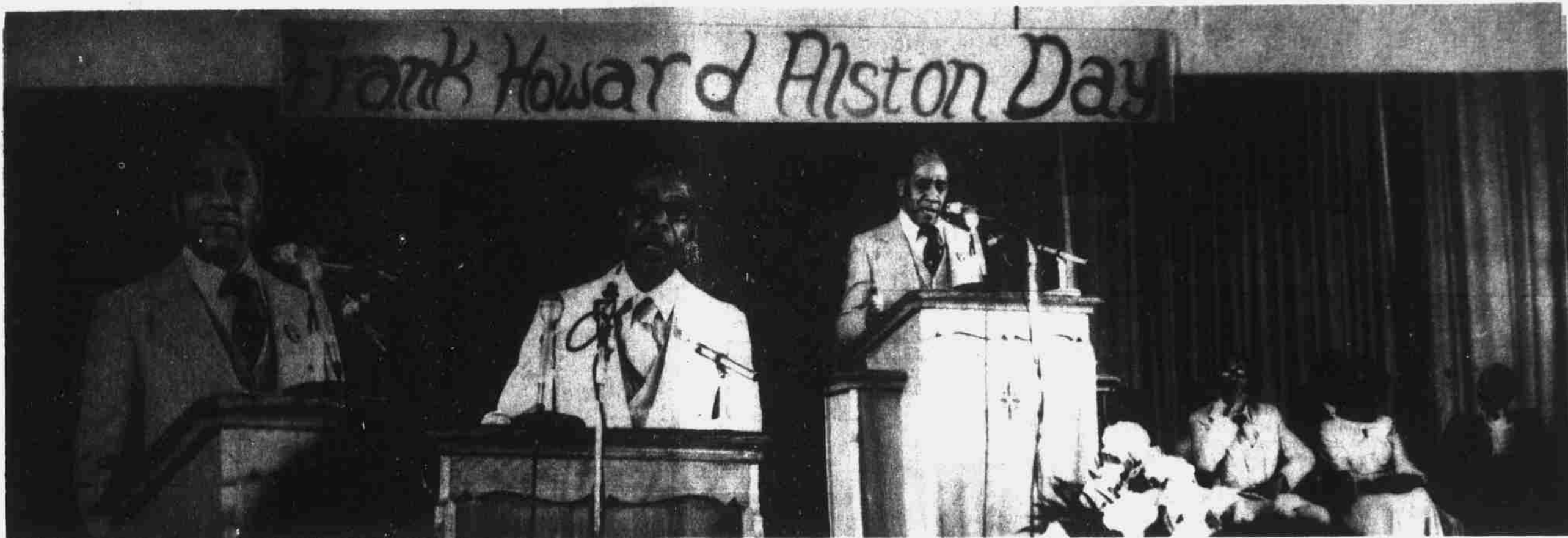


## An Unsung Hero

Frank Howard Alston was called Durham's unsung hero who stayed home to fight the battle of racism that existed where he was born. Rev. Charles Cobb told an audience of nearly 1,000 Mr. Alston (often referred to by students and friends as Prof. Alston) was a renowned son of Durham. Prof. Alston (center) told the audience, what ever they sowed sow it with love. Mr. Alston, an assistant principal at Hillside High School will retire this year after giving more than thirty years to the Durham School system. A portrait of Alston will hang in the School.

Photo by Lionell Parker



# F. HOWARD ALSTON DAY

## Rev. Cobb and Campbell Among Persons Saluting 'Prof'

Undoubtedly the most popular faculty member at Hillside High School, F. Howard Alston, retires this school term. F. Howard Alston Day, held Tuesday at Hillside, brought an avalanche of gifts, accolades and well wishes from friends, students, fellow teachers, parents and administrators.

"Prof" Alston, as he is popularly called, was described as a "lifelong friend and brother" by Dr. Charles Cobb, Executive Director of the Commission For Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, who was the main speaker.

Cobb, a veteran civil rights fighter and minister, reflected upon many boyhood experiences shared by him and Alston — shining shoes at Five Points and a local country club, waiting tables and many others jobs, "to make it."

"F. Howard Alston is a jewel to his family in good times and bad times," said Dr. Cobb, adding that Alston was "always a source of help for family members and people throughout the town. He is the thoughtful kind of person who always sends a letter when you've made an accomplishment and a card when you're sick."

Like many other talented young southerners, Cobb moved to the north where he said black northerners are

"under the illusion of equal opportunity".

"He stayed on here to fight the battle where he was born," Cobb remarked speaking of Alston. While away traveling the world,

Cobb said, he never made a better friend than Frank Howard Alston.

Tom M. Davis, Alston's neighbor and co-worker for more than 22 years remarked that Alston knew when to

quit, adding that his retirement comes before he became old.

