

Editorials & Comments

Dr. Charles W. Williams

The Angry Young Man!

In 1968, black psychiatrists William H. Grier and Price M. Cobbs wrote a book called "Black Rage" in which they provided a unique understanding of the anger raging in the American black man's heart and mind and the extended history of white racism that put it there.

Undoubtedly, influenced partly by the series of cataclysmic events of the early 1960s—riots, assassinations, war atrocities, demonstrations and cult murders—Drs. Grier and Cobb wrote, "...of the things that need knowing, none is more important than that all blacks are angry."

The recent untimely death of prominent physician Charles Warren Williams, the first black doctor to practice at Charlotte Memorial Hospital, was a sudden reminder of the anger in black America. Frustrated and disappointed with his inhibiting situation in an all black Army unit in World War II, led Dr. Williams to become what he called "one of the angry young men" such as referred to by Grier and Cobb.

Educated at Fisk University and Meharry Medical College, the late Dr. Williams opened his first Charlotte office in the mid-1950s in the old Brooklyn area and was on the staff at Good Samaritan Hospital, the all black facility for blacks.

It was in part out of a controlled self-directed anger that Dr. Williams applied for acceptance on the surgical staff at Memorial Hospital. To work there, he had to accept a partial membership in the all white N.C. Medical Society, that is, he could attend scientific meetings and seminars but not social functions of the racially segregated group.

Dr. Williams' action angered and alienated many black physicians toward him because of his alleged acceptance of second class citizenship. However, in directing his anger along constructive lines by putting "better care for my patients" ahead of social issues and even personal or racial pride Dr. Williams demonstrated the true measure of the man that he was. Therefore, without fanfare, and in the face of strong criticism, Dr. Williams opened the door at Memorial Hospital for black physicians.

Let us hope that there are young men and women among us with the vision and courage of their convictions, like Dr. Charles Warren Williams, who will accept the challenge of an unpopular stand and do things that may lead to a time when black Americans need not be so angry.

We salute and thank Dr. Williams for his contribution.

Renewed Hope For Long Hot Summer!

As warmer months and summer vacations approach, we are beginning to hear rumblings about long hot summers which

are interpreted to mean mayhem and riots in the streets if our out-of-school youth are not provided with jobs and spending money.

Unfortunately, arising out of the ashes of what one author called the "revolutionary sixties," we have created a sense of rising expectations in our youth that causes them to believe they are entitled to a summer job at good pay and good working conditions. Furthermore, those of us who like to think that we are responsible adults have fanned these mental fires of expectation by repeatedly suggesting that unemployment will lead to violence, or as one prominent journalist said recently, we should be fearful of the jobless. Thus if we expect young people to raise hell because they don't have jobs you can be sure that they will begin to raise hell.

Felix Rohatyn, chairman of New York City's Municipal Assistance Corporation, noted recently in strong terms the

"growing misery and despair among millions who cannot find work," he warned that "violence is the handmaiden of despair" and without a quick up-turn in the economy - the creation of jobs - we may indeed have "a very hot summer."

