

VOICE READERS COMPRISE A \$30,000,000 MARKET

EDITORIAL

(From the New York Times)

N.A.A.C.P. v. Alabama

Anyone who wonders why those involved in racial litigation in the South so often look to the Supreme Court for relief have only to study the latter's decision the other day in the case of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People v. Alabama. The history of this case shows nothing less than a cynical perversion of the legal process by state judges sworn to uphold law and the Constitution.

Eight years ago, without any notice or hearing, the NAACP WAS "temporarily" restrained from operating in Alabama. The minute ground for this massive barrier was that the Association had failed to register as an out-of-state corporation and pay a ten-dollar filing fee. It offered to register but was forbidden to do so.

Incredible as it sounds, it took five years and three Supreme Court decisions for the NAACP even to get a hearing in Alabama. Once the Supreme Court of Alabama simply refused to comply with a Federal ruling; another time it

hewn statues dwarf Ramses II's colossi at Abu Simbel. To meet their match, you must travel northeastward till you reach the colossal Budhas at Bamian, on the northeast side of the Hindu Kush.

Has the landscape along the Nile's banks at Napata changed in the course of the last 3000 years? The landscape here depends on man's ability to raise water from the river to fertilize the land on either bank. Beyond the line where irrigation ends, the land is a barren waste of gravel and sand; but evidently there is nothing wrong with its chemical composition; it must contain all the components needed for supporting a rich vegetational life, as is shown by the lushness of the irrigated green belt.

YET WHO KNOWS whether the present extent of civilization around Napata is appreciably greater than it was when this region provided the economic basis for the Egyptian vice-royalty and for the Ethiopian kingdom after it? At any rate, one can be sure that the basic crops have not changed.

Among the sites in the Napata region, Napata city was one that we did not see, for the city has not yet been unearthed by the archeologists. These are more certain of the site of Napata's successor Meroe, which stood, not at present-day Merawi, but at present-day Shendi, much nearer to the southeastern tip of the S. The capital of Ethiopia was moved upstream from Napata to Meroe in the fourth century B.C.

What was the attraction of a site that was still more remote from the heart of the civilized world? The slag-heaps at Shendi suggest that the iron-industry at Meroe may have been an even more important source of power than Napata's wheatfields were. Or perhaps, by the fourth century B.C., Ethiopia had expanded upriver into Gezira, where rainfall agriculture is possible. Anyway, Napata sank; Meroe rose; and then, in the fourth century of the Christian era, the curtain comes down on the history of the Egyptian civilization's Ethiopian annex.

held the case for more than a year without any action. And through all the proceedings this Alabama court refused ever to pass on the merits of the Association's right to operate in the State; instead it held that the NAACP had waived its Constitutional rights by such procedural "errors" as grouping its arguments together in a brief.

Justice John Marshall Harlan, speaking for a unanimous Supreme Court, has rightly labeled these Alabama procedural rulings a mere sham. On the merits, as his opinion shows, the real reason for the state's attempt to oust the NAACP was its opposition to racial segregation—a constitutionally impermissible reason. The whole case is a sordid example of the shabby tactics practised these days under the banner of "state's rights".

Even with the protective order issued by the Supreme Court, the N.A.A.C.P. will have a hard time in Alabama. Its Democratic voters have just signified their militant hostility to racial change by nominating Eugene (Bull) Connor—Birmingham's police commissioner at the height of last year's disorders—as their new state public service commissioner. And Governor Wallace stumps the country seeking converts to his brand of racism.

Rebellion in the Congo

The Congo, as a sovereign and independent state, was bound to face tremendous difficulties. The present situation, with a weak Government, rebellion in the provinces, tribal strife and the small United Nations force about to pull out, presents a picture which is not surprising—but it certainly is alarming.

The present focus of rebellion is Kivu Province in the northeast. Last month there was trouble in North Katanga, just below Kivu, and in Kwilu Province in the west. These are all border regions that have their privileged sanctuaries—Rwanda in the east and the Congo Republic in the west.

The rebels appear to have been encouraged and financed by Chinese Communists working out of the capitals of the two neighboring countries. The actual fighting, however, is done by Congolese using arms captured from the regular Congolese Army and by tribesmen using spears and bows and arrows.

The struggle against the rebellious forces is far from hopeless. Given confidence and sufficient arms, especially tanks and planes, the regular army fights well enough. It suppressed the other uprising and has a good chance of saving Kivu Province.

The military and political situation as a whole, nevertheless, is bad and getting worse. The Government in Leopoldville needs help. At present the United Nations has only two battalions of Nigerian troops in Leopoldville and two battalions of Ethiopians in Elisabethville. The troops want to go home and plan to do so at the end of this month.

Secretary General Thant, who is believed to be reluctant to involve the United Nations any further, has no authority to extend aid beyond June 30.



AFRICA in Today's World

By CHARLES I. WEST, M.D.

IN RECENT MONTHS, we have taken an inside look at much of Africa in its central and southern reaches. This week we will turn you over to a distinguished European historian, political analyst, geographer and man of many other talents—Arrold Toynbee—who will take you on a tour of the Sudan down through the years.

Mr. Toynbee's remarks in the London Observer provide important background to the student's comprehension of the modern Sudan.

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THE GEZIRA, between the White and Blue Niles that meet at the tip of "the Elephant's Trunk" (Khartoum), now has its miles and miles of irrigated cotton fields. The great open spaces of Kordofan and the highlands of Darfur are a land of promise. The three southern provinces of the Sudan have their endless papyrus swamps, which will, no doubt, be drained and cultivated when the number of the planet's hungry human mouths have doubled and trebled. The Northern Province has not much even latent material wealth; in compensation, it has history.

In the Sudan's Northern Province the Nile runs like a letter S that has fallen on its back. At the southeast end of this reach stands Omdurman, facing "the Elephant's Trunk" where the two Niles meet; at the northwest end stands Wady Halfa, on the Egyptian frontier.

The ancient Egyptians occupied this reach of the Nile by stages. Under the Middle Kingdom they pushed upstream, above Aswan. The massive fortresses that they built here give the measure of the resistance that they encountered. When the Middle Kingdom fell to pieces, these hard-won Egyptian gains were lost; but, after the builders of the New Kingdom had reunited Egypt politically, the Egyptians pushed their way upstream again; and this time they occupied the S from end to end. Moreover, they Egyptianized local life so thoroughly that when, in the 11th century B.C., the New Kingdom fell to pieces in its turn, the Egyptian civilization lived on above Aswan as well as below it.

IN THE NEW EGYPT along the S above Aswan, an independent kingdom—essentially Egyptian in its culture—defied the successive foreign conquerors of Egypt itself. The Assyrians, the Persians, and the Macedonians all failed to push their conquests farther south than the First Cataract. Even the Romans got no farther than the rock of Ibrim, between Aswan and Wady Halfa. For about 1400 years, from the 11th century B.C. to the fourth century of the Christian era, the Egyptian world was represented politically, not by the subjugated land of Egypt itself, but by the independent Kingdom of Ethiopia (not the present-day Ethiopia but the present-day Sudan).

And during the first half of the Ethiopian Kingdom's long history, its capital stood at Napata, which had already been the capital of the New Kingdom of Egypt's upstream colonial empire. Under the New Kingdom, Napata was erected into a new Thebes, with a local cult of the Theban god Amon that was second in importance only to the cult of Thebes itself. The Ethiopian King Tirhakah, who contended with Assyria for the possession of Egypt, carved a pinnacle of the Jabal Barkal into a colossal statue of himself; and two of his successors emulated him in this attempt to immortalize their names. These rock-

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