

EDITORIALS & COMMENT

Newly Emerged Black Nations

As more and more black nations gain their independence or become self governing, there is a growing tendency for the majority countries not to allow them to make any mistakes.

Bahama recently became independent and has embarked upon the tide of self government for its citizenry. Immediately, thereafter, news accounts have carried various overtones of disaster and doom for the new nation. It appears to be a pattern, starting with the independence of Ghana and Liberia in the 1960's, that emergent black nations can expect only mistakes and failure.

What appears to have been conveniently forgotten or possibly overlooked in the many news accounts is the historical methods by which democracies are borned and grows.

The genius of democracy is that it grows stronger by the process of facing and solving internal problems and internal weaknesses.

Otherwise, it is difficult to explain an Aaron Burr, a Jefferson Davis, a Robert E. Lee, a Joseph McCarthy or a Richard Milhous Nixon, except that we had 100 years of existence with Lee and approximately nearly 200 years of existence to produce a Nixon.

These new nations, too, must make their mistakes as they seek to take up the cudgel of self government. They must take risks as well.

There is no such thing as a riskless society or democracy for any country—whether black majority or white majority. If any democracy or society had insisted on a zero-risk throughout history, none would have progressed as far as they have, our own nation, United States, included.

A country's progress as well as possibly a man's progress, it seems, depends in a large measure on their wisdom in deciding which risks are acceptable and which are not.

In weighing the risks the emerging black nations have chosen to seek its destiny through their majority power rather than take a few crumbs under colonial rule.

The choice for the newly emerging nations is clear and they must and will go forward to have some stake in their own destinies.

Certainly we believe that there are still many flaws in our own society, our United States, but we have had many years of struggles as well as mistakes since the day the thirteen colonies decided to seek their own freedom and destiny on the shores of the mighty Atlantic.

Would not it then be wise to at least allow these newly emerging countries an opportunity to help solve their own internal problems and internal weaknesses without foreseeing nothing but doom as they move into the twentieth century?

Mixed Blessing

A dreadfully grim item appeared in the press concerning a Veteran's Administration 10-year study on aging. The assertion was made that, "Normal life expectancy in coming decades will be increased to 120 to 140 years if the retirement age is increased to 100...." Think what the Medicare bill would be if we all totored around till we were 140! We would have to work until we were 100 years old just to pay for our own benefits.

Humor to one side, it might be pointed out that if we are to achieve an advanced degree of longevity as a regular thing, we will have to plan to maintain conditions which encourage the advance of medical care, the development of new pharmaceutical products, now virtually stalled by regulatory red tape, and the development and application of technology to produce goods and services and preserve the environment around us. Also, we should give considerable thought to preserving the individual freedoms and opportunities that, up to now, have been part of life in the United States and without which it would hardly be worth getting born, let alone living to be 140 years old.

Home Ownership Problems

Any way you slice it, a lot of people are being priced out of the home market. Construction costs continue to skyrocket, and mortgage experts, according to one news story, have estimated that each one percent increase in mortgage interest rates removes as many as 3.4 million families from the home-buying market. What the net result of all this may be no one can yet say, but one thing is certain, people still need to have a roof over their heads.

An answer will be found, and it seems likely that it is going to be in the direction of such things as mobile homes and ready-built compact houses. There is an additional problem of finding the land on which to set the homes we build, and land use planners are making that evermore difficult and more costly too. The custom-built home on five acres of ground will, to an increasing degree for the vast majority of Americans, become a vanishing dream—a casualty of inflation and land use planning.

This Means War

Whoever heard of freezers and microwave ovens as weapons? The smart consumer who wants to win the battle of the budget, that's who!

"Buying bargains in quantity and freezing them...innovative use of leftovers...and cooking 'from scratch' are among top tips offered by appliance industry home economists....", reports a news release by the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers. The kitchen is a veritable arsenal of "artillery" to be used in the fight against high food costs, especially the freezer. Day-old baked goods actually improve with freezing because thawing adds

moisture; homemade TV dinners, pot pies and freezing of leftovers for emergencies can be lifesavers. In this time of awareness of an energy shortage, it is well to note that small appliances and the quick-cooking microwave oven save on power. Blenders are especially valuable for salvaging leftovers, which can be pureed and made into soup bases, sundae toppings or baby food.

So before you surrender to inflation, think again. There are a thousand strategies available, if you will but look, and many are as close as your kitchen.

Words of the Week

The advice from the four Black female Caucus members as they spoke about the seriousness of performing their duties as representatives in Congress.

Extolling its seriousness in carrying out duties, vibrant Texas Democrat Jordan remarked that...the business of running the government of our country involves the gaining of political power through the conditions of people with good will, people with good judgment, people who are honest, people who believe in truth, justice, humanity and humanness and in doing something about it.

