

The Veneer Of American Civilization

Just exactly how thin the veneer of that thing we sometimes refer to as American civilization or culture was disclosed last week when one irresponsible person from Washington, D. C., went to Clinton, Tennessee, normally a community of peaceful and law abiding citizens, and turned it into a hell hole of raving maniacs. Negro citizens of the little town who had previously boasted of the fine race relations and the interracial love and respect that existed in their community saw decency, Christianity and every shred of morality thrown to the winds in a week of senseless and fiendish attacks, threats and near attacks against any and every Negro who hapened to come in sight of the so-called superior race.

This newspaper which last week had written an editorial praising the citizens of Clinton for the manner in which they dispatched the members of the White Citizens Council by jailing him for attempting to incite a race riot in the town saw its words of praise go down the drain as hell raged in Clinton. The town was now hurling not only threats against every Negro who came in view but against the U. S. Supreme Court, the law enforcement agency, school officials or any person or persons who dared raise their voice in support of law and order.

Whatever essence of morality, decency and Christianity that ever existed in Clinton took a walk when the White Citizens Council came in. Prior to its arrival in town the 12 Negro students had

gone to school for two days without event. White students, the teachers and the Negro students within that short time had already begun to forget about the difference in the color of their skin. Democracy was becoming a reality, Christianity was being enthroned.

So here is the saga of white supremacy at its best, or should we say at its worst. For Clinton, Tennessee has proved beyond any doubt that there is only the thinnest veneer between white supremacy and white degeneracy. Thus we must understand that sometimes the so-called culture we see existing among magnolias and over mint juleps in the South is not yet far enough removed from the jailbirds and barlots who came over on the Mayflower to withstand the presence of even 12 Negroes in a classroom.

Are we to further understand that in every city, town and hamlet the gasoline is there only awaiting to explode once the match of hatred, intolerance, indecency and disrespect for law and order is applied as it was in Clinton? We do not think so. We believe there are enough upright white citizens in the average southern community, whose forefathers did not come over on the Mayflower, to seek and find a sensible solution to the problems that now confront us here in the South over segregation.

These citizens are there but they must not become too complacent, too early. They must speak out for law and order. It is their bounden duty

to declare themselves openly for decency and respect for law and order while they have a chance to speak. Likewise sensible Negro citizens must meet such fellow white citizens half way if not over half way in an honest effort to uphold respect for law and order.

The pretense of fear of southern white folks that every Negro student who sits in a classroom with a white student is a potential candidate for an interracial marriage is stupid, asinine and without foundation. The percentage of interracial marriages in states where integrated schools are and have been in process for a long number of years is of small consequence in comparison with the number of clandestine interracial love affairs that are so prevalent and of common knowledge in the South.

What is needed in most southern communities is more interracial fellowship where members of both races will find with little effort that all humanity is but grass and that denial of the benefits of democracy from one individual endangers that enjoyed by the remainder. Somehow we must find a moment during our rush to make a living to make some decent men and women in the South and to teach both races the truths thundered so forcefully in the "Sermon on the Mount." We must not let our communities be taken over by hoodlums and other irresponsible, less the Christianity and democracy we claim to possess become more a mockery in the eyes of the world than it already is.

cause America cannot continue to flaunt its hypocrisy about democracy in the face of all the darker races of the world without ultimately suffering the consequences. We call you from the farms, factories, your homes or wherever you are to let nothing stand in your way Saturday to keep you from voting. Remember, you are not only voting to obtain human dignity for your own children

and unborn generations of your own race, but for your white brethren, many of whom in this hour of destiny are frustrated and blinded by prejudices that have been instilled into them over the years. Without boasting, talking or bragging we call upon you to go to the polls on Saturday and politely cast your ballots against the unholy scheme of the Pearsall Plan.

FACING THE ISSUE

By DR. A. H. GORDON

THE TWO PARTY PLATFORMS

The shouting and the tumult have died away in Chicago and San Francisco, our two major political parties have nominated their proposed candidates for the high offices of President and Vice-President of the United States. Each party has announced its platform. Both of the parties dodged the main issues which should confront the voters in the November elections. If we are to judge them by their platforms both parties are not only conservative but reactionary. Let us consider the things which neither party platform deals with constructively.

