

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

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNRIDDED

Words of Wisdom

When a man boasts of his bad habits, you may rest assured they are the best he has.
—Woodrow Wilson

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Rowan Raps Desegregation And Cause of Civil Rights Limbo

FAYETTEVILLE — Fayetteville State University (FSU) celebrated its 100th anniversary of the institution's founding in 1867 as the second state supported black college in the nation. Carl T. Rowan, distinguished columnist, addressed the more than 500 persons who gathered. Rowan spoke to the hot potato-desegregation of black and white colleges and causes of the limbo in the civil rights movement in the U. S. Delegates from many universities and colleges around the nation converged here for the historic celebration. Several descendants of the university's founders were on hand and honored.

Calling for the preservation of predominantly black colleges, Rowan was critical of Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) enforcement of a 1973 federal

court decision calling for greater desegregation of black and white public supported schools.

Until recently the University of North Carolina system (UNC) operated under a HEW approved plan which allowed less desegregation of predominantly white, better financed schools than was required of black colleges. In 1974, HEW accepted a UNC plan which required only 5.1 per cent enrollment of blacks in predominantly white colleges and 11.1 per cent of white enrollment in black colleges.

"There are a lot of people who believe that you can turn to a white institution and say in order to meet HEW guidelines and the Supreme Court and somebody's decision, this white institution has got to have 11.1 per cent black students," Rowan continued.

saying, "But for the black institutions to meet the test its got to have 32.873 white students, and I've never quite figured out the arithmetic."

UNC President William C. Friday was seated on the platform with Rowan. Friday met with HEW Secretary David Matthews of Alabama in 1974 to get a relaxation of HEW enforcement of a 1973 court order. Recently Friday has said that he does not know what is required of the state with regard to black public institutions.

Just a day before, at the dedication of a new learning center, FSU President, Dr. Charles Lyons also was critical of the racial percentages. "I don't want to get hung up on racial percentages. We don't look at that. We look at the students merely as people who desire educational

services. We look at what those needs are."

Dr. Lyons does not believe that programs should be duplicated in colleges that are located near each other. He advocates programs tailored to suit the needs of the people in the area, which he says will lessen competition between schools.

Giving his views on the cause for slowing down of the civil rights movement, Rowan pointed to three factors. First he said, that blacks have gone through a period of disillusionment, "that whites would never accept blacks as an integral part" of this society. Second, he said, hard times and the recession beginning with the Nixon and Ford years and continuing to the present time, immobilized the civil rights movement. Third, he said, that national, state and local leadership have for the last several years fostered hostile attitudes toward blacks.



HUMAN RIGHTS? - President Carter meets with the board of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference April 13 in the Cabinet Room of the White House and listens as Joseph Lowery, the conference's acting president and chairman of the board, tells him that U. S. firms doing business with South Africa "negate" his human rights policy. (UPI).



CONGRATULATIONS — U. S. District Judge A. Leon Higginbotham (center) is being congratulated by Dr. Harry Groves, dean of the NCCU School of Law, following his address at the Law Day Awards Banquet. At the left is Atty. H. M. "Mickey" Michaux - a recent nominee for a federal judgeship for North Carolina.

Sergeant-At-Arms Fired, Claims Political Pressure

RALEIGH — Robert H. Beatty, 64, a member of the Cumberland County Citizens Association, was one of the N. C. House of Representatives Assistant Sergeants-At-Arms, until his employer determined that he "had not learned the limitations" that went along with his duties.

However, Beatty contends that he did know the limitations of the job and was fired because of political influence from Washington, D. C. Larry Eagles, Sergeant-At-Arms, denied any outside influence in the firing but admits Beatty was never told that his work was unsatisfactory before he was fired.

Beatty said that he had been working with blacks and Native Americans in Marion, Dillon and Marlboro, S. C., with the objective to get federal aid from the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the residents. A complaint filed by Beatty to the office of Civil Rights of HEW, he said, clearly exposed the lack of welfare aid to the people of Congressman Jenrette's district. Jenrette, he claimed, got in touch with N. C. 7th District Congressional Rep. Charles Rose III, who he said in turn got in touch with members of the General Assembly. Both Congressmen have denied Beatty's account of their involvement.

