

THE TRIBUNAL AID

VOLUME IV, NO. 19

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1976

\$6.00 PER YEAR

25 CENTS

MEMBER: North Carolina Black Publishers Association

North Carolina Press Association, Inc.

**A VIABLE, VALID REQUIREMENT
RESPONDING TO
BLACK NORTH CAROLINA**

The 1976 Editions of THE TRIBUNAL AID will be dedicated to America's bicentennial Celebration, with emphasis on contributions our Race has made in the making of America, from birth to the present.

In 1976 there should not be a need to lift these contributions from isolated sources. Our past

should be interwoven into the fabric of our civilization, because we are, except for the Indian, America's oldest ethnic minority.

We have helped make America what it was, and what it is, since the founding of Virginia. We have been a factor in many major issues in our history. There have been many misdeeds

against us, yet we have been able to live through them and fight back. This is living proof of our history.

Our role in the making of America is neither well known or correctly known. Many positive contributions have escaped historians and have not found their way into the pages of many history books.

We will strive to give readers, Black and white, many little-known facts about our past and it is hoped that a proper perspective of our history will be of value to persons who may believe that as Black people we have an unworthy past; and hence, no strong claims to all rights of other Americans.

Faye Ashe, Black History Editor

BICENTENNIAL BLACK HISTORY "Lost-Strayed-Or Stolen"

Black history in the Western Hemisphere most probably begins with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Blacks are known to have participated meaningfully in a number of later explorations made by Europeans in various parts of the United States and Spanish America. Facts such as these at once fashion a new dimension for Black history within the mainstream of American history. Inasmuch as one of the primary purposes of this feature is to record some historical achievements of the Black, it becomes most important to offer the reader chronological accounts through which he can conveniently familiarize himself with the broad sweep of American Black history. The years covered here are 1492-1954.

- 1849 Boston
Benjamin Roberts files the first school integration suit on behalf of his daughter. The Massachusetts Supreme Court rejects the suit, and establishes a "separate but equal" precedent.
- 1850 Washington, D.C.
The Compromise of 1850 strengthens the 1793 Fugitive Slave Act. Federal officers are now offered a fee for the slaves they apprehend.
- 1850 New York
Samuel R. Ward becomes president of the American League of Colored Laborers, a prospective union of skilled black workers who will develop black craftsmen and encourage black-owned business.
- 1852 Rochester
Frederick Douglass delivers his scathing "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" oration - "...your celebration of sham; your boasted liberty an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; ..."
- 1852 Boston
Publication of the first edition of Harriet Beecher Stowe's controversial work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
- 1852 Cincinnati
Some 200 of the 3500 Cincinnati Negroes are prosperous property owners whose aggregate worth is \$500,000 and who pay real estate taxes on their accumulated wealth.
- 1853 London
William Wells Brown publishes *Clotel*, the first novel written by an American Negro.
- 1854 Oxford, Pennsylvania
Lincoln University, the first Negro college, is founded as Ashmun Institute.
- 1854 Boston
Anthony Burns, a fugitive slave, is arrested and escorted through the streets of Boston prior to being returned to his master, who refuses an offer of \$1,200 made by Boston citizens attempting to purchase his freedom.
- 1854 Washington, D.C.
The Kansas-Nebraska Act admits the territories of Kansas and Nebraska to the Union without slavery restrictions, in direct contradiction to the provisions of the Missouri Compromise.
- 1854 Paris, France
James Augustine Healy, later the first American Negro Roman Catholic bishop, is ordained a priest in Notre Dame Cathedral.
- 1855 Ohio
John Mercer Langston is elected clerk of Brownhelm township, Lorain County, Ohio, the first Negro to win

elective office in the history of the United States.

1856 Ohio
Wilberforce University is founded by Methodist Episcopal Church.

1856 Washington, D.C.
Senator Summer of Massachusetts is severely beaten by the Senate floor by a racist member of the House, Representative Brooks of South Carolina. Summer is in the midst of attacking slaveowners and those who favor pro-slavery legislation.

