

NEGRO REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD OF PAROLES

Governor Luther Hodges is following in the footsteps of his predecessors in that he is paying absolutely no attention to the more than one million Negroes of this state in giving them representation in an area where such is most sorely needed and that is the Paroles Commission. A recent study of Negro paroles made by John H. Larkins, consultant on Negro work in North Carolina, discloses that although Negroes constitute only about one-third of the population in the state they constituted nearly 50 per cent of the paroles released during the period of his study. Further information discloses that they constitute 50 per cent of the state's prison population which is in line with Mr. Larkins' figures on Negro paroles.

In view of this fact it appears to us that the Negro population of the state should have representation on the six-member Advisory Board of Paroles that was authorized by the 1955 General Assembly and to which since that time no Negro has been named by a governor of this state.

From Mr. Larkins' study one arrives at the conclusion that the Paroles Commission is a part of the prison system of the state and is therefore charged with the responsibility of rehabilitating prisoners. Says the study:

(1) Although over 50 per cent of the paroles were reported to have made a satisfactory adjustment, many appeared before the courts prior to and after prison commitments. Too little was known about the post-prison adjustment of a large number. Too many had their paroles revoked while under supervision. The data secured on the training and discipline of prison life could not be measured adequately.

(2) Inadequate records of the offenses committed, education, marital status, and employment histories of the paroles served as a deter-

rent in securing an objective picture of their lives before and after prison. The reasons some prisoners had their paroles revoked were not made clear in a number of cases.

(3) The lack of records showing results of psychological tests and education achievements prevented the prison authorities from understanding and adequately meeting the needs of some of the paroles. A careful consideration of the mental and physical handicaps of the paroles may have helped them in their adjustments. This aspect of the prisoner's life should be given serious consideration by prison and parole personnel prior to the release of prisoners to society.

(4) From the information secured as a result of the investigations, it appeared that some of the hazards of the parole period could have been averted had the paroles had the benefits of adequate specialized help. Often the paroles returned to the community in need of help from many individuals, groups, and agencies in the trying period of readjustment. Many of them had emotional and mental defects which called for specialized treatment based on individual needs. The personnel for such treatment were not available.

(5) The prison experience and parole supervision assisted a large number in making a satisfactory adjustment, but there is a need to develop a program of more assistance to and better supervision of the paroles. Adequate records of the paroles, during the periods they are in prison and afterwards, should be kept. Those changes would provide means of determining the program made in adjustment.

(6) Serious consideration should be given to an adequate vocational training and guidance program based upon the paroles' ability and interest.

The above are some of the findings and recommenda-

tions of Mr. Larkins study and although their implementation may or may not constitute a direct responsibility of the Parole Commission or that of the Advisory Board we think the members do have the responsibility of seeing to it that prisoners released to society have every opportunity possible to make good. In the very nature of the case it appears to us that the governor and other state officials would see the wisdom of placing on the Advisory Board of Paroles, if not on the Board of Paroles per se, a qualified Negro who would certainly be in a better position to help in the rehabilitation of Negro prisoners than is possible for a white person.

In several instances Negro prisoners have been released to society when they should not have been and in other instances there are many of them now serving prison sentences who have not had adequate and sympathetic consideration of their cases. From Mr. Larkins' study the release of prisoners to society means more than routine study or process usually resorted to. A visit to the home, vicinity and an investigation of the prisoner's associates and family life may be the possibility of securing profitable employment, as well as other information, that may be needed before his parole can be assured of success. Certainly such an investigation could be made by one who would have the cooperation of that segment of society into which the parolee is to be released.

This newspaper appeals to Governor Hodges and other state officials to make a serious study of the wisdom of placing on the Advisory Board of Paroles a representative of the more than one million Negroes in this state so that a more adequate and efficient program in releasing Negro prisoners on parole may be had in the state of North Carolina.

THE GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NEGROES

This newspaper is wondering whether it should rejoice or weep at the appointment of W. J. Kennedy, Jr., to the State Board of Higher Education. The appointment may be another case of the Trojan horse, which means that the Negro citizens of the state should "beware of the Greeks bearing gifts." We recall more than one instance in North Carolina and other southern states when prominent Negroes have been appointed to supposed-to-be important positions only to discover to their chagrin that they were merely figureheads or being sacrificed as a peace offering on the altar of race prejudice. If this were not the case the Negro appointees were expected to hold their people in line whenever progressive action was threatened by them on any major issue pertaining to improvement of their lot.

