

North Carolina's Low Wage Scale

A recent Associated Press report discloses that North Carolina during the month of November was tied with Mississippi for last place in the nation in factory wages paid. Now, when any state ties with Mississippi for anything, it holds a most unenviable position in the United States. Without trying to put our finger exactly on the reason for the disgraceful position held by North Carolina, we only say that whatever it takes to rise above Mississippi should be resorted to.

If there are those among the citizens of North Carolina who feel a bit of shame because their state has tied for last place with Mississippi, we say to them, take courage. The previous month North Carolina was actually on the bottom with Mississippi being a cent above it. It might also be of further concern to those of this state to learn that South Carolina workers were four cents above the hourly wages paid workers in this state and that Alabama topped all states of the Southeast with an average hourly wage of \$2.05.

Whatever the actual reasons, we are of the opinion that at the bottom of the low hourly

wage to be found in North Carolina is the fact that it is one of the few southern states in which Negroes are used to a great extent as factory laborers. A close check on the wages paid Negro factory workers in comparison with those paid white factory workers might disclose that the latter are better paid and overall hourly rate is therefore pulled down by the low wages paid the Negro worker. It is also a well-known fact that North Carolina is one of the few southern states in which Negro workers are not confined almost entirely to the farm and other menial work where the wages are the very lowest and consequently not figured in the hourly pay of factory workers.

We think organized labor has a job to do in the South that cannot be done under its present practice of having segregated unions, especially where Negro and white workers work side by side and are doing the same work. Such a policy always tends to weaken the overall program of labor and in the end is certain to result in a low wage scale, especially here in North Carolina, for both the white and Negro worker.

NAACP Victory Before U. S. High Court No Surprise

The ruling handed down Monday by the U. S. Supreme Court to the effect that the aid provided by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in integration suits is a form of political expression which the states cannot curb evokes no surprise to this newspaper. It is in line with the many favorable decisions won by the NAACP in appeals before the nation's highest tribunal in the field of civil rights cases and proves once again that the NAACP is truly the guardian of democracy in this country in speaking for the majority of the court, Justice William J. Brennan said: "We hold that the activities of the NAACP, its affiliates and legal staff shown on this record are modes of expression and association protected by the First and Fourteenth Amendments which Virginia may not prohibit."

It is not hard to visualize what America would be, in the area of civil rights and human dignity for all its minority citizens had it not been for the NAACP. It without doubt is the one organization that has stood in the

way of the southern states' having a field day in preventing the advancement of Negroes educationally, politically and economically under the pretense of exercising what is commonly referred to as state's rights. Monday's ruling which struck down a Virginia law which barred the NAACP from providing lawyers and underwriting the costs in suits brought in civil rights actions should give the NAACP a freer hand in its fight in behalf of minority groups all over the nation.

Under the "separate but equal" practice southern states, parading under the cloak of states rights, committed with a free hand all kinds of injustices against Negroes. They were always most careful to see to it that the "separate" part of the transaction was carried out to the letter of the law while the "equal" part of it was seldom if ever provided. Especially was this true in the field of education and job opportunities, thus resulting in the Negro being poorly educated and forever at the bottom of the economic structure of the nation.

Annual Meeting of the Committee on Negro Affairs

The annual meeting of the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs to be held at St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church here Sunday afternoon should receive the moral and financial support of every respectable Negro citizen of Durham. Like any other human agency, the Committee is no perfect organization but its worth to the entire community cannot be denied by those who have watched its growth and development since its organization over a quarter of a century ago. Although its membership is composed almost entirely of Negro citizens of the city and county of Durham, it by no means has devoted all of its efforts toward the advancement of the affairs of the Negro. The record of the Committee over the past 25 years and time again it has been the deciding margin of victory for some measure that meant the advancement of all the citizens of Durham.

The quickest and best way to make the Committee all that it should be is for all

good citizens to join hands and give it their unlimited support. Certainly, the annual meeting at which time officers will be elected to guide the destiny of the organization for the next 12 months, is far too important for worthwhile citizens not to take time out and attend the session. With this in mind we urge those who are interested in seeing Durham a more progressive city along educational, political, economic, social and other lines to lay aside whatever they are doing on Sunday afternoon and put in their presence at St. Joseph's Sunday afternoon.

Along with the election of officers, the annual report of the activities of the Committee during the past 12 months will be given. Those who are not able to attend the monthly meetings will also be able to hear and know what the program for the new year is to be especially as it pertains to urban renewal and other important measures that are of great concern to all the citizens of Durham.

