

# THE DEPTHS OF JOURNALISTIC DEPRAVITY



When you think you have seen the lowest depths to which a human being can sink, stop for a minute before you are too sure of it. Unless you saw the issue of the Morning Star of Wilmington, North Carolina that published the above picture, your remembrance of a man wallowing in a gutter in his own vomit, a harlot selling her body in a big city dive for just enough money to buy one more shot of dope, a degenerate raping his own daughter or whatever you have seen of human depravity are all but kid's stuff in comparison to the low depths to which the Morning Star descended the day it stopped the press to delete from its front page the picture of a Negro Marine.

But let Time Magazine, internationally known and powerful (issue of Aug. 13), tell the story.

"North Carolina's Wilmington Morning Star (circ. 17,866) went to press with a front-page picture of four Marine witnesses in the court-martial of Sergeant Matthew C. McKeon (see National Affairs). As soon as the paper hit his desk, the editor on duty gulped and stopped the presses. He had failed to notice, in the shadowy impression on the Associated Press mat that supplied the picture, that one of the marines, Private Eugene W. Ervin of Bridgeport, Conn., was a Negro. The deskman met the crisis by ordering a pressman to take hammer and chisel to the press plate. Next morning Private Ervin's ragged

ghost haunted the spot (see cut) where the Morning Star cut out the Negro and spited its front page."

Facetiously Time calls attention to the Morning Star's circulation of only 17,866. There is always an inseparable link between a growing newspaper and a growing city. In most every instance where one is found the other is there. They are interdependent. For it is practically impossible to build a great city with wide-awake citizens without a wide-awake newspaper. When you recall that Wilmington was once the largest city of North Carolina, that it was once the domicile of the home office of the Atlantic Coast Line, you will understand just why Wilmington has become a has been, stunted and continues to lose ground in comparison with other cities of North Carolina.

It is the duty of a newspaper to mold opinion, keep abreast of developments, point to new horizons and herald the achievements and aspirations of the hometown. It must have vision; it must keep its constituents on their toes and awakened to new opportunities as well as the present and approaching dangers. It cannot do this when its editorial staff is composed of nasty, narrow, little vicious men who are ready at a moment's notice to wallow in the gutter of journalistic depravity.

Here is a picture of four young Americans in the armed service of their country. In the very nature of the case, each has literally said here is my life; if need be I

offer it on the altar of sacrifice to preserve and protect everything we hold dear in this country. In spite of this, when the editor of the Morning Star saw that one of them was a Negro, he saw red, and from the recesses of his little soul sprang all of the beastly fury and hatred of a thousand wildcats. He stopped the press, ordered the Negro soldier's face chipped from the picture after which in skunkish majesty he must have rared back in his editorial chair with the full satisfaction that he had done his day's deed to preserve white supremacy.

But we ask is this supremacy of any kind? Can you build better race relations in a city when its leading newspaper is published by men of such small and vicious souls? If in the thinking of this vile act its editors feel they have done an injury to the Negro Marine or the race he represents, they are sadly mistaken. The only injury in this sordid act was that done the people of Wilmington, especially its children, who in spite of all we may say and do, will be compelled in the next few years to accept all men as equals and to measure them by what is on the inside rather than the color of their skin.

So the white South raves on, throwing roadblocks in the way of whatever presidential aspirations their sons might have and feeding the Communist propaganda mills with more and more fodder that makes possible explosive situations as that which now exists in the Suez Canal. What fools, what fools.

# FACING THE ISSUE

By DR. A. H. GORDON

## THERE IS NEED FOR — DEBUNKING SOUTHERN 'HISTORY'

We are told that the recent attempt of the present leaders or rulers of Russia, in their attempt to reduce the stature of Stalin to his proper size as a Communist leader, were compelled to revise the history of Russia in recent years as it had been written by historians interested in building up the myth of an almost super-human character known as Stalin. In other words the debunking of Stalin involved the debunking of much of recent Russian history. It seems to me that the people of Southern States of the United States need to learn a valuable lesson for the Communists. There is great and urgent need for the debunking of what has passed for true Southern history, especially since the Civil War.

Much which passes for history of the South as recorded by Southern writers of the white race is pure propaganda. In the first place there is the theory of southern historians and those sympathetic with the Southern reactionaries, sometimes mis-called liberals, to the effect that the Negroes who were given the ballot during the early years of the Reconstruction period as a result of the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment to our constitution uniformly performed ignominiously and were the victims of corrupt politicians from the North called "Carpet-Baggers." This is vicious bunk. Some of the Negro political leaders during the Reconstruction period were better educated and more honest and efficient than the white rebels whom they replaced. Of course, many of them were unworthy but not more so than many politicians in the North and West who held similar positions to theirs.

