

It has been remarked that "no astronomer can be an atheist," which is only another way of saying that no man can look up at the first and greatest electric sign—the evening stars—and refuse to believe its message: "There is a Cause: A God." Using the

psychology of the advertising man, he never used trite or commonplace factors; he had no routine. One could not say, "No need to visit him today; he will be doing what he did last Sunday." It was impossible to predict what Jesus would say or do; every action and word were news.

ONLY IN AMERICA

BY HARRY GOLDEN

THE VILLAGE ATHEIST

Another great American institution is disappearing from the scene, the village atheist. Across the length and breadth of our land, in every city, town, hamlet and crossroads, there was one stubborn man, the dissenter, the nonconformist, the fellow who by his atheism ennobled the character of those who wanted to "save" him, and strengthened the faith of those who were already "saved."

He added interest and luster to his community, and he was as American as the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, the whaling ships on the Gloucester coast, and as much a part of the American scene as the Baptist Church on each of the thousands of Elm Streets up and down this land. The village atheist entered our civilization at the very beginning of our country, from that first man whom old Cotton Mather sent into the woods with a one-day supply of water and bread to "think it over." The village atheist of America had about as much affinity with Russia as he did with Cambodia, probably less. But today he has been chased off the stage of our life.

This American, who harks back to the old days of America, when individualism was prized above all other virtues, even to the point of eccentricity, has become identified with ideologies which were completely foreign to him.

Now that he is gone it is well to look back upon him as a part of the wonderful American scene of the past. He was the fellow that the high school kid of another generation would seek out to ask about Homer and Shakespeare—that is if the high school kid's mother wasn't looking.

But the kid's mother was not really worried. It was only that she didn't want the neighbors to see her son cavorting with "old eccentric Bill." And then finally when the village atheist died, there was always one understanding clergyman in the town who would be sure to say, "Bill claimed to be an atheist, but he was one of the best Christians I've ever known."

Thus as the erosion sets in on our individualism, our great American institutions go, one by one, and one of the first to go was this noble product of the American soil—the village atheist.

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

Blacks Rated High In Crime

Black people have associated with a high crime rate. The Atlanta Daily World for last week carried an editorial entitled Crime Fighters Needed Now. When 1972 ended with the highest homicide toll in the city's history, some of us felt the figures were exaggerated and that the new year would bring a reduction in the crime rate.

However, the New Year period, 1973, indicated that six blacks were arrested for homicides during the first five days—less than one week. Most of them resulted from anger and wrath, or killing upon the slightest provocation.

After the Civil War, several black scholars undertook to study the Negroes in the cities of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. In each study the high rate of crime stood out. Note the studies: Edward R. Turner, The Negro in Pennsylvania: Slavery-Servitude-Freedom, 1639-1861, Washington, 1911. Reprint, Negro Universities Press, Westport, Conn., 1968.

Richard Wright, Jr., The Negro in Pennsylvania: A Study in Economic History, Philadelphia, 1912. Now in reprint.

Ira V. Brown, The Negro in Pennsylvania History, Pennsylvania Historical Association, 1970.

In that model study of W. E. B. DuBois, The Philadelphia Negro (1889); second

printing, 1967, one chapter is entitled The Negro Criminal.

John Daniels, In Freedom's Birthplace, A Study Of the Boston Negroes, 1914, a discussion of criminality in early years, in Southern cities, in recent years, and crime in general, is considered. Daniels reported that the "Negro's disproportionate commission of crime and his flagrant sexual laxity are but of the most obvious outcroppings of a generally discernible moral and ethical underdevelopment by which he is characterized."

Of crime in DuBois' study, he concluded, between 1885-1895, that "in a period of ten years, convictions to the penitentiary for theft have somewhat increased, robbery, burglary and assault have considerably increased, homicide has remained about the same, and sexual crimes have decreased."

