

... plainly shows why Negroes, general- speaking, have little or no faith in Southern state courts and are resorting to the federal courts for the solution of their problems.

The cry about state rights and outside interference will go unheeded by thinking Negroes so long as Southern courts, that are almost solely a white man's institution, continue to exact a heavier penalty for Negroes for any and all sorts of crime than whites.

When a court of any description has a penalty for a crime for one race different from that of another it ceases to be a temple of justice and becomes a temple of injustice. The same people who are now beneficiaries of such a rotten practice will in time reap the harvest of their sins as is now being reaped in Conway, South Carolina by those who a few years ago were laughing up their sleeves at the crimes committed against Negroes by the Ku Klux Klan.

Not only is this unfair pattern followed in

WHAT MAKETH A GREAT LEADER?

Negro college presidents, school principals and other educators will need to read the story about Dr. Robert Russa Moton, the late president of Tuskegee Institute, appearing in the November issue of the READER'S DIGEST. They will discover in the story, written under the caption, "The Most Unforgettable Character I've Met," the stuff out of which truly great leaders are made.

They will learn how one Negro school head defied the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama and offered not only his job but his body as a "living sacrifice" for his race. They will also learn that even evil men as well as good ones in the deep South respect courageous manhood though it be clothed in a black skin.

Negro parents should read the story too and compare the kind of men who are heading the schools their children attend today with Dr. Moton.

The story is told by William Jay Schieffelin, retired chairman of the board of Schieffelin and Company, oldest drug manufacturers in the United States, vice-president of the American Bible Society and trustee of Hampton and Tuskegee Institutes. When Mr. Schieffelin tells you that Dr. Moton was the most unforgettable character he has ever met it will have great significance when you learn that he is now 84-years-old and has rubbed shoulders with many of the mightiest and greatest men of our time.

Negro educators will learn from Mr. Schieffelin's story about Dr. Moton that you can't stultify your conscience, sell your soul for a job

and be a great man or great leader. They will learn also that there will come times in one's life when he must resolve that life is not worth living without the human dignity that goes with the full measure of manhood and womanhood.

White members of public school boards and those on trustee boards of Negro colleges, if they will read the story thoughtfully will understand that when a Negro educator acts different from that of Dr. Moton he is either a coward or dishonest. Any Negro school head who is willing to enter into a dark and dingy scheme to provide unequal facilities for his own race will, when the opportunity presents itself, enter into one against those of the opposite group. His principal interest is preserving his own job whether it be at the expense of his own group or that of another.

The pattern here in the South is to undermine Negroes' hopes, aims and aspirations by placing the weakest persons available at the head of their schools. By this method it is hoped to keep the Negro from demanding equal educational opportunities, exercising his use of the ballot, joining the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and taking part in other activities that will inspire Negro youths to become men rather than belly crawling sycophants.

Mr. Schieffelin has made a distinct contribution to our time by calling the attention of the millions of readers of the READER'S DIGEST to the stuff out of which one of America's greatest Negro leaders was made.

THE LIFE OF A GOOD MAN

Published elsewhere on this page is a re-print of an editorial tribute to the late Professor Lutrelle F. Palmer of Hampton Institute, which appeared in the November 22 issue of the DAILY PRESS of Newport News, Virginia. The editorial pays a befitting tribute to a man whose life bore evidence that he would not sell his soul to the school board of Newport News to hold his job as principal of Huntington High School.

Although the school board gave no explanation for his dismissal and that of two other Negro principals, it is commonly believed that they were relieved of their jobs because they fought relentlessly for the equalization of Negro and white teachers salaries in the public schools, the employment of Negro policemen and the abolishment of other discriminatory practices in Newport News.

In paying tribute to Professor Palmer we would like to call the attention of our readers, especially those who are educators, to one very pertinent sentence in editorial about Professor Palmer which says: "In brief he lived to serve. Service is the supreme activity of mankind and brings the highest rewards — rewards not to be measured in wealth."

Negro principals and other school heads in Durham and elsewhere would do well to study the editorial thoughtfully and learn all they can about a man who could not be bought.

