

A Better Way is to Fight On

In its issue of Sunday, May 11, under the caption "Better Way Than Demonstrations," Durham's morning newspaper points its editorial finger at the demonstrations against racial discrimination that have been taking place in Birmingham, Raleigh and elsewhere in this country. In reality, the editorial is more of an armchair lecture to the Negroes of America than an intelligent analysis of the race problem or the demonstrations growing out of it. "Obviously," says the editorial, "such demonstrations, which have taken on the thin edge of violence, are not the best way to win interracial accord."

It is probably alright for one on the other side of the fence who has never been the butt of insults, abuses, deprivation and all the other disadvantages that go with being a Negro to talk about a "better way." It sounds nice but after you have tried every conceivable, peaceful method known to man for a hundred years, including begging, persuasion, negotiation and the courts, without getting results, we think it is time to try something else.

When the Negro has begged for the rights guaranteed him under the Constitution of the United States he has been told to have patience, that "the time is not ripe; when he has sought a remedy through the state courts, he has been told that such an approach is "unwise," "untimely" and "unworkable" and that morals cannot be legislated. When Negroes turned to the ballot box at the turn of the century, North Carolina, along with other states of the South, disfranchised them and organized the Ku Klux Klan to intimidate, beat and lynch them in order to "keep them in their places."

Finally, in desperation, the Negro turned to the federal courts, and after the expenditure of large amounts of money, time and energy he won the right to sit on juries, to vote and equal teachers salaries. Thus, through

his lawyers he discovered that he possessed a dual citizenship, one in the state and another as a citizen of the United States. For instead of bowing to the will of federal court orders granting integration and other equal advantages he has seen state officers of the law, like Alabama's Police Chief (Bull) Connor, flagrantly and openly defy them. When the Negro has attempted to exercise the rights obtained under federal court orders, he has been told that "blood will flow in the streets." Not only have such officers of the law defied orders handed down by the federal courts but they have openly declared that any attempt on the part of respectable white citizens to extend such rights to Negroes will not be recognized.

This is only a partial picture of what the Negro faces one hundred years after the Emancipation Proclamation. So the great tragedy of the hour is not the demonstrations but the necessity of them one hundred years after the Negro was supposed to have received his rights as a citizen.

"Better Way than Demonstrations." The record does not bear this out. For as far back as history records there is no single instance in which the oppressor has voluntarily lifted his heel from the neck of the oppressed. Either there must be desperate and sacrificial struggles for freedom or the victims of oppression will die in bonds unhonored, unwept and unavenged.

So, we urge Negroes to continue their struggle for human dignity and all of their other rights. We call upon them to do so without hatred, but with a firm determination to never cease or turn back until full democracy shall be extended to citizens of all races, creeds and colors in this country. By so doing they will not only secure their own freedom but preserve that of their fellow white citizens, as well.

Not Conducive to Law and Order

This newspaper and Negro citizens of Durham and its vicinity have waited patiently for the State Bureau of Investigation to release a report of its findings in the recent Crest Street crisis that was brought about by the criminal attacks made on several white women in the western section of Durham. Whatever the result of the investigation made by the SBI, or whoever it hurts we feel that the public is entitled to know the truth in a matter that at one time came so very close to causing serious trouble in this city. If the SBI knows the truth and has good and sound reasons for withholding it from the public, it should say so. If, however, it was unable to get at the bottom of the series of criminal attacks or put its finger on the guilty person or persons responsible for them, it should admit its inability to do so instead of remaining silent about the matter.

Surely, a state of affairs that saw hoodlums ride through a section of the city shooting firearms at will, a 14-year-old child badly beaten by them without a semblance of an arrest on the part of the local law enforcement agency, and, finally, a police line-up of practically every Negro male employee of

Duke University, demands serious consideration on the part of all decent citizens of Durham. Such a state of affairs becomes even worse when neither the local nor the state officers of the law are able to come up with a single clue to the source of attacks. It simply means that the person or persons responsible for the crimes are still at large and are, therefore, subject to strike again when the time and opportunity presents itself.

If such a person, or persons are still at large, the public has the right to know it so that due diligence may be exercised in preventing a recurrence of a situation that threatened every moment to explode into serious trouble in this city. We feel that whatever the SBI has uncovered as the result of its investigation should be bared before the matter is considered closed. To do otherwise is not conducive to greater respect for the law and only serves to breed further suspicion that whatever the circumstances the life of every Negro man in Durham and vicinity stands in jeopardy whenever or wherever "a Negro did it" cry is sounded.

