

# One Hundred Years of Negro Freedom a Misnomer

It has been one hundred years now since Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation abolishing Negro slavery in this country. That the Negro has made great strides in the fields of education, industry and otherwise against great odds must be admitted by even the most scrutinizing persons. We think, though, there is a great danger among Negro and white citizens to become so blinded by the glare of the progress the race has made that sight will be lost of the progress it has failed to achieve.

The recent rash of racial demonstrations in a majority of the southern states is most encouraging in that it gives evidence that the shine has at last worn off the document signed by Abraham Lincoln to the extent that the Negro is beginning to look at his so-called freedom objectively. He is now demanding a new document signed by the present occupant of the White House that will bring into reality what the Emancipation Proclamation attempted.

On the turn of events, therefore, as they affect the Administration's civil rights bill may hang the fate of the Negro vote in 1964 and even the presidency. It is certain all eyes of the race will be turned toward the present session of Congress that must pass some kind of civil rights measure or default.

If the latter course is taken, it is certain that Negro voters will weigh in the balances the party affiliation of those most responsible for defeat of the bill.

Thus, one hundred years after the Emancipation Proclamation the Negro in this country stands at the crossroads. Will it be a Democratic administration that finishes the task begun by Abraham Lincoln or will it be a combination of Southern and Republican Congressmen who will defeat the measure? Whatever happens, Negro voters will be called on in 1964 to make a decision that will affect the future of the race another hundred years to come.

# No Reflection on the University of N. C.

Possibly the most asinine and diabolical piece of legislation ever passed by a state legislature was enacted by the 1963 North Carolina General Assembly prohibiting communist speakers at the University of North Carolina. The law is more of a reflection on the intelligence of the kind of people who constitute the state's law making body than the integrity or loyalty of the members of the faculty and student body of UNC. If the intent and purpose of the law is to halt the spread of communism in this state, we think, if such is needed, it is aimed at the wrong place and the wrong people.

Had the 1963 General Assembly passed a law requiring those who wished to speak on communism to make their first appearance at UNC, it would have showed at least a modicum of intelligence. As it now stands those advocating such a doctrine may now resort to labor groups, civic organizations or even religious bodies.

If and when there is a special session of the legislature, the law ought to be repealed. If the University of North Carolina has sunk so low in the estimation of the members of the General Assembly of this state that its faculty and student body must be safeguarded with a law prohibiting communist speakers or any others opposed to democracy at UNC, it is high time for all loyal citizens of this state to bar their doors and windows and prepare for the worst.

Certainly, the highest educational institution of the state ought to be a place where the truth is faced and sought. Any other way leads to anarchy, bigotry or the very thing the 1963 session of the General Assembly hoped to avoid.

# The Lethargy of Virginia Negroes Continues

The three devastating blows dealt Virginia's segregation laws by the federal courts this week may produce just enough incentive among pro-segregationists to have them attempt defiance of the order which prohibits closing of the Powhatan County schools to escape integration. The defiance may not be as open and as glaring as that of Alabama's Governor Wallace, but we predict it will be just as determined, if not more so.

A case in point is the 50 State Report, submitted to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights in 1961. While a majority of the southern states came up with a detailed and lengthy reports on all phases of the civil rights question, that of Virginia consisted of only two pages and declared that "the Virginia Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights deals only with the effect of urban renewal programs on the rights of affected homeowners."

Virginia's attitude on segregation, while not as sinister as that of states above the Mason and Dixon line, is just as pernicious. This was proved conclusively in the case of the public schools of Prince Edward County, Virginia, that have been closed since 1959 to avoid a court order to integrate. Basically, Virginia is one of the most backward southern states and it is time for the Negroes to come to grips with the situation.

Accompanying the vicious attitude of its white people is the complacency of its Negro leaders, if the state has any worthy of being classed as such. It is neither accidental nor incidental that, comparatively speaking, so little has been done by Virginia Negroes to advance the cause of their race in general.

With the exception of Danville, so close to the North Carolina line that the inspiration and spirit manifested by the rash of demonstrations in this state overflowed into Virginia, there has been little or no move on the part of Negroes in that state to join the present struggle being carried on in other sections of the country for civil rights.

