

# 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 juries.
- 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.

### THE FUTILE ATTEMPT OF JUSTICE

The final verdict of the Durham Recorders Court has been rendered in the sordid case involving a 16-year-old school girl and an indiscreet officer of the law. As revolting as the assault, arrest, finger printing and photographing of the young girl are they fade into insignificance when compared with the record of the present presiding officer of the Recorders Court in all major cases where a Negro has stood before him on one side and a member of the opposite group on the other.

Police brutality against Negroes by former rum runners, the violation of their humble homes and even the rape of a Negro woman have failed to arouse in the Recorders Court of Durham an essence of justice during these times of national peril. Here is an affront to all that we hold dear, all that white and Negro men are dying for on foreign battle fields. It is an attack on the strongest pillar of our government—the equal dispensation of justice.

Negroes in Durham seeking a haven of refuge from injustices in such a court should look elsewhere lest they lose faith in the law and hope in their country's destiny. They should not enter such a court where it appears that a Negro cannot get a favorable verdict though he have Jesus Christ for his attorney and the twelve disciples for a jury.

This case involving a 16-year-old school girl of unimpeachable character and an indiscreet police officer was a trial of Durham's Recorders Court, and not the principals involved in the hearing. Justice it seems made one last effort to exact from that court a verdict whose odor did not stink to high heaven. It was her futile attempt to have the court rise to the demands of the occasion and administer simple justice, so that respect for the law might be increased and the majesty of the law might be upheld.

We are not arguing here the right and wrong of the segregation law pursued in this state. We shall leave that for those whose hearts are so hardened with race hatred that they are not moved to abolish it when they hear or read the "Sermon On The Mount" or the story of "The Good Samaritan." We have faith in the New South and its ultimate revolt against all these unjust legislations that exist here.

We are arguing the case on the record of Durhams Recorders Court in all cases involving the rights of Negroes when those rights have been molested by indiscreet persons of the opposite group. We are arguing it from the standpoint of the preponderance of evidence that the young girl did not break law, however unjust it may be. We are arguing it from the standpoint that the officer's conduct was unbecoming one who has been clothed with the authority of the law and that he should not escape its toils and be encouraged, with others of his kind, in the belief that a Negro has no rights that a white man is bound to respect.

## PLAIN TALK

BY ELMER A. GANTER

"Would you want your sister to marry a Negro? That's the question" said a young white friend of mine the other day, "that is always thrown at me whenever a group of us get together and I begin to tell them they ought to oppose racial and color discrimination." From news reports of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's talk before the Harlem City Wide Committee it appears that the gracious first lady expressed the opinion that thus far, the fear of intermarriage between individuals of the two races accounts for the attitude of the white South towards the aspiration of the colored citizens.

In my own experience this question in one form or another is always asked when after a speech or address to a white audience the meeting is opened for questions. "Do you believe in social equality?" queried an intelligent and attractive young woman sitting in the first row a few weeks ago at a meeting in Detroit. "I think that colored people are happier together, don't you?" asked a kindly-faced matron recently at a meeting sponsored by a woman's

civic group in a wealthy suburban community. In one form or another the question is invariably put to colored speakers who address white audiences. My own experience the experience of every colored person even when he or she speaks to audiences composed of people on a high cultural and intellectual level.

"Well," I said to my friend who seemed at a loss to answer the question as to whether or not he wanted his sister to marry a Negro, "what do you say?" He seemed a little confused, hesitated and then replied - "Usually I say that has nothing to do with giving American citizens a decent break. But I have the feeling that my answer is inadequate. What do you think I should say?" "I do not know," I replied. "This question seems very funny to me, because it carries with it two assumptions which I believe are unwarranted."

"What assumptions?" he asked, "I don't understand you." "First, I answered, "there is the assumption that your sister might want to marry a Negro, since marriage in

America at least contemplates freedom of choice; and the second assumption is that a Negro might want to marry your sister. Are your friends actually appreciative," I asked, that it is necessary to ostracize the Negro by compelling segregation in order to keep their sisters from wanting to marry Negroes? No Negro could marry your sister against her will. And it is just possible that he may not want to marry her in any event.

"Marriage is purely a problem between two individuals," I continued. "My answer, if I were you to such a question, would be - 'I want my sister to be happy, to marry as fine a young man as she can, a man of ambition and character and the possibilities of achieving a place in the world.'"

"Somehow I have the feeling that if the color bar was lowered there would be little danger of a stampede of white girls to marry colored men, no immediate dangers at least."