That Unsegregated "Chow Line" in So. Carolina

South Carolina's new governor, Donald S. Russell, is not the South's Messiah, neither is he the Messiah's forerunner, crying in this wilderness of segregation and race hatred and warning those of our time to repent for a new era is at hand. We do think, however, that his "chow line" at the governors mansion to which he invited whites and Negroes to feast together on barbecue, cole slaw, ice cream and coffee is definitely a harbinger of what is to come in this land below the Mason and Dixon Line.

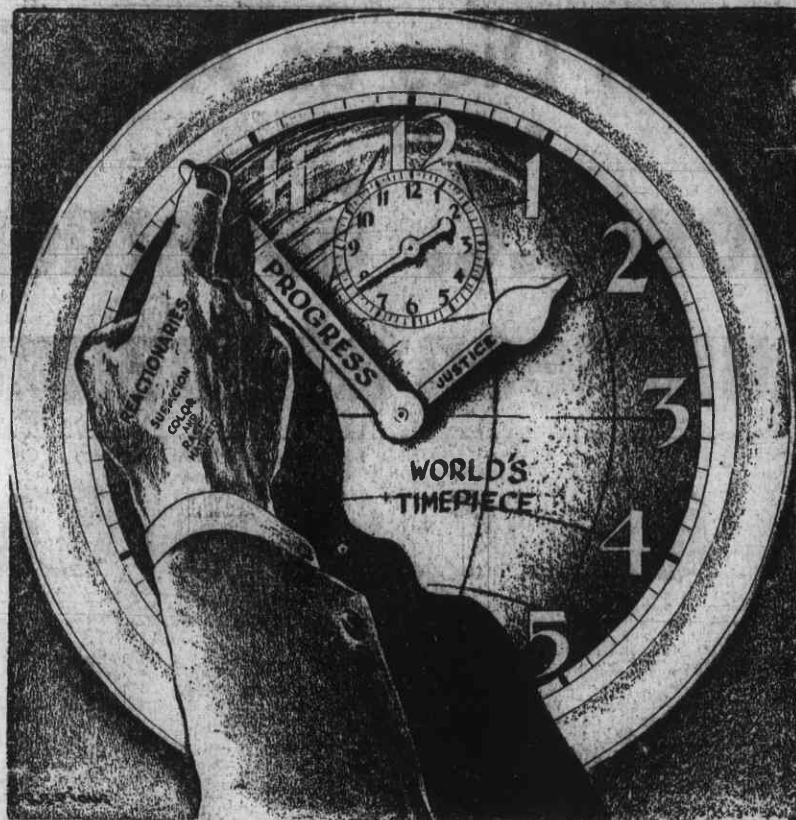
It was "the first time in many years—possibly since Reconstruction Days," said the Associated Press report—that any governor had had the courage or nerve to entertain Negroes at the governor's mansion. And we might add that the action of Governor Russell

created no disorder or semblance of an incident. The white masses of the South are easily led in either the right or wrong direction, especially if the leader is a governor, a millionaire or both, as is Gov. Russell.

Write this down in a permanent place for your posterity or future generations where they may read it a few decades from now. You may even call it prophecy if you wish. Not many years hence there will rise in the South, maybe a governor or some other high state official, who will pronounce the benediction on the era of segregation and other southern traditions that are now so dearly cherished in these parts. Such a man will be proclaimed throughout the nation and is certain to end up in the White House, being the first from the deep South to achieve that end.

Governor Russell's unsegregated "chow line," pulled off in one of the supposedly most race conscious states of the South, might be classed as paradoxical. We think, however, it is rather the beginning of a greater event to come, and that it doth not yet appear what the South will be. That part of the nation referred to as the North has already been where it is going on the race question, but the South has just started.

AND THEY ARE STILL TRYING TO DO IT IN MISSISSIPPI



SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

REV. HAROLD ROLAND

Time, God's Gift of Life to Man, Should Not be Uselessly Wasted



"TOO MUCH WASTED TIME"

"Now much time has been lost."

—Acts 27:9.

Time the very essence of life should not be wantonly wasted. For too many of us these tragic words can be too aptly applied. "Now much time has been lost." Why do we waste so much of time—the precious stuff of life? We only have a very little time allotted to us. Then why in the name of God should we waste the little time God has given to us. We waste too much of our time and then one day we wake up and wish we had more time. May we ever remember that the clock of time is never turned back. We call in vain for time to turn back for us to pick up some great lost opportunity. Thus wisdom demands that we escape the shameful tragedy of wasted time.

Let us use wisely the little time we have at our disposal. God has given us some time. We all have an allotment of time. God is a God of time. God moves

on time. And the God of time wants us to use wisely that little portion of time we have been given. We see countless numbers of students in college and high school wasting time, allotment of time. In a careless life they forget about the value of time. And then the day of reckoning is open to them and they have lost too much valuable time. And what is the net result of this waste of time? They drop out of school as failures for they have wasted too much time. Young friends let us not become the victims of too much wasted time. Use the little time you have from God wisely.