It seems rather strange to the Carolina Times that Governor Hodges has just recognized the fact that North Carolina has over one million Negroes within its confines, the largest of any state in the union, and that they are entitled to representation. It will be recalled that there have been several instances during his administration when the naming of a Negro to an im-

portant board or commission was almost mandatory. The governor overlooked those opportunities and followed the same old beaten path of keeping his administration "lily white." Now that the Supreme Court has rendered its implementation decision on the matter of integration in the public schools and a suit is pending against the University of North Carolina to force it to admit Negro students to the undergraduate school, the governor, probably at the advice of Attorney Victor S. Bryant, Sr., chairman of the State Board of Higher Education and one of the attorneys for the company of which Mr. Kennedy is president, appoints Mr. Kennedy, who is also uncle to two of the plaintiffs in the University suit, to the State Board of Higher Education.

On the surface it appears to us to be following the same old pattern so often resorted to by southern whites to undermine efforts of Negroes to become full fledged citizens in this country. This time we don't believe it will work. In the first place we don't believe the Negro appointee is going to be inveigled into selling his race down the river just to obtain the position of the governor's Negro man Friday. In the second place

no one person in North Carolina can successfully claim to speak for all its Negroes. The suit to force the University of North Carolina to do what it ought to do without court action will go on; the fight for integration will go on until the goal of full equality is achieved and every Negro will be granted the human dignity which God intended for all mankind.

If the Governor is sincere and honestly intends to seek the aid and counsel of the Negro citizenry of North Carolina we are satisfied that all respectable members of the race in the state stand ready and willing to do everything in their power to cooperate with him to the fullest extent. They accept only an HONORABLE settlement of the issues now before the citizenry of North Carolina on the matter of the admission of Negroes to the University of North Carolina, the integration of Negroes into the public school system and all others. On the other hand if the appointment is the beginning of an effort to have Negroes become a party to this state's program to defy the United States Supreme Court or circumvent its ruling no respectable Negro is going to be a party to it or condone it.

Life is Like That

By H. ALBERT SMITH

MEMORIAL DAY ADDRESS

This is the second and concluding portion of a Memorial Day address delivered for the McLean Post No. 175 of the American Legion, Sunday, May 29.

What a price our boys have paid for the heritage which is ours! They knew incredible sufferings, hardships, agonizing death on bloody battlefields in far away places. They suffered and died in stinking, vermin — and germ — infested trenches and fox holes in hand to hand struggles with bayonettes and even rifles butts, while poison gas (in World War I) was turned upon them, and bombs dropped from roaring planes and shells from mighty guns, that roared in thunderous barrages, burst in their midst blowing men to bits, tearing limbs from bodies and leaving some with sightless eyes, as their blood mingled with that of white boys to sanctify and make sacred the ground upon which they died to free the world of tyranny and make it a decent place in which to live.

GREAT SACRIFICE

Some of you know what I am talking about because you were there! You were not only eye-witnesses of these terrible events, but you shared in the horrors of those nightmarish experiences you would like to forget. You, with millions of others in the country, both black and white, have paid a tremendous sacrifice for the freedom which we enjoy, partial though it is.

And others living today in America are hopelessly maimed in body, without limbs and eyes, broken in mind, without health and tortured still by terrifying memories of those frightful years spent in mortal combat.

PAUSE TO SALUTE

Today, I pause with you to salute the dead who sleep in graves in far away places and at home. I hail them as heroes and acknowledge my indebtedness to them.

And, to the living—those who bear wounds in their bodies, visible symbols of the sacrifices they made, some of whom have been styled as the living dead, to them, I pay a similar tribute.

TASK UNFINISHED

But, as I said before, we cannot limit our utterance in tributes to the dead not even to the living—who paid so great a price in blood, sweat, tears and pain. It behooves me to speak of the task they left unfinished, not voluntarily-of course. Even under the best circumstances, they could not have finished the task assigned them—the creation of international peace. For, after all, such peace is not to be established by military might although we may be forced to arms at times to repel aggressions that would destroy all freedom and democracy.

We would do well to remember that the task of our fallen comrades will remain unfinished until permanent and universal peace has been established in the earth.