Durham's City Council Election

The election to be held here Saturday, when a mayor and six members of the City Council are to be chosen for Durham, is important enough to remind every registered person in the city that he or she has a duty to perform by going to the polls and voting for the persons of his or her choice, if Durham is to have good government. Without an alert electorate that is interested in the welfare of all the people who live in this city, Durham will not move forward with the rapidity it should in either population or industrial growth.

It is, therefore, our hope that each voter will weigh carefully the background, intelligence and experience that is needed for a successful city councilman as well as mayor and lay aside all personal feelings in the matter before casting his or her ballot. Durham cannot afford the luxury of an unintelligent city council, and it is of vital importance that each voter seek as much information about all the candidates as possible before

voting. After doing so it is equally important that all of them vote.

With one or two exceptions most of the candidates in the race have refused to inject the race issue into the campaign. This is a good indication and should be encouraged by the voters giving support only to those candidates who have indicated their desire to serve all the people of Durham. This newspaper would not wish to give its support to any candidate, white or Negro, who is unable to look beyond the welfare of his own racial group.

Again, we urge the voters of Durham to let nothing stand in their way of voting in the city election, Saturday, May 18. Each and every voter should feel it his personal responsibility and his solemn duty to cast his ballot in the election so that instead of a smaller vote than was cast in the primary, a sizeable increase will result in behalf of candidates capable of helping to build a bigger and better city.

A MAN GLANCES at the household wall clock for the time, gets in his car and looks at the car clock which seems fast, glares at his wrist watch which seems slow, and then turns on the car radio to await a station break.

TALKING to some people is even less rewarding than talking to yourself.

I KEEP LOOKING forward to the time when I'll write a hundred paragraphs like this in one night, as I once did, but I doubt that the night will ever come again.

FIRM GOVERNMENT ACTION CAN PREVENT THIS, MR. PRESIDENT



REV. HAROLD ROLAND

Pride Has a Way of Dulling Our Ears to Simple Decency and Justice

"This people . . . their ears are dull." Acts 28:27.

The dulled-ear, those who will not hear, have come to a tragic state of affairs. Many of us come to that unfortunate state of affairs wherein we refuse to hear the word of God. The dulled-ear state is a prelude to a process of stagnation or disintegration. It may take time but this is the ultimate end. As long as we will hear there is hope. But when we refuse to hear we are bordering on hopelessness. Then let us beware of the dangers of becoming dulled-ear.

In the practice of injustice it is so easy to become dulled-ear. What is this state of affairs? We do wrong for so long that we think wrong is right. This was one of the great tragedies of the sinful institution of slavery in this country. The process of time dulled the ears to the cry of decency and justice. So the evil system lasted for more than two centuries. And it took the blood-bath of a great war to

break the chains of an oppressive system of human slavery. Then let us beware of our ears becoming dulled to the cries of decency in the midst long-standing evils.

What are some of the things that contribute to a state of dulled-ear, stagnation. Pride has a way of dulling our ears to cries of simple justice and decency. Well, you know pride, after all, is one of the Seven Deadly Sins. Greed, a passionate or inordinate desire for things, may have a dulling effect upon us human beings. The greedy in pursuit of his materialistic goal may forget all of the rules of common decency. This greed may become a kind of opiate to dull the hearing. Unnecessary, acute fears may also dull our hearing in the midst of the cries for change and correction of deep-seated wrongs. Then let us ever be alert to these things that may lead us into a state of dulled-ear complacency with all of its dangers.

Let us keep our ears sensitive to God's blessed message. Those who hear will have a chance to repent. The one who hears has a chance to turn to God and find life and hope. Those who will hear can make amends for wrongs done. Those who hear can find God's gift of spiritual healing. If you can do something about the cries of the needy, if you will hear, you will lend yourself in the correction of these injustices. Jane Addams heard the cries of the needy masses in Chicago and Hull House came into being. Shweitzer heard the call and there came into being a great healing ministry in Africa. Yes, let us attune our ears to God's call and "Brighten the Corner Where We Are."

There are temporal and eternal dangers for those who are dulled-ear in the midst of God's call as revealed in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

fraternal leaders, all deeply concerned with the question of civil rights.

We intend to extend the "Back Our Brothers" Movement throughout the North. Our initial project will be a June 18 "Back Our Brothers" Banquet at the Park Shearson Hotel in New York. Dr. Martin Luther King, Dr. Ralph Abernathy, Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker and Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, the "four horsemen of civil rights" who are leading the Battle For Birmingham, will be our guests of honor.

