

# EDITORIALS & COMMENT

## Dean Emeritus Albert L. Turner

The death of Dean Emeritus Albert L. Turner of the North Carolina Central University School of Law gives pause to recall some of the many contributions made by him during his nearly 25 years of legal leadership and service to the institution.

After serving as a law professor for three years under the late Dean Van Hecke of the UNC Law School and Acting Dean of the then North Carolina College at Durham, Turner was appointed in 1942 as the first full time Dean of the School of Law. Under his leadership, the NCCU Law School emerged as a first class institution for the training and developing of legal minds. The majority of black lawyers of North Carolina as well as many who practice in other jurisdictions are graduates of the institution.

The success of these tasks by Dean Emeritus Albert L. Turner has been and continues to be reflected in the many accomplishments of the graduates. Many have distinguished themselves in state legislatures, in the courts, both as advocates and judges

and in many phases of business endeavors.

The Citation for his title, Dean Emeritus of the School of Law at North Carolina College at Durham (now North Carolina Central University) was bestowed upon him in recognition of his many years of faithful service, sound legal counsel, administrative skill, keen educational insight, respect for fair play, and intellectual integrity upon his retirement in 1966 by the Trustees of North Carolina Central University.

A final honor in recognition of his high quality of leadership and the inspiring symbol of devotion to duty came when the building, which the School of Law occupies, was named and dedicated as the Albert Louis Turner Law Building in November of 1969.

We know and feel that the services and devotion to the tasks will long be remembered as many other aspiring lawyers-to-be continue to study and develop their legal skills in the Albert Louis Turner Law School edifice.

## Serious Business For All People

The precious freedoms of speech, the press or communications and peaceful assembly takes on new meaning with the Watergate revelation by John Dean of the Nixon Administration's Enemy list of 200 prominent Americans, including 22 blacks. Among the 22 blacks on the list are the 12 members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

It is important to note that no other racial or ethnic group of congressmen was a part of the list. Rep. Charles B. Rangel points up that inclusion in the list of White House enemies can be interpreted only as evidence of blatant racism in the Administration. Further, the Caucus is committed to "social progress, economic opportunity and equal justice for all Americans." It is this commitment which threatens the administration and makes it ready to bring the full force of government to bear to destroy those who seek to be advocates of the people. Further, first the Congressional Black Caucus is singled out as the enemy, then what follows — "Are all Black people in America to be so classified and dealt with as enemies by this

Administration?" says Rangel.

One needs only to review the history of the 1930's to recall those little men of communist and Fascist dictatorships who threw the world into the turmoils of World Wars which now seem to have a never ending day. We sincerely hope that the many organizations of dedicated and sincere citizenry that act as "watchdogs" for freedom of all persons, BLACK AND WHITE, as well as INDIVIDUALS themselves will do everything at their command to bring an end to this type of repressive activity by those entrusted to lead our country.

The precious First Amendment freedoms, guaranteed by our Constitution, cannot afford to be weakened by a few power hungry politicians. Our protests against such cracks in our First Amendment freedoms must continue to be loud and forceful at all levels.

We CANNOT and MUST NOT forget that "eternal vigilance is the price ALL must pay for their freedoms of speech, press and peaceful assembly if our great democracy is to survive in these trying times.

## Should Food Be Cheap?

With all of the talk about high food prices, it may seem foolish to ask if food should be cheap. The answer is not as obvious as it may seem. It depends on what we mean by cheap. If by the word cheap, we mean that food should be produced and marketed as efficiently as possible and sold at the lowest price that will yield a reasonable profit for producers and marketing firms, then food should be cheap. But, using this criteria, everything else should also be cheap. If, on the other hand, by the word cheap we mean that everyone in the food industry should operate at a loss so that everyone else can afford to buy T-bone steaks and polished apples then why should food be that cheap?

Food is essential to life, but so is clothing and shelter in most areas of the world. In a modern society such as ours, one might argue that transportation is also essential. But who protests clothing prices? Style changes in clothes make costly wardrobes outdated long before they are worn out. And certainly not everyone can afford tailor-made suits and original design gowns. Who cares? People simply don't need stylish clothes, tailored suits and original designs to stay warm. Let the poor people buy the imported synthetics at the discount stores. The same seems to hold for housing. Certainly not everyone can afford a twenty-room mansion on the hill surrounded by ten acres of landscaped scenery. But society is not concerned about this problem. As long as the poor people can afford a small mobile home or three-room apartment, their housing needs are met. Who cares if the price of a \$100,000 home goes to \$150,000? And what about the price of automobiles? The manufacturers often quote modest prices on their standard models, but luxury cars are only for the rich. And even if a person can't afford a car, there is always public transportation. Society reasons that not everyone should be able to afford a Mercedes Benz.

