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Another Step Forward

Savannah, Georgia, taking its cue from splendid experiences in more than 50 other southern cities, and from the fact that its Negro citizens now hold the ballot in crucial Democratic primaries, has put on duty nine colored police officers, six Negro members of a city commission and openly declared, through its present Fathers, an intention to help Negroes rise above the level so long imposed upon them by custom and tradition.

Savannah not only takes the leadership in Georgia in this direction for full citizenship status to its Negro citizens, but it also introduces an entirely new angle towards which Negroes should work and pulls the cover from the old, and very fragile excuse southern white men constantly throw in the Negro's face, namely, you need more education and training.

The Savannah action is more of a "pay off" than anything else. Had Negroes in that city ignored the urgency to prepare and to vote the action would not have taken place. But Negroes, flaunting those who declared them incapable and unready for the ballot, showed what they could do and the victorious faction has taken cognizance of the demonstrative proof given that the Savannah Negroes are as ready and as capable as any other citizens.

The Savannah move indicates the changes that have been taking place in the minds of southern white men. No longer is it common to believe that Negroes should not have some of the privileges attendant with responsibilities under government. At least this is true with Savannah. Moreover, it also suggests that southern white men in that city, like those in 50 other cities, have decided that Negro police officers are the best men for patrolling Negro communities.

This is another step forward.

Should Reconsider Ruling

Trustees of Benedict College, when they meet late this month, should reconsider a ruling made last year on use of its property at the corner of Harden and Taylor streets.

Because of an unfortunate development, the trustee board ordered that the site, once used for a shoe shine business, be withheld from others in the future. The business had not been properly managed and complaints were made on its use.

Now comes a graduate of Benedict College, a handicapped young man, a blind ambitious, industrious alumnus, whose ability and training is higher than that of the non-Benedictite using the site before. To let him use the site would provide for him a modest, but decent and honest living. He does not want to live on charity. And noting today that so many men not handicapped, shun honest work, his attitude and efforts are the more remarkable.

Lending him the site won't cost the college a cent or one inconvenience. Fact is so generous an act will endear the school more to its alumni and Columbia and South Carolina as a whole. Furthermore, this college which has to depend upon charity to operate can demonstrate that charity begins at home; that charity is appreciated.

The trustees ought to reconsider their ruling. This is a special and unusual case. It is the case of a handicapped young man who thought Benedict was the best college and made his way through it with a better record than many students better endowed physically than he.

Suffer, No Better For You

The average Negro in South Carolina has heeded more years than he can remember the expressions of white men posing as "friends of the Negro." These have said it is not the time yet for Negroes to vote; that the Negro should be grateful; that the Negro was getting his share.

Well, the legislature, composed solely of white skins, of men who pose as "friends of the Negro," last week voted through a measure which gives whites—56 percent of all the State—93.3 percent of certain college funds. To their friends, Negroes, they gave 4.7 percent. To these Negroes—44 percent of the population, their friends said, "suffer, no better for you."

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Dining Car

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Founded by the United States District Court for the district of Maryland.
Mr. Henderson sued in the federal court to set aside a finding of the Commission that the failure of the Southern Railway to furnish dining car service to him while he was traveling on May 17, 1942, from Washington to Atlanta subjected him to undue and unreasonable prejudice and disadvantage, but that no basis was shown for an award of damages and that the dining car regulations then in effect would not result in any substantial inequality in treatment between colored and white passengers seeking dining car service.

CASE REMANDED

The federal court remanded the case to the Commission for further hearing. It denounced the practice of allowing white passengers to sit at the Jim Crow table and not allowing colored passengers to dine at other tables when the Jim Crow table was occupied and held that equality of treatment required the service of colored passengers at any vacant seat in the dining car when the Jim Crow table was occupied.

In the brief in support of his exceptions, Mr. Lawson argues that the new regulation does not conform with national policy which requires a single, uniform rule covering seating arrangements in interstate travel.

The doctrine of "substantial equality," says Mr. Lawson, is "specious" and, in fact, is never achieved. He maintains that segregation itself is discrimination and should be abolished so that the practice of dining cars will conform with the national policy.

Morgan Case Aid
Mr. Lawson relies upon the decision in the Irene Morgan case, in which the United States Supreme Court struck down the Virginia law requiring colored passengers to seat themselves in the rear of buses traveling interstate.

Especially in dining cars, the brief states, because, if the defendant relies, as it apparently does, on state statutes for a definition of "colored passengers," a passenger boarding a through train in New York City or Washington, D. C., whom the steward has decided is "colored" may have to shift his seat from state to state during the course of a meal.

The brief adds that "This is certainly a more onerous, disadvantageous and burdensome than it is for a passenger to be required to shift his seat at the driver's direction when he is not dining."

If a state cannot do this because it prevents a single, uniform rule, there certainly can be no justification for a carrier's imposing such an inconvenience and burden.

