

New Education Chairman Faces Tough Job

About the best that can be said for the recent elevation of Dr. Theodore R. Speigner to the chairmanship of the Durham City Board of Education is that it establishes a precedent in that it is the first time in the history of Durham that a Negro has been named chairman of any important city or county board or committee.

Because of the very unsettled state of affairs now existing within the city educational system the appointment of Dr. Speigner as chairman of the board, may in the end prove disastrous in that he may be overwhelmed by the mountain of problems now facing the board. Thus it might be wise for those of his race who look upon his appointment as an advancement to exercise a bit of restraint and caution.

We trust that Dr. Speigner will guard with great care against permitting the matter of race to influence his leadership as chairman of the board. Certainly there will come times when prudence or right will demand that his decisions be made without regard for the demands of those of

his own race. All intelligent and fair-minded Negro citizens of Durham will not look, want or expect any special consideration from the new chairman because of his race. It is their hope, therefore, that his administration will prove to be one possessed with the highest statesmanship and fairplay to all.

This newspaper would also have it understood here and now that it refuses to endorse any form of violence on the part of Negro, white students or adults. We stand for law and order: we stand for a square deal for any and all, irrespective of race or color. It is not our feeling that the necessary changes that must be made in keeping with the new era now dawning cannot be achieved without violence, bitterness and force. It is, therefore, our hope and prayers that somehow Dr. Speigner will be able to supply the leadership that is going to be needed if Durham is to escape a catastrophe in its efforts to comply with integration of our public school system as interpreted by the U. S. Supreme Court.

A Boy's Best Friend

One of the organizations which has had a great deal to do with creating some of the most important things that are right about our nation has been the Boys' Clubs of America. Founded 109 years ago, this movement has grown until it now offers companionship, guidance, sports and educational opportunities to well over 750,000 boys from 7 to 17, who belong to more than 750 Boys' Clubs established in every part of the United States. Each club is supervised by full-time salaried professional career youth workers who are dedicated to the work of providing boys "A place to go... a way to grow."

Boys' Clubs provide professional assistance to boys who need a hand in establishing worthwhile goals in life and some motivation and encouragement in reaching them. It is a

remarkable fact that this movement is entirely dependent on public support, receiving no federal, state or municipal operating funds. The organization's goal of establishing one thousand clubs to help a million boys is made more difficult of achievement by the fact that too few people are really aware of the full scope of the Boys' Clubs of America, how clubs may be organized and what they can mean in giving the youth of practically any community, large or small, a real lift along the way when they may need it most.

Boys' Clubs are among the things that are right with America. They deserve the broadest national recognition, as well as the support and interest of more concerned individuals and organizations in everyone of the 50 states.

Equality the Issue

There is widespread interest in the subject of tax reform at both the state and the national level. An example of this interest is to be found in the state of California where legislation has been proposed which, if passed, would eliminate a major tax inequality, at least within the borders of the state and, at the same time, provide needed additional tax funds for schools, as well as city, county and state government.

The proposed legislation would impose an excise tax on government-owned electric and gas utility businesses in California equal to the state income, local property and franchise taxes paid by investor-owned gas and electric utilities in the state. These taxes amount to 14 per cent of the retail operating revenues of the principal investor-owned electric companies in California and 7 per cent for the major gas companies. Since the cost of taxes paid by any business is reflected in the prices of its products or services, nearly 80 per cent of the people in California served by investor-owned utility companies pay substantially more toward the cost of government and schools than the remaining 20 per cent of the people who are customers of government-owned utilities.

The proposed excise tax of 14 per cent on the retail revenues of government-owned electric utilities and 7 per cent on gas revenues would simply equalize the state and local tax burden between customers of government-owned and investor-owned and investor-owned systems. It would also result in \$50 million more in tax revenue of which the state would receive 10 per cent, counties and cities 40 per cent, and school districts 50 per cent each year.

Although extremists on both sides of the question will tend to cloud the issue it is important to realize that the question of tax equalization between investor-owned utilities and government-owned systems is not a public versus private power question. In California and other states and at the national level where similar legislation has been proposed, it is certainly not an attack on government-owned utility operations or a questioning of the propriety of such ownership. In California, the point of the matter is to achieve greater tax fairness for the people who own homes and businesses in the state homes equality for utility systems and their customers nationwide would be an excellent place to start a sensible and fair tax reform program.

