

Is Durham's Recorder's Court Degenerating?

Judge A. R. Wilson of the Durham Recorder's Court has not always ruled in favor of Negroes in cases brought before him involving persons of both races. That is as it should be, and no fair-minded person of sound mind desires that he or any other jurist will permit the racial identity of a person to influence his decisions. The evidence—and the evidence alone—should be the determining factor of all courts if the rights of the people are to be protected. So long as this is done, respect for law and order will be upheld, and the people of all races, creeds and colors will feel at all times that the strong arm of the law will protect them in their rights as citizens of the United States.

In the recent case in which a white person was charged with spitting on a Negro picket in this city, there is a lingering suspicion, however, that the Durham Recorder's Court is degenerating into a place where justice no longer is entirely decided by the evidence but by one's color or racial identity. If this be true, then the rights of all the people of Durham, as well as those of Negroes, stand in stark jeopardy.

It appears to this newspaper that the judge of the Durham Recorder's Court went out of his way to avoid the evidence in the spitting case when he would not even permit it to be read in his court. Certainly, for a court to hear the evidence of one side of a case without allowing the other side to be presented appears to us violently unfair and unjust. When the judge of the same court goes further and encourages an officer of the law to refuse protection to the person and property of a citizen, as was partially brought out in the matter of the person who attempted to take a picture at the scene of the spitting incident, it is time for every citizen of this community to realize that law and order are in danger of at least coming to a state of degeneration.

According to the daily press reports, Judge Wilson inquired in open court of the officer of the law who was on the scene when the camera was taken from its owner and damaged: "You didn't try to stop Jones, did you?" "No," replied the officer. "Good, I wouldn't have either." Judge Wilson is reported to have then asked, "Is that all there is to this matter?" "Yes," the police lieutenant replied. "Not guilty," the court replied.

But that is not all. This newspaper has learned that the defendant in the case not only spat on the person of the Negro picket but in his face. Instead of an attempt to take the camera, as was reported in the daily press, the instrument was snatched from its

owner and badly damaged in the process. We have reasons to believe, therefore, that not only were two assaults committed, but that had the racial identity of the principals of this most unfortunate incident been reversed that Judge Wilson would have ruled differently. We think when any court, be it Recorder's, Superior or the U. S. Supreme Court, dismisses as trivial an assault of such an aggravated and filthy nature as one involving spitting on the person and in the face of even the most degraded human being, that court has become a menace to the peace, dignity and safety of the citizens it is supposed to serve.

Such a grave offense, we think, has no right to be dismissed as trivial by a court whose authority and power are derived solely from the people—all the people. If such is to be permitted and encouraged, then Durham and every other community are without the protection they should expect from an arm of the law.

It might not be out of place here to let it be known that every respectable Negro citizen of Durham and many of its white citizens are in sympathy with the methods and the objectives for which the protests in the form of picketing and sit-ins have been going on in this and other communities here-of-late. The young men and women employed in thus exercising their right of non-violent protest are schooled, trained and conditioned to take assaults and abuses of indiscreet persons. They are not hoodlums bent on stirring up trouble in this community. They are "dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." Because of this every respectable and law-abiding citizen, whether he agrees with their efforts and objectives or not, expects them to have the protection of every agency of law and order in this city and county. To do otherwise is to give a blank check to hoodlums of all races to wantonly commit assaults upon the person of any citizen they desire. Such a state of affairs could in a moment set off a holocaust here that no decent citizen wishes to see. For it is certain that within the ranks of all groups are persons who under similar circumstances, would not have the restraint to call on the law to settle such a matter.

It is our hope, therefore, that Durham will recover from the staggering blow dealt this community by its Recorder's Court in the spitting case. With this in mind we call upon law-abiding and respectable citizens of both races to keep calm and exercise their influence to promote respect for all persons without regard to race, creed or color.



SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

By REV. HAROLD ROLAND



Discipline is the Price We Pay For Great Spiritual Quality

"I MUST GO ON"
"We begged PAUL to abandon his visit to Jerusalem..." Acts 21:12.