So, with little or no urge from the Negro segment of the populace in Virginia, it is certain that the effort to improve the lot of the race in education, voting, employment and otherwise will continue to lag behind other southern states where racial demonstrations have been numerous and state-wide.

# The Failure of the General Assembly

The failure of the North Carolina General Assembly to reach an agreement before the session ended on a plan by which the state Senate could be redistricted to conform to shifts in population seems on the surface to be a matter of minor alarm to the public. And, even that amount of alarm appears to be lessened by the prospect that a special session of the legislature will be called by the Governor so that this necessary task can be accomplished. But when the impact of the Assembly's failure to redistrict is considered, in light of the very nature of that body, this

failure becomes somewhat sinister.

Shorn of the facts surrounding reasons for the failure to reach agreement on redistricting the issue boils down simply to this: the very men who make the laws for the state of North Carolina are themselves unwilling to abide by the highest laws of the state, those embodied in the constitution which require redistricting every ten years.

Perhaps the constitution is inadequate in its provisions for resolving the issue. Perhaps the Senate feels this. If this is the case, the issue of a constitutional amendment should be frankly presented to the people so that some resolution of this pressing issue can be made. Otherwise, we are left only with the stark impression that North Carolina's legislators are unwilling to let their public responsibility for upholding the law override their personal interests and disagreements.

It is very easy to see the danger such an impression can have for our state. It indicates a disregard for responsibility on the part of the leaders of our state—and, in so doing, speaks badly for the overall calibre



REV. HAROLD ROLAND

# Real and Trial-Tested Faith Can Anchor Man in His Darkest Hour

SPiritual INSIGHT

"All over the world they are telling the story of your faith." Roman 1:8

Here the saints are given a word of commendation for their great, dramatic faith in God Almighty. Such a great faith comes when one is anchored in God through Christ the blessed Savior. In a great hour of critical testing their faith had kept them. Their faith had enabled them to meet the severest demands of a time of trouble and trial. Their faith had been tested in the crucible of great dangers and persecutions. In a dark hour their heroic stand had stirred and quickened the hearts of the believers everywhere. How can we know the power of faith in God without some critical testing hour? Their testing hour revealed the spiritual glow of a great faith.

Real faith in God must be tested in the flames of intense Christian experience in some lonely front line trench for Christ. Faith's ultimate test comes in the swirling tides of human experience. The saints to whom Paul writes had passed the test in the sufferings of human experience for Jesus. Just declare yourself for Jesus and your hour

of testing will begin. Jesus, Son of God, declared himself in the Baptismal waters of the Jordan. Then there came the tests of the wilderness of temptations. Yes, true faith must be tried and tested in the crucible of human experience. If you can pass through the swirling tides your faith is all right. If you can pass through the searing fires of red-hot human experience then your faith in God is all right. True faith comes out of the fires shining brighter.

True faith reveals the heroic qualities of life. Without the testing of our faith how can we find our heroic qualities? The heroic qualities of the great saints have been revealed amid sufferings and persecutions endured for Christ's sake. The suffering and stoning of Stephen without the city gates brought forth the matchless heroic qualities of his soul. The heroic qualities of the faith of that young Negro who entered Arkansas University's Law School in 1949 came when he was subjected to all kinds of shameful insults. By faith the young Negro won respect of his fellow students after passing through the ordeals of shameful sufferings. Amid the

heroism of his great faith his fellow students had to rise up and honor him. The honors followed the heroic demonstration of his great faith in God.

In this hour Christians must show a great faith by what they are willing to suffer and endure for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Savior. Our religion must reaffirm its faith in God by its willingness to suffer for righteousness. Godless men challenge us and we must meet the challenge. Believers have past the test in many trying ordeals in the past. And shall we in this hour fail? My heart leaps for joy when I see Christians suffering for the great teachings of the faith in the freedom struggle in this land. Look at them suffering imprisonment for righteousness. Look at them standing nobly and courageously in Christian love amid bitterness and hatred. Truly a great chapter in the Christian faith is being written. The story of this great faith is stirring the nation and the world.

Christians must show themselves worthy in these times by what they are willing to suffer and endure to advance the cause of the Kingdom of God.



There are a number of people talking about their feeling that Governor Nelson Rockefeller has destroyed his chances for a try at the Presidency by getting married.

