

The Halifax County Voters Movement

We would like to take this opportunity to invite the special attention of our readers to an article concerning a petition of the Halifax County Voters Movement, appearing on the front page of this week's issue of the Carolina Times. It will be noted that the members of the organization, mostly Negro citizens of the county, have been careful to enounce the petition, which was to the Halifax County Commissioners, in the form of requests rather than demands. That they did not put their desires in the form of demands was probably a serious disappointment to their adversaries.

So basic, so elementary and so fundamental are the ten requests, to the exercise of citizenship rights, that respectable and progressive citizens of both races in other counties of the state will be amazed to discover that right here in North Carolina, as well as in the half-civilized states of the deep South, like Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana, there still are white people who are so possessed with an inferiority complex that the only time they can feel on a par with others of their own race is when they are kicking Negroes around.

With a Negro population that outnumbered that of the white citizens of the county, resulting in the final analysis that Negroes are carrying a sizable portion, if not more of the tax load, it appears that every one of the ten requests, made of the County Commissioners, is a fair and just one and only a natural consequence of the growing intelligence and needs of the Negro citizenry. It is also to the credit of the Negroes of Halifax County that for so long a duration they have exhibited so much patience, Christian spirit, brotherly love and forbearance toward their fellow white citizens.

For those not fully acquainted with Halifax County it is expedient that we advise here that, for the most part, the county is an agricultural area. Prior to the coming of mechanized farming, Negroes of the county did most of the back-breaking and menial labor on the

farms, often at wages that were so low it kept them only one step above serfdom. In spite of such a deplorable state of affairs, many of them, through hard work, sacrifice and frugality, bought farms, homes, educated their children and, in time, emerged as landlords, businessmen and professionals.

While the changeover to better understanding and interracial cooperation was taking place in other parts of the state, the whites in Halifax County continued and still are endeavoring to hold fast to the false notion that they can keep the Negroes of their county in the ditch without staying in there with them. As a result, the economic condition of all the people is far below that of many counties in other sections of the state. Along with such a state of affairs, the climate is ready-made for the Ku Klux Klan, racial animosity, suspicion and distrust. In short, Halifax County is a veritable hell hole that more becomes the state of Mississippi than North Carolina, where, at least efforts in most sections of the state are being made to create a climate of better understanding and goodwill between the races.

In the efforts to improve their lot, we charge the Negroes of Halifax County to continue to be polite, to not be boastful, to resort to no violence, "to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." At the same time we would remind them to stand steadfast and immovable in their quest for first-class citizenship in their county. If they will do these things they will draw to their side many fine and upright white and Negro citizens of the state and the nation.

In the meantime, we again call upon them to continue the efforts toward increasing their voting strength. In this they must never cease until every Negro in Halifax County, who is of age, is qualified to vote. Once this is done a majority of the obstacles now standing in their way will vanish like the snow in a summer's sun.

The Case Against the 21 Southern Congressmen

Every liberty loving person in America should support the efforts of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund to unseat the 21 southern congressmen who have been elected to Congress from states that directly or indirectly deny Negro citizens free use of the ballot. Too long such members of Congress have had a field day in opposing civil rights both in and out of the Senate and the House of Representatives. We think the time has come for a show down. Either a Congressman should be elected by all the people of his state, without regard as to race, or he should not be seated in either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

It now appears that the NAACP Legal Defense Fund has the law on its side. Section 2

of the 14th Amendment plainly states that: "When the right to vote is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state . . . being 21 years of age . . . the basis for representation (in Congress) therein shall be reduced in proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens 21 years of age in such state."

It is our hope that the NAACP Legal Defense Fund will push the case of the 21 such southern congressmen to the fullest extent. In so doing it is also our hope that the organization will have the financial as well as the moral support of every citizen in this country who loves liberty.

Question to be Considered by NCC Trustee Board

We wish to apologize to the members of the Trustee Board of N. C. College for the editorial we published last week on the deplorable state of affairs now existing at NCC. We did not know at the time that a meeting of the Board was scheduled for the following week on Friday, December 11. It is our purpose to attempt to anticipate the agenda of meetings of the Board or to attempt, in any way, to influence the thinking of the members on matters of N. C. College which have been entrusted to them and them alone.

Since this editorial, therefore, will not be read until after the December meeting of the NCC Board, which consequently will give each and every member ample time before the next meeting to carefully and thoughtfully ponder some of the perplexing problems now confronting NCC, we would like to respectfully submit, for the board members' consideration the following information.

