

The Carolina Times EDITORIAL

Stilled Now- The Captain From The Ship Of Protest And Reform

When Louis E. Austin passed in Lincoln Hospital Saturday evening, it could well be said that the captain from the "Ship of protest and reform has been stilled now." For when a ship and its captain leaves a harbor, those who helped to loan that ship and many well wishers are on hand to bid farewell, because they know what the ship is laden with and what the cargo consists. They have the happy knowledge that the harbor, for which it sails, will be lined with persons anxiously awaiting the cargo.

Many of us sat in St. Joseph A.M.E. Church, where he received much of his inspiration, Tuesday afternoon and heard the minister extol the virtues of Louis E. Austin, while thousands and even millions could testify that the hull of the ship was mute evidence of what the ship contained, — a stilled voice — as it bore Louis E. Austin to another clime.

We knew that Louis Austin's ship was laden with the quality that one day all men would be free. We knew that Louis E. Austin had so much faith in this precious tenet that he preached from the columns of this newspaper, for almost 50 years, — "That all men were created equal and that all men should enjoy freedom, no matter what the color of their skin nor the texture of their hair."

Louis E. Austin's ship was filled with a faith that would not tremble at the brink though pressed by earthly foes. He had faith in himself, his family, his church, his fellowman and above all, faith in God. He had the faith to believe that one day the faint cry of his forebears would be heard and their prayers of songs, so well related in "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, nobody knows but

Jesus, I'm sometimes up and sometimes down, I am almost level with the ground." "Stormy the road we trod, beneath the chastening rod, and "I will wear a starry crown," would be rewarded.

Louis Austin's ship was cargo laden with courage. His was the courage that dared to speak the truth, even at the peril of his life. His was the courage that spoke out against injustices practiced upon black people, for one reason and one reason alone — they were black. He sounded a clarion call that was heard from the back woods of North Carolina to the halls of the United States Supreme Court. He has the courage to fight separate, but equal education, from the campus of the University of North Carolina until it resounded on the halls of the Congress of the United States. He had the courage to announce, from many platforms, throughout America, that it was not fair that the Negro should be the last hired and the first to be fired. He not only told the world that jim-crow was illegal, but told what a base sin it was. He was out in front when the equal pay for teachers was discussed anywhere. Certainly Louis E. Austin's ship was well laden.

The trip did not end when the ship left the harbor. There were throngs of people awaiting its arrival at the designed port, because many of them had benefitted from his virtues and were eager to welcome him to a better shore. They rejoiced in the fact that he had fought so well for those he left behind in order to ennoble their lives, enrich their heritage and make the world a better place in which to live, by Louis E. Austin having held the banner of "Truth Unbridled," high and wide.

Alexander Makes History In Charlotte

HISTORY WAS MADE in Charlotte, N. C., May 17 when **FRED ALEXANDER** was unanimously elected new mayor pro tem. It was the first time in the history of the city that a Black man was elected to this position. He earned the honor by getting more votes in the May 7 election than any other candidate on the ballot.

Traditionally the top vote-getter in a councilmanic election is entitled to be mayor pro tem for the city. Soon after the City Council met, **FORMER MAYOR PRO TEM JIM WHITTINGTON** told an applauding audience, "I would like to move at this time that **MR. FRED ALEXANDER** be elected mayor pro tem of the city of Charlotte."

The action of **MR. ALEXANDER's** colleagues was in keeping with the sentiment of the City Council and the voters of Charlotte who had already expressed by their votes their confidence in the candidate. And **MR. ALEXANDER** was quick to respond to the honor given him. He told his colleagues:

"There are times when the English language does not produce words to express the sentiment we feel. This is such a time for me. It is difficult—extremely so—for me to express my deep sense of appreciation and the overwhelming feeling of responsibility which follows the recent expression of the citizens of Charlotte at the polls."

The new mayor pro tem had praise also for the city as a whole. He said no city in the South "can match Charlotte in its present growth attainments and its bright potential. This is truly a city set upon a hill, and its people are

capable of the highest levels of democratic citizenship and of industrial and commercial leadership."

MR. ALEXANDER indirectly made an appeal for the support of Charlotte's citizens in helping to make it possible for the city to make more progress economically and socially. He said, "all segments of its (Charlotte's) population are united in a common desire to make Charlotte the 'Spearhead of the new South' in every facet of political, economic and social progress."

