

"Birchers Buy Bigotry" Jackie Robinson

There is a group in Denver, Col., which calls itself The Denver Committee to Improve Racial Relations. This is a high sounding title. However, according to The New York Times, the organization is a John Birch Society-front, using the name to lure unsuspecting people to meetings where the aims of the Society may be promoted.

The John Birch Society, of itself, is as unhealthy a creature as could be imagined. It is appalling that any American could affiliate with an organization which has called Presidents Eisenhower and Truman Communists and which considers the civil rights movement Communist-oriented. It is even worse to learn that there are any American Negroes who would allow themselves to come within smelling distance of the Birchers.

In Denver, the so-called Committee To Improve Racial Relations had what it called a "seminar." Three Negro speakers were booked through another group called The American Opinion Speakers Bureau which is also a bed-fellow of the John Birch Society. For \$2,000 three Negro speakers told an audience of 200 persons all the things that Birchites like to hear.

A MR. LEONARD PATTERSON of New York City described by the Times as a former boot-black in a Communist barbershop in New York and a one-time subversive trainee, is quoted as saying that civil rights leaders are using the same "insurrectionary" tactics he learned in Moscow. Patterson is a Negro.

A Mrs. Julian Brown of Los Angeles, who said she once joined the Communist Party, by "mistake" (I don't know how you achieve this) said that she agreed with Patterson.

She is quoted as describing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as "One of the most effective workers in this country for Communism and against the Negro." This lady also expressed the opinion that President Johnson "has done more for Communism than any other President." Mrs. Brown is a Negro.

The third speaker was a man known to many people. His name is George Schuyler. This aging columnist has written for The Pittsburgh Courier for a number of years and, unlike good wine, it would appear that neither his writing or his thinking have mellowed. Schuyler, in our opinion, is a man who wishes he were white.

I heartily wish he had his wish because it would be easier to deal with the ultra-conservatism he consistently projects. Schuyler is quoted as having expressed the following nonsense. We quote from the Times:

"George Schuyler... said Negroes had been doing well before the current civil rights movement upset smooth racial relations. He said American Negroes were healthier, wealthier and better educated than the blacks of Africa and should be grateful. He said Negro civil rights leaders had made their race look ridiculous... by harping on minor annoyances and the rare brutalities in which a few Negroes were involved."


He added to applause: "Equality cannot after all be given if it does not exist. It has to be earned." He called for Negro "humility and self-advancement. Let us bring an end to racist, Marxist agitation and disorders and resolve in the aftermath that we've got a good thing going in America."

It is a tragedy that a gifted man like Schuyler would allow himself to be used for dollars by people of the ilk of the Birchers.

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Everybody's In The Act
LOS ANGELES--(NPI)--The California Medical Association has approved a recommendation that membership in the American Medical Association be banned to a medical society practicing segregation during the closing session of the organization's 95th annual meeting.
The recommendation to the AMA also urged the California body to join other states who plan to submit similar resolutions to secure 100 per cent backing for a joint resolution at the AMA's Chicago convention in June.

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Joblessness Assaulted
Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz ordered training programs for 9,325 persons in Mississippi after receiving reports of 66 per cent unemployment rate among Negroes in the Mississippi Delta.
Wirtz directed an "intensive assault" on joblessness in the state where many farm workers have been displaced by cotton-picking and cotton-cultivating machines.
HE SAID a survey conducted by the Mississippi Employment Security Commission among 8,336 persons in Washington and Bolivar Counties showed that two out of three were unemployed.
The survey also indicated that 65 per cent had earnings of \$500 or less in the previous year.
Four out of five interviewed wanted training, the Labor Department said.
Wirtz announced arrangements were being made in cooperation with the Commerce Department for a \$5 million training project for 1,200 persons in Lexington, Beardsville, Greenwood, Greenville, Gulf Port, Natchez, Forest and Meridian, Miss.
Since the survey showed 20 per cent of the Negroes had less than a fourth grade education, each training course will include basic education to bring these persons up to a sixth grade level.
The Neighborhood Youth Corps, for youngsters from 16 to 21, will be expanded in every section of the state. Wirtz said 6,075 youths will be enrolled in summer projects and 1,600 school dropouts will be signed up for training.
Wirtz also approved on-the-job training for 450 jobless workers and said this would be increased by 950 by the end of June.

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