

Herald and News

Editorial Page

Civil Rights - And Responsibilities

The Congress on Racial Equality is a militant organization manned by younger Negroes, battling against discrimination in all its forms.

Its Washington, D.C., chapter president, one Julius Hobson, spoke out by telegram recently when a city police officer shot and killed a 21-year-old Negro robbery suspect who refused to halt after a long chase at the height of the evening rush hour.

Hobson's telegram read in part:

"Murder of James Wall by untrained rookie policeman establishes need for immediate action to protect citizens of 10th precinct from police brutality.

"CORE demands new captain, lieutenants and sergeants in 10th precinct, thorough investigation of brutality charges against policemen and training program on relations with public."

This message is of considerably more than local interest. Its background, its tone and its major omissions come close to suggesting that what CORE's Washington leader wants is some kind of reverse discrimination in the Negro's favor.

In more than a few areas of this country, similar attitudes are felt. There is much insistent urging of the Negro's rights, and very little said of his accompanying duties and responsibilities.

Hobson's telegram makes no mention of the fact young Wall had just robbed a pregnant woman of her purse and that, at some peril to herself, she had run after him for blocks before the police took a hand.

The CORE leader obviously is thinking of the slain youth when he speaks of "ac-

tion to protect citizens." What about protecting the victim from marauders like Wall? Has CORE spoken out for this kind of protection, badly needed in the nation's capital?

Street crime is worse proportionately in Washington than in any major U.S. city. And the victims are both white and Negro.

Would Hobson have sent a telegram if a Negro policeman had shot a white thief who had just robbed a Negro woman? In this instance all these conditions were exactly reversed.

Does he mean to suggest that because Wall was a Negro he should have been allowed to escape? Presumably the officers in the chase would have shot a white thief just as they did Wall.

Policemen all over this country are given the authority to shoot suspected criminal offenders if they fail to respond to commands to halt, or resist arrest in any serious fashion. Is Hobson saying it should not apply to Negro suspects?

Certainly police use of firearms must be a sparing last resort, after full warning to the suspect. Inquiry to establish what happened in any given case is wholly reasonable.

But the Constitution's "equal protection of the laws" cannot and should not mean special advantage for the Negro or anybody else.

"Equality" is not simply a pathway to privilege. It is a condition realized when the penalties for wrongdoing fall with even hand on all men, regardless of color or other distinction.

No Negro and no white man is doing the cause of real justice the slightest good when he measures equality in any terms less broad than these.

Union Shop? An Alternative

(The Christian Science Monitor)

The strike of the International Association of Machinists against Lockheed Aircraft Corporation at its plants in California and other parts of the nation crystallizes an issue that has plagued American labor relations for decades.

It is the issue of union security versus free association or the "right to work." A generation ago there was the "closed" versus the "open" shop. The Taft-Hartley Act outlawed the closed shop but sanctioned bargaining for a "union" shop (in which the employer picks his work force but employees must join a union.)

The Lockheed company insists that a union shop is still "compulsory unionism." It refuses to agree to an election on this proposition among its workers although employees of three other aerospace firms recently have voted against the membership requirement, much to the surprise of the unions.

Now there are reasonable and cogent arguments on both sides of the union security question.

From the union point of view the non-members who get advantage of the wages, hours, working conditions and fringe benefits for which union members have sacrificed and bargained are "freeloaders." You might say they are like householders who want to live on a developed street without paying the paving assessment.

From the nonunion worker's point of view, which management often espouses, an individual ought not to be compelled to hire a bargaining agent if he is willing to deal directly with the company personnel depart-

ment; nor especially should he have to join an organization with whose aims or leadership he disagrees.

As a variation of the union shop in states where "right to work" laws forbid it, labor organizations have demanded the "agency shop," whose legality is before the United States Supreme Court. Under it the employee may refuse to join the union but he must pay it a fee equivalent to dues for acting as his presumed agent.

There are serious objections both to a union shop or agency shop on one side or to the absence of any union security on the other. Just as it is repugnant to use union members' dues for political purposes they may not desire, so an assessment that goes into a union treasury may entrench officers some of them disapprove. Yet in the aerospace industries particularly, due to large labor turnover, some stability of membership is essential to responsible unionism.

