

No Basic Change in North Carolina's Ex-Governor

Since North Carolina's former Governor Luther Hodges has been elevated to President Kennedy's cabinet as U. S. Secretary of Commerce, it is hard for Negro leaders in his state to determine whether he is a "man with two faces looking in opposite directions" — a chameleon with the power to change his color in accordance with the wind, or a bareback circus performer who is able to ride two horses at the same time.

Secretary Hodges' recent speeches in Chicago, Washington and elsewhere on the matter of giving equal employment and educational opportunities to Negroes in the South are a far cry from what Hodges advocated for Negroes when he was governor of North Carolina. It will be recalled that this same man appealed to the more than one million Negro citizens of this state to accept "voluntary segregation" rather than contend for integration in public schools. The then-governor of North Carolina, instead of using the power of his office to advocate compliance with the 1954 ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court on segregation in public schools, did just the opposite.

A Look at the Old and New Year

The year 1961 is fast coming to a close and it might not be a bad idea for the more than one million Negroes of North Carolina to take stock as to what they have accomplished along all lines of endeavor as they face the new year. They will need to look at the situation as it now is and not as it was. It is to be some five, ten or fifteen years from now. In spite of a few gains made in interstate travel, public eating places and education, the overall picture, as we see it, shows little if any change for the better over that of the previous year.

EMPLOYMENT

On the employment front in government, industry, business and elsewhere Negroes of North Carolina have barely scratched the surface. Even in many stores where they constitute a majority or a larger percentage of the customers, qualified members of the race continue to be overlooked when the hiring is done, except on a token basis. In most instances even their token employment is confined to that of janitors, porters, maids and the such. The employment of Negroes as bookkeepers, clerks and stenographers in federal, state, county and municipal government is so rare that it may as well be considered as non-existent. Here in Durham where the N. C. Employment Commission has recently been housed in a brand new pretentious and commodious building the few Negro employees are isolated in a segregated section as though they were lepers afflicted with some other loathsome disease. In spite of the fact that part of the funds which sustain the Commission is obtained from the federal government, the Negro employees are not only segregated but are confined entirely to servicing or waiting on members of their own race.

POLITICS

Politically, Negroes of the state have received no major appointments under the pres-

delegation Hodges raised such a howl that he was assured by the Kennedy forces that if the latter were elected Hodges would be taken care of. Thus the appointment of the former S. C. governor to the position of U. S. Secretary of Commerce. Negro leaders also need to be reminded that Hodges recently attended a segregated Democratic rally in South Carolina and maneuvered himself out of the embarrassing situation in the national Democratic administration by declaring afterwards, with his tongue in his cheek, that he did not know the meeting was segregated. Negro leaders will also need to remember that there is still a question mark hovering over Hodges' ownership or part ownership in the segregated Howard-Johnson restaurants located in the Durham-Southern Pines areas of North Carolina. There is strong evidence that the U. S. Secretary of Commerce has not actually held his interest in the restaurants to his former gubernatorial administrative assistant but that the transfer, if made at all, is in reality only a straw title.

Secretary Hodges' recent pronouncement in a speech before a Jewish audience that he has gone to Washington where he can fight race prejudice does not impress this newspaper. If race prejudice is wrong and one has a conviction that it is wrong, he should have the moral courage to fight it wherever he finds it. We rather think pressure from the top of the Kennedy administration has forced Hodges to speak out against discrimination and other injustices against Negroes and other racial minorities.

We do not believe that on the race question that there is any basic change in the philosophy of Hodges as U. S. Secretary of Commerce from that of Hodges as governor of North Carolina. Once he is back on southern soil as a permanent fixture, it is our opinion that he will be doing business at the same old stand of white supremacy.


ent Democratic administration, in spite of the fact that it was their vote in 1960 that saved North Carolina from electing a Republican as governor. Instead of political appointments of financial benefit, the present administration, like its predecessors, has attempted to appease Negroes by appointing them only to non-paying positions thus overlooking them when the financial political plans are being handed out. To off-set the lack of recognition that the state Democratic administration has dealt its Negro constituency, leaders of the race are now looking wishfully and longingly in the direction of the national administration in Washington in the hope that at least an assistant solicitor appointment will come their way before the 1962 political campaign gets started. They admit that if something isn't done, it is going to be hard to explain to the mass of Negro voters just why they should continue to vote the Democratic ticket in North Carolina when the race is always overlooked when the financial political appointments are being handed out.

