...And A Little Child Shall Lead Them

The front page of the Daily Worker (Communist) was taken up with this cartoon and editorial in a recent issue.

By ABNER BEKRY

THE SMALL group on the New York street corner was hotly discussing school integration in Little Rock. One voice and then another was heard above the roar of traffic.

"LET'S GET the first thing out of the way. These kids are not risking their lives just to go to school with white children. They want an education that will fit them for the only kind of jobs that will be open when they grow up."

"Aw, colored children have been getting education all these years in those colored schools," came an half-accusing voice.

"But there is education and education," answered an earnest young man. "Sure, colored kids learned how to read and write and geography and elementary mathematics and some chemistry.

"But do you know how many colored high schools in the South have laboratories for chemical and physical experiments? Do you know that George Washington Carver could not have become one of the greatest scientists the South has ever produced had he depended on a segregated school for education?"

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THE YOUNG MAN continued, explaining that segregated high schools did not prepare colored children for careers in textile manufacture, the steel industry, electronics, building trades and nuclear physics and aircraft.

"These children in Little Rock," he emphasized, his voice rising, "want to be integrated into the economy of their country. And the only way they can do so is to get their education in the schools which are reserved today for white students in the South."

The crisis in Little Rock had reached the sidewalks of New York.

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I CHECKED later on what the student had told the little group on the street corner. Was it true that colored students could not get from segregated schools the required training for jobs in future life?

Here is what I learned from the educational reports and special studies by educators and sociologists.

In South Carolina, where 75 per cent of all wage earners work in the textile industry, not one "Negro" public school has a course dealing with the textile industry.

CURRENT EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL IN WHITE AND NEGRO SCHOOLS IN THE SOUTH

	Metropolitan Districts		Rural Districts	
	White	Negro	White	Negro
Alabama	$147.20	$105.49	$122.14	$ 96.41
Arkansas	135.74	111.58	97.71	67.24
Florida	204.58	179.54	189.51	119.22
Georgia	184.57	132.66	147.34	89.79
Mississippi	152.30	78.11	83.73	27.05
North Carolina	169.64	161.14	148.98	117.23
South Carolina	170.21	116.75	179.31	78.77
*Virginia (1957)	117.43	115.08		

(The national average is $295 per pupil, 1957 figures)
SOURCE: "The Negro and the Schools," by Harry S. Ashmore, P. 155, 1952 figures.

And therefore no colored person is being prepared by South Carolina's segregated schools for a job in the state's major industry. So it is all over the South.

Alabama segregated public schools ignore the education of colored children in metallurgy, mining, civil engineering and other occupations and professions having to do with the state's major industries—mining, steel fabrication, textile and rubber manufacture.

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BACK IN 1954, the National Manpower Council recognized that segregated education represented a serious threat to the national welfare:

"To restrict opportunities for education and training on the basis of an individual's race, religion, ethnic origin, or sex violates American ideals. It also wastes the potential abilities of a significant proportion of our total population, and thereby prevents the full development and effective utilization of the nation's manpower resources."

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WE WILL never know how many Carvers or Einsteins or Oppenheimers have been lost forever to the United States from among the hundreds of thousands of colored school children who have yearly been denied their right to an unsegregated education.

In states like Mississippi and South Carolina this means that about one-half of the educable population is eliminated from the skilled labor force.

The handful of colored students in the Deep South and Middle South now braving the mobs to attend integrated public schools are, in fact, heroes in the struggle to unite and strengthen the United States economy.

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IT IS IRONIC that the Little Rock colored children, in bucking the white mob for their right to attend Central High School, are really fighting for the educational improvement of the whites who oppose them.

For the low educational standards, reflected in the small amounts spent per child in southern states, is an outgrowth of the dual school system.

The maintenance of segregated school systems has put an added burden on southern taxpayers and an extra burden on each school child whose education is trimmed to provide the luxury of two schools where one would do.

Pro Football

(Continued from Page 5)

of all time for one year.

Only Tom Fears of Los Angeles (77) and Don Hutson of Green Bay (74) have caught more in a single season of play.

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TALIAFERRO, one of the several draftees from the AAC to make good in the NFL, so grew in stature in his waning years as to become the only tan quarterback in the loop's history. He directed the Baltimore Colts of 1954.

Younger and Towler were known as the workhorses of the Rams clubs which captured the world championship in 1951, after making the title playoffs in 1949 and 1950, in which they were beaten.

