

Negro Theatre Being "Loved To Death" Says Holder in "Show"

The socially conscious, claims Geoffrey Holder in the March issue of SHOW Magazine (due on newsstands Thursday, Feb. 22) are loving the Negro theatre to death.

And the credit - or discredit - for starting the smothering affectionate trend, says the celebrated actor-dancer-painter, goes to none other than Adlai Stevenson, our Ambassador to the United Nations.

In his tart, taut articles in SHOW, Holder states indignantly that "it is a fact that the recent African trend in the theatre has been practically killed by kindness - a sort of cockeyed charity which assumes that any artistic endeavor involving Negroes must be rapturously praised, and shielded from impartial criticism."

The result, he claims, is that terrible shows get produced merely because they have Negro characters and - or themes. The "turkeys" fail, of course, but not without doing serious damage to the occasional good Negro show that comes along, and to the Negro theatrical pictorial in general.

Specifically, Holder names three shows which made up "the K. K. K. season: 'Kicks and Co.', 'Kwamina', and 'King Kong.'" The first two, he claims, were disasters; the third deserved to live. But it died, a victim of guilt-by-association.

The pernicious Afro trend, Holder claims in SHOW, started when Ambassador Stevenson chose to decorate his UN offices in "what might be described as Dark Continental," and jocularly quipped, "It's all Africa this year." Suddenly, as Holder puts it, "people began to take their cues from him. Confounding the Keenlin by being kind to Africans became as contagious as the Twist."

Public kindness is not limited

to Negro theatre alone. It also applies to Negroes, period. Holder sardonically relates his own experience in adulation, when he was retained to do the choreography for an off-Broadway debacle called "Brouhaha." His choreography was scrapped before the opening, but Holder's name on the program, and the color of his skin, won him rapturous notices in the midst of some of the worst reviews of the season.

"What does a Negro performer have to do to get panned?" asks Holder, "join the Communist Party?"

As a serious artist, he objects as strenuously to unfair praise as he would to unfair blame. With all the "kindness, self-consciousness, sincerity, soul-seriousness, and solemnity" being stickily poured upon them, both the American Negro theatre and the American Negro artist are "sick unto death."

Charge La. Officials With "Illegal Arrests"

ATLANTA, Ga. — The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee today charged that Baton Rouge, Louisiana officials are "illegally arresting" members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee on "trumped-up charges."

Charles McDew, SNCC Chairman, and Robert Zellner, a white SNCC Field Secretary, were arrested Saturday evening, February 17, by East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney S. Pitcher after they visited another SNCC Field Secretary in the East Baton Rouge Parish Jail.

The two SNCC workers were originally charged with "vagrancy," McDew said, but Attorney Johnnie Jones of Baton Rouge told the SNCC office in Atlanta that the charge against them had

NCC Has Special Program For The "Slow Learner"

Although the emphasis at North Carolina College, as elsewhere, is on the gifted child, considerable attention is being paid to the "slow learner" in a program especially designed for that purpose.

Mrs. Octavia B. Knight, assistant professor of education at NCC, is in charge of the program for "slow learners," which operates at the graduate level.

According to Mrs. Knight, 15 to 18 percent of the school children in the United States fall in the "slow learner" category.

"They learn fundamentally the same way other pupils learn," Mrs. Knight says, "but they do not think or reason as well as the less imaginative and less able to see the consequences of their actions."

Thus, the program at NCC concentrates on imparting methods of "slow teaching," which Mrs. Knight describes as "the repetitive presentation of facts."

At the same time, she says, an attempt is made to increase the speed of intake for the slow learner.

With these two emphasis in mind, the courses of instruction are centered around unit planning, planning of useful materials and aids for teachers and students, and the grouping of children who have special education needs.

For the most part, persons registered in the course for slow learners are in-service teachers. Because of the college's concern for work in this area, Mrs. Knight says, funds are available for scholarships and other types of financial assistance.

CORE Leader Charged With Criminal Anarchy

BATON ROUGE, La. — Baton Rouge CORE Chairman Ronnie Moore was charged with "criminal anarchy" by the district attorney here this week. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years at hard labor.

District Judge Fred S. Leblanc dismissed a plea for a habeas corpus hearing sought by attorneys in a trespassing against Moore, in an attempt to lower a \$3,000 bond they said was excessive.

Moore is chairman of the CORE chapter that lead the December 15 mass march of some 2,500 students of all-Negro Southern University. A student, Moore was charged with trespassing on the campus on January 18.

His arrest came on the afternoon the University announced that it was temporarily closed down.

No bond was set on the new criminal anarchy charge. The East Baton Rouge parish district attorney said in his charge that between December 8, 1961 and January 18, 1962, Moore violated a state law against criminal anarchy, in that he "advocated in public and in private opposition to the government of the state of Louisiana by unlawful means, and as a member of the Congress of Racial Equality, an organization known to the offender to advocate, teach and practice opposition to the government of the state of Louisiana by unlawful means."