It probably was not on the agenda of the December 11 meeting of the NCC Trustee Board but the next scheduled meeting should face up to the question of the large number of faculty resignations that occurred at NCC during its 1963-64 term. It ought also look into the large number of faculty members who are on leave for the present school term with the idea in mind of checking on just how many will fail to return after the leave of absence has expired.

It is only natural that any educational in-

stitution will have some resignations and that it will have several of its faculty members to be away on leaves of absence. In the latter instances, it may not be a healthful indication, especially when such leaves turn out to be only leaves of permanent departure. No educational or business institution can thrive on too many resignations or a continuous turnover in its personnel.

The NCC Trustee Board might also look into the matter of just why the president of the college refused to approve the faculty selection of Dr. W. E. Farrison for representative of the NCC Executive Committee. The members of the Board should look carefully and long into the fact that members of the faculty, as well as the president, were aware that Dr. Farrison might be away from the college as "one of the Cooperative Humanities Fellowships at Duke University."

They should inquire as to why, in the face of such knowledge, he received the highest number of votes for the position. Should the Board inquire far enough into the matter, they might discover that the members of the faculty had been fully satisfied that Dr. Farrison's work at Duke would not interfere with his service on the NCC Executive Committee.

It has been reported to this newspaper that the president of N. C. College has done some excellent work in the field of chemistry, which is in sharp contrast to what he has done as a college administrator. We think, therefore, the Trustee Board would be justified in ordering a chemistry laboratory placed in the office of the president of NCC or it should place the president in the NCC chemistry laboratory. This is where, it appears, he rightfully belongs and where, we believe, he would be able to do a most excellent job, as well as render a contribution to his time and generation.

WHY NOT THE SAME CONCERN HERE?



By WHITNEY M. YOUNG, JR. THE MUDDLE IN MEDICINE

The health of the American people leaves much to be desired.

Contrary to the ballyhoo and back-slapping indulged in by some medical men, the cold, sober facts issued by the UN's World Health Organization (WHO) reveal that we aren't in first place—or anywhere near it.

In the crucial area of infant mortality—regarded by medical men as a good yardstick of a nation's health—this country lags disgracefully.

Our showing—when one measures the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births—is inferior to many nations including Russia.

Among those where a child has a better chance to get through his first year of life (35.6 out of each 1,000 born die here) are Russia, 32.0; West Germany, 31.7; Israel, 29.0; Japan, 28.6; Canada, 27.2; France, 25.6; New Zealand, 22.8; United Kingdom, 22.1; Denmark, 21.5; Switzerland, 21.0; Norway, 20.8; Australia, 19.5; Finland, 18.9; Sweden, 15.5; and The Netherlands, 15.4.

Our medical care is a crazy-quilt, catch-as-catch-can non-system in which most of the poor have no real "doctor-patient relationship." For 30,000,000 whites and 10,000,000 Negro citizens

mired in poverty, medical care is a national disgrace.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), the Senate majority leader, saw the tie-up between ill health and poverty clearly in a recent address urging a comprehensive medical insurance plan for the elderly. "We are not going to attack poverty unless we also attack . . . ill health and disability," he declared.

Disease kills 1.7 million Americans every year and absences attributed to illness in a like period cost the economy \$13 billion, the senator observed. This tragic loss is sustained even though Americans pay an average of \$114 each for uncomprehensive care although in England, for instance, the typical man pays only \$50 and seems to live a year longer in the bargain.

It takes no sage to recognize that this country is short of hospitals, nursing homes, medical schools, clinics, and other health facilities as well as the doctors, nurses, technicians and other personnel needed to staff them. In just one city alone, Chicago, Dr. Karl S. Kleck, head of the hospital planning council, said the city lacked 17,000 hospital workers.

Few persons, Negroes included, are willing to enter hospital work given the pitifully inadequate wage scales which now prevail.

And few families mired in poverty can afford the luxury of putting a son through med school, even though doctors are so separately needed, many hospitals are bringing in Latin American interns.

The public needs to bring some order out of the chaos that is medical care today. That many hospitals perform superbly is beside the point. There are not enough that do, and often their "philanthropy" is subsidized by the low pay of their employees.