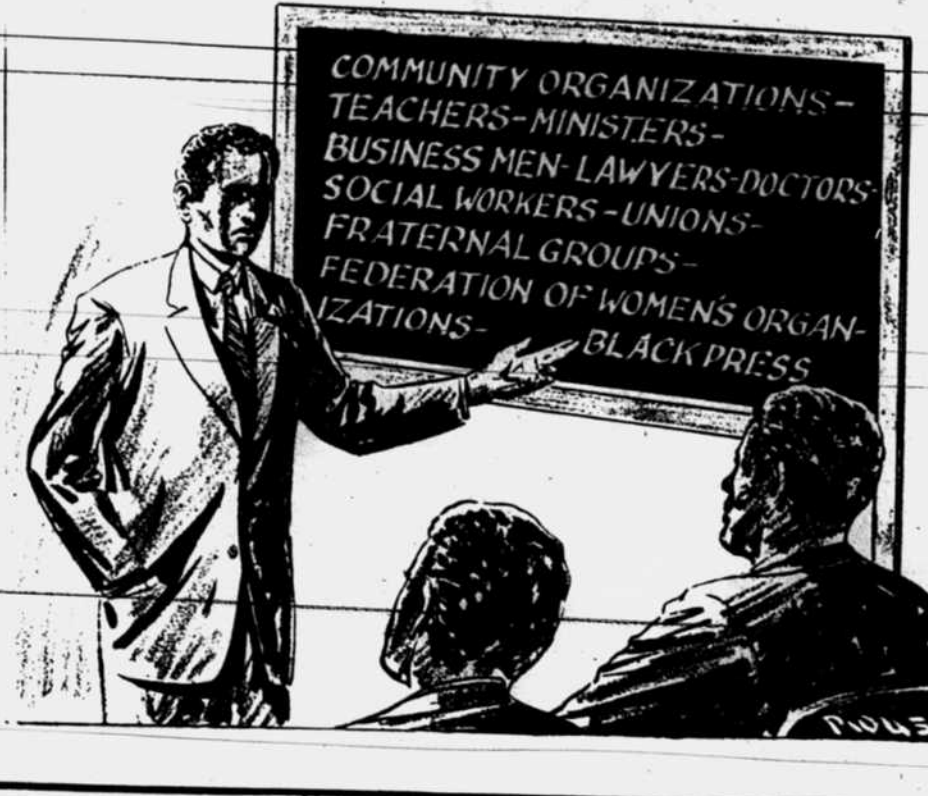
Mr. Rohatyn's comments and other like them led Neal Pierce of the Washington Post to write, "These are, perhaps, simply the ritualized warnings of inner-city explosions that have been paraded forth, ever since the riots of the '60s, to catch the attention of an indifferent country and to justify more funds for inner-city projects."

As depressing as joblessness is, if the nation has to resort to chaos and a breakdown in the social order before finding quickie bandaid solutions then the nation is in serious trouble. Just think what would happen if the nearly 10 million unemployed people in the nation all decided to riot until they were guaranteed new jobs.

America has historically been a land of hope and opportunity, without these there will be no America.

SOMETHING BLACKS CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES...REGISTER

15 MILLION BLACKS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES



Tony Brown's Comments

Loyalty To Blacks Best Politics

State Senator L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia may be just the modern-day politician who has demonstrated the kind of political savvy which will free blacks from the clutches of exploitation by the Democratic Party and benign neglect by the Republicans.

For the first time in modern history a black elected official has single-handedly determined the destiny of his party. Much of his clout is due to his awesome support from the state's black community, but most of it is derived from his political astuteness.

Succinctly, Virginia's long-exiled Democratic Party wants the seat of retiring United States Senator Harry F. Byrd Jr., an Independent. Byrd has accommodated somewhat by retiring.

Blacks in Virginia had already demonstrated, by ending a 16-year Republican monopoly and putting Charles S. Robb, a Democrat, in the Governor's Mansion, that their bloc vote is necessary for the success of either party. As a result, Gov. Robb has been generous to blacks in his appointments. However, Gov. Robb and top Democrats designated Owen Pickett, a white accountant lacking in commitment to black issues, as the party's candidate against Byrd.

Furthermore, at this point a long-festering sore broke open. The powerful network of white Democrat conservatives, long on power and short on insight into a changing set of political realities, took the "boys" for granted.

Not only were the black legislators considered "boys", but they were expected to remain subservient to their fellow white democrat's dominance. A. L. Philpott, Speaker of the House of Delegates, has heavily-handedly continued to assign his white conservative political clones to strategic legislative posts.

His reaction to the black rebellion: "I've never had any problems with the boys. They understand the system."

Right under Philpott's nose, the boys grew into men. And he's right, they do understand "the system," so well in fact that the next United States senator from Virginia may be chosen by what Philpott thought were his "boys."

"My adrenalin's running," Wilder fumed. As the state's only black senator, his own party had contributed to the defeat of two bills he sponsored: the birthday of Martin Luther King as a state holiday and prohibiting state tax deductions for donations to segregationist schools.

