

An Editorial

By: J. R. GRADY

I don't believe in capital punishment. I never have believed in it. A few years ago I saw two Negroes put to death in North Carolina's death chamber. It is a gruesome sight. It is a sight that one should not want to see but is one that all ought to see. There is nothing rough about it. The victims I saw took it more or less calmly. There was nothing else they could do. They were subdued, and knew it. The officials were gentle and kind. I've seen people die on the sick bed but they knew nothing about it. The victims at State Prison were forced, fully conscious that they were going to die, when they were not sick. The Chaplain accompanied them from the death cell to the death chamber. People on the outside were peering, in curiosity, through the gas chamber window to see what was happening. In their inner hearts they didn't approve of it.

As I stood there and watched I

wondered if I wasn't a party to the killing. My thoughts were: that in the sight of God, if I were not a party to a murder. The persons I saw killed had murdered no one. They had allegedly raped a woman. I heard the trial of them in detail and sat at the foot of the Judge's bench when he sentenced them to death with the closing words "May God have Mercy on your Soul." I then questioned "Will God have Mercy on our Souls?"

To me it seems that to take a life individually or collectively implies the same responsibility in the sight of the Almighty. True, society must be protected. There are those who run amuck; there are those who do not know

better than to invade the rights of the other man. That's why we have courts and punishment. But to take a life runs the gauntlet of the rights of man.

I think the most damnable set-up we have in our laws is the parole and pardoning system. When a man violates the law, is tried, found guilty and is sentenced by the judge, should serve that sentence to the limit. No time should be given for good behavior. Let the so-called law breaker understand that he must serve the full time. Don't take his life.

For 1st degree murder he should be confined for the rest of his life. If a person goes insane we confine him for the rest of his life. But, if

we believe that there is a power that makes and controls man, then it is up to that power to take the life which he has created. It's time for North Carolina to abolish capital punishment.

Dear readers, go to Raleigh some time and experience the sight and I believe you will agree with me.

I would suggest that every North Carolinian should read the article in Carl Goerch's State Magazine, issue of Feb. 28th, written by S. L. Morgan, Sr. You'll find it on page 6. Who he is I do not know, but I bring out my sentiments exactly. Who is the murderer, the defendant or the people of North Carolina? I think both.

Monday by Rev. Ora W. Eads, pastor of the Red Hill Universalist Church, assisted by Rev. J. V. Case pastor of the Corinth Baptist Church. Burial was in the family cemetery. Surviving are several nieces and nephews. He was born and lived all his life in Duplin. He was married to the late Nellie James of Sampson County. He was for several years president of the Rockfish Fox Hunters Club.

Infant Dies

John Marshall Brock, III, one-

month old son of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Brock, Jr., of Bailey, died suddenly at the home of his parents Saturday night. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 from the home, conducted by Rev. I. T. Poole. Burial was in the Bailey cemetery.

The J. M. Brocks used to reside in Kenansville.

Charlie Vann Dies At Age 81

Charlie Vann, 81, prominent farmer of Duplin County, died at his home near here Sunday morning. Funeral services were held at 3 p.m.

Accent on ACCURACY

What do you want when you step into a pharmacy with a command from your Doctor? You want that prescription compounded precisely as directed. Skill and accuracy come first in your consideration. They are "firsts" with us, too. Yet, singularly enough, you pay no premium for our dependably high ethical standards. So why not bring us your Doctor's next prescription?

CLARK'S DRUG STORE
WARSAW, N. C.



ATTENTION

Farmers and Hog Growers

Mr. J. B. Pullen, Ralston Purina Livestock Specialist for the Southern Division, will speak at the Warsaw High School Thursday night, March 10th. His subject will be Pork Production. The Public is cordially invited to attend.

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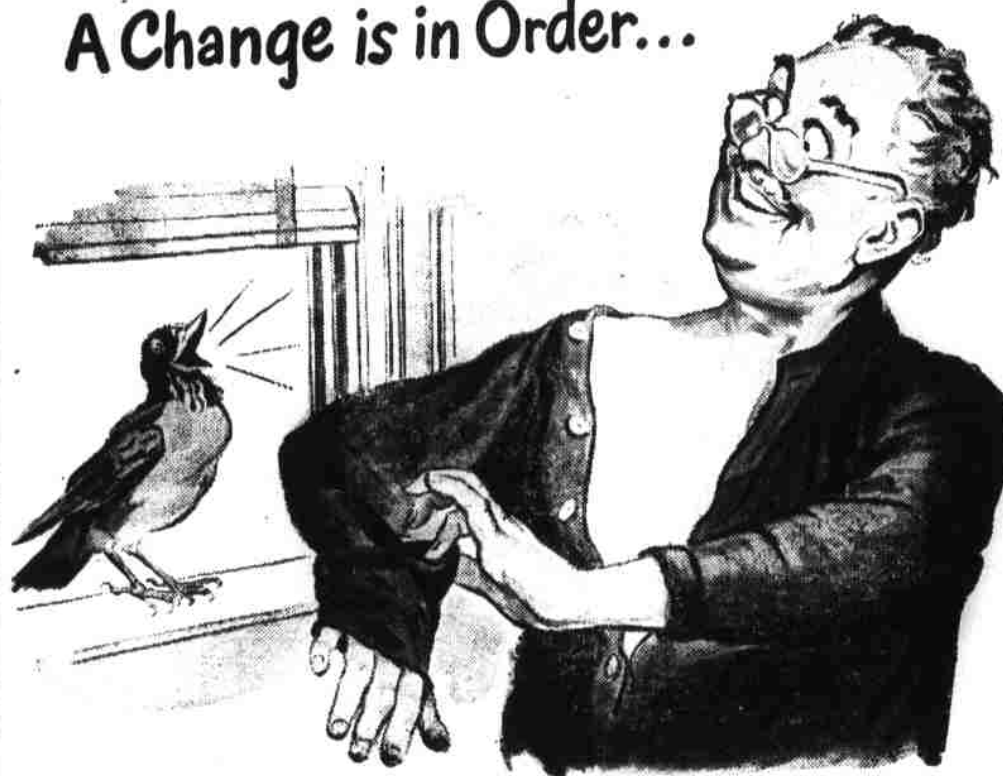
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