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The Carolina Times

"THE TRUTH UNBRIDGED"

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Words of Wisdom

If brilliant men had always kept both feet on the ground, we wouldn't be living in an air age. —*Mary Alkus*

WOOD CUTTING VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED

While there has been a tremendous outpouring of contributions of labor, materials and money to the Emergency Energy project, help is still needed to satisfy the backlog of 250 calls for wood to heat the homes of the needy.

When The Carolina Times went to press this week, we were informed by Clemon Baines, Operation Breakthrough Community Services Coordinator, whose office receives the requests, that the supply of wood is quickly exhausted because of the extremely cold weather this area has been experiencing.

Officials of the emergency wood gathering program all report a great outpouring of community support in time, money and materials.

Dr. C. E. Boulware reported that contributions exceeded the initial goal of $10,000. As of last Wednesday, almost $16,000 had been received. Again the extremely bad weather has caused the program to double its original goal and it is well on the way to achieving it.

The wood cutting being carried out in Duke Forest also has had its share of volunteer effort. Ernest O. Griffin, Jr., Forest Superintendent, reported that about 75 truckloads of wood had been cut when the forest was closed on Wednesday.

Volunteers can report daily at the forest any day between 10:30 a.m., until it closes at 5 p.m., Griffin said. Some bring their own chain saws and others use those made available by Aldridge Power Mower in Durham. Each day the firm donates the use of eight saws, fuel and sometimes, John Woody, owner and his personnel work in the cutting wood, Griffin reported.

Although the project operates primarily with inexperienced help, there are some experienced personnel on hand. Robert Bell, who has been with Duke Forest for 24 years, and L.D.Smith were working along with and helping volunteers when this

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WOOD CUTTING VOLUNTEERS IN DUKE FOREST LAST WEEK

Wilkins: NAACP Strong Despite Attacks

NEW YORK – It was a weekend that was highlighted by many tributes to Roy Wilkins for his contributions to the age-long quest for equality and human dignity for his people. And for those local leaders from around the country, the annual Freedom Fund Dinner and Meeting were especially poignant, since Wilkins retires on July 31.

Percy Sutton, Borough President of Manhattan, paid tribute during the dinner on behalf of New York City by declaring the 9th day of January, 1977 as "NAACP and Roy Wilkins Day." He noted in the proclamation that the NAACP was "among those organizations and individuals standing very tall in this highly competitive city of giants."

On Monday during the annual meeting, many other persons paid similarly heart-warming tributes to Wilkins for his services as Executive Director for the past 22 years and to the Association since 1931.

In his report on the NAACP at the annual meeting, Wilkins paid a special tribute to Clarence Mitchell, Director of the Washington Bureau, for continuing his "personal policy of never sounding retreat."

As with the other departments, Wilkins noted the highlights of the Bureau's activities during 1976 . Among these, he noted, was the efforts to win passage of the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment bill. The measure floundered, but he predicted that it would be offered again this year.

Wilkins noted that Mitchell successfully fought for the refunding of the Council for Legal Education Opportunities by Congress. Mitchell's action, he said, was taken at the urging of Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson, Chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors.

Other activities by the

MANY MISTAKEN WEBB SAYS . . .

"People Think I'm Giving Out Jobs"

RALEIGH (CCNS) Many North Carolinians looking for jobs have tried to get an appointment to be interviewed by Harold Webb, newly appointed Director of State Personnel. Webb, one of three top level policy making appointees of Governor James Hunt, admits that many have mistaken his role in state government.

"A lot of people think I.m here giving out jobs", the career State employee said. "My area is to develop policy so that people will be employed."

Immediately after Webb's appointment was announced in the news media a close associate said that his Raleigh residence phone was "ringing off the hook" by job seekers that had gotten the word.

Contrary to popular belief, Webb has no power to hire and fire any of the thousands employed in state government, except for those on his immediate staff.

Webb is directly responsible to the Governor and implements policies developed by the State Personnel Commission, which consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Commission classifies employees; develops maximum and minimum salary ranges; minimum qualifications for jobs, hours of work, vacation and sick leave policy; develop policies for employment, demotion, suspension of employees; establishes procedures for investigation of complaints and hearing of appeals of applicants for jobs and employees; hears cases of discrimination; and establishes a recruitment program, including minority recruitment.

Although he can't hire, Webb said that he does send job seekers to the seventeen personnel directors established throughout state government and scattered around the state government complex. Under the rules established by the personnel commission, the several personnel directors are not required to submit to the director of personnel a list of vacancies within their department. That policy has made centrally enforceable affirmative hiring of blacks and minorities a virtual impossibility.

