

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.
- Negro representation in city, county, state and national governments.
- Better housing for Negroes.

WHAT DURHAM NEGROES NEED

Negro leaders in Durham ought to explain to the public the reason for the delay in opening the brazing and welding school for Negroes. They ought to get at the bottom of the matter and make a public statement as to why the school has not been opened.

We don't attach any significance to the report that the project has not been opened because it is impossible to get the government to issue a permit for the use of power for operation of the machines. We don't believe the government would go to the trouble of shipping the machinery to Durham and setting it up without making it possible to obtain power for its operation.

We are of the opinion that when the truth is known that it will be found that the project has been sabotaged by certain city officials of Durham who are determined that Negroes shall not be taught brazing and welding, government or no government.

We have enough evidence at hand to make us believe that certain persons in Durham would rather see the United States in the hands of a foreign enemy than to know that the country had been kept out of those hands by American Negroes.

All of the tommyrot about splendid race relations in Durham is merely superficial. Any person who has an ounce of sense knows that the undercurrent here is so pregnant with prejudice that one can almost cut it with a knife. If this were not true more interest in getting the Negro welding and brazing plant opened would be shown by certain city officials.

What Durham needs is a strong branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People so that court action, or some other action can be taken to get some of the problems which confront the race solved without forever having to depend on charity for help.

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, let it be known at the Hillside High School commencement exercise just where he stood on certain issues that pertain to his race.

Persons who heard the North Carolina Mutual president speak say it was the most courageous utterance they have ever heard him make. We commend Mr. Spaulding for the stand he has taken and say more power to him. This kind of action on the part of one of our leaders is indeed worthy of praise in these times when most of Durham Negro leaders are compromising on every issue that is holding the race back.

Durham has had too much leadership from the rear. There is always a group of so-called leaders here who wait until the battle is fought and won before they jump in the front for the purpose of fooling the mass of Negroes into believing that they are responsible for the victory.

We think Negro leaders ought to lead from the front; they ought to be willing to pay the price of leading or get out of the way and let some one assume the role who is willing to face the persecution that goes with trying to lead an oppressed minority group.

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Mr. Spaulding has done a courageous thing and we take off our hats to him, and say with a profound sense of appreciation that we are glad to follow this kind of leadership.

THE MILLS OF THE GODS

By Henry Clay Davis

OUR VOTE SELLERS

Soon after the close of the Civil War the Bourbon South, together with its manifold other malevolent practices against Negroes, conceived the idea of depriving us of our constitutional right to suffrage and used as a pretext the accusation that we sold our vote to the highest bidder without regard for the issues at stake.

Many present-day Negroes, having come up under the tutelage and guidance of our nearest ancestors who were the newly emancipated Negroes of that era, know that such a charge was then as false as it was malicious and that a vast majority of that day's Negroes prized their integrity, character, and citizenship more highly than any other of their meager earthly possessions.

Too many of us today, however, seem to forget the priceless teachings of those honored forebears of ours whom we regard as ignorant and little removed from savagery. Too many of us have learned to disregard the invaluable heritage left to us by them. Too many of us who do not even know the meaning of the word are proudly proclaiming themselves "politicians" and who hungrily await any election time in order to be able to earn a few tainted dollars by helping to put the wrong man into office.

These pitiful and misguided people do not seem to realize that they are doing the very thing our guiltless forebears were accused of doing—selling the vote. They do not seem to realize that a commonwealth has the right to and should disfranchise vote sellers. They do not seem to realize that any man who has to buy his way into office is probably the wrong man for the place. And lastly they don't seem to realize that the combined voting strength of Negroes is the most powerful weapon at our disposal and should always be used wisely and well for our own benefit first and then for the benefit of others.

The existence of many evils is charged to politics so politics can and must be purged to decency and cleanliness wherever and whenever we are concerned. We need what slangsters call "guts" and we need to use them. We need to discover and prosecute if possible any one of us known to have accepted money or its equivalent for casting a vote according to dictation or persuasion, and we do not need the presence of any such people in our almost hopeless struggle for full emancipation.