First in importance, in the opinion of this writer, is the failure of both party platforms to offer a substitute for force, which ultimately means war, as a basis for our foreign policy. Nowhere does either party platform mention the fact that since force, or war, is obsolete in the modern world it is no longer of any use whatsoever as an instrument of national policy in the area of international relations or diplomacy. In spite of the fact that all intelligent people know that John Foster Dulles is a miserable failure as a diplomat, the Republican speaker at the Convention upraised him as "a great Secretary of State." The Democrats declared that we must maintain our military power as a deterrent to war. Neither platform suggests that we should forsake war and depend upon the United Nations and peaceful negotiations to solve our international problems on a basis of justice and fair-play for all nations, large and small. Nowhere in either platform is it indicated that we would be much wiser to take a chance on Peace rather than on war.

Secondly, neither party offered any relief to the overburdened tax-payers of this country. Of course the reason why neither party could offer any plan for a substantial reduction of taxes, especially the

morally criminal and economically unwise income tax schedule, is that they approved depending upon military "preparedness" as a foundation of our foreign policy. This involves keeping up the present system of universal military training hypocritically called the "Selective Service" draft. As long as we have militarism we must have these high, unjust taxes to support the useless and vicious "top brass" in the army, navy and air forces with their inordinate appetite for power and glory which they do nothing to deserve.

Thirdly, both party platforms are hypocritical about the matter of Civil Rights. The Democrats offer a weak Civil Rights plank, which in spite of its weakness is too strong for the rebels of the South and will not be implemented by the party on account of the influence of the Dixiecrats. The Republican plank is a shade stronger than the Democrat plank but we know by his past record that Eisenhower, if he should unfortunately be re-elected, does not have the inclination nor the courage to implement it as he has often said. If Eisenhower should resign or die, either of which is possible if not probable, Richard Nixon will do no more than Eisenhower has to force the reactionaries of the South to obey the laws of the land which run counter to their "white supremacy" policies.

This leaves the liberals and progressive voters of the country without a party, without any platform to support. This applies to whites, blacks, brown and yellows or any other colors who may be progressive. What shall we do? Perhaps we might as well go fishing on election day. We suggest, however, that we vote for Stevenson and his colleague since Eisenhower and Nixon have already been tried and found wanting. We might as well give a new team a trial. They can't be worse.

A. H. Gordon

"BURSTING THEIR CHAINS"



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor I. E. Austin
Carolina Times

Dear Sir:

Talleyrand, and officer of Napoleon said "words were made to hide the truth." No man is intelligent who does not look into both sides of any question. Harry Hoxey has an honorarium of \$100,000 to give to any man who can prove his cancer treatment worthless. No one to date has taken him up on the offer. Who knows but that much of the processed foods plus their preservatives, certain drugs, powerful sprays on fruits and vegetables may all combine to bring on cancer, in the first place.

For forty years I have kept an open mind on maintaining health. I read the allopaths and the naturopaths. I learn from both.

Certain foods which are popular with the populace rarely go into my stomach. I am afraid of certain chemicals which are used in some of them. These chemicals could be the culprits which cause many disharmonies, leading to DEATH eventually.

If cancer got hold on me, I would fly to Harry Hoxey in Dallas, Texas or Dr. Max Gordon, New York City. This does not mean I have no truck with the allopaths. Sure they are alright up to a certain point. But they are not the whole show.

Some years ago I had a gland condition. One of the doctors of the city "fixed me up." Hence, you can see I keep the open mind.

Much reading maketh a full man. Health should become the hobby of every man; then, would much suffering and sorrow be held in abeyance.

Your truly
CHAS. HARRIS

We, a group of Christians in North Carolina, mindful of the alarming state of affairs existing in our State, send you this message for the purpose of expressing our deep concern for the education of the children of our State. We call upon you for united action in an effort to turn the tide of present trends into a direction of wisdom and progress.

For the first time in the history of our State Christians are called upon to go to the polls on September 8 and give sanction to a course of action, the sole purpose of which is to strengthen the hands of misguided men who are determined to shackle forever upon the minds and spirits of our children conditions which are detrimental to their personalities.