Neither was Wilder good enough for his fellow Democrats to invite him to Richmond's lily-white Commonwealth Club.

The fact that there is absolutely no difference between white democrats and white Republicans has, as in this case, made itself abundantly clear.

What was not clear was what were blacks in Virginia going to do about it. The state's only black senator had the answer. He threatened to run for the U.S. Senate, drain off the white Democrat's black votes and thereby deprive his racist counterparts of a possible victory.

He's out, he announced, to destroy what he calls "the magnolia mentality." He's also destroyed any chance of Gov. Robb's designee for the U.S. Senate.

A three-way race "will ruin him (Pickett), but it will underline how the Democratic Party in the legislature has been perfectly content to remain utterly insensitive to black issues," Wilder said, in what turned out to be a statement of prophecy.

No one doubted Wilder's strong commitment to black people, but his close association with Gov. Robb, a political asset, caused some to wonder which way he would go.

Senator Wilder engineered a "package" deal which forced Pickett to withdraw from the race for the U.S. Senate and made his staying out of the race and any new Democrat's candidacy contingent on his approval and a sensitivity to black issues.

By demonstrating that loyalty to black people is the best politics possible for a black elected official, Wilder has given blacks across the nation a modern-day road map for political service and survival.

From Capitol Hill

Administration Treats Haitians Worse Than Animals?

Alfreda L. Madison Special To The Post The National Emergency Coalition for Haitian Refugees is composed of 23 diversified groups. They are Catholics, Protestants, Jews; Civil Rights organizations, lawyers, labor unions and many others, with applications awaiting approval from 14 other organizations. This coalition held a press conference in which they affirmed their commitment to the historic refuge and freedom which those facing persecution in their homelands have found here in the United States.

The coalition is gravely concerned about the treatment that Haitian aliens receive from this Administration. The long term incarceration in federal prisons and converted military camps and the government's interdiction policy violate this nation's fundamental principles. Haitians are denied the due process rights. The coalition stated that these injustices must be stopped now.

Bishop Bevilacqua of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, the co-



Alfreda L. Madison

lition president stated that the group was formed March 2, 1982, because of the moral outrage over the inhumane detention of 2,500 Haitian asylum seekers in our country. He stated that history has shown that lack of respect for the law with regard to immigrants and refugees often leads to lack of respect by our government of the rights of its own citizens.

Bayard Rustin, said he recalls the time when Jews reached Rikers Island, years ago, the cry was "go back where you came from" and we are saying the same things today to the Haitians. He stated that he visited this country's Japanese concentration

camp but that they were a haven compared to Haitian camps.

The panel deplored the camps where the Haitians are kept without any opportunity for outdoor exercise. Men are victims of gynecomastia, which is an abnormal swelling of the breast that is very painful. It is thought that diet is a contributing factor to the disease. Despite these conditions, not only has the government failed to provide a doctor for these refugees, but it forbids voluntary doctors to enter the camps. It was expressed that this inhumane treatment is done with the hope of deterring Haitians from seeking refuge in this country. The government separates mothers from their children and husbands from wives, stating that these are only common-law unions, which is a custom in their country. There is no common-law separation of United States' citizens, by our government.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, stated that he saw a family of boat people approach the Florida shore, when our Coast Guard turned them

back, the boat capsized and all were drowned. This was reported to the Immigration Department and they accepted it as just a matter of fact.

It was hard for reporters and panelists to hold back their tears when Michael Hooper of the Lawyers Committee for International Human Rights and Church World Service, read a letter from Haitian women in the West Virginia camp. The letter told of the poor food, beatings, illnesses that get no medical attention, the prison guards tell the Haitians that doctors and medicine are denied them because Immigration Services will not pay for them. Some members of their prison were persuaded to voluntarily return to Haiti.

