cents to dollar and ten cents to keep the racket going.

PARENTS WOULD BE SHOCKED if they know how much their children know at the age of five.

AS WE UNDERSTAND IT the "Peace be with you" movement includes married people in its membership.

WHAT PROMPTS A PROFESSOR to travel five hundred miles, without pay, to say something that everybody has known for fifty years?

AMBITION, ENDEAVOR, and struggle are splendid qualities. THERE'S SOMETHING TERRIFYING about a silent woman.

WE USED TO WONDER why people cried at weddings.

DULL, LAZY PEOPLE find dull, lazy friends.

THE DETERMINATION of life insurance salesmen to succeed has made life pretty soft for widows.

Stone Casters

BY HENRY CLAY DAVIS

As the appraisal of assets and liabilities and the fixing of value are based on an inviolable system of debit and credit in matters of morality.

In every human life regardless of social status there are debits of indiscretion and varying degrees of profligacy, and credits of commendable attributes and attainments which, when properly posted to the moral ledger to determine the preponderance of one over the other, should also determine our worth to the community in which we live.

Since our acts of benevolence so often pass unnoticed while our most insignificant acts of indiscretion are vociferously made public and accorded the worst possible interpretation by those who call themselves our friends, we are constrained to doubt that such elements as culture, justice, and magnanimity can exist amid such questionable intelligence.

We have before us for guidance the great Divine admonition to cast the first stone if we, ourselves, are without blemish but it seems to have no meaning for the stone casters or scandal mongers of today who enjoy nothing better than an opportunity to cast stones of aspersions upon a reputation cleaner and better than their own.

A very popular young person in this community was recently said to have committed an act of indiscretion which the stone casters lost no time posting against that person as an unpardonable moral debit. So far as we know that young person has always enjoyed a life teeming with an abundance of sweetness, hope, ambition, charm, personality, cordiality, talent, and humi-

lity and yet these unmistakable moral credits were not allowed even the semblance of a chance to counter balance that one unfortunate debit by the stone casters, the Judases, the scum of decent social intercourse.

The act in question must have been born of desperation, and desperation does not fail to make its existence manifest therefore somebody would have insistently traced the palpable desperation to its origin and thereby possibly placed themselves in position to make the commission of such an act unnecessary. A reputation would have been saved a well thought of young person could have continued a useful life among decent people without head hanging and shame.

We do not hold such acts should be condoned but we do believe that steps taken in time to preclude the possibility of any such tragedy will achieve far better results than all the bitter condemnation and reproach in the world. We do not know what caused this thing to happen and we should not be so quick to lend ourselves to fallible and derogatory conjecture lest we do irreparable harm to someone we might better have tried to help.

Stone casters evidently do not have the intelligence to realize that a pound of lead cannot possibly be made to weigh any more than a pound of feathers and likewise that their merciless and malicious gossiping which often occasions the complete destruction of a reputation and the hope of recovery, is no less reprehensible than the acts about which they gossip. LET HIM (OR HER) WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST STONE.

Editor's Mail Bag

Dear Editor:

World's events are coming upon us so swiftly that it is very difficult at present to foretell just what this year has in store for us Americans and still more impossible is it to predict what the map of Europe and Asia will be like at the beginning of 1941. Several events can be predicated upon past events and present ideologies, not only in the eastern hemisphere but in the western as well. It is useless for us here in democratic country to deceive ourselves and others by proclaiming over the house tops that all the 21 American republics, as united in the Pan American Union, are all equal, free, independent and democratic. Anybody making such a statement is surely unacquainted with the respective histories of the republics to the south of us, for without a single exception, their present governments have either been "shot in" after shooting the former ones out, or they had to flee for their lives under the threat of revolution. Not only is that the case, but by far the greatest number of them are even now under some kind of dictatorship with their sympathies linked to foreign similar governments. Nor need we exclude entirely the fighting Allies in Europe, for their records in the Orient, India, Near East Spain, Africa, and even in this western hemisphere, speak so loud that we should not pay much attention to their present declarations. At least Germany and Italy do not claim to be democracies, and I predict that such countries, as they conquer will lose most of their former democratic procedures; and if we, enter this war, we too, will lose most of our democratic government. So why not keep telling them, "no thanks, no tanks, no yakis" and stick to it. War these recent times is a terrible destructive monster, destroying victor and vanquished alike, as will be amply proven when the victors in this war will be compelled to return to the economy of peace. Even with our tremendous war preparations, we too will find it very difficult to return to the sanity of peace. In order to bring about some solution for their respective