Female members of the Black Caucus insist that "black women throughout this nation, young and old, rich and poor, have to have dignity. Their role is to bring into the political scene something that has been put on the back seat too long, to bring it forward."

The message to black men... "It is time for you to understand that power does not come from your extemporaneous rhetoric about the activities you engage in and the prowess you can exercise in relation to black females or white females..."

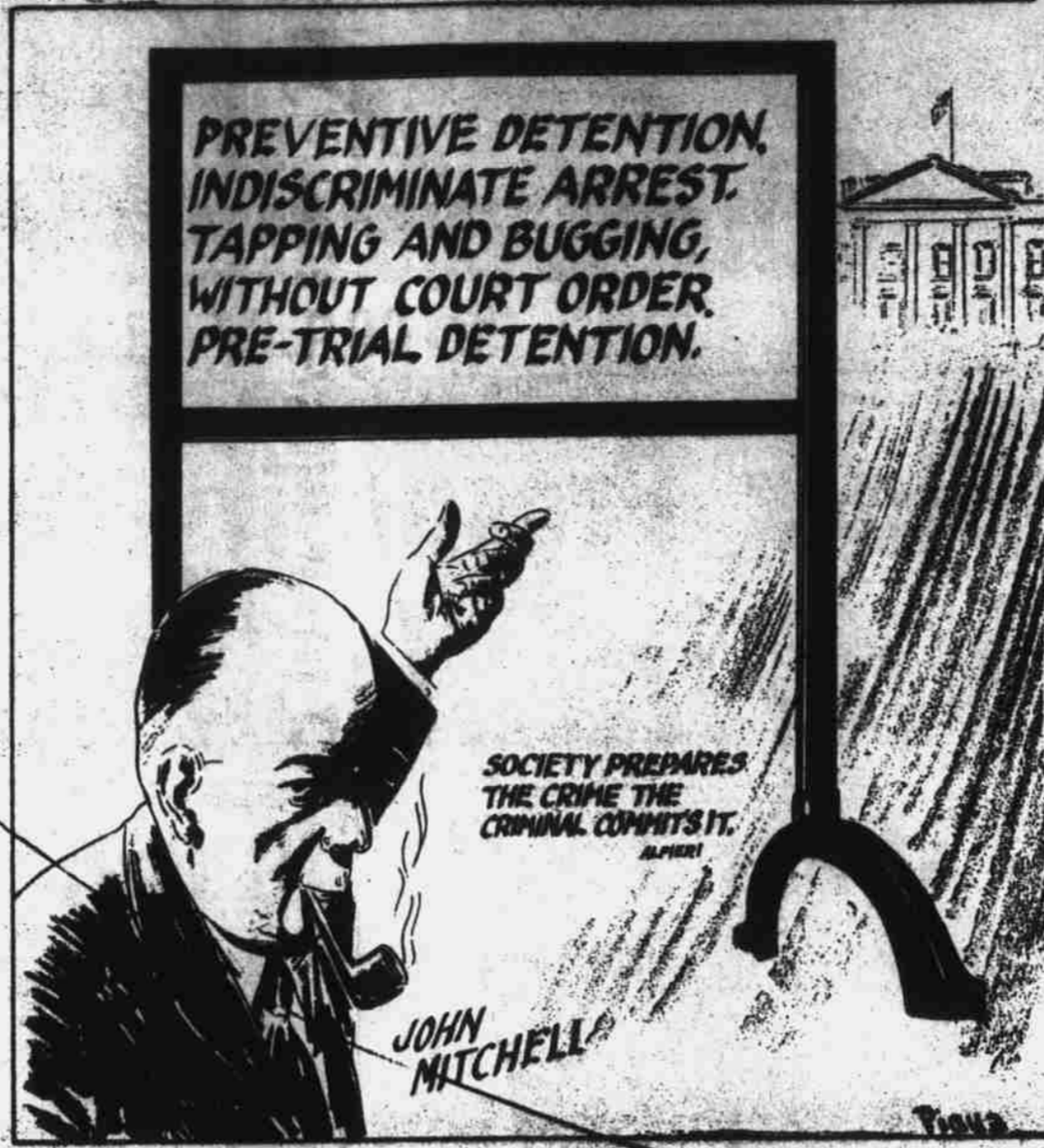
Little Known Facts About Black Public Colleges

CHENEY STATE COLLEGE was chartered in 1842 as the "Institute for Colored Youth" and offered gratis or free education to future teachers for a period of 47 years. It became an accredited state normal institution in 1920, and later became a publicly supported college with diversified liberal arts curricula.

