

# Editorial

## Teens Find Work Despite Skeptics

We applaud the efforts of some of the local civic groups who have made and are continuing to make efforts to obtain money from the federal government to employ black youth.

A lot of people had predicted a violent summer because of increased unemployment. Those skeptics who have no faith in today's youth predicted that teenagers would be roaming the streets like packs of wild dogs.

Instead, many teenagers have sought out jobs through civic clubs and other organizations that deal in realities rather than rhetoric. The teens are not making a whole lot of money, but they have fun doing what they do and feel a sense of Brotherhood with fellow workers.

One group of youngsters, spared from the gloom of a long, hot and broke summer, spent a few days cleaning up two vacant lots on Liberty Street. The lots are located in an area that many outsiders consider a place where "junkies", "dope pushers" and "unemployed pimps" hang-out.

However, outside appearances are often mistaken by shortsighted people who do not take the time to make a close examination. They are the people who have no faith in the youth of today and simply choose to see only what their narrow minds allow them to.

We hope that more civic clubs and organizations will become involved and take a greater interest in the youth of this great city. They can not do it all by themselves...neither could we when we were bee-bopping back in the forties and fifties.

## Hotline To Gov.

Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. has made another attempt to bring his office closer to the people of North Carolina. He has installed a telephone that will handle complaints from the citizenry. The toll-free number is 1-800-662-7952.

Considering how difficult the number was to get, we hope people will write the number down and use it. The first complaint ought to be the lack of exposure of the number. We tried to get the number by calling operators in both Raleigh and Winston-Salem. We called news departments of several stations. So, now that you have it, keep it someplace safe but handy.

If black folk do not use this number then perhaps the governor may begin to think that black folk in this state are free from want and injustice.

We have to laud the idea of openness the governor is trying to project. He has skillfully shifted the responsibility for identifying problems to individuals of this state. Citizens should accept this responsibility and keep that phone ringing day and night.

We hope, however, that the governor's intent is to take the complaints and information received from the calls and determine some priorities as expressed by the callers. If this is the intent then it becomes ever-more important for blacks to voice whatever discontent they may have.

We hope, too, that black folks have stopped thinking that speaking one's mind is wrong. That appears to have been a major problem with black folks. We never holler when we hurt. We have most often grinned and called on fate to allay the pains. There is nothing wrong with demanding what is due...or past due.

That number again is 1-800-662-7952. Please use it.

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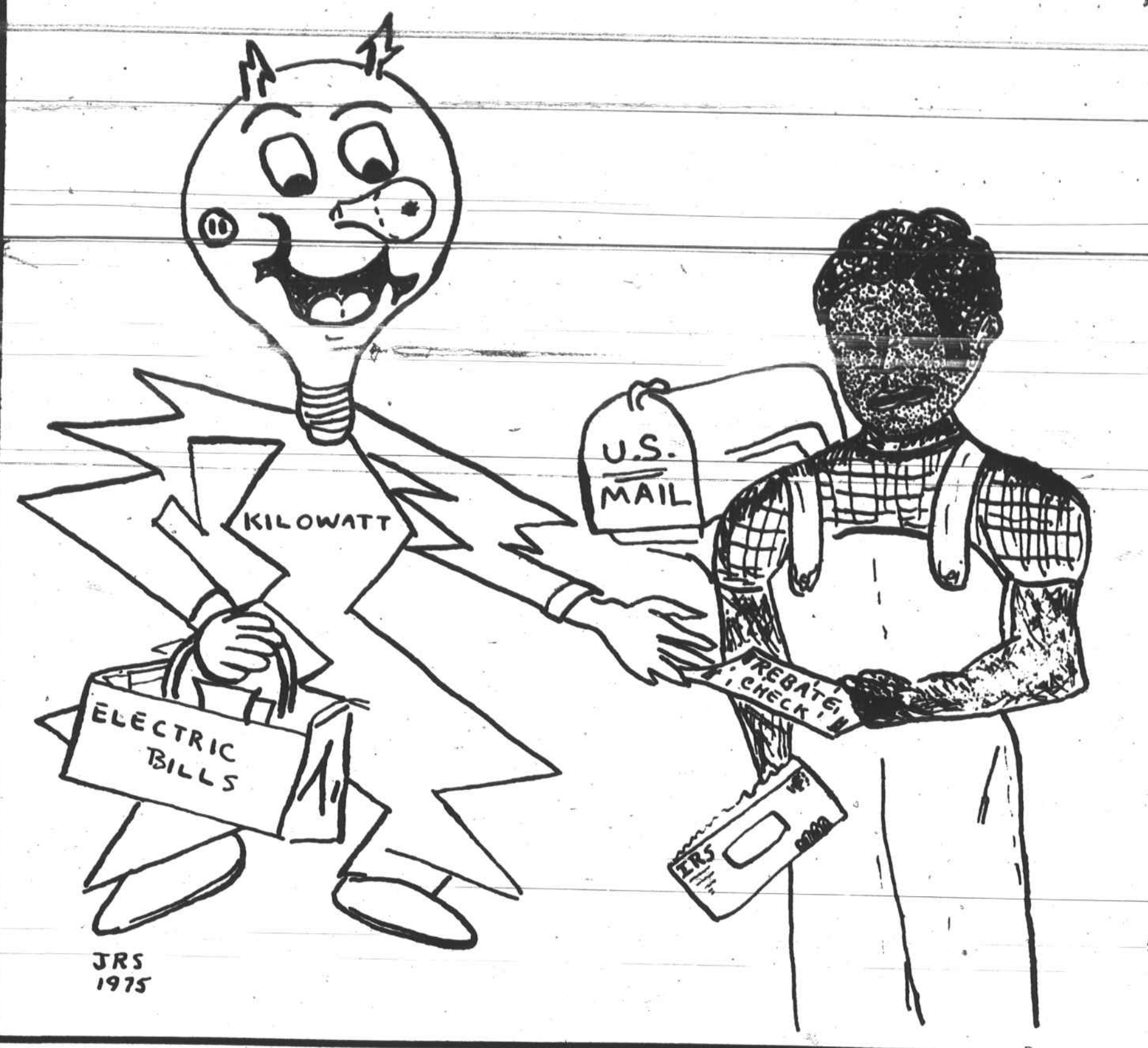
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## To Be Equal by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

