

Threats, Bulldozing Tactics Not The Way

Editor, The News Leader:

I am writing this letter as an appeal to everyone who may be able to make this country what our forefathers had in mind when setting up laws to govern the United States of America. The threats which have besieged this country and now my own community have prompted me to try to do something in a small way.

When you read this letter you will probably think it was written by some nut, but I assure you that this is not the case. I am a concerned parent of four of the best children on earth. I was brought up in the Baptist Church and went through my childhood in a small town in central Georgia named "Gay."

I was raised by a colored woman known to me as "Aunt Ida" because my mother had to devote most of her time to her mother and father, who were victims of sugar diabetes. "Aunt Ida" was a very small colored person who did everything possible for "Mr. Tommy" but if I needed correcting, she did that too. I played with colored children every day of my early life and we got along fine. These children were TRUE AMERICANS.

* * *

In early adult life I employed colored people on the farm here in Homestead. Then, in 1952, I was inducted into the Army. During my two years at Fort Jackson, S.C., my best friend was a Negro named "James" who had been a principal of a school in Mississippi before his induction into the Army. Since our wives and families were not with us, he and I spent quite a few of our off duty hours doing our laundry together in the same washing machine.

I became supply sergeant and "James" a platoon sergeant of a training company. He always saw to it that all members of his race became good soldiers and good citizens even if it took a couple of G.I. baths with scrub brushes and lye soap to accomplish this. Here again, he was a TRUE AMERICAN of a minority race on his way up the RIGHT WAY.

Since my Army career ended in 1954 I have been in the construction field. I have worked hundreds of Negro personnel on these jobs in several different trades, as laborers, concrete finishers, block masons, truck drivers, etc. I do not think if you interviewed all of the personnel that had ever worked for me, you would find ONE that would say I had ever been prejudiced or had been unfair in any way.

* * *

During my 38 years of living in the U.S., I have come in contact with very few "Niggers" until the last five years. (I think if you check with the Negro race you will find that a "Nigger" is the same to them what "White Trash" is to the White race. I firmly believe that most of these were inspired by the Communistic movement in this country.

I would like to bring to your attention, MY FEELINGS, and I think, the feelings of the young adults of this country who really want to get an education in order to become better citizens, such as "Sharon Cash" who is quoted in the news article attached. (I understand that there were 33 names attached to this letter.) My only disappointment is that my 15-year old daughter and 19-year old son names were not included. I am sure if they have been given the chance their names would have been there; because this is the way I have tried to raise them.

I am asking for each member of the school board to explain to the citizens of this county, what type of citizens these young adults will turn out

to be after being given the guidance and privilege of voting in a Democratic manner and then having this vote of the vast majority voided by a government body. I CANNOT repeat myself by saying that THESE would be true Americans.

I agree that minority groups should have the same rights and respect as the majority, but I do not believe this has ever or will ever be accomplished by threats and the bulldozing tactics now being used in this country.

During the last 11 years, I have been in business contact with quite a few people of a long standing minority group of this country. The Jewish people have worked long and hard to make their place and gain their respect in this country, and have looked after their own all the way. I firmly believe that if the Negro race would spend more of their time and money in trying to get their own people off of the relief rolls and quite consuming so much of the taxpayers' money in organizations such as the E.O. P.I. and others they would find their goal of respect and equality much closer, and thereby make this a better place for all of us to live.

I'll finish this letter by stating that I'm glad "Aunt Ida" and her brother "Uncle Fred" (who at one time was a slave) are now dead and don't have to see what this Democratic country has come to (under communistic intervention).

I would like to further state that I as an American cannot understand why the people of this country would rather send their children to die in foreign lands than to standup for what they KNOW IS RIGHT, here in their own country.

I am writing this letter and signing my name because until my two sons came along, I was the last male of a long line of cent, and am proud to be a TRUE AMERICAN.

M. T. CALDWELL

9/30/68
N/L

Children Influenced By Prejudices Of Parents

Editor, The News Leader:

What man has the right to condemn another man because of his race, creed or color? Why do people these days think they have a higher authority than God? It's absolutely disgusting.

Most parents want to be considered the greatest parents in the world as far as their children are concerned. So they spend endless hours, day after day, teaching them right from wrong.

* * *

They teach them to be helpful and friendly. All this is great and every child needs this training. The children learn a great deal by observing the things that happen around them. This in itself is your child's greatest teacher—life.

* * *

So why do parents constantly make nasty remarks about people who are not the same color they are? Why do they make a big thing because their child has to participate in school with a child who was not the same color?

Why did they spend so much time training their kids to have good manners and to respect other people, when all they are doing is teaching their child to be deceitful and hateful, by telling them there is a difference in people because of their race, creed or color?

Kids are kids. They all believe in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Good Fairy, Monsters, Fairy tales and God. They have measles, mumps, chicken pox and colds. They all have some sort of fear. They all live in a child's world of dreams and fantasy. They all like to play and romp. And when in school they all stand "together" to pledge the flag. The flag of the United States of America.

* * *

So what makes you think that because of a child's color he is different from your own?

What would happen in this world if all the Negroes turned white? I know it isn't possible, but what if it was? How could you tell the difference? How would you know who was who?

What would the Negroes have to riot about then? How could they teach their kids to dislike the whites?

Our world is changing every day. Some people can't seem to accept the fact; they must like things the way they are now. Personally, I don't like things the way they are now. I don't like the war, the hatred, the riots. I think our country needs a change.

* * *

We need to learn the meaning of fellowship and love among our fellow Americans. We have to train our kids to love. What is the world going to be like if we don't train our kids now? What kind of world will this be for them when they are adults? It depends on you, the parents. As the song says:

shed his grace on thee, And crowned thy good, with brotherhood From sea to shining sea."

If more people thought seriously about our America we'd all be better satisfied.

MRS. JANET M. WOODALL

Conditions Bad For Blacks, Too

Editor, The News Leader:

I am very much concerned with what's going on at South Dade.

I read the letter to the editor Miss Sharon Cash sent in. She said that she and others were tired of being stopped in the halls, being bumped into and stared at.

We can't walk from one corner to another without detectives staring at us. What do they have to come out there for? Why won't they give us black students (that want them) a transfer?

They're always crying about violence; that's all they think about when they see a black student. We can't help if they're all scared.

Why can't they phase out some white schools as well as black? Let the whites go to black schools. Really and truly, I don't think you can pay a white to attend Mays High.

LABON HARRIS

Can You Imagine That?

Jews Object To Swastika

Editor, The News Leader:

The argument at South Dade over the name "Rebel" is ridiculous. I see no reason at all why the blacks of South Dade have to be so narrow of mind as to think of things like white supremacy when they hear "Dixie" played. Why can't they think of magnolia trees and the beauty of the Swannee River back in 1821?

* * *

I AM AN authority on this subject as my old Alma Mater in Germany had a similar problem with the Jews.

A few of them were bussed to our school right after World War II. They objected to the name "Hitler High" for our school, the swastika for our symbol, the "Gestapo" for our nickname, and of all things, they even wanted us to change our band's S.S. uniforms and stop doing the goosestep at

half time.

Oh, the pettiness of those people to come to OUR school and not see the beauty of our symbols of the glorious past.

Our two best halfbacks, Bernstein and Cohen, quit the team in protest. Think of the joy they missed by not running touchdowns for dear old Hitler High. Of not hearing the crowd, led by our cheerleaders, shouting "Seig Heil, Seig Heil" in their honor, as the band goosestepped around the field.

* * *

WHY CAN'T these Jews forget the furnaces and the concentration camps of the past and let us keep our symbols? If this idiocy does not cease I for one am going to change my hair style and grow a mustache.

B. V. ADAMS,
Richmond Heights

Another Try Planned

'Rebel' Negotiations On Verge Of Collapse

Negotiations deteriorated to an impasse last night between black and white parent committees meeting at South Dade High School, but the combined group voted to schedule one more meeting next Monday in the hopes they can remove stumbling blocks.

Black parents' spokesman,

Odell Johns, told The News Leader today that his group feels the negotiations have completely broken down.

"We gave our word, so we will go back and meet again, but we feel it is a waste of time for a lot of people, and an exercise in futility," Johns said.

He is beginning today to hold conferences with black leaders of other Dade communities, aiming at a boycott of white merchants and at a total boycott of Dade schools by all Negro students.

Johns said he will also set tentative talks with national civil rights leaders, because

"when you're a minority, you've got to get help of minorities in other places or your voice continues to be lost."

The boycotts may be called into action shortly after the second school board meeting this month, now set for Oct. 16, Johns said.

At one point in last night's meeting of black and white parents and school board members, Johns and two members of the 10 - person committee of blacks led a walkout, but returned a few minutes later after conferring with the rest of their own group and with Negro school representative Willie Wright.

There were indications last night that rumors of a rift within the black committee have some basis in fact. After the walkout, the group voted 6-4 to schedule another meeting and try again for a settlement.

Johns, elected spokesman for the blacks, has been openly scornful that the black - white conferences would result in settling the dispute over Confederacy - linked names and symbols used by South Dade High.

He had announced plans for a merchant boycott and student boycott several weeks ago and agreed to defer them only after vociferous urging by parents attending a meeting of blacks at a southwest Homestead church.

Last night, a woman member of his committee held back when Johns led the brief walkout, and insisted that she is the committee's chairman and that Johns was chosen only as spokesman, not to head the group.

Jack Levy, spokesman for the white parents committee, said negotiation attempts night had reached "more or less a standstill."

However, he added, "as long as we're still talking, still searching for a compromise, there is still hope for a settlement."

At the first biracial parent meeting, last week, Levy said he got the impression that Johns, personally, was willing to consider yielding on the question of the school's Rebel nickname.

But at last night's meeting, the Negroes said they wouldn't consider a single point of compromise, Levy reported.

He said widespread news reports that the University of Miami has banned use of all Confederate symbols including the song Dixie may have prompted the stiffening of the local group's position.

Why Was South Dade Picked For Trouble?

Editor, The News Leader:

To the South Dade parents, both black and white, DON'T LET IT HAPPEN HERE. Through the exploitation of our children, both black and white, the South Dade area is being targeted by the Reds as another Watts.

Why was South Dade High—which had integrated peacefully—selected for trouble? Why were Negro students incited against the school colors after having played happily under these colors for the past two football seasons?

Who incited our kids? Whose tax dollars paid for the salaries and for the facilities used by these agitators? Why did four Atlanta TV cameramen, panting for violence, come here to cover a small town football game?

* * *

WHY ARE Negro militants

threatening both decent whites and decent blacks with an invasion "to straighten us out"? These extremists do not represent the decent blacks any more than the leather-jacketed white extremists represent the decent whites.

Intelligent and informed Negroes know the answer to the "whys." We know that the Communists plan to use our people as the shock troops to overthrow our country. We know, but we do not dare speak out.

We call on you good white people for help to our good black people. This is our country and these are our kids. We cannot stand by and see both destroyed. We must join together against those who are creating racial hatreds for their own Communist ends.

LOUELLA WILLIAMS

A Black Parent



Location Dictated Name

Editor, The News Leader:

The name and symbols of South Dade High School were originally used due to the school's southern location in relation to the rest of Dade County—not as a racial symbol.

- Change the band uniforms to an unbiased uniform such as the uniforms they originally had or one which depicts the south without prejudice. (Referring to the south geographically.)

- Change the Confederate battle flag to the regional flag of the Confederate states of America, which is strictly a geographical symbol, where black and white reside.

- Leave the name Rebel as a team name, since there are Rebel automobiles (American Motors), etc., and the dictionary definition states that rebel is one who wars against his government or resists its laws; one who resists any authority; opposing or resisting authority; to resist or take up arms against the law or government.

The word "Rebel" is clearly used to oppose the authority of the opposing teams South Dade will contest again, without any racial implications.

Since South Dade was not integrated when the original symbols were adopted, it was not possible to foresee the present racial problem.

"Dixie" was originally a Negro-American song.

ROBERT G. MIXON
Class of '57

HERALD
OCT 1, 1968



—Herald Photo by C. A. MITCHELL

Biology Instructor William Royal at Home
... he'll be reassigned to another school today

Psychedelic Art Trips Teacher

By GEORGIA MARSH
Herald Education Writer

A young South Dade High School biology instructor has been relieved of his teaching duties in a dispute over psychedelic pictures hung in his classroom.

William Royal, 24, a South Dade High School graduate who returned to his alma mater as a teacher, was relieved of his teaching duties Friday and told to report to the school personnel office today for reassignment to another school.

School officials said they viewed Royal's pictures as "inappropriate for classroom display," according to Miss Betty Gilkey, South District Superintendent.

Furthermore, the pictures covered the safety glass on one of the two classroom doors in direct violation of a directive to the faculty that no signs, stickers or notices should impede vision through the glass.

The pictures, confiscated as evidence, according to Royal, included a student's psychedelic drawing with the word "pot" on it, a Life Magazine illustration of the human embryo and a picture of The Beatles.

Miss Gilkey said a sign regarding a nudist camp was seen on Royal's door.

Privately, some school officials say the side-burned, moustached Royal may be a little to "far out" for South Dade High, a school already involved in a tense racial situation.

Jack Prance, assistant superintendent of personnel, said Royal has not been suspended or dismissed and remains on salary.

"The South Dade situation is such that it can't stand too much," Prance said. "Another little thing like this could

just blow the top off. It was just suggested that we take Royal out of the school and find another place for him to work."

Royal said he is "overwhelmed by the whole situation. I apologize for thinking this is America," he said.

"I don't want to cause any trouble but nobody sat down and talked to me about all this. If this community would give the kids some room to do their own thinking they wouldn't have the race problems they do have."

The pictures, selected by students, have hung in the room since early this month. Originally they covered safety glass in both doors but after the directive, Royal said, he uncovered one door.

Friday, when Royal reported to work, the pictures were gone. He was summoned to Crabtree's office and in the presence of Crabtree, Miss Gilkey and school security officer Ben McCordle told he was being relieved of his duties because of the inappropriateness of the art.

School officials said Royal probably would have been transferred anyway because there are three surplus teachers at South Dade including one in Royal's field.

"Royal was the last to be hired so he would be one of the first to be reassigned," Crabtree said. Students in Royal's five biology classes will be reassigned to another faculty member.

This is the young biology teacher's second year at the high school.

He refused to disclose which of his students contributed the pictures.

"Look what's happening to me and I don't think I've done anything. I'm not going to get the kids in trouble. They can't even talk back."

"I thought I was doing a good thing by letting them bring part of their environment into school. The room is colorless. The students have to sit inside it. They brought in the things they thought were appropriate — things that are part of their world."

N/L 9/30

Over Psychedelic Posters

South Dade Teacher Ousted

By JEANNETTE ROBINS

A young biology teacher at South Dade High School has been removed from his post for failure to comply with a ruling of the principal and for allowing his students to decorate their homeroom with psychedelic posters.

William Royal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Royal and himself a graduate of South Dade High School, has been removed from his teaching assignment at the school and has been placed on the county school system's unassigned teacher list.

He has not been suspended

or dismissed, and remains on salary, according to Miss Betty Gilkey, South District superintendent.

She said the matter developed because Acting Principal Howard Crabtree found a sign on the safety glass of the door to Royal's classroom after all teachers had been asked to remove signs, stickers and notices from the glass doors so as not to impede vision.