1857 Washington, D.C.
The Dred Scott decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court opens federal territory to slavery and denies citizenship rights to American Negroes. (Scott is later freed by his new owner.)

1858 Chatham, Canada
Twelve whites and 34 Negroes attend John Brown's anti-slavery convention.

1859 Harpers Ferry
John Brown and his band (13 whites, five Negroes) attack Harpers Ferry. Two of the Negroes are killed; two are captured, and one escapes. (Brown is later hanged at Charles Town, West Virginia.)

1860 Washington, D.C.
Abraham Lincoln is elected president.

1861 The United States of America
Civil War -- with slavery one of the major issues -- threatens to dissolve the Union.

1861 Washington, D.C.
The Secretary of the Navy authorizes the enlistment of Negro slaves in this branch of service.

1862 New York
Formation of the National Freedmen's Relief Association, one of many groups dedicated to assist the Negro slave in making the transition to freedom. Groups in Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Chicago are eventually consolidated as the American Freedmen's Aid Commission.

1862 Washington, D.C.
President Lincoln proposes a plan for gradual, compensated emancipation.

1862 Charleston, South Carolina
Negro pilot Robert Smalls, later a Reconstruction Congressman, sales the Planter, a Confederate steamer, out of Charleston harbor, and turns the ship over to Union forces as war booty.

1862 Washington, D.C.
President Lincoln proposes a plan for gradual, compensated emancipation.

1862 Charleston, South Carolina
Negro pilot Robert Smalls, later a Reconstruction Congressman, sales the Planter, a Confederate steamer, out of Charleston harbor, and turns the ship over to Union forces as war booty.

1862 Washington, D.C.
President Lincoln proposes a plan for gradual, compensated emancipation.

1862 Washington, D.C.
President Lincoln proposes a plan for gradual, compensated emancipation.

FORMER HIGH POINT RESIDENT

RHYMES FROM THE DELTA

PART FIVE

MORRISON TRAINING SCHOOL
Hoffman, North Carolina
June 11, 1945

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Washington, d. c.

Department of English
May 2, 1946

Mr. George Washington McCorkle
Post Office Box 761
High Point, North Carolina

Mr. George W. McCorkle:

Thank you very much for your volume of verse I look forward to reading it with a great deal of pleasure.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,
ARTHUR P. DAVIS

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY
Charlotte, North Carolina
December 26, 1945

Mr. George W. McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, North Carolina

My dear Mr. McCorkle:

I have received, read and re-read "Rhymes From The Delta."

This acknowledgement may seem a long time coming but it is no less sincere. Responsibilities as Dean and teacher leave but little time for anything else.

May I, in the first place, thank you for copies of the poems or book above mentioned. I am delighted to note the progress you have made and are still making in your God assigned field of endeavor. One can feel the fervor of the spark Divine as he reads each of your poetic lines.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,
CHAS H. SHUTE

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your gift to our library. We feel deeply indebted to you, for "Rhymes from the Delta" has already afforded many pleasurable hours to both the staff and boys of this institution and is certain to afford many more.

Please accept our wishes for your continued success.

Very truly yours,
(MRS.) J. S. BROWN
Principal
(MISS) L. WILLIAMS

(MISS) L. WILLIAMS
Librarian

LW/s

WRENN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
High Point College
High Point, North Carolina
May 11, 1945

Mr. George W. McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, N. C.

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

On behalf of High Point College Library let me thank you for the copy of RHYMES FROM THE DELTA.

The wit and wisdom in the few poems I dipped into make me want to read more.

Gratefully your friend,
MRS. ALICE PAIGE WHITE
Acting Librarian

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
High Point, North Carolina
April 30, 1945

Mr. George W. McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

I am genuinely appreciative of your kind letter and the copy of the very excellent poem which you have written concerning our 50th Anniversary. I am planning to quote it at one of the services this week. I, also, appreciate your gracious kindness in sending me a copy of your book of poems.

