

EDITORIALS & COMMENT

A Well-Deserved Honor

All good citizens of Durham salute North Carolina Central University for honoring Atty. C. O. Pearson at its commencement exercise here Sunday, May 31, by conferring on him a Doctor of Laws degree. While it is generally not known to a majority of citizens in Durham today, Atty. Pearson played an important role, if not the leading one, in many of the early civil rights cases brought in local, state and federal courts, 35 or more years ago, when many of his race who are now waving civil rights flags were flagrantly opposed to his efforts.

Among the many cases in which Pearson took the lead as chief counsel, was the Raymond Hocutt case in which the plaintiff sought admission to the school of pharmacy at the University of North Carolina. As-

sociated in that case with Pearson were Attorneys Wm. H. Hastie of Washington, D. C., now a member of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals and Cecil A. McCoy, who at the time was practicing law in Durham. Hastie was furnished by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

As might be expected, the case was lost in the lower state and federal courts. It must be truthfully stated, however, that it paved the way for later cases that finally resulted in the abolishment of segregated education in this and other states of the South.

So we join with NCCU in honoring one who well deserved the recognition which had been too long delayed by Pearson's other fellow citizens of Durham.

Forthright Action Needed by School Board

What appeared in the outset to be a surreptitious or secret plot on the part of Durham County school officials to impose upon black teachers a set of reprisals or penalties, for below teaching ability, standard or quality, not demanded of white teachers, came to light here this week when it was disclosed that five black teachers, stood alone, as being discharged from their positions with the Durham County School system.

It can be truthfully said that the action on the part of the school officials has struck a death dealing blow at the heretofore peaceful race relations that have existed in Durham in the face of riots or upheavals that have sporadically taken place in other major cities and towns of the state.

It has also been revealed that one of the discharged teachers has taught in the school system for 15 years or more. Certainly it stands to reason that those familiar with the requirements of a teacher, educationally and otherwise, would look with sus-

picion on the fact that at this late date a principal has just found such a person not qualified as a teacher.

Through the years this newspaper has endeavored to maintain a forthright stand on all interracial matters. It is, therefore, our fondest hope that the members of the Durham County School Board will face up to the situation as it regards the five teachers, and not surrender to treacherous and vile procedures on the part of those who have permitted the matter of a person's color or race to influence their attitude.

In the cases involved the five teachers we politely and humbly request that the school authorities of Durham County take immediate action to see that the five teachers involved in the firing episode will have their "day in court." To permit one man, principal or school board member, to have the authority to take a person's job without a hearing appears to us to be tyranny or the kind of authority unbecoming a democratic form of government.

Wallace, Again

THE JUNE 2 runoff election for governor of Alabama is an important political battle for the state. It is a high spot in the struggle for democratic progress in all America. The forces for progress in the democratic concept are challenged by leaders of reaction—the same people who are partly responsible for the social lag in the South.

If former ALABAMA GOVERNOR GEORGE C. WALLACE wins on June 2, we can expect more of his racism on a national scale. If he loses, it will be a great day for the forces of liberalism and the democratic processes in Alabama and the nation. A hopeful sign is that Mr. WALLACE didn't walk away with an easy victory in the primary as he formerly did. He is not invincible even in Alabama, and this is good news.

Mr. WALLACE and his supporters were evidently badly shaken by the results of the primary. Like a drowning man Mr. WALLACE now seems willing to gamble his future on the last straw—an appeal to racism. He must find more votes to beat Gov. ALBERT P. BREWER's heavy Negro support which was apparent during the primary.

When 92.39 per cent of the votes in the primary had been counted Gov. BREWER led Mr. WALLACE 394,725 votes to 380,013. Mr. WALLACE and his campaign leaders hope to win enough votes from racists in the runoff election to beat Gov. BREWER. It is important for Mr. WALLACE to win the governorship for its political advantage in his aspirations for the third party candidate for the presidency.

Mr. WALLACE admits his biggest obstacle in the runoff would be "Washington interference" and the Negro "bloc vote." Bringing in the race issue as Mr. WALLACE is reported ready to do is an old political custom in the South. In the good old days it paid off well. Mr. WALLACE and his aides are critical of Negro bloc voting as if the phenomenon is something new in politics in the South. Actually, the WALLACE crowd is peeved because Negro voters in Alabama and other sections of the South today are outdoing them at an old political game.

