

The Proposed Unification of the City and County

The Carolina Times warns the Negro voters of Durham to tread with extreme caution the pathway stretched before them which leads to unification of the city and county of Durham. Seldom in past elections has there existed such an awful split within the ranks of the leading white citizens of the city as now obtain over the question of unification. We think, therefore, that Negro voters would do well to await the final decision of the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs. We have been informed that the Committee is now making a thorough investigation of the plans for unification in order to determine whether or not it will be detrimental or helpful to the Negro citizens.

As has been the custom in past years, the decision of the Committee will be withheld until after the Thursday night meeting on January 19. This procedure is for obvious reasons and is for the best of all concerned, whether it will be for or against unification.

As it now stands, no officer or member of the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs can truthfully say what the recommendation to the Negro voters of Durham will be.

In recent years most of the progressive movements in Durham have been supported wholeheartedly by the Committee. In fact many of them would have failed, especially where a bond issue was concerned, had it not been for the backing of the Committee and the Negro vote. Whether unification or non-unification of the city and county governments of Durham can be considered progressive will be determined by the committee now making the study of the proposal.

Whatever the course, we advise Negro voters to be careful not to make any commitments before they have listened to the special committee appointed by the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs to study and look into all angles of the unification plan.

Encouraging is the Proposal of the C-R Commission

Tuesday's Associated Press dispatch carried an account of a proposal of the Civil Rights Commission that federal funds be withheld from public supported institutions of higher education that discriminate on account of race, color, religion or national origin. The most encouraging thing about the entire proposal of the commission was that two southerners, one from Texas and the other from North Carolina, joined in support of it. Dr. Robert Rankin, chairman of the political science department of Duke University and former member of the Durham City Council, was the North Carolinian who registered his vote in favor of the proposal. Robert G. Storey, vice chairman of the commission, was the Texan.

On the whole, Texas and North Carolina, are way out in front of a majority of southern states on the question of integration. It, therefore, was more in keeping with the trend in those two states for their representatives to lend their support to a proposal such as that presented by the Civil Rights Commission. Although neither Dr. Rankin nor Mr. Storey were in accord with the commission's further proposal to withhold federal funds from private as well as public colleges and universities that discriminate, their support of the withholding of federal funds from public institutions of higher education is indeed encourag-

ing. The action taken by the commission in the proposal to withhold federal funds from public colleges and universities recalls to mind a bill introduced in Congress only a few years ago by Representative Clayton Powell of New York to cut off funds from such institutions of higher learning. The bill drew rapid fire from a majority of southerners in the House of Representatives and Powell was practically thrown out on his head for introducing such a piece of legislation. The same proposal by the Civil Rights Commission certainly is a vindication for Congressman Powell who got little or not support for his bill even from northern and western members of the lower house.

The action of the commission just goes to show how fast we are traveling on the question of integration. What today seems impractical and impossible for the South may only a few months from now be accepted as the common pattern. Five years from now Negro students in institutions of higher learning all over the South will be the common practice. Then we shall look back at the time in which we now live as the age in which morons of the South were in the saddle and kept that section of the country poverty-stricken and backward for nearly one hundred years after slavery.

Congratulations to Charlotte and M. & F. Bank

The announcement in last week's issue of the Carolina Times that the Mechanics and Farmers Bank of this city will open a branch in Charlotte, if and when the North Carolina State Banking Department approves the move at a meeting on January 18, brings much joy and pride to customers and friends of the institution both in and out of Durham. With three offices, including the headquarters located in this city, a branch in Raleigh and its Fayetteville Street office, also in this city, the local bank already has the distinction of being the only one operated by the race with a branch office in another city. The addition of a Charlotte office to the three already in operation should not only add prestige to the local banking institution but several million dollars to its resources.

By the time this editorial is read we predict that the banking department of the state will have already approved the plan of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank to open a branch in Charlotte. We, therefore, take this means of extending our congratulations to the officers for what we consider a most progressive move. Also we would like to offer our praise to those of Charlotte who

have worked so diligently to help make the plan a success. Only time will be able to prove to members of the race in Charlotte just how much a bank owned and operated by Negroes can mean economically to a community.