As a racial group we need collective defense very badly now and will need it worse at the close of this present war. Today our nauseating disunity forces us to grovel and beg for a little recognition for a few of us but tomorrow we can demand and achieve through unity and coordination many more of the privileges which are rightfully ours if we will. It is up to us and us alone.

If we must sell something we should cherish let us sell as dearly as possible our combined efforts to make this a land of democracy for all of its people. Let us recognize the great truth that nobody loves us and that we don't love each other but we can make our burden easier to bear by sharing alike all that concerns us the same as we are compelled to share alike the fruit of prejudice and jim-crowism.

BETWEEN THE LINES

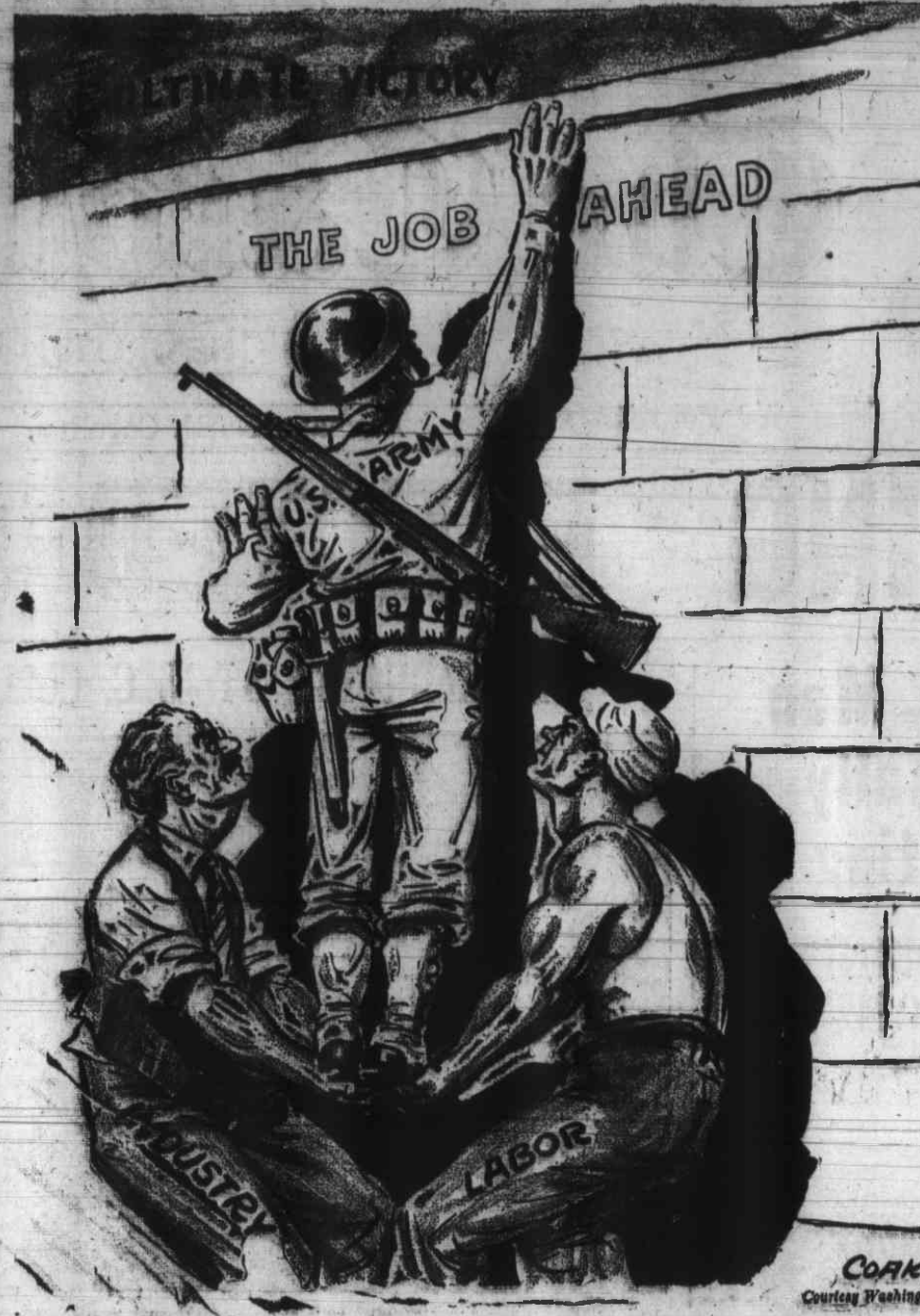
By Dean Gordon B. Hancock for ANP

BETWEEN THE LINES

(By Dean Gordon B. Hancock for ANP)
Negro Debunking Sociology?

John McCray, editor-publisher of the Lighthouse and Informer, one of the most recent stars to rise upon the Negro journalistic horizon, is threatening to go places. McCray is a concrete refutation of the unfounded allegation that southern Negroes are afraid to contend for the rights and responsibilities of full-fledged citizenship. Located as he is in Columbia, S. C., in a city of the south where the voice against lynching was first lifted by the Columbia State in the long ago, he has the moral support of some of the finest white citizens of this country.

The heart of South Carolina Negroes is best shown by the way they are rallying around the McCray standards. As a South Carolinian of South Carolina, I hail John McCray whose auspicious beginning is heartening. In one of his recent editorials entitled "Figures Don't Lie" Editor McCray puts to shame one of the feature writers of the News and Courier of Charleston, S. C. This writer was attempting to excuse the high incidence of crime in Charleston by falling back on the hackneyed assertion that Charleston's large Negro population was the logical explanation. The populational ratio being nearly 50-50.



COANLEY
Courtesy Washington Post

But when our feature writer broke down the crime by races it was found that of the total of 17,412 arrests, 12,122 were white and 5,290 were Negroes. Or if we consider it from the percentage point of view 70% of Charleston's crime is white and 30 per cent Negro. In other words the Negro's 50 percent of the population is affording 30 per cent.