Paul is reminded for the dangers awaiting him at Jerusalem but he says "I MUST GO ON."
There is a compulsive power in holy consecration. This compulsive power is beautifully demonstrated here in Paul's decision to go on to Jerusalem. A soul is really ready for God's blessed service who has this I must spirit. He had given himself to God and now there is no turning back. As a preacher of the word of God's redeeming love he now tells his friends and well wishers I have no other choice—"I MUST GO ON."

We see this spirit in the great souls of the Bible. It was stirred awake in the soul of Moses at the burning bush in the desert wastes that day. It came out in the

Atlanta meeting during the critical days of the integration struggle in Montgomery. The young preacher said with Paul "I MUST GO ON."

Have you ever had one of the I MUST GO ON EXPERIENCES? Here we have the vital test of the righteously committed soul. It comes from the husband or wife in the home. It comes for the teacher in the classroom. It comes for the preacher in the church. It comes for the man trying to build a business.

I just read of it in the case of the leaders of our biggest insurance company in its early struggles of survival. Yes, it comes to individuals in every area of noble worthwhile endeavor. It came to a minister in the struggle for Social Justice and in the dark crisis he could, thank God, say with Paul I must go on. Youth needs to know that if

they would be somebody or do anything they must have this great spiritual quality. Discipline is the price of success. Discipline is at the heart of the Christian religion. We see it in Jesus' call for self denial.

We must choose. Why? Well you cannot have everything. The person who tries to get everything usually ends up losing everything. If you would be an honest human being you must shun thievery.

Thus, you must decide between honesty and dishonesty. It is impossible to have both at the same time. We discipline ourselves in accepting the noble and excluding the ignoble.

In building a life that carries the guarantee or warranty of the Eternal God, we must say with Paul I am going on in pursuit of the highest ideals in spite of dangers.

--Postmaster

Continued from front page

Pohlhouse of Washington, representative.

"If Law is an unfit for service as the Postmaster General alleges, the charges against him should have been sustained," Carter said. "Not to do so is cowardly and dishonorable." The NAACP general counsel expressed the opinion that Day's statement had raised "grave doubts as to his suitability for the cabinet post he holds."

In Washington, Clarence Mitchell, director of the Association's Washington bureau, charged that Day "now reveals that he will use his cabinet post to smear the reputation of a mail carrier who dares to take a stand against discrimination. Day shows by his action that he is unfit for the office he holds."

Mitchell, who has been active throughout the case on behalf of Law, was a witness at the hearing before the departmental grievance committee. He testified that he had been informed by a high postal official that Law was going to be discharged even before formal charges had been made against him.

To Senator Clifford Case (R., N. J.), the Postmaster General's statement was "shocking, offensive to decency and utterly without regard for fair play... a cruel, deliberate effort to beamatch without justification."

--Marshall

Continued from front page

Stevens, General Sessions Judge Thomas Dickens, City Court Judge Francis Rivers, and Chicago Attorney Robert Ming.

Also George Crawford, Sovereign Grand Commander, Supreme Council, Northern Jurisdiction of Prince Hall Masons; Louis E. Martin, Deputy Director of the Democratic National Committee and publisher of the MICHIGAN CHRONICLE; Arthur E. Spingarn, NAACP President, Howard University Law School Dean Spottswood W. Robinson, III, former New York City Police Commissioner; Stephen P. Kennedy and Bishop Stephen Spottswood, Chairman of the NAACP.

Judge Marshall's wife, Cecilia, and his two sons, Thurgood, Jr., 3, and John, 3, were proud onlookers.

Legal Defense Fund General Counsel Jack Greenberg who succeeded Mr. Marshall as head of the Legal Defense Fund, members of the Defense Fund Board, and the entire staff were present.

Before administering the oath of office, Chief Justice J. Edward Lumbard read a brief statement in which he said:

"On behalf of all the judges of this Court, we count ourselves fortunate in that the President has seen fit to fill one of the newly created circuit judgehips by nominating so eminent and knowledgeable a member of our bar as Mr. Thurgood Marshall."

--Founder's Day

Continued from front page

Founder's Day Committee.

