

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fund Exceeds \$15,000

Dear Sir:

The temperature crisis and the resulting suffering on the part of some of our neighbors here in Durham have brought our people of all walks of life together in a combined effort never witnessed by me during my 34 years residence here. I am so humbly grateful to the thousands of people who have heard our appeal for assistance in financial aid and other acts of humane thoughtfulness, especially for those who are in need. At this writing nearly \$16,000 have been contributed to the Emergency Energy Fund, and I am sure that others will give. To our newspapers, radio and TV stations and other means of communication we owe a great debt of gratitude. To the leadership in our churches, Sunday School classes, the Durham Committee, the NAACP, Duke University, the Wood Gathering Volunteers, civic and fraternal clubs and numerous individuals the City of Durham is most grateful for all of the gifts, great and small, which you have given. It is the greatest opportunity we have had in Durham to demonstrate to ourselves, to the unfortunate among us and to the world that the people of Durham do care about the conditions under which our neighbors are forced to live. I know that all of us wish that this effort will continue until at least \$20,000 is reached.

C. E. Boulware

EDITORIAL

Thanks To The Community

The great outpouring of help from the Durham community to aid the elderly and poor during the fuel crises deserves praise and thanks.

From the cutting, storing, and transporting of wood for needed heat in homes of the less fortunate, a deep human interest and concern was exhibited by those working in this community effort. Individuals are still working to provide the needed manpower and womanpower as they continue to cut, transport and store the wood for fuel at pick up points. Remember this has been carried through during the times of coldest weather, from all area reports.

Community groups such as Operation Breakthrough, Social Services, Women-in-Action, Church Councils and Volunteer Services, to name a few, have provided yeoman services as they have checked and sought out those who were in need for heat or warmth. One is also reminded of the fine community spirit when children and

staff of our schools in the northern portion of our community became endangered by the quick and freezing snow which made travel nearly impossible. All of them deserve praise and thanks for their efforts.

Durham did receive national coverage on its wood program for fuel energy project. For those persons who note the occasional letters of thanks from grateful individuals while passing through our city, it is also nice to see the cooperative efforts carried out at home as well. For does not Charity begin at home?

As the groups and individuals continue to pursue the wood for fuel tasks, we also commend the Rev. Robert Young, Chaplain at Duke University for the wood idea and Dr. C. E. Boulware (cash donations) for their coordinating efforts to follow through the project during the freezing weather.

Thanks again and much praise to the Durham community for helping and sharing.

Housing, An Urgent Need

An announcement by the Housing Authority of Durham Director, James Kerr that additional housing for the elderly will soon be started on Lake-wood Street is good news to poor people - especially the elderly poor.

Many of our elderly and poor, live in inadequately insulated and inadequately heated homes. Many of them are also among those seeking needed wood or other fuel to help keep them warm in this unseasonably cold winter. Reports will also show that poverty among the elderly is continuing to rise as their population figures increase.

A lack of adequate housing in Durham has struck the elderly and the elderly poor of all ethnic groups most severely during this extreme cold weather period.

Durham needs to speed up its housing program, especially for the elderly and the poor, so as to minimize these hardships in the future.

Further, as builders construct homes for low-cost tenants, better governmental controls and strict supervision of such structures are necessary to prevent the continuance of the many hardships that have surfaced during this emergency period.

Stop-gap construction, in the long run, makes for the many insulation problems that are now found in much of the housing that is usually occupied by many of our elderly poor.

So the sooner the construction can begin to alleviate some of these problems, the sooner many of our elderly poor can find relief.

To Be Equal

Carter's Mandate For Activism

By VERNON E. JORDAN



President Jimmy Carter enters office with the solid backing of the American people, as measured not only by the election results but also by recent polls. And that backing is largely predicated on the expectation that he will actively take steps to introduce important reforms.

A recent Newsweek poll, for example, shows that 60 per cent of respondents have a more favorable opinion of President Carter than they did last November, and only ten per cent thought less of him.

At the same time, 76 per cent expect him to introduce a tax reform bill this year, 69 per cent expect a reduction in unemployment this year, and 54 per cent expect him to introduce a national health insurance bill in 1977.

Another public opinion survey, this time from Washington-based Potomac Associates suggests that much of the public's backing for then President-elect Carter was due to expectations that he would take risks and be an activist. The study warns that "a lack of action, the pursuit of stability for its own sake... ultimately would lead to political failure."