Davis told the audience in Hillside's auditorium that he had introduced Alston to Miss Mamie Carolyn Vinson,

while the two studied at North Carolina Central University. They later were married.

Hawaiian Senator Charles Milton Campbell, a Durham native, traveled more than 5,000 miles to pay tribute to the man he called a scholar and churchman, as well as "a builder of men and women, of boys and girls."

Some of the moves were considered to be promotions while others were looked at as demotions.

Bishop Murph's son was moved from Saint Paul in Chapel Hill to Saint Paul in Lenoir; Rev. W.W. Edwards, previously at Saint Paul, Lenoir, becomes the new Presiding Elder for the

Music was provided by the Hillside High School Band and the choral ensemble.

## Bishop Murph Assigns AME Ministers

By Pat Bryant

On last Sunday at Saint Joseph's African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Right Reverend Henry Murph announced appointments for ministers of the Western

North Carolina Conference. Some of the moves were considered to be promotions while others were looked at as demotions.

Bishop Murph's son was moved from Saint Paul in Chapel Hill to Saint Paul in Lenoir; Rev. W.W. Edwards, previously at Saint Paul, Lenoir, becomes the new Presiding Elder for the

Eastern District; Rev. J.N. Shears, previously Presiding Elder of the Eastern District, was named Presiding Elder of the Western District.

Rev. J.T. McMillan, formerly Presiding Elder of the Western District, was moved to Allen's Chapel, Roxboro; Rev. Larnie Horton, pastor of Allen's Chapel, announced that he would not take an assignment; Rev. Bernard Wilder, formerly pastor of Quin Chapel, Roxboro, was moved to Saint Paul, Chapel Hill; Rev. Allen Terrell,

formerly pastor of Saint James, Method, was assigned to Quin Chapel, Roxboro; Rev. Cullen Lambert was moved from the Milton Circuit to the North

Hillsborough Circuit; while Rev. Leroy Miller moved from the North Hillsborough Circuit to the Milton Circuit.

Rev. W.W. Easley, pastor of the host church, was eliminated from the slate of delegates to attend the General Conference to be held in New Orleans in June, 1980.

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## James Kerr Unveils Housing Authority Reorganization Plan

By Pat Bryant

Durham Housing Authority Director James Kerr unveiled a long awaited plan to reorganize the federally subsidized agency before the board of commissioners at the last commissioner's meeting. The plan evoked little discussion or action from board members — Mrs. Julia Lucas, Ben Ruffin, Mark Webbink, Ms. Alma Steele, Daniel K. Edwards and James Kerr.

Mrs. Norma Burton, chairman of the Durham Tenants Steering Committee (DTSC), attacked the plan, calling it part of a move to get rid of authority staff members who, she claimed, were fair to tenants.

Kerr stated that spiraling utility and maintenance costs, plus a \$55,000 budget deficit, caused him to recommend that some positions be phased out while the duties of other positions be redefined.

Kerr unveiled a chart of the proposed reorganization which eliminates several positions including assistant property maintenance manager, social work coordinator, one social

worker, two recreation leaders (currently budgeted but not filled), a secretarial pool, and a director of community relations social services (budgeted but not filled).

The proposed reorganization was recommended by the authority's personnel committee manned by one permanent member, Benjamin Ruffin, an authority chairman, and J.J. Henderson, an ex-officio member. Inquiries concerning the committee's composition resulted in Mark Webbink being recently appointed to the board. Much of the authority's policy making has been in the hands of three men, James Kerr, J.J. Henderson and Benjamin Ruffin, assistant to Governor Hunt. However, inquiries centered around personnel matters involving staff member Johnny White, rather than reorganization.

Tenants have demanded that White be fired. His case is pending decision of the personnel committee.

An increase in maintenance staff and materials will be made possi-

ble by the monies saved through reorganization, Kerr said. However, Mrs. Burton and other tenants say vacant budgeted positions during the current year more than make up the budget's \$55,000 deficit.

### Staff Morale Low Turnover High

Staff and board morale seem at an all time low. Many staffers and two commissioners talked to *The Carolina Times* asking that their names be kept in confidence.

An example of the organization's uncertainty occurred a few weeks ago when Mrs. Julia Lucas, a commissioner, was called because the receipts from the previous day were missing. They had not been deposited in the bank and were not at the Authority. The employee who carried the receipts home was absent. Commissioner Lucas later discovered that the receipts were locked in the trunk of the employee's car.

