

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIEDED

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Is It Later Than We Think?

IN HER COLUMN IN THE DURHAM MORNING HERALD last Wednesday, June 18, Dorothy Thompson put her finger directly on a sore spot when she points out that everywhere she has traveled in the Middle East, the one eternal criticism of colored peoples, against their white rulers is that "they think they are better than we are." As a result of this unsavory attitude these colored peoples are demanding self-government and self-determination, not because they will have a higher economic level, but because under the rule of the white man they have been denied that most treasured of all possessions—human dignity.

Says Miss Thompson in part:

"Thus, in Khartoum, I had a conversation with one of the more fanatic supporters of complete union with Egypt. He spoke impeccable English, and owed his entire education and consequent position to Great Britain. He spoke, even with nostalgia, of his years in England, expressing himself an admirer of Anglo-Saxon law and British civilization. But when I asked, 'Why then, do you want these few Englishmen to leave Sudan?' he answered, 'Because I am an Arab, and because the British think they are better than we. In England, where I was guest, I was invited to dine in British homes. In the Sudan, where the British are our guests, I have never been admitted into a British family household.'

SIMILARLY, IN ABADAN, Iran, the great Anglo-Iranian oil city, lying in the superb groves of date palms, with neat streets of stone built houses, gardens, and magnificent factories, the whole covering square miles of territory, is absolutely dead. Not a chimney was smoking when I was there. The company paid the Iranian treasury \$50,000,000 annual income, and that treasury, now without the income, must also pay a million dollars a month (as I recall the figures) in wages to workers, unemployed, or only part-time employed on made-work projects. No one visiting Abadan can believe that in income, security, and amenities, Abadan workers were not better off than the average Iranian peasant or worker.

But I talked with a former employee. "I am," he said, "a graduate chemical engineer, from a British university—and with honors, Miss Thompson. I never rose in this plant above a superior clerical supervisory position—hiring personnel. No Iranian, whatever his qualifications, ever was

No Condemnation Without Investigation

THE SLAYING OF A MAN HERE early last Saturday morning by Policeman O. C. Johnson, while regrettable, is one of those incidents in which the intellect should be allowed to have control over the emotions before judgment is passed on either the officer or the dead man. In cases of this kind, the most of us, out of sympathy for the victim and his loved ones, have the tendency to condemn an officer of the law who, in the performance of his duty, is forced to take such drastic steps.

At the time this editorial is written, Tuesday morning, the CAROLINA TIMES has not been able to complete its investigation, nor has the Durham County grand jury made any announcement as to its findings. We therefore, will reserve passing judgment until such time as the facts in the case are fully known. The tendency to condemn either the officer or the slain man before the truth is known, we think, is not in keeping with sound judgment.

This newspaper has followed the careers

in a position to give orders to an Englishman. And this in our own country! I will never again fork for the British. I'll starve first."

And when I asked, "But weren't you actually better off?" he interrupted hotly, "What has that got to do with it! Does not the West, itself, perpetually talk about the dignity of man?"

IN THESE WERE unusual responses I would not quote them. They are absolutely typical—and also of the attitude of North Africans toward the French, and of everybody toward Israel.

"They think they are better than we are. They assume superiority. But superiority of opportunity, wealth, or power are all transient."

These are mere straws growing on the hillside of the world's affair but they show plainly the direction in which the wind is blowing. They are creeping shadows of greater events to come.

Here is the basis of all the strife in the world today. Conceived in the minds of white men, shaped by their hands, maintained by their force of arms and chicanery, this sort of thing cannot, must not go on forever. Somehow we feel the time for it is about up.

To bring it closer home—here in Durham—if you please. There are hundreds, yes thousands of Negroes in our factories, in spite of their long years of service, loyalty and efficiency, who have never been upgraded or promoted beyond the point of supervising members of their own race, if at all. Not only is this true in our industrial plants, but it also applies to our municipal government which is so anxious to maintain a policy of white supremacy that a Negro is not allowed to drive a garbage truck. Do they think they are better than we are? If they think so, are they not contributing to the unrest among all the colored peoples of the earth?