PROSPECT FRIGHTFUL

Right now, we are far from this. We are faced today with prospects of war more frightful and destructive than ever in the history of the world. We have nuclear weapons that can blast great cities out of existence in a matter of minutes. We have great bombers and jet planes whose speed is faster than that of sound. Of these, I said to my people facetiously some time ago, "You see the plane go by and stand around waiting for the sound to arrive." Nations are equipped with gases so deadly as to entail greater loss of life than their nuclear arsenals and are prepared to wage war with germs that can kill men by the millions and hospitalize entire countries.

In fact, so deadly are the weapons of the nations today that many think man for the first time in history can or will soon be able to wipe out all life on earth—human, animal and vegetative.

DOUBTFUL VALIDITY

Now, as to the validity of such thinking, I have my doubts. That man is equipped to decimate life of many types over wide areas, I believe. We have seen the evidence of that in two instances of the wartime use of the atomic bomb and experimental uses of the same lethal weapon during this time of unsettled peace. But so far as destroying all life upon the earth—life that God willed to be and brought into existence, that power, I believe, belongs only to the Creator. I don't think the time has come, or ever will, when man, however ingeniously destructive his engines of death, will be able to put God out of business.

But the fact remains that man can rain death and destruction on the earth today on so vast a scale as to make all sensible men shudder at the very thought of war. For the word today has meanings in terms of slaughter and destruction it has never had before and men of past generations never thought to be possible. And all of this means that we've got a terrific problem on our hands. And that problem is not constituted of the arsenals of the world. That problem is unregenerated human nature and hearts out of harmony with the will and purpose of God.

THE PROBLEM

That is the problem behind what we style as humanity's number one problem—the problem of war. To solve this problem, we have fought wars to end war and held hundreds of peace conferences. But the problem remains unsolved and with ever increasing fearful prospects. We've got to do something, but what?

PEARSON RIGHT

Drew Pearson was on the right track a few years ago when he said that we have tried everything from pitch forks to atom bombs to prevent war and gain permanent peace, but have failed. He suggested that the nations should try the Sermon on the Mount. What he means, I think, is this: Christ is our only (Please turn to Page Seven)

"But No Such Enthusiasm To Remove Bias From The National Guard"



Spiritual Insight

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND

Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church
"A Spiritual Housecleaning"



"I'll guard my mouth...I will bridle my tongue..." Ps. 39:1. Here is a wise admonition to those of us who are so prone to indiscriminate talkativeness. This is especially wise for those of us so apt to say the wrong thing. Many of us are subject to saying the wrong thing. Too many fail to exercise care in what we say. Too many are eager beavers to speak about that which may not necessarily concern us. We are tongue-happy for we speak out with the least provocation. Too many are too eager to speak out with hard and hurtful things. Too many of us are anxious to speak where we may stir up confusion rather than make peace. Many of us speak to discourage and defeat people. Too many speak hatred in a world crying for love. Let us get wise and resolve with the Psalmist, "I will guard my mouth...I will bridle my tongue..."

We need to bridle our tongue if we are inclined to speak words of conflict rather than peace. Your words of conflict add to the sum total of the world's confusion. The world needs a little subtraction rather than addition when it comes to conflict and warfare.

Let us, therefore, guard zealously our mouth and our tongue. Let us become centers of peace rather than conflict and confusion. Let us each resolve to become a worker for peace. And to be a radiating center of peace you must have peace in your own soul. People who speak words of confusion usually have warfare and confusion in their own souls. Let us become talkers for peace. The world needs your words of peace. It has too much confusion already. Why not make a resolve now...I will bridle my tongue..."

We need to bridle our tongues if we are inclined to speak words of discouragement. Too many people go around spreading words of discouragement. People fighting hard and difficult battles need your words of encouragement. People striving for good and worthwhile things need your encouragement. I see too many people taking too great a delight in burdening struggling people with words of discouragement. Here is a struggling person trying to educate his child. Here is a couple struggling to own a home. Here is a person making a great sacrifice for someone

near and dear to him. In such cases too many of us have nothing but words of discouragement. Let us rather go about doing good by scattering the seeds of encouragement. My friend just think was a blessing you may become.

We need to bridle our tongue if we are inclined to speak words of hatred. The world's supply of this vicious poison is too great already. Why not dedicate yourself to the sacred task of increasing the rich blessings of love. The supreme need of a weary world is more love. Already we are ravaged, burdened with too much bitterness. Already we are critically sick with the destructive virus of hatred. Our sick and wounded souls cry out for the healing balm of love. You can be used by God in this blessed ministry. How? Just become a spokesman of love as you move in the home, the church, the community, the club and with that person who works next to you on the job.