GOVERNOR BREWER thinks he can win without resort to racism. In fact he hopes Alabama has outgrown the racist stage in politics and race relations where politicians thrive by putting "class against class, race against race, ethnic group against ethnic group to win elections." He said at a news conference:

"I hope we're past this stage because the man who serves as governor ought to be the governor of all the people. He shouldn't be in office by reason of having played against any particular group or any particular section."

In our judgment, it would be a disgrace for Alabama to have GEORGE C. WALLACE as its governor again. It was unfortunate to have had a man of his ideological character to be governor of Alabama.

JOURNAL AND GUIDE

Save My Child

THE QUOGUE VILLAGE Fire Department (Suffolk County, N. Y.) has rejected the membership application of a 24-year-old Navy veteran who is black. The reason, the department virtuously contends, is that the applicant had been asked to leave high school at age 16 for "fooling around in class and arguing with teachers."

Apparently a great deal of tortured ratiocination went into the development of this department's standards, since, according to the rejected applicant, it has already accepted into membership a convicted rapist who served two years

in prison. When this was called to the attention of FIRE CHIEF JACK BENJAMIN at a hearing before the State Division of Human Rights the other day, he replied that the membership thought "the chance to serve in the department might help" the ex-convict.

We're pleased to learn that the Quogue Fire Department is interested in rehabilitating white victims of society. As for that other victim — well, you wouldn't want a black man putting out your fire, would you? —Reprinted from *Newsday*, L. I.

Are Blacks To Be Considered Dispensable...?

FOURTEEN JACKSON POLICEMEN WERE ON THE CAMPUS WHEN A SQUAD OF ABOUT EIGHTY HIGH WAY PATROLMEN WITH SHOTGUNS FIRED INTO A CROWD OF ABOUT TWO HUNDRED NEGROES OUTSIDE THE WOMEN'S DOMITORY, SAID MAYOR DAVIS OF JACKSON, MISS.

BLACK LEADERS LET IT BE KNOWN THAT A BLACK DEFENSE LEAGUE WAS BEING FORMED TO TRAIN BLACK MEN IN THE USE OF GUNS.



WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

YOUR BIBLE IS YOUR MAJOR TEXTBOOK: STUDY IT For June 7, 1970 Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

11. Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12. That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world; 13. But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15. Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16. And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby; 17. And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20. And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; 22. In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

GOLDEN TEXT: But now in Christ, Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13. FOREWORD: We are privileged to contemplate the glorious works of grace, as it manifests its power in the lives of men and women, who make up the Church of God, in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Its wonderful working power is seen in the glorious union of Jews and Gentiles. Only God, through the power of His Gospel could bring this about.

The Ephesian Christians are reminded of what they were "aforetime," that is before they received the gospel. It is a good exercise of memory for us all to go back on what we once were. "Ye, the Gentiles in the flesh." The name "Gentiles," both in Hebrew and in Greek, is "nations." The Jews were one nation over against many; and though Christians are relatively more numerous than were the Jews, still they are the few and the heathen the many. The apostle speaks of what the Gentiles were in the flesh. You who were once far away, through the blood of Christ have been brought near. There is no more separation. All are one in the Church, through the uniting powers of Christ. LESSON OUTLINED: I. A Hopeless Condition. Vss. 11-13. II. One in Christ. Vss. 14-18. III. A Spiritual Temple. Vss. 19-22. CENTRAL THOUGHT: "A Christian is the workmanship of God, created in Christ Jesus for good works."

mask of loyalty to truth. In the Church, there must be peace between man and man, as well as peace between man and God. Both Jew and Gentile are reconciled "unto God." Christ's peace is stable. A hollow peace which like an unstable equilibrium is liable to be upset at any moment and is little better than an armed truce, is only a deception and a snare. But Christ's peace is solid and secure, involving two great safeguards. (a) Reconciliation: A duel may be interrupted by the police, and yet the combatants may still cherish mortal hatred to one another. The order of a state in which criminals are curbed but not reformed, and the decorum of a society in which only social fear prevents outrageous insults to purity and godliness, are no proof of real peace with God and man. But Christ reconciles, takes away all disposition for quarrelling, and establishes peaceable affections between man and man and between man and God. (b) Christ brings Union. He would blend Jew and Gentile, and establish a common family union between Christians and, also between the whole Christian Church, (the brotherhood) and God.