We North Carolina Christians must repent that our present quality of witness for the brotherhood of all men has been so ineffectual that officials of our society boldly call upon us to perform acts which would forever deny Christian brotherhood and turn the hands of the clock of progress back in the direction of the dark ages.

Because of the fact that almost every church body in America—North or South—has regarded segregation based upon race to be contrary to the will of God and the teachings of Christ, and because deep down in the heart of hearts of every Christian in North Carolina he knows that segregation solely on the ground of race is abhorrent in the sight of God, we call upon you, North Carolina Christians, to act in a manner consistent with your responsibility as Christians and not in conformity with popular custom or tradition.

Christians in North Carolina cannot consistently work and

pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God in the hearts and lives of the peoples of the world and at the same time go out and vote for or be indifferent to a Plan for the continued segregation of the children in our schools. God has said in his word, "...inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

There are many people of our State who regard this plan in a very unfavorable light. Among them are outstanding constitutional lawyers of our State who considered the Pearsall Plan as unrealistic, discriminatory to all children and unconstitutional. The State Congress of Parents and Teachers opposes the plan as a threat to the continuation of our public schools. The North Carolina Council of Churches states that, as law abiding citizens should begin in good faith, the implementation of the Supreme Court's decision. Many believe the Plan is an effort at evading the law of the land, and that the defeat of the Plan would force our leaders into a constructive course more in keeping with our Christian principles. It is evident that in every locality where an honest attempt at compliance with the ruling of our Supreme Court has made, a high degree of desirable results has been achieved.

In the light of our Christian responsibility as citizens of North Carolina and in the light of the fact that segregation by force is contrary to the law and an abomination in the sight of God, we humbly call upon all Christians in North Carolina to go to the polls September 8 and vote "No" to the Pearsall Segregation Plan. We pray that God will guide you in doing his will.

The Council Of Presbyterian Men, The Presbyterian (USA) Synod Of Catawba

Pearsall Plan Shows How Much We Are Lacking

North Carolina's scheme to preserve segregation in its schools, otherwise known as the Pearsall Plan, appears to us another indication of how woefully short man falls of being prepared to accept the exacting responsibilities of creating an atmosphere in which a lasting peace among nations of the world can be fostered. The basic premise of the Pearsall Plan, as everyone conversant with issues within the state well knows, is that the majority race will not tolerate the admission of Negro pupils to schools which have in the past been reserved for whites only. It would be naive and downright dishonest to believe that desegregation is a popular thing among southern whites, North Carolinians included. But, after making that point, the Pearsall Plan proceeds to surrender to the same kind of base motives which have wreaked so much carnage and suffering in our time. It capitulates to intolerance, to hatred and proceeds to hammer out a way through which intolerance can be nourished.

When the question of segregation in public education was first argued before the Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall reminded the court in

his summation that, stripped of legal jargon and technicalities, the only question which was before the Court was whether it was willing to say to America and the rest of the world that 15 million Americans were unfit to associate with the remaining 135 million. The Court has given its answer to that question. But the South and North Carolina, spurning that answer, have come up with an answer of their own. North Carolina would say, through its Pearsall Plan, that the Negroes who live within its borders are not fit to attend school with the white pupils of the state. The Pearsall Plan would give the official sanction of the state to racial intolerance. Behind intolerance of any kind lies hatred. And the Pearsall Plan says to the citizens of the state, go ahead, indulge your hatred at the state's behest. The Plan would put a premium on hatred. It would pay (\$135 per pupil) for racial hatred.

That is the essence of the Pearsall Plan. And it gives an interesting, though altogether suspected, insight into the character of the leaders of the state. The framers of the Plan and their backers say they were acting in accord with

what they felt were the prevailing "emotions, customs, traditions and mores" on integration. But the work of most men reflect in some way their own feelings and thoughts. Though the framers of the Plan claim they were constructing something to the liking of the majority of whites in North Carolina, they were really fabricating something to their own liking. It is because they themselves are not willing to forego the luxury of racial hatred that they have devised such a scheme. And, once one comes to this realization, to the knowledge that the leaders of official thought in the state have capitulated to such retrograde views of one segment of human nature, any hope for lasting peace in the world is a tenuous one indeed. For nations, like states, are made up in the final analysis of human beings.

