

**A PRAYER FOR WRITERS AND NEWSPAPERMEN**

O THOU GREAT SOURCE of truth and knowledge, we remember before thee all whose calling it is to gather a window of facts for informing the people. Inspire them with a determined love for honest work and a staunch hatred for the making of lies, lest the judgement of our nation be perverted and we be taught to call light darkness and darkness light. Since the sanity and wisdom of a nation are in their change, may they count it shame to set the baser passions of men on fire for the sake of gain, may they never suffer themselves to be used in dragging the mind of the people with falsehoods and prejudice.

Grant them boldness to turn the unwelcome light on those who love the darkness because their deeds are evil. Put into their hands the shining sword of truth, and make them worthy successors of the great shamans of the people who held truth to be a holy thing by which nations live and for which men should die. Cause them to realize that they have a public function in the commonwealth, and that their country may be saved by their courage or undone by their cowardice and silence. Grant them the heart of manhood to cast their mighty influence with the forces that make the people strong and free, and if they suffer loss, may they rejoice in that as proof to their souls that they have fought a good fight and have been servants of the higher law.

**A Two Party System For The South**

The big question confronting the Negro voters of North Carolina and the remainder of the South in the election to be held in November is not that of voting Republican or Democratic, either nationally or statewide, as much as it is that of being willing to help the South wrest itself from eternal slavery to the Democratic Party. Like his white counterpart, Negro leaders in North Carolina argue that this is a Democratic state and, therefore, they are bound to vote Democratic if the race is not to be left out in the cold educationally and otherwise. As a result of this attitude Negroes of the state will soon find themselves in the same political dilemma as that of the white citizens whose political party is chosen for them before they are born. Such a state of affairs cannot by any stretch of imagination be classed as the most healthful to be had.

There is no denying the fact that from a political standpoint that the greatest need in the South today is a two-party system. For as long as the South is known to be in the bag,

so far as the Democratic Party is concerned, there is little if any chance that overtures will be made to it by either party or their candidates. Not only is this unfortunate for Negro citizens but white citizens as well.

If the South is to ever free itself from its present political plight of a one-party system sometime and somewhere a beginning must be made by men and women of vision. Said the great sage, Ralph Waldo Emerson: - "There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that Imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better or worse as his portion." For as it was also said by the great Oliver Wendell Holmes, "No man can go far who never sets down his foot until he knows the sidewalk is under it. No man has earned the right to intellectual ambition until he has learned to lay his course by a star which he has never seen - to dig by divining rods for springs which he may never reach."

**Colorphobia on a Rampage in Harnett County**

Only Negro parents and a Negro child can fully sympathize with the parents and the little seven-year-old white girl who was barred from attending a white school at Dunn last week merely because she has dark skin. If this tragic incident has served to awaken white citizens of North Carolina to the viciousness of colorphobia, it may be well worth all of the harm that school officials in Harnett County have heaped upon an innocent child.

If Harnett County school officials have found satisfaction in their latest efforts to preserve the purity of the white race, they might be shocked out of that satisfaction to discover that, for the most part, they have become targets of rebuke among many of the thinking white people of this state. The big question now before the Board is how dark must the skin of a white person be before he is barred from white schools. Or perhaps County officials should call for an election to name a Board of Racial Identity and Purity to determine such.

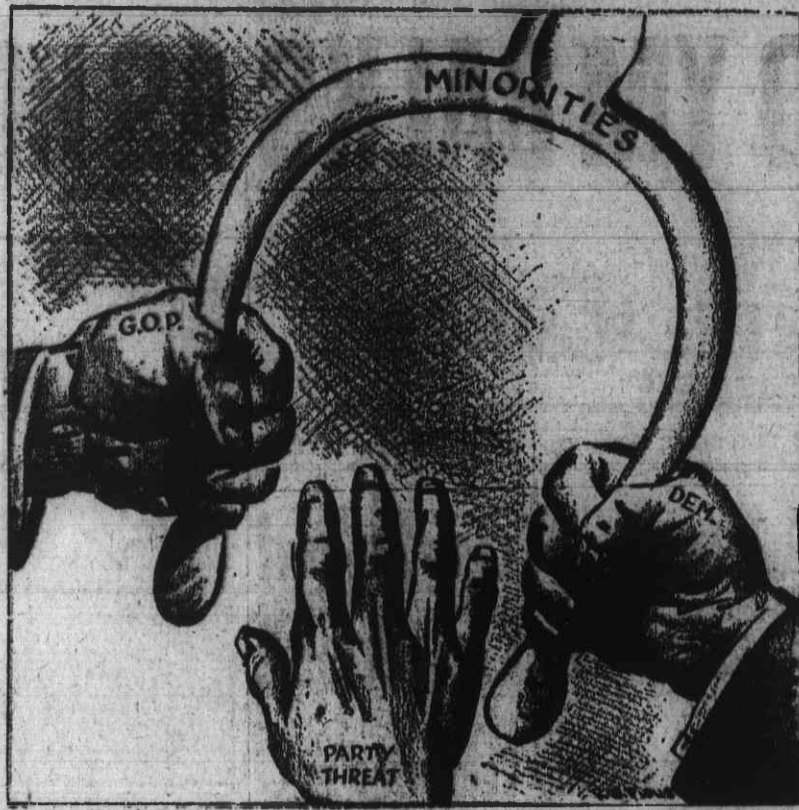
It might be that this colorphobia problem could be solved in Harnett County by erecting a "separate but equal" elementary school building for the little girl and staff it with a separate but equal faculty. By doing so they will be sure to preserve the fly-white skin of its light-skinned white people. Certainly if dark-skinned white people are permitted to go to school with light skin white people amalgamation is sure to follow, resulting in a mon-

