

Too Long A Delay In Filling A Vacancy

It has been several months now since a vacancy was created on the Durham City Board of Education as a result of the death of Eric Moore who served as its only Negro member. For various and sundry reasons the City Council, which has the responsibility of naming a successor to Mr. Moore, has allowed the matter to drag along for a longer period than is usually the case in such matters and under such circumstances. In view of the fact that the vacancy leaves the 30,000 or more Negro citizens of Durham without any representation whatsoever, it appears to this newspaper that there are substantial reasons for immediate and forthright action on the part of the City Council in naming a successor to Mr. Moore.

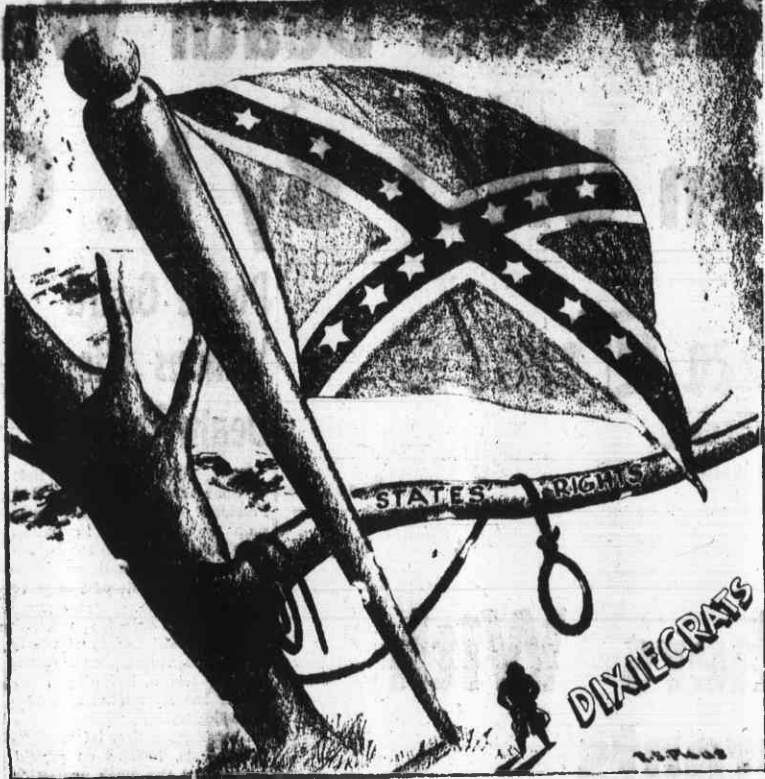
Whether there is any real significance to the prevailing rumors that the City Council is opposed to naming any person to fill the vacancy suggested by the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs will not be argued at length here and now. We cannot bring ourselves around to the point of believing, as is being charged in the rumors, that the City Council's delay is also due to the fact that it is looking for the kind of Negro representation on the Board that would be acceptable to it rather than the Negro segment of the city's population.

In spite of the one or two members on the Council who are reportedly anti-Negro, we are inclined to give a majority of them the benefit of doubt in our belief that they are desirous

of serving all the citizens of Durham to the best of their ability. A majority of the members are too well aware that the appointment of any person to fill the vacancy who is not acceptable to the Negro citizens would only create a more troublesome situation than now exists with regards to the City Council's keeping open its line of communication with the Negro community.

In addition a majority of the members are well aware that they are not close enough to the Negro community to know who is qualified to serve in such a capacity, to say nothing about being acceptable to it. We think the City Council would be using good judgment in its deliberation on the matter if it would rely on the Durham Committee on Negro Affairs to assist in filling the vacancy. After all, the Committee is the one organization that has been chosen by the Negro community to represent and speak for it in such matters and its recommendations should not be by-passed too lightly by the City Council.

Whatever happens within the next few days we trust the City Council will realize the urgency of the matter and proceed immediately to name a capable person to fill the vacancy. Such is necessary in order that the Board of Education may have the correct wishes and the full cooperation of Negro citizens in its efforts to provide a school system for Durham that is for the best interest of all concerned.



REV. HAROLD ROLAND



SPIRITUAL INSIGHT

Christians Must Stand Ready to Offer Spiritual Food to the Needy

"I bring some spiritual gift to make you strong." Rom. 1:11.