However, one of Jenrette's staffers, Elaine Reed, left the Congressman's employ recently. Beatty said she was dismissed because of the HEW complaint. She could not be reached for comment.

Questioned about the alleged Congressional involvement, Beatty's supervisor, Larry Eagles quipped, "no from Washington, no one from the General Assembly, Charlie Rose, or nobody else had any

thing to do with my decision." Questioned why Beatty was never told that his work was unsatisfactory before he was fired, Eagles said, "well, you see he is 64 years old and when you get that old there ain't much changing your ways. He just didn't fit in with the organization that we have. I was hoping that he would come around, but he never did." Asked what were the limitations of the sergeant-at-arms staff members, Eagles said he couldn't discuss that because he didn't want to hurt Beatty.

But Eagles said that he liked Beatty personally and would give him a good recommendation.



ROBERT H. BEATTY

GREENSBORO — More than 200 black trade unionists, friends and supporters of Dr. John R. Larkins participated in a testimonial dinner for Larkins Friday, April 15 at the Cosmos II Club in Greensboro.

Larkins is the Assistant for Minority Affairs and Special Projects for Governor James Hunt. He began his career in state government in 1942 and has served as the chief black advisor for the last ten governors, except Republican Governor James Holshouser.

Supporters and friends who appeared were from a broad cross section of the state, except Durham which one observer said boycotted the dinner. Relations have been strained between Larkins and several members of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People for several months, reportedly concerning the appointment

of Ben Ruffin to be Executive Director of the N. C. Human Relations Commission.

Testimonials of Larkins' service to the state and nation were given by mainly political types who have known and worked with Dr. Larkins for some time. Included in a long line of testimonials were Dr. E. B. Turner, First Vice Chairman of the N. C. Democratic Party who read a poem to Larkins.

Unable to attend, A. Phillip Randolph, a retired trade unionist, and former member of the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, sent a taped message calling for strengthening of the labor-civil rights coalition in the South.

Focusing on the struggle of workers at J. P. Stevens' Roanoke Rapids plants to negotiate a contract, Randolph called upon well-wishers to support a boycott of Stevens'

products. "Stevens is the most anti-union and anti-worker employer in the United States. It has been guilty of exploiting and oppressing its workers. . . If we are to solve the pressing problems of unemployment, poverty and the other ills that beset us then the black community and the labor movement must work closely together."

Wilbert Williams told of A. A. Phillip Randolph's struggle against the racism of employers — including the U. S. Government — and the AFL-CIO. For many years Randolph was head of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Trumpeting a familiar cry of the sixties Williams said "We cannot win the battles of racial injustice by burning and the looting and what-so-have you. But by putting together intelligence," the AFL national staff member said, "the rights

due citizens of the U. S. could be shared by all." He said that the foremost weapon to be used against injustice is the ballot box and the union card. He, too, made a strong pitch for the boycott of J. P. Stevens. None of the speakers from North Carolina mentioned the J. P. Stevens boycott.

Wilbur Hobby, N. C. AFL-CIO president, made the case for a close affiliation between labor and the civil rights movement which climaxed with an impassioned plea for the group to support the nomination of Dan Pollitt for a vacancy on the National Labor Relations Board. One problem according to Hobby was Senator Robert Morgan's objection to Pollitt's appointment. Hobby said, "For a U. S. Senator to not recommend a North Carolinian is clearly an abuse of his senatorial prerogative." Hobby urged the

group to write Senator Morgan and express their dissatisfaction. He said Pollitt would represent the working people of the state and was opposed by the corporate interests.

While the attendees of the Larkins testimonial were from across the state, there was a distinct absence of many of the political leaders of Durham County and some of the other counties that have members on the N. C. Black Democratic Caucus. Larkins is Governor Hunt's liaison with the Caucus. Recent infighting in the state's communities for appointments to jobs, boards and commissions has resulted in an apparent split between Larkins and blacks from Durham.

Larkins replied to a question asking whether blacks from Durham were boycotting the testimonial, saying, "I'm not surprised at that! As far

Over 200 At Larkins Testimonial, Durham Reps Conspicuous By Absence

"Roots" Author Alex Haley To Speak At N. C. Central U. Friday

Alex Haley, author of the best selling "Roots," will speak at the final session of a scholarly conference sponsored next week by North Carolina Central University's Center for International Studies.