Younger announced in recent weeks that this is to be his final season. Towler retired to enter the ministry in 1955.

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BIG LEAGUE football beat the baseball majors by a year, one of the tan pioneers being Kenny Washington.

Washington was signed by the Rams in 1946, the year before Jackie Robinson was brought to the Brooklyn Dodgers. Ironically, Kenny had also preceded Jackie at UCLA, from which both were seen in the Rose Bowl.

Even now, Washington retains a niche in the L.A. club's hall of fame. His 92-yard run from scrimmage has stood as an all-time longest for a Rams' player since he accomplished it in 1947.

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THE NAME of Tom Wilson also appears in the Rams record book alongside Kenny's. Tom raced 103 yards with a kickoff against the Colts at Baltimore last December to represent the best by far of any City of Angels player.

The NFL — with the exception of one team — has showcased colored talent.

In return, it has reaped rich rewards.

Jest For Laffs

"Shall I boil the missionary?" asked the cannibal cook.
"Boil him?" cried the chief. "Are you crazy? That's a friar!"

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Pat: You say your sister makes up jokes? Is she a humorist?
Ann: No. She works in a beauty parlor.

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She: It's raining cats and dogs outside.
He: I know. I just stepped into a poodle.

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Little Boy: Daddy, can I go out and play like the other little boys play?
Father: Aw shut up and deal!

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A pair of newlyweds stepped into the hotel elevator.
"Hello, darling," murmured the pretty operator.
There was a chilly silence all the way up. But when they reached the floor the bride exploded:
"Who was that hussy?"
"Now don't you start anything," begged the groom. "I'm going to have enough trouble explaining you to her tomorrow."

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The new clerk complained that he didn't know what time the office opened, because they were always working when he got there.

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A gentleman can be defined as one who has respect for people who can be of no possible service to him.

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A passing motorist gallantly stopped to change a tire for a lady standing helplessly near her car at the side of the highway. When he had made the change and was about to lower the jack, the lady cautioned him: "Please let it down easy —my husband's asleep in the back seat."

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After a series of severe storms the whole town was flooded and residents sitting on top one of the roofs noted what seemed to be a straw hat making lazy circles in the water.
"It's not just afloating," one of the observers said. "It's Grandpa acting stubborn again. He said he was going to mow the lawn today come hell or high water."

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A tree is an object that will stay in place for years and then jump in front of a woman driver.

"Sleep well last night, Benson?"

AFRO Magazine Section
THE AFRO-AMERICAN, JANUARY 18, 1958

Lady From Ghana

On this particular morning, Miss Addae wore a striking, brilliant costume of native material in green, yellow with splashes of vivid red, self designed and made with the idea of giving her height.

Her jewelry was equally striking, a heavy hammered silver bracelet, "the gift of a friend in Accra," exotic earrings of American gold and a plain gold ring.

She carried a huge bag, handsomely made, of snake skin. Her hairdo was an adaptation of the Italian boyish style, very becoming to the lady whose language was perfect Oxonian, softened with the liquid dialects of Africa, well larded with Scotch burrs!—A. W.

Importance Of Ghana To Us

Every American who nibbles on a chocolate bar is probably contributing to the economy of Ghana.

The United States takes normally about 38 per cent of Ghana's cocoa exports. American imports from Ghana increased from $17,937,000 in 1937 to more than $80,000,000 in 1951.

Another point is in the realm of strategic raw materials—we critically need Ghana maganiese.

Another is in more abstract considerations of defense.

If the Mediterranean should be cut off in a new world war, Accra would reassume the position it had in World War II as an indispensable base for American and Allied communications across Africa.

A good many bright young Ghana youths come to America these days instead of England for education.

There are about 150 in the United States at present. Most are flaming nationalists—as was their spiritual father, Prime Minister Nkrumah, when he went to an American university appropriately named Lincoln.

Missionaries For U. S.

"Sending missionaries to us was splendid in the days when we needed them and we are grateful to them for the many things they taught us," UN Delegate Gloria Addae told the AFRO.

"But that day is gone and from the way events have shaped up here in the United States, it might not be a bad idea for us to send you a few missionaries—say for instance to Little Rock and to Louisiana."

By Alvin E. White

Being a delegate to the United Nations is a most important assignment.

Besides, it is a high honor.

But to Gloria Addae (pronounced eye-dye) of Ghana (formerly the Gold Coast) its just another job.

In the past four months, the young lady from Africa has been exposed to many new experiences involving vexatious problems.

