

Comments

EDITORIALS

Opinions

The Carolina Times

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THE PLATFORM OF

THE CAROLINA TIMES INCLUDES:

- Equal salaries for Negro Teachers.
- Negro policemen where Negroes are involved.
- Equal educational opportunities.
- Negro jurymen.
- Higher wages for domestic servants.
- Full participation of Negroes in all branches of the National Defense.
- Abolishment of the double-standard wage scale in industry.
- Greater participation of Negroes in political affairs.
- national governments.
- Negro representation in city, county, state and Better housing for Negroes.

EDITORIAL

FIFTH COLUMNISTS IN DURHAM

There will be no defense training set-up for Negroes in Durham unless it is done in spite of the objections of the City Board of Education. This is the conclusion we have reached after weighing the results of an investigation made of the city school system during the past several weeks. The Board of Education is making no honest effort to obtain funds for a machine shop or any other shop to teach Negroes any of the trades that will prepare Negro youths to take their places in defense industries that are necessary to defeat the enemies of democracy.

The Axis power may think they are adept at sabotage, deception and fifth columning, but they ought to come to Durham, and learn what it is all about. God help America if the rest of the country is as determined to prevent one-tenth of the population from aiding in the nation's war effort as certain Durham city officials.

For approximately two years, all day and all night, there has been operating at the white high school here a shop that is teaching white youths welding, brazing and other trades necessary to help America defeat the Axis powers, but in spite of repeated efforts on the part of Negro citizens nothing is being done to teach Negro youths these trades that are vital to the nation's safety.

It is our frank opinion that there are a group of little narrow-minded white people in Durham who would rather see American homes bombed, ships sunk at sea and the butchered bodies of their women and children drenched in their own blood than to know that Negroes had taken an active part in the defense of the United States.

This editorial held in abeyance for nearly six months had to be written. We are tired of grinning at little peanut-head men who are so busy fighting the Civil War and preserving white supremacy they don't know that American lives are being lost, American ships are being sunk and everything we have as a nation is being threatened by a ruthless enemy that will stop at nothing to achieve his end.

WE ARE AT WAR! If our white folks have just got to have some one they can look down on so they can feel superior. If they have just got to have some one they can deceive about schools, appropriations and what not; can't they wait until after we have blasted the Axis powers from American territorial possessions?

This is no time for traditional prejudices that stand in the

way of winning this war. This is a time for unity of spirit, purpose and effort, and any person who engages in any segment of America citizenship, or disrupts our efforts to produce the machinery necessary for winning the war is a menace to the cause for which American soldiers and sailors are giving their lives.

This delay in making it possible for Negro youths to learn trades by which they can help win this war, this throttling of every effort, this side-stepping and even lying in an effort to deceive Negroes into believing that everything is being done to secure defense training for Negro youths in Durham is fooling no one, but the deceivers. However, it is jeopardizing the American way of life, and those who are engaging in it are as vicious an enemy as the most ruthless Japanese or German. They are the fifth columnists that need to be watched night and day. If they can be handled the Negroes themselves can take care of all the Japanese and German fifth columnists that can be dumped among them.

THE MILLS OF THE GODS

By Henry Clay Davis

OUR PLACE

Generally it is the privilege of any individual to make any claim he cares to and the privilege of dissenters to disprove that claim if it is thought possible and worthwhile but one exception to that general rule is the claim of southern bred white army officers that only they should command Negro troops because they understand them better than anyone else and that claim, to us, not only needs no disproving but also is ridiculous.

We Negroes know that we understand each other as nobody else can or ever will, we know that we instinctively distrust the average southern white man, and we know that those of us who profess to feel differently are generally looked upon as hypocrites unworthy of confidence.

Since we are compelled to furnish our own leadership in our religion, education, social activity, and our businesses, and since we are compelled to be regimented together in the armed forces because of our color, there is no palpably sane reason why we shouldn't be allowed the privilege of furnishing our own leadership there also. In spite of our many handicaps our race includes many cultured, competent, and brilliant members who, with a little necessary military training, would be better able to lead our boys into any condition of warfare anywhere.

We have never sought strife and misunderstanding between the races but we have sought peace, opportunity, and a chance at enjoying a portion of the nation's prosperity and, while southern whites are forever boasting about keeping us in our place, we have continued to cherish the fond hope of eventually being allowed to occupy our place, the difference being the difference between white and black opinion as to what or where our place is.

All of us, the ignorant and intelligent alike, feel that our place is here in America the same as any other American, in the civic, political, economic, and governmental life of the nation the same as any other Americans, and in all branches of the armed forces the same as other Americans, subject of course to our individual ability to make the grade the same as other Americans.

The calling together of a small group of Negroes anywhere to ask them how the race feels towards existing conditions is an unforgivable waste of time, energy, and railroad fare and if the average white man really wants to know how we feel he has only to put himself in our place and he'll have his answer. Give us an opportunity equal to that of other citizens, give us the command of our own soldiers up to, at least, the rank of Battalion Commander, and give us those rights and privileges which are justly ours and there will no longer exist any doubt concerning our continued loyalty nor any question concerning our place in this nation.