We hope it is not later than we think, we hope that there is yet time for America, Britain, France, and the other great white nations of the earth to set their houses in order. History though points to the Babylonians, Grecians, Romans, and in our day the Germans, who thought they were better than other people, but would heed no warning to reform.

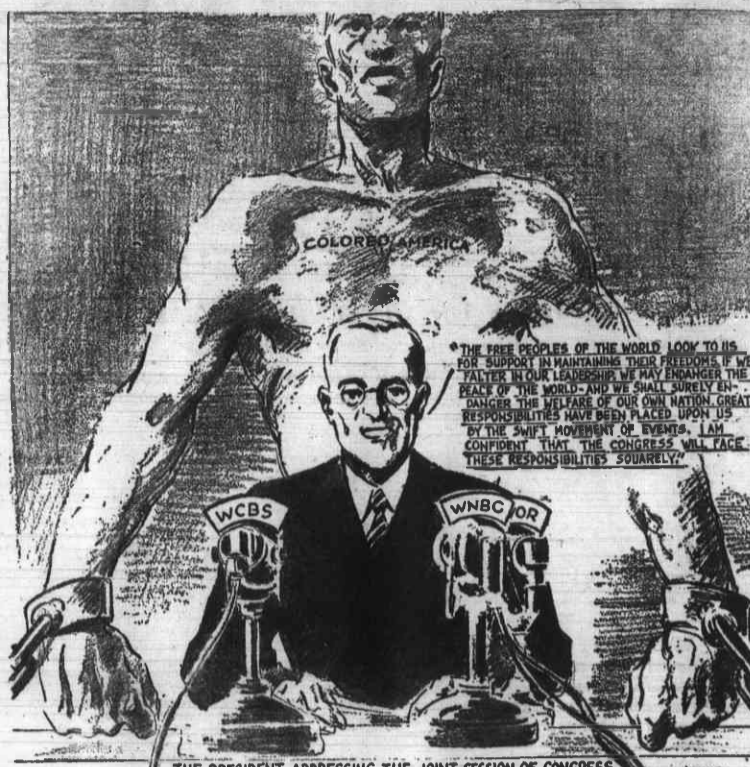
What time is it?

of all the Negro police officers of Durham and offhand we believe them to be very capable men. There have been many times when we have thought that they were too lenient with certain types of persons who apparently have no regard for the rights of others. There have been only a few times when we felt that their conduct was not of such that it would meet the approval of the best of us.

The near tragedy which resulted several months ago when two Negro police officers came near losing their lives when they, in response to a call, were the targets of a shot gun blast at the hands of one of these persons who have no regards for the rights, property or lives of others, vividly brings to our mind the realization that it is necessary to await the outcome of an investigation in such matters before condemning either party. One of the officers, while not losing his life, will be an invalid for the remainder of his days.

If the investigation discloses that Officer

"But They Did Fail, To Pass A Civil Rights Bill"



Johnson, without provocation, took the life of a citizen, the CAROLINA TIMES will condemn his actions to no uncertain degree. If, however, it discloses that he was merely carrying out his duty as a police officer we will, like all good citizens, take our stand beside that of law and order.



Spiritual Insight

"God's Levelling Process"

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND
Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

"Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill shall be made low: crooked made straight, and the rough places plain..." Isa. 40:4.

The prophet sees God at work in a world of sin and evil as a corrective force. He sees God's levelling process in the bitter social struggle between justice and injustice. In our weakness we are tempted to become impatient in this gigantic struggle with the ruthless forces of evil and oppression. We are tempted to ask God how long must the poor and helpless be crushed and insulted? How long must the peasant and sharecropper be robbed of his labor? How long must the vast majority of God's children stand on the borderline of poverty and starvation? The prophet reminds us to take courage amid the great evil forces for God is at work as a levelling process.