One of Webb's priorities is to get the state's affirmative action program working. "During the previous administration the affirmative action policy was formed. However, a mechanism for carrying out the policy was not formulated," Webb said. He expects a plan to be approved by the State personnel Commission to "tell us where we are now, what program will have to be developed, and how those programs will be evaluated", Webb said.

Until that plan is developed Webb will continue to send job seekers that do get a rare opportunity to get included in his hectic schedule, to the seventeen personnel directors to see if they have jobs available.

Caucus Reports On Hunt Meeting

RALEIGH (CCNS) – Employment of blacks in policy making and non-policy making jobs in state government is the primary objective of the North Carolina Black Democratic Leadership Caucus. Caucus members having met twice with Governor James Hunt requesting implementation of affirmative action hiring and 34 policy-making appointments for blacks, met last weekend at St. Augustine's College for progress reports.

Caucus Chairperson Clarence Lightner, former Mayor of Raleigh, and Representative H. M. Michaux of Durham brought a gloomy report of no blacks being appointed to the Advisory Budget Commission. Michaux said Hunt had promised that a black would be appointed to the important commission, which has never before had a black appointee. The Caucus executive committee sent three names to the Governor, "and the thing that disturbs me most is that we did not know that the Governor was not going to appoint a black until we read it in the paper," Michaux said.

Lightner said that he had talked to the Governor who explained that political pressure to re-appoint three commissioners and to appoint others were great and the Governor said that he could not appoint a black.

When told of the disappointment, many of the caucus members had comments that could not be published. Members agreed to send Hunt a letter expressing the disappointment and requesting that last week's actions not be made a precedent.

Michaux said that black members of the legislature would meet with Hunt on Tuesday to discuss the matter.

Reports were made concerning the number of blacks hired to nearly all state agencies which up to this time have been minimal and token. Some reports gave very detailed data while others were general.

Charlotte City Councilman Harvey Gantt and Clarence Lightner met with Department of Transportation Secretary Tom Bradshaw. Lightner said that Bradshaw wanted to make this department an example of equitable hiring for blacks. A Carolina Community News Service survey of state departments last week showed that of 27 policy-making positions within the Department of Transportation none are held by blacks.

Leo Hadden, chairman of the Second Congressional District Black Caucus, reported that he met with Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, Secretary of The Department of Human Resources, and "talked primarily about non-exempt job." Hadden said that Morrow responded to a question of whether blacks would be hired in policy making jobs with, "she's interested in hiring blacks in the same way whites are hired." The CCNS survey of DHR disclosed that of 27 policy making positions in the state's largest agency, none are held by blacks. Last week six of those positions were open and unfilled.

Dr. Lavonia Allison, Vice-chairperson of the Caucus, reported on a meeting with the "oldest rat in the

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Hunt And Morrow To Increase Med Services

RALEIGH (CCNS) – Governor James Hunt and Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, on separate occasions recently have sought cooperation from major political brokers to implement programs to identify at birth and before, children likely to have 'high risk' medical problems and treat them in their early years.

Dr. Morrow, a licensed physician, formerly a practising physician, appeared before a joint House and Seante meeting of the Human Resources Committee on Wednesday, January 26. Dr. Morrow told legislators, chaired by Dr. Joy Johnson, Robeson County Representative, that she was "interested in curtaining the cost of medical service to present levels while at the same time expanding services." Morrow told the legislators that poverty was a main factor in high risk patients.

Governor Hunt spoke later in the week, on Saturday, January 29, to the N. C. Medical Society, the organization of public and private medical practitioners with the same message.

Surprizingly the group, which receives large federal and state subsidies, applauded the governor.

Morrow and Hunt said that all health defects should be detected and treated before children enter public schools. Morrow said preschool screening programs now already in most counties, should be expanded. Also she said Development Evaluation Clinics would serve as back-up to public health nurses in detection and treatment. Morrow and Hunt said such services would go primarily to poor economically deprived children.

To ensure continuity of services to children entering school already being treated for health defects, and to detect school age youngsters with health defects, Morrow called for coordination between DHR and the N. C. Dept of Public Instruction of already existing services.

Hunt may have his hands full in bringing such coordination. Unlike Morrow who was appointed by Hunt, Craig Phillips, Superintendent of Public Instruction, is elected by popular vote thus having only party ties to the administration. Historically, coordination between agencies with elected heads has been a problem.

While not indicating that the state's doctors were not earning the money they receive, Hunt did say, "Instead of more government spending I want to see more people doing." He said that he wanted to see contributive services increased from $2 billion annually to $4 billion, the amount of the state budget.

Explaining the need in a somewhat argumentative tone, Hunt said, "Too many children reach school stunted and twisted, the cause of which is often malnutrition." To eliminate such conditions, the newly inaugurated governor said, "cooperation between the public and private sector to meet the public's need is a must . . . Doctors should know every child in his county that is a risk."