How often we long to carry some spiritual gift to make stronger some weak, struggling soul. In humbleness and love, we all have this longing or desire to help make someone stronger. Paul, as a true minister of Christ, had this desire for the saints in Christ at Rome. The world is in great need of more people with this loving concern to offer spiritual strength. Everywhere we turn we run into souls who need the magic touch of spiritual strength or healing. I see countless souls who lack the spiritual strength to meet the demands of an overwhelming crisis. Many souls, like the man of old, are weighed in the balance of the demands of life and they are found wanting in the needed spiritual power to carry on successfully.

Christians ought stand ready to offer the matchless gift of spiritual strength to embattled needy souls. Go then, and offer the gift of spiritual strength for that discouraged and needy soul. Yes, there is someone near you who needs the magic life that the spiritual strength of the Mas-

ter can give. You, the Christian, ought to be able to say to some needy soul, "I bring some spiritual strength to make you strong." Christ wants you to be a channel or vessel to convey this needed spiritual power. If passing along the other day some someone told a gripping, heart-rendering story of a person struggling desperately in the darkest depths. Here was someone told a very gripping, heart-rendering story of a person who needed the spiritual strength found in Christ which makes human strong to endure.

That spiritual gift may snatch a soul from the very jaws of shameful defeat. Such spiritual strength made available at the right time might have saved the fine young man who was found dead from a self-inflicted wound at the age of twenty-four.

Spiritual strength offered at the strategic moment could save many of the suicides committed every two and half minutes in this God-blessed land of prosperity. Why do we have so much spiritual weakness in the midst of such physical plenty? We need

to carry spiritual gifts to weak discouraged men and women to make them strong. I left the barber shop the other day and a friend told me of a man who was fighting a difficult battle. As soon as I left the barber shop I ran into the man and I offered him a word of spiritual encouragement that he may be made strong to fight and win his battle. A word aptly spoken may save a struggling soul from defeat.

The spiritual power of Christ Jesus must be applied where the individual is in need. Yes to be meaningful and helpful the spiritual power must be brought to bear where need is found. The need may be in a home of confusion and conflict. The need may be in some hospital bed. The need may be where some soul cries out for help in the struggle with a chronic case of alcoholism. The need may be where some soul is threatened by temptation. Thus we as Christians should be ever on the alert to find and bring to bear spiritual power to strengthen souls seemingly fighting losing battles in the intense struggles of this life

time when you received your first unconditional discharge after January 31, 1955. If less than three years have passed since that discharge, you are eligible. If more than three years have passed, you are not. Immediate reenlistment at the time you received that first unconditional discharge after January 31, 1955, would have had no effect on extending the dead line.

Q — As a veteran's widow figuring out my income and estate for purposes of a pension, can I include the unpaid balance due on the family auto mobile?

A — Yes, generally any just debt ruled as such by a probate court is also included and considered a just debt by the VA.

Q — Does the VA require a cash down payment to be made by the veteran in connection with a GI loan for purchase of a home?

A — No, but the lender may require one.

Q — May a lender require from the veteran security in addition to the property being purchased?

A — This is between the veteran and the lender. While the Veterans Administration does not require additional security, it does not object if the veteran is willing.



Next year, a fine and worthy public servant of the citizens of New York State comes up for re-election. I am talking about Senator Kenneth Keating. Senator Keating richly deserves re-election, not only because he has been one of the outstanding legislators of our nation, but also because he has consistently fought and spoken out for justice and honor in the treatment of minorities groups in our society.

There are a lot of people who are going around wearing a newborn liberalism because, to day, in certain areas of the country, it is not only fashionable to talk for freedom; it is downright necessary if you want to get elected to some office or to sell a product to the Negro market.

Ken Keating was espousing the cause of freedom long before it became 'the thing to do.' A search of his record will reveal a consistency on this score which can leave no doubt as to his sincerity.

Now, there is increasing talk about Mayor Wagner opposing Keating for the office of Sen-

ator from New York State. It is very difficult to say much against Mayor Wagner. He is a man of good will, by and large, but you couldn't honestly call him a mover and shaker of destiny. Sometimes, he seems best at appointing study commissions and setting up investigations after a crisis has taken place. Mr. Wagner makes all the proper sounds about bombings in Birmingham and he was in the line when the March on Washington was staged. But I cannot forget certain significant silences from City Hall. I cannot forget, for instance, that it was reported that the Mayor expressed himself as opposed to allowing J. Raymond Jones to become the head of Tammany Hall because we already had a Negro Borough President of Manhattan. The Mayor is alleged to have believed that, to give another Negro a powerful position would not be quite the thing to do. It was published that this was the Mayor's position and, as far as I have been able to learn, he never denied it. Neither did Jones get that particular job.