EDUCATION

On the education front the picture is practically no brighter. Instead of compliance with the 1954 U. S. Supreme Court ruling on segregation in the public schools, token integration appears to be the rule, and that only in the larger urban centers. The fact remains that in North Carolina, over seven years after the momentous Supreme Court decision, not a single rural school has made one step toward integration. If there is any glimmer of hope in the field of education, it has been in several of the state's white religious educational institutions that have finally opened their door to Negroes. Even here too much enthusiasm must not be engendered in this direction, and it might be sensible to recognize the fact that even in this area the accepted pattern also appears to admit Negroes only on a token basis or just enough to appease the consciences of the state's white religious leaders.

Thus, instead of a let up or slowing down of their efforts to obtain full integration or acceptance into the main stream of the life of the state, there must be a quickening or a more determined effort on the part of Negroes to continue the struggle on every front and by every group and individual. The year 1962 forbodes no easement or surrender by the forces of segregation even though they know and admit they are fighting a losing battle. Instead they intend to make a last ditch stand to hold back the onrushing tide of freedom that is now sweeping the earth.

Things You Should Know



Sojourner TRUTH

BORN ISABELLA BAUMFEE, ABOUT 1750
OWNED BY A DUTCHMAN LYING IN N.Y. — WHILE YOUNG SHE WAS SOLD MANY TIMES. IN 1827 N.Y. STATE FREED ALL ITS SLAVES BY LAW. SHE GOT FREE AND LATER FREED HER FIVE-YEAR OLD SON THRU' COURT PROCEEDINGS. IN 1843 SHE DECIDED TO TRAVEL TEACHING AND PREACHING FOR ABOLITION, TEMPERANCE, PRISON REFORM, WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS / SHE WAS DEEPLY RELIGIOUS AND HER SPEECHES MOVED THOUSANDS!

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT By REV. HAROLD ROLAND

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Has The Power To Shake Cities, Nations

"The whole city was in turmoil." Acts 21:30.
Crusaders for righteousness may set a city on edge. Paul the flaming preacher of the Gospel had set the city of Jerusalem in a state of exciting and confusing turmoil. Here we have a dramatic clash between the forces of the old order and the new order of redemption that Jesus had come to bring into being. One man under the influence of a Holy Passion had turned a city upside down. A city was confronted by a new-born soul in Jesus Christ. We see a storm in Jerusalem centered around the Apostle Paul a crusading preacher of the Gospel. In the Gospel of Jesus there is the power of a NEW LIFE. The old city was afraid of this power of the new life that Jesus the crucified and risen one had let loose in the world. Just think of the power of this preacher of the Gospel of Jesus, our Savior. "The whole city was in turmoil."
There is a transforming power in the Gospel. Truly this Gospel is the power of God Almighty unto salvation. The old order could not rest contented in the presence of the very embodiment of this power of the new life. The preacher himself was an example of the power of this new life in Christ. They knew the power of the new life in Christ had made this same Paul a flaming crusader for Jesus. Thus the very presence of the preacher threw them into a tumultuous state of fearful excitement. One God-inspired man had thrown the city into a state of turbulence and turmoil. The preacher is thus marked as an agitator or disturber of the peace. This Gospel is indeed a disturber of men in the complacency of their sinfulness. This Gospel is a dynamite in the midst of the hardness and cruelty of our sins. This Gospel is transformation, regeneration and new life for sinful men and systems.
This Gospel makes a new man and a new community. This Gospel redeems the sinful soul. This Gospel dies us up from the depths of sin and gives us a new life. It moves us from a state of sin to a state of Grace. Only God's amazing Grace can save a sinful soul. The old city was afraid of the new man and the new life that he brought. I just read the story the other day of a city that had sunk down deep in the mire of sin and corruption over the stretch of the years. And then one day someone found that the youth of this city was being corrupted in the black holes and huts of evil. Three crusaders for a new life came forward and brought reform and new life to this sin infested community. Thank God the Gospel can make a new man and a new community.
Christ is the hope of you and your city. The new man can bring in the new city. What about your city? Should you as a Christian become a disturber of your city in some of its sinful manifestations? Paul stood boldly for Jesus. Are you standing boldly for Jesus in your community? Had you ever thought about this? What about those corrupting influences in your city? Are any young people being destroyed by evil in your community? Well, its time for you to think about this? Some body needs to stand up and awaken the community from its complacent, sinful sleep. Christians have the God-given task of making the new man who in turn can make the new community.
Remember God wants you to awaken and help save the city or town in which you live. Jane Adams awakened the city of Chicago some sixty years ago God wrought wonders in this city with just one woman.