Hunt left the physicians 'smelling like a rose' to quote one young physician from the state's piedmont. Morrow faired was well despite a somewhat insensitive response to Dr. Joy Johnson concerning the plight of many of the state's poor during the 'so-called' gas crisis.

Dr. Johnson asked if any relief could be made for the state's poor who need fuel to keep warm. Dr. Morrow quipped that the matter could best be dealth with by the Federal Energy Commission allocating more gas for heating to North Carolina, but not by the Department of Human Resources.

N.C. NAACP Leaders To Convene In Charlotte

CHARLOTTE – NAACP Officers and Branch Leaders of the North Carolina State Conference, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will convene in Charlotte, Saturday, February 12 for an all-day meeting focusing attention on: "Civil Rights Employment and the Social Status of Black Americans."

Activities will begin at 10 a.m. at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, with a comprehensive discussion of the internal affairs of the Association. A special feature of the morning sessions will be a presentation of the National NAACP Housing Programs by NAACP's National Housing Director, William Morris of New York City.

John Brooks, Commissioner of Labor, State of North Carolina will address the NAACP leaders during the afternoon session. The afternoon session will also feature Harold Webb, Director, Department of Personnel, State of North Carolina; Harris A. Williams, District Director, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, (EEOC) and Ted Fillette of the Legal Aid Society of Mecklenburg County.

The climax of the days activities will be an NAACP Birthday Dinner, celebrating the 68th birthday of the Association sponsored by the Charlotte - Mecklenburg County Branch of the NAACP. The dinner will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel.

Kelly M. Alexander, Sr., President of the North Carolina State Conference of Branches and Vice-Chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors will preside over the sessions of the Annual NAACP Leadership Meeting.

RUNNING FOR MAYOR — Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton (L) accepts well wishes of N. Y. Nets' basketball star Nate Archibald and his wife, Leatrice, following Sutton's formal launching, Jan. 26th of the first major candidacy by a black to become Mayor of New York City. Sutton, a Democrat who supported Mayor Abraham Beame for election four years ago, promised "a reinvigorated" and "safe" city. (UPI).

Anti- Picketing Being Considered For N. Carolina

RALEIGH (CCNS) – Soon it may be illegal to picket within 500 feet of courthouses and residences of judges, district attorneys, jurors and other court personnel in North Carolina's judicial system.

Representative Harold Park Helms, Democrat of Mecklenburg County introduced the proposal for the North Carolina Judicial Council which represents all levels of state courts.

Chief advocate of the legislation is none other than Superior Court Judge Hamilton Hobgood. Hobgood presided over the Joan Little trial in Raleigh which lasted for six weeks in 1975.

Franklin Freeman, Executive Director of the N. C. Judicial Council said Hobgood received letters from "around two" of the jurors that served on the Little jury panel who thought picketing and demonstrations should be limited around courthouses.

Freeman stated that Hobgood has said that noises from demonstrations heard in the courtroom, and crowds of people that jurors have to go through serve to intimidate the jurors. Freeman said that even if the jurors of the Joan Little trial were brought to the trial in a panel truck, "that in itself would have intimidated the jury."

A statement released by the Judicial Council at the time the bill was introduced read, "to allow such a condition to exist will eventually destroy our judicial system."

A similar proposal was defeated in the last legislature. That proposal was not as restrictive as the present one and had a 100 foot distance requirement. Civil liberties groups that led the attack on the former bill are expected to fight against the present legislation.

Violators of the proposed fine would be subject to $1000 fine or two years imprisonment or both.

NATIONAL NEWS NOTES

BLACK–WHITE UNEMPLOYMENT WIDENS

WASHINGTON – The unemployment rate for black workers – at 13.6 per cent in December - remained stable over the October-December period.

The U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics also reported that the rate for white workers showed an improvement in unemployment, with their rate falling from 7.4 to 7.1 per cent in December.

On a national basis, employment rose in December and unemployment declined. The unemployment rate was 7.9 per cent down from 8.1 per cent in November and similar rates prevailing over the July-October period.

M & F BANK TO GET BUD $'S

ST. LOUIS, MO. – Anheuser-Busch, Inc., has restated and expanded its program of placing company funds in minority financial institutions across the United States, it was announced by August A. Busch, III, president and chief executive officer.

A total of $1,000,000 will be invested during 1977 in 24 banks and 11 savings and loan companies, he said. The investments are in the form of 12-month $25,000 certificates of deposit. In addition, federal income tax payments in excess of $1,000,000 each will be paid exclusively through some 20 institutions that are either minority owned or minority controlled.

In Durham, a federal income tax payment of about $1,000,000 will be made in 1977 at Mechanics and Farmers Bank.