When the school board kicked him out of the principalship of Huntington High it kicked him upstairs to a bigger and better job as a member of the faculty of Hampton Institute. Here his noble life was exposed to a larger number of mature students who were probably in a better position to grasp his teachings and examples. This is usually the case with a good man. Divinity seems to protect him and shape his end, rough hew it how his enemies may.

As great as the need for more money is, in our schools and colleges, it is not half as great as the need for more real men and women who have some principles which they value more than a job. Such men and women leave their imprint upon the minds of our youth in such a manner that it will pay fourfold more than all the cringing stooges of trustee boards and boards of education will leave in a century.

We salute the DAILY PRESS of Newport News for focusing the attention of its readers on the life of a beloved and courageous man who will always live in the hearts of his people.



Spiritual Insight

By REV. HAROLD ROLAND PASTOR, MOUNT GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

"Unquenchable Fire Of Freedom"

"They did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens . . ." Exodus I:11.

An unquenchable passion for freedom burns in every human soul. History teaches that this flame of dignity and freedom cannot be put out. All the combined forces of evil and darkness could not put out in Egypt three thousand years ago. All the oppressive indignities, insults and cruelties of centuries of slavery could not put out this flame. This fact has been man's great hope in the long, uphill struggle for freedom and decency. Thank God it could not be put out three thousand years ago. It cannot be put out today. God's people felt the crushing powers of the taskmasters, the afflictions and the burdens but this flame continued to burn. Men can't put out this flame. Why can't they? God did not intend for men to put it out. This flame is fed by Almighty God.

The unquenchable fire of Freedom burns in many lands and among many people. It will burn until every shackle which bind the human soul be consumed in its purging flame. From Africa to the Iron Curtain, men cry for freedom and dignity. They will not be denied! Men, the world over, will not rest until they stand unfettered in the freedom of their God-given dignity. Men ask for nothing more; they will settle for nothing less. Two centuries of enslavement could not put it out in Egypt. One hundred fifty years of oppressive insults and abuses could not put out the flame in India. The flame burned until the shackles fell off. It burned until they stood in the dignity of their long-deserved freedom. Many died! Thousands were imprisoned and beaten but the flame would not go out.

Stupid leaders must realize they cannot put out the flame of freedom in the soul of man. God tried to teach man this lesson three thousand years ago. In their blind stupidity they would not learn the lesson. God is trying to teach this lesson today. It is hard for men to learn the lessons of God. I hear his voice in the world's dark confusion but men will not hear. Men behind the Iron Curtain will not hear God and learn his lesson. Men behind the Curtain of African exploitation will not hear God. Men hidden behind the Curtain of Race Supremacy will hear God. Everywhere we feel a surging restlessness at the grass roots of humanity. What is this universal stirring. It is the heat generated by the fires of freedom burning in the souls of men. The taskmasters with their afflicting burdens could not put out the flame in Egypt. It cannot be put out at this hour as it burns in many places. God is in the flame and it must find

expression in human dignity.

Darkness cannot conquer the light of God's truth. In and above the oppressive darkness of this world there shines the everlasting light. John stated a great truth . . . "The light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not . . ." Pharaoh failed to put out the light of God's passion for freedom in Israel. The darkness could not put out the light! All the darkness of the blackest night cannot put out the light of one candle.

Lutrelle F. Palmer

Prof. Lutrelle F. Palmer lived to see some of the discriminations previously affecting some members of the Negro race overcome, in part at least as the fruits of his own efforts. Chief among these was the equalization of salaries paid to Negro and white teachers in the public school system. Another movement in which he actively participated was the employment of Negroes as members of the Newport News police department, though this can be better classified merely as progressive action rather than as removal of a discrimination.

Professor Palmer, however, was the victim of an action by the Newport News school board which never yet has been explained though more than seven years have passed since then. After having served as principal of the Huntington High School in Newport News for 23 years, he, along with two other local Negro school principals, was dismissed. No charges were made. No explanation was given to him or to the public. No one is in a position to judge whether the action was just. All sorts of surmises were voiced, but no one could say precisely what grievance the trustees had.