He was silent. "I never looked at it in that way," he finally said.

The aid centers which will be opened throughout the county on Tuesday will remain open through June 10, Sunday expected. Daily hours will be from noon until 8 p. m.

only for errors of such importance as to make impossible issuance of ration books.

### TEN POINTS

1. You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
  2. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
  3. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.
  4. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.
  5. You cannot lift the wage-earner by pulling down the wage-payer.
  6. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.
  7. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
  8. You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money.
  9. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence.
  10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.
- (From the I and O Lakes News)

### Religion Bosses The Life Of Ration-Less Negro Man

Wilson — A 58 year old Nash County Negro, who, when recently arrested for draft evasion, disclosed he never had registered for any rationing books sat in a rickety old chair on his farm near here this week and told G. L. Parker, deputy Federal probation officer, how his "religion" molds his life.

The Negro, Oscar Strickland, is out of jail under \$750 bond for failing to register for draft.

"The Bible tells us not to kill to go to war. Therefore I didn't register for no draft." Oscar has been the father of 19 children. Only one of them is dead. He had 11 by his first wife and eight by his present wife. Of the 19, only one is in the Army. Another, Festus, was arrested with him recently because his father wouldn't let him register for the draft.

The one in the Army worries Oscar.

"I feel bad about it," he told Parker this week. "I feel as though I haven't done my duty as a father. I hate war. I hate war. I hate fighting. The Bible says we shouldn't fight. Yet I have a son in the Army down in Alabama."

Oscar is probably the only farmer, so far is known, who never has grown a single stalk of tobacco in this tobacco growing section in his life.

He lives on a 9-acre farm, which is his own in Nash County.

"But I believe that tobacco is sinful," Oscar said, "and I wouldn't grow it for that reason. I tried to get my children to feel the same way and I think I've done pretty well."

Living in a section where the average farmer feels that tobacco is probably the staff of life, Oscar has grown only such things as cotton, corn, beans, and "things to eat on the farm and that I can use."

But without tobacco, Oscar has managed to buy his farm, which he values now at \$6,000.

There is no mortgage on the farm and Oscar owes no money to any one. He has no automobile no ration books, eight children living at home and a wife. He's raised all 19 children satisfactorily, he avows. None of them have ever really wanted for anything.

### Help To Be Given On Rations Forms

If you are at all uncertain about the proper way to fill in the application blank for War Ration Book No. 3—if you'd like to have yours filled in blank checked just to make sure it is in proper form—visit one of the 24 "aid centers" which are now open in Raleigh and Wake County.

The "aid centers" are sponsored by the Raleigh-Wake County Ministerial Association in keeping with a request made by the Wake County War Price and Rationing Board after reports from Charlotte indicated that "check tests" showed that of the blanks mailed in prematurely "from 33 to 50 per cent were incorrectly made out to such an extent that War Ration Book No. 3 could not be issued for them."

The blanks are not complicated and OPA officials arranged them with hope of maximum simplicity. Those blanks already received at Charlotte were from persons who began by violating one of the simple rules—printed in heavy type in a prominent place—a rule setting forth that the application "must be mailed between June 1 and June 10, 1943." The Charlotte mailing office overlooked the early revision of the blanks and checked father was.

Although he reads only the Bible and doesn't bother with newspapers or the radio, Oscar has never gone to or hasn't ever been a member of a church. Few of his children have, either.

"I don't see no reason to join a church," he says. "The Bible doesn't say anything about doing this."

Oscar only went to school a short time—so short a time he doesn't remember how long. He attended Taylor's School in Nash County.

His home has five rooms. It has no lights, no water, no radio and no telephone. He has no automobile to use gas on.

"But we get along all right," he says. "I read my Bible."

**IT TAKES BOTH**  
War Bonds and Taxes  
To Win This War

### Miss Lyons

Continued from Page One  
dered the young girl to the rear of the bus and when she refused to go he proceeded to snatch her from the seat in a rough manner. In an attempt to defend herself the young girl dropped her books which were kicked down the aisle of the bus by Gates.

The young girl was finally placed under arrest and taken to the police station where she was finger printed and photographed with a number around her chest and placed in jail.

Immediately after the verdict attorneys Gates and Thompson filed notice of an appeal to superior court.

The CAROLINA TIMES learned

ed this week that the Negro Ministerial Alliance has agreed to back the case to the limit, if it is taken to a higher court by the cause.

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