We are aware of the sensitivity of many Americans on the question of divorce and we will not get into a debate on that issue.

On the other hand, it seems to us that there is a certain forthrightness in what the Governor has done. He has let America know that he loves his lady enough to make her his wife and to brave whatever consequences may result.

Certainly, the Governor is not naive enough to have believed there would be no consequences. Who knows what private griefs he has been through at reaching the decision to end his first marriage to a person for whom he obviously had once cared very deeply? Who knows what bruised feelings the course of events has caused within his intimate family circles.

Personally, I do not want to believe that the Republican Party or—for that matter—the American people—would overlook everything else about a man of the Governor's record, background and achievement purely because he made a curial personal de-

cision.

We call what the Governor has done an indication of the kind of courage which makes him the steps he believes to be right even if he knows they may be unpopular. This kind of courage can make the difference between a President who allows wrongs to exist because he is afraid of losing favor and a true statesman who takes a stand which he believes to be just and fair.

We agree with Emet John Hughes of Newsweek Magazine who recently pointed out that there are five "specifics" about the Governor which cannot be ignored, regardless of what one's opinion of his marriage may be.

1. His "record of passionate concern and vigorous action in the crucial arena of civil rights."
2. His "detailed competence in urban affairs."
3. His "extensive experience in the executive branches" of both State and National government.
4. His uniqueness among Republican leaders as one who has "articulated a coherent and mature political philosophy."
5. His "long and active acquaintance with foreign policy and world affairs."

The great issues of the day—and we make no bones about it that we consider the civil rights issue the most critical and the

most pertinent to all the others—make it the solemn duty of Americans to choose wisely and with more care who shall be their National political candidates in 1964.

## Vets Questions And Answers

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

Q.—Is age a barrier in serving as a volunteer worker at a VA hospital?

A.—No. In fact, some of the outstanding volunteers have been men and women in their 70's and 80's. Such elderly folks usually have plenty of time on their hands and many of them, thru trials of their own, have learned to be sympathetic and understanding. Then again, patients accept and look with affection upon the elderly volunteers, may be because they are reminded of parents or relatives. Ability and willingness to serve are far more important than age.

Q.—Is a veteran expected to retire when he reaches 65, whether he would like to do so or not?

A.—That would depend entirely upon the veteran. Many people, because of health or other reasons, plan to retire at 65; many others are both capable and desirous of remaining at their work for many years to come. More and more senior citizens are finding that they have a definite role in the modern



## WONDERING WHY

Among the things I will probably never understand—myself and my limited intelligence will never comprehend are:

WHY would anybody live in Mississippi—as long as bus-train or plane tickets are being sold to get away?

WHY is it easier for an unemployed teenager to find dope in New York City than it is for any teenager to find a job?

WHY there are so few black Cubans among the refugees who have fled to the United States?

WHY television sets break down so often and get repaired so poorly at such high cost?

WHY homosexuals (as allegedly several Britishers who spied for the Soviet Union) would want to spy for Russia when reportedly homosexuals in Russia must constantly pretend to be Tartans in order to exist?

WHY old folks are so generous with advice to young folks concerning problems the old folks never solved in their own youth?

WHY Europeans remember with love and affection their theatre, opera, and concert stars long after their youth is gone but Americans are inclined to forget within a few months popular favorites, if their names have not appeared as TV, Concert or Broadway headliners during the current season?

WHY prices are getting higher and higher and higher and HIGHER?

WHY, since so many politicians are willing to accept graft and so many citizens are willing to pay it, is political graft not made LEGAL—then graft would not be wrong?

WHY (life graft) profanity is not made respectable—since all most everybody these days—men, women, and children—use bad words so freely?

WHY, when working people have a little time off for fun, it rains or snows so often on legal holidays?

WHY radio and television commercials so often come on so loud they destroy the mood of what ever continuity one had been enjoying?

WHY friends who find it easy collect?

WHY nothing in this world is a dime a dozen any more?

WHY so few taxpayers object to their tax money being used for legal murder—capital punishment, lethal chambers, nooses, electric chairs, death sentences?

WHY opera in English sounds so god-awful?

WHY so many children in this day and age cannot read, even by the time they get to high school?

WHY birds like to bathe in the same water from which they drink?