This writer was not only startled but confounded by this revelation. It seems too strange to be true. Sociologists for these many years have been saying that if we could banish poverty and ignorance and poor housing and low wages, humans would be regenerated after such manner that crimes would largely cease. As a teacher and student of sociology for 20 years, this was one of my strongest points. Within the last 15 years it has been my privilege to address 20,000 young whites in some of the best universities north and south and when it came to "laying it on" about the correlation between crime and poverty, I never grew weary. Now we have it that the poorest, most poorly housed, the most flagrantly underpaid, the most disadvantageously segregated, the most under-paid group has a lower incidence of crime than the more privileged group.

What are we poor sociologists going to do for explanations of the Negro's shortcomings? We environmentalists who have so persistently contended that the environmental nature of the Negro's economic and cultural retardation was the one explanation of the Negro as he is, are dealt a knockout blow by the figures submitted by McCray. The Negro's economic plight has been our trump card as played at the table of interracial discussions. Yet we find here in Charleston something bordering on the revolutionary in sociological and economic thinking of the ages.

But this is not all. One of the officials of the state penitentiary here in Richmond has lectured often before my classes in sociology during these 20 years. He told us 10 years ago that the proportion of whites and Negro criminals was gradually changing with Negroes declining in numbers while the whites were increasing. In other words the ratios were gradually changing with the Negro in the favored position. I ran into my white friend at the stadium last Saturday; he came to sit with me and the question of these crime tendencies came up. He was further confirmed in his position that these crime tendencies that the percentage of Negro criminals was declining while that of the whites was on the increase.

It would be interesting to know how general is this tendency which is leaving the sociologists and economists high and dry. If Negroes are going to be good without an improvement in their economic status just what are we Negroes going to quarrel about? If Negroes can be good and law abiding in their misery and squalor the white man will be accordingly tempted to let them remain there. Are Negroes by their declining propensities towards crime going to debunk our sociologists and incidentally Negro leadership? Unless the criminal elements of Charleston

NEGRO EDITORS SPEAK

(Editor's Note: Guest editor for this week's editorial is C. A. Scott, general manager of the Atlanta Daily World, only Negro daily and Sunday newspaper in existence, and of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate, Atlanta, C. A. Scott helped his brother, the late W. A. Scott II, found the Atlanta World in 1928 and became general manager in 1934 following the death of W. A. Scott. The Atlanta World has been published as a daily since March, 1932. The present head of the organization was born in Jackson, Tenn., 33 years ago. He studied journalism at the University of Kansas.)