Miss Gilkey said a sign concerning a nudist camp was first noted, and that later a poster picturing a human embryo appeared.

Crabtree, with a couple of school personnel, removed the poster and sign, and ordered Royal to his office.

While the acting principal was in the room, which doubles as home room and biology classroom, he noticed other posters and pictures which he described as psychedelic, and which he said he considered improper for classroom display.

He and the assisting school personnel removed these also.

Royal, in a conference with Crabtree and Miss Gilkey, said he had permitted his pupils to bring in psychedelic and other

posters which they considered pleasing to the eye because the room has no window vista.

After the conference, Miss Gilkey said she believes it is in the best interest of all concerned that Royal be placed on the list of teachers unassigned but ready for duty.

Some of Royal's students said they believe the psychedelic posters were not the underlying reason for his removal. They said they are convinced that the school took action because it disapproved of his "telling it like it is" during a discussion on marijuana, and of his relating his own feelings

about the use of marijuana during college days.

Royal is the son of a long-time South Dade family. This is his second year of teaching biology.

During an interview Sunday, he told a news commentator that he sees nothing wrong with permitting the students to provide some of the surroundings that will help them relate their own lives to the classroom.

Crabtree, queried this morning, said the personnel department of the school system is reviewing "the total picture," and he declined to comment until that review is completed.

HERALD 10/2

Ousted Teacher Considering Legal Fight

By GEORGIA MARSH
Herald Education Writer

A South Dade High School biology teacher, involved in a dispute over some psychedelic pictures, said Tuesday he may take legal steps to avoid his pending reassignment to another school.

William Royal, 24, who was relieved of his teaching duties at South Dade High on Friday, said he has taken his case to the Dade Classroom Teachers Association and been promised legal help.

CTA executive secretary Pat Tornillo would only comment that Royal had applied for legal help and as a CTA member is entitled to "whatever assistance is necessary."

Royal was relieved of teaching his five biology classes Friday after being told by South Dade's Acting Principal Howard Crabtree that inappropriate pictures were hanging in his classroom.

The pictures were on a bulletin board and over the safety glass on one of the two classroom doors in violation of a directive to the faculty that nothing should obstruct the view through the safety glass.

Tuesday, Royal said he went to the school personnel office as directed but did not receive a new assignment.

Ronald Theobald, who handles teacher assignments for the school system, said he did not have enough time



William Royal
...out at South Dade

Tuesday to confer with Royal about a new position.

Royal is to report to the personnel office again today.

Removed Teacher Asks Aid From CTA

MIAMI NEWS

10/2

William Royal, South Dade High biology teacher who was removed from his classroom because of pictures on his bulletin board, said today he has been talking with officials of the Classroom Teachers' Association.

Dade school officials have not yet assigned him to another high school, he said.

Ronald Theobald, who is in charge of teachers' assignments, said he was unable to make a new assignment for Royal yesterday but was to talk with the 24-year-old teacher again today.

"If I let the CTA handle this," Royal said, "I'll let them handle it all the way. I'll try to do what they say." He was to meet with CTA officials today.

Royal, who is in his second year of teaching, said the pictures — including one of the Beatles and one of a human embryo — were removed from his classroom bulletin board before he arrived at school Friday morning. While he was taking the roll, Royal said, he was called from the classroom to the office of Principal Howard Crabtree.

Royal said school officials told him he was "relieved of teaching duty" because the pictures were considered inappropriate.

School officials told newspaper reporters that Royal had violated a directive from the principal by leaving a picture so that it obscured glass in a classroom door. Later, other school officials said the school was "over-staffed" and that Royal, as the most recently employed biology teacher, would be transferred to another school.

Royal said yesterday he wants to remain at South Dade High.

CTA President Janet Dean said Royal is a CTA member and, as such, entitled "to all the help from the staff we would provide for any member." She said it is CTA policy not to make public statements about personnel matters.

N/L 10/2

Why Weren't Population Facts Published Earlier?

Editor, The News Leader:

Thank you for your informative articles, statistics on the projection of population for the Greater Homestead area. Many of us are wondering why the paper took so long to print these facts.

Earlier this year, when the issue of \$2.25 million of federal funds to remodel and rebuilt the Redland Labor Camp arose, an article was submitted to your paper along these lines concerning the growth of Leisure City. The city fathers of Homestead, the Homestead Housing Authority, the Metropolitan Dade County Board of Commissioners and your paper must have been thinking about the wonderful opportunity for someone to grab a big hunk of tax money.

* * *

THE ARTICLE in the Sept. 24 issue headlined "Population of 100,000 for Greater Homestead" and editorial on the 25th entitled "100,000 Population Predicted by 1985" was no longer news, as these facts were known to many concern-

ed citizens during the month of April and were presented to the County Commissioners on June 6.

Eager beavers, with their gimme hands stuck out, found dilly-dallying and having the Commission hearings postponed to be in their advantage and the pretentious intellectuals, at that time, closed their eyes, ears and minds to the same facts that you printed this week. All they could see was the tax-dollar signs and how it would benefit them.

Many politicians truly believe that they know everything and the mass of United States citizens are too dumb to know what is best for them. What is YOUR excuse?

Is the South Dade News Leader really espousing the socialist trend of the past 20 or more years, or just some of its writers? This leaves much to conjecture.

...BERTHA CLIFTON
....Leisure City

Whites Put Children In Black School

It really seems foolish to think that Cutler Ridge Junior High is so overcrowded while a nice school like Richmond Heights is there to be of benefit to a lot of people, but is not used to capacity simply because it is in a black area.

We as white parents are sending our children to Richmond Heights because, instead of being concerned with race, we are concerned about the best education for our children.

* * *

SURELY it is better to hold classes in a proper classroom than halls, cafeterias, etc.

Our children are happy here and feel accepted and we are we want for them — feeding their scholastic needs and also teaching them to live with their fellow man and without foolish prejudices.

MRS. TONIA MASON
...MRS. LENOIR PARR

Blacks, Whites Talking About Different Flags

N/L 10/2

Editor, The News Leader:

This is in answer to Mrs. Dorothy Caves' letter published Sept. 25.

Mrs. Caves, the United States of America at one time or another has been at war with England, Japan, Germany, Mexico, Spain and North Korea. In each of these wars, black men have fought and died for a thing called freedom, even though they themselves

have never been free.

The United States of America, after each of these wars, forgave its enemies and, in addition, poured countless millions of dollars into these countries to rebuild strengthen and foster democracy in them.

* * *

THIS IS as it should be. But there is not a Japanese, German, ex-Nazi even, who cannot come to this country and

receive better treatment than the black men who fought them in this country's name. No Supreme Court decision is needed for them to enter white schools, neighborhoods and so forth, and I find this deplorable.

I am an ex-teacher of Negro and American history and I am aware, as you are, that slavery was not the only issue that caused the South to secede from the Union. I, like you, am aware of the noble character of Robert E. Lee and other gentlemen of the South who were honorable and fought for a noble cause; yes, even died for it. I cast no aspersions on them, their cause, or the flag under which they fought.

The South was defeated in that Civil War, thus failing to become a country in the sense that Greece and Italy were countries. She was defeated and returned with much bitterness to the Union.

* * *

RECONSTRUCTION followed. The South was exploited, the Negro was exploited. In her bitterness toward this exploitation, the South turned on the Negro, blaming him for all her ills. Helpless against the Northern occupation, she lashed out at my people fresh out of slavery.

The Confederate flag, which had been retired by honorable men like Mr. Lee at Appomattox, was called out of retirement by dishonorable men, leading the riff-raff of the South, covered by white sheets, and carrying burning crosses, to serve as the banner for a new war against the Negro.

Under that noble banner, which had served the South so well during the Civil War, thousands of Negroes were lynched, burned, tortured and terrorized. This banner, which flew over the heads of Jeb Stuart, Stonewall Jackson, and other Southern heroes in broad daylight and in honorable battle, now was a thing of the night and flew over dastardly men committing foul deeds in the name of the South.

Mrs. Caves, I agree with you that the issue is all out of perspective. Allow me, if you will, to put it in perspective.

* * *

NEGROES AND whites are not talking about the same flag. You speak of the flag of Robert E. Lee and of honor. We speak of the flag of the Ku Klux Klan and terror. We are opposed to that flag carried by racists who would deny us equality in a land of liberty and justice for all. We feel quite truly that you oppose this, too.

The irony of it all is that both flags look alike; and so the issue. In ending this letter of concern, let me say this. The swastika is, I'm sure you agree, repulsive to all Jews. The rebel flag is likewise repulsive to the Negro. It is not true that we feel we are the only people in the world to have been enslaved. We do, however, feel that we are the only ones who are not yet truly emancipated, and can never be as long as Southern Americans can wave the rebel flag and sing "Dixie," and not expect the Negro to be offended.

Naivete is everywhere. It is at least as dangerous as racism.

MR. RUDOLPH V. ADAMS
.Richmond Heights

Editor, The News Leader:

I write this to make a plea with Mrs. Sandra Stewart of Florida City not to cancel her subscription to The News Leader simply because she disagrees with an editorial written by Mr. Gossman concerning the South Dade "Rebel" situation.

The News Leader is a fine paper and does an excellent job of reporting the local community news to us.

Unfortunately Mr. Gossman is invariably on the wrong side of most issues for the community in which he lives.

• He was on the wrong side of the Rebel situation because most people in South Dade want to stand behind the students and respect their vote.

• He was on the wrong side in his column about gun control laws. There are very few in South Dade who want any kind of gun control laws. What most people in this community would like to see is proper enforcement of the laws we already have.

• He was again on the wrong side with his attack of Mr. Wallace where he indicated that if Mr. Wallace were elected and had access to the nuclear weapons that he might do something foolish.

Of course most of the people in South Dade favor Mr. Wallace, which I'm sure no one can argue with. The poll taken at the Cutler Ridge thea-

ter will bear this out.

* * *

IT SEEMS to me that Mr. Gossman is consistently on the minority side of issues as far as this community is concerned. As you can see I equate the word minority with the word wrong in this letter, the reason being that this country still (at least I hope so) operates on majority rule.

Mr. Gossman's obsession not to be able to conform with the community could be caused from being a newspaperman. They are a strange breed you know.

After all Sandy, he's just one little ole man no better than anyone else. I think you and I should defend his right to be habitually wrong. After all we must have freedom of the press.

So Sandy dear, renew your subscription to The News Leader, if only to read the letters to the editor. And if you would like to read more conservative views I suggest you also read Insight on the News and The Fort Lauderdale News, both published near enough so that you can get copies with no trouble at all.

* * *

MR. GOSSMAN has been wrong so many times that we should not be alarmed if he comes out for Mr. Humphrey in the near future. It would be in keeping with his tradition.

EDWARD M. CORNELIUS

HERALD
10/3

November Action Eyed

Dade Schools' Nickname Plan In Draft Stage

By GEORGIA MARSH
Herald Education Writer

It will be November before the School Board takes any action on a proposed new policy prohibiting schools from using any nickname or symbol that threatens the peaceful education of the students.

The policy is still being drafted, School Supt. Dr. Edward L. Whigham said Wednesday.

The board called for the new policy two weeks ago in the wake of

a controversy at South Dade High School over



the use of confederate symbols and the school's nickname "The Rebels." Black students at the school are demanding the symbols be changed.

The policy, which requires two readings before it can be voted upon, was scheduled to come up for a vote by the board Oct. 16.

However, Wednesday the policy still was not ready for first reading and had it been, the five board members present indicated they would have tabled action until a full board was present.

Members Jack Gordon and Mrs. Anna Brenner Meyers were absent.

Board members consulted their individual calendars and concluded that the first time a full board will be present to act on the policy will be Nov. 6.

In the meantime, a bi-racial committee is holding a series of meetings attempting to reach a compromise on the South Dade conflict.

Zooming Costs Deter Bids On New Schools, Board Told

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

Construction costs are rising so fast that contractors are afraid to bid on large school plants, Andrew J. Ferendino told the Dade School Board.

Ferendino, architect to the board, said only one contractor is preparing to submit a bid on the \$4 million, 18-month job of building Hialeah-Miami Lakes High. And the board wants to call for bids on two other \$4 million senior high plants in February.

Ferendino said he thought he could get two more bidders on the Hialeah-Miami Lakes school if the School Board would waive temporarily its requirement that building contractors submit with each bid a list of all subcontractors and if the board would postpone by a couple of weeks the date when bids are due.

The board accepted both suggestions.

"Several contractors think the school can't be built for \$4 million," Ferendino said, "because they can't predict how much building costs will increase in the 16 to 18 months it takes to build a senior high."

"Ten union contracts expire March 31," he said. "The contractors don't know how much they will have to pay their workmen after that date. They're reluctant to bid on a long-term job."

He said construction costs have risen 10 per cent in the last four months and that lumber alone "is up 30 per cent in the last six months."

Seven elementary schools are in various stages of planning, he said, with two of them ready to issue bid calls right now.

So far, however, he said construction of smaller schools is a less serious problem. They take less time to build and contractors do not have to guess how much costs will increase over so long a period.

"We can draw on a greater field of building contractors for an elementary school," Ferendino said. "There are only six or eight contractors in Dade County with the bonding power to bid on a \$4 million job."

In response to a question from board member Helene Vosloh, Ferendino said he had called Tampa, Jacksonville and New York in an effort to interest out-of-town contractors in the job.

"I found one prospect in New York," he said. "There were none in Tampa and Jacksonville."

The Hialeah-Miami Lakes school is scheduled for completion July 1, 1970, in time for the beginning of the 1970-71 school year, Ferendino said. The delay in receiving bids, he said, will not prevent the school's opening on schedule.

He said he is trying to arrange schedules that will allow 16 months for construction of a senior high.

"The building contractors want 18 months," Ferendino said. "Normally we allow 12 months and it takes 18."

South Miami High and North Miami Beach High are the two new plants also scheduled to get started dur-

ing the current school year. Ferendino hopes to issue calls for bids for both in February.

On a motion from member Ted Slack, the board voted to postpone the first reading of a proposed new policy to prohibit the use of school symbols that would interfere with education.

First reading of the policy will be at the Nov. 6 meeting. Under board policy, a new policy cannot be adopted except on two readings. If the proposal is presented formally Nov. 6, it cannot be effective until the Nov. 20 meeting.

It was proposed as a partial solution to the controversy at South Dade High, where Negro students have bitterly protested the use of the school nickname, Rebels, and of the Confederate flag, Confederate band uniforms and the song "Dixie."

Superintendent Edward Whigham told the board his staff has prepared several drafts of the proposed policy. Board members were to receive them today.

He pointed out that the board still is holding closed meetings with a biracial committee in South Dade.

Slack said he would be unable to attend the Oct. 16 meeting, when the board earlier intended to vote on the proposed policy.

The board began its meeting at 1 p.m. yesterday and adjourned at 1:30 — probably the shortest regular meeting the Dade School Board has held in many years.

10/3/68 N/L

Old South Stood For More Than Just Slavery

... (Editor's Note: Mr. Marvin Dennis of Leisure City has requested the following WIOD editorial of Sept. 18 be reprinted as a letter to the editor.)

* * *

school band uniforms, the same as those worn by Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. They feel these symbols are in some way perpetuating the concepts of slavery and racial discrimination.

