

The Bloc Vote Question

We trust Negro citizens of Durham will not become offended, disgusted or discouraged at the insinuations, epithets, accusations and attacks being hurled against them under the veiled name of "the bloc vote." We would remind them, however, that reference to the so-called "bloc vote" in Durham is in reality reference to the Negro vote. It is a sinister attempt to arouse the unintelligent white voters to the extent they will vote in sufficient number to offset the Negro vote.

As we have so often said in these columns if there is such a thing in the Negro community as a bloc vote it is nothing new. It is the "bloc vote," that is most always used by whites against Negro candidates for public office; against legislation in Congress that would improve the lot of Negroes in the southern states and other states of the nation.

Probably the most effective and most often used bloc vote is that of southern congressmen in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives whenever civil rights legislation is an issue. Again and again the nation has observed the bloc vote of southern congressmen hurled against any and all civil rights legislation that is brought before the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives.

Negro citizens of Durham, in spite of what may be said against them, are, therefore, urged to go to the polls on Saturday, May 13, and cast their vote ballots in the election for mayor and seven councilmen. We again urge you to not be deterred by whatever is said or done but to go to the polls and cast your ballots with the dignity that becomes all respectable American citizens when exercising such a high and noble privilege.

Howard University Takes Its Stand

The announcement this week in this newspaper that the president of Howard University, Dr. James M. Nabrit has taken his stand beside the presidents or heads of other leading and predominantly Negro institutions of higher learning, will be applauded by all those who believe in law and order in this country. As one of the oldest, largest and most outstanding predominantly Negro educational institutions in the nation, Howard University has long been looked to for leadership by its sister schools.

With the positive stand that has recently been taken by other leading predominantly Negro educational institutions on the question of "indecent and disruptive activities" that have been besetting them over the past several weeks, we trust the period of unrest has come to a close and that better understanding and cooperation between students and faculty members will result.

We think all fairminded persons will agree that the stand taken by the president of Howard University is as fair as it is possible to make. Certainly students and faculty members have a right to academic freedom so long as the exercise of such is not carried to the extent of destruction. That is why the statement emphasizes Howard University's commitment to "due process and fair play in the adjudication of violations of University policies, rules and regulations."

This newspaper, likewise, believes in self determination, freedom of speech, the right of protest, academic freedom and every other right of an American citizen, be it student, faculty member or ordinary citizen. At the same time we do not believe in the exercise of such when one embarks on a program to destroy or even hazard the rights of his fellowmen.

Honor for a 125-Year-Old N. C. Native

The CAROLINA TIMES salutes this week a native son of North Carolina, now living in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Sylvester Magee, who on May 29 will celebrate his 125 birthday. It is our feeling that all good citizens of the state will join in saying and even singing "Happy Birthday" to Magee, who in spite of his age, is quite a spry and chipper young fellow. Magee was born in Carpet, N. C., May 29, 1841.

We believe it was on Magee's birthday last year that he was honored by President Johnson, who sent a letter of congratulations and Governor Paul B. Johnson of Mississippi who issued a proclamation proclaiming Magee's birthday, May 29, as "Sylvester Magee Day," throughout the state of Mississippi.

It is also our feeling that Negroes all over America should feel proud of Magee in that he is probably the last living former slave in the nation and above all that he fought on the side of the Union Army during the Civil War in behalf of securing freedom of his race from slavery.

We think, though, that pride is not enough in the face of the fact that the 125-year-old former slave is now

forced to eke out his last days on a pittance of \$50 per month, which he receives from the state of Mississippi. Too old to have become eligible for social security and other benefits from his past labors, during the days when Negroes often worked for less than \$2.00 per week, the old man finds himself on the outside of the modern day social order looking in.

Further it is our feeling that there are many fellow North Carolinians in both races who would feel honored to contribute to the upkeep of a fellow Tar Heel who has lived so long. We, therefore, have appealed to the Trust Department of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank to become custodian or trust officers for whatever contribution or funds persons in North Carolina would like to give to the 125-year-old man.

Checks or Money Orders should be made to the Magee Fund and mailed or sent in care of the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, N. C. Trust officer of the Bank, Attorney W. E. Ricks, has kindly consented to see that the funds are sent to Sylvester Magee, only, or disbursed in his behalf.

Things You Should Know

Felix Sylvestre EBOUÉ...

... BORN DEC. 26, 1884, ON A FARM IN CAYENNE, FRENCH GUIANA, HE WAS EDUCATED IN PARIS—STUDYING FOR LAW! IN 1930 HE BECAME CHIEF SEC'Y. IN MARTINIQUE, FRENCH WEST INDIES & EARNED MANY PROMOTIONS. ON JUNE 19, 1940 HE MADE HIS FAMOUS WARTIME RADIO APPEAL FROM LONDON. A LONG & BRILLIANT CAREER WAS ENDED ON MAY 18, 1944, WHEN HE DIED AT AGE 60 IN A HOSPITAL IN CAIRO, EGYPT!