So Jimmy Carter enters the Presidency banking in more than the usual honeymoon period all new Presidents enjoy; he enters it with the good feeling and support of the citizenry based on their expectations of his leadership and his commitment to change.

And that explains some of the disappointment in the economic package he has proposed. It's a grab-bag of tax cuts, tax rebates and some job-creation programs. Despite the expectations of reform programs within the coming months, his Administration indicates that welfare and health insurance reforms will have to wait for an improved fiscal situation. But at the same time taxes - the resources needed for the reform - will be reduced.

I don't think a tax cut is called for a time when the budget deficit is so large and the needs for federal programs are so great. A tax cut is not nearly as effective as job-creation programs in stimulating the economy. It's been estimated that public service employment programs create two to four times more jobs per dollar than a tax cut.

And the job-creation component is limited. Over a two year period it would create jobs for only about ten per cent of the officially unemployed, and by stretching it out there's the probability that any slight improvement in the economy will be used as an excuse to cut back the unfulfilled portion of the program.

The economic package is clearly less than what President Carter's supporters expected and less than the economy needs. The most disturbing aspect of this is that President Carter seems to be trimming his sails needlessly, spending undue energy and care on reassuring his political

opponents that he is not too radical, instead of meeting the needs and high expectations of his supporters.

Seeking consensus and taking the middle ground is often advisable, but a new President must be aware that the political honeymoon comes to a fairly early end anyway, and that it's necessary to act swiftly and boldly at the start of a new Administration.

Black people, poor people, and the jobless are looking to Washington today for signs that their interests will - for a change - be advanced, that their cities will be helped, their children well schooled, their families well-housed. They are looking for decent jobs, health care and peace.

The government can't do it all, but it is the single most important instrument of securing these basics for the bulk of our citizens. The policies it pursues affect the private sector's role. Its enormous power should no longer be placed at the service of inequality and the status quo. Rather, it should be the righter of wrongs and the instrument of constructive change.

The biggest priority facing the nation is full employment, and President Carter should modify his economic proposal to ensure full employment. By doing so, he will set his Presidency on the bold course of greatness.

Benjamin L. Hooks

Giant Boots To Fill

On January 10, the NAACP National Board of Directors re-elected Roy Wilkins as Executive Director and Secretary of the NAACP for a term that will run through July 31, this year when he will retire after more than 45 years with the organization. For his long, meritorious service, Wilkins upon his retirement will have conferred on him the title of "Executive Director Emeritus."

On August 1, of this year, the board also decreed, that I shall assume the title of Secretary and Executive Director of the NAACP, the nation's oldest and most prestigious civil rights organization. "... and until that time (August 1) Benjamin L. Hooks shall have no official duty or status within the Association," the board declared. "Until he assume office, Mr. Hooks will have the title of Executive Director-Designate."

I went to some length to spell out the board of director's announcement, in hopes that the air will be cleared once and for all in respect to when I will assume the NAACP office.

So many of my friends and well wishers in Washington, D. C. and throughout the country have asked me that question: "When will you be leaving the FCC?" Or "When will you officially become Executive Director of the NAACP?"

I will be leaving the Federal Communications Commission in the month of July, spend a few weeks vacationing and contemplating before assuming the awesome task of heading the

NAACP. Such giant boots to fill! Such gargantuan problems to shoulder! Such heady goals to work toward, the fulfillment of which can mean so much taht is good and positive for all of America. The mind is boggled. Senses reel. Imagination soars!

"These, indeed, are the times that try men's souls." During quiet moments of contemplation, when I am alone, the office or home is still, and no insistent phones jangling for an answer, doubts creep in. Am I big enough for the job? Is any one man?

The answer is, of course not. This is not a one-man work. It is a task, a struggle of many people committed to end injustice, racism and intolerance in our country.

I will, as my predecessors before me, merely stand at the center of struggle - a catalyst, an inspirer, hopefully an organizer, a fulcrum on which the levers of our combined struggle can turn lifting the heavy shackles of bondage and oppression from our tortured psyches and souls.

The mood shifts. The weight is lifted, miraculously. For with this clarity comes a certainty - separately, my brothers, and sisters, we are not much. Together, acting in unison, with an unflinching sense of ourselves we can move mountains.