economic orders, all the warring nations will be forced to expand their foreign trade to countries that still have a surplus producing capacity with willing credits. Our great nation can command and assume that position; but not in case we get either into that devastating war or become hopelessly involved by using our inventive genius and productive capacity in building an arsenal for all the nations of the world.

There are so many serious problems facing our country that it should behoove us to study these in the light of history, our Christian convictions, and our future welfare, if we would continue to be a free America and make our great country a beacon light for other countries to either follow or respect.

The Mexican problem is one of these, that is forcing itself upon us, not because they can't settle their own problems within their own boundaries, but because our investors have gone there with their business adventures and are now insisting upon our government protecting such exploiting privileges. Unfortunately the Mexican constitution compelled Cardenas to step aside; in the recent national election Camacho was declared to be overwhelmingly elected to carry on the plans of Cardenas.

However Almazan who is backed by the old conservatives including the Catholic clergy, money interests, liquor and gambling joints, Dies and Garner of Texas, has also been proclaimed as elected, and his threatening trouble if votes are not properly counted and Almazan declared President on or before Sept. 1.

Among Cardenas' outstanding followers are 80,000 Mexican youths who have pledged themselves to abstain from smoking, drinking, gambling and other bad habits, and always to be ready for labor and defense. From reports, we learn that the most threatening fifth columnists down there are the stool pigeons hired by the foreign oil and mining interests. I have the greatest respect and admiration for Cardenas, for last year I crossed into Mexico at El Paso and again at Southern

I'm Against All Sorts Of Discriminations, Segregation

3rd Term Would Transform Gov't Beyond Recall

--Wendell Wilkie

BY EMMETT J. SCOTT WASHINGTON

That "the degeneration of democracy, and the devitalization of the people of America" are involved in the coming campaign was the remark of a prominent Republican at Colorado Springs, Colorado as he conferred with Wendell Wilkie, Republican Nominee for President of the United States.

"And four years of it," he declared, "will see this Government transformed beyond recall. Thoughtful men and women throughout the country are voicing opinions of the same import. They deeply concerned about the future of this America of ours.

They know how laboriously it has been fashioned and how it has been governed during the 150 years of its existence. They view with jealous eye anything and everything that tends to whittle away the fundamental tenets of this Republic which everything that tends to whittle away the fundamental tenets of this Republic which they are determined shall be made to work in this land of the free and home of the brave!

HOW NEW DEAL HAS FAILED AVERAGE MAN

As we come once again to appraise the policies, philosophies and actual results of the New Deal administration, under our two party system, the opposition is called upon to state wherein the New Deal has failed to meet the needs of every day men and women who love their country, and who wish it to provide for them the full employment of our men, our money, and our materials, a progressive rise in our living standards and increased security of our people.

In stating its criticisms, the opposition is called upon to be constructive. It must not simply register captious fault findings. It must be exact and factual. It must document its citations of those policies which it believes threaten the future of the United States, and point out in clear cut, unevasive language those disastrous consequences and menaces which it thinks are in store for us if New Deal policies are continued.