But when it comes to food, values are different. If the price of steak goes up, there is a cry that poor people are going to starve. Everyone is entitled to eat steaks and chops, or at least everyone is entitled to eat red meat. If everyone can't afford steak, it is a "national sin" perpetrated by farmers and middlemen. And even the people who live in mansion, wear original designed clothes and drive a Mercedes Benz are up in arms when the price of a steak increases 20 cents a pound.

Maybe everyone should be able to eat steak. But if they should, shouldn't they also have fine clothes, luxurious houses and expensive cars? It is not the value system that is questionable, it is the inconsistency of values that is questionable.

It may well be agriculture that is at least partially responsible for the situation. For years, agricultural organizations and agencies have been telling consumers that food is cheap. If consumers have now been convinced that food should be cheap, it is certainly not surprising that consumers rise in anger with the rising price of food.

## Did You Know That?

Although the number of white Americans living in poverty declined by more than one million last year, the number of black Americans officially living in poverty rose by 300,000 over last year.

Black families have a median income of only \$6,860 which is only 56 per cent of the \$11,550 median income of white families.

The median income for Americans, in general, rose 8.1 per cent, but the inflationary surge held the increase down considerably.

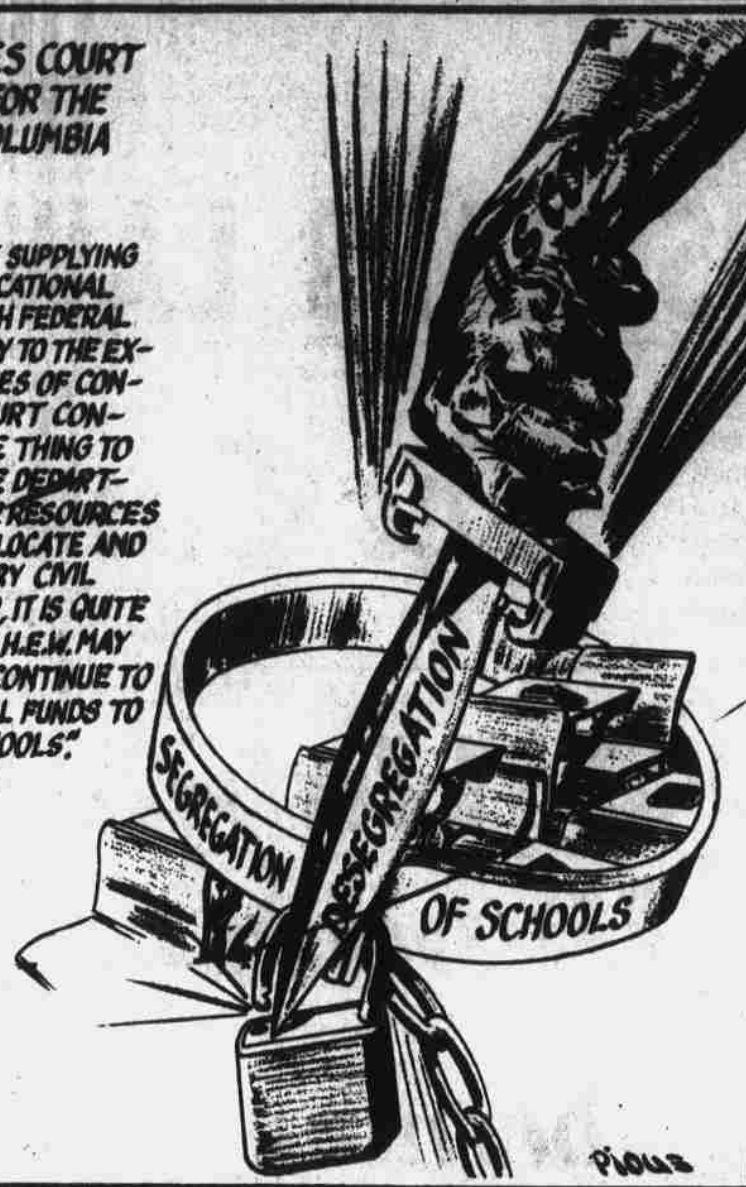
The number of blacks in poverty actually rose from 7.4 million to 7.7 million, while the number of whites living in poverty dropped about 9 per cent.

## As HEW Defies Law Of Land

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT.