Here then is a formula that might be of use in the Lockheed and other contracts: How about a provision that an employee, on becoming permanent, must either join the accredited union or else contribute the equivalent of union dues to a welfare fund, scholarship fund, pension fund, or other agreed worthy purpose?

This would preserve a freedom of choice in the rather infrequent case that a worker wishes to register a protest against the majority spokesmen or where he has scruples against delegating his rights. At the same time it would remove any sheer financial incentive for nonunionism in the form of a "free ride."

"Just Remember, I'm the Longhair Around Here"



By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

Purely Personal Prejudices: Getting fitted for a suit, and being forced to gaze into a three-way mirror, is always a shock for those of us whose beauty is less than absolute perfection—and should give us the sobering realization that the self-image we carry around in our minds corresponds only to a vague degree with the reality other people see in us.

It is impossible to persuade a bigot that he is wrong for the admirably terse reason given by William Butler Yeats, when he said: "When a belief rests on nothing, you cannot knock away its foundations."

Telephoning someone at home and leaving no name or message is as rude as ringing someone's doorbell and running away before it is answered.

Psychological myths die hard: it is still believed by most people that a man who looks you straight in the eye is candid and honest; whereas the first trait that the confidence man develops and masters is the frank look, the firm handshake, and the utterly guileless manner.

Whenever I see a neon sign winking "Continuous Entertainment," it reminds me of Alexander Pope's remark that "Amusement is the happiness of those who cannot think."

For sheer vulgarity—in the original sense of the word—nothing beats those four speakers who point out the "fabulous

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homes" of the rich, how much they cost, how many bathrooms they contain, and how these financial details entered the golden circle by providing civilization with beer, bratwurst or plumbing fixtures.

Nothing that "subversive" agents could do to undermine the American system could possibly be half as effective as the bulk of television commercials, whose excesses and ridiculous claims make cynics and unbelievers out of children as young as 5 or 6—which is fully as influential a part of their "education" as their formal schooling.

People will admit almost every other defect under the sun, but no one thinks that he is a poor judge of character—yet, as the divorces in our private life and the disappointments in our public life indicate, this is the deepest, most prevalent, and most nearly ineradicable defect in the human animal.

Unless a raise is given promptly it does nothing for morale—like the rancher who had a Chinese cook for some years, and after an unusually good dinner decided to raise his pay. The cook noted the extra money in his envelope and asked, "Why you pay me more?" "Because you've been such a good cook all these years," replied the boss. The cook thought it over, and then said, "You've been cheating me long time, huh?"

Every time I hear the phrase, "states' rights," I recall the men I have met in state legislatures, and shudder quietly.

Other Editors Say . . .

SCHOOL FUNDS

(Salem Capital Journal)

It's a game any legislator can play, this draft-it-yourself fad with tax bills. And the lawmaker who hasn't yet submitted his own solution to the state's money problems is suspected of laziness or a callous disregard for his constituents' welfare.

Most of the bills pay particular attention to the money needs of education — as they must, for schools are the most voracious of the tax eaters.

But almost none give more than a cursory nod to the mechanics of distributing these millions to the schools.

This problem, in some respects, is almost as troublesome as building the fund to be distributed.

In short, apportionment of school funds is a mess.

It isn't a mess because the funds' administrator goofed, which he apparently doesn't.

It isn't a mess because the dollars go to the wrong schools, which they don't.

It's a mess because there is not a soul in the state who can predict at school budget-making time accurately how much money a school district will get from the state during the budget period.

And it's a mess because no laymen and few school superintendents can explain how even a rough guess is arrived at.

The mathematical problem is comparable to that faced by scientists trying to figure out how to make a rocket launched from a whirling, orbiting earth strike a speeding planet two months later — on its sunny side.

There are six or seven or eight different state funds apportioned to schools, depending on how you count, and each is apportioned on a different basis.

Most of these funds are passed around according to a formula involving the number of children in the district, plus another factor.

