

EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS

ST. JOSEPH'S MUST BE SAVED

We welcome the move by a group of concerned Durham citizens who have formed steering committee to seek ways of saving St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church.

St. Joseph's the oldest black church in Durham, is scheduled to be torn down within the year to make room for a new shopping center, and if sanctuary further down Fayetteville Street that is an architectural monstrosity. Plans for the new structure, one of those hideous glass/plastpalaces that so desecrate the national landscape, resembles a motel or a highway truck stop.

We think St. Joseph's should be saved.

We think St. Joseph's should be saved, because we find in too many instances that black people, like members of other ethnic and racial groups, seem to be in the words of one British historian, "in a hurry to destroy their heritage."

For some reason or another, progress in this country has come to mean tearing down and building. There is further irony in this that is reflected by the return of many Americans from Europe with tales of the gothic splendor and beauty of the ancient cathedrals and monuments.

We are nearing the end of the month traditionally set aside for the celebration of the accomplishments of black American history. A discussion of one of the Black History Week topic, "Historical Monuments it is then, that one of Durham's most noted black landmarks is earmarked for destruction. How truly unfortunate it is that this edifice, built in 1892 by black hands, with bricks made by black hands should be destroyed in the name of "progress," in this case a shopping center.

St. Joseph's is still a useable structure, if not for religious worship, then surely for the use of some community groups. If there is a will a way can be found to keep the structure standing as a monument that future generations can look to as a testament to the dedication and faith of a proud people.

If we would be true to our heritage, if we would be true to our young, if we would be true to our past, in short - if we would be true to the conviction that strong monuments and institutions are a mark of a strong people, then a way will be found to save St. Joseph's.

The church should be preserved.

Things You Should Know

Carter G. WOODSON



... ORGANIZED, IN 1915, IN CHICAGO THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF NEGRO LIFE AND HISTORY. FOR THE PAST 43 YEARS THIS ASSOCIATION HAS DONE WONDROUS AND WIDESPREAD RESEARCH AND PUBLISHED MANY BOOKS AND SUCH PERIODICALS AS THE JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY AND THE NEGRO HISTORY BULLETIN!

CONTINUING EDUCATION



Black Empowerment

By Dr. Nathaniel Wright, Jr.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST

BLACK CONTINUING EDUCATION

At a conference called several years ago to see how black scholars could serve the broad needs of black Americans best, one scholar noted significantly: "If all of the facilities of our black colleges were to be placed on the South Side of Chicago, the educational needs of these blacks, alone would hardly begin to be met."

The statement should be startling, in one respect, and par for the course, in another respect. When we consider that it is never the slavemaster's or exploiter's purpose to educate the enslaved or the exploited, it is quite understandable that our educational institutions would be woefully inadequate to meet black people's needs.

For those among us who have assumed - quite falsely - that we have been on the right track and all that is needed is "improvement of what we are doing," such a statement as that with which we began would be amazing or perplexing, to say the least.

It should be an elementary observation that, in our reward and credential-oriented society, black consumer-citizens need to have the benefits of continuing education not only to survive but also to effect the kinds of revolutionary and more modest changes which the fullest life in our society requires.

Black consumer-citizens are held back from most of the better paying jobs because of a lack of credentials. A high school education may suffice for many white Americans but not for black Americans, who must have better credentials. It takes a black man or woman with three years of college to earn as much as a white man or woman with a high school education...except in rare cases.

Even with a high school education, most black citizens cannot go on to college simply because their diploma is marked "non-academic". Black Americans, then, need most desperately the opportunity to secure high school equivalency education and certification of an academic nature.

Since most blacks must work - often at more than one job - in order to make ends meet, there is little time to go away from home for study. Hence, black persons ought to be afforded the opportunity of, and encouragement in, "at-home" study both for high school equivalency of academic merit and for the three or more years of college necessary to climb the bottom rungs of the American socio-economic ladder.

Black educational needs on a large scale can be met best on what has been called traditionally an "extension education" basis. Years ago, while in the Army, I earned correspondence college credits from Ohio University at Athens, Ohio. These credits are still on my transcripts today and helped push me along toward an eventual five-earned college degrees.