She has taken them all in stride, maintaining the imperturbable aplomb of a more seasoned diplomat, winning many friends for her new, struggling country.

Visiting Miss Addae is a series of pleasant surprises.

Her warm, welcoming smile and hearty handshake are completely disarming.

Seated in the big armchair behind a huge shiny desk in the severely furnished modern office on Second Avenue and 42nd St. close to the UN. Miss Addae seems almost lost.

Standing only five feet one inches in her stocking feet, and weighing every bit of one hundred pounds soaking wet, still in her early twenties, she is a little dynamo and truly, one of the new nation's most brilliant personages.

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AT HOME in Accra, officially, she is a research economist in the Ministry of Trade and Commerce, a bureau entrusted with developing national resources and instituting innovations as well as bringing in new ideas for furthering the nation's economy.

Miss Addae is well equipped for her difficult job, having a masters degree in economics from St. Andrews University in Scotland.

She is a graduate of the University College of Ghana, established in 1950 and affiliated with the University of London.

Before that, she attended Achimota College in Accra founded by the famous educator, the late Dr. Aggrey.

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FROM THE outset, Miss Addae let it be understood that she is speaking unofficially.

"I never met the Premier Nkrumah, so I can't tell you anything about him that you don't already know.

"This I do know, he has been the target of bitter criticism, but that is the privilege of a free press."

Miss Addae made that statement after she was shown a full page cartoon of the Premier in the autumn issue of Punch, the famous London magazine.

Dr. Nkrumah was pictured as a "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" one personality calmly displaying to the world, a proclamation on freedom and justice held high by the Premier clad in tribal robes.

Behind this placid leader snarled a demon, wielding a knob headed voodoo stick, apparently indulging in some savage practice.

Elsewhere in the same issue of Punch, another cartoon showed a boastful Englishman in his club telling fellow members how he got out of Ghana, when he was practically penniless through open criticism of the Premier.

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SHOWN ANOTHER story, published in the New Yorker in November, Miss Addae adopted the same charitable attitude.

With another UN delegate from Ghana, Mr. Arkhurst, she enjoyed a good laugh at the ridiculous attempts by the former rulers to belittle the new nation's leader.

"This," Miss Addae said, pointing to the New Yorker story, "must be by one of those seven-day visitors.

"They dash madly through the country, most often under the guidance of some Britisher, seeing only what the British want to point out as faulty or bad. Of course such a brief visit qualifies the person to write authoritatively on Ghana.

"He saw only what the British want him to see. I could do the same thing about America when I go back to Ghana.

"Only I have been here longer. Yet when I get home, I dare not try to convey my impressions of ALL America by the little portion I have seen.

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"WHEN A VISITOR writes like this," referring to Dr. Nkrumah's participation in a local custom called "libations," "it proves he does not know what he is talking about. It's stupid."

Miss Addae's brilliant eyes flashed angrily as she defended an ancient tradition of her people.

"A libation is our way of saying thanks for the many good things that come to us. In this country, many people say grace before eating. That is giving thanks.

"We do it differently, but it has the same meaning.

"In this country, various churches use different kinds of wines for holy communion.

In my country, no one is bound to use any particular kind of drink for libation. It's a matter of choice. One can hardly be condemned for following an ancient tradition.

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"IN TRAVELING through a strange country, you can see anything you want to see, especially if you look for it.

"Therefore if you look for bad things, you have no trouble finding them.

"The Western idea of Africa has been too strongly influenced by bad moving pictures.

"To the Westerner, the average African is a spear bearer or the meek fellow who lugs the heavy loads for the great white hunter.

"It is too much for them to have any ideas of educated Africans.

"From such sources, the average Westerner never learns what makes another tick.

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ANOTHER particularly offensive item in the New Yorker story said that while a band played the Ghana National Anthem, a recent recruit to the Army snapped to attention but when the band swung the tune

(Continued on Page 3)

7 Independent States

This spring, Ghana is hosting a conference of independent African States. It is hoped that Africa's strong man, Colonel Nasser of Egypt will attend.

There are seven independent states on the continent and Ghana has ambitions of emerging as a leader of this group.

Meanwhile, Ghana is a member of the 29-member Asiatic-African bloc in the UN, representing a total of 855,000,000 people akin by race or religion, different from the Western alliances, different from Russia and Red China, the latter two representing a population totaling 817,000,000.

Ghana participated in the recent Asiatic-African Solidarity Conference in Cairo at which some 30 nations were unofficially represented.