Disgruntled employees have left in droves and others say that they are looking for jobs. Reasons for the resignations and firing have been varied, with some triggered from tenant complaints. Others resigned under "bureaucratic pressure". Two accountants, the Director of Community Relations and Social Services resigned last November. One recreation leader was fired and

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## Legal Services' Board Passes Death Penalty Resolution

RALEIGH — The Board of Directors of Legal Services of North Carolina (LSNC) at its quarterly meeting today in Raleigh passed a resolution asking the governors of all states where prisoners wait to die, to declare a suspension of all executions until the effect of a return to mass executions can be measured and evaluated.

The Resolution was approved by a 5-2 vote of the Board several hours after John Spenklink was electrocuted in a Florida prison.

William Geimer, an attorney who is director of Farmworkers Legal Services of North Carolina in Newton Grove and who is also president of North Carolinians Against the Death Penalty, authored the resolution.

"Legal Services of North Carolina and its various programs and offices across the state are very much concerned about the lives of poor

people," said Geimer. "Few, if any persons of wealth or means have ever suffered death at the hands of the governments for crimes they committed. The death penalty is, and always has been, a means of punishment inflicted only upon the poor and underprivileged. Until such time as the death penalty can be applied equally to all social and economic classes of people in our country we are asking that such executions be suspended."

At the direction of the LSNC Board, copies of the Resolution will be sent to members of the news media in the state, Gov. Jim Hunt, and the governors of all states where prisoners have been condemned to death.

Legal Services of North Carolina is a federally-funded statewide organization responsible for providing free civil legal assistance to poor people in 81 of the state's 100 counties.

## Mich. Woman Recipient Of Rosa Parks Award

In a symbolic salute to "the extraordinary acts of ordinary people," the national coalition of Women in Community Service has established the ROSA PARKS AWARD, and selected as the first recipient Ms. Josephine Weiner of Huntington Woods, Michigan.

Mrs. Rosa Parks, who in 1955 refused to give up her bus seat to a white man, thought of herself "not as a leader, just an ordinary woman who was tired after a day's work in the store." The impact and consequence of this act on the Civil Rights Movement was significant.

Ms. Josephine Weiner of Huntington Woods, Michigan has been a community and organization leader for nearly forty years.

Her early efforts locally, nationally and from 1967-1972 as president of the National Council of Jewish Women were followed by long, devoted and competent years with Women In Community Service of which she was National President from 1975-1977. She has been a Board member of the Metropolitan Detroit United Community Services Women's Committee, the Women's Division of Detroit's Jewish Welfare Foundation, the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee and the National Center for Voluntary Action. Since her graduation Summa Cum Laude from the

University of Michigan where she had been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Jo Weiner has been heaped with honors. In 1969, she received the St. Ursula Medal from the Glengarad School for Retarded Children, and in 1960: was given the Detroit City Key by the Mayor plus an award from the Detroit Women's Advertising Club. In 1974 the Greater Detroit Section of NCJW gave her the Hannah G. Solomon Award.

Jo Weiner's other achievements include: editing the American Issues Forum pamphlets published by the WICS in celebration of America's Bicentennial; and writing "The Story of WICS," a history to be published this Fall.

Women in Community Service (WICS) is a coalition of five national volunteer organizations which have joined hands to recruit, screen and support disadvantaged young women who need the training provided by Job Corps. The organizations are: Church Women United, National Council of Catholic Women, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Negro Women and American GI Forum Women. Local units operate the program in nearly 200 communities nationwide, and WICS' national office is in Washington, D.C. The president is Ms. Fran Luther of Phoenix, Arizona.



Sansom Gets Award

At right: Joseph J. Sansom, president, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, accepts the Distinguished Service Award, presented by Dr. Prezell R. Robinson, president, Saint Augustine's College, during the 112th Commencement Exercises held in the Raleigh Civic Center on May 13.

## Special Program for Elderly Initiated By Duke Med Center

A model-sponsored health services program for the elderly will be developed in eastern North Carolina by Duke University Medical Center with funding from the Duke Endowment and the Kate B. Reynolds Health Care Trusts.

Each foundation has awarded a first-year grant of \$57,250 and has pledged \$26,000 for a second year of funding for Sea Level Health Center, located on the coast of North Carolina in Carteret County and owned

and operated by Duke. The two-year total from both sources is \$166,500.

Dr. Seneca T. Ferry, director of Sea Level Health Center, said the facility serves a population with a high proportion of older people.

"During the past two years," Ferry noted, "more than fifty per cent of the hospital's days of care were rendered to patients older than 65."

The new program will draw on resources available through Duke medical center

and in the Sea Level Community.

The major part of the program will be a health surrogate team, consisting of a social worker and two assistants. The team will evaluate the social, chore and medical needs which must be met for the elderly and homebound to maintain their independence, Ferry said.

Assistance will be given both to homebound persons as well as to hospitalized patients.