Their Savings Depleted, Elderly Sisters Get Help From Welfare

(This is the 7th of a series explaining public welfare in North Carolina)
How old age assistance, one of the major financial aid programs of public welfare in North Carolina, helped two aged sisters live more satisfying life after they outlived their savings, is a typical case history in which you will be interested.
These two ladies, both over 80 years old, never married. In their younger days both taught school. Though their salaries were low, both managed to save a little money after paying their taxes. As their parents grew old, their farm became rundown and when the parents died the farm was in a bad state of repair, for it had not been cultivated for years. A series of illnesses used up the sisters' savings. There were no relatives to come to their aid, and the two old ladies, proud but poor, had but a few dollars left in their bank account when they realized that theirs was indeed a serious situation.
They met the eligibility requirements for old age assistance. Both are over 65 years of age. They are not married because they do not have the essential requirements for daily living. They are not living in a public institution, and are not patients in an institution for tuberculosis or mental diseases. And they have residents of North Carolina for the past year and actually their entire lives. Under North Carolina law, they were required to give a lien on the farm or any other property which they might acquire. Upon their death, an assistance paid to them will constitute a claim against the estate.
These two elderly sisters did not come to the county department of public welfare to ask for help. Concerned neighbors, who knew of their financial plight, reported the case to the county department of public welfare. A caseworker visited these two old ladies and found that the condition was even worse than had been reported. They were given immediate aid, which will make it possible for them to live out their remaining years in minimum comfort and with dignity.
Old age assistance provided a money payment in the form of a check for needy aged persons who meet eligibility requirements under law.
These eligibility requirements for old age assistance are fully explained in a leaflet titled "Old Age Assistance" and public welfare services for the aged are described in a booklet leaflet. Both are available at your county department of public welfare or from the State Board of Public Welfare in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Veterans Questions and Answers

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 too late for a disabled World War II veteran to receive vocational rehabilitation?
A—Disabled World War II veterans must have completed their vocational rehabilitation by July 25, 1960, except in cases (a) where the veteran was too seriously disabled to have begun earlier, (b) in cases where the veteran received an original discharge barring him from training, but whose discharge later was changed to make him eligible, or (c) in certain cases where the veteran was late in establishing his service-connected disability.
Q—What is considered wartime service during World War I?
A—Service between April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918. For those who served with the U. S. Military Forces in Russia, the period is from 1920.
Q—I have a GI loan. Can I get an amortization table from the VA so I can keep track of my interest, balance, etc., to facilitate my financial planning?
A—No, the VA does not have these tables. You might consult your lender.
Q—How many U. S. troops were killed in World War I as compared with World War II?
A—There were 131,000 deaths in service during World War I and 408,000 in World War II.