* * *

.. "WIOD can understand this viewpoint. What we can't understand is the refusal of the protestors to recognize the other viewpoint.

"The Confederacy is just as dead as slavery is and discrimination will some day meet a similar fate. But slavery is not the only thing for which the Old South is to be remembered. There are a great many Southern traditions worthy of perpetuation, traditions of hospitality and good manners, traditions immediately called to mind by the sight of a Confederate flag or the strains of 'Dixie.' These should not die.

"Would changing the name of baseball have cleansed the game in any way following the infamous World Series scandal of 1919? The answer is 'no'. Baseball has survived because there's more to it than just one incident."



Communism, Si, Dixie, No?

Editor, The News Leader:

Dr. Henry King Stanford, that great apostle of "academic freedom," has just banned the exhibition of the Confederate flag and the playing of that rollicking song, "Dixie," at University of Miami football games.

This is the same Dr. Stanford who championed the appearance of Communist theoretician Herbert Aptheker on the University of Miami campus with these words:

"I am confident that our students' minds will be toughened, not weakened, by this exposure (to communism) and that the university will be stronger for having made it possible for ideas to be expressed, no matter how much we, as loyal Americans, may detest them."

Are we then to understand that Dr. Stanford's "academic freedom" is "Communism, si" and "Dixie, no?"

MARY F. DICKINSON

More Appropriate Symbols Needed

Editor, The News Leader:

We have so far not written to The News Leader concerning the use of the Confederate symbols in the school because we thought the school board naturally would suggest that symbols more appropriate to this community be selected.

We agree with the editorial of Sept. 17 suggesting a phasing out of the old symbols.

We appreciate Dr. Henry King Stanford's courageous stand that he has taken in banning the use of Confederate symbols at the University of Miami.

NAMES WITHHELD

Serving Probated Sentence

Teacher Has Felony Conviction

Ousted From S. Dade High

BY GERRY CROSBY
AND

JAMES MAXWELL

Ousted South Dade High School teacher, William Monroe Royal, has been convicted of a felony, according to records in the Dade County Criminal Court probation office.

The 24 - year - old biology teacher, who was removed from his classroom last week allegedly for allowing his room to be decorated with psychedelic posters and other minor infractions, was convicted in Leon County in 1965.

Records in the Leon Circuit Court clerk's office reveal a William M. Royal was convicted April 6, 1965, on three counts of breaking and entering.

He was sentenced to five years' probation.

On April 12, 1965, Royal's probation records were transferred to Dade County. Records on file there indicate Royal is a South Dade school teacher.

In addition, The News Leader has discovered, a William Monroe Royal was arrested, charged and found guilty of petty larceny in Coral Gables in 1961.

The judge sentenced Royal to 15 days in jail and \$205 fine. The time in jail and \$150 of the fine was suspended.

Also, The News Leader learned Thursday there is a Dade Public Safety Department bench warrant totalling \$1,000 out for a William Monroe Royal.

This warrant is for charges of reckless driving and includes speeding, going through a stop sign and driving without lights.

The Dade County Office of Public Instruction, which hires and screens teachers, said when Royal was employed the Federal Bureau of Investigation had no record of fingerprints, indicating he had never been convicted of a felony.

To the question: "Have you ever been arrested for anything other than a minor traffic incident?" Royal answered, "no."

School Personnel Director Ron Theobold said every teacher's application is checked for references and each person is fingerprinted. All prints are checked with the FBI.

Apparently, there were no prints on file with the FBI and Royal was given good references.

Royal has not been suspended or fired from his position as a Dade County teacher. He was placed on an unassigned teachers' list.

So far he has not been given a new assignment.

N/L 10/4/68

Negotiation Is Route To School Solution

Editor, The News Leader:

Dear Black Friends:

At last night's bridge game I was afraid. A group of mild women talked with such fury, determination and desperation if we allowed society to demand or riot.

Poverty and prejudice are not strangers to me, so I can say I've walked your road many years, never with my head down.

To be patted on the back for a job well done, you must work. To get out of the slums into decent homes can be obtained only through work. To work is to get a decent job.

* * *

And to get a decent job you must have an education. Above all other qualifications you must be educated.

Where in our area is there a finer school? I for one, only here four years, am proud to be a part of Homestead, gratified to see my children in this school area.

How do you rectify the past? I have had many friends of the black race (all colors) not because of color but being women of mutual desires to like all mankind. Our parents hates and prejudices are not ours.

Today we can talk to one another, go to school. Twenty years ago it was unheard of.

Dear black friends, can you think of any laws that were passed on demand, on an or-else basis? Have you heard of

laws being vetoed time after time only to succeed.

* * *

...So your election was distasteful. Please don't give up—negotiate as others all over the world are doing, but with words not action.

Please dear friends, black and white, don't play into the hands of the Communists. Don't please them who have no love of God or understanding of his fellow man. Let us, the people of South Dade, work, argue if we must, but through our leaders work this out.

Your fellow student can be your friend. Not all can, but there are many who are not of their father but of themselves.

....VIRGINIA R. GUINAND

Black History Scholars Few And Far Between

A group of black students at the University of Miami protested recently to Dr. Henry King Stanford that courses in black history were conspicuously missing from the university's curriculum.

HOW THE university plans to handle the matter is its own affair, but more and more pressure for such courses on a nationwide basis is turning up the fact that there are few qualified to teach in the field.

According to the Christian Science Monitor "the facts are that research in Afro-American history is still in the primitive stage . . . And those qualified to teach it in depth are few and far between."

A few universities are looking into the possibility of graduate programs in African-American studies but so far none have been set up.

The newspaper quotes Dr. Gwendolyn Carter, director of Northwestern University's Program of African Studies, as saying that it is likely that state boards of education eventually will require courses in Afro-American history.

Dr. Carter said that New York and Pennsylvania already require courses in the subject for ninth graders.

A NORTHWESTERN graduate student in the field claims, however, that scholarship in the area will not come into full flower until black scholars themselves take up the study and make efforts to interpret it.

The scholar estimates that it will be 10 years before the universities will be able to catch up to student demands in the field.

Miami
NEWS
10/5/68



DR. HENRY KING STANFORD

The Straw That Broke Camel's Back

To The Editor:

Your September 27 editorial, "A Forth-right Action by Dr. Stanford" was, as usual, a well written piece with which I disagreed. The fact that I did not agree with it was nothing new, however the statement that Dr. Stanford's decision "may offend some of the red-neck Southerners who abound in the southern end of Dade County" was the straw that broke this camel's back.

There can be no doubt that this statement was intended to be a slap in the face of the people of my community, the writer included. Ninety-three per cent of the voting students at South Dade High School recently voted to retain "Dixie" and other school symbols. Therefore, according to your interpretation, the vast majority of people here must be quite unacceptable to your way of thinking.

During the recent controversy pertaining to the question of the symbols at South Dade High, your paper was quite successful in attaining a new low in slanted news reporting. Were you not aware of the open threats of burning, and turning South Dade into a second Civil War battle ground by these so called oppressed people, if their demands were not met?

I am a native of Homestead, and I'm proud to be a part of this community. We have many, many fine people here, although I realize now that you could hardly believe this.

WAYNE L. LAWRENCE, Homestead

Pros And Cons On The Rebels

To The Editor:

Quoted here is part of a letter sent to members of the Dade School Board, discussing the argument at South Dade High School over the use of Confederate symbols:

"The issue is today and the cause is of a different nature than in the Civil War — the right of a majority of students to retain (after 15 years) a school nickname "Rebel," a school flag "Confederate," school uniform "Confederate," and a school song "Dixie." In the United States of America our democratic society is based on the wish of the majority. The wish of the majority has been established to retain these school symbols. I understand that the school board members are going to vote on the issue to reverse the students' vote, based on a minority group's demand. I think you and the remaining members of the board should consider very carefully the demoralizing effect the wrong vote could have on the students, as well as the residents of Dade County."

"If the Board's vote is a reversal of the majority student vote, I suggest you consider establishing the following symbols:

School Nickname 'CONFORMISTS'
School Flag 'WHITE' (defeat)
School Song 'I SURRENDER DEAR'

H. J. LAKE, Hialeah

* * *

To the Editor:

Is anybody allowed to sing "Dixie" at Miami's Robert E. Lee Junior High School?

SAM PETERS, Philadelphia, Pa.

* * *

To the Editor:

In a society which condones a rebellion that occurred in 1861 (and which failed) as if it were in the same category as the American Revolution, it is not difficult to see how the white people of South Dade High rationalize the nickname "Rebels."

However, mark the inconsistency. They wanted to submit it to a "democratic referendum," in which the huge white majority would swamp the blacks and the few whites who had the guts and honesty to see the light.

Now, the "Rebels" of 1861 also refused to submit to a referendum of the majority. Had Lincoln been able to induce the South to agree to a nationwide referendum, there is little doubt that the northern millions would have overcome the sparser southern ballots.

So, those who wish to be called "Rebels" in 1968 are inadvertently wearing the shoes of reasoning of the anti-slavery people of 1861; and they are casting the 88 Negro students in the role of true "Rebels"—rebels against a "Tyranny of the Majority."

The lesson? That the majority is sometimes right, as in 1861; and sometimes wrong, as in 1968 at South Dade High; and that there are higher laws to which white and black must ascribe, laws so integral a part of our lives that no election can reverse them. Would the South Dade whites say that by majority vote they could name the team "Nazis?" or "Anti-Christ?" No, because these words are anathema to them. But "Rebels" has a cloak of respectability, as long as it refers to the Confederate South of 1861. To the 88 Negroes the word "Rebels" makes vivid memories of slavery and of degradation and second-class citizenship. It is their feelings that is the issue, and here minister and church people have failed to bring adequate leadership.

THEODORE R. NELSON, Miami Beach

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MAMI
NEWS 10/5/68

To The Editor:

This is the same Dr. Stanford who championed the appearance of Herbert Aptheker, chief theoretician of the Communist Party, as a speaker on the University of Miami campus. I quote Dr. Stanford: "I am confident that the students' minds will be toughened, not weakened, by this exposure to communist propaganda and that the university will be stronger for having made it possible for ideas to be expressed, no matter how much we, as loyal Americans, may detest them."

Communism, sir! "Dixie" No!

MARY F. DICKINSON, Homestead.

Police Changing With The Times

To The Editor:

Change in our society is causing problems difficult to cope with. It has split the country into warring camps, those who have and those who have not, organized movements for groups to run their own lives regardless of how it affects others, an uprising among the young who seek a utopia impossible to create.

Police officers are an important segment of this changing society yet they are expected to behave and react differently in the new process of social order. If he is attacked, spit at, cut with razor blades from the shoes of young pot smokers, he alone is expected to keep his cool.

No wonder there is a growing widespread dissatisfaction among them, especially strong within the younger members, to react by using the same militant and organized thinking used by other factors of our society. The university riots have given them a taste of what can happen if an institution is too rigid.

DOROTHY MOLDENHAUER,
Key Biscayne

To the Editor:

Although I am, in Les Crossman's words, an "uneducated kid," I feel that a little education would not be entirely out of order for Mr. Crossman. To say that the Civil War was fought over the abolition of slavery is to be incredibly misinformed. Slavery was only a superficial issue which masked the deeper differences between the regions of the United States. It was those deeply rooted conflicts that eventually led to war.

The Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves. Or did it? Here are the hard facts of which Mr. Crossman speaks so glibly: I quote from the Proclamation, ". . . all . . . slaves within any states, . . . the people whereof shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be . . . forever free." But what of the slaves in the "loyal" slave states of Missouri, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and Kentucky? Their freedom was not to come until after the conclusion of the war. It seems the great Proclamation was a device, enacted to gain worldwide support for the North and to further cripple the South economically.

If Mr. Crossman actually believes what he has written, I suggest that the school system of which he is a product is hopelessly biased. Dade County's schools are anything but Southern, yet their presentation of the Civil War attributes no rose-colored moralistic ideals to the North.

CONRAD M. TILLMAN Jr., Miami

* * *

In your editorial of Sept. 18 the following statement is made: "And while it is all well and good for whites to say that blacks should not be offended when their school adopts the uniforms and other trappings of the Confederacy, the fact is that they are offended and understandably so." This is a misleading statement, leading one who does not know better to think that adopting the uniforms and trappings of the Confederacy was a recent move. The Rebel name, uniforms etc. were taken when South Dade High School opened 15 years ago, long before there were any black students in the school.

When new students come into a school and demand that names, uniforms and "trappings" be changed to suit them, it is understandable that their demands are offensive. You mention that a majority cannot decide what church we should attend. No, they cannot, but if one starts attending a church he has never attended, he does not start telling the people of that church that they must change their way of running that church.

L. PHILLIPS, Homestead

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N/L 10/7

Your Vote Is Your Voice

Editor, The News Leader:

In my last letter I ended with the comment "before it's too late." This I say again to those who ask, "What shall we do?"

I say vote, express your views, be heard, but with decency and order. This must be done if we are to survive. This is our America. Let your flag fly high.

Be proud in what you have. A chance to work and live in a land that is great and that God has blessed. I'm not afraid to



United You Win, Divided You Lose

Editor, The News Leader:

In reply to the letter from Hawaii, the lady states the Civil War was fought over Negroes being slaves. Wrong: the war was fought because some states seceded from the Union; also, the Negro helped the Rebels in their fight against the North.

If our great-great grandfathers fought and died for four years under this flag — black and white both fighting together for the same cause — not against each other, we should be proud to go to a school with this name to uphold.

I fought two years under the U. S. flag with black as well as whites, but because I didn't agree with the policy I didn't try to change our flag.

I was and still am proud of it. So should South Dade students. United you shall win, divided you lose ALL. Example: North Miami, 19; South Dade, 7.

NAME WITHHELD

wave my flag. It flies high over our house and always has. When our possessions came here to this beautiful little town of Homestead on top of the trailer was the flag pole, our great symbol of freedom.

It went up with love by one who loves this land and fought for it. Let your flag fly high, people of Homestead. Stand up. Be heard. Vote. And again I say before it is too late.

I write in this way because I know from listening the American people are alive — maybe a little dormant at times but now alive and ready. Democracy does live and justice does survive because the people will it so.

LIBBY ALABACK



South Dade Attack 'Phony'

Editor, The News Leader:

This whole attack on South Dade High School and the people of this community is as phony as a Lyndon Johnson dollar bill.

It's time we smoke out these cowards sniping at us — beginning with the anonymous authors of the phony complaints that the Negro "students" couldn't even read — and going right on down to the gutless wonder who produced the letter "South Dade Blew It" but lacked the courage to sign his name.

We are sick and tired of these hit and run artists. If they have the guts to write a letter, let them have the guts to stand up and be counted.

DOUG INGRAM

School Board Candidates Give Views

Views of five candidates for the Dade School Board were heard by members of the South Dade Council Friday.

Jerry Chambers, Mrs. Shirley Jones speaking for Mrs. Shirley Spellerberg, Mrs. Anna Brenner Meyers, Dr. Ben Sheppard and Mrs. Crutcher Field Harrison spoke.

Unable to attend were Mrs. Ethel Beckham, George Dorste and Allan Becker.

Chambers, Republican candidate, said he believes education is the most important thing that the country has to undertake and that he did not believe the present school board had fulfilled its job.

He said he believed the Board had become a battleground for political and racial problems.