Things You Should Know

"LEADBELLY"

1890 - 1949

BORN IN THE BACKWOODS OF LOUISIANA, MR. HUDDIE LEDBETTER WAS A WANDERING LABORER FOR FORTY YEARS/HE BOASTED HE COULD PICK A HALF TON OF COTTON A DAY/NEARLY SIX FEET TALL AND SOLID MUSCLE, HE BECAME WORLD-FAMOUS SINGING THE AUTHENTIC FOLK SONGS OF THE DEEP SOUTH/THOUGH HE NEVER STUDIED MUSIC, HE HAD MANY RECORDS TO HIS CREDIT, —MANY CONCERTS, TV AND RADIO SHOWS, AND MANY CHARITY AND BENEFIT SHOWS/



An Era Of Mitchellism...?

Clearly however, the results in which Mitchell is most interested lie not in the area of civil rights, but in the area of law and order. For it is here that President Nixon has made his greatest political investment. It is in this area that Mitchell must succeed if the President is to make good on his campaign promises. It is to strengthen the department here that Mitchell has become a partisan of wire taps, preventive detention, the prosecution of peace demonstrators and the surveillance of black panthers.

NEW YORK TIMES



LATENT PREJUDICES BETTER JOB CHANCES BETTER EDUCATION



THIS ADMINISTRATION IS PREPARED AND WILLING AND READY TO ACT IMMEDIATELY AS SOON AS WE'RE NOTIFIED OF DANGER, WE'LL HAVE THE NATIONAL GUARD IN THE ARMORY AND THE ARMY ON TWO, FOUR OR SIX-HOUR ALERT.

JERRIS LEONARD CHIEF - CIVIL RIGHTS BUREAU U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

--Block

(Continued from front page) worth was "an unwise appointment." The newspaper concluded: "It is not too late to voice approval or disapproval. This is our—DISAPPROVAL!" BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN: "President Nixon's consideration of Judge Clement F. Haynsworth of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, Richmond, as a member of the Supreme Court, once again exposes the 'law and order' cry as an appeal to racism. His record suggests he is not attuned to the times."

--League

(Continued from front page) University Small Business Development Center. The new directors added to NBL's board were: George Carroll of Baltimore, Maryland. He is Treasurer of the Baltimore Chapter of NBL and serves as an officer of the Baltimore Real Estate Brokers Association. Ernest L. Dixon of Atlanta, Georgia, is President of the Atlanta chapter of NBL and an officer of Citizens and Southern National Bank. Joseph Mobley of Atlantic City, New Jersey, is President of Atlantic City chapter of NBL and President of Mobley Construction Co., Inc. Mary Frederick of Detroit, Michigan is Secretary of the Booker T. Washington Business Association and is on the staff of Michigan State Auditor. Andrew D. Foster of Indianapolis, Indiana, is president of the Indianapolis chapter of NBL and is also President of Foster Motels.

The Convention re-elected Berkeley G. Burrell of Washington, D. C., President for another three year term. Detroit, Michigan was announced as the 1970 Convention site. Homer Waterman, President of the Booker T. Washington Business Association in Detroit, reported his city was preparing to make the next convention equally outstanding as the Memphis meeting.

--Housewives

(Continued from front page) energetic president, Mrs. Ann Whitehead, came up with an idea. Since the registration office is in a small building adjacent to the courthouse and on the ground floor, just a few feet away from the main street, why not stop passing Negroes on the sidewalk to ask them whether they are registered to vote? If the answer is no, one of the housewives urges the passer-by to step into the registration office to go through the brief procedure of registering. The approach has been remarkably successful. Even during the hot and busy tobacco harvesting season, the Kinston-Lenoir housewives have been registering well over 100 Negroes a week. Working with a small grant from the Voter Education Project of the Southern Regional Council, the housewives had registered 850 blacks between July 10, and August 29, when their current effort started. Of that number, says Mrs. Whitehead, 314 were brought into the registration office "off the streets." In addition to patrolling the sidewalk near the registration

office, the housewives make regular visits to poolrooms and other places where large numbers of black people are gathered. The approach saves both time and money. The women are spared the time-consuming task of driving all new registrants to the courthouse and they are saved some of the cost of gasoline for trips back and forth (which can mount up fast in rural areas), although some of this still must be done. In nearby LaGrange, Ira Branch operator of a grocery store, keeps a list of customers who are not registered to vote. Members of the League carry an average of two carloads of new black voters to Kinston each week. The customers indicate, as they sign Branch's list, when it will be convenient to go to Kinston to register.

