

# Man Reports Being Held As Slave In Benson

[Continued From Page 1] with time out for lunch and dinner if Quill and the others would eat it. Everyone worked without exception. It was work all day at a steady pace.

Breakfast he said consisted of "hominy grits with grease and sometimes a piece of sausage the size of your little finger." "For lunch they would give us bread with some kind of cheese spread that you could hardly eat. Most of the time I didn't. Then dinner would be chitterlings which sometimes had port worms (hook worms)," Quill explained.

Asked how he survived farm labor for long hours each day without eating, Quill said, "The only thing I had was wine which Wilson charged us \$2 a pint." A pint of wine in most stores is sold for approximately ninety cents.

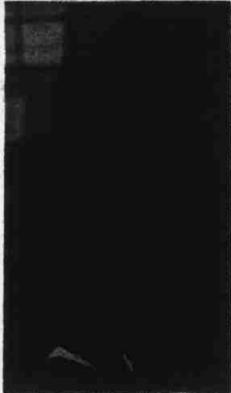
Quill said that he couldn't leave the camp because "Frank Wilson Jr., had said that he would kill anyone that tried to." Wilson's brother, Quill reported, was convicted for peonage in Florida.

On one occasion Quill said that one of the workers from Durham left the camp early one morning and caught a ride for a few miles. He was put out

of the car at a rural intersection only to face a .38 calibre revolver, be brought back to the camp, taken in the woods and whipped.

Quill says that everyone in the camp was afraid of the Wilsons, who have gained the reputation of being the most ruthless crew leaders operating on the east seaboard. Black or white. The Wilsons are five brothers and father who have operated labor camps for some time.

One of the most depressing aspects of Quill's story is that for his labor he nor the



QUILL

others, so far as he knows got paid for their labor. Quill said that he was told by one of the workers that travel from state to state harvesting crops that "one evening when the wine would be passed out, everybody would get drunk and the next morning the Wilsons would be gone (without paying the workers)."

Quill despite his fear of death, stole away from the camp one morning before sunrise, "and I hid in the woods until everyone had gone in the fields to work, then walked for several miles in the deep ditches so they would not find me." Several days later Quill arrived in Durham, where he has been unable to get medical assistance or disability payments resumed.

According to William Shipes, Director of the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Quill's story is not unusual and almost identical to a man that filed a complaint with Shipes office two years ago against Ivey Wilson. He said "there are a lot of good people that get caught in a bind and are

easy prey for the crew bosses like Wilson." He continued, "We still don't know how many people are being held against their will in these camps."

Shipes said that many of the recruits for the labor camps come from labor-pick-up zones in Durham, Raleigh and other cities.

Asked why workers held against their will do not make complaints against crew leaders Shipes said "they are just afraid. Many just move on and never say a word because they are lucky to be alive."

But not so with Quill who came to The Carolina Times to tell the story "because we need to do something about this kind of thing so it can be done away with." He said that he is going to file a formal complaint with the FBI.

According to Shipes and Hosea Fernandez, North Carolina Director of the Wage and Hour Law Division of the U. S. Department of Labor, the FBI is the only agency that can investigate and make charges against those responsible for Quill's peonage.

## Personality Of The South

Clifton P. Jones of Chapel Hill has been listed in the 1976

Bicentennial Memorial Edition of Personalities of the South. Jones is president of the American Arthritis Association Inc., and a Library Assistant at the Health Sciences Library of the University of North Carolina.

Jones is an elected supervisor and vice chairman of the Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District. He is a member of the Chapel Hill Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

A former officer of the Orange County LBJ Young Democratic Club Jones was vice chairman of N. C. Citizens for Humphrey in 1968. He is married to the former Miss Clara Baldwin of Chapel Hill and the father of four children. He is a member of St. Joseph's CME Church.



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS FOR ZAFRA TEMPLE NO. 176 - THEY ARE (above from left to right) Charles Hughes, Second Ceremonial Master; Edward Cummings, High Priest & Prophet; Wallace Hinton, Captain of the Guard; A. R. Thompson, Sr., Recorder; Exter Gilmore, Sr., Promotional Director; Donnie Patterson, Jr., First Ceremonial Master; George W. Carrington, Sr., Treasurer; and

Alex Bullock, Sr., Marshall. BELOW (from left to right) are Ernest R. Johnson, Imperial Deputy of the Oasis; Joseph Gooch, Chief Rabbi; Charles B. Noel, Potentate; and Willie L. Hill, Assistant Rabbi; officers not pictured are: Robert Thomas, Oriental Guide and James Harrington, Outer Guard.

## Wm. J. Kennedy, III To Keynote Awards Banquet

William J. Kennedy, III, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company will deliver the keynote

address at the annual awards banquet of the Durham Business and Professional Chain. Awards will be presented to four area business for their impressive accomplishments during recent years. The Booker T. Washington Blue Ribbon Award will be presented to the Oxford Business and Professional Chain in recognition of its exemplary efforts to promote minority business development.