ogrel race. Say, brother light skin white person, would you want your daughter to marry a dark skin white man?

Seriously, we think this unforgivable harm that has been heaped upon this innocent child can never be undone in Harnett County. It is our sincere hope that her parents will decide to move to some other county where the white people are not half maniacs over the question of skin color and where they attach more importance to character.

Along with the personality damage that has been done in the little seven-year-old girl is one equally as damaging that has come to the other white school children of Harnett County. They will now not be able to escape the damnable notion that a light skin is a badge of superiority. This kind of misconception in a world that is now in ferment over this very question may mean that the years to come will find them unprepared for a world society in which all men must stand equally in the eyes of all other men, without regard to race, creed or color, if they are not to endanger the safety of us all.

Unless somehow man can find a way to rid his heart of all this poisonous mess about race and skin color; unless he can find some way, as it was said over forty centuries ago, for the wolf to dwell with the lamb, "and the leopard to lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together," we will have no work.



By REV. HAROLD ROLAND



**God Is Always Near Those Who Really Try to Find Him**

**"GOD IS NEAR"**

"Yet He is not far from each one of us . . ." Acts 17:27.

God fills the infinite vastness of his wondrous creation. Here we have briefly set forth the doctrine of God omnipresence. What an assurance it is to know that God is everywhere. God is always near to every creature. Thus the Psalmist calls God the inescapable one. If we descend to the darkest depths God is there—near and ready to help. You may take wings and soar upward into the infinite vastness of outer space and there you will find that God is still near. God the all powerful one fills His creation. And this we his children should always know that God is ever near us to help us.

God is ever near with His gracious love and care. Have you really thought about the spiritual meaning of this great idea? When I am lost in the darkness in my weakness, blindness and helplessness, I can be assured that God

is near and ready to help me. God's sovereign power is near and can be tapped in my behalf. Isn't it wonderful to know that wherever I am and whatever my condition may be God is near and ready to help me.

Paul had this in mind in Romans when he said . . . "Nothing can separate me from His love." And Jesus was trying to impress this great truth when He said: "Seek and ye shall find—knock and the door will be opened." "God is ever near and ready and willing to help His children. I have always found God near and a very present help in the time of trouble."

God is always near and all you have to do is call Him up.

In daily prayer we find that God is always near. Then let us cultivate God's presence by a daily chat with Him in prayer. Then let us stay on speaking terms with God so we can call. You can call my God anytime and anywhere. God rules over

the infinite vastness of the universe and Jesus says he sees and is near when the little sparrow falls to the ground. God sits in sovereign power over the creation and "Yet He is not far from each one of us. God is near. Call Him and He will hear your prayer and bless your needy soul."

This nearness of God should banish our fears and anxieties. God is near you. Then take Him at His word and rest the whole weight of your life on Him and in Him. God is near, so you should be free from unnecessary fears. God is near you, then away with those gnawing and paralyzing and energy-wasting anxieties.

God is near you now. Then let us trust Him fully and go on to live successfully and victoriously from day to day. "Be not dismayed whatever betide, God will take care of you." For God is not far from each one of us.

**South Can Take A Lesson From "Sit-Downers"**

Quietly lunch counters in some cities in the South are abolishing their racial restrictions and Negroes are sitting down to eat where they have never sat before. The Diamond, leading department store in Charleston, West Virginia, under pressure from the Congress of Racial Equality and from various citizens' groups for several years because of segregation at its lunch counter, is now accepting all patrons in all departments and variety stores on an equal basis.

