

## EEOC Chairperson Criticizes White Press For Slow Progress In Hiring Minorities

NEW YORK (NNPA) — Mrs. Eleanor Holmes Norton, chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, told the members of the American Newspaper Publishers Association that while they have made some progress in the employment of minority professionals, the rate of hiring has been entirely too low.

She was addressing the publishers from some 1,300 major American dailies here at the Waldorf-Astoria Monday during their 93rd Annual Convention. Her speech preceded that of President Carter by two days.

You are now up from 400 to 1,700 blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, but the total is only four

per cent, she declared, and two thirds of your papers hire no minorities at all, she added.

One fact that makes you less sensitive, I think, to affirmative action is that practically none of you have government contracts, Mrs. Norton pointed out. There is nothing but your hearts to motivate you, she stated.

However, she pointed to one unnamed major newspaper chain which she said emphasizes affirmative action. It is a goal of the publisher's promotion policy to measure these against the affirmative action of chain paper managers, she explained.

The EEOC chair praised Robert Maynard and his Institute of Journalism

Education for its outstanding work in training minority journalists.

But Mrs. Norton expressed concern about other sources of training for minorities. With the smaller dailies hiring fewer minorities, the training ground is disappearing, she said. And with the Weber case now before the High Court, some of the big dailies may become reluctant to establish training programs, she explained.

However, the EEOC chair expressed hope that the Weber decision will not be wide sweeping. Even if it is, "I'm optimistic that this will not prevent the dailies from improving their record of minority hiring."

## Black Official Fight To Save Newport News Shipbuilding Jobs

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (NNPA) — Mrs. Jessie M. Rattley, a member of the local city council and vice president of the National League of Cities, is fighting to save shipbuilding jobs here for fellow blacks as well as whites.

Local shipyard workers of which 39 per cent are black face loss of jobs with the Administration-

backed proposal that four aircraft carriers be rebuilt in the government-owned Philadelphia Navy yard, rather than here at the privately-owned shipbuilding facility.

Mrs. Rattley, who is to become president of the National League of Cities next November, argues that if the carriers are not rebuilt here, some 2,600 local employees will go

jobless and the unemployment rate would rise to 7.4 per cent.

Considering the other employment opportunities that would not develop as a result of the Shipyard loss, the black official says that total black unemployment in the area would jump from 10.5 per cent to 13.5 per cent.

She argues further that there are some 15,000 men and women here who are trained in shipbuilding and are ready to begin work on the carriers.

## Most Important Problem For Low Income

Low income residents of Granville County identified the Department of Social Services and housing as the most important problem area at a community meeting held in the District Court house in Oxford on Tuesday night. Sponsored by the North Central Legal Assistance Program (NCLAP), which provides free legal representation and advice to low-income people in this area, the purpose of the meeting was to give residents the opportunity to discuss problems they experienced and to identify the most important problems existing for the low-income community.

People complained about being at the mercy of landlords who would rather evict them than make the repairs they requested. Because of the lack of available decent housing, low income persons who needed repairs thus had few alternatives. "Seems like you don't have a right to housing in Granville County" said a man attending. Several persons also complained about the Housing Authority's procedures and disrespect by their employees.

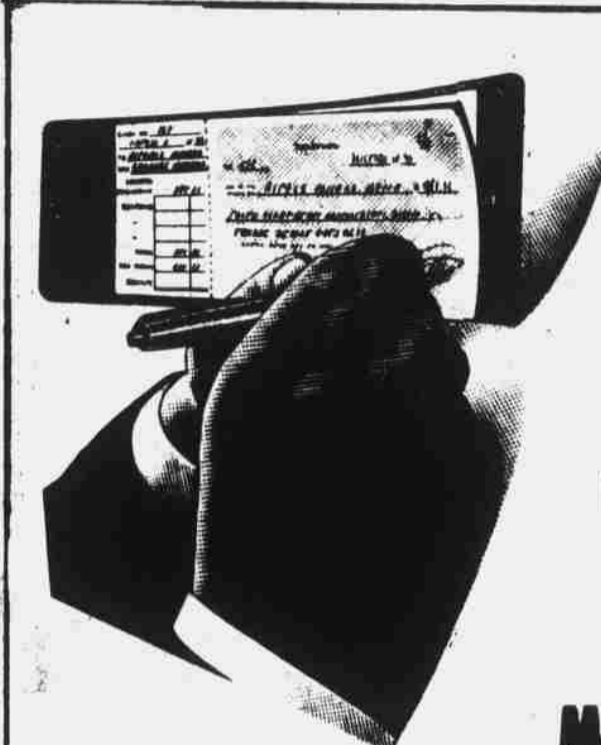
Other problems mentioned were the disproportionate lack of paved streets in Black low income areas and the lack of recreational facilities. Among the health concerns identified were the lack of Black doctors on the hospital's staff, the long waits in the emergency room and the many doctors who will not accept Medicaid or Medicare patients.