Under Wendell Wilkie, its new leaders, the opposition is

prepared to marshal and present comprehensively a record of failures not matched by any administration in the history of our Government; Government budgets remain unbalanced; unbalanced; unemployment continues after nearly eight years of trial and error, with 10,000,000 men desperate and in despair because they cannot properly care for their wives and children; the national debt and reached an astronomical level even before we began our defense preparations; mounting taxes, direction and hidden, are higher than ever before in our history; the Federal Government is "on the road to bankruptcy," to use President Roosevelt's own words; and finally, chaos and confusion attend every desperate expedient and experiment of New Dealism.

COLORED CITIZENS

This recital comes home to Colored citizens probably more closely than to other groups made up mainly of low income groups.

All of these things wherein our Government has so lamentably failed, are of deepest concern to them.

Their future is more clearly menaced for they have also racial and economic discriminations and prejudices to overcome while they struggle for their place in the sun.

The burdens of depression, as Glenn Frank Committee Report pointed out, have fallen "with an extraordinarily heavy impact" upon them. Relief programs are played by the administration as the chief solvent of their difficulties and salvation.

The future of the Negro people in America is involved in this contest of the two parties. It will be for them to decide if they wish further to acquiesce in the discriminatory treatment—racial grounds now meted out to them. They cannot permit themselves to gamble with another four years of New Deal promises and failures, which during the past seven and one half years have brought them only a deadening sense of hopelessness and desperation.

Their course of action is clear and unmistakable.

WASHINGTON, — Charles P. Howard, Editor and Publisher of The Howard News Syndicate, The Iowa Observer, Des Moines; The Tri State Observer, Davenport; and The Waterloo Observer, Waterloo; has sent a report to Republican National Committee Headquarters of certain explicit statements made by Wendell Wilkie, Republican Nominee for President of the United States, on the occasion of his visit to Des Moines. Mr. Howard's report follows:

DES MOINES, Iowa, Wendell Wilkie, Republican Presidential Nominee, emphasized in Des Moines last Monday that he believes that "Negroes are just American citizens," and that "the approach to them for their political support should be the same approach as to other American citizens"

Mr. Wilkie was in Des Moines August 5, for a conference with Midwestern Governors and farmers.

During the day however he was interviewed by other interests. His attitude on the Negro was disclosed at a Press Conference attended by more than one hundred Iowa newspaper editors, among these were three Race

representatives. On being asked if he desired to say anything with reference to the Negro Question, Mr. Wilkie immediately replied: "I don't think there is any man in America who has spoken or written more strongly on the Negro Question than I have and I did it at a time when I had no idea of occupying my present position."

Mr. Wilkie was later asked if he had any specific plan for getting the Negro vote. He replied: "I don't believe in any plan to get the Negro vote; I think they are all American citizens."

Following the Press Conference, Mr. Wilkie held an informal interview with a group of Negro Republican leaders from the state of Iowa, wherein he said:

"If I am elected, I will carry out the platform of the Republican Party as it dealt with the Republican Platform on this plank 100 per cent."

Further inquiry was made of Wilkie as to whether or not, as President of the United States, he would see that the National Government led the way in eliminating discrimination and Please turn to Page Five

Musings...On Unemployment

BY J. P. SCOTT

JUST MUSING as to what a paradoxical country we live in strange unpredictable and unbelievable. This thought comes to me over and over. The latest attack I had was the other day when I tried to get a job at Sparrows Point, Md. As I was driving into the employment area I saw white men going in the office and some of them came out with cards, others were coming out smiling. Needless to say, I entertained a hope of getting a job, but the men were so lined up so that the whites were in front and the blacks were clustered together in the rear. After the whites had been served the colored received the attention of the employment agent who came out personally and told them it was no use staying for there was nothing doing not only for that day but the rest of the week. He told them to go home if they had a home or go some place just so it was off the company's property.

land. It seems that such materials are not to be contaminated by black hands, for in many of the plants no colored are employed. I went to one of the plants and the employment agent said they do not hire colored save porters and that he had two said there were five on the waiting list.