Our hope, the prophet says, is that God is at work in history

as a corrective and levelling power. God is at work straightening out things. The struggle may seem fruitless. It may take a long time for us weak mortals to see things. Remember that God is at work making things right—raising the valleys, bringing down the hills and mountains making the crooked straight and smoothing out rough and difficult places. Sometimes we need the faith of a Daniel in the land of Babylon: Daniel saw the mountains of difficulty but he knew that God was at work on his side. Wherever we may fight these great battles we ought to say with the prophet: MY GOD IS ABLE TO DELIVER ME. What are you saying Daniel? I see God at work raising valleys and bringing down mountains.

The weak may seem helpless in the face of long-standing, deep-seated entrenched wrongs of evil and vicious power. We saw it in slavery. We saw it in the long struggle of labor for decency. Yes, justice in combat with injustice and oppression

may seem at times to be fighting a losing battle. In the dark hour, without our backs to the wall, we are tempted to cry out: WHAT'S THE USE? In such hours remember God's promise cannot fail. Remember you have his word: "...The crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain..." God will bring down the unjust. God will raise the just to their rightful places of dignity and decency.

Be courageous! Fight on wherever you are embattled against great odds in the blessed assurance that God's levelling process is on your side. On the highway to Raleigh the other day I saw how the Bulldozers were raising the valleys and levelling the hills—preparing a better and safer highway. God is at work making a better and safer world to live in through justice and decency.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Route 3, Box 134
Apex, North Carolina
June 10, 1952

Mr. L. E. Austin
Editor of Carolina Times
Durham, North Carolina
Dear Sir:

I have noted with growing interest numerous editorials appearing in your paper from time to time, stressing the importance of Religion in institutions of higher learning, and satirizing institutions that have abolished the idea and practice of compulsory Vesper services, or as you put it "de-emphasizes Religion." I must tell you in all honesty that I am opposed to compulsory Vesper services, even though I consider it a method of character building. I make this statement with at least two reasons to substantiate it.

I hardly think that you will be able to find in the Bible, any scripture that says God the Omnipotent, said men had better serve him, or better go to church. But I do think you will find the quotation "harden not your hearts," and not, you had better not harden your hearts. Thus, if God gave you the choice (Please turn to Page Seven)

BY INCH OF CANDLE

By ROSE BUTLER BROWNE

June 24 is my mother's birthday. It makes me happy to salute all mothers. Not all of the women who have waited until "the fullness of time" are entitled to be called "mother." I have in mind all of the women on earth who have given mother love to a child.

Mothers are wonderful — all of them—real mothers. To me, my mother was very special. She is now resting in a green and shady cemetery in Newport Rhode Island where she spent her last days with my sister Mary. My mother reared seven children to manhood and womanhood — two boys, and five girls. In all of the years that she lived and guided us, not once did she raise her voice above an ordinary speaking tone. Never in all of our growing up did we hear our mother quarrel or bicker—she let us grow up in peace. She taught us to value inner peace. I have been to school and college for twenty-three years, but the most important things I know, the abiding things that time does not change, my mother taught me. She taught me to wash dishes, to scrub the floor, to clean silver, to make beds, to sweep, to iron shirts (stiff bosom), to cook a little. She didn't know how to cook very well, but she sent me to a center at Morgan Memorial in Boston to learn how to sew and cook, when I was six years old.

When I see bewildered parents today, I try to call to mind what it was my mother did to keep us in line. Although her scepter was gentle, she ruled. She would say, "Rose, there are ten white shirts in the basket, I am going to let you iron them." "Thelma, I believe I'll let you wash the floor." Somehow we attached privilege to the opportunity to do our work well. Everyone went cheerfully about the task at hand without a murmur or a frown, it just wasn't done in our house. My brothers were first born, they had terrific paper routes while they were still in grade school, they covered

the offices in South Station and the Boston and Albany Railroad Buildings. They would bring home pockets full of silver and coppers on collection nights, and we would all cluster around the kitchen table while the money was counted and separated into what they had earned and what was needed to pay for the next week's papers.