The time wasters belong to the company of the MIGHT-HAVE-BEENS. How can I escape this tragic company? You must recognize the value and the use of the time God Almighty has given to you. You must discipline yourself. You must buckle down and pay the price of making the most of your time. I just

read again the story of the great Christian healer — Dr. Albert Schweitzer, and it told how he at the age of eighty-eight urges on everybody in his hospital in Africa. He knows the value and the use of this time given you by God Almighty. Then let us keep alert to the use of our time lest we become time-wasters.

God's clock of time is never turned back. The time you lose, therefore is gone forever. Many with tearful eyes and broken hearts have cried out in vain for time to turn back that they might pick up a lost opportunity. But God's time moves and never turns back. Let us then do with all our might the task which is ours this day.

Let us use our Divine allotment of time for the enrichment of life for our fellowmen and to the glory of the God who graciously grants us a little portion of the stuff of life called time.

Atlanta's 'Berlin Wall' Threatens to Disrupt Progress Toward Racial Harmony, Give City Nat'l Black-eye

The following article on the worsening racial situation in Atlanta was written by a reporter for the Atlanta Constitution.

By HAROLD GULLIVER
Washington Post-Los Angeles Times

ATLANTA — Street barricades admittedly erected to create a racial "buffer zone" between Negro and white residential areas have split Atlanta and placed it under an uncomfortable spotlight as the nation's latest sore spot of racial tension.

Although placed on only two streets, a few weeks ago, the barricades already have fanned resentments that affect the entire city.

The feeling is so bitter that Negroes are expected to vote against a \$43 million bond issue this spring, possible killing proposals for school and street improvements and a city auditorium.

Divisions have also appeared between white and Negro groups — creating schisms which could wreck civic harmony for years to come.

The barricades, which are emotionally — and inaccurately — referred to as Atlanta's "Berlin Wall" were ordered erected Dec. 17 by the Board of Aldermen to close off two streets in southwest Atlanta — Peyton and Harlan roads.

The action was taken at the request of white residents who wanted to create a "buffer zone" between Negro and white neighborhoods. The low, fence-like barricades of steel and wood were

placed across each street the next day.

Virgil Copeland, president of the Southwest Citizen Association, defended the barricades as a "last resort" to lessen racial tension. It was the only way left, Copeland asserted, for white residents to thwart "vicious, block-busting tactics being used by Negro realtors."

Blocking the streets did not actually "wall in" anybody. But it forced motorists to drive about one mile farther before reaching a through street to the southwest, thus making it more difficult to travel between a Negro and white residential section.

A petition was filed in Municipal Court by both Negro and white groups asking removal of the barricades as a public nuisance. It was dismissed by Judge Robert E. Jones, who held that the streets were closed and therefore the obstructions could not be nuisances.

Observers now believe the Peyton-Harlan barricades will remain until the case is carried through state or federal courts.

Meanwhile, the controversy continues, with charges and counter charges exchanged almost daily.

The barriers do not legally affect the sale of property in any way. And it is considered likely that they have only increased Negro determination to buy in certain white neighborhoods in southwest Atlanta. The barricades also have the

support of Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., who said they serve as a "warning to unscrupulous real estate dealers, Negro and white."

Q. V. Williams, a co-chairman of the Negro Voters League, has denounced the barricades. The uproar caused him to observe: "These are the darkest days I've seen in Atlanta as far as race relations are concerned."

The Atlanta Constitution, a strong supporter of Mayor Allen on other issues, has also condemned the road barriers.

"The most merciful suggestion that can be made to the architects of this folly is to go out there and take it down," Editor Eugene Patterson wrote two days after the barricades were erected.

Even former Mayor William B. Hartsfield has been privately critical of his successor's position on the barricades. "You should never make a mistake that can be photographed," Hartsfield said of the barricades.

So far, Mayor Allen has failed to work out any solution.

Ironically, Allen's administration was elected with the solid support of Negro voters. Slightly more than one-third of the city's registered voters are Negro.

In addition to the possible loss of the bond issue, other effects of the city's action include:

—A shift in control of Atlanta's Negro leadership from older conservative elements to

PRESS COMMENTS

Support for Fayetteville is Urged

A BOOMING INSTITUTION Fayetteville State Teachers College today is the second fastest growing senior college in North Carolina, either public or non-public, white or Negro!

Its enrollment has jumped from 575 in the term which started in 1959, to an amazing 1,045 in the term which is now in progress.

That is an increase in enrollment of 81.7 per cent, a record which is exceeded among North Carolina's senior colleges only by amazing Pembroke College in neighboring Robeson County (84.4 per cent).