Here in Durham and Raleigh where Negroes are direct beneficiaries of a banking institution of their own, they are so close to the picture that they cannot realize its beauty and its worth. Once one of them moves to another city where such facilities are not available, they are quick to realize the difference and what great advantages Negroes in a city in which a bank of their own race is located have over those in other places.

We solicit for the Mechanics and Farmers Bank the full cooperation of the people of Charlotte. If they will give the bank their support, it is certain to raise the entire economic level of all the Negroes of that city. Whoever of their city has been responsible for helping to secure a branch of the bank for Charlotte has made a great contribution toward not only the economic life of the Negro citizens of the city, but the religious, cultural and the industrial as well.

PROMISING OUTLOOK

Americans enjoy a variety, quality and abundance of food unmatched anywhere, and beyond the imagination of a good part of the world's people. The retail stores which have developed the distribution system to move and sell this mountain of goods do an im-

ense and outstanding job—and one that is getting bigger every year.

Food chains are backing up their confidence in the economic outlook with planned expenditures for building and remodeling totaling about \$1,159 million during 1961, a slightly larger amount than that spent in 1960. Further evidence of the impact of food chain expenditures on the economy is the outlook for increased employment opportunities in food chains as new people are hired to staff new stores and supermarkets. Payroll costs in 1960 are estimated at more than \$2 billion for food chains alone.

According to Paul J. Cupp, Chairman of the Board of National Association of Food Chains, the trend toward construction of "super supermarkets" is abating in favor of medium-size markets and food chain executives are planning an all-out attack on ris-



SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

By REV. HAROLD ROLAND



Words of Encouragement Add to the Joy of Living

"The brethren encouraged him." Acts 18:27.

Encouragement is essential to human morale. Too often we forget to offer the spiritual lift of a needed word of encouragement. A word of encouragement means so much for those fighting the difficult battles of this life. That word of encouragement will give new meanings to life and its struggles. We take too much for granted, and we never speak that much needed word of encouragement to a burden-bearing sister or brother.

Your word of encouragement may save some weary, struggling soul from defeat. Just a word can make the difference at times between defeat and victory. Many a soul has lost its hold on life because no one spoke that word of encouragement at the right time. Words have great power in life's critical times. Then, let us get in the habit of passing along

words of encouragement where they may be needed. That word will give the needed courage to carry on another day. That word of encouragement will give the needed spark of hope. That word may mean light in the darkest hour. Yes, your word of encouragement may mean the difference between success and failure for a struggling soul.

Words of encouragement will cost only a little time and patience. Just a little time and a little love will do the job. Then let us get in the habit of taking a little more time to speak these life-giving and renewing words of encouragement. You know what it meant when some one took time to speak a word of encouragement to you in the midst of a battle you were fighting. Words of encouragement cost so little and they pay such great dividends. Let us then invest a little time to pass along that

much needed word that will do so much good.

The giver of words of encouragement can add to the sum total of the joy of living. We all know there is too much sadness and not enough joy in this old world. You can so easily add to the joy of the world by becoming a broadcasting center for the blessed words of encouragement. Your husband needs a word of encouragement. The teacher of your children needs a word of encouragement. Children, your parents need words of encouragement. Your minister needs a word of encouragement. Let us in the habit of speaking those much needed words of encouragement so that we can add to the joy of living.

Let us cultivate the habit of speaking that much needed word when and where it may be needed.

Deficits Among Negro Students Can Be Overcome When Opportunities, Teachers Are Equivalent

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Many tests and surveys have shown that average attainment of Negro students at many levels has been below the national mean," writes Dr. W. Montague Cobb, editor of the Journal of the National Medical Association, in the current issue of the magazine.

Equally significant demonstrations have been made, as in the public schools of the District of Columbia, that these deficits can be quickly overcome in the primary grades when opportunities and teachers are equivalent.

"What a large number of people fail to realize, however, is that the lag in average attainment at college level cannot be so quickly overcome and that the modest increases in appropriations and facilities in many colleges have been able to improve the norms of attainment of their students, the leading schools are leaping ahead, so that the gap widens between the leading institutions and those less favored."