In the latest and most modern study of Philadelphia, Ira V. Brown concluded the "Philadelphia among the blacks: ... 'Finally, it may be noted that, in spite of the handicaps which have faced them' over the years, Pennsylvania Negroes have risen to the highest levels of achievement in such diverse fields as sports, the arts, scholarship, and politics. This study did not have as its object, a specific study of crime and the economics of the Negro as they were called when the study was undertaken."

A DARK POINT OF VIEW

BY "BILL" MOSES

"LOAVES AND FISHES"

My father, a black Baptist preacher, early in his ministry exhibited a charisma for the "multitude" which crossed racial lines in his zeal to spread the word of Jesus. His passion for the ministry of Jesus was so great that it became his "life style." While he managed throughout his life to always pastor a particular church, he generally spent as much time in the pulpits of other ministers conducting "Revivals" as he did in his own.

It was such a Revival mission which brought him to Roanoke, Virginia in a bitter-cold mid winter, following the Panic of 1907. The winter blizzards had left the people of the Roanoke cold, hungry and jobless. Racial tension was building up—organized efforts to feed and comfort the poor hardly existed. The word "Depression" was awaiting the 1930's to be born. My father began his Revival meetings across the R. R. tracks on the street corners in the "Ghetto" (an unusual American word, then).

He invited his hearers to come to the "Gospel Tent" that evening, where food, and warmth, and the "Message" would be dispensed, free for all. His message to the black ministers was to have them to have their flocks combine and share their meager food sup-

plies so that no one would go hungry. It caught on, and the "Bread-line Revival" was invented. Cooking facilities were set up at the "Gospel Tent", where the big items became beans, hoecakes and dried herring, and the Gospel of Jesus. The response was electric. News soon spread, outside the ghetto, about a young black preacher feeding the "multitudes" in the Ghetto.

The hard-pressed business men on the other side of the R. R. Tracks invited the young minister to bring his street-corner message to all of Roanoke. The "Gospel Tent" was enlarged, along with food facilities and supplies, donated, largely, by white Roanoke merchants; while the basic menu remained about the same. The young black minister now conducted his short meetings on the bitter-cold street corners all over town; and by evening the "Gospel Tent" was crowded with whites and blacks mingling in fellowship (very unique for Virginia or anywhere else, in those days—and still would be unique for many places today).

Roanoke, somehow, survived that winter, with racial incidents practically unheard of, and very few desperately hungry people. It took Roanoke several years to forget the presence of the Reverend "Will" Moses during that cold and bitter winter.

What Other Editors Say

INCLUDE UNITED WAY IN REVENUE SHARING

This week both Louisville and Jefferson County received their second checks of sizeable amounts from the Federal Government Revenue Sharing. Likewise this week public hearings were conducted by the city on proposals for allocations from the fund.

It is estimated that each year Louisville will receive \$9.9 million and Jefferson County \$7.2 million. Over the next five years the total amount of revenue sharing going to Louisville will total \$49.8 million and Jefferson County approximately \$36 million making a combined total almost \$86 million.

The State and Local fiscal Act of 1972: (Title I, Public Law 92-512) approved October 1972 by the 92nd Congress stated among other specifics that: "Every aspect of the American Life should have a vital interest in the use of this money in behalf of the local citizenry."

On January 2, 1973 the Metro United Way Board of Directors approved the following positions on Revenue Sharing:

1. The Metro United Way Board of Directors encourages Louisville and Jefferson County as well as State of Kentucky Governments to consider the extreme importance for providing additional funding for human care services for the poor and aged throughout our community. Governments cannot ignore the pressing problems in this field as these additional revenues become available. We encourage the use