MR. ALEXANDER, 62, got into the act on the first day of the new City Council meeting. He asked the City Council to seek enabling legislation from the North Carolina General Assembly, so the city could add two members to the three-member Civil Service Board. The Council voted 6-1 to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting. It was reported that **MR. ALEXANDER** had worked in a behind-the-scenes maneuver to get a Negro on the all-white board and that his choice was **PRESIDENT LIONEL H. NEWSOME** of Johnson C. Smith University.

MRS. MAUVENE ALEXANDER, who is proud of the rose garden her husband gave her, will be a great help to him as mayor pro tem. She has been an inspiration for him during the past six years as he was building a reputation as a valuable member of the City Council.

MRS. ALEXANDER has been kept busy since her husband became a member of the City Council. She said during an interview that their phone is always busy, but it does not disturb her. "I just take the messages," she said. "I don't attempt to solve any problems."

JOURNAL AND GUIDE

***THERE WAS NO PROVOCATION AND NO WORDS WERE PASSED. IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THEY KNEW MISS COLLIER. THEY WERE APPARENTLY OUT TO KILL A BLACK, ANY BLACK," SAID DR. AARON HENRY, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE NAACP, IN A TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT NIXON. DR. HENRY URGED THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESS, "USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO HALT THIS REIGN OF TERROR BEFORE THE BLACK COMMUNITY FEELS COMPELLED TO RETALIATE AGAINST THE WHITE COMMUNITY ON OUR OWN."**



Comments from the Capital — THEORIES AND THREATS IN AMERICA TODAY by Vant Neff

In any free society, freedom will be abused. Of course, there are people who genuinely need help, and no decent individual would object to offering it. But don't we all hear of people who take advantage of a good thing by sitting back idly and letting the world pay them a living?

For example:

- A qualified workman who could get a job, but won't—as long as he can fiddle things to get his tax-free weekly relief handout.
- A "mother" with eleven illegitimate children, who receives a fat welfare check and lives in government-subsidized housing.
- A man who might be a silent partner in a grocery store under one name, and collects welfare assistance under another.
- A worker with a well-paying job who chooses to stay out on strike while he collects food stamps from government welfare, perhaps for months—food stamps paid for with your hard-earned tax money and mine.
- A fellow who works regularly at odd jobs, pockets the cash without reporting it or paying taxes on it, and still applies for welfare.

And the new welfare morlety, administered by the welfare bureaucracy, supported by the courts, now considers it worth the taxpayers' money to advertise for more food stamp applicants! We need a change in the law.

If it is true that the Mafia has connections in high places, even courts and Congress, why does a certain Louisiana senator want to tie the hands of the F.B.I.? Congress, for ages, insisted that the F.B.I. go unarmored in its gang-busting activities. And it is well-known that this Senator's home state is noted for Mafia operations.

Will someone please explain why, in radical hippie "peace" marches, the flags of the militant Viet Cong, Pathet Lao and Khmer Rouge groups sometimes outnumber American flags 2 to 1?

Any small group, it appears, can tie up a city of eight million. Who's the latest to try it? A mere 1600 striking gasoline drivers who absolutely refused to deliver the fuel. Why? The \$40 a week wage hike offered them wasn't enough, they claimed. We want \$120 more each week, they said, and no deliveries until our demands are met!

Whether ambulances, fire trucks, school buses or police cars can operate becomes a matter of pleading on the part of city government, to which the union bosses may or may not respond.

The curious paradox in this situation is that when the drivers' exorbitant demands are finally met, as surely as day follows night, the price not only of gasoline but of everything from pencils to paint will go up, up, up, too. The truck drivers, as well as you and I and the man across the street, will have to pay more for everything. It may become all too clear to the strikers—too late!—that the purchasing power of their new-found raise won't buy a penny's worth more. Of course, everybody wants a raise, but raises so excessively high hurt everybody, including the people who strike for them.

Inflation doesn't just happen. It is caused, for one thing, by the incessant demands of organized labor for more money without giving more productivity for it. There just isn't any Santa Claus. Nothing is free. The union work-



the more you know about the ers, by their gluttonous demands, are only defeating their own members.

Came across a news item on a famous prizefighter, a guy in the top money bracket whose fights brought 2½ million dollars in gross receipts. "Won't fight if I have to pay taxes!" he protested. Nice going, Kid. The rest of us have to pay taxes and on a lot less income than your two-and-a-half million. It's inevitable that the more you earn, the higher your taxes.

Since when are the prizefighters qualified to run the show?

--Center

(Continued from front page) was learned that all of the facilities would be available for community use a joyous applause went up from the audience, which was composed of persons of all ages.