Another bit of propaganda constantly promoted by so-called historians bred and educated in the south is the fiction that the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution was not legally adopted and that it is therefore not a legitimate part of our constitution. The Savannah Morning News, supposed to be one of the more intelligently edited

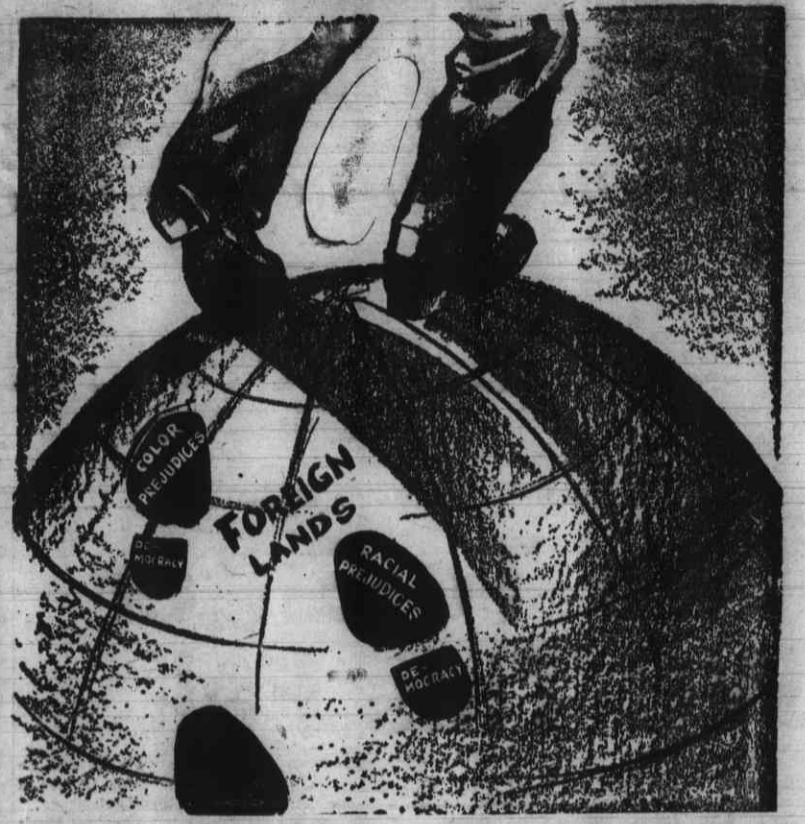
papers of the South, expressed this view in a recent editorial. The true, debunked history is that the Fourteenth Amendment is just as legal as any other part of the Constitution and should be obeyed just as any other part of our basic law.

Another main tenet of Southern history which is pure bunk is that the cause of the Civil War was the fact that the Southern white people were determined to have local self-government in spite of the fact that the North was trying to deprive them of that great right for which our fathers bled and died. The fact, as all true historians know and admit, is that a few aristocratic leaders of the South were determined to preserve and expand the institution of Negro slavery. The explanation of the causes of the Civil War as presented by histories written by Southern or ex-southern authors needs severe debunking.

Southern history needs to be debunked through the addition of facts now omitted which, if included, would give a very different impression than which one gets from reading it as now written in most of the text books and as taught by the professors in Southern Colleges and Universities. For example, in writing about the Reconstruction following the Civil War most of the so-called historians have omitted the fact that many of the best laws passed to "reconstruct" the south were sponsored by Negro members of the state legislatures and in the national congress. It was the Negro voters who created the public school system of the South. Their votes made possible the democratizing of the South through liberal laws after the War between the States.

Time and space do not permit enumeration of any more of the numerous accomplishments of Negroes and the evils committed by the whites which are poorly treated, but the above are sufficient to suggest the great need for the debunking of Southern "History" if we really face the issues of today.

# "THE REASON OUR LEADERSHIP IS DISTRUSTED"



## Spiritual Insight

"THE LORD IS WITH US"

By REVEREND HAROLD ROLAND

Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church



"The Lord of host is with us..." Psal. 46:11.

It is a great thought for man to have the blessed assurance that he does not walk this way alone. Loneliness has brought many down to despair and defeat. It is hurtful for a human being to lose his sense of belonging—to feel unwanted, isolated and cut off. What is more crushing and devastating to the human spirit than this feeling? Nothing! We all need the heart-warming feeling of a sense of human and Divine communion. The text expresses this sweet assurance for the Holy writer. He rejoices in the fact of Divine fellowship and communion. He had the deep spiritual satisfaction of those who walk with God. He claims Divine companionship—"The Lord of hosts is with us."

The Psalmist is trying to tell us that this life's rough, tough and difficult journey is too much for man to go it alone. Man in his finiteness needs Divine companionship.