If the other factors didn't throw off calculations, a district still couldn't predict its take. This is a pie-splitting situation. Without knowing current enrollment and other factors for all districts in the state, close calculations are impossible.

They would be anyway, for expenses of a number of state administrative functions come off the top of the funds first, and these aren't closely predictable, either.

Additionally, most of the taxes which make up the funds haven't yet been collected at budget time, and are equally unpredictable.

The frequent defeats by voters of school budgets around the state usually are viewed as a combination of unhappiness with school policy and a resistance to further increases in property taxes.

There doubtless is a third cause for some of these defeats: A distrust of school district administrators because they often overestimate or underestimate receipts.

Voters don't react kindly to being told in the spring that they will have to pay a 30-mill school tax — and being billed several months later for 33 mills. It's human nature not to recall that the error was in the other direction the year before.

And unless they understand the problem, even an overestimate causes grumbling. And grumbling leads to budget defeats.

There is no total solution to this puzzle, but there are many ways the legislature could decrease the confusion. School administrators then might be able to spend part of the year with education rather than finance.



NOTHING SPECIAL

(W. B. S.)

One of the principal failures of local government—in practically every instance—is the tendency of those directly responsible for government to accept the advice and recommendations of "managers," "administrators," or "executive secretaries," or whatever, as the last word on any subject.

This comes about because members of city councils, school boards, fire district commissioners, etc., etc., find themselves saddled with the operation of their own businesses, or almost otherwise totally occupied with their own interests that they don't have the time or the inclination to inform themselves as fully as they should on a given situation. This is not expressed in a critical sense—it is a fact of life. As a result, city managers, school administrators and other individuals wield far too much influence in determining policies and actions of local government groups. Whether this influence is good or bad is a matter of determination in specific issues. I am only saying that the tendency is not entirely a good one.

Most of us who fell in love at first sight are now wearing glasses.

This is enough to make you reach for the bromo bottle: The United Nations will give Cuba \$135,000 to help them prepare textbooks and train teachers. It shouldn't take a great deal of enterprise to determine where most of this money will come from—and it shouldn't take a great deal of imagination to come to the conclusion that these textbooks and the teachers will be extolling communism. The U.S. pays 40 per cent of this "proposed" program if it is approved (and who thinks that it won't be?). I hope that you haven't forgotten that the U.S. has already paid 40 per cent of a UN grant of \$1.2 million to be spent to aid Cuban agriculture. I don't have the item right at hand, but I believe I read somewhere where we are also contributing some hun-

dreds of thousands of dollars towards "training" of Cuban aviators through another UN program.

Ack, Ack Dept.: Under the appropriate title (?) "KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR" an anonymous columnist in the Medford Mail-Tribune had this observation to make: "Klamath Falls is the duck capital (sic) of the world, having more ducks per capita than one can conveniently shake a lake at. It has been said (not by us) that they had to widen their main street to paint the white line down the center. It is famous for yams, lambs and hams and as a sort of back door to Crater Lake in Jackson County."

Now, now. Any more of them unkind words, and we'll have to urge that Klamath Falls citizens quit trading in Medford. Or, maybe, we'll just send Zelma Ochihio over there to live.

And, anyway, what the heck does he (or she) mean by referring to us as being "famous" for yams, lambs, hams, etc.?

Legislators are the recipients of some nasty missives. One such letter brought this response from the harassed lawmaker: "I am pleased to see that your comprehensive analysis of this problem is not prejudiced by knowledge of the subject."

Ladies, girls, gentlemen: Don't forget our big cooking school coming up next week (adv.).

No, we do not want one of the Civil Defense sirens mounted on the Herald and News building. We can see enough other instances of stupid government waste around as it is.

Fellow stopped in the other day to offer his solution to the "deer problem." He claims it is not starvation or hunters' guns that are depleting the deer herds. Rather, it is a disease—fluks in the liver, hoof-and-mouth disease and related boogies. Well, he might have something, for all I know.

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .

Troubles At Home Rock Rockefeller



By FULTON LEWIS JR.

On the tables of a Manhattan night club are little cards that suggest, sardonically, a Rockefeller cocktail: "The same ingredients. Just add 20 per cent to the price."