FCC Commissioner



It was a great annual NAACP meeting in New York. Enthusiasm was high. Most of the 64-board member board of directors were on hand for their meeting following the plenary session.

Praise, deserved praise, was heaped upon Roy Wilkins, whose 45 years of unstinting work in the movement has earned him the enviable title of "Mr. Civil Rights" a man who is indeed a living legend in his own time.

We not only wished him the best but conferred him the title of "Executive Director Emeritus" when he retires. And I am sure that we at the NAACP and black folks will be more honored if we continue as an organization to hold ever higher the precious torch of freedom.

Now is a good time to stop and take stock of the fact that in this first year of the third century of our nation's independence as W. E. B. Dubois, has so well stated (in his book Souls of Black Folks in 1903) that "the problem in the 20th century is the problem of the color line."

Today the prophetic words of Dubois still ring true. The problem unresolved is yet that of "the color line." People all over this world are still looking, yearning, hopefully, to this, the brightest star in the national constellation hoping it will yet live up to its noble pronouncements: "We Hold These Truths to be Self-Evident, That All Men Are Created Equal" and begin to assert it self vigorously on this premise.

Congressman Hawkins' Column

By Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins

U.S. Economy Tied To Foreign Economies

The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Michael Manley, was recently quoted as saying that, Jamaica comes down with pneumonia every time Washington gets a head cold. If this is not an exact quote, it is near enough to the point to suggest that American economic policies affects foreign economies, and vice versa.

President Carter strongly believes this assertion; and so does his Treasury Secretary, W. Michael Blumenthal, and his Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, Charles Schultz. Both of these new administration leaders testifying before Senate Committees have said in effect that American economic policy will require a new and greater emphasis dealing with the economic interdependence of nations.

Unless we come to grips with the inherent problems in these economic interdependent factors, world recessions will stay with us, and mounting confrontations between the "have-not" nations and the "have" nations, will escalate.

For example the less developed countries (LDC's) located in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, have had on the average, a per capita GNP of only \$130, for the last five years.

(The GNP or gross national product is the market value of all final goods and services produced by an economy during a one year period.) The U. S. picture is radically different; per capita GNP was \$7,000 in 1976. And in Europe, it had a rousing range of from \$5,000 to \$8,000.

Blumenthal feels that such disparate income distributions have all the seeds for promoting "a real threat to peace in the long run."

What can be done? Well, there certainly must be all out effort by the leading industrial nations - the United States, West Germany and Japan - to develop a comprehensive, coordinated effort at expanding their joint economic activities on a number of fronts, and especially accomplished in such a way that LDC's don't go deeper into debt.

A healthy starter, would be for the industrial nations to begin paying fairer prices for the raw

materials they extract from LDC's since most industrial western nations have had a long history of ripping off the mineral wealth of the LDC's. The aggressive attitude of the OPEC nations, caused in part by past Mid-East exploitation by the West, explains why oil prices have become the focus of such world-wide tension and world-wide apprehension.

Jamaica is another case. It has had an ample share of problems with Jamaica based, U. S.

owned aluminum companies over bauxite production, bauxite prices and corporate ownership of bauxite lands. To get even, the U. S. Treasury has orchestrated a credit squeeze on Jamaica, in order to bring Jamaica to heel. This is bad economics and hopefully President Carter will dramatically change our nearderthal behavior.

The industrialized West must organize a cooperative move for world-wide economic stimulation, which will bring about economic stability, and challenge the old economic values which have led to an unfair imbalance in the world's ownership of wealth and productivity. The sooner they do this, the better.

Things You Should Know

Dr. Henry M. MINTON



BORN IN COLUMBIA, S.C. IN 1871, EDUCATED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, HE WAS CLASS ORATOR AND CO-EDITOR OF HIS COLLEGE PAPER! HE GOT HIS PH.D. IN 1895; HIS M.D. FROM JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE PHILA. IN 1906 / AS A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHER HE MADE MEDICAL

HISTORY WITH HIS PIONEER WORK ON THE CAUSES AND PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS / HE WAS ALSO A CELEBRATED CHRONICLER OF NEGRO HISTORY!

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DR. FRANKLIN

Dr. John Hope Franklin, the John Manly Distinguished Service Professor of History and former chairman of the Department of History at the University of Chicago, will deliver the address for the 110th Founders' Day Celebration of Saint Augustine's College. He will speak on Thursday, February 10 at 11 a.m. in the Emery Building.