CONTINENTAL FEATURES CO.

Just A Matter Of Time!



--Slave

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been sick during his long and simple life. He is not eligible for Social Security benefits because he has not worked since the law was enacted. Also during 1965 he traveled by jet to a meeting of champion fishermen and was billed as the country's oldest fisherman. As of today, he is an avid participant in this sport and makes daily visits to a nearby river which flows through Hattiesburg.

Additional information furnished the Times office by Magee's attorney includes an account carried by The Clarion-Ledger of Jackson, Mississippi (May 28, 1965), of the efforts of that city's Civil War Roundtable organization, to verify the ex-slave's rendition of the Seige of Vicksburg, the Battle of Champion Hill, and others.

Sylvester says that he was born on May 29, 1841, at Carpet, N. C. and at the age of 19, was brought to the Slave Market at Enterprise, Miss., and sold to Hugh Magee. His father Ephraim (Magee) lived to be 104; the date of birth and death appear on the headstone marking his grave. His mother Jeannette Edmonds (Magee), died in 1939 at the age of 119. Her former owners, the J. J. Shank family of North Carolina had given her a Bible in which she had placed her son's date of birth. However this Bible was destroyed by fire in 1962 when the house in which Sylvester lived burned. There are people in Hattiesburg who testify to having seen the Bible and the entry of his birth recorded in it.

Regarded as the most substantial evidence of Magee's age is a 1965 taped interview in which he described his participation in the Seige of Vicksburg while serving in the Union Army. So exacting are his descriptions of Union Officer's dress, Army food, the destruction of Jackson following the war, and other irrefutable facts, that they prove emphatically that he was present and an actual participant.

When queried about the breakup of his last marriage, he claims his wife deserted him when he needed her. He says he is active and very much interested in girls but does not think he will venture into matrimony again.

A God fearing man, Sylvester Magee points out that he smokes what he can afford, never drinks intoxicants, never uses profanity, and credits his long life to his belief in "The Man Upstairs."

--Elected

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trict Leader in the First Baptist Church of Chapel Hill. He has done graduate work at A. and T. College, Greensboro and N. C. State University, Raleigh. At present, he is teacher of Auto Mechanics at Chapel Hill Senior High and Supervisor of Transportation for Chapel Hill City Schools.

--Dowdy

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both faculty and students at A. and T. is progressing, the pace is slower than expected. We seek top students, regardless of race."

--Duncan

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North Carolina Department of Public Instruction for twelve years, from 1946 through 1968. He has been president at Livingstone since 1958.

At Livingstone Dr. Duncan has been the architect and prime promoter of an ambitious 10-Year Development Program costing an estimated \$7,000,000 in new facilities alone. Only last week he presided at the awarding of contracts totaling \$1,000,000 in new construction on the church-related campus.

Dr. Duncan is a Past President of the North Carolina Teachers Association with numerous affiliations including: North Carolina Board of Welfare, North Carolina Board of Higher Education, Board of Directors of the North Carolina Fund, Vice President, Piedmont University Center, North Carolina Advisory Committee to the U. S. Civil Rights Commission, the American Council on Education, and the Board of Christian Education and the Connectional Budget Board of the A. M. E. Zion Church.

He has authored numerous articles for professional and learned publications and serves frequently as a lecturer and speaker before educational and civic groups as well as religious and educational institutions.

--Charges

Continued from front page

action, seeks to have Philip Morris Company and those acting in concert enjoined from continuing to maintain a policy of limiting its Negro employees to the lower paying jobs in the Pre-Fabrication Department.

He also charged Philip Morris with denying Negroes an opportunity to have an effective transfer to the Fabrication and Warehouse, Shipping and Receiving Departments where higher wage rates are generally paid.

Mr. Briggs, through his LDF attorneys, charged that Philip Morris and Local 203 of the Tobacco Workers International Union discriminate against Negroes, in violation of Title VII, by paying Negroes lower wage rates for jobs which are on the same level as jobs that have generally been reserved for white persons.

The EEOC found probable cause in both instances, thus setting the stage for this week's litigation.

The LDF has now filed 37 suits in behalf of Negroes alleging job discrimination under Title VII.

--Manpower

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ducted at Guilford Technical Institute at Jamestown to train 20 upholsterers for 38 weeks, Federal cost \$58,493, total \$62,210; 30 gasoline engine repairmen for 19 weeks, Federal cost \$40,354, total \$42,903; 20 hotel and restaurant food service workers for 38 weeks, Federal cost \$58,335, total \$62,035; 20 combination welders for 38 weeks, Federal cost \$86,981, total \$71,653.

--Gaillard

Continued from front page

well qualified for his new post with Great Lakes Mutual. "He

possesses unusual imagination, initiative, and is a hard worker." The Training Division of N. C. Mutual Agency Department gained great stature under his direction," said Clement.

--Contest

Continued from front page

respectively, is Mrs. Oenida McGhee of Durham and Mrs. Aline Baldwin of Chapel Hill.