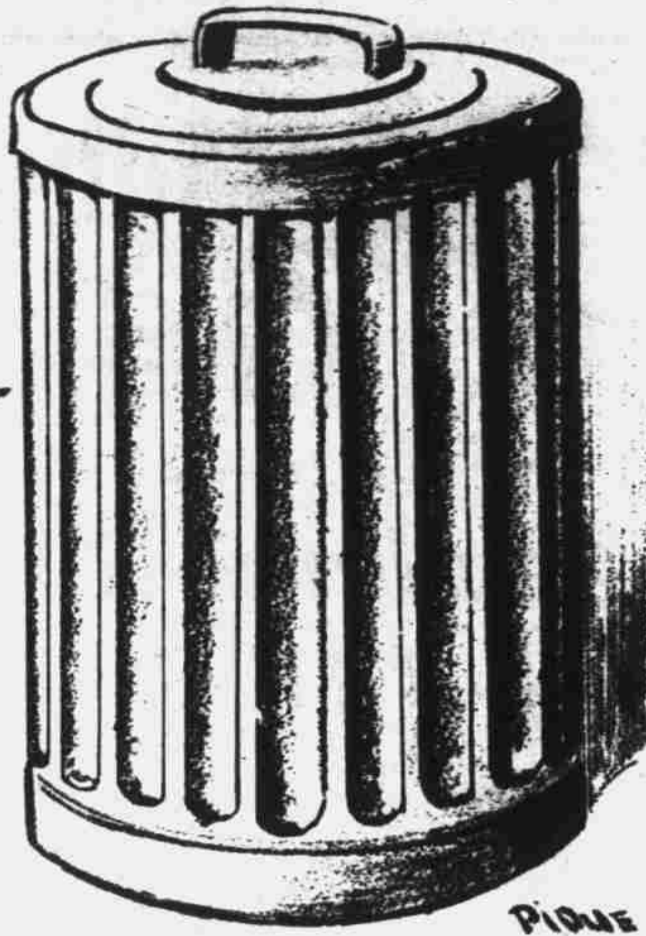
We trick and deceive ourselves as black people when we are drawn into the fictitious assumption that more formal education, and especially a college education, is "simply a white man's trick bag." If a white American's education is filled with tricks, it enables the white American to thrive particularly well. We need to understand those tricks both in order to survive well ourselves and to be able to alter or destroy those tricks, if we so choose.

An ignorant or uneducated race will always be a race enslaved and exploited until they change their status. Our best prepared people should be open to every opportunity for education for the masses of black Americans. We need to enable our black-owned and operated newspapers to play a major role in publishing extension course materials which are presently available and through which high school equivalency certification and college credits may be achieved. We can help them be able to - may be achieved. We can help them to be able to help us by supporting their paper and encouraging every local retailer where we shop to advertise in your black-owned newspaper. In this way, we might assist even more substantially in the continuing need to empower and liberate our race.

CAN DO... WILL DO

RESOLVED IN 1975

TO HELP STARVE A RAT EVERY DAY - NOT TO LITTER THE STREETS



To Be Equal

By VERNON E. JORDAN, JR.

National Director of Urban League



NEW YORK'S MASSIVE RESISTANCE

There's very little to be said in favor of people who are outspokenly against desegregating the schools except that they are at least honest about it.

There's no mistaking the feelings of the people of South Boston who hoot at and throw rocks at black children bused into their neighborhood. Nor is there any mistake to be made about the old-line last-ditch segregationists who never flinched of the 1960s and cling to their racism.

But all of these people, however mistaken they may be, however vicious the result if their racism is, still say openly what's on their minds. That is something you can deal with it's all out in the open.

But there's another kind of new segregationist who's made an appearance. And this breed is more subtle and sophisticated than the old. He'll pay lip service to the ideal of integration. He'll even talk at length about what a shame it is that schools are still segregated.

And in an excess of dishonesty, he'll even condemn those who throw rocks and act in such an ugly manner. After all, why throw rocks or drop your good manners when the same results can be accomplished in other ways.

What spurs me to these comments is the most recent - and most blatant - of the acts of what I call the subtle segregation that, stripped of its double-talk, means that it is adopting the South's old discredited "massive resistance policy." New York's Regents seem determined to demonstrate, to their shame, that there is more than one way

to stand in the schoolhouse door.

Their policy statement is framed in such a way as to gain support by using code words. For example, it starts out by saying that "Integration does not, by definition, require that racial quotas be used...." But waving the red flag of quotas backfired. The American Jewish Congress, long opposed to racial quotas, quickly condemned the Regents' statements, declaring:

"We have difficulty understanding how the extent of integration in a school district, and the effectiveness of an integration program, can be ascertained without reference to numerical progress in a school basis."

What in the World does it imply then? How can you have racial integration without some sort of numerically fair distribution of white and black pupils? This statement of policy, which will deal race relations in New York a terrible setback, was opposed by the state's top educational authorities who were about to launch a series of integration orders to various cities still operating segregated school systems.