COPPIN STATE COLLEGE began in 1900, sharing facilities with Douglass High School in Washington, D. C. It acquired its name in honor of Fannie Jackson Coppin, a pioneer in the preparation of teachers in 1926.

It became a part of Maryland's State College System in 1952 and moved to a spacious 29 acre in northwest Baltimore.

"White House Horrors He Advocated As Atty. General"



A Call For Abernathy To Stay

Editors Note: The following statement is by the Reverend Hosea Williams, President, Atlanta Chapter, SCLC. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

(Atlanta, Georgia, July 12, 1973) - Due to the fact our Atlanta Chapter of SCLC is one of the most productive and effective chapters in the whole nationwide structure of SCLC in Clothing, the naked, Feeding the hungry and liberating the captive. And due to the Atlanta Chapter having so many poor people strung out and involved in numerous projects, we have no other alternative other than to call upon the grass root and poor people of this nation to A-Mass and DEMAND Dr. Ralph David Abernathy to rescind his resignation as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and Leader of the Poor People of America.

The Atlanta Chapter makes this Nation-Wide request of the Grass-Root and Poor People of America, because we cannot see any possibility of a successor or replacement for Dr. Abernathy as Head of SCLC that would be sensitive or relevant to the needs of poor people today. Our fear is that any possible replacement would do nothing more than turn SCLC into another Urban League-Type organization and there is not room enough for TWO Urban LEAGUES in America. Therefore, SCLC would be DEAD!

Certainly, many have thrown their hats into the ring before Dr. Abernathy's statement could get cold. But, they have no intention of keeping SCLC what Dr. King and Dr. Abernathy organized it to be and that was to serve as the vanguard of the Poor People's Rights of this nation and act as the consciousness of the Black Movement. They are not qualified to face up to the Power Structure. They will not go to jail for freedom. They will not face death day after day for the rights of the poor. Therefore, they are not qualified to lead SCLC and if the Poor People will A-Mass and demand Dr. Abernathy's leadership, I don't believe he will forsake them.

Massive support from the Grass

Roots is the only thing that will force Mrs. King to do right by SCLC. Otherwise, History will be forced to record the only organization the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. organized, and the only organization he worked and died for was choked to death economically and eliminated by an organization his widow organized - the Martin LUTHER King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change.

This will be a tragedy for many of the contributions and resources given to Mrs. King were received under the pretense that they would be used to continue the works of her husband, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Unless there can be an a-massing of grassroot support across the nation for Dr. Abernathy, the Atlanta Chapter will accept his resignation and try to find refuge in some other national organization. For a local Chapter to challenge the power structure as we have without protection of a national body is like being a little child without a parent.

We agree fully with Dr. Abernathy - the middle class privileged Blacks, who have benefited so much from the work of SCLC, on the whole have all but deserted the Black struggle. It is unbelievable a man with the stature of United States Congressman Walter Fauntroy, who is now holding such a privileged position only because of his affiliation with SCLC, would open attack the legacy left by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Dr. Abernathy by not only misrepresenting the truth, but willfully lying by stating Mrs. King has raised or shared several hundred of thousands of dollars of money she has received since the death of her husband with SCLC. In fact, the records will prove that Dr. Abernathy has shared the financial income of SCLC with Mrs. King and the Center, but Mrs. King and the Center have never shared the financial income of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center with Dr. Abernathy and SCLC; when she knew the majority of her contributors thought they were not only contributing to the Center but also to SCLC and the continuation of Dr. King's works. This is the big secret they have been trying to keep from the public.

Things You Should Know

MASSINISSA

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KING OF NUMIDIA, AFRICA—HE WON MANY WARS, ALL FOR LOVE / AS A BOY HE STUDIED MILITARY TACTICS IN GARTH—AGE—BY AGE 17 HE WAS A MASTER SWORDSMAN, A HORSEMAN WITHOUT EQUAL AND SOON HE HAD DEFEATED THE FOREMOST GENERALS OF ROME AND SPAIN WITH HIS FAMED BLACK CAVALRY / HE RULED FOR 60 YEARS AND LED HIS LAST GREAT BATTLE AT THE AGE OF 88!



TO BE EQUAL

By VERNON JORDAN

Executive Director, National Urban League

FOR A FULL EMPLOYMENT POLICY (I)

NEW YORK — For the past several years national debate over domestic issues has been largely confined to artificial, politically inspired issues such as busing, "law and order," and quotas. Now that the demagogues have had their day it is time to move on to a real issue of basic significance to many millions of people and to the future of this society — jobs for all.

You read the official statistics that show unemployment trending downward, or the glowing stories about the booming economy or if you have a good job yourself, you might not know just how bad the situation really is. The government admits to an official unemployment rate of 4.8 percent of the labor force. That sounds small enough until you realize that it represents some 4.3 million people, many with families to support, who can't get a job.