WHY so many Baptists do not want anyone else to be Methodist, so many Catholics do not want anyone to be Protestant, so many Christians throw up their hands at Muslims, Jews, Bud dists and others, as if there should be no freedom of choice?

WHY any adult would beat a dog, kick a cat, or mistreat a child or any other helpless, harmless animal?

WHY so many Negroes are meek, gentle and kind in those sections of the U. S. A. where so many whites are just the opposite?

WHY international diplomats refuse to put all their cards on the table ever?

WHY television-telephones are not made available, so folks can see as well as hear when making long distance calls?

WHY gambling on the horses at the track is considered O. K. but gambling off the track is not?

WHY most of those condemned to death in the United States are either poor, or black—or both?

WHY there is no final answer to WHY?

# Heroes of the Emancipation

## DENMARK VESEY

According to history, Denmark Vesey was born about 1766 on the Island of Santo Domingo. He has been described as a handsome and intelligent young man who was subject to epileptic seizures. He lived in the West Indies until the age of 14, at which time he became the favorite servant of a Charleston, S. C., slave who traded between the Islands of St. Thomas and St. Dominick.

For twenty years Denmark Vesey sailed with his master's slaves. If he saw a Negro bowing \$1,500 in a lottery which he used to purchase his freedom. From 1800 until 1822, Vesey worked as a carpenter in Charleston, S. C. During this time he became a well known AME Church lay leader who was able, as a free Negro, to carry his anti-slavery messages to plantations scattered over a hundred-mile area. It is said that Vesey was well educated and spoke several languages. He used his abilities to arouse Negro slaves and encouraged them to insurrection. During these years in Charleston, Vesey nurtured a deep hatred for slavery and slaveholders. He believed that slavery was evil and that no man was meant to be a slave for another.

Finally, about 1817, Vesey conceived the idea of his insurrection. For the next five years he planned, plotted and fanned the flames among the slaves. He was given to quotations from the Bible, from well-known Abolitionists and Toussaint L'Ouverture was his guiding patron. One of his favorite quotations was the words of Joshua: "and they utterly destroyed all that were in the city, both men and women, both young and old, and ox and sheep and ass with the edge of a sword."

Vesey preached that it was necessary to strike the first blow and warned that God helped

ed only those that helped them selves. If he saw a Negro bowing to a white man on the streets he would rebuke them. Gradually he captured the minds of the Negroes in Charleston and many slaves feared him much more than they feared their masters.

Finally, around Christmas time, in 1821, he selected listed slave artisans and classers for his insurrection. He enlisted the Methodist church. His chief assistant was Peter Poyas, who was a ship carpenter. It was Poyas who volunteered for the most dangerous assignment of the plan which was to surprise and capture the main guardhouse. In a sense the story of the Vesey insurrection was also Peter Poyas' story, as Vesey recognized Poyas, talents and placed him in charge of organizing the recruits.

Vesey and Poyas planned a cell-like organization. Each leader had a list of the recruits as well as their specific assignment. Only the leaders, however, knew the details of the plot. The average recruit knew nothing except the name of his leader and what his particular job was. During this time weapons were constructed and disguises were designed. It is said that approximately 9,000 slaves were finally recruited.

The day of July 16, 1822 was chosen. However, about two weeks before this day a house servant betrayed the insurrectionists. He was only able, however, to supply them with information. As a result, during the next two weeks the Mayor and other city officials worked desperately to get the information needed to put down the uprising. At the same time, Vesey and his aides were working to spring their trap despite this betrayal. They continued their plans up to the last day when another slave who knew the names of some of their leaders

Continued on page 6-A

A.—Only a veteran can directly receive VA hospital or medical care. But advances made in the treatment of illness or disability through VA research are passed on, like all research, to the world humanly in general is aided.

Q.—I have read that elderly people in general will benefit from the medical research programs carried on by the VA. Isn't it true that only veterans can take advantage of VA medical and hospital care?

**The Carolina Times**  
 Published every Saturday at Durham, N. C.  
 by United Publishers, Inc.  
 L. E. AUSTIN, Publisher  
 Telephone 682-2912 and 681-8512  
 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.); Single copy 15c.  
 Principal Office located at 436 E. Pettigrew St.