However, if these refugees did return, their families have not heard of them since they left the West Virginia Camp. The letter also related how some prisoners have tried to commit suicide. Sentiment was that these incarcerated Haitians are so traumatized that they are looking forward to death. Church organizations

By Rev. John Perkins

Walk Your Talk



Rev. Perkins

Welfare Mentality

Today's black leaders seem to be carelessly imposing a welfare mentality upon our people. If we reserve this kind of leadership, use our past as a source of determination and motivation, we would get some positive results. We wouldn't allow the past to effect us in a negative way so that we couldn't take responsibility for the present, or the future.

It is my belief that we are allowing our past to effect us so negatively that we are falling into the trap that has been laid for us. This trap is to feel helpless! It has been historically acceptable to expect someone else to tell us what to do. However, our leadership must build within its barriers character, motivation and stimulation to educate people about the problems, and make them realize that the solution is available to them as individuals.

Out of this education, people will begin to take responsibility for themselves. Leaders who educate and are educated will emerge from this condition with understanding and then begin to formulate and stimulate the people to be responsible and creative. These leaders will pull the people from this condition. This is the kind of leadership that we need today.

The model that I am using is the model of Jesus Christ, according to John, Chapter 5, when Jesus arrives at the pool of Bethesda. Jesus wants the people to become individually responsible and to organize this individual energy into a collective response. Out of this, development can take place.

Jesus comes by the pool. He sees the multitude of people. He sees the individual at the pool. That one individual there who was sick, dependent and psychologically damaged believed that other people must do everything for him. But Jesus told him to be responsible for himself. Verse 9 says; "and immediately the man was made well and took up his bed and walked, and that same day was the sabbath."

The sabbath is symbolic of God's creation. It is also symbolic of God's love for us. The sabbath is not only for our worship, it is also for those who are hurting in our society.

Jesus is revealing here that he works on the sabbath. The greatest thing that we can do on the sabbath is to worship God. However, before we can worship God, we must respond to God's word. Then we can worship God in a way that shows a concern for those who are aching and damaged in our society.

Federal Social Programs

I believe as federal social programs are cut the church must respond by reaching out to society's poor and oppressed. Christ intended the church to overcome selfishness and racial prejudice and reach out in love to the disenfranchised.

Our poor communities are becoming crime dens. We are allowing our young people to be thieves, murderers, dope addicts and pimps. The problem calls for collective action. No longer can we afford to concern ourselves with our own little church while so many are in need of moral and spiritual help.

God is giving us, the church in Jackson, the opportunity to reach out in love and compassion.

President Reagan called the nation's attention to the Jewish holocaust in Nazi Germany, the break down of the whole issue of morality. The Rabbi said the holocaust was the result of a small beginning of the German government showing a lack of human concern for a particular group. Then it later mushroomed into the holocaust. He said that the U.S. government's treatment of Haitians has a close similarity to Nazi Germany's treatment of the Jews. Mr. Reagan said that he hopes no nation or government will ever again destroy human moralization. Yet, that is just what the Administration is doing to the Haitians.

Tax Laws

Our tax laws say the individual must prove his returns are correct. So play it safe and hold on to those copies of returns and all supporting information.



THE CHARLOTTE POST

Second Class Postage No. 965500
"THE PEOPLE'S NEWSPAPER"
Established 1918
Published Every Thursday
by The Charlotte Post Publishing Co., Inc.

Subscription Rate \$15.60 Per Year
Send All 3579's To:
1524 West Blvd., Charlotte, N.C. 28208
Telephone (704) 376-0496
Circulation 7,151
104 Years of Continuous Service

Bill Johnson Editor, Publisher
Bernard Reeves General Manager
Fran Farrer Advertising Director
Dannette Gaither Office Manager

Second Class Postage No. 965500 Paid At
Charlotte, North Carolina
Under the Act of March 3, 1878

Member, National Newspaper
Publishers' Association

North Carolina Black Publishers Association

Deadline for all news copy and photos is
5 p.m. Monday. All photos and copy
submitted become the property of The Post
and will not be returned.

National Advertising
Representative
Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.

2400 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, Ill. 60616 Columet 5-0200
45 W. 45th ST., Suite 1493 New York, New York 10036 (212) 489-1220