Rhyme will deliver the keynote address at 11 a.m. services which will also feature a resolution from the board of trustees officially closing the year-long Golden Anniversary celebration and a ceremony rededicating the college "to the next half-century."

Founder's Day activities will include luncheon and graveside rites at Beechwood Cemetery in commemoration of the late Dr. James E. Shepard, founder and first president of NCC.

as they promised, and to consider everybody can't own a pink Cadillac—or a home with steam heat and air conditions, but they have the same rights to live as you who live on Knobb Hill and the like.

We would all love to live in luxury with lots of good things but we are not all fortunate

--Dignitaries

Continued from front page

Through Conservation and Resource-Use Education Practices" is the theme of the one day meeting, which will attract high school supervisors, principals, teachers, students, and parents from all sections of the state.

Others participating in the program include: Miss Maude E. Freeman, supervisor of Halifax County Schools, Elliott B. Palmer, principal of Lakeview Elementary School of Durham; Mrs. Clara E. Douglas, supervisor of Forsyth County Schools; Mrs. Naomi A. Morgan, president of the Durham Association of Public School Teachers; W. J. Hankins, president of the NCC Student Government; and Mrs. Wilma C. Bryant, Person County High School.

--Speech

Continued from front page.

A native of Raleigh, Judge Delaney stated he was more worried about preserving civil liberties than about rights because of attacks on those liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights.

"Civil liberties must be the foremost of civil rights," he declared. Judge Delaney said further that constitutional freedoms must be assured before civil rights, created by law, can be assured.

Delaney was preceded earlier in the day by a group of speakers at three panels who sounded similar warnings.

The House UnAmerican Activities Committee, by publicly identifying opinions and beliefs of private individuals, has turned society back to parochial days, Frank J. Donner said.

--Rock 'n Roll

Continued from front page

Another officer said he moved into the mob to make an arrest and got bitten on the hand while he was dragging a man off the dance floor.

One of the spectators or dancers, it was reported, ripped Arnold's gun and holster from his belt. The gun was still missing Tuesday.

Arrests were being made early Tuesday morning, but names were not made available.

--Sincerity

Continued from front page

Burnett, Tarboro, Recording Secretary; J. B. Harren, Rocky Mt. Public Relations Director; Miss Lula Smith, Goldsboro, State Youth Secretary; Edward Opton, Jr., President, State Youth Conference and President, Duke University Chapter from Durham; Mrs. G. B. Hamilton, Goldsboro.

--Dentists

Continued from front page

Clain Victoria Jyner, Daisy Gunn, Annie Gilmore, Evelyn McKissick, Thelma Parrish, Mearlene Johnson, Alberta Pitts, Lernaie Weaver, Gladys Faucette, Elizabeth Knight, Rebecca Ford, C. D. Brown, Millie Williams, Cornetta Williams, Alice Davis, Flora Stevens, Jean Washington, Lula Finch, Mosell Pettiford, Bessie Pratt, Margaret Gillis, Hortense McClint, Lotys Owen and Ruth Betts.

--Band

Continued from front page

and listen to the performance of North Carolina College's band. A writer for an afternoon daily asked wonderingly, "When have I seen this happen before?"

Enough. Although if little or big, we like to feel that we are a part of our town and country in which we live.

That, my friends, is the one version which has held the Constitution of the people together— for this, we hope!

R. S. Pridgen

Welfare of All Citizens At Stake In Bond Issue

At stake in the bond issue to be voted on next Tuesday is the progress of all the citizens of North Carolina. It is our hope that Negro voters will take the broader view of the effort being made to lift this state to the level of other progressive commonwealths and vote for all of the 10 proposals involved in the bond issue. Let it never be said that Negro voters and citizens of the state stood in the way of its progress by failing to cast their votes in favor of a measure that no person of sound judgement can truthfully say will not mean a step forward.

We agree with those who complain that Negro citizens are consistently denied their full share of the benefits to be derived from taxes and other public funds. It is our opinion that the governor and other state officials should be emphatically informed that Negro voters are supporting the bond issue with the full knowledge that beyond the level of janitors, maids and other menial employment they are on the outside looking in. In other

words, they will vote for the bond issue with their eyes wide open.

