

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

**The Black Press—
Our Freedom Depends
On It!**

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

Words of Wisdom

The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.
—Spencer

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BLACK APPOINTED TO CABINET POST IN N.C.

**Former Mayor
Of Chapel Hill
Is State's First**

Parole Is Denied Joanne Little

RALEIGH (CCNS)—Howard N. Lee, the first Black to be appointed to a cabinet post in North Carolina government. Lee's appointment was announced Thursday, December 16 by Governor-elect James Hunt. Also appointed to cabinet positions were Joseph Grimsley, to be Secretary of the N.C. Department of Administration and Dr. Sarah T. Morrow as Secretary of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

Hunt promised Black voters, as did all major candidates in the democratic gubernatorial primary, to include at least one Black in a cabinet level position. Lee, an unsuccessful candidate for the democratic lieutenant governor nomination, had been widely discussed as Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, one of the largest departments in State Government.

Lee, well poised and flanked by Hunt, Grimsley, Dr. Morrow and his wife, Mrs. Lillian Lee, in a modest speech said he was "committing myself to do the best possible job I can to support Governor-elect Hunt, the ideas he has set forth and the principles that he espoused in the campaign."

Whether Lee will have a free hand in choosing the deputy secretaries and division heads in the Department of Natural and Economic Resources (NER) was not made clear by Governor-elect Hunt. Hunt was questioned by reporters as to whether Lee would have final word on choices for a deputy secretary if the two of them differed on Lee's choices. Hunt quipped, "I'll just say to you that we'll work that thing out and we'll come to agreement together as to who the best person is."

Hunt's response to the reporter's questions was drowned out by laughter by the seventy-five persons attending the announcement ceremony, including Lieutenant Governor-elect James Green, who defeated Lee in the September 14 runoff for the democratic nomination for Lt. Governor.

The Department of NER has seven divisions and twenty

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HELPING HANDS AND HEARTS

Members of the Bull City Elks Youth Council are shown with a check for \$50 and a basket of food that was presented to Mrs. Elizabeth Jones and Mrs. Mattie Knox whose home was recently burned. The youths raised the money by selling two-year calendars. Shown with them are Assistant N.C. State Youth Director Bro. Melvin Parker, Directress Dgt. P.S.P. Catherine G. Leslie and Bro. Neal Leslie. Not shown Bro. Charlie Tomlin and P.G.D.R. Olean Davis.

(The Carolina Times Photo by Ken Edmonds)

Breakthrough...A Booking Agency?

By Warren D. Blackshear
Unable to obtain enough local matching funds, Operation Breakthrough will bypass the minimal proceeds normally received from sales and yard sales to speculate on booking top name entertainment to raise \$200,000 for projects to help the area's poor population.

The City's anti-poverty agency board of trustees at the December 16 meeting approved a Concert Budget Proposal to raise local funds to match their share of federal funds to fight poverty.

While the proposal was recommended by the Administrative Committee, the project's chief exponent was Fred McNeill, executive director. The project, as presented to the trustees, would cost \$25,750 in advance to gross a total of \$96,000. The gross amount was based on spending \$32,500 to book the "hottest

entertainment act possible" which would fill Greensboro Coliseum's 16,000 seats at ticket prices between \$6 and \$9, McNeill said.

Operation Breakthrough would net \$47,640 for local match money according to the proposal. The net amount of funds could be increased to about \$200,000, McNeill said, if they held an outdoor concert in Duke University's football stadium. The director indicated that his figures were obtained from Robert Reader of Global Productions, a New Jersey booking agency.

Although the proposal was approved by a substantial margin, some of the directors questioned the wisdom of this speculative fund raising approach.

Responding to the legitimacy of using federal funds in this manner, McNeill said that he had consulted with officials and had received

assurances that general funds could be used for such a project.

One board member told the group how another organization he was affiliated with "lost their shirts" promoting an entertainment act. McNeill countered saying that when his fraternity Omega Psi Phi decided not to speculate on a similar fund raising venture, they missed making a huge profit which went to the promoters of the affair.

Several members of the board were concerned about how this type of fund raising activity would affect the agency's image. To this a female member of the administrative committee replied "if the county and city don't see fit to support us, we should seek another source" for local funds.

The net proceeds from the project, if any, will be used to provide Operation Breakthrough's share to match the federal dollars they will receive. According to McNeill, the agency has to raise more than \$500,000 for the current budget year.

The local matching funds this year is 40% of the total budget, whereas, last year, the agency was only required to

Breakthrough Coordinator Quits Post

Prior to the adjournment of last Thursday's board meeting, Charlie Hedgepeth, coordinator of Operation Breakthrough's youth program, resigned effective, January 4, 1977.

