

THE DURHAM COUNTY RUN-OFF ELECTION

For once the opposition MAY be right. Whether it's right or wrong. THIS COLUMN thinks that it's high time for us to do some serious thinking about local politics.

If we are to go forward the things we do must be based upon the composite opinion of our best minds and our actions should be tempered with the utmost in friendship and understanding of the whole community.

NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST NEGRO TEACHER IN A WHITE SCHOOL

You read in this newspaper last week the story of Mrs. Winfred Daves, North Carolina's first Negro teacher in a white school. Although Mrs. Daves was employed under the auspices of the federal government to teach in a school in Camp Lejeune, it proves conclusively that it can be done. To those skeptics which are always saying that it can't be done it might be interesting and reassuring to them to note that none of the white children have died because they were taught by a Negro teacher.

should come from Greenville where seeds of the most rabid "Uncle Tomism" were sown many years ago by one of the greatest of that clan the state has ever produced. His worthy successor has kept well his traditions and teachings to the delight of Greenville white folks and at the expense of Greenville Negroes. According to Mrs. Daves, at first she was not readily accepted but after about two weeks, she began to gain the favor of her white co-workers. Says Mrs. Daves further, "It was merely a change of jobs," with the parents being very cooperative and

both parents and children presenting her gifts on Mother's Day. For the half frightened-to-death Negro teachers of the state who are afraid that under integration they will lose their jobs, the Daves case ought to give them courage. For in the end the only teachers who will lose out will be those who will not be able to measure up, which is as it should be. For if a teacher is unfit to teach a white child, she or he is unfit to teach a Negro child. When the call came Mrs. Daves was qualified and therefore was able to keep pace with the best in her profession.

PATRIOTISM BY CONVENIENCE

When the Constitution and the Supreme Court of the United States were established, no Negro was there or had anything to do with either of them. Both of these important instruments of our government are products of the minds of white people and white people only. Since the adoption of the original Constitution, Negroes have had little if anything to do with the enactment of amendments and up to the present hour, no Negro has ever set on the Supreme Court bench of the United States. That part of the Constitution and the rulings of the Supreme Court guaranteeing equality to citizens of all races have, therefore, been solely the business of white folks.

son, and signed by 16 other southerners declared: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." It is most ironical that in spite of the great part southerners had in the birth or establishment of these three great pillars of our government that today it is southerners that would repudiate, denounce, and tear down all three of them to keep in a position of second-class citizenship the 15 million Negro citizens of the United States. Further irony is added to the present situation when it is realized that three of the members of the Supreme Court that handed down the ruling, striking down segre-

gation in public schools, are southerners and that it is the South that would defy that ruling by seeking devious ways by which it may circumvent it. So the Negro citizens of the South look with horror, if not contempt, on their white folks who from all appearances are frustrated, bewildered and confounded by a fate of their own design. These same people who write, talk, preach and proclaim respect for law and order now have an opportunity to practice it. Thus it will be interesting to watch the course some of them will take to outdo the law of the land. It will be interesting to discover if the patriotism many of them claim to have is merely patriotism just so long as everything goes their way or should we say "patriotism by convenience."

A NEW KIND OF LEADERSHIP FOR A NEW DAY

This newspaper is happy to congratulate Dr. Alfonso Elder of North Carolina College for his forthright stand on the U. S. Supreme Court's ban against segregated public schools. In an address in Columbia, South Carolina, Dr. Elder admonished that Negro teachers should "move enthusiastically behind the U. S. Supreme Court's ban against segregated schools and to work for the principle of non-segregation in all areas." The statement is clearcut and leaves no doubt as to where the North Carolina College president stands on the matter of segregation in public school education. It is the finest thing that has come from the office of the president since he was elected seven years ago and it puts Dr. Elder way out in front of other Negro college presidents of state schools in North Carolina. The stand is in keeping with that of all forward looking citizens of this state and could not have been otherwise without rais-

ing serious doubt as to Dr. Elder's loyalty as a citizen of the United States. Under the right kind of leadership, North Carolina College can become a new star in the heavens pointing the way to a higher and nobler life where men of all races, creeds and colors can live as free men and not as underlings. The statement of Dr. Elder ought to be followed by similar ones from the presidents of A. and T. College, Fayetteville State Teachers College, Winston-Salem Teachers College, and Elizabeth City State Teachers College. The time has come now for all Negro leaders to stand up and be counted or be counted out. No weak, apologizing, compromising Negro college head is capable of inspiring Negro youths for the kind of world they must face today. There is now no middle-of-the-road stand. It is either you do or you don't. The Negro leader who is neither hot nor cold will be spewed up and out

and will eventually arrive at the place where he will have no followers. The old game was for certain classes of Negro leaders to play both sides of the fence. Thus we often found them making one speech in the South and another in the North. There was one kind of talk to be delivered when there was no white man around and another when he was present. Both the students and the faculty knew it and where they might not have lost respect for their college president, the college president lost respect for himself. It now appears that Dr. Elder is blazing a new trail for Negro educators in state schools. If he holds out, both the youths and the elders of his race will rise up to call him blessed. This newspaper is happy to felicitate him for an act which apparently no other Negro educator in a similar position has had the courage to do.