Letters To The Editor

ASKS HELP FOR BRAGGTOWN LIBRARY

Dear Friend:
A society's development is often determined by its cultural offerings. In a society such as that of the Durham Community the citizenry cannot afford to do any less than to make available every possible cultural facility and outlet for its people.
Thus, in sections where the population becomes dense, such as that of the Braggtown area, there arises great need for these facilities and outlets. It then becomes the duty of every friend and every resident of both Durham and the Braggtown area to pool their resources in developing Braggtown's facilities.
The Braggtown Library Committee and the Braggtown Community Organization are putting on a special drive to secure and to maintain a public library in the Braggtown Community. Though located in the Braggtown-Mill Grove area this facility will be available to the general public and to all who desire to make use of same.
This is your chance to share in the development of our Durham Community; this is your opportunity to contribute to a worthwhile cause for which you can see the results of your gifts; this is your chance to help curbe juvenile and adult delinquency; and to upgrade the cultural level of our community.
Won't you give? Any amount will aid in the construction. The more generous the offering the more rapid the construction. Your contributions are income tax deductible.
Walter Williams Braggtown.

SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Dear Editor:
This Sunday, December 10, our nation observes Human Rights Day. The United Nations has declared that liberty, equality and justice are the birthright of all men and women. In essence, these rights can be summed up in the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Since this rule for personal relations, though worded differently, is a basic teaching of all the world's great religions, it would seem unnecessary to write it into a legal code of laws. Yet it has proved so difficult that it is uncertain when the UN Covenant on Human Rights will come into force. Everyone likes to consider these rights as his birthright, but there are people and governments who, while demanding them for themselves, deny them to others especially if of a different race, culture, color or religion.
It is our belief that human rights can only be established in terms of social status when members of the community think about reciprocal responsibilities and obligations such as men to women, woman to man, employer to employees, employees to employer, administrators to society, society to administrators, whether local, national or international, as responsibilities owed to God, to society and to one's self.
One front, members of the Bahai Faith, is now conducting a world crusade to make these relationships a social reality rather than allowing them to remain only as a personal psychological experience.
Carlotta Holmes, Secretary Bahai's of Durham.

Group Proposes Unique Way For Persons To Have Retirement Choice

If Social Security permitted retirement at age 60 with an income of \$200 a month, plus \$100 for each dependent of any age, at least five million working Americans would retire, unemployment would drop dramatically, welfare would dwindle, contributions to unemployment compensation funds could be drastically reduced, and the nation's business climate would get healthy again.
This is the target chosen by SIXTY NOW, non-profit corporation chartered as a national organization in May in Columbus, Ohio, by a group in Toledo.
With a minimum of fanfare and publicity, SIXTY NOW has grown in thirteen weeks of operation to a membership of over 10,000.
Most of these are in the Toledo area, where SIXTY NOW originated, but memberships are coming in daily, by mail, from 17 states.
Although SIXTY NOW is not a trade union movement, it was given a flying start with union contributions and support.
The ideas on which SIXTY NOW were founded have been in discussion, in one way or another, all over the country for several years; and the actual organization was a spontaneous decision by a group of pensioners, union members, and public spirited citizens to try coordinate several widely held beliefs.
Those who have retired, or about to retire, have discovered that Social Security benefits average slightly more than \$73.00 per month. Without some sort of supplement, either from union pensions, annuities, or substantial savings, this is not enough to live on.
Those who have suffered long layoffs, or who have seen their seniority protection shrink as unemployment rises, have noted the fact that millions of workers who would like to retire can't afford to do so, and millions who would like to find job's can't find them.
This, in their view, puts this "idleness" at the wrong end of the age bracket.
Much attention has been paid to the question of whether or not early retirement is a danger or a boon to workers.
Compulsory retirement, as such, appears, in the opinion of many to be a definite health hazard. Sudden separation from a daily job at an advanced age (the annual average age of retirement is 68) seems to be a serious risk.
Those who advocate retirement at 60, with an income of a couple of \$300 a month, argue that such retirement might very well tend to make for a healthy and enjoyable old age. At 60, many physically active, with a wide variety of interests, well able to make an adjustment to retirement and gain benefit from it.

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