

In Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Seven



LET'S

UNITE!

EDITORIALS

Roland Hayes

The death of Roland Hayes, pioneer international concert tenor, whose dedication, hard work and determination aided him to overcome many barriers of poverty and prejudice, will bring a sadness to many persons. This talented young black singer was rebuffed by the manager of the Boston Symphony in 1920 who brutally informed Hayes that no one of his race would ever be accepted in music. This particular manager's name has long since been long in the misty memories of numerous yesterdays. But Mr. Hayes, who sang Lieder and folk songs in English, French, Italian and Afro-American religious folk songs gained international fame and acclaim with the outpouring of his music. However, like many other outstanding black artists who have since followed him Hayes went to Europe and was highly acclaimed. He sang in London, Paris and for Queen Mary and King George V in Buckingham Palace. He also became acquainted with such musical greats as Paderewski, Rachmaninoff, Casals and Kreisler. Hayes' overseas accomplishments and high successes made Boston Symphony hire him for thirty concerts the

first season and 125 concerts the next season. In the years that followed, Roland Hayes appeared with the Philadelphia, Detroit, and New York Symphonies. Over the years, Mr. Hayes received many awards and citations, including eight honorary degrees, inclusion in Who's Who in Colored America in 1928-29 and the noted Spingarn Medal for the most outstanding achievement among blacks in 1925. Perhaps the most notable highlight of his 75th anniversary was his performance at Carnegie Hall in 1962 at which time the audience rose, to sing "Happy Birthday" to him. The contributions made by this outstanding concert tenor whose hard work, diligence to the task and firm determination to succeed in spite of the many obstacles can and will provide incentive and motivation for other aspiring musicians throughout the ages. (Editor's Note: Mr. Charles Harris, well known Durham pianist, was accompanist for Roland Hayes for many years. Mrs. Africa Hayes Lambe, his daughter, was a music instructor at NCCU for several years.)

Erroll Garner

Erroll Garner, famous jazz pianist and composer who made his debut at the age of seven, died of a heart attack last Sunday. Garner was frequently described as one of the world's most distinguished jazz musicians and composers. He had many best selling records and albums. Garner had performed in France, Switzerland and other European countries as well as in Hawaii, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Along with these performances, he performed with the major Symphony orchestras including National Symphony Orchestra, Washington; Honolulu Symphony, Louisville, Detroit, and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras.

Among the more than 200 compositions credited to him are such songs as "Misty", "Dreamy", "Solitaire", "Dreamstreet", "That's My Kick", and "Feeling is Believing". Many honors came to Garner for his outstanding works. They included American Federation of Music Keys to various cities, Errol Garner Days proclaimed by Mayors of Pittsburgh, (him home town) and Indianapolis; Man of the Year in Music, 1966; the Pittsburgh Press Club, at its 90th Founders' Day Dinner in 1972; The Republic of Mali issued a postage stamp in his honor in 1971 and the Grand Prix Du Disque, French Academy of Arts and many other awards and honors.

Moynihan At It Again

It should certainly come as no surprise to note that Daniel Patrick Moynihan has demeaned all of Africa's leadership with a parting shot as Ambassador to the United Nations. Most black Americans surely must remember and should not forget his avowed philosophy of "Benign Neglect" for black advancement which he coined and advocated during the Nixon administration and apparently was carried throughout the Ford adminis-

tration as well. It is hoped that Moynihan, as he takes his seat in Congress, will pursue with equal vigor equality and dignity for all men. It is hoped that there are those in Congress who will call it to his attention if he has a lapse of memory. Benign neglect in this day and time should have no place in our nation just as shots at emerging African nations should have no place with any ambassadors.

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who propose to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the oceans majestic waves without the awful roar of its waters."

- Frederick Douglass

Benjamin L. Hooks

"Big Government"

For nearly four-and-one half years I have been a member of the Federal Communications Commission. I have been carrying within me a nagging sense of a doubt. You know the feeling. It is one that says you ought to believe what a good number of people are saying - many whom you respect and admire - but somehow deep in your guts you just can't reconcile what they say with what you perceive to be the truth. It is uncomfortable; but wishing won't make the sense of guilt brought on by doubt, go away. At some point it must be dealt with.

That is how I have been feeling about charges that "Big Government" is responsible for most of the "mess" in Washington. That "Big Government" is growing bigger, fatter, less responsive to the will of the people, thus the rising disillusionment and the public feeling that the only way to straighten things out is to break up "Big Government" and start again from square one.

