

The Carolina Times  
**EDITORIALS**

**Merger And Bond Issue**

Progressive and positive thinking attitudes towards merger and bond passage by Durham citizens should reveal that a strong progressive system of public education is essential to the ongoing growth of any quality community. Good schools for all its citizens are the cornerstone of a progressive and good community if it is to grow, prosper and offer real opportunity to its citizens.

However, a lack of honesty and mistrust of those at the policy-making levels seem to be a key factor in the unsuccessful passage of prior mergers as well as recent bond defeats.

Durham appears as a divided community to newcomers and many old timers alike. Throughout the years, it would appear that there have been power struggles involving city vs county, town folk vs college or university folk, poor whites vs affluent whites, poor blacks vs affluent blacks: black vs white; busing vs non-busing; city school allocations vs county school allocations; tax increases vs schools and one could go on and on.

The lack of information on vital issues as raised by citizenry of Durham on the merger and bond passage seems to indicate that the Durham Community is tired of 'being taken' and refuses to give those at policy-making levels a blank check so to speak any longer.

Minority groups have a special interest in all merger and bond proposals. It would appear from past inequities in bond fund allocations that inner city schools do not receive their fair share and there are many historical inequities and backgrounding to support these allegations. Add to this, the continuing lack of job opportunities in the education field as well as the many displaced blacks from the

**Tribute To Mrs. Lyda M. Merrick**

As members of the Durham Community let us pause to pay tribute to Mrs. Lyda Moogre Merrick who recently resigned after more than 50 years of service to the library community. Among the many contributions, Mrs. Merrick served as chairman of the Stanford L. Warren Library Board of Directors, created and published Braille Magazine for 17 years, and as she stated this week, "I have just been helping out all along."

Mrs. Merrick attended her final board meeting as chairman yesterday when members of the board including Dr. Charles Ray and John Wheeler along with George R. Linder, Durham Library Director and Dr. Benjamin Powell, chairman of the library board expressed gratitude to Mrs. Merrick.

According to Dr. Powell, "We wouldn't be where we are without her." He continued, "It is difficult to measure the contributions of one who has served the public for more than half a century."

Wheeler commented that, "she was always there and she alone is responsible for the Braille Magazine."

Mrs. Merrick's magazine offered reading to the blind in the tradition of her father, Dr. A. M. Moore, who sought to bring reading material to the common man of Durham. Dr. Moore organized the "Baraca Room" in White Rock Baptist Church in 1910 on the very spot where Mrs. Merrick was born. The major function of the special room was to provide reading activities and it was the first step towards the establishment of the Stanford L. Warren Library.

As early as "Baraca Room" Mrs. Merrick has assumed duties by gathering magazines to display for Sunday visitors to read.

"I remember that soon afterwards

schools will make groups much more conscious and aware of these very inequities. Even the threat of a suit to make the school zones coterminous with the city zones does not appear to bring too many repercussions. Admittedly, the schools so affected could probably account for the equalizing of some of the so called empty spaces at some schools located in the city now.

Delaying actions and much subtlety in educational actions as well as many other areas vital to any community have built even more apprehension and mistrust by all segments of the population. Information workshops and speakers have been presented, but answers are few and appear inadequate to many of those persons attending various merger and bond in-

formation panels. Of course, some questions cannot be answered. Many advantages for the merger have been given, but few, if any disadvantages have been given. One must never underestimate the capacity of people to see through this kind of action.

There must be more mutual confidence and honest appraisal of what will be the positive gains as well as the negative aspects in any type proposals that may be presented to the citizenry. Time is getting short for all persons to be more informed as we move on toward November 2, 1971.

Perhaps now is the time to say, let's stop fooling each other and really get on with the tasks really facing us — that is — providing for the best possible education of all children with all segments of the population in representative positions. This is the best way to build and keep a prosperous community as we look forward to Durham's continued growth.

the Durham Colored Library was conceived," Mrs. Merrick said.

In 1917 the Durham Colored Library moved to the corner of Pettigrew and Fayetteville Sts., where, due to the petitioning of Dr. Moore received city funds for expansion. At this location Mrs. Merrick first served on the board and launched a career of service of profound unselfishness.

Mrs. Merrick became chairman of the board in 1941 and eight years later organized a Library Corner for the Blind. "I realized that blind people wanted a connection with the library so we made the Library Corner a major function in the library," Mrs. Merrick said.

The Library Corner for the Blind served as a clearing house for all community activities for the blind in the city of Durham and Durham County. Services of reading, writing and recreational activities have been provided.

Braille Magazine, which grew out of the service currently has a circulation of 400 expanding and international market. And according to Wheeler, "It is doing quite well."