Her resignation was announced to the board when she read a seven page statement criticizing members of the ad-

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OFFERED JOB BY CATHOLIC DIOCESE IN VA.

RALEIGH (CCNS) — A plan to parole Joanne Little to live and work under the direction of the Catholic Diocese of Virginia fell through Friday, December 17 after Ms. Little disclosed that plans submitted by her to live and work in North Carolina had been rejected and that she accepted a plan to go to Virginia only to get out of prison.

Jack Scism, Chairman of the N.C. Parole Commission said plans proposed by Ms. Little to live in eastern North Carolina, especially Washington, (N.C.) were rejected by the Commission because, "I do not believe it would be very satisfactory either for her or for the community because her case has received so much publicity and there is resentment in that community on the part of some people." Scism said that if Joanne were in eastern North Carolina, every day her presence "would lead to some harassment and create problems for her and make it difficult for her to succeed on parole."

Joanne, interviewed at Women's Prison in Raleigh the day before denial of parole, said that she didn't want to leave her native North Carolina but she had no choice. Initially she

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COL. HARVEY WILLIAMS

Durhamite Selected For Promotion to Brig. Gen'l

Colonel Harvey D. Williams was recently selected by Department of the Army for promotion to the rank of Brigadier General. He is married to the former Miss Mary E. Glenn, of Rougemont, and is the son of the late Matthew D. Williams and Mrs. Addie M. Williams, 1603 Fayetteville Street, Durham.

Colonel Williams is a graduate of Hillside High School (class of '46), West Virginia State College and holds advanced degrees from George Washington University. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal, 5 Air Medals, and 4 Army Commendation Medals.

On Health Care For Poor

Medical Society Prexy Requests Carter Confab

If you're a Southerner, poor, or black, you'll be sick more, stay in bed longer because of illness, and die sooner than the rest of the people of the United States.

According to a task force created by Dr. George Debnam of Raleigh, president of the Old North State Medical Society, one of your problems is that you can't find a doctor as easily as others can. The doctors don't live where you live.

The infant mortality rate for the nation is 23.0 deaths for each 1,000 live births. For the South, the rate is 25.7. For Southern rural areas it is 27.8 and for rural Southern blacks it is 45.0, according to a 1975 report by the Southern Regional Council.

Each year, 9.3 per cent of the population dies across the nation. For the South, the figure is 9.4, for the rural South 10.4 and for rural Southern blacks 11.2. The average amount of restricted activity due to illness across the nation is 16.8 days a year. In Southern inner-cities, the figure is 19.1 days, and in the rural South it is 19.4 days.

Across the nation, there are 133 physicians for every 100,000 people. In the South there are only 103 physicians for every 100,000 people. And in Southern rural counties there are only 60 physicians for every 100,000 people.

Physician populations fall with the income of the population. In counties where there is high poverty, the number of physicians available may be as low as 44 per 100,000.

Doctors don't live in those counties because they didn't grow up there. And until more black men and women, more sons and daughters of the South and its poor families, are trained as physicians, your ability to find a doctor will be limited, Dr. Charles D. Watts, says.

Dr. Watts is chairman of a Task Force on Community Information formed by the Old North State Medical

Society. The society is predominantly black and is the oldest such group in the nation, formed in North Carolina in 1896.

Other members of the task force are Dr. George C. Debnam, President, Old North State Medical Society, Raleigh; Dr. John Holt, President-elect, Asheville; Dr. W. T. Armstrong, Secretary-Treasurer, Rocky Mount; Dr. R. E. Dawson, Durham; and Dr. J. P. Green, Henderson.

Black students and the children of the poor may have more ability to work as physician than do some of the students now in medical school. The black and the poor face three major barriers to medical training.

The first barrier is a lack of information. Black student and students from poor families don't know that they can become doctors. And they're often pointed in the wrong direction by well-meaning counselors.

"When that youngster takes that course in business mathematics (instead of algebra) in junior high school, he has stepped onto a track that leads to a technical institute. He or she won't be a doctor. The technical institutes train medical technicians and practical nurses, not doctors."

"I'm not saying that medical technicians and practical nurses aren't needed. They are. But the youngster who has the ability to face the training period required of a physician should be told that he can be a doctor," says Dr. Watts.

Dr. Watts and other members of the Old North State Medical Society, men and women who have themselves passed rigid barriers to become physicians, engage in strenuous efforts to pass the work to their potential successors.

They advise premedical and health careers clubs at colleges and universities.