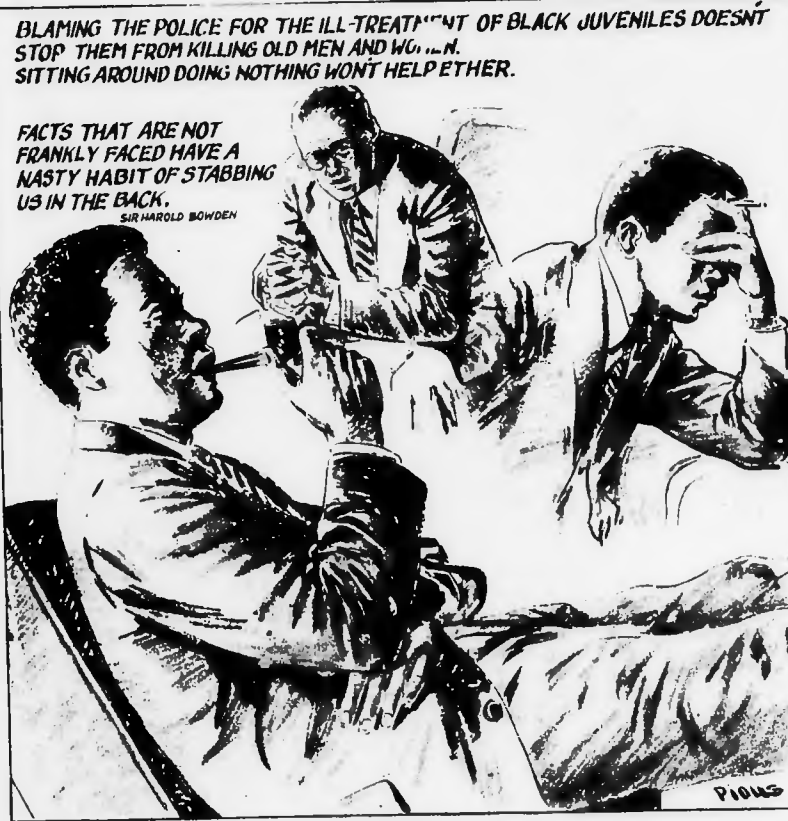
of Federal Revenue Sharing funds for the provision of human services. If social services for the poor and aged received only 10 percent of the city and county revenue sharing each year this would amount to \$1.7 million in additional program dollars.

2. The Metro United Way Board of Directors does not necessarily make an appeal for use of these funds in voluntary human service agencies but stands ready to consult with the various levels of government in determining specific ways in which the voluntary sector may be involved.

3. The Metro United Way Board of Directors stands ready to work in conjunction with these governmental bodies concerning the use of federal revenue sharing funds in human care areas. Member United Way agencies are willing to provide specific recommendations for the use of these funds so as to meet some of our most pressing problems.

—THE LOUISVILLE DEFENDER.

Do Something...Prevent Crime From Becoming A Way Of Life In The Black Community.



ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

President Nixon's landslide personal victory at the polls is now part of history. He took the presidency for another four years with a popular vote of over 46 million and a plurality of some 17.5 million. And so the nation has a strong Chief Executive with an overwhelming mandate from the people to continue his policies and leadership. Balanced majorities remain in both houses of Congress. No one would wish for a rubber-stamp Congress. Still, it is to be hoped that during the next four years political rivalries do not block constructive action on many of the crucial issues affecting the nation's security, well-being and progress.

In international affairs, we have probably already seen the most dramatic fireworks. The historic visits to Peking and Moscow, "a generation of peace" won't be built on talk, and, in the President's view, will be realized only through economic ties between the world's nations which will give them a vested interest in maintaining the peace. The future peace of the world will depend very heavily upon U.S. success in constructing such economic bridges. The United States will maintain a strong military capability without which there would be no possibility of negotiating successfully with communist nations.

