

'Is That Man Bothering You, Ma'am?'



EDITORIALS

*Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man
And He May Be Wrong*

Consider The Source

For much too long a majority of us have accepted without much thought "handouts" allegedly "from Washington." It's been said before, but it's worth further study that each of us consider the source of these "gifts" from Washington.

The federal government cannot give a single penny to anyone at home or abroad that it has not first taken or borrowed from us innocents, sometimes referred to as The Taxpayers.

When we hear of "grants-in-aid" from Washington, "emergency loans" from Washington, "matching funds" from Washington each of us ought to apply these propaganda news releases to our own tax contribution.

When we get a "grant" to help with a drainage district we ought to see how many years taxes we as individuals would have to pay to put up that particular amount of money.

When a military base near us gets an appropriation for housing, or hangars or golf courses or swimming pools we ought to divide out annual contribution to the federal tax man and see if we can understand a bit more clearly what this Washington-type manna is really costing.

This tax year the estimated income tax bite alone on just 55,000 citizens of Lenoir County is \$6,509,000. Assuming that we have about five persons to the family and about 11,000 families in Lenoir County we can see the average bite is about \$519 per family.

But this is ONLY the federal income tax take. There is the federal gasoline tax (four cents a gallon), tobacco tax (8 cents on each pack of cigarets), federal whisky tax (\$10.50 on each gallon of whisky), federal luxury tax (10 per cent on items classified as luxuries), federal stamp tax (a fixed percentage on each real estate transaction) and the list runs on and on and on.

So actually not even a certified public accountant really has any notion of how much of his total income is consumed by both the direct and hidden forms of federal taxes.

Of course, the percentage varies with each income bracket but for the average person it runs dangerously near to half of his annual income that goes to Washington to be returned to us, much shrunk, as a "gift" from the great white fathers whose council is beside the muddy waters of The Potomac.

The Moral Issue

Ex-Black Muslim Malcolm X has jabbed a dull needle into a very sore part of the American anatomy by suggesting from his anointed heights: "You can't legislate good will."

This accents from a direction completely new in current domestic affairs two facets of the great debate that has now been going on for more than a decade in the name of "civil rights."

The first facet is the childish innocence of those who believe that "passing a law" is going to heal ancient sores and make the entire body politic completely well of all its frailties.

The second and ugliest facet is the general acceptance of the oft-told tale that there is nothing but ill will for the negro in the South.

There always has been, still is and very likely always will be more genuine good will for the negro in the South than in any section of this nation, or for that matter in the entire world.

No where since history began has the

negro prospered more, owned more and risen so fast as in the continuously libelled Southland.

True, there are Southerners who perhaps "hate niggers" but they are in the tiniest minority imaginable, and even where they exist they are no more vicious than the bigots of Boston who recently voted overwhelmingly against bus-imposed total racial intergration of that city's schools.

Negroes own more homes, more bank accounts, more college degrees, more farms, more businesses, more automobiles in the States of The Confederacy than in all of the rest of the world combined. Yet the South has less than one half of one per cent of the negro population of the world.

How anyone can rationalize that the negro is confronted by "ill will" and white hatred in this area of his greatest accomplishment is beyond the realm of reason.

The negro, now as a hundred years ago is merely an emotional pawn in the hands of venal white politicians whose contempt for the negro is only exceeded by their hatred for the South.

Modern Pandora

Last week a reporter for Life magazine got a beating at the hands of a frustrated group of Jacksonville, Florida negro youths. He deserved every knot he got on his head.

No group in the history of the human society has ever been so blindly led astray as the negro youth of America, and it has all been done in the holiest of causes: Equality, of which there is none, never was and never will be.

Negroes who lack jobs because of the transition of our economy, because of the amazing agricultural revolution, because of the paternalistic mistakes of our society are told by people who really know better that their troubles stem from exploitation by "whites."

Foremost among the tellers of this mischievous tale is Life magazine; with its everready camera for pre-arranged shockers and its neatly twisted phrases.

Efforts by any and everyone to help these frustrated youths run suddenly into the brickwall of surliness, suspicion and contempt that has been deliberately created and excited by such so-called news media.

The negro of some position who tries to help by telling these young negroes that to be equal they must BE equal is hooted down, called an "Uncle Tom" and sent off to nourish his own notions of what they really need.