In fact, it imposes upon the defendant the burden of determining race or color, assigning seats, directing a change of seat, transferring food and silver, in addition to the expense of installing partitions, which, of course, will be charged to colored passengers, all of which is needless.

Mr. Lawson requests the Commission to find:

- 1. That the regulation fails to conform with the principles outlined by the federal court.
- 2. That the Southern's present dining car regulations are unreasonable and violate the Interstate Commerce Act.
- 3. That the regulation violates the national transportation policy of the United States which requires a single, uniform rule for seating arrangements of passengers, without distinction on account of race or color.
- 4. That the Southern should be ordered to cease and desist from enforcing its present regulation.

THE NEED FOR CHANGING

By JOHN H. McCRAY

THE "SCARELESS" CROWS

On U. S. highway 178, just below Downman, in Orangeburg county and while enroute to the little town of Lincolnville for Mother's Day (our yearly love), our eyes nearly bulged out when we saw something new and ultra modern in scarecrows.



Mr. McCray, author of 'The Scareless Crows'.

In a little field by the side of the road, plainly visible to the passerby and also the plagues for whom it must have been meant, was this customarily innocent looking figure for protecting the planting from Mr. Crow. The usual device is an effigy of some sort, resembling a human being, which when seen by Mr. Crow causes him to take quick flight. This one was different.

The farmer had shot down a crow and nailed him by his wings to a four or five foot high cross. There with his head hanging limply, he swayed in the breeze as dead as a mackerel.

The thought occurred at the time that this was symbolic, perhaps, and prophetic. The idea came that after all these years of running and sparring, Mr. Crow has, as they say, in vernacular, "got hep to the game and is no longer afraid of effigies."

At least this must have been the conclusion of the farmer who conceived this means of giving stern warning to the pests.

Transferred to the field of human relations, it is also significant. Especially when we look around and note the different brand of seeds and sprouts Negroes are feeding on in the South, building themselves up on the thing called democracy.

Aside from gradually improving schools, police duties and a few jobs here and there, they are enjoying the sincere and serious efforts of many native whites who are out in their own way to make it a little more decent for Negroes.

Two white women, red faced and non-plussed, learned a bit of this no-longer-scared-of-effigy the other night, after they had a colored girl on Main street, with whom one of them had worked a few days before and found themselves with the girl in police court. All set to put the little girl in her place, the two arrived with lawyers and admitted assaulting the young woman, but explained, she called me a liar.

The judge, being white, was supposed to send the young women up for 30 years for such a crime. But he didn't, he rephrased in effect, "Catching somebody a liar is no reason at all for assaulting them. Some people do get hep to the game." This took the wind out of them.

On the steps of the Greenville county courthouse Tuesday afternoon after the first recess in the Earle lynching trial, some middle aged white man who had evidently spotted me and another colored reporter on the main floor where everything else was white, stopped and snarled, "If you know what's good for you boy, you get upstairs where you are supposed to be."

Realizing that several other white

Prosecution Of

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defendants took issue from the Pickens, S. C. county jail on February 17 and shot, beat and stabbed him to death.

When the mobsters seized Earle, he was being held in connection with a fatal attack on J. W. Brown, a white Greenville taxi driver. He is known to have denied the alleged robbery-murder.

The Greenville courthouse is crowded as the trial proceeds.

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men seemed had heard him and were looking at both of us. I stepped once toward him and saw him curl up as if expecting a smack on the kisser, and politely and devilishly poked my head towards him and said, "Be."

Everybody chuckled. Wholly unprepared for this, he reddened, then dropped his hands and just looked at me. Finally, he stalked off and I went on about my business.

Every now and then, in real life, they nail a Mr. Crow to his cross; his kin are supposed to take fright and leave the pickings to the doves and cranes and peacocks. But one crow out of one or thirteen million doesn't hamper the rest. They go on flapping and singing crow-caw.

You see, Mr. Crow isn't scared of effigies anymore. He's done got plenty hep.

Former Ballard

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of Hampton, said the college will feel Mr. Colston's loss keenly.

In a year at Hampton, Mr. Colston already has proved his inestimable value as a member of our administrative team. We are delighted, however, at his opportunity to serve in a position that will give even wider scope for his contribution to higher education.

ABLE CAREER
At Ballard, Mr. Colston worked with the Bibb County Board of Education in developing an accredited public high school for Negroes. During his administration at Bethune-Cookman in Daytona Beach, Florida, the college was upgraded from a "B" rated junior college to a fully accredited senior college. The enrollment was tripled and the budget fully balanced at the close of each year.

While president of Bethune-Cookman, Mr. Colston also conducted the Washington, D. C. committee for the United Negro College Fund, as Director of Public Relations at Hampton. Mr. Colston continued to work with the U.N.C.F. by assisting the president in conducting campaigns in New Jersey and in the Tidewater area of Virginia.

NATIVE OF FLORIDA
A native of Quincy, Florida, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Meade Colston of Winter Park, Florida, Mr. Colston is an honor graduate of Morehouse College, where he received the Bachelor of Science degree in 1929, and of Atlanta University, where he was awarded the Master of Arts degree in 1933. He has completed the major portion of the course requirements for his doctorate through study in the graduate schools of Columbia University and the University of Chicago.