During the second four years, although the direction of U.S. movement internationally will not change, indications are that there will be greater emphasis on problems at home. Here there will be many collisions between the Congress and the Executive Branch. President Nixon has said that the country does not need gigantic new social welfare spending programs and that we must improve our existing institutions with an eye to preserving basic ideas of work and thrift which have served the nation well. He has said that the government should run at less cost and that the total tax burden now carried by the American people at the federal, state and local levels, has gone as high as it can go

without destroying the incentives that are the basis for further progress. Here will be the battle of ceilings on federal spending. Such ceilings can be set only by limiting new spending proposals and shaking up programs wasteful activities.

The President has expressed his belief that a majority of people in the United States want to take more responsibility for their own well-being, how they spend their paychecks and raise their children. But the Democratic party is still in a majority. As Congress resumes its work, jockeying for political positions that could be a springboard for the presidential election of 1976 will begin anew. Lines of action required to achieve desired goals are likely to become blurred by traditional conservative versus moderate divisions within both major political parties. There will be the usual argument between those who feel the federal government should do more and those who feel it should do less.

Eventually, the people will have to decide this question, and it is a fundamental one. Today governments at one level or another take around 40 percent of the national income, and everyday the bill goes higher. We will have to decide somewhere along the line what kind of a country we will have when the average wage earner works as long, or perhaps longer, for government each day as he does for himself and his family. Will this still be a free society? And, in such a society, should the government take primary responsibility for action to solve the broadest possible range of social, economic and personal problems?

The decision on these things will decide the course of the United States politically and economically for the next 30 years and that decision has not yet been made. The success of the present Administration's programs, not only internationally, but toward more self-reliance domestically over the next four years, will shape this decision, when it is made, in the presidential election year of 1976.

RAY'S OF HOPE

MULTIPLE USE FOR ENERGY, TOO

Multiple use of forest lands for recreation and timber production is coming to be recognized as a necessity. But refusal to accept the multiple-use standard in the development of the nation's oil and gas resources has raised the specter of an energy shortage.

A vice president for exploration and one of the country's largest oil companies warns that delays in oil and gas exploration and development caused primarily by environmental concern are putting in question the petroleum industry's ability to meet future energy needs. He blames the threatened shortage, in large part, on "...the extreme position taken by some environmental defenders that oil and gas development is totally incompatible with other uses of the land or water space." He explains with specific recommendations how certain regions should be developed. He takes tidal marshes as an example and points out, "An environmental performance standard for tidal marshes...might be that no structure would be erected that would unduly impede the natural water flow. Any structure which could meet that performance standard then should be allowed...the same shallow-water area can be utilized simultaneously for such constructive purposes as shrimping, oyster farming, selective shell dredging, oil well drilling, transportation channels and outdoor sports."

The oil company executive concludes that industry must demonstrate from available examples that the compatible-use concept is sound and that it results in maximum benefits to both public and private interests. It might be added that the public should also demonstrate a greater willingness to give due consideration to the counsel of those who know themost about our energy requirements and the most practical way to meet them. Upon that willingness depends future U.S. energy supplies.

STOPPING LEVIATHAN

That penetrating economic analyst and columnist Dr. Milton Friedman had some things to say about big government in one of his recent columns that should be instructive to a generation of voters and taxpayers who have never known anything other than big government.

Dr. Friedman calls big government "Leviathan"—the legendary monster of the seas. So far as government spending and taxes go, he observes, "Neither a legislated ceiling nor any other administrative devices designed to improve the budgetary process

welcome though they would be...will halt Leviathan unless we, as citizens, once again change drastically the role that we assign to government." Back in 1930, federal government spending took four percent of the national income; state and local spending, 11 percent. Today the combined outgo of federal, state and local spending accounts for about 40 percent of the income of all citizens. This is the price today's generation pays for accepting government as a keeper rather than an umpire.