When it is considered that there is not one Negro stenographer, clerk or bookkeeper employed in a single courthouse, city hall or state building in North Carolina and that Negroes are barred from such jobs as the state highway patrol and the National Guard, it is going to take a broad concept of the matter for members of the race to cast their ballots for a measure that from all intent and purpose would perpetuate such a state of affairs rather than diminish it.

We think Negro voters should support the bond issue and then give no quarter in demanding a bigger share in the benefits to be derived from it and all other public funds. With this in mind we urge Negro voters of the state to go to polls on next Tuesday and vote for the bond issue. By so doing they will take the high road which places the welfare of all the citizens of the state above that of their own.

A Second Look At the Postmaster

This newspaper shares the outrage of the NAACP over the manner in which the United States Postmaster General has handled the case involving Savannah, Georgia postman W. Wesley Law. Practically every responsible person familiar with the case has described the action of Postmaster General J. Edward Day as shocking.

The Postmaster General reinstated Mr. Law as a mail carrier in Savannah after he had been fired from his job by the Savannah postal authorities. But he did so in a most pernicious way. Mr. Day said he was reinstating Mr. Law "with regret," described the Savannah postman as "inevitable," and declared he would not want a man like Mr. Law delivering mail to his home.

If Mr. Day really believes this and has some integrity left, he should have supported the

firing of Mr. Law. If he does not believe this, then he is guilty of assassinating the character of an innocent government employee. In either case, his action deserves the attention of president Kennedy. It is difficult to believe that the President would want to keep a cabinet member who has such little integrity or who stoops to slander.

The Negro must also evidence a sense of responsibility. America was born with a race problem, and the Negro is charged by history with part of the responsibility to eliminate that social cancer. The Negro discharges this responsibility by adopting the liberal view, by acting in every way to eliminate all artificial limitations upon the minds and hearts of all men.—From "The Act and Art of Being a Negro," by Louis Lomax in THE URBANITE.

Welfare Aid Helps Divorced Mother of Three Finish College

(This is the 5th of a series explaining public welfare in North Carolina)

Today's case history from the files of North Carolina's county departments of public welfare is another example of how the aid to dependent children program helps families become independent. Aid to dependent children is a money payment for needy dependent children who have been deprived of parental care and support because of the death, physical or mental incapacity or continued absence from the home of one or both parents, whether natural, step or adoptive.

When Doris and her husband separated five years ago, she was left with three small children to support. The only work she could get was domestic labor and her earnings were not sufficient to provide for her family. She was eligible to receive an aid to dependent children—payment from the public welfare office. Doris continued working as a domestic, but all the while she was turning over in her mind the idea of possibly attending college. She had completed her high school education before marriage.

She discussed the idea of going to college with her caseworker from the county department of public welfare and received much encouragement. The caseworker was instrumental in securing a scholarship for Doris at the junior college in the city where she was living. Also the caseworker's own sorority helped Doris by providing some money to help her when new financial difficulties arose. Doris was able to attend classes at night and continue her work as a domestic during the day. She successfully completed

Letter to the Editor

We, the people of Durham, are sending a letter of question to our City and County Government along with over one thousand petitioners.

We want to see if we still have a free Government by the people, for the people, and of the people, or do we have a Gestapo Government?

"DO WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE?"

It hasn't been long since our good office holders said and I quote:

"Elect me because I am for you—the people."

So we elected them on merit of justification of word, and now we find we are being neglected for the sole purpose to support big industries and large businesses.

We find that the people own the Welfare and the so-called "Little man" who has barely enough to live on, are having to help support the big billionaires in their big enterprises.

We ask each and every one of our citizens today—"would you be a popular American today, having your loved one's homes taken in for taxes, and water discontinued because you felt that they should pay part of some billionaire's tax, which says he can't live without, or if you don't make your dear old mother or Dad give part of his disability check, or his welfare check in helping pay his tax or excessive water bill, he will have to discontinue employing a few people which have been making him thousands of dollars each year.

That we find in him is not American citizen, but one that would do everything to get a disabilities crust of bread.

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