GETTING ALONG

By LAUREEN WHITE

NEW YORK The most valuable asset any nation can have is its people. When you destroy the people or when you reduce the effectiveness of the people, you destroy or reduce the effectiveness of the entire nation. A nation of 150 inhabitants that has handicapped 15 million of them with all sorts of educational, economic, and social restrictions, is actually a nation of less than 135 million inhabitants. Further, people who have been crushed and exploited all of their lives are usually desperately on the alert to improve their condition. Often they lose their sense of values. When they are crushed, exploited and uninformed, they are likely to make the wrong move toward improving their condition. And this wrong move could be disastrous both to them and to those who exploit them. Uninformed people are often dangerous.

they can. Admittedly, they insist that their people be educated so that they can be useful to the state, and it seems they do not discriminate against any group on account of race. Their only motto seems to be: "get prepared so you can help Russia." One of the best ways of keeping a nation well informed is to have an adequate school system. Informed instructors, modern equipment, decent buildings, are certainly necessary to make up an adequate school system. When any one of those three essentials is denied a group they aren't being provided with adequate schooling. And it is impossible to overestimate the damage done to the individual and the nation when this condition exists.

It would seem that even Russia understands this, and offers every encouragement and inducement for all of her 200 million inhabitants to learn all

When the dawn breaks for some of our more obstinate southern leaders, the world will be a better place. Let us hope it comes soon, so that the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools will not be opposed so ruthlessly.

ABOUT TRAFFIC SAFETY

North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles

One Is Too Many... When Driving If you're an HBD, you're headed for trouble when you drive a car.

been drinking." And if they're written alongside a traffic charge against you they mean trouble. It isn't necessary to be drunk while driving. "Had been drinking" is enough—even if you've had only those proverbial "couple of beers."

Those three letters can increase the seriousness of any traffic charge against you, make it practically certain you'll be convicted—and increase the penalty. HBD, written on the police blotters, stands for "had

Only about 1,500 people died of poisons accidentally last year in the United States. Unless, (Please turn to Page Seven)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

Dear Editor:

They say that if a man will hold his head and walk upright, he will eventually fill his position in life. The people of the white race, mostly of southern extraction, do not or will not accept this view.

This country was founded on just such a principle. The settlers of this country were set in their determination to start a new way of life where they could feel free to act as human beings and have a way of life that they could call their own—consequently, we have the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

We have been waving the flag of Independence for 158 years, but the people who exploited the Indians, bought and traded the Negro, fellow human beings, so that they could arrive at a station in life where they could control the political and economic status of this country.

But they have not learned that the only way that a country can succeed as an international power, is to make room for all the people in its domain with

open arms. We cannot continuously oppress and not be noticed by the very people we try to impress.

One of our great statesmen stated that, "In unity we have strength, but divided we fall." Can we hope to meet the threat of world peace and stop the communists in their tracks as they march toward us if people like the governor of Virginia and a few other southern states and the political leaders feel that one race of people are less than Americans and are not entitled to all the privileges provided for in the Constitution?

It is written in the Constitution that people born within these United States are citizens and are entitled to the privileges therein.

We have often referred to the people in the back countries as backward and ignorant, but when we read some of the news papers and see the remarks of our officials, it makes us feel that some of those same people have been chosen to fill vacancies in our judicial and other high offices in this land of plenty.

Thomas Coleman

Will The Challenge Be Met, The World Is Asking



Spiritual Insight

"FORGIVENESS: SOUL BEAUTY"

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND, Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

"Some seed fell among thorns, thorns grew and choked the life out of it...it bore no crop." Mark 4:7.

Jesus reminds us of those ever-present evil influences that choke and destroy our God-given powers of life. Many lives are smothered and blighted by the destructive thorn bushes that choke the life in us every day. We have felt this influence struggling for mastery in our own lives. We must fight hard against it. And we have seen its crushing power in the lives of others. Many things block and hinder the growth of life in us.

the blighting power of the thorn bush.

We see all around us each day the thornbushes of broken homes choking the life out of little children. Truly the broken home shakes the very foundation of the nation. Why? Some life is blighted by the thorn bush of a broken home. Here we have one of the great perils of our nation. The home is the bedrock of the inner strength of the nation. We see the blighting effects all around us. I see it as I read the monthly reports from the Juvenile Court. We see lives stunted before they get a chance to grow as God intended that they should grow.