MUTTERINGS

Every time we laugh we take a kink out of the chain of life.

How can widows live all their lives on memories of incomes?

Today's woes usually spring from yesterday's indiscretions.

The road to success is dotted with tempting parking places.

A man who is satisfied with pot-luck usually gets just that.

You're not working very hard unless you're thinking very hard.

The labor problem: How to do the least work for the most money.

Don't neglect the most impor-

tant thing you wear—your expression.

When saving for old age be sure to lay up a few pleasant thoughts.

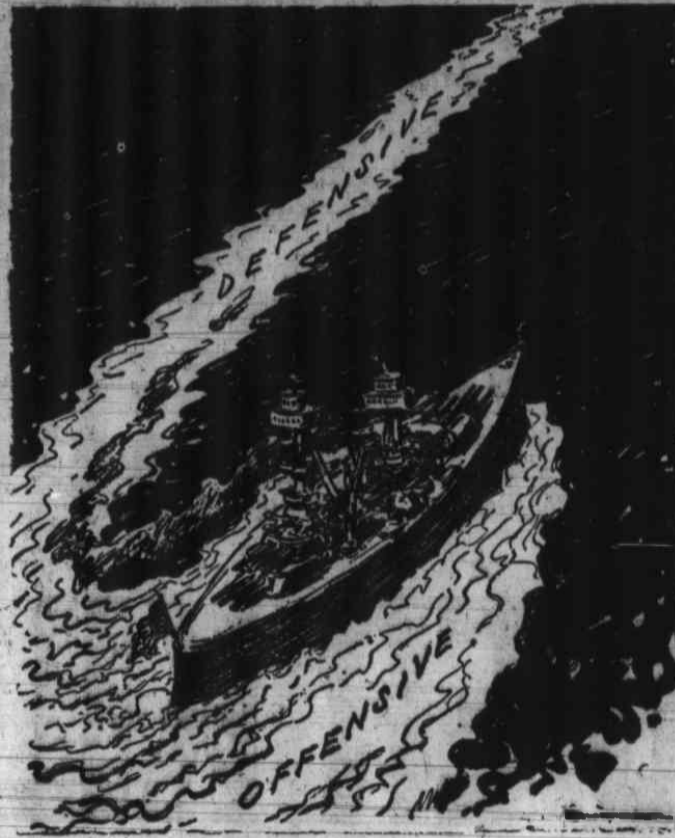
We've committed the Golden Rule to memory; let's count it to life.

A workman jokingly said "U. S." stood for "Uncle Sam" and the fancy spread.

Our conception of Uncle Sam is a tall, thin, sparsely bearded figure, with 19th century clothes and a high hat, usually with his clothes decorated with the stars and stripes, is due to an unknown artist of the '30s who first pictured him this way.

Our secret weapon: U. S. Defense Bonds and Stamps. Buy them!

OUR COURSE FROM NOW ON



BETWEEN THE LINES

By Dean Gordon B. Hancock for ANP

THE REAL TRAGEDY

World War II is fast entering a phase of dreadful possibilities. The military plot of the world is thickening and dire enactments are in the offing. We were prepared for some of the unhappy tidings that have come, but not for all. We had hoped that slow-moving democracies would prove a better match for the swift-moving totalitarians, but to date results are not especially assuring. Democracies are not geared to war but to peace. Unfortunately we live in a world geared, for many generations to come, to war, horrible war, devastating war.

War is made in human hearts and we are not paying much attention to human hearts. The Lowly Nazarene warned us of these dangers; but we like Jerusalem would not hearken and our house is being left unto us desolate. Far be it from us to heckle our hard-pressed nation, but we are not going to get very far by ignoring the facts because they are ugly. These three months we have fought the Japanese have been months of great anxiety and not a little disappointment. But such times as these really prove whether or not we are worthy of the heritage that is ours. If we cannot endure our Valley Forge then we are unworthy of our Washington, the world famed capital of the nation.

The tragedy of these perilous times is not our losses and defeats and the awful price we are paying for our follies; it is not our inexcusable underating the Japanese nation and our short-sightedness in sending them the scrap iron that comes back to us in deadly weapons to slay our youth; it is not our celebrated evacuations and withdrawals and the wretched state of our unpreparedness with its concomitant dangers; it is not our overwrought expectations that shortly we are going to do great things here and there and everywhere; it is not even the Japanese sweep of the Pacific and the islands thereof.

The great tragedy of the situation lies in the fact that "politics as usual" in Great Britain and the United States is threatening our cause with ultimate defeat. Great Britain is temporizing with India and the United States is temporizing with the race question. These two great democratic nations are not only not prepared for war but they are not prepared for victory and peace. When a nation places anything ahead of its fight for survival, the future can only be cut so bright. With Britain stalling India and with the United States half-scared of Russian power and with Russia a totalitarian country putting up the only truly commendable opposition to Nazi Germany, we have a spectacle that is not calculated to inspire confidence in the final outcome.