Mrs. Jones said one of Mrs. Spellerberg's main objections to the present system is lack of discipline in the class.

Mrs. Meyers, the only incumbent, discussed the growth of the school system in the county and the work of the school board since 1963 when she was first elected.

Dr. Sheppard said he believed in vocational rehabilitation starting in the fourth grade.

As to the location of a new Mays High School, Sheppard said, he would never had bowed to racial pressures or to threats.

He said schools should be located in integrated areas and other school board decisions should be made on a basis of what is educationally best for the student, not for what color they are.

Miami
HERALD 10/8

Psychedelic Poster Controversy

S. Dade High Teacher To Be Asked to Resign

By GEORGIA MARSH
Herald Staff Writer

William M. Royal, the South Dade High School biology teacher involved in a dispute over psychedelic pictures in his classroom, will be asked to resign.

Royal, 24, was relieved of his classroom duties at South Dade more than a week ago and placed on the school system's surplus teacher list. He has been receiving his regular salary.

Starting today, Royal no longer will be getting paid. Jack Prance, assistant superintendent of personnel, said Royal is on a "leave of absence without pay," while he confers with his attorney Tobias Simon.

ROYAL WAS RELIEVED of his classroom duties when the psychedelic pictures were found in his classroom.

Further investigation revealed that Royal is on probation from the Leon County Circuit Court where he pleaded guilty to three

counts of breaking and entering in January, 1965.

According to court records, Royal pleaded guilty to breaking and entering into three motels in Tallahassee. Circuit Court Judge Hugh Taylor withheld sentencing and placed Royal on a five year probation in April 1965.

Records of the Coral Gables Police Department show Royal was convicted of a petty larceny charge in July, 1961 when he was 17. A 15 day jail sentence and part of a \$205 fine were suspended.

Royal said Monday he is waiting to confer with his attorney who is out of town until Wednesday, but that he does not intend to resign from the school system.

"I've never been convicted of a felony," Royal said.

At South Dade High School

No Solution In 'Rebels' Rift

A bi-racial committee trying to solve the South Dade High School racial controversy ended its third meeting Monday night without reaching a compromise.

About the only thing the 20-member group could agree on is that the white members would go back to the all-white Concerned Parents Organization and ask if they would agree to drop either the school nickname "Rebels" or use of the song "Dixie."

The only thing Negro members of the committee would indicate was that this could be the first step toward settlement of the two month old dispute.

JACK LEVY, chairman of

the white parents group, was pessimistic about the white community agreeing to drop either the name or the song.

Levy said he believed that once the blacks achieved this much of a compromise, they would be back for more.

Black spokesman Odell Johns reportedly told the full committee that the proposed compromise could prevent his threatened boycott of schools and businesses in the South Dade area by Negroes.

School Board Chairman C. T. McCrimmon said the meeting actually "got us nowhere, but at least we are still arbitrating."

No date for a future meeting was set.

At South Dade High

Parents Fail Again To Solve Issue

White, Black Group Holds Third Session

A bi-racial committee of parents failed last night in a last-ditch attempt to resolve South Dade High School's Rebel name-and-symbol controversy.

Neither white nor black negotiators will ask to schedule another mediation attempt unless the large racial groups they represent authorize a compromise in which each side yields something.

Just where this leaves the issues in question isn't clear, since both large parent groups will have to be polled before it is known whether either is willing to give on any item.

The executive board of Concerned Parents Organization, a group of more than 400 white parents, will meet Thursday night to set up machinery for a poll of its membership.

Black feelings will be polled at an open meeting sometime within the next week, a spokesman said.

Through Odell Johns, the black negotiators' official "voice", the Negroes last night offered what could be construed as a tentative proposal for compromise when Johns asked the 10-member white parents committee whether the CPO would choose to retain the school nickname Rebels or the school song Dixie.

Johns told The News Leader this morning that he intended this as a legitimate offer, and paraphrased it this way:

"The song and the name appear to be the two major items of contention. If we agree to yield on one, will you yield on the other, provided you can choose which one you'll yield on?"

Jack Levy, spokesman for the white parents, said this morning that his group had not gotten the impression that the blacks were making a legitimate compromise offer. However, he said, his group will be polled to determine whether there is any area on which a majority would be willing to accept compromise.

Members of both negotiating committees apparently feel that "the other side isn't willing to budge an inch." Yet each did tentatively yield a point before or during the first of the three negotiating sessions.

Whites acknowledged that the school band's 'Johnny-Reb-type' uniforms, which are several years old and showing wear, could be replaced with uniforms of a different and non-controversial design.

And blacks agreed that the school colors — blue and gray — were "not all that important and we can live with them."

Now both committees regard these as points of no contest, rather than less-important issues on which some agreement has been reached.

Nobody is talking much about the Confederate battle flag which has been South Dade's official banner since the school's inception, and to which black students voiced strenuous objection just before the fall term began.

Whites point out that the Confederate flag is protected by state law and any ban would have to be court-ordered. Blacks indicated last night that they may seek such a court decision to resolve this issue, rather than trying to settle it at the conference table.

NJL 10/8

Royal Asked To Resign; Pay Stopped

William Monroe Royal, former South Dade High School biology teacher, has been requested to resign his position with the Dade County Schools.

Royal was relieved from his duties at the high school after the discovery of psychedelic pictures in his home room. At that time he was placed on a surplus teachers' list and was still being paid a salary.

Starting today, however, all pay is discontinued.

The News Leader reported Friday that Royal had a police record in Leon County (Tallahassee).

A check with Leon County Circuit Court records indicated the teacher was on five years probation on three counts of breaking and entering.

The personnel department of the School Board has investigated the disclosures made by The News Leader, found them to be true, and asked for Royal's resignation.

4 S. Dade Schools Vandalized

Vandals and thieves struck four South Dade schools over the weekend, and the recently beefed-up School Security Department, will be asked to investigate.

All of the schools hit are frequent targets of juvenile offenders.

Clifford Howard, custodian at Mays High, reported to the Public Safety Department that four jalouses to the cafeteria had been broken and that vandals ransacked the entire room.

A chain-link fence cover by the boy's lockerroom had been broken.

About \$127 in food was stolen from R. R. Moton School. According to the cafeteria manager, ground beef, chicken, sausage and other goods were missing from the kitchen.

Four portables were broken into at Richmond Elementary School and in each of the rooms the jalouse doors had been smashed.

Tiles pulled from the roof of South Miami Heights Elementary School, then thrown through classroom windows, resulted in \$85 damage.

A school authority said an office had also been entered and various items scattered about the office and clinic.

Johns Due To Appear Before Jury

While continuing its probe into the Liberty City riots, the Dade grand jury will hear at least one witness today in the Florida City investigation of alleged gambling and payoffs.

A bondsman who formerly put up security to release persons charged with crime in the Florida City area has been subpoenaed to testify.

Having had close relationships with the Florida City police, court and persons needing a bondsman, this man is supposed to be familiar with gambling operations and operators in the area. However the bondsman, Odell Johns, is reported to have lost his "in" and is no longer the preferred bondsman in the area.

Consequently investigators suppose that Johns may be willing to give the grand jury some facts which relate to the Florida City probe.

MIAMI NEWS 10/8

WITHOUT PAY

Teacher 'On Leave' Considers Lawsuit

South Dade High biology teacher William Royal will decide tomorrow what he's going to do, a Classroom Teachers' Association spokesman said today.

"As of now," CTA Executive Secretary Pat Tornillo said, "He is on leave without pay." School system administrators have asked Royal to resign on the basis of reports that he twice was accused of larceny, once in Coral Gables when he was 17 and more recently in Tallahassee, when he was a student at Florida State University.

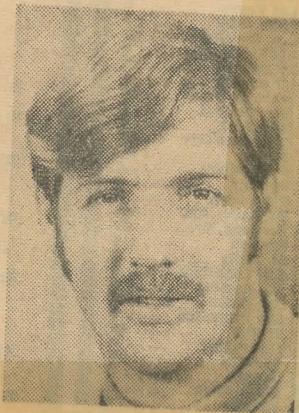
Tornillo said the CTA's attorney, Tobias Simon, is checking records in Tallahassee and later will get records in Coral Gables.

Royal, Tornillo and Simon will meet tomorrow, "analyze the whole thing," and then decide what to do, Tornillo said.

Tornillo said it is possible that one or more lawsuits will be filed.

Royal, 24, was "relieved of teaching duties" Sept. 28. Officials told him the pictures on his biology classroom bulletin board were unsuitable.

Later, school administrators said he had violated orders by allowing a picture to obscure glass in a classroom door; later, they said South Dade High was over-staffed and Royal would have to be transferred because he was the most recently employed biology teacher.



WILLIAM ROYAL

NYL 10/9

In School Controversy

Blacks Ask Help Of SCLC

Rally Called By Leaders

By JEANNETTE ROBINS

Representatives of South Dade's black communities voted overwhelmingly last night to call on the national Southern Christian Leadership Conference organization in its fight to have Confederacy-linked symbols barred from South Dade High School.

At a meeting in Homestead about 50 community leaders of Negro areas from Florida City to Richmond Heights agreed to call a mass rally of blacks in Homestead Monday night, and to ask for a national SCLC leader to speak.

Tentatively, the speaker will be Rev. C. K. Steele of Tallahassee.

Steele is first vice-president of the national SCLC organization, and the man who successfully led the bus boycott in Tallahassee. He is a member of the national boards of CORE and NAACP.

Time and place of the black rally will be announced within a few days, a spokesman for the community leaders said.

Purpose of the rally is to lend strength to the request of black parents that the school board provide bus transportation for any South Dade High student who wants to transfer to all-black Mays High School, the group said.

The Monday night meeting will be open to the public. The spokesman described the rally and the policy of SCLC as "definitely non-violent."

WOULD YOU believe what the state prison baseball team calls itself at Raiford? The Raiford Rebels!

* * *

N/L 10/10

Talks Stalled, But Outlook Is Not Hopeless

The apparent impasse that the bi-racial committee of parents has met on the late unpleasantness at South Dade High is discouraging but not, to hope, hopeless.

Although each side seems to feel that the other side isn't willing to give in on any of the points, both sides apparently have already yielded on tentative points.

For instance the whites have reportedly said that the "Johnny-Reb" type band uniforms have seen better days and could conceivably be replaced with uniforms of a non-controversial design.

THE BLACKS, on the other hand, have said that the school colors of blue and gray were not "all that important to them."

The significance of these meetings goes far deeper, however, than just the boundaries of South Dade High School. This is not likely to be the last dispute between the races in South Dade and now is as good a time as any to get on with this business of bi-racial meetings.

If blacks and whites can get along amicably in buses, restaurants and on the battlefields it does not seem too much to expect that they can get along just as well at the conference table.

Minor Issue Causes Major Controversy

Editor, The News Leader:

The history of the United States fills many volumes. In them the trials, tribulations, victories and defeats are to be found. Outstanding in the many pages are the works of great men, who in times of national danger did our country great service by uniting all to the dangers of tyranny from foreign sources.

One of these men put out a paper called "Common Sense." Had it accomplished nothing at all at least it got a lot of people thinking and usually after the thinking process solidifies good will come out of it.

* * *

I WAS glad to see common sense expressed on a lot of the 87 or so letters published by this paper and disappointed that my first letter was not published. Truth is pretty rare now days, especially since truth at times hurts and the editor felt best not to publish than to hurt those who simply don't know they don't know.

Anyone causing a community the travail not yet over, at a time when integration was taking place peacefully, over such a minor issue dead over 100 years and insignificant to

the matter it was applied is using no common sense at all.

If he is using common sense, then it's not for the benefit of his race nor his country but to become a big wig should communism take a fast hold, for surely he is blind and leading the blind into a ditch which none may be able to get out of.

* * *

IF NO outside Communist influence is motivating him with financial aid then he is working for them at no pay to see how well he can set Dade County on fire at no cost to them. By now I assume he has made so much noise that those who would like to see our country destroyed are keeping an eye out for him to see if they can eventually use him to polish their shoes and empty out their ashtrays. Even Communists need such who can think a little and use common sense.

Being as much a chicken as most other letter writers, withhold my name for now until such time as I can get several shot guns and a few hundred rounds of ammunition, for with the police looking the other way when trouble comes I want to be able to defend my home to the best of my ability.

NAME WITHHELD

N/L 10/10

Freedom Is At Stake

Editor, The News Leader:

I've read your editorials in The News Leader and you seem to be against anything Southern. If it hadn't been the Rebel flag and the song Dixie it would have been something else the Communists would have chosen.

I'm sending you a pamphlet and if your newspaper is a truly American paper you'll print it to let the people know what the Americans are in for in the plans the Reds have to destroy us all.

* * *

THE BLACKS and whites should stick together for our freedom is at stake. This is what is helping to put George Wallace in the White House; he wants to protect Americans, blacks and whites alike.

Don't the colored people realize today anything I can do so can they? The colored people have every advantage that I have if they don't abuse them.

This so-called black power is another way of saying Communist power. It should be American power.

....YOGI L. ROACH

(Editor's Note: The pamphlet referred to has been distributed by George A. Brautigan, state attorney, and

is entitled "Communist Rules for Revolution." It was captured in 1919.)

Bus Driver Threatened

South Dade High School's women bus drivers lodged an official complaint at the school this morning in the wake of the reported threatening of one of them.

No details of the alleged threat incident were available at press time — drivers, the head of the school system's transportation department and representa-

tives of Concerned Parents Organization were closeted with Acting Principal Howard Crabtree.

Of the women who drive school buses serving South Dade High, one is a Negro. There was no indication whether the threat had been against her or one of the white drivers.

He's Wrong, He's A Bigot, He Degrades Community

N/L
10/10

Editor, The News Leader:

I am writing to you as editor of a newspaper which continually allows an editorial page editor to insult the people of the community. I cannot see how you or your newspaper can continue to print such a one-sided view of the situation. We continue to print such a one-sided view of the situation.

If it weren't for the letters to the editor the other side would never have a spokesman. Well, fair play is now called for.

I am no longer going to waste my money on a paper whose editorial editor degrades the people as "rural rednecks." What a bigot Mr. Gossman is! What in the world is a man like him doing in such a backward farming community such as Homestead?

* * *

NEVER HAVE I seen such contempt for a community as displayed by him. I should point out he only seems to find fault with the white community. I guess he just completely closes his eyes to the actions of his 'black brothers.'

If we, the white community, are considered "rednecks" then what, pray tell, are you going to call the militant blacks in this community? What does Mr. Gossman think of their actions? We hear no condemnation of their actions.

* * *

WHY? BECAUSE YOU, Mr. Gossman, and your newspaper runs scared when it comes to finding fault with the Negro community. What about saying

something about the filthy, obscene things said by black students to white students at South Dade?

* * *

WHY DON'T we read of the razor fights in which white students were badly cut? Why didn't we hear of a black student who beat up a teacher at South Dade and then the teacher was talked out of pressing charges?

Why not have an editorial on the threats of rioting, burning, looting and boycotts? Oh yes, we really can be proud of the actions of the black community. We got called "rural rednecks" and they are the oppressed people? Hogwash!

Do you really think it's a question of the Rebel name? Their actions for a name change came along with demands for certain other things if you remember. To name a few: Negro cheerleaders who, by the way, shouldn't have to try out like other girls—just appoint some because their skin is black.