Not to be counted out of the running is Miss Rosa O. Bass of Rougemont, who it is reported may be the surprise contestant who will make a last minute lunge and walk off with one of the three prizes being offered in the Contest.

The Contest Manager would like to urge all active Contestants to please get their reports to the office of the Carolina Times by 8:00 p.m. Monday, May 15. Reports from out-of-town contestants must carry a postmark of 8:00 p.m. or before, if credit is to be given in the final standing of contestants.

Actual standing and announcement of the winners will be made in the May 20 issue of the Carolina Times as originally announced.

--Howard

Continued from front page

statement adds. Violations of these policies by students, faculty members, administrators, or staff members will be dealt with "promptly and firmly" by the University, according to the announcement.

"Almost daily the University finds itself beset by indefensible and disruptive activities which tend to reflect unfavorably upon the institution and which detract much needed time and attention from the normal conduct of the educational program," the policy statement said. "Many of these activities distort the educational mission of the University and violate the fundamental principles of academic freedom and civil liberties. Illustrative is the rude and intimidating conduct associated with the recent visit of General Hershey to Howard University, which received world-wide publicity resulting in inestimable damage to the University. This incident has brought condemnation from student leaders, faculty, alumni, government officials, and others.

"Equally deplorable have been what are apparently deliberate and concerted efforts, on the part of a few, to demean the University and to bring it into general disrepute through the dissemination of misleading and inflammatory information without prior attempts to communicate these concerns to or to secure the facts from or to solicit the views of responsible University officials," the announcement added. "The recent irresponsible activities of a few faculty members and students have no place in a university."

As a matter of basic policy, Howard is committed to academic freedom, the statement goes on to point out, but adds that absolute freedom could lead to anarchy. The University strives to strike a balance between maximum freedom and necessary order in an at-

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To Be Equal

By WHITNEY M. YOUNG JR.

Housing Goal Needed

A RECENT FORD Foundation-financed study look into the future and its picture of the U.S. in the year 2000 is fascinating. The study said that 60 percent of the population will live in three urban belts — in California, in Florida, and in a supermetropolis stretching from the east coast through the Great Lakes area in the Midwest. This is all based on projection of current trends which show Americans flocking to the big cities and their suburbs.

What will life be like in these supercities just 33 years hence? Again, based on current trends, I think life will be awful. I say this because nothing much is being done to meet today's needs in providing decent housing for all who need it, and nothing is being done to stop the spread of the ghetto.

If life in 2000 is to be bearable, the nation must start now to end discrimination in housing and to build homes and apartments on a scale appropriate to the need. Of prime importance is a fair housing policy which would allow Negroes to live wherever they wished, instead of being forced into overcrowded slums.

Of equal importance are measures to upgrade existing housing in the ghetto and make it attractive to live and work there.

To Encourage Racial Balance

One important step to prevent the spread of the ghetto is the new policy recently adopted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development which provides that low-rent public housing projects be built on sites which encourage racial balance. Now it will be harder for local authorities to build in the ghetto without considering alternative sites.

Edward Logue, director of Boston redevelopment, has proposed that slumlords be denied tax depreciation on decaying buildings which don't conform to building codes, thus taking the profit out of the housing exploitation business. He also suggests that special tax benefits called urban investment allowances be given to attract legitimate businessmen and developers into ghetto areas, especially for owner-occupied slum property, encouraging its improvement.

Similar incentives are going to have to be developed if we are to get a housing industry which can meet the needs of the present, much less the needs of the supercity of the year 2000. When the government decided it would land a man on the moon by 1970, it formed a "team" to do the job — government, scientists, universities, defense industries, all combined to create a vast aerospace industry which would overcome the problems of space exploration. Housing goals are at least as important and therefore a national housing goal must be established. It should become the focus of a vast effort which will create a national housing industry to provide the housing the nation so desperately needs.

Sub-standard Housing For 1 In 5

About one out of every five Americans lives in sub-standard housing. Yet to meet this need for better housing, and to provide for our rapidly growing population, there were only about 1.2 million new housing starts last year, less than in 1965. And only 40,000 of these were for families with low or lower-middle class incomes. If this trend continues, we won't have supercities in 2000, we will have super-slums.

The number of housing starts per year should be doubled with special emphasis on low and moderate income housing. A broadly based national housing industry could do the job, and it could support the research needed to fully exploit modern materials and building techniques which could lower the present high construction costs.

Taking a peek at what the future holds is always interesting, but its value lies primarily in showing us what must be done to prepare for it. We are not properly housing all of our population of about 200 million people; we had better start now to prepare to house the 311 million people predicted for 2000. It's only 33 years away.

Do's And Don'ts



Disagree, But Respect The Opinions Of Others

tempt to provide an environment conducive to teaching, learning, and research, the announcement added. In order to provide an opportunity for open debate and discussion, a location on campus will be designated where students may conduct rallies at specified times.