We need the companionship of the Most High God in this life's

journey...Do you have God as your companion? Have you invited God into your life? Or are you trying to walk this way alone? Let's make the acquaintance of God. Let's talk with God in daily prayer. Let's pause for the sweet refreshment of soul which comes through daily meditation with God. Life never grows too dull for those who walk in his Holy Presence. Life takes on a new look when you walk with God. Life for many, I am afraid, has gone stale because they are trying to walk this way alone. They lack communion, and they have lost step with God. This life is bogging down. Life has already become unmanageable.

I was moved the other day by the dramatic story of a man who had made God his companion. His life had become rich and beautiful.

Divine companionship keeps life from the agony of loneliness. Someone has rightly called loneliness one of the great sicknesses of our times. Loneliness grows out of an inneraching void in the human soul.

Those who have true human and Divine communion never suffer from this sickness. So much of our mad efforts for thrills grow out of the sickness of loneliness. We lose a sense of being a part of some vital, creative community. We try many false remedies for our loneliness. Have you ever been lonely in a crowd. Well, I have. I felt lonely one Saturday afternoon in the surging waves of humanity which passed a busy street corner in New York City. Thus we need Divine and human companionship to save us from the agony of loneliness.

We need the sense of belonging which comes from the communion of a happy family. We need the sense of community which is found in the family of God's redeemed children. The poet is right—"Bless be the ties that bind our hearts and in christian love..."

Life at its best is realized when we have a vital sense of fellowship and communion with God and man. Life is beautiful when we know—"THE LORD IS WITH US."

# SUPPORT FOR OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS

We have watched with more than passing interest the recent decision of the Methodist Church to establish church schools at Rocky Mount and Fayetteville. This in spite of the fact that there are already several schools in this state operated by the Methodist Church, such as Duke University, High Point College, Louisburg College and others and the state is appropriating more and more money to expand its school plants of higher education. Instead of retreating in the field of education the Methodist Church appears to be advancing.

This is quite a contrast to the A. M. E. Church, a Negro religious body of a million or more members, that is cut-

ting down on its educational program. In fact there is serious talk among both officials and laymen of that denomination of closing down several of the schools instead of expanding them.

We think any denomination is making a sad mistake during these times to curtail its religious education program. If there ever was a need of such training it is now. Not only is there a need because of the ever increasing number of young people that are being turned out of our high schools but because of the definite trend of our state colleges and universities to shy away from the religious or the moral development of young people.

Instead of retreat, those

who operate our churches should order a command to advance in the field of religious education. Certainly any person equipped with only scholastic achievement is at a distinct disadvantage to one who has achieved spiritually as well. The Carolina Times feels that this is no time to close our church schools, but to increase their program. It is with this in mind that we appeal to all churches to speed up the support of their schools. Many men and women who have been able to succeed in life will gladly testify to the fact that the religious foundation which they received in a church school was their one sustaining force in the times of life's greatest storms. Save our church schools.

# AN AMERICAN'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE LIFE OF GHANDI

By MARY L. MILLS

One of the penetrating analyses of Ghandi made by Gilbert Murray (1917-1918) "persons in power should be careful how they deal with a man who cares nothing for sensual pleasures, nothing for riches, nothing for comfort or praise or promotion, but is simply determined to do what he believes to be right. He is a dangerous and uncomfortable enemy because his body, which you can always conquer, gives so little purchase upon his soul."

On his 75th birthday Albert Einstein called him "a leader of his people, unsupported by an outward authority; a politician whose success is not upon craft nor mastery to technical devices, but simply on the convincing power of his personality; a victorious fighter who has always scorned the use of force; a man of wisdom and humility, armed with resolve and inflexible consistency, who has devoted all of his strength to the uplifting of

his people and the betterment of their lot; a man who has confronted the brutality of Europe with dignity of the simple human being, and thus at all times risen superior. Generations to come will scarce believe that such a one as this in flesh and blood walked upon the earth."

A great man who taught that which was good from several of the great religions; a prince, has fallen. When shot "by a friend, a fellow Hindu," he murmured "Oh God! and gave up the ghost." The world mourned his loss; The United Nations lowered its flag at half-mast. Humanity lowered its flag. The man who made Truth and Humility more powerful than empires; the spokesman for the conscience of mankind, had fallen. His legacy is courage, his lesson Truth, his weapon love. His life is his movement. He now belongs to mankind."

# UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT NOT FOR SALE

If reports are true that Governor Hodges has asked North Carolina industries to contribute to a fund to pass the Pearsall Plan in the September 8 election, then the governor is more stupid than we had even dreamed. To ask sensible and sound businessmen to contribute money to be used in passing the Pearsall Plan may be alright as far as it goes. We think, however, that mere passage of the plan in North Carolina will not make it acceptable to

the United States Supreme Court that is going to have final word about any plan or scheme concocted to circumvent its decision on segregation in public schools.

It appears to us, therefore, that the governor is asking the industries of this state to contribute money to throw down a rat hole. In his haste to defy the court, he overlooked one very small item, and that is the men on the United States Supreme Court are not for sale, cannot be

pressed into changing their decisions and are not answerable to this state for them.