More Negro teachers and more Negro football players (who also shouldn't have to try out for the team.) Well, I for one am tired of "black blackmail."

* * *

EQUAL RIGHTS should be afforded to all. Today we have ultra liberals including some journalists who push the rights of the white people aside and give in to every demand made by the blacks. Well, I think Americans are getting pretty sick of it!

If by writing this letter you want to label me a racist, fine! If being a loyal American, being a proud Southerner, being a person who believes in equal rights for all is being a racist, then I'll gladly be one for I'd rather be that than one who threatens violence, burns the United States, refuses to abide by law and has more hate and prejudice towards whites than I could ever have against blacks.

The black people are always hollering for someone to 'tell it like it is.' Well, what they mean is "tell it like we want it." And I'm sorry to say it seems more and more they are getting their way. After all I guess it's hard to print a newspaper if you suddenly find your building has gone up in smoke.

* * *

I AM ENCLOSING two articles printed this week dealing with the same subject as your 'brilliant' editor. In all fairness to the people of South Dade I think you should reprint both of them. It's always been my opinion a journalist should try to remain open minded on a subject. Well, never has a newspaper printed any two more biased articles than those by Mr. Gossman.

I realize you probably won't print my letter as it's a little strong, but if it does cause you to do some deep thinking on your duty as an editor then it will have served its purpose. I don't think a paper should degrade the people who support it. However I won't be supporting it any longer unless you give forth some equal time to printing a true picture of the situation.

Believe me, I'm not alone in my feeling on Mr. Gossman. Everyone has told me I'm wasting my time by even writing this but it's the only thing I knew to do. Surely you could arrange to give equal space to the majority of your readers.

Because people say we are too close to the issue I'm enclosing these articles written by highly regarded journalists. They say the same thing we've been saying over and again.

* * *

THIS IS 1968, not 1865. We live in the present, not the past. And if slavery is the only issue to the Negroes I might point out it was the black chiefs who were selling their fellow tribesmen to the white sea captains. So let's not put all the blame on us Southerners.

And if anyone really wants to expose his ignorance then let them say the swastika and Confederacy symbols have the same meaning. That's just too stupid for words. (I'm sure Mr. Gossman will be starting on his next editorial about now.)

By the way I wish you would ask Mr. Gossman if he's found a song to replace Dixie. Perhaps the bands of the University of Miami and South Dade would be glad to play his choice. I'm sure that choice would be "We Shall Overcome."

Jeanne Underwood

(Editor's Note: First we shall overcome a slight inaccuracy, that being that Mr. Gossman did not use any such term as "rural rednecks.")

Compromise in Offing?

Parents to Meet On 'Rebel' Rift

Negroes Make New Proposal

By BILL BLOSS

Homestead Bureau Chief

Concerned Parents Organization President Tommy Dolar said Thursday a general meeting will be called sometime next week to discuss a compromise offer from black parents in the South Dade High School rebel controversy.

Black members of a biracial committee meeting with the school board earlier this week offered a choice to the whites of giving up the rebel name or giving up the song Dixie.

Dolar said the white parents will be asked to decide whether this compromise will be made.

THE MEETING OF THE
CPO directors at the Homestead Armory was primarily an organizational meeting, Dolar said. Several committees were formed to work at various interracial problem areas at the local high school.

A transportation committee will look into recent reports of threats of intimidation made to women Negro bus drivers by black militants, he said.

Dolar also said there will be other committees, but one of their prime interests at this time is to bring black parents into the CPO. The biracial committee which is now meeting with school officials should be retained as a part of a concerned parents group, he added.

A meeting of Negroes at the Mt. Zion AME Church set for Monday night was not discussed by the CPO, he said. Odell Johns, a spokesman for the Negro committee, said the mass meeting will be held and a protest march is also being planned.

Dolar said the CPO is not connected with that organization and therefore preferred not to comment.

Official Use Of Symbols Said Illegal

The Miami Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida said today it has adopted a policy of opposition to the "official" use of Confederate symbols in public schools.

"We deem the official use of Confederate symbols in any governmental institution including public schools as unconstitutional," the ACLU statement said.

"The Confederate flag and uniform, the song, 'Dixie,' the name 'Rebels' and similar Civil War symbols are badges of slavery and second-class citizenship to many Americans," the ACLU spokesman declared.

10/12/68 N/L

Blacks Living In Past As Much As The Whites

Editor, The News Leader:

This is an answer to Mr. Rudolph V. Adams' letter published Oct. 2.

Mr. Rudolph, your letter was well written and showed you have intelligence, therefore, it was a great disappointment to read the last three paragraphs. Your intelligence does not excuse your fallacious explanation of why the Negro is offended by the Confederate flag.

* * *

FIRST YOU say you admire people like Robert E. Lee and the flag he fought under. Then you speak of a group that is bigoted, iconoclastic, and cannot rightfully be linked to the Confederate Army by their actions. And because these ingrates carried a Confederate flag you say it offends the Negro. Your comparison of the KKK and the Confederate Army are not germane.

The Confederate flag and the song are an intrinsic part of the proud southern heritage to which Negroes of the South belong.

In your caustic way of thinking, we should all abhor the British and their flag because we fought against them and lost many ancestors.

Did it occur to you at any time that the students at South Dade may be honoring the Confederate flag that Lee, Stuart and Jackson fought under?

You have a mendacious impression of white people, and your opinions have ossified into prejudices.

* * *

THE BLACKS keep saying we are living in the past with our traditions and keeping prejudice alive. What do you think they are doing? Will they stop living in the past and forget their forefathers were slaves? You bet they won't!

They by their actions are helping to keep prejudice alive. And you, Mr. Adams, by choice would rather think of the Confederate flag being carried on heinous missions instead of under the proud true heritage whereby it was founded.

I am not a Rebel, but what you would call a Yankee. I attended an integrated high school where equal opportunity was afforded all. Now Mr. Adams, explain to me why the majority of Negroes that were in our school system did not choose to finish or further their education when they had the same opportunity as I?

There were funds available to all without regard to race, creed or color. You can use the excuse that the South suppressed the Negroes' free rights and blame the so called Rebels for the plight of the Negro but, what happened to the Negroes in the North?

The black man plays up the fact that he was brought here as a slave. Mr. Adams, in your study of Negro history did it ever state the fact that the black chiefs sold the black man into slavery for material gain? If not I'm afraid your history books have been rigged.

....MRS. DORIS SCHOENLY

Phasing Symbols Out 'Ridiculous'

Editor, The News Leader:

Your recommendation that the Rebel symbols be phased out is most ridiculous. Why you feel that a handful of blacks should be allowed to dictate policy to the majority is beyond belief.

Perhaps you will also advocate closing the Dixie Highway. And be sure to tell your friends to stay away from picnics; they might be drinking out of Dixie cups.

We also have Dixie bread, Dixie batteries, etc. Shall these be banned also?

A Yankee by birth, but a Rebel by choice.

...BUD WERSHING

School Bus Driver Tells Of Threat

A Negro woman school bus driver complained yesterday to South Dade High School officials that black students on her bus have threatened to smash windows and blow it up unless the school does away with its Confederate name and symbols.

Johnnie Mae Fuller, who has a route from Florida City and Homestead to the high school, told school authorities that she has completely lost control of students who ride her bus.

Led by a boy student who is an official of SOUL (Student Organization for Unity and Liberty), the students stomp, clap, sing, yell, and cause such din and confusion that she is distracted to the point of danger, she said.

She named two others who also appear to be ringleaders.

Another Negro school bus driver who had Mrs. Fuller's route last year corroborated the complaints. She agreed that last year similar riotous conduct appeared to be spawned by one student — the boy named by Mrs. Fuller.

White drivers backed up the Negro driver's contention that operating a bus under such conditions is too hazardous, and demanded that the school act to halt it.

Five representatives of Concerned Parents Organization also urged immediate action by school authorities.

"We can no longer tolerate this type of situation," a CPO spokesman said. "When the safety of students is endangered, something must be done about it without delay."

N/L 10/14/68

Mass Rally Set Tonight

Blacks To 'Escalate' Anti-Symbol Campaign

The controversy over use of Confederate symbols at South Dade High School takes on a new dimension tonight with a scheduled mass meeting of the black community at the Mt. Zion AME Church in Homestead.

The 7 p.m. meeting is planned to "escalate the campaign to get rid of racist symbols" at the school, according to Odell Johns, spokesman for the black group and newly appointed coordinator for the South Dade NAACP.

Johns said the blacks hope "to get total community commitment and participation" but added that no action will be taken at tonight's meeting.

"All strategy will be planned in private caucus sessions," he said.

Addressing the group will be

Bernie Dyer, executive secretary of the Liberty City Community Council, and Rev. C. K. Steele, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Tallahassee and first vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The meeting comes on the heels of an apparent stalemate in negotiations between black and white parents over use of the symbols at South Dade. Members of the all-white Concerned Parents Organization probably will vote sometime this week on a compromise offer by black members of the bi-racial committee on whether to surrender either the name Rebels or the song Dixie.

Meanwhile black parents say they will ask the school board to bus their children elsewhere until the ruckus over the sym-

bols is resolved.

Friday the Miami Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida adopted a policy of opposition to the "official" use of Confederate symbols in the public schools.

A spokesman for the group said it considered the use of the symbols in governmental institutions, including public schools, as unconstitutional, claiming the Civil War symbols are badges of second class citizenship to many Americans.

Last month University of Miami President Henry King Stanford banned the playing of Dixie at school athletic contests.

Several other secondary schools in the nation have recently abandoned the use of the Confederate symbols in connection with school activities.

Whose Feelings Go In The Name Of Peace

NL 10/14

Editor, The News Leader:

I appreciated the gentleness with which Mr. Adams so firmly disagreed with my letter of Sept. 25. We have such a need of gentleness these days. Let us hope that we can transform the word to action.

It seems that as "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" so is perspective in the "eye of the beholder." In regard to Mr. Adams' letter, there are a few things I'd like to point out. The Jews hating the swastika is hardly parallel to the Negro hating the Confederate flag because the South did not try to destroy an entire race.

Rather the reverse is true — in their eagerness to propagate their original financial investment in slaves the South often destroyed the Negro as a family unit. It seems a terrible crime to us today but it was legal to those at that time. So it is not just the Jew who feels revulsion toward the swastika but it is every sane human being.

ing.

THE STATEMENT that the South turned in bitterness on the Negro after the war was true only partly. The South did turn in bitterness on the carpetbagger — and all who helped him whether they were Negro or white.

Mr. Adams, I would not try to whitewash my race of its sins any more than you would yours. I cannot change the color of my skin or my background any more than you can. If all of us start with the awareness of these facts, perhaps we can ease the pain of this friction where it hurts the most — in our hearts and in our pocketbooks.

It is possible I did not make the point of my letter clear enough; that I am entitled to consideration for my personal opinion and feelings the same as you, a Negro, are. You see, I do not believe that it is fair to have your prejudices inflicted on me any more than you want the symbols I respect inflicted on your emotional feelings. So whose feelings are to

be sacrificed in the name of peace? Mine or yours? Emotional feelings are not civil rights and, if they are, then are not my civil rights as important as yours?

I AM NOT an extremist and your thoughtful letter certainly indicated that you are not one either. The chasm of misunderstanding between our races because of the poor judgment used by our ancestors in both America and Africa is deeply regretted by all of us. We have ALL been victims of their tragic mistakes and, as human beings, are obliged to try to correct those mistakes.

I'm afraid that the Negro has gotten a distorted view of freedom. I am not completely free either! I am bound by responsibility on every side, financially and ethically. I personally feel the responsibility to try to get along with my fellow citizen and this is the reason for my writing — to try to explain how some Southerners feel, hoping it can help others to understand us better also.

So in the interest of better race relations I offer you these pledges: I will not burn down your part of South Dade school if you will not burn down my part of it. I will not demonstrate or agitate in your neighborhood if you will not demonstrate or agitate in my neighborhood.

I WILL NOT boycott your stores if you will not boycott my stores. I won't call in outsiders to harass your community if you won't call in outsiders to harass my community. I will not insult and antagonize your race until some of its less controlled members are goaded into violence if you will not insult and antagonize my race until some of its less controlled members are goaded into violence.

I will not endanger any of your loved ones who live near a school to gain my ends if you will not endanger my loved ones who live near South Dade school to gain your own ends. Of course it is with tongue in cheek that I make the above offers as neither of us, I am sure, would resort to such dangerous tactics.

As far as race relations are concerned, having lived outside our country in societies where the population ratio was 90 per cent Negro to 10 per cent white I do not consider myself either naive or dangerous as you suggested. However, as an added gesture of good will I shall make a genuine effort to rid myself of my naivete you think so dangerous if you will make a genuine effort to rid us all of the belligerent and uncompromising leadership of the Negro committee that I consider so dangerous.

Southerners Provided Leadership For Nation

Editor, The News Leader:

It is pleasant in this time of contrived dissension about the South to note the fine contribution of Southerners to the formation of this nation.

ALMOST ALL of the great Presidents were natives of the South: Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln and Wilson. The two greatest minds — Jefferson and Wilson — were educated in the South.

Southerners were the leading generals in all except the Spanish-American War — Washington led the American Revolution; Jackson, the War of 1812; Scott and Taylor, the War against Mexico Lee, the War between the States; Pershing, World War I; MacArthur and Eisenhower, World War II; Ridgeway and Walker, the "police action" in Korea and Westmoreland, Viet Nam.

Southerners also led the territorial expansion of the United States. Washington freed the 13 colonies, Jefferson acquired Louisiana, George Rogers Clarke added the early North-

west, Lewis and Clark laid claim to Oregon, Sam Houston and Mirabeau B. Lamar led Texas, and Polk, Scott and Taylor secured the Mexican session. Only Alaska and Hawaii were acquired by non-Southerners.

DESPITE the hysterical critics there must be something very fine about the South which bred the men who virtually founded this great nation.

SUSAN DOYLE

THANK YOU for the privilege of communicating with my fellow citizens. I have tried not to abuse this privilege but have written in sincerity and good faith. The gravest tragedy of all is not the school, the students, the symbols, the voting, or even the education of our children. It is the legacy of hatred that destroys what others try to build.

MRS. DOROTHY CAVES

Negro Students Seek Mass School Shifts

Petitions Are Signed At South Dade High

By THIRLEE SMITH
And BILL BLOSS
Herald Staff Writers

About 130 students and their parents of the 140 blacks enrolled at South Dade High School have signed petitions seeking transfer to Mays High School, a predominantly Negro school in Goulds.

This was the announcement made Monday night to 200 persons attending a protest rally at Greater New Mount Zion Church in Homestead.

ODELL JOHNS, spokesman for the parents, told the group black students are "psychologically barred from learning and from social

participation in South Dade school activity."

Among other Dade Negro leaders speaking were L. D. Kennedy, a member of the Model Cities governing board, Bernard Dyer, director of the Liberty City Community Council and the Rev. C. K. Steel, of Tallahassee, vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

About 50 white persons showed up at the meeting, despite an earlier session at another Homestead site where members of the Concerned Parents Organization were asked to boycott the Negro gathering.

A collection was taken to pay for chartered buses to transport black parents to the Wednesday meeting of the School Board in Miami.