Once you accept the assumption that "Big Government" is all the bad things that happen in our lives, that it is a Dr. Frankenstein's monster, of our creation that is now turning with malevolent fury on its creator, threatening to destroy us, it is very easy to take that additional mental step and say, "let's do it in before it does us in."

But, I could never buy the first assumption so I certainly would never arrive at the conclusion. Too many things I see with my own eyes here at the Commission, for example, kept getting in the way of "the truth" of the "Big Government" charges.

For example, the FCC is mandated by Congress to regulate the communications industry of this vast and prosperous country of ours. But to implement this massive responsibility the FCC has never employed more than 2,100 people, and its annual budget last year - the highest in its history - was a paltry \$51 million.

The men and women who work for the FCC must deal with vast, powerful corporate entities, for instance, AT&T, that hire millions, with billions of dollars in capital outlay, many more multi-millions in operating capital and billions in assets.

The paperwork that flows through this small but important agency would boggle the mind of even the most sophisticated bureaucratic paper shuffler. And determined efforts on the part of the Commission to eliminate some of it, invariably ends in frustrated failure.

For much of the paperwork, is essential to our regulatory function: there are forms, contracts, petitions, licenses, etc., that simply cannot be eliminated. Attempts to modify them often end in more rather than less influx. But we are still working at it and some day this work may pay off.

But the prodigious amount of work this small work force must put out just to stay abreast of issues, events and problems in the burgeoning industry called communications - which is one of a country's most important - sends the mind reeling.

So when I hear the talk from so many in the public sector about "Big Government, fat,

irrespective" etc., I simply can't reconcile it with my pragmatic everyday hectic existence here at the Commission.

And now comes substantive support in the form of a well researched speech delivered by Gary Hart, US Senator (D, Colo.) made before the Western Electronic Manufacturers' Assn., earlier this year.

Senator Hart presents a reasoned analysis of the "Big Government" charges, complete with a huge array of facts and statistics that even the most impassioned believer of the "Big Government" charges will have to take note.

His essential theme is that the public belief that "Big Government" bloated with ever growing numbers of federal bureau workers, expanding, creating a mess in Washington and in the daily lives of our citizens, imposing ruinous taxes etc., is illusory.

His conclusions that the real villains are states and local governments which have expanded like mad in the past three decades, that most of the Federal government workers are employed in social welfare (medicaid) and social security (taking care of the elderly) and on the local level most employees are in local schools (more than 11.7 million) and in protection (firemen and police) are bound to create gasps of astonishment.

So is his assessment that the real villain springs from citizens' - all of our attitudes and expectations. (NNPA) "HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR"

FCC Commissioner



To Be Equal

Choices For The New Year

1977 will be a crucial year. It begins with the country in a seemingly intractable recession that's a major Depression for poor people and for black people, and with a new Administration entering office whose every move will be scrutinized for hints of how it will deal with the nation's problems.

President-elect Carter has said that even before his inauguration he will announce his plans for getting the economy back on the right track. The basic decision revolves around what sort of stimulus the economy needs.

Everyone, regardless of the ideological tag worn, believes some sort of stimulus is needed. Production is way below what it should be, unemployment is rising from an intolerably high base, and public and private needs are going unmet.

That's why many are advocating a hefty tax cut. The idea is that cutting taxes will put money in people's pockets and get them spending again, leading to higher production levels and more employment.

That's a tidy package. The only trouble with it is that it is wrong.

A tax cut would be a wrong decision for several reasons. First, experience shows that people don't spend their tax cuts, which often amount to only a few dollars a week anyway in the average paycheck. After the last tax cut, the savings rate rose sharply, and that doesn't lead to more production or more jobs.

Second, a tax cut would go to those who

need it least. People who are jobless, who are poor or near-poor, would not benefit at all.

Third, whatever stimulus a tax cut brings to the economy takes a long, long time to show itself. The full economic impact of a tax cut is not seen for many months while sharply targeted direct government spending can boost the economy immediately.

Fourth, and far from least, it would be unconscionable to cut taxes at a time when public needs are so great. How can taxes be cut when teachers are being laid off, city health facilities closed down, and public transportation systems deteriorating? In the face of unmet public needs and growing unemployment, it would be a tragic mistake to add to the enormous budget deficit by cutting taxes, thus reducing the very revenues the government needs to do its job properly.

