



BOBBING ALONG

With

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SEMANTICS? . . . Fortune Magazine last week ran a full-page ad in the New York Times heralding its "surprising, terrifying... and hopeful" (January Fortune) diagnosis of the demise of the American Cities, particularly with reference to the mood of the black man "The New Negro Mood" and Fortune says nearly half the American Negroes feel more angry today despite their increased hope along most important fronts of the Negro struggle for equal opportunity.

"THE U.S., cannot be made fit for the black man unless it is also made fit for the white man," Fortune states flatly; to which we believe the black man takes no exception, provided the words are rearrange:

"The U.S., cannot be made fit for the white man UNTIL it is FIRST made fit for the black man."

FORTUNE, presumably, is dealing with what it calls the Negro problem in depth, and it is aimed primarily at U.S. Business, the group it charges "has more to gain or lose...and more to contribute" in accepting the challenges to equitable change for progress in the crisis of the cities.

FROM THIS corner Fortune simply hurls again the indictment of the angry black man who has long shouted that something was damned wrong and that he wasn't going to shut up or stop fighting until somebody made it right. . .

What Fortune didn't say -- couldn't say, because it couldn't know -- was WHY the black man CONTINUES to be even more angry despite his knowledge that "almost 30% of Negro families now earn over \$7,000...only about 3 per cent of married Negro men over 20 are unemployed, Negro gains have been most rapid in high-status jobs; and, fewer Negro youths are dropping out of high school."

WHY IS the black man more angry? Fortune has some of the facts, although they are not presented in context with the Negro anger, only as a challenge to white business and industry:

"NEGROES more highly qualified than George Meaney himself (who holds a plumber's card) have been denied membership in unions."

Fortune also reveals that "of the percentage of the Negro work force employed in the building trades was proportionate to white employment Negroes would hold...." (This column added, from Fortune's figures, 373,000 more jobs in various areas of the construction trades.)

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CONSTRUCTION JOBS, on all levels, we have found, certainly average NOT LESS than \$10,000 per year, and the 373,000 jobs Fortune lists, denied black men in proportionate representation indicates black men are being CHEATED out of their share to earn \$3,730,000,000, which means almost \$4 billions of dollars (from our estimates) in the construction trades alone!

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Remember the television and radio commercial whose peg line was: "--Would that make YOU mad???" Tagline of the seething, angry black communities is based on:

"What the white man has got to understand."

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FORTUNE points out that putting a mere 350,000 "unemployable" Negroes to work would add more than \$1 billion annually to national output AND SUBTRACT millions (dollars) from welfare costs."

What the white man has got to understand is that the black man doesn't know Fortunes' figures but he FEELS the effects of this deprivation and exclusion from the mainstream and more:

THE BLACK MAN knows that many changes would take place on the levels of his condemnation (like welfare roles, which he despises rather than loves) if he was getting his share of "opportunity to earn, not gifts or grants."

What the white man must understand about the angry black man is, that the black man feels shoved back into the mud, then criticized for "being so damned dirty!"

ADD THE BILLION dollars Fortune admits would flow into black communities if only 350,000 "unemployable blacks" (by the white man's standards) were put to work, and add the nearly four billion dollars the black man is being robbed of in the building, construction trades, and you have nearly five billion dollars the Negro could earn and shouldn't have to thank anybody for...wouldn't that make YOU angry???

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AND WHAT about the endless other closed doors, never spoken of, in high-level jobs that could well add many more BILLIONS of dollars being deliberately AND WITHOUT CAUSE, other than prejudice, withheld from the black man's growth potential.

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EXAMPLE: A prominent Negro women lawyer, years ago, armed with impressive credentials, extra degrees, went to the big downtown law firm to ask for a job...they were so shocked at her "arrogance" they asked frankly:

"How did you think of us -- where did you look?" and got her classic answer: "--In the yellow pages of the telephone book!" No, they didn't hire her then, but they have hired Negroes since then; nevertheless, knowing how far she might have advanced in THAT firm by now -- knowing she was denied the chance because of her race, although she's doing well today, don't you think she's an ANGRY NEGRO?

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U.S. POST OFFICES all over America, including Cleveland; many with thousands of Negro employees more qualified than any of their supervisors, including their post masters; are feeling the bulge of protest and investigation precipitated by the NAACP and the National Urban League...Locally postal employees are protesting their "systematic exclusion" from positions on policy-making levels, reporting "lily-white divisions" of the local post office in this "Best Location," and if you were a Negro wouldn't that make you MAD???

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DRAMA IN AFRICA...By the white man's own standards, any man with a single drop of Negro blood in him is a Negro, even if his skin is lily-white; therefore, the black man who gave his heart to a white man, labeled "mixed origin," "Mulatto," and "half Negro" is a plain ole' Negro. . . The white man has life sustained because of a Negro's heart that wasn't prejudiced, it turned out to be a self-starter...

SO, Clyde Haupt's black heart in a white body, pumping red blood spells what?

Since the man with the black man's heart must also have a drop of the black man's blood -- a whole vital organ, is he transformed now -- is he a Negro?