The experienced and sincerely interested white person finds that his only approach has to be one of meek, mealy-mouthed subservience rather than through a forthright clarification of what the problem really is.

It is rather upsetting that the only voices listened to by any great segment of these frustrated youths is that of such wild and impractical people as "Malcolm X" or such empty-headed dues collectors as Luther King.

And at a time when every responsible journal should be exerting every effort to bring some kind of reason out of the current racial chaos the majority are preaching anarchy of the mob or the brotherhood of saints, and in this temporal realm neither works very well.

The Baying State

Massachusetts has some crazy missionaries who are earning for it a rather dubious distinction. Assorted Bay State nuts are involved all over the South in racial demonstrations and other deliberate mischief aimed at a second "freeing of the slaves."

Even the Massachusetts Governor's mother has spent the night in a Florida jail to prove that insanity runs, in high as well as low places in the Puritan bloodstream of the proper Bostonian.

So it needs to be said in defense of the vast majority of the citizens of Massachusetts that they are not all nuts. Most of them are too busy trying to cope with the higher cost of living and the increasing bite of the tax man to spend any effort in this misguided kind of missionary work.

The percentage of idiots in Massachusetts runs about the same as in North Carolina. We have squatters on post office lawns in Chapel Hill—some homegrown, and we have preachers who are just as "gone" on this integration kick as any Massachusetts preachers who are in jail over in Williamston.

Perhaps, it's that the Bay Staters have better press agents. Some of them have apparently forgotten that the last negro lynching in the United States took place in Boston.

Now Is The Time

Now is the time for all good men (and women) to come to the aid of their country.

Now REALLY is the time, because the filing deadline for candidates is April 17th, and those of us who sit quietly or sit growlingly in the wings of public life and never participate can hardly qualify as "good men."

The success of American government is that it involves people of every station in life to a degree known in no other nation in the world.

Too frequently, however, there are some sanctified souls who believe that they are above politics. No one of us in this country possibly can be.

Politics is the science of government, and it will be good government in ratio to the number of good men who participate.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS
By JACK RIDER

Over the Easter Holidays a friend from Minnesota, who married a Kinston girl put into one sentence the most shocking aspect of this domestic argument that goes on in the name of "civil rights." This friend lives and works in Washington, and has spent very little of his life in the South. His one-sentence shocker was: "People outside the South hate the South far worse than any Southerner I ever saw hates the negroes."

He explained that his boss was from Iowa, and that this man from the midwest believes all of the propaganda that has been spread in the world about the alleged abuses of negroes by Southerners. Here is an educated, well-mannered man who has permitted his own prejudices to be inflamed to the point where he accepts as gospel all that he is told by others equally inflamed about treatment of negroes in the South.

This supports the theories of Joseph Goebbels; That the big lie told loudly and frequently enough will, in time, come to be accepted as the truth. Propaganda is like the drip of water; in time it wears away the hardest principle and corrodes the most apparent truths. Goebbels and his "intellectuals" at the typewriter and microphone convinced the "Gentle Herrenvolk" of the most literate and intellectual country on the face of the earth that the root of all their troubles was the international conspiracy of Jews.

Today the intellectual descendants of Goebbels have convinced a very large part of the so-called American intelligentsia that each and every trouble of the American negro stems from a Southern white conspiracy to systematically exploit and debase the negro.

The facts to the contrary are so old that it seems absurd to the average Southerner to even offer rebuttal to such propaganda. Surely it is obvious and ancient that there has not been a minute since 1865 when any negro except the few in prison could not have left the South and planted his family in the "Greener Pastures" of the north, midwest and far west.

The fact that now, nearly a hundred years after negroes were freed they still in the majority prefer to remain in the South is proof enough that they — who should be the best judges of their abuse — apparently do not suffer any such systematic exploitation as modern propaganda declares.

There is no Iron Curtain along the Mason-Dixon Line. No Berlin Wall to hold the negro in the South and since the negroes in the South own more automobiles than all the rest of the negroes in the world combined there surely is no question that they lack transportation "out of Egypt" and into the "promised land."

So the matter of residence is a simple contradiction to the big lie of negro abuse in the South. Then there is a less readily apparent but equally simple contradiction: That of negro accomplishment in the South. The list is much too long to repeat in this brief column but it runs all the way from such materialistic indicators as number of negro millionaires to such cultural indicators

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