

Citizens Clash Over Buses

(Continued from Front)

vice decreased 26 per cent, from 106,585 to 78,947; and miles traveled decreased 20 per cent, from 1,159,140 to 922,467, according to a company official. This official said 1968 was the last year the company realized a profit on the transit service.

The company, with council approval, eliminated holiday service December, 1978, and Sunday service January, 1979. These two service cuts were allowed without the usual requirement of a sixty-day trial period before full acceptance.

Also over the past few years, the company gained route changes on most of the ten routes, which included ending service along routes, increasing the number of minutes between trips and reducing the number of buses

along routes. One example are two route changes that gained council approval, but the original schedule was reinstated along with night bus service by order of the N.C. Utilities Commission in February.

The company proposed for those routes (Watts Hospital/East Durham and Duke Hospital/Wellons Village) to increase the number of minutes between trips from 20 to 23 minutes, reduce the number of trips from 33 to 27, and reduce the number of buses on each route from four to three; for an annual net saving of \$90,402.

Company officials and citizens testified that the routes are heavily used, but company officials said the change did not mean a service cut.

Figuring prominently in the question of bus service are maintenance costs and promotional efforts.

According to William Plyler, Durham Division Transit Manager, until 1981, the company spent about \$10,000 on advertising but in the current budget \$42,500 was appropriated.

But the Coalition's attorney, Travis Payne, is seeking to prove that the company has not promoted the buses enough to convince persons with cars to ride the bus. He said the increase in the current year's budget for advertising is proof.

The company has developed but has not implemented marketing systems. These included display of route maps and schedules at various locations throughout the city, clearer route maps, a transit booklet that would offer information on the system, printing of route maps in the telephone directory, a description of the transit system to be included with electric bills, a city-wide publicity campaign, a free bus day and hiring a transit marketing director.

A proposal was also

developed within the company to replace nine old buses to make the system more attractive, which has not been acted upon. The present age of the 41-bus fleet is about ten years. The last year new buses were bought was 1974. The company projects that for the first three years of operation, maintenance costs would be \$91,000 as compared to \$282,000 for the nine old buses proposed to be replaced.

Coalition attorney also pointed out that the company's losses, said to be over \$1 million annually, could be offset by about fifty per cent if the company would apply for federal funds. The company has repeatedly refused that option, saying the agreement to certain labor requirements would harm overall employee relations.

Another option that was not talked about much during the hearings is the company's offer to give the transit system to the city, which can be done under the contract that gives the company electric and transit rights.

In the proposal the company suggested setting up a trust fund to help upgrade and operate the system at no cost to citizens. But the council turned thumbs down on that offer.



Rev. Cureton L. Johnson, pastor, Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church, Rougemont, presented a \$125 check to the Central Orphanage in Oxford recently. Accepting the gift was J. D. Drumwright, assistant to Orphanage Director H. V. Bryant. The unrestricted gift was

collected during a special pre-Easter offering by church members. Observing are: (L-R) Mrs. Jauncey McDougale, budget officer; Mrs. Isabel C. Moseley, executive secretary; and Mrs. J. D. Drumwright, tutor.

Northern Orange Black Voter's Alliance Host Dinner Theatre

Seagram (Continued from Front)

The Northern Orange Black Voters' Alliance for Political Progress is sponsoring a "Dinner Theater and Dance" on Friday, May 21, at the Big Barn Convention Center, 1 Boone

Donations are \$8 per ticket, which will include a dinner, a play, and a dance.

Businesses, civic groups, organizations, and political groups and candidates may buy an advertisement in the NOVAPP Souvenir Program. The program will be printed on 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" paper. A full page ad will cost \$50; one-half page, \$25; one-fourth page, \$12.50; and one-eighth page, \$6.25.

Proceeds from this affair will be used to purchase registration materials, to sponsor leadership training seminars and community awareness programs, and to sponsor voter education projects and workshops.

For more information, contact Ms. Rosetta Moore (732-2402).

Scholarship Committee which makes the final decision.

The other 1982 recipients are from New Jersey, Maryland, California, Indiana, Illinois and Pennsylvania: Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc., is the country's largest producer and marketer of distilled

spirits and wines. The company, whose products include Chivas Regal, 7 Crown, Crown Royal, Seagram's Gin, Rum, Myers's Wolfshmidt Vodka and Seagram's V.O., has committed more than \$1 million to the scholarship program.

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Sometimes you think Mom is right — sometimes wrong. Still, she carries your burdens all day long. Maybe she is talented, witty too. She will use her all, if it will help you. You may think she is pretty — maybe not. But nevertheless she is all you've got. Maybe your Mom is young or kind of old. Nevertheless, she's worth her weight in gold. You've learned, you know this: she's for real and true. Ah, she's really your's and you know it, too.

By Maggie Singfield



The first successful operation on the human heart was performed by Dr. Daniel Hale Williams at Providence Hospital in Chicago in July 1893.

The first black newspaper was Freedom's Journal, which began publishing in March 1827 in New York City.

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Rex Nathaniel Purefoy

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"Equal opportunity employer" is a description that can be claimed by an increasing number of employers across the country. Few, though, can match the track record of the Army Reserve in terms of training opportunities, payment and benefits available to members of minorities.

Personnel in Army Reserve units now number over 51,000 blacks and about 5,000 Hispanics. As recruits, they were given an equal opportunity to learn a job skill, received pay while learning, and were not discriminated against in regard to later promotions.

One reason that Army Reserve enlistment is on the rise is the chance it offers to learn a skill. There are about 350 job skills taught in the Army Reserve. More than half of them are applicable to the civilian job market. For example, Reservists may choose from a list which includes vehicle mechanics, law enforcement, lab technology, data processing, radio and electronic communications, aircraft and ground vehicle maintenance, food preparation and certain areas of engineering.

One of the most attractive features of learning a skill in the Army Reserve is the full military pay, along with free room and board, which recruits receive while attending an Army school. The pay alone comes to \$640 a month. There are other benefits as well, such as PX and commissary privileges, free medical and dental care, and the option to purchase low-cost servicemen's life insurance.

Army schools have an excellent reputation among civilian employers who have high regard for the quality of the training and the type of discipline imparted to their trainees. A job applicant with a background that includes skill training in the military often has an edge over the competition, according to civilian personnel directors.

The price tag on skill training comes high these days in the private sector. College costs are going out of sight for the majority of young men and women and vocational school tuition is not far behind. And the current recession is reducing the number of opportunities for on-the-job training, other than those offered by the military.

Additional information about the Army Reserve can be supplied by your local recruiter. For the number, call toll free 800-421-4422. In California, it's 800-252-0011.

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