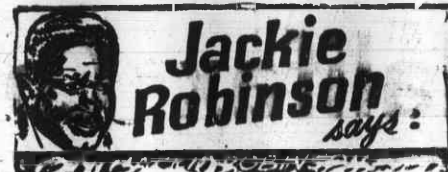
A national insurance plan on a pay-as-you-go basis covering all citizens, not merely the elderly, ought to be a first step. And a massive federally-assisted program to build new facilities and train the personnel needed to staff our medical facilities is a companion move vitally needed.

To do less is unconscionable, unpardonable and not in the dynamic American tradition. Those who look to the past on this subject will never overcome the obstacles of the present. Those who look to the present know that we must prepare for the future.

As the novelist Albert Camus has written, true nobility lies not in being superior to other persons but in being superior to our former selves.

This is the challenge to the medical care profession today.

To Be Equal



THE CREATIVE REVOLUTION

Martin Luther King, Jr. often refers to the "marvellous creativity" which has characterized the movement of the American Negro toward the goals of human dignity in this country.

Dr. King is right. The Revolution has produced tragedies. It has given rise to heroes and living legends like Dr. King himself. It has cost blood, sweat and tears and it has opened the eyes of many white Americans to the justice of the Negroes' demands and stiffened the resentment of others.

But the Revolution has done more than this. It has made famous the Freedom Music of the Negro—music which we, as a race, have known for generations, music sustained us during the days of slavery. The movement has brought about the production of some great books, some fine paintings, some classic poetry and editorials which are gems, written by both white and colored people.

One of the exciting creative by-products of the Revolution is the arrival on the entertainment scene of a unique singing trio which is known as the Pilgrims. This group—two young men and a girl has been featured in several important television shows recently, will be profiled in the December issue of Vogue Magazine and has just signed a contract with Columbia records.

The Pilgrims came into being little less than a year ago when the three members met, quite by accident in the studio of Chuck Stewart, a topflight photographer. The three were Angelina Butler, the oldest daughter of a backwoods country minister in East Over, South Carolina; Robert Guillaume of St. Louis and Millard Williams from Bermuda.

The afternoon of their meeting, the three young people delightedly discovered common bonds—mutual values, sympathetic ideas and, most of all, a vital interest in folk song. They began dreaming—and something about—becoming the first all-Negro folk trio.

Those who have been fortunate enough to have heard this group do not have to be told that they come through as one of the freshest and most appealing voice blends to come along since the revivals of folk music in this country. With the type of bookings which have been procured for them, there is little doubt that they will occupy a top position in the business in the not too distant future.

Robert Guillaume, raised on the Mississippi levee, worked as a streetcar motorman, mailman

and candy maker before completing his musical and academic education at St. Louis University. An alumnus of Cleveland's noted Karamu Theatre, he has been featured in numerous Broadway shows and starred in Langston Hughes' "Tambourines to Glory" as well as in the Sportin' Life role in New York City Center's "Porgy and Bess" revival.

Bermuda-born Millard Williams studied violin and attended the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada. He toured with the Leonard DePaur Infantry Chorus, appeared on CBS Radio Network shows and won the Martha Baird Rockefeller Scholarship which afforded him a chance to study in Europe. In England he joined the Birmingham Company and had his own radio show as the leader of a vocal quartet on the B. B. C. in London.

The writer first met the girl member of the Pilgrims, Angelina Butler, when she was attending a CORE interracial action institute in Miami. I learned that this girl who had such winning ways, had been one of the first "sit-in" leaders in the Nashville Movement. She was a member of the same central committee which brought into civil rights prominence such courageous people as Diane Nash, James Bevel, John Lewis, Marion Berry and Bernard Lafayette. Angelina was one of the first 97 students leaders jailed in Nashville. It was these protests, you will recall, which led to student sit-ins all over the land and resulted in the desegregation of public facilities in scores of communities.

When I first met Angelina, she had just been released on bond following a shopping center sit-in. I was so impressed by the strength and dedication of this young woman, I frankly told her I didn't believe I would have the ability to remain non-violent under the kind of conditions she and her colleagues had faced.

Angelina Butler and her two partners in freedom-singing deserve richly the success which is coming their way. Miss Butler is a Fisk music major. She was on scholarship at Juillard. During the past year, she has been presented as a soloist with the Buster Davis Singers on the Bell Telephone Hour and has also appeared with Joan Sutherland, Robert Merrill and Carol Lawrence.

As the saying goes, Miss Butler has "paid her dues" in the civil rights struggle. May she and her singing mates live long and enjoy increasing success as they interpret the music of the struggle for the delight of many people.

