

EDITORIALS

The National Black Caucus

The television news media, more so than the newspapers, broke with news stories of the first black political convention. An event, according to the media, teeming with confusion, arguments and discord — one seemingly unable to prepare resolutions representative of black people throughout the country.

The press coverage of the historic occasion tended to discredit efforts of black people making an unprecedented attempt at unity.

Despite the focus of the media, we feel that the coming together of blacks to create a unified force was an extremely creditable event. It was an event very much needed by black people.

It seems, also, obvious to us that the news media displayed re-actionary tendencies in its biased coverage — whether it was intentional or unintentional. Nothing could pose more of a threat to a society holding dear to the premise of black inferiority than a move by blacks in the direction of true self determination and unity. United, blacks can assume the necessary posture to force justice in this country. It is likely that the necessity exists to play down the true potential of black influence in order to avoid mass re-actions from a majority of whites who would become immediately disturbed over the possibility of "black power."

Whether the media would give credit to the "correctness" of current black

attitudes or not, there exists a rising tide of black realization that the future is ours to take, either in the arena of politics or in the streets. And it is this realization permeating the black struggle that is giving the necessary ingredient to be free.

It matters little exactly what was transacted at the convention — no empire was built in a day or decomposed. This particular election year will come and pass into history. But for all times, it will stand for future reference, the fact that blacks are banding together to force a new day.

And of course, this coming together of blacks comes as no surprise to any of us who understand social evolution. Any group of people operating from a base of conscious rightness will eventually triumph in their quest to overcome neither the yoke of bondage. There are, however, times when neither participant nor observer understands the nature of developments.

There seems, often, an unbreakable chain of injustices. But it is against the laws of nature and universal harmony for any being to oppress another being created in the likeness of divinity.

We commend the countless number of blacks who created ways and means to attend the convention inspire of financial hardships and other obvious difficulties resulting from economically deprived communities.

We feel sure that the concept of strength in unity is well embedded in the minds of our people; and there will be more unifying. Right on!

The Lean And Hungry Look

It is interesting to note the new style adopted by many businesses called the lean and hungry look. This means that many corporate executives are finding out that after a slight recession they are able to get along with a much smaller number of personnel or in other words, in their language "we can still get out the wash."

Salaried office personnel, and shop employees not directly involved in production have been laid off. It would appear that very few, if any would be workers, laid off, will be recalled — when business improves.

This news may be good to top corporate brass and shareholders. But it is not particularly good news for job-hunting graduates, former middle-management executives, technicians and other salaried employees. Nor is it very happy news for factory hands. This places the employment picture for minorities in even worse state.

It is reported by Wall St. Journal that after talks with many dozens of companies, large and small — from steel mills and railroads to banks and supermarkets, all show the same pattern. All companies concerned are slow to refill jobs left vacant as a result of cut-backs. Companies cannot afford to be a generous in staffing as they were a few years ago.

Military forces continue to shrink and federal civilian employment is expected to rise very little over the next 16 months because of administration efforts to avoid adding to an already huge budget deficit. State and local governments, schools and other institutions, by and large are hard hit to meet existing payrolls and probably won't be doing much hiring either.

Despite some increase in black employment in Federal white collar increase overall in Federal employment for blacks. Declines were found most in lower grade levels of the postal-field services and blue-collar jobs in other agencies.

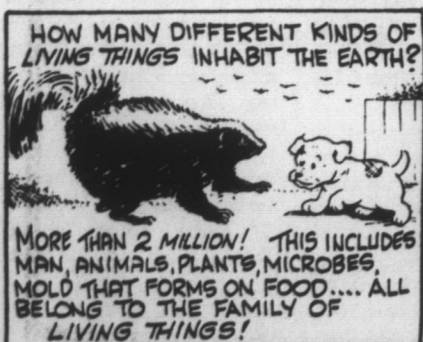
Persons with limited education and limited skills are even harder hit. Many blacks and whites fall into this category. The various training programs now bring the questions as to where are the jobs after training, especially short term training programs. However, no person should forego any type of training being offered. We must also get out and march to the ballot boxes to help alleviate these conditions.

We need and must have all groups pulling together and working for unity as we continue to seek the larger gains that will be increasingly necessary if we expect to move in the economic mainstream. The philosophy that in unity there is strength is still good for all to work with.

I would also like to suggest that many youths and adults, as well, must clean up their language expressions; develop better grooming habits; and cultivate a return to acceptable good manners. The time for "each one doing his or her own thing" must become a watchword of "doing the right thing.

This latter statement is said with "tongue in cheek" but attire can be clean, no matter what type it may be; the body can be clean and deodorants used; for all of us must live and work with others, and the continued use of language that may be patently offensive to the masses, black or white, can be eliminated and other more desirable words can be substituted.

TELL ME



--Caucus

(Continued from front page) pull together an agreed upon slate of black priorities."