Mr. Marder had already made a personal donation of \$1000 to Dr. King. His company was planning to pick up the tab for the eight or nine hundred dollar luncheon. But Frank Schiffman, owner of the famed Apollo Theatre, reached for it first. Marder's answer to this was one of gratitude and generosity. He will match Mr. Schiffman's contribution with a similar sum donated to the BOB Movement.

Noel Marder is one of those fine Americans who is unwilling to stand by and see hate-filled bigots destroying the American dream.

Another American of this calibre is Arnold Forster, the militant head of the Anti-Defamation League. Mr. Forster said at the luncheon that "it is not as important how America looks to other nations of the world, in relation to our conduct on the race issue. What matters is how Americans look in their mirrors."

Look in your mirror today and do something with the power of your ballot and the power of your dollar. Send a wire or letter or post card to the President and ask him to take strong action in



Relatives

"Some relatives is like quicksand," said Simple. "The more you set foot in their vicinity, the more they suck you down. Gimme this! Gimme that! Gimme, gimme!" Like the blues says, "A handful of gimme, and a mouth full of much oblige." They will leech you to death if you let them. I knowed a good man once who were kept poor as a church mouse all the time by his relatives. A whole passel of relatives always needing something, al ways getting sick with no change for prescriptions, dying with no money to be buried, having babies with no credit with the milk man, buying cars with nothing to pay with when the notes come due. They was always coming around to beg or borrow from this man what happened to have a fairly decent job making enough to keep body and soul together, but not to support the world. His relatives thought he was rich because he owned a house and a television, a Buick and a patch of lawn, and his kids went to school not ragged.

"His name were John. His relatives took him for a ride. Finally his wife said, 'John, I did not marry your relations—I married you. I want me a fur coat. Next winter is going to be a cold winter, and I am due to be warm. You been giving all your money away to relatives all these years, now you are going to give some to me, too.'"

"But, baby," John said, "my junior brother, Randall, has got a floating kidney. The doctor says Randall has got to be operated on urgent. Randall writ he do not have the money!" "Then let Randall's kidney float on," said John's wife. "I am tired of everytime you turn around, some relative has got something urgent. Last year, it were your second cousin on your step-father's side what claimed she had to go to Arizona right away for her asthma. If she didn't go, she would die. Had I not put my foot down, No! You would have sent that woman the money for her bus fare. Prunella is grown. She can earn her own fare to Arizona. You did not air-mail the money and prunella did not die. What is urgent to some people is not urgent to God. God has not yet called Prunella to Glory, spite of the fact you did not send her money to save her life. I want me a fur coat."

"Honey," says John, "why is it so urgent you have a fur coat. It is only springtime now. You cannot wear a fur coat in summer."

"Spring is when the best fur sales are. I missed the sale last year because you said your forter-grandma was about to lose her cabin in Carolina. If the mortgage were not paid, grandma declared, she would be out in the road homeless. I said send grandma \$200.00, which you did, since she were ageable, and you loved her. But no sooner had you sent that Special Delivery than her husband, also ageable, died. You had to bury him. Now your namesake godchild's tonsils in Baltimore have to come out. Uncle Blibbrow broke his crutch. Auntie Moore's motor in her frigidaire out in Corona is plumb broke down. Cousin Katie's little girl can't graduate if you don't send her a dress. Could you help Maudelle buy a wig? Leroy's got in a little trouble in Ashbury Park, needs bail, please wire. Your relatives must think you are John D. Rockefeller or the head check-signer for Standard Oil. I never saw the like! And all you got is a position—which is nothing but a job with a collar on."

"Darling," says John to his wife, "if any of your relatives 'was to get in hard luck, I would help them over, too.'"

"No you wouldnt," yelled John's wife. "I would not let nor permit neither allow it. You got me and our children to take care of, which is enough, without adding my relatives. Besides, I recognized the fact long ago that my relatives are no good—buying televisions the size of box cars with a radio-record player alarm clock-bar combined, getting Cadillacs longer than the shack they live in and playing ten dollars a day on the numbers. Then they come writing to me when somebody in the family gets the bleeding piles and can't set down and don't have the money for an operation. I say let them stand up if they can't set down, I believe in every tub standing on its own bottom, particularly relatives, piles or not."

"You are hard hearted, Mary Alice," said John.

"You are soft headed, John," said she. And I agreed with them both."

Letter to the Editor

The recent episode in which Her Excellency, Dr. Angie Brooks, the ambassador from Liberia to the United Nations was refused permission to eat at the S&W Cafeteria and the Hotel Sir Walter is to be regretted by all thinking persons.