A Durham native, Kennedy attended Durham City Schools. He is a graduate of Virginia State College. He received a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Pennsylvania and a Masters in Business Administration (finance and investments) from New York University. He is a member of the Board of Trustees at White Rock Baptist Church.

Some of Kennedy's business affiliations include being a member of the North Carolina Society of Financial Analysts; member of the Board of Directors and Chairman, Urban National Corporation, Boston, Mass.; member of the Board of Directors of Mechanics and Farmers Bank; RCA Corporation, New York, NY; The American Council of Life Insurance, Washington, DC; National Broadcasting Company, New York, NY; and UDI-Community Development Corporation.

Kennedy is active in many civic, educational and religious endeavors. He is also a member of Wharton School Board of Overseers, University of Pennsylvania; member of University of North Carolina Order of the Tar Heel One Hundred; member of the Board of Visitors Duke University Graduate School of Business; Adhoc Member Triangle Universities Center for Advanced Studies in Chapel Hill. He is a member of Board of Directors and Chairman of North Carolina Central University Foundation, Inc., member of Board of Directors N. C. 4-H Development Fund, Inc. member of Board of Directors, YMCA, Durham; member of Durham Business and Professional Chain; member of Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People; members of Kiwanis Club of Tobaccoland, Inc., member NAACP and member and director of Durham Chamber of Commerce. Kennedy is married to the former Miss Alice C. Copeland. They are the parents of one son, William J. IV. The annual banquet will be held on Feb. 25 in the W. G. Pearson Dining Hall on the campus of North Carolina Central University.

W. J. KENNEDY, III

## Marie Hill Denied Chance At Commutation

RALEIGH (CCNS) - Marie Hill, 24, serving a life sentence for the murder of a Rocky Mount merchant, was not selected to serve Governor and Mrs. Hunt in their mansion. This privilege usually results in commutation of sentence at the end of a governor's term of office. An honor grade inmate, Ms. Hill reportedly was the only inmate serving a life sentence at the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women (NCCCW) who was not chosen to serve the governor.

Ms. Hill's 1969 trial and convictions raised protests from civil rights groups against the circumstantial evidence upon which her conviction was based and her initial sentence to die in the gas chamber. Ms. Hill, Black and from a poor family was then 16 years of age. That sentence was later changed to life following the historic march to the state penitentiary, which brought thousands of Blacks to encamp in the city for several weeks. According to sources, Kathy Stokes and Launa Greene who are both serving life sentences at NCCCW for murder, were selected to serve at the mansion. Superintendent Louis Powell would not verify whether the two white women had been chosen for the work assignment which is approved by the Area Central Classification Committee (CCC).

## State Corrections Head Appointed

RALEIGH (CCNS) - Amos Reed, a former top corrections official in Oregon and Florida has accepted the post of Secretary of Corrections. He was appointed to the post by Governor James Hunt following visits to Raleigh's Central Prison, a maximum security unit, and several youth development centers. Reed, 61, described his duties as being in "a most difficult arena" citing overcrowding as the most pressing problem facing his tenure. North Carolina's system built to hold 10,000 inmates, currently houses over 13,000. Hunt has said that he would build temporary housing for inmates until permanent structures can be built. Reed is expected to carry out those plans.

Asked whether he would recognize the 5,000 member N. C. Prisoner's Labor Union and allow it to have meetings in the prisons, Reed said that he would comply with a court order to allow the Union to hold meetings in the prisons but is not in favor of having inmates unions in the prisons. The North Carolina Prisoner's Labor Union is not a Labor Union, but an association of prisoners, which the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina says has the right to meet in prisons the same as other groups. Outgoing Secretary of Corrections David L. Jones has denied the inmate union the right to hold meetings in the state's 77 prisons. The prisoner's labor union has made several suggestions for change in prison policy to former Corrections head David L. Jones. Reed admits that "some of the best ideas come from inmates" but continues to warn that ideas from inmates "can be taken too far." "The staff of a prison must run the system," Reed continued. "There are all kinds of ways that the staff and inmates can feed into the decision making process." If Reed puts into practice such involvement of inmates policy making, it should be fairly visible within the next few months because he said that he is "a great believer in structure" within organizations. He did not say how inmates would be involved in the structure of the prison system's operations. Hunt said that he was fascinated with Reed after he met with him for four hours. "If you can spend 4 hours with him you'll come away thinking



REED

he feels "the legislature will provide for the needs of the state, it always has and always will." The past two Corrections heads have had little cooperation from the General Assembly in getting appropriations for inmate services. The primary emphasis of the system has been holding inmates securely without programs for their rehabilitation. Whether that will be the continued focus desired by the present General Assembly and what programs will be proposed by Reed and Hunt are yet to be seen. he feels "the legislature will provide for the needs of the state, it always had and always will."

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