Mayor Richard Hatcher, of Gary, Indiana hosted the event which included among the black leaders: Rev. Jesse Jackson, head of Operation Push-People United to Save Humanity; New York Borough President Percy Sutton, Rep. Charles Diggs, D-Mich., and many other leaders.

Highlights of the convention witnessed Rev. Jackson calling for a separate black political party, while others such as Mayor Hatcher pushing to try the traditional parties "one more time around."

During the three-day event, many issues had to be compromised on such as busing which ran the full range of opinions—many states were in favor, other in favor with conditions, while still, others opposed busing.

According to Clement, "The key issue was not busing but of quality education and the most effective means of achieving it."

Clement stated that, "quality education does not mean necessarily, either busing or desegregation."

From the convention, it was agreed upon to create a continuing committee for a unified political effort. The committee members were charged to file a report to the central group before May 1st.

Final positions of the group and completed drafts of the resolutions are to be forth coming from the steering committee after that date.

Once again, delegates have returned to their respective states, a majority of them well pleased that the first national black political convention did take place. And with it, the promise of a more unified struggle on the parts of black people.

--Talent

(Continued from front page) rough, won second place honors with an instrumental rendition of Debussy's "Sonatina-Opus 20 No. 1 in C Major." Miss Davis was also recognized for her second place victory in the recently held Miss North Carolina Junior Miss Contest.

The third place award was received by Miss Susan Nelson, a Durham High School senior, for her vocal rendition of Gabriel Faure's "Après Un Reve."

According to the judges of the contest, the talent exhibited by the young people was so superb that it was extremely difficult to arrive at a decision. "We could not list everyone in first place," stated Prof. Earl Sanders, Assistant Professor of Music at North Carolina Central, "but each contestant is highly commended for an outstanding performance."

Other adjudicators included: Mrs. Gwendolyn Haskins, Instructor of Music, NCCU, and Mrs. Barbara Cook, Instructor of Music at NCCU, and director of the Barbara Cook Studios.

Prizes for the winners and certificates for each participant were presented by Attorney William A. Marsh, Jr., Basileus of Tau Psi Chapter, and Lindsay A. Merritt served as master of ceremonies.

Other members of the Fraternity who served on the Talent Hunt Committee included Clarence E. Ellis, Chairman, Phillip Bell, William E. Payton, R. H. Cherry, and Reginald Dalton.

A reception, hosted by Mrs. William Payton and Mrs. Clarence Ellis, followed the program.

--Luncheon

(Continued from front page) blanks were carried in two editions of the paper beginning Feb. 26. The entry blanks asked subscribers to list the person they considered to be an outstanding woman from the Durham community. The person receiving the greatest number of votes was selected as winner.

According to the Greyhound spokesman, the contest was directed at honoring a lady from the community who had not already received awards and citations.

"We were looking for ladies who go about the task of doing good merely for the sake of doing good. Those ladies who give expecting no return and often are overlooked when credits are given out," Black said.

Mrs. Rogers, the winner attributed her recognition to her children who saw to it that she received a large number of votes. Her son, James Rogers, Jr., was recently voted Teacher of the Year for his excellence in guidance at Durham High School. He wrote of his mother that she was a guide, counselor, and many other things to her children which stamped the mark of excellence on them.

"I really didn't know why I was asked to the luncheon," she said, after receiving a Paul Bevere silver bowl trophy. And in a quiet manner commonly associated with her, she thanked the judges and sponsors.

In addition to her son, James, she is the mother of three other children working in various professions on the East Coast and one son in the Navy. Mistress of ceremonies at the luncheon was Mrs. Josephine Strayhorne, of Mutual Savings and Loan Association. She also served along with three other ladies as judges.

--Chain

(Continued from front page) and professional people who have a deep concern for the purposes and goals set forth by the Chain.

Heading the membership drive will be Mrs. Mary T. Horton who is employed by the Chain as the coordinator of special programs.

--Protest

(Continued from front page) would not discuss their disagreements in Raleigh at a closed door meeting held in the

middle of the day when most her group could not attend. She stated that this was not the meeting her organization had requested and that they would not honor it as such. She and her committee members then stood and walked from the board room.

The primary concerns of the low-income group stated in a telegram to HEW headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. were the site of the proposed hospital, the lack of adequate clinic space, their concern that Lincoln Neighborhood Health Center will continue operation, equal representation on the board of directors from the low income and middle income community, and guarantees of health care for all Durham citizens, whether or not they have the money to pay.

Mrs. Gooch blasted the meeting in Raleigh by stating that it was being held in the middle of the working day, therefore, preventing most of the low-income families from attending. She asked Walter P. Hayes, Acting Regional Program Director for HEW to meet with her committee and other interested citizens in Durham Friday, March 17. Hayes stated he would not meet in Durham unless the Health Care Commission was in attendance. Wilkerson stated he had no plans to go to Durham.

--Bank

(Continued from front page) government agencies and privately owned corporations on behalf of the 36 minority banks which are scattered throughout the United States," the report stated.

In addition to delivering a favorable report, the meeting elected officers to the board of directors and voted favorably for the bank to authorize sale of debentures and stock in order to raise \$750,000.