Assuring you of my deep gratitude and best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely,
WILSON O. WELDON
WOW:hu

LILIAN SMITH

Old Screamer Mountain
Clayton, Georgia

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

Miss Smith is out of town at present, but she will see your book RHYMES FROM THE DELTA as soon as she returns to her desk. I know she will deeply appreciate the autographed copy, and she would want me to thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in sending it to her.

May I extend Miss Smith's kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,
MARY KEENE HIGHTOWER
Secretary

H
Mr. George W. McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, N. C.

A few years ago I found a book entitled RHYMES FROM THE DELTA. The cover of the book was worn and I had no idea at the moment the author of the book. When I turned to the title page I discovered that the author was a High Pointer and a member of my church.

RHYMES FROM THE DELTA is a collection of Narratives and Poems by Mr. George W. McCorkle. In the words of Mr. McCorkle, I would like to share with you some of his recollections about the schools he attended, his first compositions written and first poem published.

I am sure some of the recollections given here and names mentioned will bring back memories to many people in the City of High Point and other states and cities visited by Mr. McCorkle.

Many of his poems are dedicated to people of this city, many of whom we have known.

Continued From Last Week

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

Mr. G. W. McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

Thank you very much for sending me the copy of your poems, Rhymes from the Delta. Again, I thank you for your thought of me.

With appreciation, I am
Sincerely yours,
FRANK P. GRAHAM
President

FISK UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
NASHVILLE, *, TENNESSEE

December 27, 1945

Mr. George Washington McCorkle
Box 761
High Point, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCorkle:

I greatly appreciate your kindness in sending on to me a copy of your poems, "Rhymes from the Delta," which I am glad to add to my library. You have my very best wishes as you continue your literary work.

Sincerely yours,
CHARLES S. JOHNSON
csj-p

Historical Landmarks Of Black America by Fay Ashe

No more substantial testimony to the role of the Black in the growth and development of America can be found than the numerous historical landmarks in various regions of the country which are associated with Black Americana. Many of these--like the Alamo and Bunker Hill--are not conventionally known as sites involving chapters of Negro history.

The Louisiana State Museum, 751 Charles St. also contains a tablet inscribed to the memory of Norbert Rillieux, the New Orleans "quadroom libre" whose invention of the sugar evaporating pan revolutionized the sugar refining industry by reducing labor and costs to a bare minimum. Rillieux's father was a wealthy engineer and plantation owner; his mother was a slave.

PORT HUDSON:
Port Hudson Siege
Maker

The besieged city of Port Hudson was the scene of numerous acts of gallantry involving black troops from the 1st and Third Louisiana Native Guards freedmen who were recruited in New Orleans by Union General Ben Butler. The city fell in July, but the bombardment began as far back as March of 1863. The New York Times wrote: "...official testimony settles the question that the Negro race can fight with great prowess. Those black soliders had never before been in any severe engagement. They were comparatively raw troops, and were yet subjected to... the charging upon fortifications through the crash of belching batteries. The men, white or black, who will not flinch from that, will flinch from nothing. It is no longer possible to doubt the bravery and steadiness of the colored race..." The great majority of the Negro units in the battle were led by Negro officers, including Captain Andre Cailloux who was given a state funeral after he fell on the battlefield. The funeral pageant was "the like of which" had never before been seen "in honor of a dead Negro."

BIBLIOGRAPHY
Drotning, Phillip T. A Guide to Negro History in America New York: Doubleday and Company, 1968
Katz, William Loren Eyewitness: The Negro in

America New York: Pittman Publishing Corporation 1967
Ploski, Harry A. The Kaiser, Ernest The Negro Alamanac New York: Bel-luether Company

1776 Honoring America's Bicentennial 1976