America prepares for national defense in such a strange democratic way. Whether the great Thompson Product company which manufactures aircraft parts employs any Negroes in skilled or even unskilled capacities I do not know. I went to the employment line many times but I never saw any working in the plant nor did I see any being employed. I suppose the company still believes in that old American doctrine that the black man can do nothing but the drudgery type of work. The average American white man never thinks of the Negro as being educated to do many of the jobs that the ordinary white man just picked up, he doesn't read enough about the things the Negro has accomplished to be well informed of the wonderful potentiality of his native stock, he would rather take a chance on a foreigner who is just a apt to be a fifth column man as not.

Many of the fellow left but still a larger group stayed and formed little groups to discuss the situation over. I joined one of the groups and they said nearly every day it was the same, the whites were taken on and the colored were told there was no work. There was a demand for whites and in fact the company was trying to get more from other places. Paradoxical no? Some of the colored fellows had worked for the company as much as 18 years. The employment agent did not take time to interview colored applicants at all, therefore, he did not know whether he had men qualify for any of the jobs or not.

I went up to the guard and talked with him and he said that there was nothing doing; but while I talked with him a white man came up and he told him to go inside probably he could get on. One of the un-interviewed men upon being told to go home had the presence of mind to remind me the employment agent that Hitler will be over soon—a rather significant thing to suggest at this time when the country is making such a headline effort to get the country prepared for national defense.

IN CLEVELAND

Spent some 20 days in and around Cleveland trying to get a job so I could do my bit in helping the country prepare itself against European or some of the more aggressive hemispheric invasions. I found the industry buzzing with activities making war materials for the so called first line defense, Eng-

Just think what could be done by men of color if the doors that are thrown open wide to Germans, Poles, etc. were just cracked a little so that the Negro can put some of his ingenuity to work for Uncle Sam in these days of treachery. Who knows but if another set of Bismarckers might not lay out more beautiful cities than Washington, a set of Cassels, Robinsons, Williams, etc., may design more charming buildings for people to live in, a set of Carvers extract more products from the moomon postnut, etc., yet even another set of Father Divines to feed and house people which the government's program found hard to do!

Of times the black man cries out to the white employer and to the law givers to repeat the pledge of allegiance to the flag and repeat slowly and meditatively the closing phrase "with liberty and justice for all." Let each American think of these words and may he strive to be a better American each day by giving each native born American the benefit of the closing phrase of the pledge. The Negro wants the help of the country in the service for which he knows he can give the best of his talent and strength. GIVE HIM A CHANCE!

Race Farmers To Be Organized

California. I hired a taxi at El Paso and asked the Mexican driver to show me the gambling joints and beauty palaces in Juarez, but he informed me that these had all moved across the border into El Paso I visited Agua Caliente where American gamblers had invested millions in one of the finest gambling and beauty palaces in this hemisphere. This had been turned into a self help college for Mexican youths, chiefly Indians.

20 ORGANIZERS TO COVER SOUTH

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Twenty farm hands were scheduled to leave Memphis Sunday, following a six week period of training by the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, to organize the farmers of the South.

Work of the unionists will begin first in Arkansas, Miss., Missouri, Oklahoma and Tenn., the States from which came the 20 farmers to be trained, but will spread rapidly into all sections of the South.

The union was once affiliated with the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, but now its rival, it furnished free transportation and board to 20 laborers so that they could learn the rudiments of union organization.

I was informed that no "beauties" nor drinking gamblers were allowed in that section now under orders from Cardenas. I also have before me a recent report of the Pioneer Mission Agency of Philadelphia and from it I learn the "glad tidings" that never have Protestant missionaries been so welcomed as have these by President Cardenas as to come to Mexico.

P. O. SCHALLERT

Winston-Salem.

WHY DO RADIO Programs seem better after midnight?

NO HUSBAND can please his wife she chooses to fight.

A GOOD DEED gets about the same attention these days as a homely face.