The failure of the city to hire blacks for important positions was alleged. "The only black people hired are to push brooms and dig ditches" stated one resident. The need to upgrade the level of education offered and to hire more black teachers was also agreed to by the persons attending. Other problems mentioned frequently were high interest rates and collection abuses by finance companies.

The meeting was moderated by Willie Darby, an attorney with North Central Legal Assistance Program who resides in Oxford. Mr. Darby began the evening with a description of the services the office presently provides. Other members of the staff also participated. Willette Crews discussed the Program's Clients' Council, Vicki Washington set forth the goals of the office's community education program, Jody Smith discussed the office's priority and goal setting process.

This information will be used by North Central Legal Assistance Program and its Clients Council to determine which areas to concentrate on and what services to provide. A similar meeting for the low-income community of Vance County will be held next Tuesday evening at Vance high School Cafeteria.

Many of the residents attending the meeting voiced their concerns about the Granville County Department of Social Services, saying "that the agency didn't want to help people". "They give you what they want you to have, not what you're entitled to have," said one resident. "They treat you like the money is coming out of their pockets." Problems obtaining food stamps, long delays and waits, and disrespect by caseworkers were also mentioned frequently. Housing was also often cited, especially the short-



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## Ira Q. Smith Appointed House Officer '79-'80

WINSTON-SALEM — Ira Q. Smith of Durham, senior medical student at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, has been awarded a house officer appointment for 1979-80 at the University of Tennessee Memorial Hospital, Knoxville.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Smith, 1019 Cornell Street, Durham. He is married to the former Miss Esther R. Cameron of Durham.

Smith is one of 95 senior medical students who will receive the M.D. degree May 21 during commencement exercises

on the Wake Forest University campus. Peter Jay, British ambassador to the United States, will be the commencement speaker.

Members of the graduating class will take house officer training in 61 separate postgraduate programs in 24 states and the District of Columbia. More than 65 per cent of the graduates will train in one of medicine's primary care specialties.

Smith, a 1975 graduate of North Carolina Central University, will take postgraduate training in obstetrics and gynecology.

## 82nd Airborne Division Band To Perform At Granville Festival

OXFORD—The 82nd Airborne Division Band will perform Saturday, May 12 during the first Earl of Granville Festival. The band, which is composed of forty enlisted members and one warrant officer from Fort Bragg, is expected to arrive in Oxford on Saturday at 10:30 a.m., and parade down Hillsboro, College, and Main Streets.

Edmund Tokarz of Oxford, who arranged the band's appearance, said they will play concerts at three points along the parade route. He added that the 82nd band is one of the most famous bands that have ever appeared in Oxford.

The Granville County Chamber of Commerce is organizing a countywide Yard Sale to take place in downtown Oxford and Oak Plaza Shopping Center during the Festival. The sale will last from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

County residents who wish to sell small items or handmade arts and crafts projects should request permission from the owner or manager of their favorite Oxford business to set up a table in front of that store.

No furniture or clothing will be allowed during the sale, according to organizer Bob May, chairman of the Chamber's Merchants Committee.

## Get Those Pastports Now

Persons planning to travel abroad this spring or summer should apply for their passports as soon as possible, Durham Postmaster Frank Copeland said.