The statement is also bound to trigger similar actions by other state bodies elsewhere, which must lead to confrontations between state authorities and the courts. This is because the Regents and similarly-minded authorities conveniently forget that desegregation is not their's to grant or to withhold. It is a constitutional right, one the Supreme Court has promulgated and upheld in numerous cases.

Black History Week



When We Show The World Why We are Proud

- Congressman
- Hawkins
- Column

By REP. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS



THE PRESIDENTS BUDGET AND THE CODDLED CORPORATIONS

This government covers its expenses by taxation, borrowing and collecting the receipts for various social insurance programs from employees and employers. The more the government operates from within its collected taxes and receipts, the less the government has to borrow, and the less in debt the government needs to be.

Essential to the cost of government, is the obligation of all segments of the society to pay their fair share of taxes.

Presently, according to the federal government, the largest tax contributors to the nation are the individual taxpayers, who pay 30 percent of every tax dollar collected. Private corporations, who ought to be paying more, are paying a mere 14 percent of every tax dollar collected. And there's the rub, mainly because of the fact that private corporations are more and more unloading the cost of government on to the shoulders of the average wage earner.

If the Federal government could collect a fair share of the taxable income from the corporate sector, the present \$51 billion deficit in the President's fiscal year 1976 budget, would be less of a problem.

In tax year 1973, ten corporations with profits of \$976 million (or more) paid absolutely no federal corporate income tax. They should have paid at least a minimum of \$244 million in taxes. This amount would almost reasonably cover the recession request to Congress that HEW wants to deduct from education programs for which Congress has appropriated funds. The \$244 million would provide certain education services to the nation's elementary and secondary schools, handicapped programs, vocational programs, higher education institutions and library resource programs.

For the same tax year (1973) another 20 corporations with \$5,285,555,000 billion in profits paid the federal government between one and ten percent in federal corporate income taxes, for a total of \$226,894,000 million. By law these corporations should be paying the statutory rate of 48 percent (or \$2.5 billion). Or \$1.3 billion, if the average effective tax rate of 25 percent is used to compute the tax contribution, since most corporations seem to be taxes on the basis of the average effective rate.

But even alarming, is the fact that America's 100 largest industrial corporations over the past three years, have consistently reduced or even eliminated their federal tax obligations. Their average effective corporate tax rates were 29.6 percent in 1971, 29.3 percent in 1972, and 27.1 percent in 1973.

It is conservatively estimated that if these 100 corporations pay their fair share of just the benefits of the tax loopholes they received in 1974, which will be about \$51.5 billion, then the federal 1976 budget deficit of \$51.9 billion would almost disappear.

There is an obvious need for tax reform, even in this most dreadful of all recessions, swelling profits are being made by these 100 giant corporations and they are not equitably carrying their own tax responsibilities. The high cost of government requires closing every and all tax loopholes, in order to break even on the nation's staggering expenses.

I say - let's close the loopholes now!

THE POOR: VICTIMS OF MANY PROBLEMS

The poor in America have a higher unemployment rate, greater incidence of hunger, malnutrition and disease than their more affluent counterparts. To the long list of problems of the poor, has been added one more. Recent federal crime statistics indicate that poor people are more likely to be victims of violent crime such as rape, robbery and assault, than those persons with money.

According to the survey, both whites and blacks from families earning below \$7,500 a year "had the higher rates of violent victimizations," than did persons with higher incomes.

The survey, conducted by the Census Bureau for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration also found that 85 of every 1000 black males were victims of a crime in the first half of 1973, 72 of every 1000 white males, 58 of every 1000 black female and 54 of every 1000 white females.

These statistics tend to prove what most of us have already known: the growing correlation between crimes of violence and deteriorated neighborhoods where essential

human services are grossly inadequate. Government and corporate insensitivity would make us believe that it doesn't matter if children don't receive a proper education in the ghettos or adequate nutrition in their homes, but very obviously the facts show otherwise.

In noting these facts the Justice Department's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration Administrator, Richard W. Velde, has appropriately said such new information will complement crime statistics of the police and Federal Bureau of Investigation. However, just adding of information isn't enough. It is important that all persons working in combating crime sensitize their efforts in accordance with this and other such information.

Soviet, British Sign Cooperation Pact

MOSCOW - Soviet and British leaders signed wide-ranging cooperation agreements today, formalizing what Prime Minister Harold Wilson called a "fresh start" in Anglo-Soviet relations.

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