DYER TOLD the group, "We want a black chain of sturdy strength stretching through the entire county. We want something that will hurt the white economic structure."

Steel, a bearded, bespectacled minister who ranks right behind Rev. Ralph Abernathy in the SCL leadership, emphasized, "It is better to be militant at this moment in history than to do nothing."

Johns welcomed the white guests and told them:

"Now you won't have to question your nervous maids tomorrow."

THE SOUTH DADE High hassle began several weeks ago when Negro students protested the nickname Rebels for the school's athletic teams, wearing of Confederate uniforms by the band and "Dixie" as the school song.

Although the meeting in the Negro community was advertised as "open to the public," leaders of the CPO expressed belief it was intended for the black parents only.

CPO President Tommy Dolar said the Dade Board of Public Instruction told the biracial committee, working with the board to settle the problem, "to take ideas back" to their respective groups. The black committee members "are sounding out their people. We will do the same Thursday," he stated.

The Thursday CPO meeting will be at 8 p.m. in the Homestead armory. At that time, the committee members will report on the last meeting of the biracial committee with the BPI.

N/L
10/15



BERNIE DYER



ODELL JOHNS



REV. C. K. STEELE

Blacks Vow To 'Sock It To 'em'

By PAUL BROOKSHIRE

"We're gonna sock it to 'em!"

(Amen! Amen!)

"Homestead ain't gonna be the same any more!"

(That's right! That's right!)

"We shall overcome because of our young people!"

(Amen! Amen!)

"Uncle Tom is dead!

(Thats right! Thats right!)

"We're not going to burn your store down, we're going to close it down!"

(Amen Amen!)*

Statements such as these, literally spliced into the fiery oratory of the speakers, stirred a mass meeting of the black community to an emotional peak in southwes' Homestead Monday night.

A packed crowd in the New Mt. Zion AME Church yelled for more:

"Tell em about it! More! More!"

Purpose of the meeting was to solidify the black community from Perrine to Homestead in the fight of black students and parents to eliminate Confederacy - linked school symbols at South Dade High.

Speakers included Odell Johns, head of the Political Action League; Bernie Dyer, executive secretary of the Liberty City Community Council; Rev. C. K. Steele, first vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from

Tallahassee; L. D. Kennedy, executive director of the Black Brothers for Progress; and Otis Wallace, black student leader from South Dade.

Johns said about 120 of the 130 black students at South Dade have signed a petition requesting a transfer to Mays High School (an all - black school).

"They would rather walk out in dignity than continue to be humiliated by the racism at South Dade," Johns said.

A collection was taken up at the meeting to pay for chartered buses to take Negroes to the Dade County School Board meeting in Miami Wednesday.

Although the exact purpose of the trip to the school board was not explained, apparently the petition of black students will be presented to the board unless it takes immediate action to ban what the blacks call "racial symbols" at the school.

"We're tired of waiting on the school board," Johns said. "And if you parents wait any longer, your children are going to lead you!"

Johns said the Negro student at South Dade is "psychologically and socially barred" from getting a proper education at the school because of the symbols.

Dyer, saying Liberty City was behind the students, said it is strange the school board

can ban love beads, long hair and violence in textbooks but cannot ban symbols such as the ones at South Dade.

"It is a violent act to force a child to go to a school with symbols such as these," Dyer said.

Rev. Steele said he was gratified to find the black people united in the school controversy against what he called "the evils that would warp and destroy the respect of our people."

Steele said he was certain the leadership of the SCLC "is behind you in this struggle."

"In your school fight there is nothing more sinful and evil than to destroy the dignity and self respect of our young people with this racism," Steele said.

Rev. Steele said he was basically opposed to violence, but, he added:

"It is better to fight with violence than do absolutely nothing."

Johns, also area coordinator for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, hinted at a possible economic boycott in Homestead.. and a federal court suit if the school board fails to take action at South Dade.

He also said SOUL (Students Organization for Unity and Liberty) groups are being formed on all Dade high school campuses.

N/L 10/15



FIRE DURING weekend caused extensive damage to R. R. Moton Elementary School in West Perrine area. The ad-

ministrative offices and book room (shown above) were destroyed in the blaze. Au-

thorities believe it is a case of arson.

—Photo by Ed Oberlie

Offices, Books Burned

Fire Causes \$30,000 Loss At Dade School

A weekend fire at R. R. Moton Elementary School, Homestead Avenue, West Perrine, was the second South Dade school fire to cause damage in the five-figure bracket within the past three months.

Metro fire department officials have definitely classed the Moton fire as arson. Ben-

ny McCardel of the school security department estimated damage to the building and contents as exceeding \$30,000.

The fire department was called to the school shortly after 1:30 a.m. Saturday when West Perrine residents noticed smoke pouring out of the roof of the building. The depart-

ment in turn notified the public safety department.

Fire Lt. Frank Ogden told the News Leader that the book store room, the principal's and assistant principal's offices received the most damage, with indications that the blaze started in the book room.

Listed as either burned or stolen were a \$2,500 inter-console, 14 typewriters, seven sewing machines and hundreds of books.

Ogden said the firemen had been ordered not to enter the three rooms until beam supports were put up from the floor to the roof, as the roof was damaged so extensively that it could collapse at any time. Minor smoke damage was reported in several other rooms.

Investigating Metro detectives listed the arson as a burglary also, in that a door to one of the east rooms had been pried open and another room ransacked. Officials will determine as soon as the rooms can be safely entered if the console, typewriters and sewing machines were stolen or burned.

Pupils returned to school Monday but administrative offices moved to another section of the building.

The fire is not unlike the Mays High School blaze which occurred the latter part of August when approximately \$30,000 in books and equipment went up in flames.

N/L 10/15

Neighborhood Schools Should Be Centralized

Editor, The News Leader:

In most of our larger cities neighborhood schools, grades seven through 12, should be centralized. These schools should be modeled after our colleges, beautifully landscaped and buildings constructed to offer the best possible learning environment. This definitely will have many advantages over our present system.

First, it would pool all of our teachers in a centrally located institution. This would be like banking our brains and thus (by exposure to each other) gain intellectual interest.

Second, the school could offer all the diversified subjects one expects to find in several different neighborhood schools. A student who is not doing well in one subject may, after proper counseling, find a course he is suited for and thus become a productive citizen.

* * *

THE SAME is true of a student who is performing ahead of expectations and therefore may find some scientifically oriented courses best suited for him. In either case the student does not have to transfer schools, only classrooms.

Third, it automatically integrates our school system, and thus the elaborate system of busing students into previously

segregated schools will not be necessary.

Fourth, except for the initial outlay, it will be more economical for the taxpayers to support such a system.

This leaves us with a few perplexing questions that need answers. What do we do with the vacated neighborhood school property, and what are the functional limits of the centralized school system?

Without question this will take the best minds our society can muster, but there are plausible answers. The neighborhood school could be converted into a home for the aged, retarded, or a nursery for working parents so that they may leave their children in a close and safe environment. Perhaps a combination of these tasks.

* * *

CENTRAL PARK might be a good location for the campus, or the abandoned Veterans Hospital. There are many possibilities, we just have to ferret them out.

America is growing and our antiquated school system must be converted to grow with us. The school system is the means of equal education opportunities for all Americans.

LOUIS W. DIDOMENICO



Number Students, Just Like Army

Editor, The News Leader:

This may be the shortest letter you receive on the high school trouble at South Dade.

I suggest that they drop the Rebel and Dixie music and that the school board number the school and give all the pupils a number such as they do in the Army. This will stop all arguments.

HUBERT H. WHITE

10/22

Schools, Students All Have Numbers

Editor, The News Leader:

I am writing this letter in response to the Oct. 15 letter to the editor. The schools do have numbers. The number of South Dade High is 7701. The students have numbers. Mine is 7977. Even the teachers have numbers. One of my teachers is 281.

EARL H. SMITH III

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10/16
HERALD

In South Dade Mass Shift Issue

Negroes Take Hard School Line

By LARRY MAHONEY

Herald Staff Writer

South Dade blacks, vowing a confrontation with the Dade School Board, met again Tuesday night to discuss a mass shift of Negro students back to an all-black high school.

Odell Johns, spokesman for 130 students and their parents, said he planned to recommend a delay in previous plans for the South Dade High School blacks to go to Mays High School this morning and demand entrance.

"THIS IS only because the students are taking 12th grade placement tests Wednesday," Johns said. "Within a very few days, the students will try to get into Mays. If they're refused, we'll have a general walkout."

Johns, a 37-year-old manager of an insurance agency, said formal procedures for a transfer from the racially troubled South Dade High have not been and probably will not be presented to the School Board.

"We have just reached the point of absolute

disgust with administrative procedures," he said. "We just haven't bothered to ask because the answer just can't be found in a lot of administrative red paper.

"We intend to take the most direct way."

A SPOKESMAN for the school board said no formal request for transfer had been made Tuesday. The board meets today at 1 p.m. at Lindsey Hopkins Auditorium.

"There is a certain procedure on transfers and on presenting matters to the board," the spokesman said. "Mr. Johns has not met it. However, if such a group did want to appear it could attend the meeting and gets its business before the board by alternate procedure."

Mays High, within 10 miles of South Dade High, is totally black. "The school board has not seen fit to integrate it," Johns charged, "and that's one of the problems in South Dade. Instead, they have sought to phase out the black schools. It would have been more equitable to

bring some white students into our schools.

"The present policy is punishment to black and white alike."

THE REV. C. K. Steele, a ranking member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), attended a Monday night meeting at which petitions were signed by 130 students and their parents requesting the transfer. The Tallahassee minister is a veteran activist of the civil rights movement in North Florida, and Johns said he is closely following the South Dade dispute.

South Dade's racial conflict surfaced several weeks ago when black students protested the Confederate banners, nicknames, uniforms and songs at the high school's athletic events.

"There's very little education going on at South Dade now for black or white," Johns said. "We've had no meaningful offers and they've used a lot of valuable negotiating time unwisely."

Miami
NEWS
10/16

Schools Boycott Being Considered

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

Black people in Dade County must take some drastic action to force the white community to see the need for change, activist Bernard Dyer said today.

The action will be either a major federal lawsuit or a massive countywide school boycott, said Dyer, director of the Liberty City Community Council.

"We don't know which yet — we're still diagnosing the



BERNARD DYER

situation," Dyer said. He indicated there may be a decision by the end of this month.

"The School Board seems to me personally to be biased," Dyer said.

"One white woman says reading material designed to aid disadvantaged children is too violent. The next day, the \$40,000 project is snatched out of six schools, most of them in black communities. There is no attempt to find out what black parents think.

"The school system altered its own design," Dyer said, "on the basis of one complaint from one white person.

"Yet more than 200 black students in South Dade High, and their parents, can't get any alteration although they asked for it more than a month ago," he said.

"The board has not moved in the best interests of the

Continued on Page 5A, Col. 1

Dyer Hints Boycott Of Schools, Lawsuit

Continued from Page 1

South Dade community. It has refused to take a position and has allowed a polarization I had hoped would not be necessary.

"The contrast between these two episodes says something to me," Dyer said.

About 130 Negro students at South Dade High this week signed petitions asking that they be sent to all-Negro Mays High. They asked in August that the school stop using the Confederate flag as a school symbol, Confederate band uniforms, "Dixie" as the school song and "Rebels" as the school nickname.

White students resisted the change, and the dispute in the community has grown increasingly bitter.

In addition, Dyer said, the School Board has failed to recognize that at least 85 per cent of black teachers are increasingly dissatisfied with school conditions in black communities.

"The school system does not yet understand," he said, "that not only parents are angry. A lot of black teachers are, too. They can't speak out, but if there is a boycott I'm quite sure they'll join us."

He said the public schools are by no means the only target of Negro anger.

"The County Commission, the State Road Board and the Housing Authority allowed 3,000 families to be shoved from their homes and dumped into an area with inadequate housing," Dyer said.

"In any community but a black community, such an occurrence would be declared a national disaster," he said.

"The white community is going to have to see the need for change," Dyer said. "They're way back in a cave and somebody is going to have to bring them out."

"White people don't consider us trustworthy with federal money — when there is a grant for a project in the black community, the money is always deposited in a bank outside the area.

"White people keep saying we aren't ready," Dyer said. "Sure, we're going to make mistakes. But black people have got to get together on their own, develop their own agenda and their own timetables.

"Every time we're about to do something in the black community, some white group sits outside and tells us how."

Whenever there is a strong expression of black people's massive dissatisfaction, Dyer said, "white people blame outside agitators or Communist infiltration.

"Can't they see that it can be a black thing, out of a black skull, developed out of the passion of a black heart?"

White people, he said, "listen to the ones they think speak for the black community, but the top of the mountain is not able to speak for the masses.

"You've got to get down, not to the grassroots but down in the mud to find out what's happening," Dyer said. "A lot of organizing is going on down in the mud."

N/L 10/16

What Symbols For Blacks

Editor, The News Leader:

The deplorable controversy at South Dade High School has demonstrated the results of the separate but "equal" schools of the past.

In schools both north and south I learned to sing certain loved American songs — Dixie, Sewanee River, Yankee Doodle, etc. I never thought about it, but if I had, I would have assumed the Negro children were happily singing the same songs in their segregated schools.

Now we are discovering their cultural heritage is so different from ours that ours is deeply offensive. How much better it would be if the black students would seek to add their songs and pep yells to those of the whites instead of merely attacking what they find there.

* * *

IT IS HARDER to build than to destroy, but we must learn to build a culture together now. A minority group should have something to offer the society. Minority groups managed to remove Bible reading and all evidence of religious teaching from the schools but they left only a void.

These groups added nothing to replace the common basis for ethical behavior traditionally thought and the results are sadly evident today. I would like to ask, seriously, what symbols, songs and other deep-felt American phenomena do

the blacks revere that should become part of the combined cultures?

...RUTH A. STEWART

SEVERAL WHITES attended the mass meeting of blacks in southwest Homestead Monday night. City officials, members of the Concerned Parents Organization, and others were on hand. Some of the whites joined in singing "We Shall Overcome" and put money in the collection plate that was passed.

* * *

N/L
10/16

Who And What

Is A Redneck

BY PAUL BROOKSHIRE

WHAT IS a "Redneck?"
Who is a Redneck?
Where do you find one?
How do you get to be one?
When do you know you are one?

* * *

SINCE THE business of a newspaper is to try and find out the "what, where, who, when and how," I've been doing some research on the subject in order to inform our readers. But it hasn't been easy.

* * *

WHO IS a "Redneck?"
George Wallace is one.
He said it. I didn't. In a speech up North the other day, Wallace referred to himself as a "Redneck."
But I don't believe he would actually qualify as a "Redneck" right now.
His net worth, placed at \$77,000, would automatically disqualify him.

* * *

WHICH BRINGS us to the question of "what is a Redneck?"

According to Random House's Dictionary of American Language a Redneck is an "uneducated, white farm laborer."

But another dictionary which seems more accurate, refers to the "Redneck" as a "poor, white Southern farmer, often angry."

Since Wallace is neither poor (any longer) nor uneducated (any longer), he should no longer be entitled to claim the "Redneck" label. However, he would qualify under the "often angry" label.

* * *

THE UNIVERSITY of Miami student newspaper, "The Hurricane," in an editorial we reprinted some days back, said a good place to find "Rednecks" is in South Dade.