III. A Spiritual Temple: Notice closely the materials with which the Temple is built. The foundation, "The foundation of the apostles and prophets" must be the work of the earliest and leading Christian teachers who laid the first stones of the Church, as a temple. They preached the eternal truths on which the Church stands, primarily, Christ crucified, for Christ is the real Foundation, and they gathered in the first converts. The church receives its Divine recognition in being apostolic, and in being founded by inspired men—prophets. Let us also see the stones. A building cannot be its foundation. The Church must be the union of individual Christians. It is not the teachers and authorities, but the members, in general, along with them, who constitute the Church, the temple of God.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I am a 13 year-old Negro student involved in learning about Social Studies. I am also co-president of my school's student body. I enjoy school life.

In our school life today we are trying to learn about the social and democratic process. Our teacher tells us that there are certain skills, attitudes, and understandings we should achieve in order to become better citizens.

It is understandable: (1) Why General Sherman made war in the way that he did? (2) Why President Truman dropped the Atomic Bomb (in order to save lives) and bring about peace. (3) Why the United States assumes the responsibility of leadership to help the weak? (4) Why the U. N. is necessary? As a social student, I can appreciate: (1) The efforts of those

who gave their lives that we might live in peace;

(2) The efforts of Roger Williams to establish the right to dissent.

With the help of my teacher I am striving to develop skills that will help me to:

(1) Use my mind effectively that will help solve problems instead of creating them.

(2) To help me be an instrument of peace and help solve world conflict.

(3) The skill to be effective at reconciliation in Arms of World leadership.

(4) And the intelligence to pray that God will look over us in the time of violence.

(5) The skills not to alienate or to go to the extreme of polarization, but to exercise effective communication to bring about reconciliation.

Joyce A. Bass
Hawley School
Creedmoor, North Carolina

Nixon

(Continued from front page)

school desegregation should service notice to diehard segregationists that the Administration has not completely capitulated to their demands for a halt to the integration process. It is noteworthy that the President insists that the major portion of the money be allocated to desegregation efforts, both in the North and South, with the remainder going to upgrade schools located in the heart of huge ghetto areas.

The NAACP is calling upon its local units throughout the country to urge their Representatives in Congress and their Senators to vote for the necessary funds to implement the President's proposal.

Graduates

(Continued from front page) year Diploma Program, will be presented by Jerome R. Worsley, Vocational-Technical Education Director. The reception immediately following the exercise will be held in The Presidential Club Room at Duke University.

Discharged

(Continued from front page) the county schools, Charles H. Cheving, Sr., and were signed by him.

Dismissal of the teachers struck like a thunderbolt in the black community of the city this week, with many expressing violent dissatisfaction at the action of the superintendent or school officials of the County.

It was also learned that one or more of the teachers intend to resort to court action in their defense, one of them being Mrs. Maria Gerald, 2945 Driftwood Dr., who has already employed the law firm of Pearson-Johnson and Dearmon to represent her.

Teachers

(Continued from front page)

Under the present merger arrangements the white educators would have both the majority control and veto power. This leaves the Negro "only to be heard". The NCTA, as one of the two groups to be merged, simply asked, that it be given the opportunity to share in the decision making process, in particular on matters pertaining to race, by being able to influence the veto power. Numerically there is only one opportunity for this. The Representative Assembly

Traffic accidents killed 319 persons in Hong Kong in 1969.

Things You Should Know

John H. ROCK...

FEB. 2, 1865, TWO DAYS AFTER

PASSAGE OF THE 13th AMENDMENT,— ABOLITION OF SLAVERY,— HE BECAME THE FIRST NEGRO LAWYER TO BE ADMITTED BEFORE THE U.S. SUPREME COURT / THAT ERA SAW MANY



COLORED CONVENTIONS FOR POLITICAL RIGHTS; A NATIONAL ONE, APRIL 5-7, 1876, IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE!

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