As long as Great Britain is unwilling to liberate India and as long as the United States is unwilling to trust Russia and as long as both cannot subordinate color lines in the interest of battle lines, we are heading for the rocks. From the way things are shaping up it is going to take all the Negroes in the country and all the Indians in India to win this war! White America should bear in mind that the Negroes of this country are not trying to break into their parlors but into this war of survival. As long as this country's thinking is not clear on this point, we are neither ready for war nor peace.

What is more, when democracies force their peoples to look to Moscow for defense against Hitlerism instead of London and

CALVIN'S DIGEST

By L. BAYNARD WHITNEY

A Most Worthy Adoption

The Business and Commerce School of The College of the City of New York recently "adopted" colored soldiers who are on duty guarding vital areas in the great metropolis. The college has thrown open its facilities to our soldier boys who desire exercise, study or relaxation at the college. Further, they will be allowed to "sit in" on various study classes and those who qualify will be given regular scholastic credits in higher education.

This is indeed a very encouraging gesture for assisting the morale of our boys in uniforms and is in perfect conformity with the democratic spirit of New York City. It is a most timely indication that Father Time appreciates his native sons and wants to do something to compensate in a grand measure for the cruelties suffered by Negro troops in other parts of the country.

Some Good Folks,

It is reported that while stationed in a white Pennsylvania town, the people made every effort to make pleasant the stay of the colored soldiers. They were invited into white homes, and in public places they were given every courtesy and consideration. The townspeople followed the democratic ideal in action until they met with caustic criticism, it is said, from some of the white officers who complained that such treatment toward colored troops would be misunderstood and might create "problems."

Similar situations are alleged to have occurred in various sections of the country, where the people tried to demonstrate their democracy, but were balked in their efforts by blind "authority." However, the Negro soldier knows now that a large section of white America believe in fair play and decency if they are not only given a chance to demonstrate it.

Trite But True

Today it is trite to say that the white man's arrogant rule over darker races is at an end. But the tragic truth is that so few whites believe it. Tragic because they refuse to pocket false pride and race myths and acknowledge the error of their ways. Refuse to treat decently with their dark brothers until circumstances, start and terrible, bring them to their knees.

Racial tolerance is the need of the hour, but such as has been given may be "too little and too late!"

A vocal chorus of liberals, led by novelist Pearl Buck, is striving valiantly and patriotically to arouse the conscience of white America and point out the awful danger of clinging to race prejudice and trying to win the war at the same time. It simply cannot be done!

Small America blunder on, like the British of whom it can well be said, "Patriots may burst their hearts in vain if circumstances are against them!"

Washington, it may not be so easy to stop their looking once the war is won. It is fervently to be hoped that right early the hopes for the survival of democracy will be centered in Washington and not Moscow. People are not interested in labels but in results. Russia is getting results. It is not a good thing for democracies, that the youths thereof may feel indebted to Russia for her foresightedness and valor that stemmed the tide of Hitlerism. Politics and Negro-phobia were bad enough before Pearl Harbor, but they are inexcusable now and dangerous in the extreme. This is a total war and sub-total efforts are not going to win it!

Any and all attempts to thwart the Negro in his patriotic aspirations borders on treason in a time like this. The time is either at hand or not far distant when both this country and Great Britain must make the choice between survival and color-phobia and to choose the latter would be a wretched choice. Negroes must never forget that their hopes are correlated with democracy. If democracy survives—even in its imperfect form—we have hope; if it perish we are hopeless and futureless. The greater tragedy is, we are unprepared in our minds for war; and unprepared in our hearts for peace!

SLEEP ON, SHIPMATES

The Navy Department issued as an official release recently the following tribute to the men who died at Pearl Harbor, written by Henry Wilson Patterson, a Negro messenger at the department:

Sleep on, shipmates, and take your rest,
Recline your heads on glory's breast.
No more will war's destructive gale,
Your gallant, heroic souls impale!

Sleep on!

Sleep on, shipmates, you are not dead—
You're just asleep, for fame has said;
"I give to you eternal life!"

And now you're free from hate and strife!

Sleep on!

Sleep on, shipmates, the life you gave
On yonder shore in a watery grave
Was not in vain; we heard your cry!

And our answer: "We'll avenge our die!"

Sleep on!

Sleep on, your spirit will not die!
We'll drive the foe from earth and sky!
We'll plant our flag on every crest!

That flag for which you gave your best.

Sleep on!

Sleep on, triumphant spirits free!
Sail you eternity's boundless sea.
Walk you the deck beyond the sky!

We'll say: "Aho, there!" by and by.

Sleep on!

Eight Public Works Gain Presidential Approval At Once

Presidential approval of eight war public works projects to provide community facilities and services for Negro civilian defense workers and military personnel was announced recently by Assistant Federal Works Administrator Baird Snyder, III, acting for Administrator Philip B. Fleck. These eight projects either wholly or in part for Negroes are distributed over seven states. The clubs five school additions at facilities for Negroes at one health and four health centers.

In some instances local agencies sponsoring the projects bear part of the total cost amount of the sponsors' contribution being fixed by agreement between the local authorities and the Federal Works Agency.

In cases, the entire cost is against them!"