The League had another big registration push last fall which, with a presidential election approaching, produced heavy black registration gains. But this year is not an election year in North Carolina, and John Edwards, director of the VEP-affiliated North Carolina Voter Education Project, says registration gains as heavy as those being produced by the Kinston-Lenoir housewives is "highly unusual" when no elections are coming up. In addition to registration work, which is its main activity, the Housewives League has several other projects. These include working with the anti-poverty program in providing homemaking instructions, helping to get welfare benefits to those in need, and helping those in need of housing to get into public housing. Mrs. Whitehead explained. These activities tie in naturally, she added, with contacts made in the course of doing voter registration work. Blacks and whites alike are impressed by the voter registration work done by the Housewives League.

"These ladies have done an excellent job," said Mrs. Thelma Rains, the white executive secretary of the Lenoir County Board of Elections. "They've worked hard — and they've worked us hard." Members of the Housewives League expect to bring in an even heavier registration when tobacco harvesting is over. They say they have long lists of men who have promised to register when this all-important season passes.

The Housewives League has many more months of hard work ahead if the black vote in Lenoir County is to be brought to its full potential. The black voting age population is about 10,000, only half of whom are presently registered. The white voting age population is 19,000, of whom more than 17,000 are registered. However, the black voting-age population is concentrated in Kinston, where the Housewives League has been making its strongest effort. Basically, the Housewives League consists of five housewives and three young people, plus three or four other Lenoir County women who help out regularly. Last year, a sorority gave Mrs. Whitehead the "Finner Womanhood Award" for her leadership role in the League.

New Britain, Conn., is known as the "Hardware City." When wrapping gifts, give yourself ample room and a flat surface on which to work.

--Grants

(Continued from front page) Among the students enrolling at Rutgers in September will be Luther Brown of Williams- ton, A&T's first Woodrow Wilson Fellow. Brown received a grant of \$9,180. Other students winning awards include Brian Benson, Miss Barbara Gore, and Alvin Thomas and Japhet Nkonge, all of Greensboro; Delores Cooke and LaSandra Keeve, High Point; Naomi Hagwood, Leasville; and Freddie Parker, Mebane. Also Mary Ann Barnes, Washington, D. C.; Keth Brown, Jamaica; Donzella Coleman, Charlotte; Cleon Currie, Efland; Willie Currie, Fayetteville; Mary Evans, Rock Mt.; James McLawhorn, Gre Mary Mills, Jacksonville; Ard Newkirk, Ivanhoe; Roberts, Bradley, Fla.; Albert Thombs, Glen A. Woodrow Harding and L. Jolley.

This Week In Negro History

THE FIRST Negro to serve in the United States Senate was born 147 years ago (1812) on Monday of this week. He was Hiram Revels who died in 1901. He represented Mississippi.

Other events of historical interest this week are as follows:

SEPTEMBER 1 — Bishop Charles B. Galloway (1849-1909) of Mississippi, promoter of interracial goodwill, born. SEPTEMBER 2 — Dr. Alexander T. Augusta, the first Negro to be commissioned in the medical department of the United States Army, got his credentials in 1863. James Fortem (1776-1842), Negro abolitionist and inventor, born. SEPTEMBER 3 — Charles H. Houston (1865-1950), eminent attorney, honors graduate of Howard University and early fighter for civil rights, born. Separate schools were abolished in 1865. John Stephen was appointed as Frederick Douglass' successor as Minister to Haiti in 1801. SEPTEMBER 4 — William E. Dodge (1806-1833), advocate of Negro education, born. SEPTEMBER 5 — John Wesley Cromwell (1846-1927), journalist and educator, born. SEPTEMBER 5 — John Wesley Cromwell (1846-1927), journalist and educator, born. SEPTEMBER 6 — Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834), friend of the Negro, born. SEPTEMBER 7 — John Merrick (1859-1919), one of the founders of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, born.

Catholics account for about one-third of North's Ireland's 1.5 million population, says the National Geographic. Arizona is known as "The Grand Canyon State."