Dr. Cobb in principal editorial of the NMA Journal's current issue, says the Negro population has always been handicapped educationally and the pressing demands of the present have served but to emphasize the inequities of the past. "The beginnings of integration in education as manifest today are but a drop in the bucket to what must be done."

The editorial emphasized the fact that the Negro in medicine,

over the years, has shown slow but constant progress. "He has moved in no direction" but upward. The demands of our times are such, however, that especially directed effort must be made by all concerned, particularly medical alumni, to discover words of promise for medicine in high school; to see that at that level these young people receive proper guidance and orientation, and to aid them financially as circumstances warrant."

Dr. Cobb said the need for this kind of activity was long ago recognized by many. It was pointed out by him over a decade ago. The National Urban League has launched a program, "Tomorrow's Scientists and Technicians," which represents a significant step. Under the auspices of the National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students, a "Committee to Salvage Talent," has been organized and is promulgating a program.

"This kind of organized effort, however, cannot be effective unless all the individuals who are aware of the values involved are alert to the need and are doing something about it."

"Every member of the National Medical Association should have a sharp eye out for potential talent and bestir him or herself about providing for the able youngster, proper motivation, seeing to it that he forms the proper habits of study while young and if he needs financial aid, help in finding some source to provide it. President Aldrich's plan for a \$25,000 NMA Scholar-

ship Fund should certainly be implemented."

Dr. Cobb further stated that the pursuit of excellence has become so widely recognized a necessity for our survival that it has become a national refrain.

"Surveys by the highest agencies have clearly indicated that the United States cannot be satisfied with mediocrity at any level. Numerous sources have pointed out that our educational system has shown laxity in many areas and was becoming tolerant of superficiality and permitting youth to become preoccupied with materialistic trivia.

Can't Explain

A Methodist missionary says "the decision to treat all men as equals was not forced upon by the Supreme Court, but by the teachings, examples and spirit of Jesus Christ."

The Rev. Gunnar J. Teilmann, Jr., a missionary to Malaya, asked 300 leaders of the Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service in the Southeast: "How can we missionaries possibly explain Little Rock to the people of Asia and Africa?" He added: "They know the story, even in the most remote jungle."

He continued that he could explain political action by congressmen or a governor against racial equality, "But not the action of the church in refusing to lead the way." Mr. Teilmann is a native of Johnson City, Tenn.

—from an Associated Press dispatch, June 30, 1960

ing expenses. The gradual climb in operating costs is one of the key problems facing the industry in its effort to satisfy consumer de-

By ALICE DUNNIGAN
There is no minimizing the fact that the situation in Fayette County, Tennessee is desperate. Many people are being made to suffer, and many people are going to bat for their rights, but those who move into a situation for the purpose of exploiting it should be exposed. This is the opinion of those familiar with the whole story.

Interviews in the area reveal that Scott Franklin is one such person. A news dispatch coming from Somerville quoted Franklin as saying that an oil company took up his gasoline pump about the same time that McFerre's fuel supply was stopped.

The release further stated that "nationwide protest forced the oil companies to supply McFerre again, but Franklin is still deprived."

This writer learned from a reliable source that Franklin never had a gasoline station. "The old, battered, weed-covered gasoline pump in the yard of his home could never be called a service station by the wildest stretch of the imagination," said a recent visitor.

The gasoline which he bought was for use in his own truck which, according to local gossip, was used more for delivering grain for spirits other than it was for transporting farm products.

A check with the Amoco people revealed that Franklin however, who lives more than 20 miles on a rather lonely road from the distributor's plant, never purchased more than 200 gallons of gas at a time. And since the distributor's gross margin is never greater than three-and-a-quarter cents, this means that he had to loan his truck and sent it on a 44 mile

round-trip over rough roads to Franklin's home for a maximum profit of \$6.50 once every three or four months.

When Franklin's pump broke, according to an Amoco spokesman, the company never replaced it. Since Franklin's account never was considered a good one, they felt that putting in a new pump would "simply be throwing good money after bad."

John McFerre, who was the hero in the registration move, is still in the forefront of the fight. This local leader, who operates a grocery store and filling station, was hardest hit from the beginning when the Gulf oil distributor of the area refused to sell him gasoline and a number of wholesalers declined to sell him commodities for his grocery.