Six Department and variety stores in Nashville have now desegregated their lunch counters following sit-in demonstrations by Negro students and the riot which resulted when white hoodlums tormented the demonstrators. During a cooling-off period the transition in Nashville was carefully planned at conferences between representative Negro and white leaders. News of the agreement reached, the plan of operation, and the date for putting the plan into effect were kept from the general public through the cooperation of the store managers and all media of communication. On "D-day" (desegregation day) Negroes in small numbers sat at the lunch counters during the slack hours of the afternoon, placed simple orders, were served, and left quietly after eating and paying their checks.

One store official commented: "There was no reaction whatsoever from our white customers." Thus easily can the new day replace the old. It is regrettable that Negroes have had to win

freedom from insult by protests, but we can be grateful that they have resolved to resist wrong peacefully. They are not responsible for the turmoil which ensues when they assert their dignity as persons.

The acceptance of the Nashville and Charleston actions prove what good may come when the rightful claim of the Negro to be treated as a citizen and a human being is met with kindness and in good faith by responsible white leaders. Other cities should profit from the examples set in Charleston and Nashville.

In the end Negro citizens will ride desegregated buses, eat at desegregated lunch counters and swim in municipal swimming pools, worship in desegregated churches. Why do white people continue to degrade, torment and afflict themselves by humiliating and depriving the Negro?

—The Christian Century, May 25, 1960.

Life will, even yet, reward the individual who thinks for himself and develops his own philosophy and character, and this is a major undertaking for every student going to school this Fall.

—The Independent Call

Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into the everlasting life.—(John 4:14)

Those who take Christ into their hearts and lives carry with them always the one unending source from which they can draw strength and refreshment in times of trouble, temptation and weariness.

**Tshombe of Katanga Described As Puppet Ruled By the Belgians**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Last week, Walters sketched the early background of Belgium's colonial policy in the Congo. The discussion is continued this week.

By FRANCES WALTERS

But as these countries abandoned the responsibilities of government their industrial leaders continued to develop colonial properties. Mines were developed in Katanga and elsewhere, using native labor wholly, except for technicians, and not one cent was ever paid the Congo itself either in taxes or for ownership. The Belgian industrialists were associated with the world-wide copper cartel, which has its headquarters in Rhodesia, South of the Congo, and with financiers all over the world except in Russia.

Billions of dollars have been taken out of the Congo and not one cent of this have the Congolese seen, except the pitifully tiny wages paid, them.

When the Belgians left the Congo they appointed a wealthy native citizen of Leopoldville named Kasavubu, who had made his money under the Belgians, to be President, being sure that he would guard their interests but

ostensibly to pacify the outlying country, they appointed Kasavubu's loudest critic, the patriot Patrice Lumumba, as Premier, believing that Kasavubu would know how to handle him. But Lumumba had power in the provinces and quickly took over the army.

**TSHOMBE: A QUISLING**

Moise Tshombe, a quisling in the employ of the Belgians, revolted in Katanga and, backed by Belgian troops, took over the one province that was absolutely necessary of the new Republic were to be on a sound financial basis.

Simultaneously Belgium circulated reports of Congolese atrocities against the Belgians which later were found to be false.

Because of these alleged atrocities the Secretary General of the United Nations flew to Leopoldville where he was impressed with the urgency of the crisis and so advised the United Nations, which sent an army to occupy the country and restore order.

Next week I will tell you what happened after the United Nations troops arrived—and the decisions which led up to the critical situation today.

**A Pandora's Box**

**NEW YORK — (CNS) . . .** While Negro servicemen are well integrated, they are still subjected to racial discrimination. In a survey by the American Veterans Committee, which has been submitted to the government, it shows this.

1. Practically no Negro veterans are in white collar jobs in southern VA offices.
2. Southern Negro veterans were too discouraged by economic discrimination to apply for GI home, farm and business loans.
3. Negro veterans were unable to use their GI-on-the-job training because no decent jobs are available to Negroes in the south and few in the North.

To correct a few of these points, a proposed amendment of the GI bill has been suggested whereby the lot of Negro veterans would be improved. Representatives would be established to help Negro GIs get their rightful benefits, and to halt federal funds which in any way supported discrimination against veterans.

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**Vets Face Jim Crow**

In a land where people might not know or care who their great-grandfather was, a group of Harnett County parents would open a genealogical Pandora's box.

The parents turned a little girl away from the white school their own children attend because she is "a little dark skinned."

Perhaps every white school in North Carolina should follow the Harnett school's example and have a skin-checking committee watching at the door.