A major development in our society has been the relatively recent rise of what has been called "the new ethnicity".

The old melting pot concept of America -- that all citizens, whatever their ethnic origins, be made into some sort of homogenized "American" modeled on the Anglo-Saxon founders of this country -- is effectively dead.

In place of the melting pot, there is a pluralistic recognition of our diverse origins, cultures and backgrounds, with the added realization that no one has to apologize for his forebearers, his race or his accent because they don't match the false ideal of the society.

Suddenly, we see people who used to change their names and smooth their manners adopting their tradition with gusto, enthusiastically putting the hyphen back into "American". Polish-Americans, Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Jewish-Americans, and many dozens of other groups are reaffirming that this is a nation of immigrants and that while we are all citizens of one land, each of us brings to it a special, specific culture and background.

America is a combination of all of those different cultures and its strength lies in a healthy, diverse pluralism that respects all and belittles none.

In part, this new ethnicity stems from the civil rights movement of the late 1950s and early 1960s. The black rejection of the white

Anglo-Saxon model of supposed superiority and the revival of pride in our own ethnic background helped influence other groups.

Some people see renewed confidence by other ethnic groups as being somehow "bad for blacks" since the "ethnics" are commonly perceived by the media and others to be more liable to racism than others.

But a report of studies made over the past several years indicates just the opposite is true.

Writing in a new research publication, The Urban League Review, Dr. Robert B. Hill concludes that:

"Generally, we have found that white Protestants throughout the nation are more likely to hold unfavorable racial attitudes than white ethnics in similar size communities and regions.

"These findings strongly suggest that white ethnics, who comprise only a small fraction of the population in most parts of the nation, have apparently been 'scapegoats' for many anti-black activities spearheaded by white Protestants. Thus, special caution should be exercised in the future before snap judgments are made about the 'racism' of white ethnics and the 'liberalism' of white Protestants."

Lest anyone think that such conclusions are tilted by the predominance of white Protestants in the south, where there are relatively few ethnics, Hill states that:

"In regions outside the south, white ethnics are still less likely than white Protestants to favor school segregation."

Some inter-group friction is almost inevitable in the early stages of ethnic self-discovery, but never as much as the media make it appear, and even such biases tend to melt away.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir:

We the 1965' graduating class of Atkins High School will be celebrating our 10th anniversary this year. We are having a "Class Reunion" December 25, 1975 at the Hilton Inn located on High Street Winston-Salem, N.C. from 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. featuring the Eliminators Band (one of the members is of our graduating class).

We are asking those people who have not been informed of this event or know of persons who finished in this class and would like to find out more about this event please contact Harold Winningham at 725-2574 or Ms. Kay Mumford 725-7461. We are holding meetings on the second Sunday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at Harold Winningham's home at 535 Ninth Street Apt. D. Please come and participate.

Sincerely,  
Kay Mumford