The Gulf people snatched out McFerre's 250-gallon tank, which he replaced himself with a 12,000-gallon tank. After much pressure about the gas situation, several companies agreed to let McFerre have gas on an independent basis, and it was delivered in unmarked trucks.

The continuation of the wholesale eviction movement is an economic squeeze which began in Fayette County back in August 1959, when Negroes made this first effort to register to vote. With a Federal Court order prohibiting reprisals and other unfair practices by white farmers and businessmen there is much hope Negroes will evolve to a better position.

McFerre has fought a terrific battle and deserves much praise for his militant stand in the whole matter. But in this situation as in many others there is always some non-deserving persons who move in and share the limelight.

Plight Of Demagogic Politician

The plight of a politician caught upon the rack of his own demagoguery is demonstrated by the situation in which Georgia governor Ernest Vandiver finds himself.

Elected on his promise to keep Negro children out of "white" schools, Vandiver and his predecessor got thru the Georgia State legislature bills which would automatically close any school in the state which obeyed the U. S. Supreme Court decision desegregating schools.

Monday Vandiver came face to face with the realities of the situation when two Negro college students appeared with Federal court sanction to enroll in the University of Georgia. After a day of dizzying legal action, the students' entry in the state university was delayed and the University was ordered closed by state authorities to block court ordered integration.

Vandiver's dilemma has a number of sides. He was discussed favorably in some quarters for a place in the Kennedy cabinet as Army secretary but immediately a hue and cry went up from those citizens who want no ardent segregationist in charge of any branch of the arm-

ed forces the personnel of which will eventually be 10 per cent American Negro.

Obviously the reason why Vandiver turned down the sub-cabinet job was due to the heat which Negro supporters of the President-elect generated.

Vandiver is a young man and despite his campaign pledges to the most backward elements in his state, to keep the schools segregated must now see that the lengths to which his course has carried is dangerous to the future of his state's education and more important, his own future in national politics.

As of Tuesday of this week his course and that of his adherents may force the closing of the state's chief educational institution and lock the 7,500 student body at the University from their classes simply because two Negro students have been ordered admitted to classes. This is not a pretty picture and Gov. Vandiver knows it. It is his own making and he will have to live with it and so will other Dixie politicians who blithely go along their way campaigning on platforms "to keep the Negro in his place."

—The Minneapolis SPOKESMAN

INFORMATION FOR VETERANS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Veterans and their families are asking thousands of questions concerning the benefits their Government provides for them through Veterans Administration. Below are some representative queries. Additional information may be obtained at any VA office.

Q.—Is it necessary that a Korean veteran receive vocational counseling from VA before he begins vocational rehabilitation training under Public Law 894?

A.—Yes, the law requires that disabled veterans desiring training under the vocational rehabilitation act receive this counseling to determine the need for this training to overcome their handicap, and in order to help the veteran in choosing a program best suited to him.

Q.—A non-veteran friend and I want to go into business. As a Korean veteran, am I entitled to a GI loan on this partnership business?

A.—Yes, if otherwise eligible. But, the amount of the loan in which VA's guaranty is based will be in proportion to your own interest in the loan, and will not cover any portion of the loan constituting the non-veteran's contribution to the business.

Q.—As a "post-conviction" veteran, am I eligible for VA hospitaliza-

tion?

—Only under these two conditions: (1) if you were discharged under other than dishonorable conditions for a disability incurred in line of duty or (2) if you are receiving compensation for a service-connected or service-aggravated disability or disease.

Q.—My World War II GI insurance policy, on the endowment plan, matures soon. May I receive the proceeds of the policy in monthly installments for the rest of my life?

A.—No. You may choose one of two payment plans: (1) lump sum, or (2) equal monthly payments ranging from \$6 to 240 installments, in multiples of 12.



God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.—(Psalm 46:1)

There are times when even the most aggressive, forceful, self-assured among us must know, in their secret hearts, that their human strength is not enough—that God alone can help them in their trouble. Those who humbly, truly, live within Him "will not fear, though the earth be removed."

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