Perhaps people now should add to their worries one about how much sun their children get at the beach in the summer.

Perhaps children should submit along with proof of their vaccinations a paper proving themselves to be pure Caucasian.

Perhaps white people all over the state had better get a lot more interested in the family tree, including the parents who turned the little girl away because somebody else might be checking the skins next year.

All of this is ridiculous in the extreme, of course, but it is no more ridiculous than the Harnett County parents who suspect the

little girl of being part Negro and the Harnett County officials who let the parents' suspicions fog their official judgement.

"The child whose skin is a little dark" moved into the Dunn community this year after attending a white school in Jones County last year. Documents recording the little girl's birth list her as white.

"When this little girl came with dark skin, they came to the conclusion she should be sent home," Mrs. L. L. Milam, the school's principal, said. She spoke of the paths attending the case while Harnett school officials decided to conduct a "thorough investigation" before allowing the child to go to school.

Mrs. Milam already has conducted the only sensible investigation in this matter. "The records all show white," she said. "The parents are as white as I am . . ." And the sensible principal warned: "If we started sending them home because they were a little dark skinned there would be three or four around here who would go home."

—Raleigh News and Observer

**SHOULD HAVE GONE TO CUBA**

Robert Lee Shirley, 25, was on vacation from his job in a Veteran's Hospital at Long Beach, Calif. On Sept. 2 he was travelling by car with his mother, his girl friend, his three sisters and a nephew from Gainesville, Ga., to Norfolk, Va.

En route near Gaffney, South Carolina, he stopped to ask a group of white men outside a motor court for highway directions. After some words, one of the men shot Shirley in the stomach. He wrestled the gun from his assailant and the men dispersed.

The local sheriff insisted the shooting was "just one of those things that happen. There wasn't any racial angle about it."

His office said: "We're pretty sure we know who the men are. But they have legs and we haven't caught up with them. We're working on the case day and night."

The governor called the shooting "a wanton act." He said such happenings "will not be tolerated in South Carolina" and promised prosecution "to the full extent of the law."

The incident reminded us that on Sept. 3 the State Department warned Americans about traveling in Cuba. A principal hazard Americans tourist should watch out for, according to this warning is use of "cameras" in "restricted" areas. A tourist "in trouble" might be "detained briefly by the police."

This propaganda is part of a coldly calculated campaign to stop Americans from visiting Cuba.

The fact is that Cuba is far safer for tourists than the United States. For example, no tourist ever got shot in the stomach for asking directions in Cuba.

If Shirley had spent his vacation in Cuba he would have found a land where race prejudice is virtually nonexistent and where tourists of all colors are given the most royal welcome.

Perhaps in their next campaign speeches on the "menace" of Cuba and the virtues of American democracy under Dixiecrat rule.

—The Militant.

**Is Hodges a New Voice Crying in Dixie Wilderness?**

There are two ways to look at the statement Governor Luther Hodges made at the 26th annual Southern Governors Conference now in session at Hot Springs, Arkansas. In commenting on Senator John F. Kennedy's chances to win out in North Carolina over Vice President Richard Nixon in the presidential contest, Hodges said that the South has a chance to get off the defensive and to "portray the right image of America to the world but "we will have to start wearing our Sunday clothes seven days a week."

If the governor meant that the South can help America's position in world affairs by abolishing its pattern of religious and race prejudice and becoming an area of the nation in which the human dignity of all men may be found, so well and good. On the other hand, the statement of the governor could mean that the South should resort to the kind of prejudice exhibited by our churches on Sunday morning around eleven o'clock when America, as it has been so truthfully stated,

reaches its highest point of segregation while at worship.

Hodges went on to say that the United States had "done nothing but slip and slide" in world affairs during the present administration and that "the people are looking for action and a dynamic government." Said Hodges further, "We need new vision, a new image and a determination to do the job that needs to be done."

Now these are strong words, and we trust the governor means what he says. Certainly, the times demand that the South tune in on the wave of freedom now prevalent in Africa, Asia and other parts of the world. America's position as a world leader must not be endangered by the perpetuation of the southern way of life built on a foundation that only "white is right." If America is to hold its own among the peoples of the world, it must be able to extend to men of all races, creeds and colors the full benefits of the democratic way of life. It cannot deny these benefits to others in any section of the nation without endangering her position and influence among the overwhelming number of darker people of the earth.

Governor Hodges' statement, we hope, is a new voice crying in the southern wilderness of the United States. If a new and broader outlook on the race problem is his objective, and it is headed by the leaders in the southern states, it can mean a new day for the South that will enhance this country's position in world affairs.

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