But my search for "Rednecks" in South Dade has not been fruitful. But I did my searching before Wallace's admission. Things may change now. Because Wallace is popular in South Dade and if he says he's a "Redneck" a lot of other people probably won't mind saying so either.

* * *

HOW DO you get to be a "Redneck?"

That should be fairly easy, provided you didn't go beyond the Eighth Grade or could retract your education.



You can sell the Cadillac, color television, the four bedroom-plus two, give the money to the Wallace campaign, and go to work in the fields.

When you feel the sun on your back, you'll know you're a "Redneck" or will be within a few days.

* * *

IN MY SEARCH to run down the term "Redneck" and put it into more proper perspective, I asked several people if they could give me a definition.

One answer was: "A person who lets his emotions overcome reason."

Another said: "A man who would light a candle with a blow torch."

A third replied: "One who thinks that everyone is doing him dirt."

Still another said: "A person whose mind is operated by a back seat driver."

* * *

HOWEVER, there were some simpler and perhaps, more flattering, descriptions.

One native said he thought a "Redneck" was a person, born poor, who had worked hard for a living, and consequently earned respect and financial reward.

A Georgian voiced a similar viewpoint. He said a "Redneck," in his neck of the woods, may have been raised on grits and redeye gravy, but he had risen from the red soil from which he came and made a name for himself as a hard-working, honest man.

* * *

WE WERE never called "Rednecks" in Kentucky mainly because we were called so many other names like — hillbillies, briarjumpers and ridge runners.

Several years ago I was in the Veterans' Hospital in Dayton, Ohio, and a man in the next bed turned to me and asked:

"Are you a Briar?"

"A what?" I inquired.

"You know," he persisted. "A Briar. Are you from Kentucky?"

"Yes," I admitted.

"Then you're a Briar," he said.

Ohioans referred to poor, white Kentuckians, who had fled across the river to seek better jobs as "Briars."

The expression made me often angry, too.

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In South Dade High 'Rebel' Dispute

Blacks Boycott Schools; Board Agrees to Shifts

Move Temporary Until Issue Over

By SUSAN MILLER
Herald Staff Writer

The Dade County School Board agreed Wednesday to temporarily transfer Negro students at South Dade High School to other schools after more than 100 blacks boycotted their classes.

The board voted 4-2 to reassign any students who want to transfer from South Dade to any high schools that have available space — provided the students furnish a written request for the change from their parents and provide their own transportation to the new schools.



Herald Staff Photo by DAVE DID

American Civil Liberties Union President Talks
...Richard Y. Feder at School Board session

HERALD 10/17

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ONLY 18 OF South Dade's 130 Negro students attended classes Wednesday. Another 90 showed up at all-black Mays High School in Goulds requesting permission to enroll. The remainder stayed home.

The boycott is the latest development in a black protest of South Dade High's use of Confederate symbols by its athletic teams and its band.

South District School Superintendent Betty Gilkey said 102 Negro students at South Dade already have applied officially for transfer to either Mays or predominately Negro Killian High School.

SCHOOL BOARD members stressed Wednesday that the transfers are not permanent. The Negroes will return to South Dade as soon as the board or South Dade residents resolve the controversy surrounding the school's nickname of "Rebels," its use of "Dixie" as a school song, and the wearing of Confederate uniforms by its band

members, Board member William Lehman said.

The board also passed a resolution urging black students to remain at South Dade and asking school faculty members and community residents to encourage the Negroes to remain.

Negro parents began petitioning the school board for transfers last week after attempts by a biracial committee to solve the controversy resulted in a stalemate.

BLACK PARENTS also have charged that their children are not allowed to participate in school activities and that they suffer psychological learning barriers.

School Board members Jack Gordon and Mrs. Anna Brenner Meyers objected to the transfers.

"What we're saying is we can't create a situation at South Dade High School where we can keep white and black students together," Gordon said. "It's a failure on the part of the board and on the part of the school's administration. This is walking away from the problem."

MRS. MEYERS suggested the board treat the absent Negro pupils as they would any other student: "either keep them in school or suspend them."

Board Attorney George C. Bolles advised that the board's action was lawful as a temporary measure and would give his office time to contact the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for a federal opinion.

BOARD MEMBERS

G. Holmes Braddock, Ted C. Slack, Mrs. Helene Vosloh and Lehman voted for the reassignment on the basis it was the best way to avoid greater trouble until the question of South Dade High's symbols is resolved.

A policy on school symbols, calling for the elimination of any school nicknames that "threaten the peaceful education of students" will be presented for a vote of the board Nov. 6.

The board also appointed Howard Crabtree as new South Dade High principal, replacing Principal William Wilson who is ill and on sick leave. Crabtree has been acting South Dade principal since early September.



Jack Gordon
... dissenter

Schools

Three Homestead key policemen will tender resignations today to become school security officers for Dade County schools.

The loss will deal a severe blow to the Homestead department, already short of its full complement, despite a recently granted \$900 pay hike. "The \$900 raise didn't help me keep them," said Police chief Emmett Snyder.

Police Lt. Vernon Jackson and detectives Eugene (Red) McAllister and Jerry Dodson will begin work for the school board Nov. 1. Their applications were approved by the board Wednesday.

The three have 30 years combined service. Jackson is



Dodson McAllister

a 12-year veteran, McAllister is in his 10th year and Dodson has eight years on the Homestead force.

THE LOSS of McAllister and Dodson virtually wipes out the detective division, said Snider. "I don't know who will replace them," he said. "If supervisors are moved in, we will cut out another three from the patrol division.

Snider's problem is made more difficult because some of his veteran officers are physically limited to light duty, or are near the age for retirement. Homestead does not have a pension plan, so these officers have remained on the department because of long service.

N/L 10/17

Little Remarks

Can Hurt Too

BY OTIS GOSSMAN JR.

Sometimes it's the little things, the verbal asides, that help unravel the already too taut strings that link the races. In this respect the human mouth probably has done considerably more damage than the pen.

All this came to mind in reading some of the accounts of the black rally in Homestead the other night — a rally designed to solidify the black community in its attempt to eliminate the Confederate symbols at South Dade High School.

Negro leader Odell Johns dropped the aside in greeting the whites who attended the meeting, some of them apparently in support of the black position in the controversy that has had this community in various stages of rage for months.

* * *

IT WAS nothing much to get excited about. Johns merely added in his welcome to the whites that since they had come personally it would relieve them of the necessity of questioning their maids the next day on what happened.

Just a small thing, admittedly, but the type of remark that would have been much better unsaid. The whites attending the meeting should



have been accorded a reception devoid of that sort of needling aside. The blacks would not expect — or certainly shouldn't have to — similar remarks had they attended a white meeting.

Conditions are much too touchy these days to add even a sliver of kindling to what already is far too hot a situation.

Much of what is wrong with both the white and the black communities goes no deeper than looking the other way on the matter of good manners.

* * *

ALONG THAT line, it's not good manners to subject black students to Confederate symbols with the knowledge that the symbols grate them the wrong way.

Like it or not, the symbols mean bad things to the blacks of this day. A hundred years from now the descendants of both sides might well look back and get a hell of a good laugh out of it, but not now. And the now is what everyone has to deal with.

That the symbols, presumably, have an entirely different frame of reference to the whites has little bearing on the matter. Viewed just from the vantage point of manners it is not entirely unlike inviting your Jewish neighbor to dinner and serving him roast pork.

There is nothing wrong with roast pork, but it goes without saying that it would be an insensitive act to serve it to a Jew. The parallel may be a trifle strained but the implication is readily apparent.

Oratory is much with us in this political season and some of it is self defeating. It can be more than that in a racially tense area such as South Dade today on this matter of symbols.

Blacks and whites alike hopefully recognize this and will not let their tongues lead matters further astray than they already are. But it's not always the big remark that causes the most trouble. An accumulation of "asides" can do the trick just as well.

10/17 AMI NEWS

15 Blacks At School

Only 15 black students reported to South Dade High School classes today; most of the other 150-plus who had been enrolled there were in the process of transferring to Mays or Killian Highs.

By far the larger portion of transfers were to all-Negro Mays High, where South Dade Principal Howard Crabtree spent most of this morning to expedite transfer paperwork.

South Dade now has no Negro seniors. The 15 black students are, for the most part, 10th graders, with only a sprinkling of juniors.

The temporary transfer permission was okayed Wednesday by the Dade School Board until a racial controversy over South Dade's Rebel name and Confederate symbols can be resolved.

N/L 10/17

Students Transfer To Mays

By JAMES MAXWELL

Permission for students of South Dade High School to transfer to Mays High was granted yesterday by the school board under certain conditions.

The conditions were that the student's parents request the transfer in writing, that the student provide his own transportation, and that there is room in the school.

The proposal passed on a 4-2 vote, with Anna Brenner Meyers and Jack Gordon voting "no" and C. T. McCrimmon absent.

It was reported to the board yesterday that 102 of the black students of South Dade had skipped classes at their school and had gone to Mays High requesting admission. About 140 black students normally attend South Dade.

There were no black parents present at the school board hearing in spite of the fact that a collection to bus them to it was taken up by the Monday night rally in Homestead. Negro directors of the protest against South Dade Dixie symbols — Odell Johns of Goulds, Bernie Dyer of Liberty City and Rev. C. K. Steele of Tallahassee — were not present either.

However, from 75 to 100 South Dade white parents were present. They cheered and applauded for their side and booed their opponents. The opponents were Dr. John Presley, director of the Metro Department of Youth Services; Rev. Fred Le Shane of the Florida Council on Human Relations;

Students

Cont'd. From Pg. 1

Richard Feder of Miami Beach, chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union and Mrs. Nancy Rice of South Miami.

All of these in one way or another said that majority rule at South Dade High should be set aside, that all the Rebel symbols should be abolished, and that the white student body should be forced to conform to the new rules.

When the argument against the Rebel symbols at South Dade started, Mrs. Helene Vosloh, acting as school board chairman, ruled that the board was not considering symbols, and that this subject was out of order.

But a majority of the board led by Jack Gordon overruled Mrs. Vosloh and ordered the discussion to continue.

After two of the opposition speakers had been heard, Wayne Lawrence, of Homestead and leader of the white group from South Dade spoke to the board.

"I hope to save you from a continuation of this pointless discussion," Lawrence said. "The Concerned Parents of South Dade will vote tomorrow night on a proposal made to us by the black group, and as long as the dialog between the two groups continues there is no use in beating this dead horse any more."

In spite of Lawrence's statement, the board permitted the discussion of symbols to continue with two more speakers.

Mrs. Vosloh again ruled the discussion out of order and this time her ruling was not overruled.

Rev. Gene Williams of Prince-

ton then told the board that a biracial citizens committee and a biracial ministerial group were seeking a solution of the South Dade High controversy.

"These people from out of our area are trying to tell us what to do with little or no knowledge of the situation," Williams said. "Let them work out their own problems and I ask this board to give preference to the thinking and ideas of the local South Dade people."

Board member William Lehman proposed the approval of the transfer of the black South Dade students to other schools.

Lehman explained his proposal by saying "We can't force the Negro students to go back to South Dade and the intent of my resolution is to take the pressure off until the problems of symbols is acted on by this board."

Mrs. Meyers explained her vote against Lehman's proposal by calling the Negroes' action "a threat."

"We are not being challenged by these children but by a group of non-students," Mrs. Meyers said. "If a white child failed to come to school he would be suspended and we should treat all students exactly alike."

Several of the board members warned black parents that if their children were transferred to Mays now it could seriously affect their grades and might delay their graduation.

The board also named Howard Crabtree as principal of South Dade High. He has been acting principal for several weeks.

To Take Jobs With Dade School System

Veteran Police Officers To Quit

M/L 10/11

The Homestead police force faces probable loss of three veteran officers, following the acceptance by the Dade County school board Wednesday of their applications for jobs with the school security division.

Police Chief Emmett Snider said this morning he has already received the resignation notice of Det. Eugene (Red) McAllister and expects momentarily to get one from Det. Jerry Dodson.

The resignations would take effect Nov. 1.

The third officer is Lt. Vernon Jackson. Jackson earlier had asked for a year's leave of absence, in anticipation of being accepted for the school job. He said this morning he has not submitted his resignation to Chief Snider because he is still awaiting a reply from City Manager Olaf Pearson to his request for the leave of absence.

All three have long service records with the Homestead police force.

Departure of McAllister and

Dodson will virtually wipe out the detective division of the local force. The only other man in that division is fingerprint technician Charles Rubert.

"We'll have to start from scratch and build a new detective division," Chief Snider told The News Leader this morning.

In the meantime, he said, cases requiring detective investigation will be handled by himself, Rubert and other officers who've had some experience in this line.

He noted that any transfers of patrolmen to detective work would reduce the number of officers available for patrol, and that division is already understaffed.

The police department has been authorized to add six more men to its roster, and an examination was being given this afternoon at city hall for applicants.

One former patrolman, W. E. Ball, has applied to be rehired, the chief said. Ball left to go to work for the Broward County sheriff's department.

City Manager Pearson is recommending a volunteer reserve police force for Homestead, as one solution to the problem. The reserves would have limited arrest powers and would work under regular officers.

Also proposed by Pearson is a recruit trainee program for young men between ages 18 and 21, to provide a pool from which regular officers can be hired.

The idea behind this, Chief Snider explained, is to attract young men coming out of high school, before they settle in another occupation, have them receive training so that when they reach the required age of 21 they would be available for jobs with the local department.

There's more and more emphasis nowadays on advanced education for policemen, the chief observed, and recruit trainees might be encouraged to major in police science at Miami-Dade Junior College with prospects of a job with the Homestead police department.

ment awaiting them when they graduate.

Several younger members of the present force have taken, or are taking, courses at Miami-Dade.

CPO To Poll Members Tonight

The Concerned Parents Organization will meet as scheduled at 8 p.m. today in the Homestead Armory to hear School Board candidates and to poll its membership on possible areas of compromise in the South Dade High School Rebel symbols controversy.

Officers and directors of the CPO are to meet briefly before the general session.

This will be the first total membership meeting of the group since it adopted its charter, and the first since it was instructed by the School Board to poll its membership on

whether it would agree to do away with the Rebel nickname or the song Dixie, as proposed by Negro parents led by Odell Johns.

Wayne Lawrence, CPO treasurer, said it is his understanding that if the group agrees to give up either the name or the song, Johns will step out of negotiations and leave mediation on other Confederacy-connected symbols to the Negro parents.

Johns was elected spokesman by the Negro community. He has no children at South Dade or its feeder schools.

Also Reserve Police Force

Riot Control Equipment Sought For Homestead

Homestead City Manager Olaf Pearson will recommend a reserve city police force of 20 to 25 members, and riot control equipment to the tune of \$5,000, to the City Council at its meeting next Monday night.

He drafted the proposals after attending a mass meeting of blacks in southwest Homestead night before last, where militant speakers — one from Liberty City — called for tough

action by the black community in pushing demands for elimination of Confederate symbols by the South Dade High School student body.

He'll ask the Council to approve \$5,000 to buy such items as recoil-less automatic shotguns, flak vests and tear gas for the police department, he said.

"If they (the blacks) are going to make trouble here this city will be ready for it," said

Pearson.

The racial tension in the area has become a matter of "action and reaction," he added. Tension is high among whites, also, and some unpublicized meetings are known to have been held by white persons ready to take forceful action in their own hands.

