

LAST RITES FOR LEO M. HATTON HELD IN HENDERSON

HENDERSON—Leo McPherson Hatton, 66, Vance County civil rights leader, educator and retired Director of Interpretation and Stewardship for the national United Presbyterian Church, died Thursday morning, April 26, at Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson after an extended illness.

He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1937. For 31 years, he worked as a teacher, coach and principal in Vance County. Upon retirement, he joined the staff of the United Presbyterian Church, serving first as the Secretary for Ethnic Affairs.

Hatton was in the Democratic Party politics,

forefront of the early movement to secure the right to vote and to desegregate local schools and public facilities. He served in and led many organizations and was President of the Second Congressional District Black Caucus at the time of his death.

He built a new organization in Vance County to advocate the rights of black and low income people. As president of the Assembly of Vance, Hatton successfully fought for a change in the admission deposit policy at Maria Parham Hospital and for more black personnel in Vance County schools.

He was an active participant and leader in serving as vice chairman

of the Vance County Democratic Party, as a member of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Democratic Party, and as a delegate to four national Democratic Party conventions. He was also a member of the Vance County ABC Board and of Governor Hunt's Judicial Committee for the selection of Superior Court judges.

Hatton was a member and ruling Elder at Cotton Memorial Church in Henderson and represented the Cape Fear Presbytery on the National Council of United Presbyterian Men.

Funeral rites were held Monday afternoon at Cotton Memorial Church in Henderson by Rev. St. Paul Epps, Executive

Director of the National Committee on Self Development of People. Burial was in Sunset Gardens Cemetery in Henderson.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Henrietta Hatton; a foster son, Rudolph Turner; two sisters, Mrs. Gertrude Prophet of Saxe, Virginia, and Mrs. Elizabeth Smith of Columbus, Ohio; one brother, James W. Hatton of Norwalk, Connecticut; eleven nieces, eight nephews and numerous other relatives.

Memorials may be made to the Organ Fund at Cotton Memorial Church, care of Mr. C.V. Knight, 423 Pearl Street, Henderson.

TENANT COMPLAINTS TO BE SENT TO N.C. REAL ESTATE LICENSING BOARD

By Pat Bryant

Complaints will be filed against Durham realtor Bobby Inscoc with the North Carolina Real Estate Licensing Board, two groups announced Tuesday night. Members of Carolina Action and the West End Community Action Group (WECAG) have waged a lengthy campaign against Inscoc Realty charging the firm to be a slumlord. Announcements of the complaints to the licensing board follows en masse complaints to city housing inspectors, City Council members, and the Durham Board of Realtors.

Tenants renting property from Inscoc described to newsmen and officers of the Durham Board of Realtors scores of instances in which — if proved to the satisfaction of the N.C. Real Estate Licensing Board — could result in disciplinary action against Inscoc. Disciplinary action could range from a fine to license revocation.

Inscoc is a property management firm, one of the largest in Durham. Tenants testified at the hearing of the existence of health menaces, refusal of the company to make repairs to property, and rent gouging. The announcement of official action taken against Inscoc followed Kim Griffin, president of the Durham Board of Realtors, saying

his organization could take no more than social sanctions against Inscoc, if it found violations of the Board's code of ethics. The board was described by Griffin as a professional association whose only sanctions on its membership were imposition of fines and expulsion from membership.

Griffin admitted after questioning by tenants and newsmen that the N.C. Real Estate Licensing Board could exert more power to punish real estate managers than his professional organization. The golden rule, "do

unto others as you would have them do unto you", he said, was a key code of ethics by which members conduct was judged, in the event complaints were filed with the professional association.

Ben Currence, an attorney with North Central Legal Assistance Program, remarked that "he who has the gold makes the rule", an obvious reference to the power the real estate industry exerts over the various boards governing the industry.

Several tenants testified against Inscoc. He was not present.

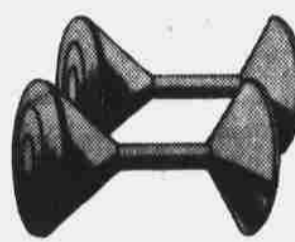
Summing up the testimony of the tenants, Carolina Action spokesman, Mrs. Barbara Harris said, "People living in houses that are rat infested. They can't get proper repairs done because the landlord refuses. A lot of people are afraid to ask the landlord to do repairs because they are afraid that he will go up on their rent or evict them."



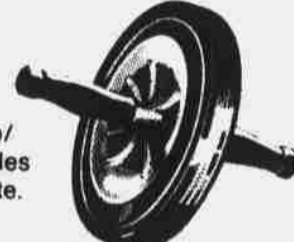
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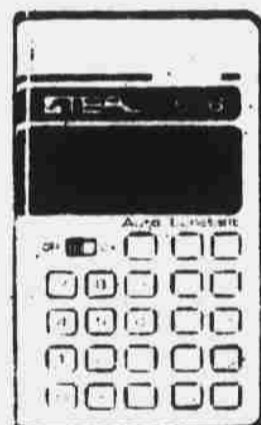
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