To Be EQUAL

By WHITNEY M. YOUNG

Public Utilities

IF YOU DON'T like the service in a restaurant or a department store, you can always take your business elsewhere, but you can't switch electric companies. Public utilities like electric and gas companies are monopolies. Because they perform a vital public service and are protected from competition, they are subject to regulation by the state.

But they also have a special responsibility to the public — a responsibility greater than that of other private corporations who don't enjoy the guaranteed profits and shelter from the free market.

It seems that most public utilities are not living up to that special responsibility, especially as it relates to their treatment of the poor and to their obligation to use their power for socially desirable ends.

While many companies in the field are improving their employment policies, they have a long way to go. A federal study made a few years ago showed utility companies lagging far behind other industries in hiring Negro and other minority workers.

Cash Deposits Required

A common complaint affecting all poor people — black and white — is the usual policy of requiring deposits. Before the gas or electricity is turned on, most companies demand large cash deposits, sometimes as much as \$100.

Some people don't have to pay deposits. People who have good jobs, credit cards, and some of the other attributes of middle-class life, escape such payments. Most often it is the poor, who can afford large cash outlays least, who are forced to scrape together enough cash to pay the deposit that turns the lights on.

This is not only unfair, it's unnecessary. Deposits are supposed to insure the company against non-payment of bills. One study of a West Coast telephone company's debtors showed that five out of six didn't have to pay deposits — they were considered good risks.

If this is typical, then it means that poor people as a class are required to pay the deposits that ensure companies against losses from defaulters who are not poor. Here is another instance where the poor subsidize the better-off.

In urban areas, most poor people and especially black people, live in the center city. It's usually the older part of town where the pipelines and wires have already been laid and have been working for years.

The real cost to utilities lies in stretching these lines out to the growing suburbs or to new office and industrial buildings. But the companies calculate their rates on total costs in the whole area. That means that rates in poverty areas are the same as the rates in the outlying districts that are far more expensive to service. Again, the poor subsidize, through higher rates, the suburban middleclasses.

Large Users Often Favored

Large users of electricity, such as industrial plants, are often favored by lower rates. The reasoning is that big customers should get discounts. But here again, the poor pay more — this time to subsidize industrial concerns.

If rates were higher for industry, they'd still use the same amount of electricity. It's needed for production. The savings passed on to the poor would mean they could stretch already tight budgets a little further. But present unfair rate structures mean homes in poverty areas can't use all the utilities families need because of the high cost.

There is a growing feeling that such policies are not only unfair, but illegal as well. They amount to discrimination against a whole class of people — the poor. They also amount to a gross violation of public trust because the monopoly powers granted private companies are abused through discrimination against the poor, contributing to urban tensions.

Utilities ought to examine these policies and change them. Equality in hiring, an end to forced deposits, changes in rate structures, and consumer education programs should be undertaken at once — before the courts and the state regulatory agencies take the kinds of legal actions the utilities will regret.



YES, WE ALL TALK

By Marcus H. Boulware, Ph.D.

Snoring Vs. Voice

Question: In comparison with the human voice, what makes snoring annoying? Mrs. C. A. T.

Answer: The human voice is made up of fundamental tones which are pleasantly made louder by the vocal resonators (cavities — nose, mouth, and throat).

Snoring, conversely, is basically produced by throat and nasal structures upon breath which is amplified obnoxiously by the respiratory outlets — nose, mouth, and throat. Doctors may differ, but research indicates

that snoring can be made by structures of the upper outlets, and these noises must be reasonable in tones.

A MORE complete discussion of these phenomena is included in the book The Riddle of Snoring, Health Research, Box 70-B, Mokulume Hill, California 95946; \$2.75.

Readers: For my pamphlet, Speech at the Dance, send two stamps and a long, self-addressed business envelope to M. H. Boulware, Florida A & M University, Box 310-A Tallahassee, Fla. 32307.

George Wallace Calls On Parents To 'March'

MONTGOMERY — Former Gov. George Wallace called on Alabama parents to take their children to the school of their choice on opening day regardless of assignment to any other school. "I say take your child out of that school and take it to the school of your choice. Stay with them until they are enrolled and don't take no for an answer," he said. WALLACE, flanked by five

members of the Montgomery County legislative delegation, said Alabama parents should stage "Peaceful marches" to get around Health, Education and Welfare Department guidelines because, he said, "freedom of choice is the law."

He said the "mothers and fathers marches" should be held to "peaceful means" and should not harass education officials.

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