The reserve police force, on which Pearson has been gathering information for some weeks, would cost the city roughly \$2,500. He recommends recruiting an initial 40 men.

"Allowing for lack of qualifications, loss of enthusiasm and other deterring factors, we should be able to arrive at a reserve force of 20 to 25 men," he said.

The recruits would undergo an initial training program of from 40 to 80 hours. The force would be separate from the regular police department but "must always be under the control of the police department," Pearson said. The reserves would be strictly limited in authority granted them.

Some cities confer power of arrest to reserves while on duty; others restrict this power to the time a reserve is in the company of a regular officer. A formal set of rules and regulations for the reserve is normally required and recommended, Pearson said.

Negro Students At S. Dade Get Transfer OK

Students at South Dade High School can transfer to any other school that has available space, the Dade School Board has agreed.

In a 4-2 decision, the board said it would temporarily reassign the students until the controversy about the school's nickname, "The Rebels," and the use of the song Dixie and Confederate symbols is resolved.

Black parents petitioned the school board for transfers last week.

The board urged, however, that black students choose to remain at South Dade.

HERALD
10/18

91 Shift To Mays School

'Rebel' Dispute Transfers OKd

By SUSAN MILLER
Herald Staff Writer

Ninety-one Negro South Dade High School students were admitted to classes at Mays High School Thursday as Dade School Board officials began processing applications for temporary transfers.

Under a board resolution passed Wednesday, black students currently enrolled at South Dade High may transfer to other county high schools as space is available at the written request of their parents. They'll remain at the new school until South Dade High officials, parents and students resolve a controversy surrounding the school's symbols.

SOUTH DADE has approximately 130 black students enrolled, but only 14 reported to classe there Thursday, according to school records.

Another 25 Negro pupils were listed as absent when they did not report to South Dade, Mays or another high school. Flooding rains in the area during the morning may have accounted for some of the absences, school administrators said.

The majority of black students began requesting transfers to the all-Negro Mays High last week, arguing that the existing psychological climate at South Dade prohibited them from participating in activities and progressing in their studies.

FOUR STUDENTS asked to be moved to Miami Killian High, where the racial mix is 80 per cent white and 20 per cent Negro, but had not enrolled as of Thursday morning, according to school personnel.

Although Dade schools will be closed today for a teacher workday, transportation to South Dade High will be provided for transferring students who want to turn in written requests from their parents and to pick up their belongings.

Mayor 'Blames' Communism

Parents Demand Ruling In Nickname Controversy

By BILL BLOSS
Homestead Bureau Chief

"South Dade Concerned Parents" Thursday demanded a School Board decision on the "Rebel" controversy at South Dade High School before the Nov. 5 election.

And the Mayor of Homestead, Bill Dickinson, blamed the troubles on "international Communism."

A policy report of the Concerned Parents organization executive committee received only four opposing votes of a crowd of some 400 white parents.

THE STATEMENT declares that the minority (black students and parents) have failed to prove their claim that the school's Confederate symbolism is detrimental or offensive to Negroes. The blacks have offered no meaningful compromise so there is no reason for further meetings of the biracial committee appointed by the Dade County School Board to resolve the difference, the policy report contends.

CPO President Tommy Dolar said the executive committee therefore expects the School Board to make a decision on the controversy without being influenced by either side.

Several speakers called the biracial meetings futile. Wayne Lawrence, one of the committee members, said that as the meeting progressed it became apparent the blacks, led by Odel Johns, were not sincere in reaching a compromise.

George Cooper Jr., another committee member, told the crowd, "We are not here to settle the problem in a reasonable manner because it wasn't brought up to be settled in a reasonable manner."

He charged the "Rebel" issue is a front for a "big civil rights push."

COOPER said Homestead was chosen as a test area to bear the brunt of the civil rights push. He called on the white committee and "law-abiding (black) citizens" to present a solid front and meet the opposing attitudes with equal attitudes.

"Reasonable demands must be met with reasonable attitudes," he said, "but hard demands should receive equal hard consideration."

Homestead Mayor Bill Dickinson, asked the people to join the city in demanding that the School Board call a special meeting before the Nov. 5 election "so you can smoke out" the board members. "As Dr. Edward Whitham said the decision will be made at the appropriate time.

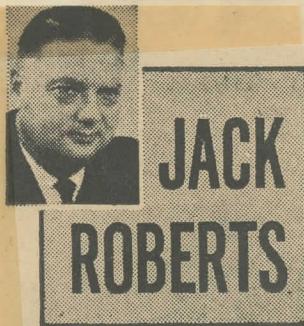
"We must force them to meet, then work for those (candidates for re-election) who support law and order and not those who support conspiracy," said the mayor.

Dickinson says the problem facing South Dade is not a local problem. "The real motivation is a complete involvement of International Communism."

Dickinson contends that although he has pointed out the Communist influence in the local racial problems, the news media have never quoted statements.

Miami
NEWS

10/18



Genesis

About that mess at South Dade High School . . . Would you like to read a different version of what's going on?

To get in the right frame of mind for this explanation you must first forget about "Dixie," forget the waving of Confederate flags and the name "Rebels." Negro protests over these Confederate symbols are simply immediate symptoms of a deep-rooted problems that started long ago.

The real trouble started about five years ago when the School Board and its professional advisers deliberately dragged their collective feet over integrating South Dade High School. At a time when Palmetto High and later Killian High (both of which are some 15 miles from Homestead) were being integrated, South Dade High had only token integration.

I contend that the School Board mis-read the temperament of South Dade — that the area was insultingly labelled redneck and judged not to be ready for a full dose of integration.

In doing this, the school board members failed to take into account that South Dade's social structure has changed dramatically in the past 15 years. They looked back to the days when the Redland was a farm barony, failing to take into account that the sons of once adamant growers are now in charge and are, for the most part, moderates. They failed to recognize that Homestead Air Force Base personnel have diluted the population and that more and more South Dade is becoming a bedroom community for people working in the Miami area.

That was mistake No. 1. Mistake No. 2 was the board's failure to take decisive action in phasing out all-Negro Mays High in Goulds. First, board members were going to turn Mays into a junior high. Then, under pressure from the Negro community, it was kept open.

Keeping Mays open was integration in reverse. It not only made the board appear wishy-washy, it gave an emerging Negro leader, Odell Johns, a chance to flex his muscles.

When the Confederate symbols hassle arose this year, it gave Johns a perfect forum for gathering more supporters in the Negro communities extending from Perrine to Florida City.

The board was hesitant in acting on that matter and it got out of hand when it was put to a vote by the South Dade student body.

Exodus

Now Negroes belatedly attending South Dade High are, for the most part, boycotting the school. They want to be re-admitted to Mays. Again, the board has yielded. That's mistake no. 3.

There's a lot to be said for thoughtful deliberation, but there are times when you can think too much, listen to too many sides and fail to take a decisive stand. That's the School Board's problem.

I don't pretend that there was any easy, cut-and-dried solution to integrating South Dade's black and white school populations. I'm simply saying that things would have been far better had the board stuck by its guns in all decisions.

Instead, blacks and whites in South Dade have lost respect for the School Board. It appears to be a public body which can be swayed first one way and then the other by emotional displays.

I feel sorry for board members. They're trying, I'm sure, to take the easy way out as each new dispute roils up. By delaying coming to grips with the whole matter the element of black separatism has had time to develop. This also should have been anticipated because it has become a nationwide problem.

It's rough on all the kids. Whether they realize it or not, they're being used like pawns in a game their parents are playing.

N/L 10/18

Busing May Let Whites Blacks Study In Peace

Editor, The News Leader:

Eureka! Finally it seems that little Odell Johns and his blustering band of malingering marchers have arrived at a sensible solution to the current controversy.

TO WIT: Busing the Negro students from South Dade High to Mays High. Perhaps now the students more interested in reading than riots may be allowed to study in peace, this including, of course, the black and white students.



Symbols In Poor Taste, Shouldn't Be Permitted

Editor, The News Leader:

The tragedy of this situation is that you have permitted it to become a civil war between blacks and whites with our children as pawns.

* * *

THE FACT is this: The war symbols are in poor taste and should never have been permitted. Maybe Homestead was an "island" then, but it is not now, and will become less so.

The school board, the University of Miami, your editor, and many of the white minority have tried to tell you this. You refuse to recognize this fact because the blacks were "belligerent." I didn't hear of any whites being hung in effigy from the flag pole!

If one of your dinner guests is allergic to your centerpiece, do you ask for a majority vote before you remove it? Would

you permit your children to engage in sports if they had to goosestep and wave a swastika?

Stop rationalizing your behavior by crying "Communist." If you proclaim a faith in God, then forget His teachings in dealing with others, it is you who is playing the Communist game — they can sit back and enjoy it. According to reports on riots the stability of the Southern black is due to the strength of his church.

* * *

REACH OUT your hand to these people now, and don't say "What will they ask for next?". Ask their ministers what you can do to make this a better community for all. Don't ask your children to say "one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all," and not mean it. This is hypocrisy!

A MOTHER WASP

Forgive me if I am incredibly naive and remain blissfully basking in the outmoded idea that an institution such as South Dade is for the expressed purpose of obtaining an education, or at least the basis for advanced education at the university level.

Naturally the mental anguish of these deprived unfortunates can be fully understood considering the Rebel version of Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Imagine having to listen to the strains of Dixie while gazing at the stars and bars. It is a foregone conclusion that this alone is the reason for many of the students' failure to comprehend and matriculate.

I can understand for I too undergo an almost uncontrollable wave of anger whenever I am forced to listen to the battle Hymn of the Republic or Yankee Doodle Dandy.

* * *

REVULSION IS the only way to describe my feelings when faced with the color blue, reminiscent of those back-stabbing Yankee blue bellies who had the audacity to murder my ancestors merely because they were shooting at them.

Seriously, Mr. Johns, I have a concrete suggestion for you and your organization which is more worthwhile than the petty attacks in which you are now engaged.

Perhaps you could also call the group SOUL—Social Organization to Utilize Labor, or is work a dirty four letter word along with its five letter companion, STUDY.

DR. JIM BUTLER

N/L 10/19

Dade County is not alone in its problems with the use of Confederate symbols and the song "Dixie."

At Florida State University in Tallahassee the Afro-American Student Union has protested the waving of the Confederate flag and the playing of "Dixie" at university events.

* * *

In an editorial the student newspaper Flambeau said the situation is "fraught with seeds of division at a time when unity is so vital to the well-being of the country."

The editorial says further: "Unquestionably, 'Dixie' is a part of the Southern Tradition. One Kappa Alpha member said: 'It's part of our lives. I don't know what we'll do if we can't sing it.'

"Afro-American students believe the playing of 'Dixie' denotes racial overtones, more specifically, animosity toward and hatred of the Negro.

"But, said the KA, 'we have nothing them. We don't even think about that (race) when we sing the song.'

"Because the symbols of the Confederacy play such an important part in the lives of the Southern born and Southern raised, it would not be in their best interests to prohibit the display of those symbols.

"But, as an alternative suggestion, the Flambeau urges consideration of a procedure adopted recently at the University of Mississippi — after playing 'Dixie' play 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic.'

"This worked out very well at Mississippi and undoubtedly would succeed here.

* * *

"President Champion said this practice of playing both songs at university events would go a long way toward achieving greater harmony among students.

"At a time when division is the rule rather than the exception and suspicion rather than optimism prevails, it is crucial to the growth of progress of our nation that unity be the clarion call.

"Society cannot grow through division based on race, creed, philosophy or religion. People must learn to live together and exercise tolerance for the wishes of others.

"A right step in this direction would be the playing of 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic' the next time 'Dixie' is played."

HIGH SCHOOL PTA members and teachers might refute the idea of racial problems existing at Palmetto and Killian High Schools. Nevertheless, the problem is existent and if the Public Safety Department has facts, regardless of the new "hushed-up policy" existing at the schools, it's a good bet that there's more than a little smoke.

* * *

SOME WHITE parents who attended a public meeting in the black community Monday night claim a group of black militants from Miami were transported to the Homestead meeting in a government car, apparently at taxpayers' expense.

SOME OF the black stu-

dents leaving South Dade High traveled to Mays by Metro Transit buses this week paying full fare. Most took advantage of a car pool set up by a Negro parents organization.

Odell Johns, spokesman for the black parents, said a committee is investigating the possibility of bussing all of the transferees at reduced school bus fares.

A POLICE UNIT went to South Dade High School Tuesday after a Negro student allegedly was attacked, but was sent away by school authorities, who said they were handling the situation.

N/L 10/18

'No Yield' Position Taken

Communists Blamed For South Dade Controversy

Concerned Parents Organization last night voted almost unanimously not to yield a single point in its fight to keep Confederate symbols at South Dade High School.

It urged the School Board to decide immediately the questions of the school Rebel name and symbols which black students complain are demeaning and hurtful to their racial pride.

Several speakers frankly said they believe the racial troubles are Communist-inspired.

School Board candidate Jerry Chambers told the CPO members, numbering almost 500, that "if we can fight the Communists in Vietnam, we can fight the Communist movement in Dade County."

And Homestead Mayor William Dickinson said the real motivation (for the dissension) is "a complete involvement of international communism."

Odell Johns, spokesman for the black parents committee and and the Negro community, spoke out this morning against the "Communist label that has been leveled against the black community."

He called the statements made at the CPO meeting last night

"irresponsible, reckless and a feeble and ridiculous attempt to cover up years of inaction, neglect and do nothingism on the part of South Dade officials."

Johns said the fact that "very little has been done locally to remove poverty, insecurity, injustice and racial discrimination have increased tension in the black community."

Johns said he "would have been astounded if the CPO had agreed to any area of compromise, considering the racism predominant in that organization and its leadership."

CPO's statement to the School Board declares that:

- Blacks opposing the symbols have failed to prove their claim that the Rebel name, song Dixie, band uniform and Confederate battle flag are detrimental to the wellbeing or education of any black student.

- CPO offers no compromise on any school symbols that students voted to retain in an election sanctioned by the board.

- CPO sees no need for further negotiation with anyone, and urges immediate board ac-

tion.

- The organization expects the board to base its final decision on the symbols themselves "and not let the threat of defiance, intimidation or violence on the part of the minority opposing them be in any way a deciding factor . . ."

School board candidates Dr. Ben Sheppard, Mrs. Anna Brenner Myers, Mrs. Crutcher Field Harrison, Mrs. Ethel Beckham, Alan Becker, Jerry Chambers and Mrs. Shirley Spellerberg spoke at the CPO meeting.

All were quizzed on how they would vote on the school symbols question with the exception of Dr. Sheppard, who left the meeting early.

Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Beckham refused to be pinned down; Becker and Mrs. Spellerberg indicated that the students' decision should be upheld; Chambers was outspokenly in favor of keeping the symbols, and Mrs. Myers said frankly she would vote against keeping them.

HOMESTEAD POLICE Lt.

Vernon Jackson is burned up over the fact he never received a reply to his request for a year's leave of absence, during which he'd work for Dade school security. Jackson applied for the leave to City Manager Olaf Pearson two weeks ago; when he had not gotten an answer last Thursday he turned in his resignation from the local force, effective Nov. 1. Jackson's application for the school job was accepted by the school board Wednesday.

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