New Bern Deltas Plan Jabberwock

The New Bern Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will present its Annual Jabberwock on March 2, 1962, at St. Joseph's High School Hall, New Bern, N. C. The theme will be "Protection 62" and the program will feature the North Carolina College Dance Group of Durham, N. C. Contestants for the "Miss Jabberwock" contest have been selected from various high schools in the cities of Williamston, New Bern, and the counties of Jones, Pamlico, and Craven. Proceeds will go towards the chapters Scholarship Fund.

been raised to "criminal anarchy." "Criminal anarchy" was described by Attorney Jones as "an attempt to overthrow the government of Louisiana," and carries a ten year sentence. Both are being held on \$7000 bond.



GET SEARS ROEBUCK SCHOLARSHIPS — Dr. B. C. Webb, left, dean of the A. and T. College School of Agriculture, presents Sears Roebuck freshman scholarship awards

to McArthur Newell, Jacksonville; James Carlton Kearney and Alice J. Key, both of Tarboro; Willie Frank Faison, Clinton, and Alexander Dawson, Belhaven. The presentations were made last week at the Annual Sears Roebuck Scholarship Awards Program at A. and T.

Stores Take Steps For Integrating Sales Personnel

GREENSBORO — A number of downtown retail stores here are taking first steps toward integration of sales personnel. Several, including the four largest, have agreed to a March 31 deadline.

Leonard Guyes has served as chief spokesman for the retailers in negotiations with Negro leaders that began last fall. Guyes said his own firm, Grago-Guyes, is among those committed to the March 31 deadline.

A spokesman said that the stores which did not accept the March 31 deadline include several smaller retailers which would have to expand their staffs - whether business justified or not - to comply. He said they have agreed to give equal consideration to Negro applicants as openings develop.

The city's four largest department stores, which are among those committed to hire Negro sales personnel by March 31, are Ellis Stone, Sears Roebuck, Belks, and Meyers. Kress and Woolworth stores also were in this group.

Organizations representing the Negroes in talks were local units of the NAACP, CORE and the Greensboro Citizens Association, which is composed of Negro business and professional leaders.

Marr Cancels Tour To Record With Singer Nancy Wilson

WHEN HANK MARR, heard that vocalist Nancy Wilson wanted him to accompany her during a waxing session in their Columbus, Ohio home town, the nuptial organist cancelled an eastern tour that had been planned to promote his newest recordings, "Your Magic Touch" and "Twist Serenade."

Federal Court to Hear Case of Alabama's Attempt to Oust CORE

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A suit brought by the state of Alabama to prevent CORE from operating in the state has been transferred to U. S. District Court.

U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson refused a motion by the State of Alabama to remand

the case to the state courts. Judge Johnson has set March 19 as the date for a hearing on the CORE motion to dissolve the temporary restraining order and injunction.

The suit was transferred from state court on the petition of attorney Charles Conley after Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones issued a temporary restraining order forbidding CORE to carry on activities in Alabama.

Judge Jones ruled shortly after the secretary of state, Mrs. Bettye Frink, refused to accept an application seeking to qualify CORE as a corporation eligible to do business in Alabama. Mrs. Frink conferred with Governor John Patterson before rejecting the CORE application.

Conley contends that the rejection by Mrs. Frink was beyond her discretion and the Alabama laws require her to accept such petitions.



GETS NEWSPAPER SCHOLARSHIP — Tommy Gaddie, editor of the award winning A. and T. COLLEGE REGISTER, the student newspaper from throughout the nation to receive a Reader's Digest Scholarship, full expenses paid, to attend the 4th annual Editors' Conference on International Relations. The conference held at Overseas Press Club in New York City, February 9-12, drew newspaper editors from nearly 250 colleges and universities. Gaddie, a senior and majoring in mechanical engineering, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Gaddie of Hops Mills, N. C.

Former Theology Teacher Speaks At Livingstone

SALISBURY — "Christian colleges are surrounded by many new frontiers," Dr. John H. Satterwhite, minister of Trinity A. M. E. Zion Church and professor of Eccumenics and Systematic Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D. C., told the annual Week of Prayer audiences at Livingstone College here last week, "but the most unexplored of all frontiers is that of a loving fellowship. And he went on to say that services like this "Week of Prayer have as their purpose to explore this frontier. The call is for a living faith to win back the church's lost provinces: the campus, young people, and labor."

Speaking twice daily during the week, Dr. Satterwhite used the theme, "A Committed Fellowship of Christian Scholars", and endeavored to show that the church college is a force of committed persons who truly care for God, for the church, and for other people. "Its purpose," he declared, "is to revitalize the church and to transform society."

Admonishing "students and faculty to seize the high meaning of commitment in the intellectual community, the speaker's messages underscored three compelling commandments, "to be systematic, to be inclusive, and to be open-minded."