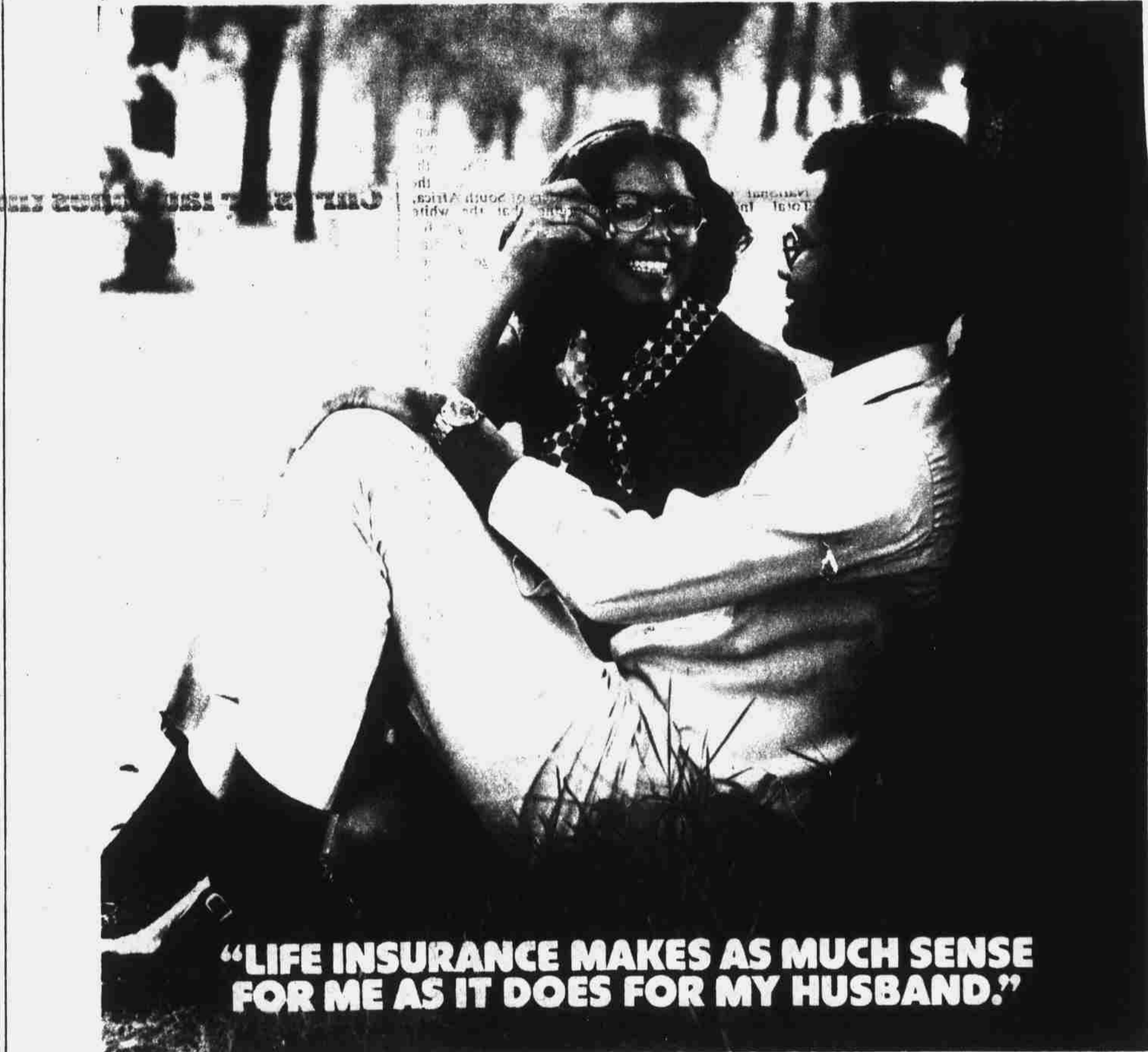
"The longer a person waits to apply for a passport, the longer the wait time to receive it," said Postmaster Copeland, who noted that demand for passports increases as warmer weather approaches.

Postmaster Copeland said passport application forms are available at the main post office on East Chapel Hill Street.

Persons applying for a passport need a state-certified copy (with embossed seal and filing date) of their birth records, identification

(driver's license) and two duplicate studio photographs taken within the past six months. A passport costs \$13 and is good for five years.

Since 1970, the Postal Service has accepted passport applications in a joint effort with the Department of State to provide more convenient service to U.S. citizens planning to travel abroad. The Postal Service and the State Department select cities where the service will be offered. Local postmasters then select the branches or stations which will best serve the needs of persons requiring passports. As of last December, about 800 post offices in 49 states were accepting the applications.



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