ARE ALL ALCOHOLICS 'BUMS'?



WHY ARE THERE FEWER ALCOHOLICS AMONG WOMEN THAN MEN?

DOES ALCOHOL CAUSE STOMACH ULCERS?

True Facts About Alcohol

No. Actually, less than 10% of alcoholics are Skid Row delinquents. Those afflicted with alcoholism come from all walks of life and represent every segment of the total population regardless of educational status, social or economic background, or race. They all have one thing in common: the compulsive, uncontrolled need to drink.

WHY ARE THERE FEWER ALCOHOLICS AMONG WOMEN THAN MEN?

This question is often asked. However, scientists are not certain that this is true due to the fact that society tends to protect women more so than men. Many women are homemakers—hence, they are unemployable and can drink in the confines of their

homes. Many feel that the number of women alcoholics is increasing. According to the latest statistics, men outnumber women 4 to 1 as compared to a previous ratio of 5 to 1.

DOES ALCOHOL CAUSE STOMACH ULCERS?

No. Alcohol itself does not cause stomach ulcers, but it may aggravate existing ulcers. However, medical research has proven that alcoholics frequently develop certain physical diseases as an indirect result of drinking.

Most of these diseases are brought about by malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies which result from inadequate nutrition and rest. After a long period of drinking when the drinker fails to get proper rest and food, he

may develop alcoholic psychoses and imagine that animals are attacking him. When this happens, he is in need of hospitalization.

CAN ALCOHOL KILL A PERSON?

Yes, if a large quantity is taken very rapidly over a short period of time. The state of an individual's health, age, weight and previous drinking all play a part in how soon death will occur. It is possible for death to occur if there is as much as a percent concentration of alcohol in the blood. Excessive drinking over a long period of time may also cause deterioration of vital organs in the body. It has been estimated that alcoholism can shorten the life span 10-15 years.

Know The Negro

By ALBERT D. LESTER

Now here comes the head of state of a foreign country known as Mississippi, meddling in the affairs of the American people.

Governor Paul B. Johnson says he agrees with Mr. J. Edgar Hoover that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a "notorious liar." So, Mr. Johnson observes, do "thousands of people." He did not add whether the "thousands" were white Mississippians.

One is curious to know why Mr. Johnson has injected his opinion into the Hoover-King controversy. He and his fellow potentates below the Mason-Dixon are constantly crying that Northerners are interfering with their internal business. If there is virtue in practicing what one preaches, then the sovereign ruler of Mississippi ought to eschew comment on this particular issue. For Mississippi has demonstrated that it considers itself foreign to the United States, autonomous in its regard of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, Declaration of Independence, Civil Rights Bill and certainly of the Golden Rule and the Judeo-Christian ethic.

It is rather curious that the Bull Connor-like attack on Dr. King should come at a time when he has been selected to receive the highest award it is possible to give to man. But then it is not so curious. It would appear that, the recognition of Dr. King as TIME'S "Man Of The Year," his reception by the Pope and, finally the award of the

Nobel Peace Prize have gotten to be too much for the extreme rightists. Mr. Hoover has been smoked out into admitting that he is a States-Righter—and I suppose that, if we are going to have a States-Righter for our chief cop, we ought to know about it.

With typical charity, Dr. King has stated that he feels it is time the controversy end so that all parties concerned can get on with the business of civil rights and law enforcement. Dr. King is an incurable optimist if he honestly believes J. Edgar Hoover entertains a passion for law enforcement when that law enforcement relates to the Negro in the South—or even to whites who espouse the cause of civil rights. But then, in these troubled days, someone has to be an optimist.

MONTINI BROTHERS

According to the Catholic Digest, Pope Paul has two brothers: Lodovico, a year older, and Francesco, five years older.

MEMORIAL DAY MILEAGE

Race drivers at Indianapolis get about four miles per gallon using special fuels at a \$1 a gallon.

Overheard at an office snack bar: "I figure my job is safe. It doesn't pay enough to make it worthwhile to invent a machine to do it."

Published every Saturday at Durham, N. C. by United Publishers, Inc. H. B. AUSTIN, Publisher Second Class Postage Paid at Durham, N. C. 27705 SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$4.00 per year (plus 12¢ tax in N. C.) in advance in U.S.A. and Canada and to subscribers Overseas \$7.00 per year. Single copy 15¢. Postage paid at Durham, N. C.