Mrs. Maggie Holman, longtime resident of the community and has been in the forefront to make the community better, keynoted the meeting by saying that the damages to the building were deplored by many of the citizens of the area. She was aware of the fact that the community had been neglected in many phases of the life of Durham. She emphasized the fact that recreation was one of the neglected areas of the community. She described the coming of the center as a gift from God and assured the community and the entire community would get behind the project and make it a success.

W. R. Collins, a member of

the committee and a retired high school principal, summed up the meeting by challenging the community to join with the NAACP and prove to Durham and the world that black people can band together for good. He warned that there were many who wanted the project to fail and that it would be a catastrophe on the backs of Durham to permit it to fail.

A committee, headed by **Mrs. Holman**, composed of citizens of the area, was named to work with the NAACP in getting the center started. Many children and young adults volunteered to work on the committee. Plans are now being made to clean the premises and get the building ready to make the necessary repairs.

--Boys

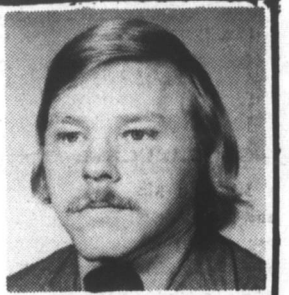
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Durham sponsors are Durham Post 7 of the American Legion; Post 175 and its Auxiliary The American Legion Fair Association; Southland Associates, Durham Civitan Club; Roberts Construction Co., C. C. Woods Construction Co., George Watts Hill; Eastmark Investment Co.; Lester T. Helms; and J. H. Barnes.

Outstanding rising seniors are selected from all over North Carolina and are sent to Wake Forest University to hear lectures and discussions by public official, faculty members, and legion members according to W. W. Green, Adjutant of Legion Post 7. Political parties are organized with every one playing active roles. State, county, and municipal elections are held on the legal patterns of the state. City and county governments are formed and operated, and a state government, complete with executive, legislative and judicial units, boards, commissions, agencies, and other subdivisions of government, is organized and functions.

Throughout the entire program, the young people will perform every operation and fill every position in government, elective and appointive.

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK



By JOHN MYERS

It was twenty-five degrees with a strong wind on Monday morning, Feb. 2. Pulling my overcoat tighter around me and turning up the collar, I walked E. Pettigrew Street looking for The Carolina Times office. I had never been in this section of town and was apprehensive, staring at dilapidated buildings and small groups of men gathered on corners, talking and trying to keep warm.

Finding the office on the last block of the street, I entered the front room which was a little warmer than the outside. In the back office two secretaries worked hurriedly opening morning mail and discussing their previous weekend.

"Excuse me, I'm looking for the editor," I said, hating to interrupt their work.

"I'm Louis Austin."

I turned as the front door closed on a small man dressed in a conservative dark suit and tie.

"I'm John Myers, Sir, I called you yesterday about a job." "Oh yes. Please forgive me Mr. Myers. I am late but I just couldn't make it out any earlier this morning."

He was balding with a thin face which showed years of struggle and overpowering patience. His eyes were deep set with dark patches at the corners and under the sockets. I noticed immediately their clarity, as though he was looking straight through you as he had done to so many people and causes of the past decades.

"Sit down Myers, let's discuss this a bit."

On Monday morning, Feb. 2 I was hired as reporter and staff writer for The Carolina Times.

Two weeks later I sat in the back office sorting news releases for the second section of the paper when Austin walked into the office a little later than usual. "Good morning brother." I wasn't sure if he was talking to me since his nephew was standing behind me. Smiling, I replied good morning. Looking back on that day I realize he was addressing me as brother. It has never left my mind.

Through the months that followed, I watched his eyes grow dim. They lost their clarity and assumed a distant stare as if he was looking at something which was not yet visible to the rest of us.

He became ill and finally had to stop coming to the office at all. Some weeks we never saw Austin but received phone calls daily to inquire about the progress of that weeks paper. He never dropped his concern.

On his last visit to Lincoln Hospital I went by to see him. He seemed happy to see me there and was talking about the things he has asked me many times before.

"Myers, tell me, do you have any trouble going to some of the places I send you for stories because of your color?" "No Sir. I don't have any trouble." I lied. I couldn't tell him there were times I almost backed out of a story because of threats. "Myers, when I get well, my daughter and I are going to make the paper into a giant." "Yes Sir, I know."

Monday morning June 14, I walked into The Carolina Times office to learn of Austin's death. I have thought many times in the last few days of his last words to me. "We are going to make our paper a giant."

Sir, you have already done that. Rest now, Brother.

Do's and Don'ts



Enjoy The Game, But Allow Others To Enjoy It Too

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