A Southerner Deals A Terrific Blow at Segregation

Former Governor Leroy Collins of Florida dealt a terrific blow at segregation Tuesday in an address to 500 persons at the annual meeting of the Greater Chamber of Commerce in Columbia, South Carolina. Collins charged in his address that the assassination of President Kennedy was fostered by "Dixie battle cries which incite sick souls to violence." He went on to state that a climate of violence has been created in the South by "the rabble rousers call to stand up and fight" for segregation and states' rights. Said Collins "How long are the majority of Southerners going to allow themselves to be caricatured before the nation by these claghorns? How many Sunday School children have to be dynamited to death? How many Negro leaders have to be shot in the chest? How many presidents have to be assassinated?"

much of the progress we have made. They have done it in speeches on the floor of Congress which have sounded like anti-American diatribe from some foreign country.

The address was one of the strongest of many statements that are now being uttered by leading and influential southerners on the subject and place of the former Florida governor in select company with such strong southern opponents of segregation as President Johnson, Dr. Frank Baker Graham, and others of national note. While it may not have been exactly directed at such congressional claghorns as North Carolina's Senators Erwin and Jordan and such organizations as the White Citizens Council and the Durham County Citizens Council, it is a rough shot over them.

"They have done it in the national press and on the national radio and on the national television to such an extent that citizens outside the South would be entitled to wonder if they might not need visas to pass through our region," Collins said. "Christians in the North and the South must recognize that racial justice is a basic issue of religion. Any rational man who looks at the horizon and sees the South of the future segregated is simply seeing a mirror of his reflection."

Said Collins further, "We have allowed the extremists to speak for the South—the very ones against whom we in the South had to struggle in our towns and state capitals for

It is ironic that in the same issue of the local daily newspaper that carried an account of Collins' address, there was published an account of the Durham County Citizens Council's support of an effort to keep Watts Hospital segregated. The DCCC officials and membership are probably too stupid to see in Collins' address the handwriting on the wall of segregation. There is one thing certain, either the old South with its worship of race hatred must go or democracy must go. It is our belief that the struggle now coming on the scene in the South a new leadership that in the end will see this section of the nation the real bulwark and stronghold of democracy.

The Harlem Rent Strike Against Slums

The so-called rent strike of Negroes in Harlem against apartments with no heat, leaky roofs, rats, inadequate toilet facilities and other inadequate plumbing fixtures is much past due. While the present rebellion against merciless landlords is presently confined to the city of New York there is every indication that it is certain to spread to other large northern and western cities and eventually to rental areas in southern cities.

The defenseless, like any other sin, is not governed by race, creed or color but by the damnable spirit of take all and give nothing. Before the rent strike spreads into the South we would advise all landlords in this area to begin now to put their houses in order. Once the fury is aroused, against the type of houses for which many of them are now being paid, it will be no easy task to calm it. To be forewarned is to be forearmed.

There are a large number of us who would like to think of such conditions as those existing in Harlem as a problem confined solely to New York. The truth of the matter, however, is that there is hardly a city or town of any size north, east, west or south in which landlords of rental property, especially in the case of Negro tenants, are not just as guilty as those who own the described apartments in Harlem.

Here in Durham these are some rent areas, including several owned by Negroes and rented to Negroes, that are just as deplorable as those pictured in Harlem. The tendency to exploit or squeeze every penny possible out

What Other Editors are Saying

EDUCATION, TRAINING MANDATORY NOW IF YOUTHS ARE TO FIND JOB IN FUTURE

"High school dropouts constitute one of the tragedies of our era. Inasmuch as they are equipped with few of the skills needed by industry, they frequently swell the ranks of the unemployed. In their depressed state, they not only suffer personal hardship but they become a burden on their community."

The foregoing statement from the Washington Report published by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States is worthy of the most serious consideration by parents and their children. It is a hard, cold fact that many jobs are vacant for the reason that great hordes of the unemployed have not been trained to perform skilled work. It is true for all who read to know that there are few jobs for unskilled hands to do. Machines are now doing the work formerly done with pick and shovel.