Newest addition to the board of directors included Dr. Albert N. Whiting, president of North Carolina Central University; and J. W. Winters, Sr. They will serve in the places of Dr. C. Donnell and J. C. Scarborough, Sr., two deceased board members.

The sale of shares issue was raised in order to increase the capital account. The large increase in deposits requires an increase in the capitol account according to Wheeler.

"Normally, approximately \$800 thousand in new capital would be required to support an increase in deposits of the size which we experienced in 1971. The sum of \$150 thousand added to surplus from 1971 earnings hardly begins to meet our needs for increased capital funds. We expect, however, to raise additional capital in 1972 through the sale of not more than \$750 thousand in common stock and through the sale of 20,000 shares, and through the sale of subordinated debentures to Minbank Capital Corporation which was organized and funded during 1971 for the purpose of providing additional capital to minority banks," Wheeler explained.

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

By JOHN MYERS



The ground has barely been broken for the new County Hospital proposed for Durham and already the air surrounding the site is filled with conflict confusion, and outcries of rage. The Low-Income Health Care Committee, headed by Mrs. Inez Gooch has held protest, walk outs, and are carrying signs against the Medical Care Commission of Raleigh. The Medical Care Commission, headed by I. O. Wilkerson feels the Low-income group does not know what they are talking about. It looks as though this battle, as many others, will be waged between the lower and the middle class people. If Wilkerson is correct and Mrs. Gooch's delegation actually does not know what they are talking about then why has no one been interested enough to explain the facts to them.

A meeting of Health, Education, and Welfare representatives from Atlanta, Ga.; the Medical Care Commission; and the Low-income Health Care Committee of Durham held in Raleigh Tuesday 14, began and ended in complete disaster. The low-income group walked out of the meeting charging this was not the meeting they had requested and been assured of having from HEW. The officers in charge continued with their meeting although the people in question had left the room. Proposed solutions to the problem ranged from sending letters explaining the position of the Commission to arranging a meeting in Durham to publicly explain the Commission's views. A Women-in-Action representative suggested that the commission talk to the Durham committee and express their appreciation of the committee's concern. Her recommendation amounted to "putting a child on the head to make him feel better for doing

a job. The meeting ended with the Commission having expressed its views of the problems and the question of a meeting in Durham having been dropped.

How long will it take for city, county, and federal governments to realize that when they propose a project which is going to raise the taxes of all its peoples they are going to have to tell the people why? In this case, the money will be raised through a bond issue. Most of the Durham community does not know this. Why has this not been explicitly explained to them. Does the governments of a city, county, and country think that they can propose and initiate any program they wish without explaining it to the people of said city, county, or country, and then not expect to have a backlash when it becomes known.

Evidently the governments in power have an overwhelming disregard for the intelligence of its people. People are no longer going to stand still and let the elected officials do their thinking for them. They are no longer going to permit a man to cost them money simply because they put him into office. It is about time the governing forces of this state realized that the voters have minds and are no longer afraid to use them. A pat on the head will no longer pacify a child who is trying to learn. A government who is in the wrong can no longer expect to continue in that direction simply because it is in power. The people have learned a new word and that word is going to be the downfall of deft governing powers. The word is demand. The people have learned to use it and because of it they will not be stopped when they think they are right.

The shareholders voted in favor of the sale of stocks. It was agreed that former shareholders would get first option to buy the new stock.

Representatives from Mechanics and Farmers Branch banks of Raleigh and Charlotte were present at the meeting. Others attending included local community leaders such as Dr. C. E. Boulware of the Durham City Council and visitors including State Legislator Henry Frye, president of the newly formed Greensboro National Bank, the state's first black operated national bank.

--Prof

(Continued from front page)

A. degrees in history at N. C. Central — but it was nice to know officially, Manning said.

Three degrees from N. C. Central are unusual since the university offers only four options, including the bachelor's degree, the master's degree, the master's degree in library science, and the law degree.

But the most unusual factor has been that Manning has been teaching a full classload in the history department since 1967. Until this year, that meant 15 hours per week in the classroom, and routine office hours, and, for him, as many as nine hours a week in law school.

"When I was carrying nine hours of law classes, I was a full-time student as far as the Veterans Administration is concerned," Manning reported.

The "midnight oil" dedicated student used to burn has nothing on the 3 o'clock in the morning electricity Manning consumed. "That kind of schedule creates a problem in the household and everywhere. You don't have time for your wife, your relatives, or your friends. I didn't even make a history department social affair for five years."

--Candidates

(Continued from front page)

tion laws pertaining to poll workers, and who may observe the counting of the ballots.

Consultants at the conference will include several attorneys. Also Alex Brock, Executive Secretary of the State Board of Elections, will be present at the conference in order to answer the candidates' questions.

For further information contact: John W. Edwards, Director North Carolina Voter Education Project 107 1/2 East Parrish Street Durham, North Carolina 27701 919/682-1222

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