

Southern Town Demonstrates Workable Way to Integration

By JOHN G. DIETRICH
HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. (UPI)—Ten miles to the east of this southwestern Kentucky city a stark concrete obelisk thrusts 351 feet into the sky to mark the birthplace of Confederate president Jefferson Davis.

In a sense symbolizes the fact that this part of Kentucky is by tradition and custom a part of the South — geographically and culturally almost as close to Memphis as to Louisville.

Until after World War II, Hopkinsville's population was almost one-half Negro. Emigration, industrial development, annexation and other factors since have altered the ratio, but it still is nearly 50 per cent.

By every superficial standard, Hopkinsville might have been expected to be among the slowest in meeting the problems of desegregation, pleading its Southern background and large Negro population as ample reasons for a course of "gradualism," if not of "do-nothingism."

And it might have been expected that here, if anywhere in Kentucky at least, there would be turmoil and possibly violence.

But the story of Hopkinsville has been just about the opposite.

The summer of 1963 has been filled with sweeping changes in the patterns of life in Hopkinsville, but the city of 23,000 has taken them in stride.

During recent weeks the school boards of Hopkinsville and surrounding Christian county decided, separately but almost simultaneously, to abandon their plans for gradual desegregation and ordered full integration of their school systems immediately — this coming fall semester.

City council passed, unanimously, an ordinance setting up a bi-racial Human Rights commission to deal with racial problems.

Voluntarily, in recent weeks, many of the city's restaurants, theaters, bowling lanes and similar establishments have opened their doors to Negroes.

Except for the peaceful boycott of one chain food store, none of this has been accompanied by a single demonstration, disturbance, or even a sit-in, by either whites or Negroes.

What has made the difference in Hopkinsville?

White and Negro leaders offer several key words:

Communication, civic pride, planning, good faith, courtesy. They make a formula that adds up on both sides to enlightened self-interest.

A major force has been energetic Mayor F. Ernest (Dutch) Lackey, a portly radio executive, one of four brothers who operate radio stations in western Kentucky cities, and three of whom have served as mayors.

As one Negro leader put it, "The mayor wants this town held together."

Another said: "When we took the Human Rights commission proposal to the mayor, he said he would examine it. And he did examine it, he didn't just stick it in file 13. Then he pushed it in council and they voted for it. We have faith that when he asks us to wait a little bit, we can have a little patience."

Where some communities have cited large Negro populations as a deterring factor toward racial integration, Lackey sees it as having an opposite effect in Hopkinsville.

"We just simply realized that with nearly 50 per cent Negro population, we had to raise their basic incomes and economic standards to survive," he said. "We were aware that unless we raised their standards, the prosperity of all of us would be held back."

But he was quick to add that it wasn't just a case of economics.

"It was enlightened self-interest, but it was moral responsibility as well," he said. "Our people prefer to live peacefully with each other. We do not want any dark and bloody days such as others have gone through."

An important thing happened in Hopkinsville 10 years ago, when a citizens' group (sparked by Lackey) threw out a turgid city commission form of government, installing a mayor-council system. Of the 12 new councilmen appointed, two were Negroes, and there have been two on the council ever since.

One of these, Dr. J. H. Young — a dentist with an integrated practice — has been reelected four times, and three times has polled a larger vote than any other candidate in city-wide elections.

"Negroes and whites have participated together in solving problems, because they had to do so," Young said. "There is and can be no real solution to a problem if only one side has been heard."

Other Negro leaders thought it went further back than Young suggested.

"We have always been able to talk to each other here," said the Rev. William H. Wiggins Jr., pastor of the Freeman chapel C.M.E. church. Wiggins has played an active role in desegregation efforts in Birmingham, Ala., and Jackson, Miss.

The Rev. Cephas Striplin, lo-

cal president of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), agreed and added, "This did not come because somebody walked down the street waving a flag. We've tried to prevent that. We are planning this thing together, to be done with the least turmoil and needless animosity as possible."

This climate of opinion has resulted in incidents that stand in stark contrast to the struggles that have occurred in other communities, North and South.

Recently a group of Negroes went to the city's largest and newest bowling lanes, where they asked the proprietor to open his place to all.

"Give me four days," was his reply, "I want to talk to the people who bowl regularly in our leagues and explain what we are doing." The committee readily agreed, and four days

later, without fanfare, the lanes were opened.

Similar experiences took place at the movie theaters, at drug store lunch counters, and motel dining rooms. Negroes asked that they be desegregated, and they were.

So far, there have been just two stabbings, both involving small restaurants. One, operated for years by a Negro and his wife catering to a white clientele, had to close down. The other, after desegregating for several weeks, went back to a segregation policy.

Persons familiar with the situations agreed that the small size of the places involved was a major factor.

"There just wasn't enough room. They were swamped, and they lost their regular customers as a result," was one explanation.

There are problems remaining. Local industries have inter-

grated production lines and most city departments have Negro employees — but white collar jobs held by Negroes are few. Housing is an especially thorny matter.

But the housing commission has Negro members; an urban renewal project has opened the way for construction of new homes priced in a range available to Negro families.

The mayor perhaps answered the question of "Why Hopkinsville?" when he added, "When you can sit down together and talk, you can work out almost anything."

Sensitive Device Finds Faint Stars

SAN FERNANDO, Calif. (UPI)—Discovery of stars too faint to be seen, but detectable by use of an extremely sensitive infrared telescope, was reported today by International Telephone and Telegraph Corp.'s federal laboratories.

Scientist Freeman Hall said

the extremely sensitive temperature-measuring instrument used to detect the newly discovered stars also indicated that some stars already known emit as much as 36 times more infrared radiation than previously estimated.