The labor force is really split in two. There is an upper tier of workers with good jobs, good salaries, union membership and fringe benefits. Then, there is a lower tier of people who have no job, work part-time when they really want full-time employment, and those who do work full-time but make below-poverty wages.

It goes without saying that this lower tier of American workers is made up disproportionately of black people and other minorities, women, young people, and Vietnam veterans.

A "Wash Wash" Subject

The latest poverty figures tell the story very well. Last year about one million white people moved out of poverty, but some 300,000 black became poor. In the past four years, over 600,000 blacks became poor.

Black poverty has become something of a wash-wash subject as emphasis is placed on the progress black people have made in education, in securing better jobs, and in higher family income. But most of the economic progress has been confined to relatively few blacks with the education and skills to take advantage of the waning discrimination in industry.

What ought to be of greater concern is that one out of three black people is poor; that nearly half of all black children are growing up in poor families, and that the typical black family last year earned about \$700 less than the minimum acceptable living standard.

There are about 10 million people — whites and blacks — who work all year round for less than \$5,000. A third of all full-time workers make less than a living wage. And these are the lucky ones, the people with jobs.

What about those who aren't?



Vernon E. Jordan Jr.

lucky enough to find a job? The government says there are 4.3 million of them. But that is only because the government counts only people actively looking for work who can't find it.

Others Not Counted

The fact is that there are millions of people who are not officially counted as being unemployed because they have given up looking for work, or because they are working part-time, even though they prefer to hold full-time jobs. If you add these discouraged job-seekers and under-employed workers to the officially unemployed, you'll find that there are actually about 10 million unemployed people, over two million of them black.

Instead of the official rate of 4.8 percent unemployed, a more accurate picture shows 10 percent of the labor force out of work, with a 20 percent rate for black workers. This grim reality has been hidden behind doctored statistics, misleading rhetoric about a supposedly booming economy, and other diversionary issues. But it is clear that the economy doesn't seem able to provide everyone with work, and it is time this issue came out into the open and the nation started a great debate on what should be its number one priority — a full employment policy.

Next week I'll discuss some of the steps that could be taken to put America back to work.

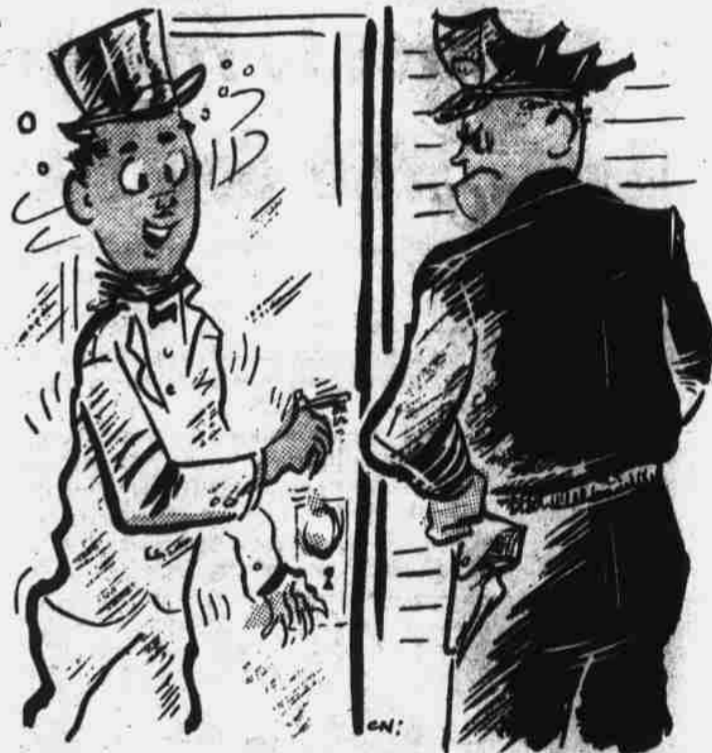
Quarles Book Selected To Go Overseas

BALTIMORE, Md.—A recent book by Dr. Benjamin Quarles, the distinguished professor of history at Morgan State college, was one of 10 books recently selected for distribution overseas by the English-Speaking Union of the United States.

"Blacks On John Brown," Dr. Quarles' latest book which was published in 1972, is one of the books designated as "American Ambassador Books." These works are meant to interpret the lives, background, regions and culture of America to peoples of other countries.

The book is a compilation of 25 selections by black Americans reflecting the high esteem in which Brown was held, not only by his contemporaries but by those of later generations.

Tan Topics



THAT'S O.K. OFFISHER—HIC-I CAN HANDLE THE KEY—YOU HOLD THE HOUSE STILL!

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