Dr. Satterwhite was for nearly fifteen years professor of religion and theology and Dean of the Hood Theological Seminary at Livingstone College before he accepted his present positions in Washington, D. C.

ONLY ONE MANAGER
SOLOMON BURKE, the Atlantic Records star of "Cry To Me" fame, asked that a correction be made about Phyllis Deejay Kae Williams buying a piece of his personal management contract. "Mikki Lea is still my only personal manager," he said, "and nothing's been signed with Kae, who was my first manager. But I will say that we've been doing some talking over the matter."

Winston-Salem Church Marks Founder's Day on February 11

WINSTON-SALEM — Founder's Day was celebrated at St. James M. E. Church in Winston-Salem Sunday, Feb. 11 at the regular 11 O'clock worship service.

Attorney Richard Erwin, member of the St. Paul A. M. E. church and member of the Winston-Salem school board, was guest speaker. He told the audience that the church is facing the greatest challenge in the annals of church history.

Attorney Werin was introduced by Car Russell, trustee of

St. James. Dr. Clyde Knight outlined the history of St. James during the program. St. James is Winston-Salem's oldest Negro church. It was founded in 1877.

Others participating on the program were Mrs. Florric Russell, who was guest soloist with the St. James senior choir, N. B. Ferguson, Jr., who presided, and Dr. M. Arthur Camper, minister.

The program was sponsored by the St. James Layman's League.

North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles says when a traffic accident occurs, you can be almost certain some

violation of the law was involved. When you know and obey the traffic laws, you're not likely to be in an accident.

Ga. Governor Refuses to Grant Rights Group Requests to Halt Bias

ATLANTA, Ga. — The leaders of two anti-segregation organizations asked Georgia Governor E. Ernest Vandiver this week to issue an executive order "which will declare that segregation in the State of Georgia is illegal and contrary to the best interests of the United States."

In a conference with the Georgia governor, Jas. Foreman, Executive Secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Charles A. Black, Chairman of the Committee on Appeal For Human Rights asked him to veto a bill that would ban unauthorized demonstration on state property.

The SNCC and COAHR leaders had tried to enter the Governor's office early in the afternoon, but were halted by a Georgia State Trooper. While they were talking with the policeman, an unidentified man came out of the governor's office and asked them if he could help them. COAHR Chairman Black told the man that they had a letter for the Governor, and the man admitted them to the office. Vandiver came out of his chamber and the two introduced themselves to him. They entered his inner office and presented the letter to him. The letter was signed by Black and SNCC

Chairman McDew. Vandiver read the letter and said "You want me to do two things: veto a bill and abolish segregation in Georgia." Vandiver said that their request that he outlaw segregation in the state was "ridiculous." He said that segregation in Georgia "is a custom, and a tradition 100 years old." He also said that he would not veto the anti-picket bill. Foreman asked Vandiver if the anti-demonstration measure would affect students at white and Negro state schools who wanted to stage a campus parade. "It might very well," the Governor said, "if they plan to demonstrate."

The Georgia chief executive was asked if the bill would apply to labor union pickets in other Georgia cities, who might not be able to contact the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for a demonstration permit as the bill requires. Vandiver said that if any of the three were unavailable, "They would just have to wait."

As the two anti-segregation leaders were leaving his office, they heard Vandiver ask an assistant to "give me a copy of that bill." He signed the measure into law shortly after they left.

Supreme Court Decision in La. May Affect N. C.'s Pearsall Plan

There is considerable speculation among Durham Negro leaders whether the recent Louisiana Supreme Court decision will have any effect on the outcome of two Durham city school reassignment cases now awaiting decision in Middle District Court and North Carolina's Pearsall Plan, designed to keep school integration at a minimum.

Durham attorneys involved in the two reassignment cases declined to comment on the effect the decision might have on the local cases, but expressed hope that the Louisiana case might serve as a standard.

Explaining attorneys' reluctance to comment on the situation, W. A. Marsh, one of the lawyers in the case, said, "We want to see if the Louisiana law has any similarity to our law in North Carolina. We would have to get a copy of the opinion to determine this."

Other legal sources opinionated that both state statutes are practically alike and that if a suit was brought against the

Pearsall plan, the Louisiana case would determine the outcome. However, said these sources, there would be some question whether the Louisiana case would affect the reassignment cases.

The Supreme Court last week upheld the decision of three lower court judges who ruled that Louisiana's plan for closing schools rather than integrating was not valid.

North Carolina's Pearsall Plan also gives the authority to close schools. The Plan, in effect, states that a child of any race cannot be made to go to a school with another child of an opposite race, and can apply for a tuition grant to attend a private school.

The Plan was adopted just after the Supreme Court decision of 1954 for the purpose of maintaining a segregated school system in this state.

The pupil reassignment cases were brought to federal court after nearly three hundred Durham school children sought See AFFECT, page 6-B

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