In addition to his experience at Hampton, Bethune-Cookman, and Ballard, Mr. Colston has been principal of Colby Junior High School in Orlando, Florida, has taught at the E. F. Johnson School in Atlanta and the Atlanta University Summer School, and has served as director of the Hampton Institute Summer Graduate Study Center in Jacksonville, Florida.

The newly-elected president is a life member of the American Teacher Association and a member of the Commission on Secondary Education, the Association of College and Secondary Schools, the Virginia Association for Education, and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

He is married to the former Miss Wilhelmina Thelma White and has a five-year-old daughter, Jean Alice.

Gandhi's Son

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colored have to face the worst type of humiliation and oppression. Without any strong organization, and with little or no publicity to direct the world's attention to their plight they have to suffer in silence.

UNITY NEED CITED
"This state of affairs," opines the paper, "will end only when the peoples of Asia and Africa make a united stand against white tyranny in all international gatherings and provide active support to those groups in the colonies and other areas which are fighting for the regeneration of the dark populations."

"The progressives among the whites too can help," says The Times, paying a tribute to the action of many American actors and actresses who have threatened to boycott Washington's National theater unless it drops its racial barriers. "This, however, is a far example," concludes the paper, "and non-whites in the colonies should for a long time expect the behavior of Ku-Klux-Klanners from official and non-official whites rather than that of the civilized members of the U. S. Actors' Equity association."

Rep. Bender

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for American production and employment.

Moreover, as stated in the bill itself (Section 2c) enactment is especially necessary at this time to make good on the international treaty obligations which we assumed in ratifying the United Nations Charter. The UN Charter calls for "Universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without regard to race, sex, language or religion."

Enactment is needed to help

Between The Lines

(By DEAN GORDON B. HANCOCK FOR ANP)

Adolescent South

THE SOUTH is seething with unrest and discontent. It is no more the "solid south" but the south divided against itself morally and intellectually. The south of Ben Tillman, Hoke Smith, Hettie and Vardaman is fast passing the letters and bonds that have hampered the south in its race for economic survival. A new south is growing up, and at present adolescence grandly, and there is every reason to believe that beyond the south's adolescence of today is a south whose maturity will see the full liberation of the Negro millions who reside here.

The present stirrings of the south are prophetic in ways few take time to understand. The better element of the white south is becoming vertical for the south ever to refer to the days of Ben Tillman and his clan. The slow processes of education are becoming more and more evident and the intellectual growth of the south will make the south more and more inhospitable to the Bilbo-Talmadge tribes. The south is fast advancing and it is no wonder that serious students of the color question are wondering if the Negro is ready to take the full responsibilities that will soon rest upon him. This is the more serious question of the hour.

SOUTH COMMENDED
One of the more hopeful signs of the times is seen in the changing attitude of the northern Negro leadership towards the liberal white leadership of the south. To this writer this is one of the most propitious signs of the times. Within recent months this writer has listened to Carter Woodson and Charles Houston, both of Washington, and it was thoroughly surprising to hear these two stalwarts speak words of commendation of the liberal white south.

It is true that a so-called Negro radical who hail from the north are still trying to be lesser editions of DuBois and strive therefore to be known as "fighters" but the major spirits of the Negro leadership of the upper south and north are trying to see the south in its true light. The sincerity and constructiveness of the better elements of the white south are no longer matters of debate but matters of fact.

HAILED AS STATESMAN
One of the finest evidences of the south's adolescence is the moral bigness of some of its white leaders. A few months ago Virginia Dabney of Richmond took the advanced position that segregation on the common carriers should be abolished. Editor Dabney's pronouncement re-echoed throughout the nation. Strangely enough not another white

editor of the south followed Dr. Dabney's lead.

Negroes hailed him as a great southern statesman. The nation took serious notice of the white liberalism in the south. But when Mr. Dabney found that he had "outrun his interference" he slowed down in sheer self-defense. Then the Negroes turned upon him with the fury of an avenging angel and for his liberal gesture I doubt if ever a white southerner took such roasting for he was bitterly maligned, ridiculed and misrepresented. His high motives were disparaged and disdained.

Not only was Editor Dabney gained and denounced but also Mark Ehrbridge and Ralph McGill, two other liberal southerners, were bitterly assailed and their previous records of fairness and justice were discounted because they did not go "all the way" by saying all we wanted said and by doing all we wanted done. Some Negroes seemed to forget that "strategic retreats" as the bolsheviks called it are not object surrenders. But if Dabney and McGill and Ehrbridge had completely surrendered they could hardly have been more bitterly derided.

The most heartening thing is the way these rebuffed whites are standing pat. Virginia Dabney now as always is lending the weight of his great influence for Negro liberation just as before and grousing, but he is there slugging it out in an elevator it out in an effort to make The adolescent south!

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