Parents must concern themselves with these facts and refuse to permit their children to drop out of school. More than that, they must insist that their children study hard to prepare themselves for useful service. They must not permit their children to commit economic suicide by dropping out of school. For, if they drop out or refuse to take courses which will prepare them for skilled work they will be unable to find work later in life.

The worst part of a student dropout is the fact that he doesn't know that he is committing economic suicide. And, it is the primary duty of parents to inform their children of this fact. While the schools have the responsibility of providing opportunities for children to learn they cannot force children to remain in school. Permit us to repeat again, the current situation of surplus jobs and wide unemployment clearly tells the story that sufficient education and training are mandatory NOW if present day teenagers are to find employment in the future.

—PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

Yes, We All Talk

COURTESY VOTE

By MARCUS H. BOULWARE

By "courtesy vote" is meant casting a vote for one's opponent. We have noted in club election of officers that many candidates vote for their opponents as a matter of courtesy. To do this, if not in fact, suggests that you want your opponent elected. It would be more logical for a man to vote for himself to fill an office.

While most people are too modest to do it, it would be in good taste for a person to nominate himself for an office if he is interested. It might be done this way:

"Mr. Chairman, I nominate myself for the office of president of this club." Thus, in this

What Other Editors are Saying

UNANIMOUS VOTE

It is not good to move that "So-and-So" be elected to the office of secretary, for example, by unanimous choice of the house. Actually, one vote could defeat his election. This would be tragic, since the majority might have elected him to the office.

Often a club votes on an unwieldy motion; but, even so, it can remedy the situation by proposing a motion "to reconsider the motion voted upon."

Suppose that a club passes a motion to the effect that it give a dance to which each member may invite two guests. The members may recognize that the cost will be prohibitive and wish to reconsider their decision. This is the way it should be put:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that we reconsider the motion that each member be allowed to invite two guests to the dance."

If the motion "to reconsider" is passed, then the question of dance and number of people to invite is again brought before the house for debate and vote.

Once the motion "to reconsider" is passed, then the chairman should ask the secretary to read the particular motion in question.

READERS: For my parliamentary chart of motions, send fifty cents to cover cost of handling. Write to Dr. Marcus H. Boulware, Box 310-A, Florida A. and M. University, Tallahassee, Fla.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

By ELIZABETH H. BULLOCK

J—for the journey of life he has traveled.

O—for the onward goals he has unraveled.

H—for his heads he stretched out to mankind.

N—for never shirking on a task so sublime.

F—for the figure of life he has led.

I—for his interest, intellectual paths to tread.

T—for the time he took over the force.

Z—for the zeal of pursuing an ardent course.

G—for generosity he always expressed in living.

E—for earnest desire of free giving.

R—for the reality he saw in moral life.

A—for the answer he gave against strife.

L—for the love he had for all men.

D—for the doctrine "to live free from sin."

K—for the kindness, the good will for the world.

E—for the ease from confusion he unfurled.

N—for nobility, a wonderful gem.

N—for his name, none other like him.

E—for the elegy that will be written on his grave.

D—for deeds of goodness, unselfish he has paved.

Y—for youth, he employed his best.

—Live on noble statesman, you are simply at rest.

Most Accidents Are Entirely Avoidable—MVC

RALEIGH—A smashed auto mobile with its occupants killed or hurt and holiday gifts scattered around—that's sure way to ruin the Christmas season.

"Don't let it happen to you and your loved ones," motorists were warned this week by Motor Vehicles Commissioner Edward Scheidt.

Most accidents are entirely avoidable, the vehicles chief said, and the cause behind those that do happen usually can be traced to an act of carelessness. Either on the part of a pedestrian or driver.

Accidents should be labeled "caused occurrences," he said. For the upcoming Yule season, considerable extra care is going to be needed to meet the extraordinary hazards of holiday excitement, shopping rush and bad weather, he explained.

"Gay street and store decorations must not cause us to overlook changing traffic lights," Scheidt warned.

"Either in a crowd of pedestrians or in crowded slow moving traffic lanes, we must all be patient and law abiding.

"If streets and roads are slippery, avoid sudden moves whether walking or driving. "Let your Christmas holiday end on the calendar," Scheidt cautioned, "not on the highway!"

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