Noting that the hottest stars emit bright visible light while cooler ones emit heat waves with much fainter visible light,

Hall said the heat-measuring telescope used in making the discoveries was so sensitive that measurements sometimes were interrupted by heat from insects as they flew past.

At one point, the work was disturbed when heated air currents rose from a cigarette burning 50 feet away.

The scientists suggested that the discovery may require modification of present theories on the evolution of the stars and the universe.



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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

From Washington: Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon gave a flat endorsement Sunday to the idea of selling American wheat to the grain-short Soviet bloc. Asked by a reporter for his views on wheat sales, he replied:

"I want to emphasize the importance we attach to the possibility of sales of wheat and other grains to the Soviet bloc as a means of assisting us in the handling of our BALANCE OF PAYMENTS problem."

YOU may ask: What is this balance of payments problem that we hear so much about?

The answer is quite simple: We are spending more dollars abroad than we are getting back from abroad. So we are getting ourselves into the same kind of fix you would get yourself into if you PERSISTENTLY spent more than you took in.

QUESTION No. 2: How will wheat sales to the

Soviet Union help to keep us out of bad trouble?

Secretary Dillon gives this answer: "Grain sales to the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites might add \$200 million to \$300 million—perhaps MORE—to American exports, thus helping to check the drain of our dollars."

SECRETARY Dillon then added: "I am speaking for the U.S. treasury and not for the Kennedy administration. I can't predict what position President Kennedy may take, or when a decision might come."

Treasury Secretary Dillon is a REPUBLICAN. He was under-secretary of state in the Eisenhower administration.

ONE more question: How do American farmers feel about this proposed wheat deal?

There has been no authoritative statement of their views. But, presumably, they are FOR it.

Why? Let's put it this way:

WE HAVE an immense surplus of wheat. Our warehouses are bursting with it.

This immense surplus hangs over the markets of the future like a dark thundercloud. As long as it exists, the chances of better wheat prices are slim. If, for whatever reason, the surplus should be THROWN ON THE MARKET, the bottom would fall out from under prices.

SO—It is a logical conclusion that American wheat farmers would like to see the surplus disposed of at this time when wheat production in Russia and more or less all over Europe is below normal, and demand is strong. That makes sense.

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Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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WHAT THE TAX BILL MEANS TO YOU — III
(Third in a Series of 10 Columns)

Small corporations would come in for one of the juiciest tax cuts of all if the 1963 tax bill becomes law. For instance, if you head a corporation which has a net income of \$25,000 after all expenses, your corporation now pays \$7,500 a year in taxes. Under the bill, this would drop to \$5,500 in 1964 — a whopping cut.

Actually, the tax rates would be lowered for all corporations, but those with income of \$25,000 or less would get the biggest proportionate benefit from the reductions. Here is how present rate schedules would change under the 1963 tax bill.

Corporation Income	1963	1964	1965
Up Through \$25,000	30%	22%	22%
Over \$25,000	52%	50%	48%

What does this mean to you as a businessman? The proposed rate cuts make it desirable to shift income from this year into 1964, if you can manage this, in order to cash in on the reductions if Congress enacts them.

Also if the rate on the first \$25,000 of corporate income is cut to 22 per cent by passage of the bill you, as a businessman now operating as an individual proprietor or in a partnership, should weigh carefully the comparative advantages of switching into a corporation.

The sharply lower tax rate of 22 per cent on the first \$25,000 of corporation income proposed by the 1963 bill might lead some businessmen to split their operations into more than one corporation just to get the extra tax benefits. As an illustration, a corporation which earns \$50,000 would pay 22 per cent on its first \$25,000 and 50 per cent of the next \$25,000 under the 1963 tax bill rates. If the business could be divided equally between two corporations, each would pay only 22 per cent on its \$25,000 — thereby saving \$7,000 in taxes as compared to operating as one corporation.

The House-passed tax bill, therefore, includes provisions designed to discourage operation of a business through multiple corporations. It would limit the benefit of the new 22 per cent rate on the first \$25,000 of each corporation's income where a parent corporation owns subsidiary corporations or where a group of corporations is owned 80 per cent or more by the same individual or estate or trust.

Even if there are sound business reasons other than tax savings for operating through more than one corporation, these groups would be limited to this choice: Either get a 22 per cent rate on only the first \$25,000 of the group's total income regardless of how many corporations are in the group, or pay a higher 28 per cent rate on the first \$25,000 of income of each corporation.

As a businessman vitally concerned with this choice, you often would find it advantageous to pay the higher 28 per cent on the first \$25,000 of each corporation. Say each of four corporations in a controlled group has \$25,000 of income in 1964. The corporations could pay 22 per cent on the first \$25,000 of the total income of the group plus 28 per cent on the remaining \$75,000 — a total tax of \$43,000. Or they could pay 28 per cent on the first \$25,000 of each corporation — a total of only \$28,000. This is an easy choice.

The 1963 bill also would make it more difficult to create a new multiple corporate operations. Today it's reasonably simple for a person to set up two or more corporations to operate his business or to transfer his real estate to a corporation he owns.

Under the bill, if five or less individuals who already own 80 per cent or more of one corporation form one or more other corporations to which they transfer property (other than cash), they will be presumed to have done this for tax saving purposes. They then would be barred from choosing the 28 per cent rate unless they could clearly prove that tax saving was not a major purpose — a mighty tough job.

You still could set up new corporations to save taxes by transferring cash to them and having them buy the desired property from an unrelated person.

Next: Tax breaks on capital gains.

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