This splendid record of growth of Fayetteville State Teachers College compares with 20.7 per cent for the University of North Carolina, 18.8 per cent for N. C. State College, 16.4 per cent for Wake Forest, and 10.3 per cent for Duke University.

Growth of FSTC is something of a tribute to the vigorous administration of Dr. Rudolph Jones, based on the substantial foundation created

in the year when D. J. W. Seabrook headed the institution.

And it is a steady growth which argues eloquently the increasing demand of the Negro youth for higher education at this particular college.

It is a growth which also argues eloquently the duty of the State of North Carolina to provide it with the dormitories, classrooms, laboratories, etc., paralleling the growth of the student body — and even more important than these the trained and dedicated professor and instructors to guide the minds of these ambitious students toward the goals of learning.

Fayetteville's leadership both white and Negro, needs to withstand the budget requests of Fayetteville State Teachers College as they go before the rising General Assembly.

The college is a great asset to the community, to the area and to its state.

Its sensational growth must be encouraged, not hamstrung. FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER

Meredith Passes Breaking Point

How much can a man take?

The man is a soldier in an undeclared war. He wears no uniform. He hears no bands play. He is unarmed, surrounded by sullen, pestering foes.

He hears shouted insults, crude pests, occasional death threats. The dead hand of the silent treatment is the best he can hope for, in some respects, it would be the worst.

In the midst of all the hostility your man has to concentrate on lectures and textbooks and somehow pass the college courses in which he is enrolled.

How much can he take? Name your own breaking point. With James Meredith, first Negro undergraduate at the University of Mississippi, it has come after four months. He has announced that regardless of whether he passes or fails his semester courses, he will withdraw from

the university unless there is a marked change in the environment with which he is faced.

It passes belief that there will be such a change. But there will be another round in the fight for equality of opportunity on Ole Miss campus. Likewise on every other campus in which men and women are denied access because of color, creed or race. It may be Meredith back after a period of relief and restoration. It may be someone else.

Whatever happens, James Meredith has fought the battle to this point with dignity and bravery. The victory will come soon or late. And in the final defeat for today's seeming victors shame will lie across faces now twisted in scorn and hate. Springfield (Ohio) Daily News

Veterans' Questions and Answers

Here are authoritative answers by the Veterans Administration to questions from former servicemen and their families:

Q.—Is Veterans Administration medical care available to peace-time veterans?

A.—Yes, but they must have service-connected disabilities. A new law enacted by the 87th Congress extends the privilege to receive VA hospital and medical care to peacetime veterans having noncompensable, service-connected disabilities.

Q.—Can a veteran pay off his GI loan before it becomes due and not be penalized?

A.—Yes. A GI loan may be

partially or fully paid at ANY TIME WITHOUT PENALTY. Part payments may not be made less than one monthly installment or \$100, whichever is less.

Q.—May a veteran who has no service-connected illness enter a VA hospital and pay for his care?

A.—No. The government extends hospitalization benefits free of charge to those veterans with service-connected disabilities and to those veterans with non-service-connected disabilities who cannot afford to pay for their hospitalization. All other veterans are expected to use non-VA hospitals.

Yes, We All Talk

By MARCUS H. BOULWARE

Last week, I mentioned that a speech contains several steps dependent upon its purpose. I began with a discussion of the "attention step." The next step is what is called the "need step."

If the purpose of the speech is to give information, the speaker shows in the "need step" that the audience needs the information which he proposes to give.

If the purpose of the speech is to convince, the speaker endeavors to make the audience believe that there is a "need for a change in the status quo." For example, in a proposition urging a tax deduction, the speaker points out that presently people of low income groups are too heavily burdened with taxation so much so that there

is a need for a change in the present system.

The speech which has for its purpose "to entertain" never gets beyond the "attention step."

Traffic dangers for pedestrians aren't limited to city streets. Be careful when walking near traffic in rural areas. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles says walk facing oncoming traffic, carry a flashlight, wear light colored clothing at night. One misstep can be the death of you.

There are many stories of the "back seat" driver. A nagging passenger can cause a driver to be less careful. But a considerate rider can stay alert for danger and warn the driver of impending trouble. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles says it's wise for both drivers and passengers to be wary.

younger, more militant figures. —Damage to Atlanta's "image" as a progressive city with a long history of bi-racial negotiations and compromises.

The controversy may produce one long-range benefit — a much needed focus on the need for better Negro housing.

Road dispute, the Atlanta Constitution editorialized on Jan. 8, "is shared by every

Atlanta who refuses to face and manage the problem. . . . "The Negroes basic need is open land, and with it is a reasonable application of the zoning laws"

"No free man can be told where he must live. But any man appreciates a little help in finding some open space where he can live even if it takes patience in negotiation."