The creation of Braille Magazine and other contributions of Mrs. Merrick, in the words of Dr. Ray, "demonstrates an inherent sense of responsibility from her father, as well as her mother. It has allowed her to be a light in the entire Durham community."

During the brief afternoon ceremony at the Stanford L. Warren Library, October 25, board members listed other talents of Mrs. Merrick including painting, writing and music.

"Even right now she will occasionally play the organ at St. Joseph AME Church. And she can play as well as the regular organists," Wheeler said.

**As The Inequities Become More Vivid, Resentment Follows**

**"THE NEGRO LIVING IN THE GHETTO IS MADE PAINFULLY AWARE OF HIS ISOLATION WHEN TELEVISION, AND MAGAZINES SHOW HIM HOW DIFFERENT THE WHITE MAN'S WORLD IS,"**

JOE COVELLO,  
 BLACK STAR



**FROM BLACK**

By JOHN HUDGINS



Monday I went to Raleigh for a rally to protest the proposed restructuring of higher education. As I sit here to write I'm still trying to figure out where I should file this day in my mind. Was this another old hat, or was it the dawn of a new day in Black struggle.

We gathered on Shaw's campus where we milled around till about 1:00. Then we started on a march down Raleigh's Fayetteville Street to the capital building. Perhaps one of the most beautiful moments of the day was when I looked around and for as far as I could see there were beautiful Black people. There were shades of the old civil rights era except there was no hand in hand with white people this time. As we marched the beauty of singing together, clapping together, and just being in the midst of a lot of Black people in the sun was one of those things that one could hope to do forever.

Despite the hostile looking cops on every corner, and stupid gazing white people who thought the circus had come to town, we marched, we sang, we chanted. At the capital building we gathered around the stature of some white on a horse and listened to a good old open air revival. Testimonies came from all of the state supported Black schools in carolina and from some others. We heard people urge us to do everything from vote, to be willing to die for this cause.

Perhaps the interesting thing is that this revival showed us how many different ideas and conceptions are floating around in our community. We heard pleas to strengthen the democratic party, we heard pleas to engage in independent politics, and we heard pleas to unite with Black people around the world to defeat white oppression and domination. Inevitably and threats of retaliation were hurled at white people (very few were present) and praises were heaped upon the Black people who spoke and upon those who were just there. We listened to everybody from the local Super-militant, to the

local Black-white pseudo-politician. You know something, we even sang a verse of "We shall overcome." None of the speakers seemed bothered by the whites who were blowing their breath in their faces as they stood almost on the speakers with their cameras and their mikes.

The one thing we learned from the civil rights era is to be nice when white people let you march in town. There were exhortations to be nice, not to upset the whites, remain law abiding. So it went. The giant pep rally went well, and we marched back to campus and today's episode of the revolution was over.

Even after going over all of this, reviewing what happened, I'm at a loss as to what to say, I could hope that when people got back to classes the next day it was not just business as usual, but I know better. I could say it was just another jive holiday, but I know that inside of some of those beautiful Black people a little wheel keeps turning, a little fire keeps burning, a sister smiles, I know we're moving on. I know for some of the brothers, what they said was just rhetoric, but I also know that some of the people listening were feeling what was being said. And as I think about why it didn't rain Monday when it rained, and rained the days before. I get the good feeling that maybe somewhere beyond the sky a cool bad brother is sitting there picking his 'fro and waiting for his people to get right.

I have often written that life at its best is a shame. Maybe it is. It could be a big joke that God is playing for his entertainment. But moments like the above when we realize that we have been somewhere, and though we are not sure yet, we are on our way to somewhere else. We understand that our people do deserve all that we have to give, and that if life is but a dream, if it is but sand tossed upon the ocean, it can only mean anything to any of us, if it means something to all of us.

**Aleutians A-Blast To Proceed**

WASHINGTON — The Nixon administration plans to proceed with a huge underground atomic blast in the Aleutian Islands, drawing expressions of dismay from the Canadian ambassador here.

Although Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, told newsmen the blast, testing a 5-megaton anti-missile warhead, is scheduled for Nov. 4, James R. Schlesinger, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, told newsmen a test date has not yet been established.

Schlesinger said, however, that preparations would be completed within a week, making the test possible by the Nov. 4 date.

Meanwhile, seven environmental groups headed by the Committee for Nuclear Responsibility, are seeking to halt the test through court action, contending it might cause earthquakes, tidal waves, radiation leakage or other environmental damage.

Alaska Gov. William Egan said President Nixon and the AEC "in making this decision have taken—and must assume—full responsibility for the safety of the people who would suffer the consequences if an accident occurs."

Congress had passed legislation last Sept. 22 barring the test before mid-1972 unless the President authorized it.