God forbid that the time will ever come when the highest court in the land will ever come to the place where it can be bought or influenced by pressure groups, states or sections of this country. If that hour does come, then is the freedom of every American citizen at stake and good men had better seek refuge in some other land.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor, Do we have the spiritual vision to be mature at the polls on September 8? Expense grants by the state for students to attend private, segregated schools are clearly unconstitutional.

Local option also involves problems of a technical, constitutional nature. This item if approved, can transform our uniform system of free, public schools into a topsy-turvy, high-glydey-piggledy hodgepodge of utter confusion.

If we approve either expense grants or local option, there are tragic prospects that the American dream may become a nightmare in North Carolina.

Before casting a ballot, I earnestly hope that each voter will please pray for divine guidance.

Rev. Ora W. Eads

To the Editor

The legislature and the governor of North Carolina are rushing through amendments to our state constitution which would close the public schools in order to get around the Supreme Court's ruling.

However we already have a clause in our constitution of North Carolina which says federal law and authority are supreme to anything the state may enact.

I'd like to quote that clause:

"That every citizen of this state owes paramount allegiance to the constitution and government of the United States and that no law or ordinance of the state in contravention or subversion can have any binding force."

Very truly yours, Eugene Feldman

George Butler Goes to "Contracts"

Department of Labor economist George O. Butler has been appointed director of education for the President's Committee on Government Contracts. He is already on the job.

The addition of Butler—an alert, capable, straight thinker, with plenty of initiative, who works quietly and gets things done without stage props—should be assurance of effective action at a point where action, to be effective, must be carried on "under wraps", neither cloak and dagger nor next week's headlines.

The Washingtonian has strong roots "from way back," in the Federal City area and in nearby Maryland, and has been breaking ice in race relations ever since he gave up teaching economics at Howard University, his Alma Mater, at the age of 22. (He is now forty-four.)

Thereafter, he did a guinea-pig job as an officer with the Army at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he organized a statewide Negro veterans' conference sponsored by USO units from Fayetteville and elsewhere, and "angled" by the late C. C. Spaulding, North Carolina Mutual head. There, some 350 community leaders were briefed on GI rights, and how to put these in reach of thousands of eligible veterans in the area, who were unaware of their rights or hesitated to claim them. Later, he was assigned to occupational and educational counseling at Army separation centers.

George Butler Goes to "Contracts" assistance in convincing employers of the need and advantages of cooperation in the elimination of job discrimination against minority groups.

The new "Contracts" officer works equally hard at the problems of his disfranchised Washington community. He recognizes these problems as important to the Nation and significant to the country at large. He has injected new vitality and ideas into the Federation of Civic Associations, which he heads, and is also vice-president of the local Urban League and of the Industrial Union Council, and a consultant to the National Urban League.

Mrs. Butler is the former Marjorie Thomas of Westchester County, New York. The couple and their three young children, Paul, Judy and George II, live, quietly in the Brookland section of Washington.

Comes "Moderate" Truman! A politician is a politician! So yonder comes our Hair-Breadth Harry, the original dangerous-living fire-eater—the dove of party peace perched rakishly on his snarling—standing pat on his 1948 position and the 1953 platform.

Michigan's Congressman Diggs, who tried in vain to induce the former President to assume a fighting stance on 1956 Civil Rights, is dejected. Alabama's Senator Sparkman (NO! We did not ghost that column in which Mrs. Bethune endorsed him for Vice President), described Truman's Chicago statement as "moderate." Congressman Dawson agreed with Truman's bypassing on the Court decision.

with words so much like those used by a Republican "City-Hall-er" here in your Capital, that we wondered! Such as "You don't have to put the law of the land into a platform, etc."

Virginia's Governor Battle was tickled pink—naturally! And North Carolina's Ervin thinks the South will buy the '52 plank.

Olympic Candidate Truman That wasn't Mr. Truman's only omission. When he called history to his support to say that two Republicans (Hayes and Grant) had sold out to the South in '77, on enforcement of the 14th Amendment, and that not until "FDR" had there been any further action to reactivate it, he sprang agilely and expertly over both Cleveland Administrations and over the two Woodrow Wilsons, the Great Intellectual in whose honor the last Democratic dinners were named—the President noted among black voters for re-fusing segregation on the Capital of the United States. We quote from this column for Jan. 7, '56, "Centennial of a Segregationist!"

"Someone should remind—that the Woodrow Wilson who made the major contribution to lifting oppression from millions of people (abroad) and setting them upon the road to hope! Is the same President of the United States who slammed the doors of opportunity in the faces of millions of his fellow-Americans who were Negroes, and who ordered and promoted the segregation in Government departments, here in Washington, which has held the Federal City up to the scorn of the

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