Let us each resolve here and now that if I cannot speak words of peace, encouragement and love I will refrain from speaking...I'll guard my mouth...I will bridle my tongue..."

Capital Close-Up

DAWSON STUDIES HOME RULE BILL

At this point its looks as though the voteless Capital of the Nation will remain voteless through another Congress, in spite of the rousing 59-15 vote by which the latest Senate try for Dec. 22 (S-889) was passed, last week, without debate. Reason: The bill, introduced by Senator Matt Neely of West Virginia, and others, is now headed for the House District Committee, presided over by South Carolinian John L. McMillan, bitter foe of home rule for the Federal City. The pattern for the last three Negroes has been the same — Senate-sponsored bills giving some measure of self-government to the District have died in the House Committee.

Continued treatment with dried thyroid, or with a purified thyroid extract in tablet form called Proloid, produced lasting improvement in a majority of patients, restoring a feeling of complete well-being in very many. As a test, treatment was discontinued temporarily in a few patients. Their symptoms returned almost immediately, but were controlled again when treatment was resumed.

Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois, who became the first Negro member of the House District Committee in last year's shuffle, and has previously opposed bills requiring "at large" voting (with no bargaining power) is studying the current bill, which includes the same provision, in the light of possible changes in committee handling, while waiting for the bill to reach his committee. Like Democratic Senators Neely and Wayne Morse, and Republican Senator Case of South Dakota (Case of N. J. also approved) Congressman Dawson says "The District

NEW OFFICERS FOR CAPITAL PRESS

The Capital's "Capital Press Club," which just muddled through a dull year to happily sparkling finish, has elected new officers. New President Dr. William T. Parker, is public relations director at Freedmen's Hospital. Lawrence Still, the young vice-president, is a live-wire reporter on the AFRO staff. Others elected are Irene Beckwith, secretary, replacing the COUREN'S Josephine Lowery, (who wouldn't run again) and Jessie Sarahah of Freedmen's, re-elected treasurer.

It looks like a live year for the Club, whose membership includes national representatives of news distributing agencies, nationally-circulated periodicals, and reporters and columnists for weeklies covering nearly every state in the country.

McCarthy — DEBUNKED Every columnist in the Capital, it seems — and every editorial writer — has raised a cheer over the Senate's debunking of Bogeyman McCarthy. Of course, the bunched himself, — the National Bully had really debunked himself, but it took some time for his colleagues in the Senate (pardon us, Senators) and the rest of the country to realize that the Big Threat had finally gone up in smoke. McCarthy's last half-hearted try was to sabotage the Nation's bi-partisan foreign policy before the UN at

located before the New Year — possibly in October or November.

Spotlight on HEALTH

Science Features

Morning Weariness and Thyroid Deficiency

People who feel fatigued when arising in the morning after a sound sleep, and then slowly recover stamina during the day and feel brightest and most energetic when it's time to return to bed at night, may be suffering from a mild thyroid deficiency described by doctors as "the hypometabolic state."

Some of these people chronically complain of vague aches and pains, and have been labeled unjustly as hypochondriacs, neurotics, or anxiety personalities.

Actually the chemical processes in their bodies which convert food into energy are operating at a snail's pace. Doctors believe that the slowdown results from a shortage of thyroid hormone in body tissues.

Other commonly encountered symptoms indicating this form of hypothyroidism may be an intolerance to cold, brittle nails, dry skin, lack of perspiration and, in women, menstrual disorders.

In a seven year study conducted by Dr. B. A. Watson of Clifton Springs, N. Y., published recently in the New York State Journal of Medicine, it was found that women are much more prone to this state than men, and also that its incidence increases with age.

Of almost 15,000 patients admitted for various complaints to the Clifton Springs Clinic and Sanitarium, Dr. Watson found that more than 200 were suffering from the hypometabolic state. The highest rate was among patients in their forties and fifties. In Dr. Watson's opinion: "Physicians should consider the diagnosis of hypometabolic state before labeling a chronically complaining patient as a psychoneurotic, hypochondriac, anxiety state, etc."

The investigation confirmed the growing belief that a subnormal

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