The usual result of such an affair is to blight permanently a teacher's opportunity to teach. Fortunately for Professor Palmer and perhaps for his race also, he escaped the aftermath. Hampton Institute, whose work in improving the Negro's intellect and thus his opportunity for service is justly renowned, called him immediately.

Lutrelle Palmer was animated by a soft-spoken, gentle, patient personality. He easily won the respect, even reverence, of the hundreds of boys and girls who passed through Huntington High. Those in his Hampton classes were equally devoted to him. The answer probably lies in the Christian interest Professor Palmer took in the spiritual welfare of youth. In brief, he lived to serve. Service is the supreme activity of mankind, and brings the highest rewards — rewards not to be measured in wealth.

—Newport News Daily Press

"SMALL BUSINESS"

By C. WILSON HARDER

Three weeks ago this column reported to you exclusively that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation had secured control of the allocation of materials needed to produce "Camelback" used to recap tires. As was reported, this was an example of a government bureau seizing powers not given to it by law.

At that time it was learned that RFC would not allocate material to the small manufacturers who make up the "Camelback" industry unless they could show impending bankruptcy.

Affecting as it did so many people, publication of this news created great interest. Not only did this arbitrary action endanger thousands of tire recapping companies in every town in the nation, it also threatened dairy truck operators, farmers and many others.

The din of protest in Washington was apparently loud, coming principally from the smaller towns and cities. The result has been that the Commerce Department has now taken over control of allocations; manufacturers of "Camelback" are assured adequate supplies to keep their plants working on a 40 hour week basis.

When Congress reconvenes there may be an investigation of the matter.

The facts are that rubber has bounced back and forth so much in Washington that many Congressmen would like to bring out into the open whose bouncing baby it is.

This, despite the fact that synthetic sells for around 18 1/2 cents per pound, and natural rubber, selling before Korea at a range of from 19 to 24 cents per pound, has now soared to more than 60 cents per pound.

Natural crude was in shortage during World War II. Now there seems to be ample supplies for anyone who can afford the price. Congressmen wonder about two points.

Are the large American rubber corporations who own some rubber plantations behind this?

This, they say, would be the obvious avenue to explore, except for one fact; the persistent rumor that the State Department is involved. This then, opens another avenue.

It is known that Britain has almost a world monopoly on natural rubber. "Could it be," it is asked, "that the boys in striped pants who will do anything to save the world—including bankrupting America—are behind this?"

It is well known that Britain needs dollars. Volume sales of natural rubber at inflated prices would give Britain dollars fast.

"After all," Congressmen say, "any nation that socializes its steel industry; that through socialized medicine gives free false teeth and spectacles to all, needs dollars."

"In fact," they say, "if a Britisher gets a headache, the government gives him free aspirin."

"That is their affair as long as the headaches are not passed to Americans."

National Federation of Independent Business

KENDRIX KOMMENTS By MOSS H. KENDRIX

'Tis True - GOP In Seat

Washington, D. C. — The Big 7th has come and gone, leaving the Republican Party in all but a count-control of the Congress. 'Tis true that President Truman has a majority in both houses, but its only nominal.

Actually, the people of the United States elected a three-party national legislature on November 7, and in this scheme of things, the GOP is in the majority. More than 22-million voters went the GOP way as compared to less than 19-million for the Democratic ticket.

So when Mr. Truman gives the state-of-the-union message in the early days of the 82nd Congress, his voice will fall upon ears of 49 Democratic senators and 235 Democratic representatives. While in the 81st, he had 54 senators and 265 representatives on his "side."

Unfortunately with a two-person majority in the Senate and a 36-person majority in the House, the President has only a paper lead. The Third Party's deductions will have to be taken from this brief majority. The GOP, on the other hand, will stand rather pat with 47 senators and 199 representatives.

When a close check is made, it may be found that Mr. Truman will have about a dozen senators and far less than 150 House members to sincerely support his legislative objectives. Even in the 81st Congress, his House leadership was possible not all he might have desired.