Hatred has always been a luxury among men. The record of every great mind, from the Holy Scriptures down through the moderns, testifies eloquently and profoundly on this question. If Americans cannot tolerate each other, how can they hope for this country to lead a world of divided peoples to peace among themselves?

VINOBA BHAVE: A DISCIPLE OF GANDHI

BY MARY MILLS

Vinoba had not wanted to go to Hyderabad; it had been thrust upon him. Hyderabad was reported to be the seat of communistic activities. He had been the chosen one of Gandhi's followers for this mission — unless he undertook it the followers felt that the cause for which Gandhi gave his life was lost. He had walked into the area to find out, first hand, what conditions were like and if there was anything he could do. This little group started out on foot each carrying a bundle of clothes and a spinning wheel. They would depend upon villagers along the way to feed and house them. Vinoba carried a storm lantern which would serve as a light along the way until the sun arose.

Hyderabad has a Hindu Majority but in the hands of Moslem rulers. It represented one of the 500 princely states and was the only one to resist the Indian Union Merger in 1948. The Nizam still lives in a stucco palace with a grant from the state to help take care of 300 wives.

Vinoba refused a body guard of policemen as he entered Hyderabad; he invited policemen to travel with him in plain clothes stating that he was there to deal with human beings and not with a jungle of tigers where their employment might be useful. He reasoned with the communists. He went to the city jail to visit those who were held prisoners and requested of them to give up their violence "and help me to find a peaceful way out of our

problems." The prisoners held on to their visitor for two hours before they would let him go.

It was in Pochempelli where the Bhoodan Mission began in April 1951. Ram Chandra Reddi, a landlord, had made the first initial gift. This man called himself and his family rebels but declared that they disagreed with communistic methods — "the communists introduce an era of love and justice by terror and bloody idocy and lies. I never believe that." Ram said that when Vinoba saw the condition of their village and the fear that was in it, "he cried. Real wet tears."

Vinoba found a resting place in the mosque prayer compound, at first none of the villagers invited him to tarry in their homes. Perhaps this was a blessing now he belonged to the village and all costs were free to visit with him. The people who had become communists reported to him, they sat at his feet, that they had done so because of the promise of land.

Ram Chandra Reddi and his family were of the sudra caste, but they had actually been able to push the Brahmmins out of their village; they were wealthy landlords and he became a leader of the great land he became a leader of the great land gift mission.

Three months after Vinoba left the area word came to him that the communists had pledged to abandon violence in that area; and that those who were in jail would be released to take place in the approaching election.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)

Vote Against The Pearsall Plan

Saturday, September 8, the voters of North Carolina will be called on to vote on the Pearsall Plan which is in reality a plan concocted by its author and backed by the Governor of this state for one expressed purpose, and that is defiance of the U. S. Supreme Court's ruling on segregation. Although it is our candid opinion that the Pearsall bill, will probably be passed we do

not believe it will carry with it as great a majority as was first believed.

In the first place the element of fair-minded white people is increasing in North Carolina and although for the present its members are somewhat silent, when it comes to speaking out in the press, radio and television we believe they will speak out at the ballot box this Saturday by cast-

ing their vote against the plan. This coupled with an anticipated large Negro vote against it foreshadows tough though probably successful going for the Pearsall Plan.

Whatever happens we call on Negro voters to vote as never before, not because they have anything to gain by integrated schools other than academic equality but be-

The Carolina Times

MAIN OFFICE — 436 EAST PETTIGREW STREET
Phones 5-0671 and 2-2913 — Durham, North Carolina

Published At Durham, North Carolina Every Saturday By
THE UNITED PUBLISHERS, Inc.

WINSTON-SALEM OFFICE — 304 N. CHURCH ST. — PHONE 5-0869
MRS. VELMA HOPKINS, Manager

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Durham, North Carolina under the Act of March 3, 1879.

L. E. AUSTIN, Publisher
CLATHAN ROSS, Editor

W. A. HENNESSEE, Business Mgr.
JESSE GRAY, Advertising Mgr.
M. E. JOHNSON, Controller

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year Ten Cents Single Copy
Six Months \$4.00 — Foreign Countries.

National Advertising Representatives
INTERSTATE UNITED REPRESENTATIVES, Inc.

545 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK
PHONE MURRAY HILL — 2-5452