The way to get the economy moving again is through a program of job-creation that avoids the tortured indirect, inefficient mechanism of a tax cut. Immediate federal spending on public works programs and public service employment should do the trick.

Last September Congress voted a \$2 billion public works program designed to create jobs. This month it was reported that applications for 25,000 projects from state and local governments amounting to \$24 billion had already been received by the agency in charge of disbursing those funds. And those applications are still pouring in!

By VERNON E. JORDAN  
Executive Director,  
National Urban League



That's just one indication of the huge demand for schools, libraries, stadiums, bridges, sewer systems, and other necessities. And those projects aren't ones dreamed up by Washington bureaucrats, they're projects being asked for by local governments on behalf of their citizens.

While such public works programs are construction-oriented, public service jobs are not. The limited number of such jobs now available show that there is work to be done, that people can be hired to do it, that the costs are low since the newly-hired workers pay taxes and don't require capital expenditures in the form of machinery to support their jobs, and finally, that there's an important ripple effect. This consists of added jobs in the private sector through the need to produce goods and services for people once out of work and now spending their paychecks.

In addition, broad programs to hire and train out-of-work youth, along with carefully considered subsidy programs to enable private industry to hire and train more workers are called for.

With people who call themselves conservatives now calling for \$15 and \$20 billion in tax cuts, it makes more fiscal and human sense to put that money into programs that put people directly to work. President-elect Carter's decision on this choice - tax cut or job-creation - will shape the basic outlook for this Administration.

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**  
by  
**KENYON C. BURKE**

**VICTORY IN BOSTON**

ramifications are not to be taken lightly. access to medically supervised abortion does bring about significant health advantages to individuals and their families.

Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision gave legal sanction to abortion, the maternal death rate and infant mortality rates have materially declined. Any attempt to interfere with a woman's right to personally make a choice on this crucial matter would reverse that trend.

The price of illegal abortion in the days preceding the Supreme Court's abortion decision, was paid in the

currency of a woman's dignity, a woman's health and even a woman's life.

Though many paid the price, none paid it more often and more cruelly than minority groups and the poor. More than nine out of 10 of those who died at the hands of incompetent practitioners in the days before abortion was legal, were black and Spanish speaking.

The 17 year old black girl from the Boston ghetto who sought the services of Dr. Edelin had every right to expect a medically safe, legal and dignified abortion. What kind of sense does it make to confine her and all those in her situation to risk of injury and danger from backyard butchering?

The compassionate and soft-spoken Dr. Edelin was thrust to the center stage of a serious controversial issue as victim and villain. Although not initially a crusader or activist, he has demonstrated warmth, conviction and inner strength under great duress.

He is an outstanding physician who had been grievously wronged. We look upon his acquittal not only as a vindication of a miscarriage of justice, but as victory for those concerned with improving the quality of life for all people alike. (NNPA).

The Carolina Times

L. E. AUSTIN  
Editor - Publisher, 1927-1971

Published every Thursday (dated Saturday) at Durham, N. C., by United Publishers, Incorporated. Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3825, Durham, North Carolina 27702. Office located at 436 East Pettigrew Street, Durham, North Carolina 27701. Second Class Postage Paid at Durham, North Carolina 27702.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One year, \$8.50 (plus \$0.34 sales tax for North Carolina residents). Single copy, \$0.20. Postal regulations REQUIRE advanced payment on subscriptions. Address all communications and make all checks and money orders payable to THE CAROLINA TIMES.

National Advertising Representative: Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., 45 West 45th Street, New York, New York 10036.

Member: United Press International Photo Service, National Newspaper Publishers Association, North Carolina Black Publishers Association, Carolina Community News Service.

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Things You Should Know

Dr. Charles Victor  
**ROMAN**

1864 -  
BORN IN WILLIAMSBURG, VA. HE TOOK HIS EARLY SCHOOLING IN CANADA. IN 1880, HE RECEIVED HIS MD DEGREE FROM MARYLAND. HE DID HIS ADVANCED WORK IN LONDON, ENGLAND AND IS REMARKABLE IN HIS VERSATILITY. HE WAS REWARDED AS A PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR OF A SAVINGS BANK, MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSN. (AND EDITOR OF THEIR JOURNAL), AND AUTHOR OF BOOKS ON MEDICINE, RELIGION, ETHICS AND SOCIOLOGY.