PROGRESS AND BALANCE

Transportation accounts for 20 percent of all money spent in the national economy of the United States. The U.S., in addition to its tens of millions of private autos, possesses the most complex network of common carrier transport the world has ever known. Thus transportation exerts a mighty influence on the lives—and the environment—of all of us. In the light of these factors, it behooves everyone to familiarize themselves with certain matters regarding transportation—even where it does not appear to directly concern them. Take the railroads. They, along with all other common carriers, have their work cut out for them as haulers of the nation's goods. But the rails are in a unique position to carry the bigger loads of a growing America. Studies have shown that railroads can increase their hauling capacity by a factor of seven without requiring more land for rights-of-way. Moreover, the railroads have no equal as efficient movers of freight. They move about four times as much freight per gallon of fuel as big trucks—and 125 times as much as cargo aircraft. The rights-of-way for streets and roads now occupy about 10 times as much land as do the nation's railroad rights-of-way. Railroads haul almost twice the ton-miles hauled by trucks while giving off only about half the amount of polluting emissions.

By 1985, the overall freight traffic is expected to double. The load will increase for all transportation modes. Full advantage must be taken of the capacity and unique efficiency of the Iron Horse as a means of carrying a larger share of the traffic. Unless it is, more valuable property will be taken from tax rolls, more earth moved, more grass will be replaced by concrete and more homes will be condemned—all to make room for more highways. Transportation legislation such as the Surface Transportation Act, which would restore balance and competitive equality in common carrier transportation, should receive the highest priority for early action in Congress.

The Afro Can Do Harm

Some physicians, who have treated black patients with Afro hairdos, told the American Medical Association, that the highly teased Afro hairdo can lead to scalp infections as split hairs.

This was the finding of a biracial team of Atlanta physicians. In one case, the Emory University doctors told the Association an 11-month-old child whose parents teased his locks into an Afro lost all his hair.

"If you wear an Afro," said Dr. A. C. Brown, "don't be surprised if your hair breaks off at the scalp." However, much as the Afro may point to a new sense of pride, it is not without a special set of problems for man in terms of the hair and scalp.

In summary, the problems include hair

breaking, premature baldness, scalp sores, and an accumulation of dandruff.

The Emory University teams counseled that blacks should wear hair naturally close to the scalp instead of teased, bushy hair. The hair should be shampooed two or three times a week, and the wearer should keep it short.

In the olden days, blacks damaged their hair with hot combs, chemicals used to straighten hair. Those for or against the Afro must know that the dermatologists are not agreed on the points.

Of one thing we agree, the Afro wearers should keep the hair washed, shampooed, and clean. If not clean, by all means, well-groomed. If the hair is not kept clean, it is a wonder that tics do not invade the scalp.

Cleanliness is next to godliness.

The Lure Of The Fritter Trees

We may not know what a fritter tree is, but it was the cause of Charlie Smith of Bartow, Florida, being brought into slavery in the United States. Charlie says he is 130 years old, or the oldest man alive.

Charlie says he remembers when a slave trader tricked him to come aboard his ship to see the "fritter tree"; he was never to see Africa again.

Sold in New Orleans in 1854, Charlie was freed at the end of the Civil War, though

he says he was treated well in Texas, where he worked on a ranch and didn't really "need to be free."

The story has been checked about his age, and the records are authentic. But the story of the fritter tree is just so much jive. It was much like telling a new worker on the job to go to the tool house and get a left-hand wrench.

There was no left-hand wrench, and neither was there any fritter trees.

THE CAROLINIAN
"Covering The Carolinas"
Published Weekly by
The Carolinian Publishing Co.
518 E. Martin Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 25747
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611
Second Class Postage Paid at
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Six Months \$4.00
Sales Tax .16
TOTAL \$4.16
One Year \$7.50
Sales Tax .25
TOTAL \$7.75

Payable in advance. Address all communications and make all checks and money orders payable to THE CAROLINIAN. Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., 310 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017, National Advertising Representative, Member of the United Press International Photo Service. The Publisher is not responsible for the return of unsolicited news, pictures or advertising copy unless necessary postage accompanies the copy. Opinions expressed by columnists in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the policy of this newspaper.