"H.E.W. IS ACTIVELY SUPPLYING SEGREGATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITH FEDERAL FUNDS, CONTRARY TO THE EXPRESSED PURPOSES OF CONGRESS." THE COURT CONTINUED: "IT IS ONE THING TO SAY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT LACKS THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO LOCATE AND PROSECUTE EVERY CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATOR, IT IS QUITE ANOTHER TO SAY H.E.W. MAY AFFIRMATIVELY CONTINUE TO CHANNEL FEDERAL FUNDS TO DEFAULTING SCHOOLS."

N.Y. TIMES



## Roy Wilkins Speaks

Executive Secretary of NAACP



## THE JOB IS THE THING

Even a casual look at the causes of racial unrest in America will discover that the job is the thing. A race has to believe that its members, if they qualify as well as any other applicants, will have a fair shake at employment opportunities.

Moreover, if a race is to amount to anything at all, the breadwinner must have access to a paycheck. This is the way to feed a family, pay rent to the landlord or make payments on a mortgage, buy health care, send the children to school, buy clothes and furniture, hold the family head up, and look after a dozen other items that require money.

That is why the report on employment bias in the television industry is so shocking. White males have "the world on a string," as Cab Calloway used to sing. There is nothing to cherr about for women, white or otherwise. Three out of every four women who are employed full-time are in office and clerical jobs.

Seventy-four stations not only turn their backs on the hiring of minorities, but employ white males only. In the top four categories, management is 77 per cent white; minority professionals are not to be found at 50 per cent of the stations; non-white technicians are not in the picture at 55 per cent of the stations, and they are missing among the sales personnel at 81 per cent of the places surveyed.

The picture is not hopeless. It is just bad and as slow as molasses in January. Not that some officials in the industry are not trying. Not that some stations and networks do not have beautiful policy statements. Little fault can be found with their phrases on the employment of blacks, Spanish-surnamed, Indians, and Orientals. They have the further advantage of being highly literate and sophisticated people who know, more than most, what is going on in today's world.

They have made some small advances. Where once the industry was really lily-white,

there are now some salt and pepper areas. Some of these have not advanced beyond a fly-speck here and there and some are still stubbornly all-white and all-male.

This writer can remember when not one black man was a technician. None was behind a microphone reporting the news in understandable English. There were no black doctors, policemen and others in casts of actors. Of course, there were none in the industry's lucrative commercials.

But with these breakthroughs, there has been little follow-up. Network executives may have had other priorities. Negroes themselves may have been content to merely enjoy television, not crusade for employment in the medium. Many stations see no particular duty to report community events fairly. Oft times stations have had a fight for their licenses before they would pay any attention to the needs and thoughts and events in the black communities.

Sufficient jobs are not being provided. The minority workers in TV undoubtedly have tales to tell about how their stations are either ducking the issue altogether or hiding behind barest tokenism. Don't forget the "pure white" managerial jobs in television. Little or no upward mobility for minorities. Don't forget the 74 all-white-male TV stations. No entry level jobs at all or in only certain categories for females.

In 1968, the President's Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, reviewing the racial crisis in the hot summer of 1967, reported: "Pervasive discrimination and segregation in employment, education and housing have resulted in the continuing exclusion of great numbers of Negroes from the benefits of economic progress."

The job is the thing. Can one be a responsible, upstanding citizen when those who seek jobs are barred because of color, race and sex?

## Helicopters Save Lives

"I always believed that the helicopter would be an outstanding vehicle for the greatest variety of life-saving missions and now near the close of my life, I have the satisfaction of knowing that this proved to be true."

The late, great Igor Sikorsky, the "gentle genius" of the helicopter industry wrote the above words in the last letter he dictated on October 25, 1972. The next morning he died peacefully, at the age of 83.

- Rivers run wild.
- Snow strands thousands of people and animals without food, communications, medicine or power.
- Fires strike in tall buildings or remote areas.
- Mountain climbers get into trouble.
- Children get lost.
- Cars crash on crowded highways.
- Fighting men are wounded in combat.
- Ships at sea get into trouble.

In so many situations only the versatile helicopter can move doctors, nurses, medicine and supplies in and victims out to sophisticated care when minutes count.

A dramatic example of the value of the helicopter in a desperate situation occurred in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in February 1972. Fire engulfed a 25-story building. Occupants fled to the roof, far above the reach of ground rescue and fire-fighting equipment. In six hours, operating in daylight and darkness, sometimes with flames all but surround-

ing them, 11 civilian and military helicopters safely evacuated the 450 people who made it to the rooftop heliport.

In 1972 violent earthquakes hit Los Angeles and Managua, Nicaragua. Only helicopters could perform the rescue, evacuation, medical and supply missions in these situations — and they did.