In upstate New York, auto clubs distribute to angry motorists bumper stickers that read: "Don't Tread On Me."

Outside the State Capitol in Albany, thousands of college students carry signs that protest, "Who Does Nelson Think We Are, Rockefeller?"

The above incidents mean one thing, Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller, running hard for the Presidency of the United States, has some king-sized problems back home.

In a successful campaign for reelection last fall, Rocky promised voters that he would not raise taxes. His Democratic opponent, Robert Morgenthau, predicted flatly that he would.

In his January message to the Legislature, Rockefeller presented a bigger-than-ever budget of \$2.89 billion. To finance that budget, Rockefeller requested that taxes on liquor be sharply increased, that motorists be forced to pay more for automobile license tags. Trustees of the State University of New York announced that students could no longer attend school, tuition free. "Uniform" fees of \$400 to \$800 were imposed upon an estimated 35,000 students.

Restaurant owners joined with liquor dealers to assail the Rockefeller plan to hike taxes on alcohol. Motorists were so up in arms that GOP legislators killed the Governor's plan to increase auto fees. Labor unions, college students and teacher groups protested the decision to charge tuition at state schools.

Rockefeller was suddenly in the worst political shape of his career. One Rockefeller lieutenant observed sadly to Allan Otten of The Wall Street Journal: "Right now, I doubt that he could be reelected Governor."

None of which bodes well for the Governor's Presidential ambitions. A candidate who could not carry his home state would be in serious trouble.

The biggest obstacle to Rockefeller's White House dream may lie ahead. It could be a special Grand Jury investigation into the State Liquor Authority (SLA), which dispenses licenses for liq-

uor stores, night clubs, bars and restaurants.

One of Rockefeller's first patronage appointees after his 1953 election was a Brooklyn Republican, Martin C. Epstein, to membership on the SLA. Later, Rocky made Epstein chairman at \$24,000 a year. When District Attorney Frank Hogan subpoenaed Epstein to answer questions about possible payoffs of \$10,000 and up in his department, the SLA Chief refused to waive immunity from prosecution for his testimony.

Such a waiver is required of all state officials called to testify about their official conduct before any Grand Jury.

For failure to sign that waiver, Epstein was fired.

The second major casualty in the Grand Jury investigation was L. Judson Morhouse, state GOP chairman, \$17,000 a year vice chairman of the State Thruway Authority, and prestigious member of the Lake George Park Commission.

Suddenly, Morhouse resigned all three positions. The reason became clear when it developed that Morhouse, too, had been subpoenaed by the Grand Jury. Like Epstein, Morhouse refused to waive immunity from prosecution.

The Grand Jury probe continues. The New York Post disclosed recently that Bernard Newman, a former State Supreme Court Justice and longtime chairman of the New York County GOP organization, has also been called for testimony.

The Post said Newman was questioned about his efforts to "straighten out" licensing problems for a Manhattan key club. Newman told the Post: "I can only tell you that this involves a client and that it's a sacred relationship. I can't discuss it."

Neither will Frank Hogan, but the betting is that Hogan, who has a well-deserved reputation as one of the country's top crime fighters, has not spent all these months investigating the SLA for his health.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Was tobacco once used as money?

A—Due to the scarcity of metallic money, Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina used tobacco as currency throughout most of the colonial period.

BERRY'S WORLD



"I knew you'd find something else to complain about, once the snow melted."

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Sunday, March 24, the 83rd day of 1963 with 282 to follow.

The moon is approaching its new phase.

The morning stars are Venus and Saturn.

The evening star is Mars.

On this day in history:

In 1603, the crowns of England and Scotland were joined under James the Sixth of Scotland who began his new reign as James I.

In 1882, Prof. Robert Koch in Berlin announced the discovery of the pathogenic germs in tuberculosis.

In 1934, the United States granted the Philippine Islands independence, to become effective July 4th, 1946.

In 1953, Dowager Queen Mary died in London at the age of 86.

A thought for the day: The Athenian orator Demosthenes said: "To remind the mind of the good turns you have done him is very much like a reproach."