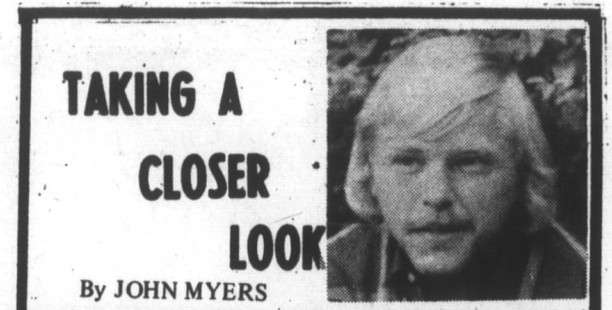
Schlesinger told a news conference Wednesday, "The Atomic Energy Commission is now planning to proceed with the Cannikin test. We have now received the requisite authority to go ahead including detonation."

"We have presidential authorization," he said in answer to a question.

Canada and Japan have both opposed the test, in which a hydrogen warhead with a force equivalent to 5 million tons of TNT would be exploded some 6,000 feet underground in remote Amchitka Island in the northern Pacific Ocean.

(To keep Black folks thinking)\*

What happened to U.O.C.I?



**TAKING A CLOSER LOOK**

By JOHN MYERS

As much as I hate to agree with anything Vice-President Agnew has ever said, I will have to admit that the press may be guilty of one of the Vice-President's vehement charges. That is, misquoting.

Monday the 25 in Raleigh, Mayor of Chapel Hill, Howard Lee addressed 3,500 participants of a rally in protest of the restructuring of higher education. News-men filled the crowd with note books and cameras. After the deadlines were met and finished stories filed the quotes of Lee did not sound exactly as he had stated in public.

In The Raleigh News & Observer Lee was quoted as stating "if the restructuring plan passes ... black institutions will see their death." Admittedly, Mayor Lee stated these two parts of a sentence. What the Raleigh paper failed to mention was the meaning of the three dots between the two parts of their quote. The missing part is simply, "without certain changes," these three words would not normally mean very much to a sentence but in Mayor Lee's context, they meant everything he was saying.

The Durham Herald quoted him as, "without question" if the proposed plan passes, "the system of black institutions will see its death." These two quotes are also true. Lee did say these two things, but, he stated them separately and with a sentence in between them. The way they are arranged, even with the individual quotation marks around them, means very little to the common reader. Mr. Reader usually reads the copy literally. Therefore, that statement would make Mayor Lee seem directly opposed to the restructuring of higher education, of which he is not. In fact, he is highly in favor of it; With certain changes which he listed in his address and the news media failed to mention in its stories.

Although a newspaper can and has in history swayed an election, stopped a campaign, and ruined or exposed an individual, I do not think this is the case with Mayor Lee. I am not sure why the daily papers in these two cities have come upon the difficult task of correctly taking a quote. I have technically misquoted a speaker by using one word in exchange for the word he personally used. I have done this in instances when I was pressed for time and simply failed to get down every word the person said. I do, however, feel there is a distinct difference in changing a word and restructuring a man's address.

Maybe speed writing courses are the answer. The state could require every newsman to take a course either in speedwriting or short hand. Then there would be no misquoting in existence because being able to write as fast as these courses would teach would do away with omitting vital parts of a speaker's address. We would no longer have to leave out part of his quotes in order to save time. We would never again see dots between parts of a sentence meaning omission, because we did not have time to take down every word.

Thinking about this proposal, admittedly, takes some of the fun out of taking notes. Just think. We would never get to smile as we deliberately misquoted someone. We would never be able to do a follow up on a story we had previously helped to destroy. We would be able to bring a story to the attention of someone who were the facts correct, had no interest in it, to begin with.

How could we create all of our great news if we were restricted to the truth? How could we cover up certain stories because they might offend one of our larger advertisers? How could we look Mr. Joe Reader in the face, if he knew the truth about us. How can we now?

**Things You Should Know**



**Samuel COLERIDGE-TAYLOR.**

...BORN AUGUST 15, 1875, IN ENGLAND

SON OF AN ENGLISHWOMAN & A NEGRO

PHYSICIAN FROM WEST AFRICA. HE AT-

TENDED COLLEGE FROM 1890 TO 1897 & HIS

FIRST PUBLISHED PIECE WAS "IN THEE, O LORD" IN 1891. IN 1903 HE BE-

CAME A PROFESSOR AT TRINITY COLLEGE & THAT FALL HE CAME TO AMERICA WHERE HE WON MUCH ACCLAIM. IN THE SUMMER OF 1912 HE

FELL ILL WITH PNEUMONIA & DIED ON SEPT. 1, AT THE AGE OF 37.

CONTINENTAL FEATURES

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