My mother never praised us freely. When I made the honor society at Harvard—a woman and a Negro—I thought my mother would be delighted. When I told her she said, simply "Why not?" I didn't answer because I too had decided, Why not?

To all who are concerned with the problems of adolescent children let me give you an instance that you may use sometime. When in turbulent adolescence, I cried, "I am going to run away from here and never come back, we can never go anywhere." My mother answered, "Well, you wash the dishes and wipe up the kitchen floor and walk, child, you do not have to run." Immediately the tension was released and afterward we laughed to ourselves about the rare judgement of one Frances Butler.

My mother guided me through the "Golden Star Waltz," Sartorius Studies for the Left Hand, and on up to Bach's Little Preludes. When she was in a gay mood she would play and sing to us of "Captain Jinks of the horse marines who fed his horse on corn and beans." On Sunday afternoon she would play hymns while we all sang. Her favorite was "Bringing in the Sheaves."

Our mother wanted all of us to be good, useful men and women and she taught us to love one another. We all get together at least once a year to renew our covenant with her. When we talk things over, we all feel that she would be content with what we are trying to do. I am sure that she sees and knows, and if she could speak, she would say, "Why not?"

CALVIN'S DIGEST

By L. BAYNARD WHITNEY
(FOR CALVIN NEWS SERVICE)

TRUMAN'S ENEMIES

President Truman's speech at Howard University should certainly relieve all doubts regarding his sincerity on the issue of civil rights, especially fair employment practices and racial integration in the armed forces. Since he is not a presidential candidate in the coming election, Truman's enemies cannot now accuse him of playing politics. The President said very candidly that he tends to fight for civil rights, both in and out of office.

During the last two years Big Business has deliberately sought to kill, or at least stymie, every element of the Administration's Fair Deal program. They have spent millions of dollars for propaganda against what they call Truman's "socialism" and have beaten Fascist tom-toms to arouse hysterical fear of "communism." The Bonn Advertisements are a good example of the elements in the nation that are seeking to twist the truth Truman has spoken "to make a trap for fools."

Truman has taken cognizance of these unfair and vicious attacks upon his Administration by various commercial monopolies. He said he intends to find some basis for prosecution, mainly the anti-trust laws.

It is significant that these spurious advertisements are against something, instead of

being FOR the practice of genuine Democracy. How much better, wiser and more to the good of America's moral health as a leader, it would be, if the same millions were spent 1) to create understanding between the races, 2) to help break down race and age barriers in employment and 3) to help save the country from the gangster, racketeer and criminal exploiter.

Such a program would, over a period of time, create constructive conditions that would make it unnecessary to fear any brand of "ism."

EARLHAM ROMANCE

Parents of an interracial couple that graduated from the Quaker Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana looked proudly on as two races were united in holy matrimony on the Cornell University campus recently.

Robert McAllester, 23, white, had been ordered off Earlham campus for "daring" to defy tradition by announcing his engagement to a fellow student, the lovely and brown Grace Cunningham of Berkeley, California.

Following the bigoted ruling of Earlham President Thomas Jones, white students there were candid in saying that if Robert and Grace wanted to marry, it was their business. President Jones had said (Please turn to Page Seven)

What Other Editor Say--

A New Emancipation; Mr. Truman At His Best

President Truman's address at Howard University's commencement exercises last Friday was the nicest present any graduate could receive. Delivered on the eve of Flag Day, no finer gift could be made to the nation and to the world.

The President chose the Howard commencement as a forum to speak to aid for all disadvantaged peoples every-

where. Both what he said and how he said it are significant: His analysis of the total civil rights picture at home; His clear statement as to how false ideas of white supremacy are behind much of the trouble in the world.

His story of how he has battled successfully during his term of office for our right to (Please turn to Page Seven)