The actions of the managers of the two establishments were deplorable. Rudeness is inexcusable. Even "no" can be said politely. And the deliberate insult offered by the manager of the Sir Walter in asking the ambassador if she wanted a job as a waitress or cook can only be regarded as beneath the dignity of anyone who would consider himself a gentleman.

The protestation that "it was a put up job" makes the action of the manager of the Sir Walter even more indefensible if he really believed that this was the case. For it puts him in the position of cooperating in an event designed to embarrass the State of North Carolina and the

United States. Such an act is hardly to be commended.

As for the affair being "a put up job," to me this is ridiculous. I am personally acquainted with Professor Allard K. Lowenstein. He is a person of unquestioned character and ethics. Mr. Lowenstein was an outstanding student at the University of North Carolina a few years ago. And he is a distinguished person in his own right, being an author, lecturer, and attorney. I would certainly accept his statement as to the facts of the incident rather than the proclaimed supposition of the manager of the Sir Walter.

I hope that many citizens of our state will, as I have, express their regrets to Dr. Brooks and their indignation to the managers of the S&W and the Sir Walter.

Robert Pace
Box 311
Chapel Hill

VETERANS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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

Q — As an enlisted man in the reserves I was recalled to active duty and I have been told my former job will not be waiting for me. What should I do?

A — If you are refused employment and you apply for it within 31 days after release from service, you should report immediately to the nearest state employment office or, if you were working for the Federal Government, to the Birmingham.

Send me a dollar - or any amount you can spare to help the Back Our Brothers Movement help Dr. King. I'll send you a receipt.

nearest office of the Civil Service Commission. This benefit is administered in the case of private employment by the Bureau of Veterans Reemployment Rights of the Department of Labor.

Q — I am a veteran, but I did not serve in either World War II or in Korea. I am applying for a federal job under Civil Service. Do I get any veteran's preference?

A — There is a 5-point preference for peacetime veterans if they have been in campaigns or expeditions for which a badge or service medal is authorized.

If public school kids can march to jail singing in Birmingham, the very least we can do is to show them how we feel about their courage.



Just For The Record

The Kennedy Administration has reached the moment of truth on the burning issue of civil rights.

All those pretty campaign promises — the phone calls to Atlanta — the "too late-too little" spingless executive housing order, the beautiful pronouncements about human rights — the coveted invitation to White House social events — all of these do not add up to one fraction of the answer to the hard, cold fact of the moment.

The fact is that the problems created by the tense Birmingham, Alabama situation lie smack on the doorsteps of The White House.

Lie down with dogs and you are due to arise with fleas. The Administration has played ball with the Dixiecrats and the reactionary Republicans like Everett Dirksen. Now the President will have to pay the bill.

Anyone who follows this writer knows that we have consistently voiced the belief that the President is not "for real" on the civil rights issue — that he is a clever tokenist.

But tokenism will not satisfy the swelling chorus of indignation which is directed against an Administration which talked big and bad to the steel industry and to Mr. Cabot, but fails to take action when Negro ministers and teen-aged

Negro children are knocked to the ground by high-pressure water hoses and bitten by police dogs.

More and more, each day, people of both races are coming over to the side of Dr. Martin Luther King in his quietly determined and heroic crusade for freedom, justice and human dignity.

Noel Marder, a young millionaire publisher, is a classic example of the many, many white people in this country who have a burning consciousness that Birmingham dramatizes the shame of America and her failure to come to grips with her racial problem.

Mr. Marder came to me just a few days ago and suggested that we do something positive to organize moral and financial support in the North to give backing to Dr. King.

At Dr. King's invitation, Mr. Marder and Dr. King's Eastern Seaboard public relations counsel, Al Duckett, visited Birmingham to see for themselves the terror and tenseness of that divided city.

The result was a kick-off luncheon in New York the other day which was the organizing meeting of the "Back Our Brothers" Movement. I do not know when I have seen gathered together such a distinguished group of celebrities, public officials and social and

The Carolina Times

Published every Saturday at Durham, N. C. by United Publishers, Inc. L. E. AUSTIN, Publisher Telephone 682-2913 and 681-9513 Second Class Postage Paid at Durham, N. C. SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$4.00 per year (plus 12c tax in N. C.) anywhere in the U. S., and Canada and to servicemen Overseas; Six months, \$2.50 (plus 6c sales tax in N. C.); Foreign, \$7.00 per year. Single copy 15c. Principal Office located at 486 E. Pettigrew St., Durham, North Carolina