The life-saving records established by the helicopter in combat are unmatched in history. Today in the United States, where more than 50,000 people are killed on our highways each year, some states (notably Maryland and Illinois) have developed similar emergency medical rescue systems. The Military Assistance to Traffic and Safety (MAST) program plays the same vital life-saving role in other areas.

Helicopters also serve industry, agriculture, law enforcement agencies and the community in a multitude of non-emergency roles. But despite its great capability for serving man, especially in its role of hero in times of distress and disaster, the helicopter often is a forgotten or resented machine after the children are found, the snows are cleared or the waters recede. It deserves more — civic support in the form of convenient heliports and helistops at hospitals, airports, in city centers and in the suburbs.

● Congressman  
● Hawkins  
● Column  
By REP. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS

## Legal Aid For Poor

Imagine that you are an American earning about \$4,000 a year. Your car, which you need in your job, is about to be repossessed because you have missed a payment. The loan company, which owns the pink slip on your automobile says that you are now delinquent in your payments and therefore they intend to take ownership of your car. What would you do in this case? Would you hire a lawyer? Or would you regard this as a luxury not available to you because of your low income?

The fact is that legal assistance would be available to you and also to other low income people who have problems requiring legal services.

THE LEGAL SERVICES program of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) has been a considerably active factor in the legal professional community since 1965. Its track record is phenomenal in terms of legal service that it has rendered to the poor and also in terms of cases won in court.

OEO's Legal Services program provides support in non-criminal matters to persons unable to afford such assistance. Last year for example, according to OEO, Legal Services served one million clients. Of these clients, the following case percentages are an important factor in describing their services:

- 42 percent of their cases concerned domestic relations and family problems
- 18 percent of their cases concerned consumer relations and employment problems
- 10.5 percent were concerned with housing
- 9 percent were concerned with the administration of governmental welfare programs
- 20 percent of their cases involved juvenile offenses, school problems, and miscellaneous matters

THE ATTORNEYS involved in Legal Services programs are primarily interested in resolving client problems without becoming involved in litigation. They therefore attempt to handle as many client problems as possible through advisement, consultation, negotiations, and lastly, if these fail, through litigation.

OEO statistics reveal that 83 per cent of the matters handled by Legal Services attorneys last year, were disposed of without litigation. OEO statistics also indicates that when Legal Services lawyers go to court, they win some 85 per cent of their cases, if the cases are concluded in court.

SIGNIFICANT accomplishments cited by Legal Services people are the elimination of welfare's "man-in-the-house" rule and residency requirements for receiving welfare assistance, the establishment of tenants' rights in public and private housing, reduced illegal border crossings thus aiding justice for migrants and farm workers, the requirement of the enforcement of minimum wage legislation, the requiring of the Department of Agriculture to feed hungry people as required by law in the utilization of surplus food stamp program.

Some of these cases were won through the use of class action suits. The class action suit can be initiated when a Legal Services attorney decides that a large population body is negatively affected by a law, or the interpretation of a law, or the use of an administrative ruling which changes the meaning of the law.

CLASS ACTION suits are not very popular with some government units and this is understandable. It has resulted in Legal Services programs coming under severe fire for using this method of achieving legal redress for the poor. In fact, some people want to see all Legal Services programs discontinued.

A new bill, recently passed by the House, the Legal Services Corporation Act, seeks to continue the good work of the Legal Services program, and to also provide high quality legal services to those currently unable to afford such assistance.

The bill is quite limiting in how a Legal Services attorney can serve (his client and not be accused of lobbying, politicking, serving) an intelligible client, "accepting fees for private gain" in some of his actions.

YES, WE ALL TALK  
By  
Marcus H. Boulware, Ph.D.

## The Speaker's Stance

QUESTION: In playing certain athletic games, the players must get in certain postures or stances. Can we in any way apply this principle to a public speaker? — Mrs. T. L. F.

ANSWER: When the speaker walks onto the restrum or podium up to the speaker's stand, or lectern, he is ready to begin delivering his address.

Public speaking requires concentration very much like hitting a baseball. The batter... has to be sharply alert every muscle and nerve in high coordination. Likewise, the effective speaker must feel his body and brain move into high gear.

THIS MOVING into "high gear", then, is not something

for you to fear. Rather should it be regarded as an advantage when properly used. The only danger lies in becoming so tense that you will not adequately express yourself.

Mrs. Mary McCloud Bethune, a black orator, once said that when she stepped to the speaker's stand, she uttered a brief prayer and asked God to put words into her mouth. And when she did so, she became completely relaxed.

READERS: For my free pamphlet on Stage Fright, send two stamps and a long, self-addressed business envelope to M. H. Boulware, Florida A & M University, Box 193, Tallahassee Florida — 32307

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