Haley will speak at 8 p.m. Friday, April 22, in the R. L. McDougald Gymnasium at NCCU. Invitations and tickets to the address on contemporary Africa are being distributed through the university's Center for International Studies.



ALEX HALEY

The lecture will be the concluding session of the Center's third annual conference, which begins Thursday, April 21. The conference will focus on two topics: Sino-American relations since the death of Mao Tse-Tung and the majority rule movement in the countries of Southern Africa.

Speakers for the conference include distinguished students of China and Africa, representatives of several Asian and African countries, and scholars from NCCU and neighboring universities, as well as several representatives of the United States Department of State.

Dr. Golam W. Choudhury, director of the Center for International Studies and chairman of the department of political science at NCCU, has planned the conference.

The speaker at the final session is the author of what may be the most discussed book of the 1970s. "Roots" is the history, fleshed by the author's imagination and research, of Haley's maternal ancestors.

The book traces the family back seven generations to the

grammar school teacher. He was born in Ithaca, New York, and was reared in Henning, Tenn. He completed two years of college before enlisting in the Coast Guard, where he spent 20 years from 1939 to 1959.

He has been a published writer since the 1940s, and be-

came a full-time writer in 1959. He wrote for Harper's, The Atlantic Monthly, and the New York Times Magazine and was on the staffs of Playboy and the Reader's Digest.

Haley initiated the enduring "Playboy Interviews" feature.

Regional Conference On Black Church, Community To Be Held

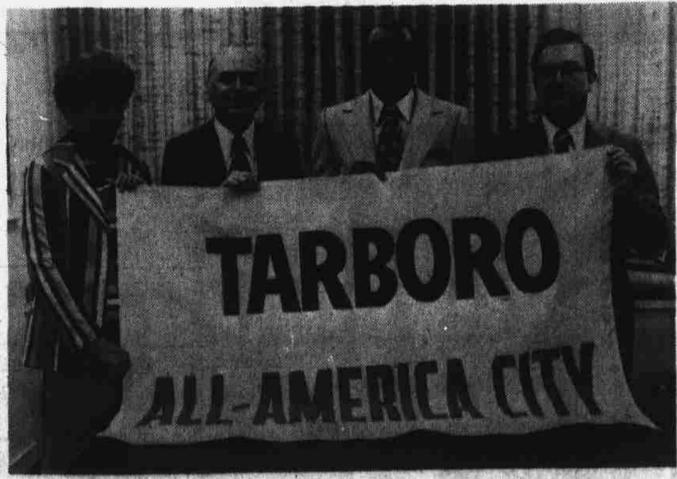
A Regional Conference on Black Church and Community will be held Friday, April 22, (6:15 registration) NCCU (Student Union); and Saturday, April 23, at St. Joseph's A. M. E. Church, 2521 Fayetteville Street. Registration is at 8:30 a.m.

Delegates from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina will participate.

Speakers/Resources Leaders are to be: Rev. Melvin Cutler, pastor, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Petersburg, Va.; Dr. Herbert O. Edwards, Associate Professor, Duke Divinity School; Mrs. Marian

Jones, Columbia, S. C.; and Ms. Willie Dell, Richmond, Va. A registration fee of \$4 per person (includes Conference Packet and luncheon on Saturday), will be charged. All segments of the black community (senior citizens, young people, clergy and lay persons, men and women of all professions and areas of life, are invited to participate.

The Conference is part of a process leading up to a National Consultation on the Black Church and the Black Community to be held in Atlanta, Georgia — August 3-7, 1977.



ALL AMERICA CITY — The National Municipal League announced that Tarboro is among the ten cities designated All-America in the national competition sponsored by the League. Shown displaying the flag awarded to the town are (from left) Mrs. Sylvia Nash, who represented the Edgecombe Historical Society before all All-America panel of judges in Williamsburg last November; Mayor Victor G. Herring, III, who spoke for the Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee; Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Moses A. Ray, who told the panel about the work of the East Tarboro Citizens League; and Town Manager David R. Taylor.