WINNING THE PEACE

(By C. A. Scott, General Manager of the Atlanta Daily World and Scott Newspaper Syndicate, for ANP)

In every quarter of the globe there are two great forces locked in mortal conflict—on one side is our nation leading the forces fighting for freedom of the people and on the other hand are the forces of enslavement of the people led by Nazi Germany. To win, or perhaps we should say, to survive this struggle it will be necessary to have the united effort of all classes and races in our great nation.

To get the necessary unity and enthusiasm for a successful conclusion of the present world wide struggle at the earliest possible time we on the home front must increase our vigilance against all forces attempting to thwart democracy here.

During the First World War the cry was that the war was to make the "world safe for democracy." During that conflict very little was done to improve democracy at home. Even some of our race leaders advocated that we should forget about our rights at home during the war. But it appears that the sentiment prevailing now is that we must fight for freedom wherever it is found. This fuller democracy for all citizens in America regardless of race or religion. We must redouble our efforts to get the right to vote and participate in all elections, foreign fronts. Many white people share this view.

We must continue efforts for a city, county and state.

As evidence of the recognition of the necessity of granting us political equality in view of the principles we are fighting for in this war, recently 21 outstanding white citizens of Columbia, S. C., petitioned the state Democratic convention "to arrive at some plan by which qualified Negroes may vote in the Democratic primaries of this state." This change in sentiment is gratifying and to the extent it will continue to manifest itself will largely depend upon our action.

democracy on both the home and in every phase of life must continue. We must oppose discrimination will not interfere with the effort.

If we are to justify the present war will require, we must wipe out discriminations at home. All races and nations must be granted equality if the peace after the war is to endure.

Farmers—Dad, Mother and all the Family, look for the following:

in which labor, race, and class exploitation shall end forever. Courageous voices like Pearl Buck are stressing the fact that the colonial setup such as Britain has maintained for centuries is definitely through, and that the natives of these colonies are fast losing their service consciousness. Instead they know that the opportunity has arrived for the common people everywhere to throw off the yoke of slavery is economic, political or social and regardless of geographical boundaries.

Calvin's Digest

BY L. BAYNARD WHITNEY

—V—

NASSAU NIGHTMARE

The labor and race question have simultaneously caught up with the Duke of Windsor who as Governor of the Bahamas is responsible for British policy in that area, as deuce as native Britisher are it must have taken a great deal to stir up a riot of more than 2,000 wage slaves who suddenly found their manhood protested in the only manner which the brittle British would recognize.

The economic conditions of natives of the West Indies and the Bahamas have been notoriously tragic for many years. We do not know what the Duke may have done to try to improve the lot of the common people since he has been Governor. But this recent violence during which the rioters smashed automobiles, ship windows, and looted the place in general, certainly indicates that nothing effective had been done to help the working people.

SEVEN CENTS AN HOUR

It sounds absurd to Americans when they read of Nassau labor being paid the British rate of 4 cents an hour, but American labor defense authorities upped the rate to 10 cents which caused the British to howl in protest; so they compromised on 7 cents an hour.

Only those who live in such an indigent, cost bound environment can possibly appreciate the terrible affront to human dignity caused by British policy.

Undoubtedly the Duke is more than embarrassed by this historical event, which irritatingly states the pleasure of continental sojourn. The situation is so serious that after the riots the Pan American Airways cancelled its schedule from Miami to Nassau and returned.

THE PEOPLE'S WAR

The Nassau riots furnished one more proof that is a people's war

and elsewhere wake up and give us some crime, we are going to lose one of our finest arguments in race relations. Unless we can have more crime, we sociologists will be forced to the inconvenience of doing some head clinching to save our face! Negroes, wake up! Criminals, to the rescue.