Now the Man from Missouri faces a new Congress with a Senate minus his best stand-bys — Lucas, Myers, Tydings, Thomas (Utah), Pepper and Graham are gone and Douglas did not make it. In Missouri, the President's forces clipped Donnell and earmarked Democrat Thomas C. Hennings for the Senate.

It is in this sort of atmosphere that the President will try to continue his Fair Deal programs to extend prosperity and social benefits, while at the same time try to stop communism abroad and prevent the coming of a third world-wide conflict. The going of necessity will be tough.

However, the GOP is not without obligation to serve the best interest of the American people. The recent victory at the polls does not mandate the Republican Party to shackle labor nor to renege business of its tax responsibilities in the support of the national government.

Nor should that victory mean that we will dump the Marshall Plan, forget the needs of our school children, or assign the matter of human and civil rights to a ledger marked "unfinished business" of the supposed Truman-controlled 81st Congress. The wishes of the people still must be uppermost.

During the days immediately before and after the elections, I touched the Seaboard states between Maryland and Florida. Now it is good to note the rather good "showings" that the (Please turn to Page Seven)

An Open Letter To Friends Of Shaw Univ.

By DR. C. C. SPAULDING Chairman, Executive Committee Of The Board Of Trustees, Shaw University

"Having been closely identified with Shaw University for over thirty-five years and a trustee for about thirty years, I am in position to make the following statement concerning its management and growth:

During the past eighty-three years, we have had well-trained, God-fearing men as president; all of whom relied greatly on the Unseen Partner for guidance and support. Most of us are familiar with the facts and circumstances surrounding the founding of Shaw by Henry Martin Tupper and how he directed and financed its beginning. At his death, we were fortunate in securing Dr. Charles Francis Meserve, another president and at his retirement as president, he continued his membership on the Board of Trustees until his death. Dr. Joseph L. Peacock, our beloved third president, came into the equation and served admirably until Dr. William Stuart Nelson was elected in 1931. Dr. Nelson's election marked the first time a Negro president had headed the institution. As did all of his predecessors, Dr. Nelson made a fine record and served for five years when he resigned. Dr. Robert P. Daniel was elected to succeed him and served for about fifteen years. Under his administration, additional property was purchased for the school and several new buildings were erected. Also under his administration, he left a qualified staff of workers; an experienced secretary for the University and Business Manager; Deans, and heads of other departments.



DR. C. C. SPAULDING

The assets have increased from \$1,008,779.14 in 1936-37, to \$1,563,501.00 in 1949-50; income from \$150,412.00 in 1936-37 to \$561,500.00 in 1949-50; and student enrollment increased from 493 in 1936-37 to 858 in 1949-50. The motto of all of Shaw's presidents has been to answer criticism with progress.

When Dr. Daniel resigned, an Interim Committee was appointed by the Board of Trustees consisting of W. R. Strassner, Dean of the School of Religion, as Chairman; W. H. Quarles, University Secretary; G. E. Jones, Business Manager; Dr. Nelson Harris, Professor of Education; and Dean Foster P. Payne, Dean of the College. To my knowledge of organized administrative ability, these men are doing a very excellent job in improving the physical, academic and spiritual conditions at the school for which the Executive Committee and Trustees are grateful. The Board of Trustees now feel, however, that it will be best to have a person as acting president until the next meeting of the Board and have hereby appointed Dean W. R. Strassner to fill the position. This, also, seems to be the opinion of the Alumni Association and friends of the School.

The fact that statistics show that less than twenty percent of typical American youth use religion as a guide for their everyday behaviour makes it all the more necessary that such schools as Shaw University be supported. Shaw has turned out some of the foremost men and women of the race during the past eighty-three years — ministers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc., and they are serving in practically every state of the union. The citizens, both white and colored, have been inspired at what Shaw University has been able to accomplish in the past and are helping to keep it going. Let us put our shoulders to the task and help perpetuate this, the oldest and most serviceable school of its kind, by giving your moral, and best of all your financial support, and help bring more of our youth under the spiritual influence of the University.

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