Broken homes choke the life-giving power out of husbands, wives, and children.

Then there is the thorn bush of worry that chokes the life out of us. Unnecessary worries are defeating too many of us. Worry is an enemy of life. It is useless. What have you ever accomplished by chronic worry? Nothing! It saps your powers.

Let us weed out the thornbushes of worry that we may live more fully. Why waste your precious God-given powers in unnecessary worry. Get wise! Trust God and stop worrying. The thorn bush of worry will choke the life out of you. Beware lest worry rob you of your God-promised right to the abundant life.

Thorn bushes grow and flourish in the soil of sin. Be alert and keep your life free from the thorn bushes that you may have the harvest of a good life.

STRAIGHT AHEAD—By Olive A. Adams

NEW YORK Don't look now, but from where we sit, it looks like another big-scale investigation of some sort is indicated. As if we didn't have enough to worry about with the world situation being what it is, we appear to have a few subversives in our midst who are seeking not to overthrow the government by force, but to undermine the morale of the people by setting millions of them to worrying about their health.

During the past few months we've been hearing a great deal about cigarettes and lung cancer and now many people who enjoy smoking are wondering if their days are numbered because of a publication of the report that smokers between 50 and 70 die sooner. Some smokers really find themselves concerned about it, while others, with a sense of humor, say that some kind of bug or other is likely to bowl them over between 50 and 70 anyhow.

point where he already lives much longer than his years of usefulness, and the myriad problems of the aged are very real these days. We would propose a little more concentration on how to enjoy life—how to be a little more decent to each other, how to lift millions of people out of germ-infested slums, how to help more of us to come to know what "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" really means—in short, how to help everybody get the most satisfaction out of whatever time any of us must spend in this vale of tears.

Now, we have never even had a good puff on a cigarette, but those who indulge seem to get a great deal of satisfaction out of it. All of which prompts the age-old question: Why is that somebody is always finding something wrong with something that is enjoyable?

Medical science has improved man's physical condition to the

UNITED NATIONS NOTES

By JAMES R. LAWSON (Accredited UN Correspondent)

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. VISITORS—Charles C. Dennis, editor and publisher of "The Listener" and President of the Librarian Press Association, was in New York last week and conferred with your reporter about the coming state visit of President V. M. S. Tubman to the United States which may take place in August instead of September. President Tubman was impressed with the manner in which Harlem welcomed the Emperor of Ethiopia.

One World" which gives data on the 33,833 foreign students now studying in the United States. These students represent 129 different nations, some free and others under foreign domination.

President Paul Magloire of Haiti is now on a three-weeks' tour of the Caribbean and Central American Republics. He is accompanied by his wife and an entourage of 34. As Haile Selassie returned to New York last week, the Premier of Libya, North Africa was returning from a state visit to Turkey.

INDONESIA AIDS AFRICAN STUDENT...With Indonesia's help, a student in British Togoland will do graduate work in London. The three-way arrangement, announced in a report to the United Nations Trusteeship Council, is the first of its kind. Under its terms, T. O. Asare, Jr. will leave the African territory which is administered under the UN's supervision, for studies at the London School of Economics. Indonesia has offered two such fellowships to students from any of the eleven territories administered by the Trusteeship Council, and also has offered four scholarships for study in Indonesia.

FOREIGN STUDENTS...The Institute of International Education has just recently published a booklet, "Education For

WASHINGTON AND "SMALL BUSINESS" BY C. WILSON HARDER. Independent businessmen express deep concern over farm problem. First in their minds is belief that farmers, producers of wealth, are keystones in national economy. In addition, independent businessmen who pay a heavy proportionate share of taxes cannot see how situation can continue. The general feeling is that there must be a businesslike solution. Here are some of the C. W. Harder facts. The same forces seeking to blow under independent business works to blow under the independent farmer, commonly known as the operator of a family sized farm. More than a million have apparently been plowed under since 1935 by growth of huge corporation farm ventures. In 1935 nation's farmlands totaled 1,064,515,000 acres divided among 6,182,369 farms. By 1952 acreage increased to 1,158,566,000 while farm number dropped almost 1 1/2 million to 5,382,163. 1935 is also important in other ways to farm situation. In that year reciprocal trade treaties got underway. Imports of manufactured and crude foodstuffs totaled \$64,155,000. By 1952 imports reached over \$3 billion. In meantime, domestic surpluses mount. Government authorities estimate by June 1955 government owned corn will increase from present 500,000 bushels to over a billion bushels, and so on down entire list of supported commodities. Two facts seem apparent. First, unless better tariff program is worked out...

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