

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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SEGREGATION AND CHRISTIANITY

NORTH CAROLINA Baptists made a significant advance in the campaign to overcome race and minority group discrimination this week, but stopped somewhat short of the ultimate objective.

- The report of the Committee on Social Service and Civic Righteousness, endorsed unanimously by the State Convention, set forth these principles:
1. All Christians are brothers in Christ.
 2. Every member of a racial or minority group is a person and should be treated as such.
 3. No racial group because of biological characteristics is superior or inferior to any other group.
 4. The members of all racial and minority groups should be recognized as citizens, constituting one state under one government, with equal rights.
 5. All citizens have the right to equal privileges and treatment in our local, State and Federal governments.
 6. All racial and minority groups have a right to be represented by members of their own group on bodies concerned with the general welfare of the community—police, education, courts, elections, and so forth.
 7. Christians should protect injustices and discriminate against racial groups and strive to promote community good will between all groups.
 8. The membership of every group should eliminate from their speech terms which denote race, color, or other groups, especially in the presence of, and the teaching of, children.
 9. As Christians, we must believe and teach that prejudice or ill-will toward any group is un-Christian.

Then the resolution carefully skirted the most explosive issue at all—segregation, which is both the foundation and facade of racial prejudice. To live up to these nine points, the members asked:

"We should suggest that our pastors set an example of Christian fellowship by having joint meetings of local white and Negro ministers, and an occasional exchange of pulpits, by utilization of Negro choirs in our white churches and vice-versa, and by working closely with Negro ministers in improving social conditions in the community as a whole."

There was at least one man who felt the resolution fell short. Dr. E. McNeill Potest of the Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, speaking of race and minority groups, told the convention:

"That is not the most pleasant of subjects. We have heard about it, our timidity is colossal. 'We are not' is it the mark of boldness to say nothing about segregation? Is it the mark of boldness to say that segregation is a hated and frightful word? Is a subject about which we must not talk?"

"It is segregation is not un-Christian, we must advocate it. If it is un-Christian, we must protest against it."

"We must start from the baseline that segregation is inherently evil and go on from there."

Most thoughtful Americans who believe that segregation is inherently evil agree that it cannot be abolished by law. The change must come in the minds and hearts of men.

But there can be no significant change in the traditions and mores of our people so long as discrimination is still the rule in our churches and religious organizations. If segregation is evil, it is abolished in the South. It must first be abolished in the House of the Lord.

Dr. Potest probably feels that the State Convention behaved much like the fabled frog which climbed up the side of a rock, put two feet and then slipped back one. But he could certainly agree, as we do, that any advance is better than none.

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News From The Capital

Rutherford Man Talked For Congress

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Special Writer

KEY county, as far as the Congressional race in the 11th District for the seat of Mr. Alfred L. Rutherford is concerned, appears to be a hotbed of activity. It is the way political leaders see it from here.

The reason runs something like this: Since March 1, 1949 (except for the two years following the Hoover landslide in 1929), Representative Rutherford has been in the 11th District. He has been the only member of the District who has been re-elected.

Experts believe that Cleveland will let its opportunity go by default as candidates there don't want to do anything that would possibly interfere with Senator Hoyt's re-election race. However, if the race were a couple of years hence, it is felt that at least two hopefuls (Max Gardner Jr. and Peyton McNeill) would jump in with a bright political future.

At this stage, McDowell doesn't appear to be projecting any. The mountain counties of Madison and Yadon, along with tiny Polk, are also in the same position, with no one to offer. Thus everything points to Rutherford.

THE man to beat—if he runs—will be C. O. Ridings, (D-2222 to 11523). Another of Ridings' strong points is that four of the six counties in the 11th District (McDowell, Yadon, Rutherford and Polk) are also in the Congressional district.

He must be given stiff opposition by Charles P. Plack, if he decides to run. Plack, however, surely has some voice because he has been in the 11th District since 1945. He has been in the 11th District since 1945. He has been in the 11th District since 1945.

WHAT effect did the Congressional elections have on Congress? Forgetting the moribund quality, the actual numbers show that one seat was in the Senate and one in the House were clipped from the Republicans: the first in New York, the latter in California. But this was not the case in the 11th District. The House will have its 54-41 split while the Senate, too, will have its 54-41 split while the Senate, too, will have its 54-41 split.

His job probably typified of that faced by the modern, overgrown, big American city which is now trying to prevent the new wave of sex crimes from becoming a fact of life. His job probably typified of that faced by the modern, overgrown, big American city which is now trying to prevent the new wave of sex crimes from becoming a fact of life.

Local Papers 'Scooped'

WHEN General Worton took office late last Summer, just as the picture with increased vigor.

The early bird gets the worm. That is what happens to the worm that gets up early—Pittsburgh (Tex.) Gazette.

Each general in becomes blasé a bit earlier in the morning. The picture is the eighteen-year-old who has exhausted every thrill but going over Niagara in a hot rod—Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.

Hey, Quit Crowding!

Stewart And Joseph Also That Boy



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WASHINGTON
FRANKLIN Delano Roosevelt Jr., a less impulsive character than his brother James, has been in the news for some time. He has been in the news for some time. He has been in the news for some time.

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