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...Something For Nothing?...

Even advice these days is not without a price tag. As this sign at a local car wash illustrates.

Study Says Black Banks Will Increase

by Anita Shabah

Another trend toward blacks developing financial institutions appear to be sweeping the country according to research being done by Ogegeo Ottoman Public Relations. Blacks throughout

Commentary

the country are realizing that starvation is not far off unless present trends and practices among whites to drain all the money out of the black community ceases.

North Carolina citizens are now seeing visible signs of

this trend toward self-help in finance with the Farmers and Mechanics Bank located in Durham, Greensboro National Bank, United Bank of Fayetteville, and most recent banking activities in Mt. Airy.

Research in Winston-Salem, indicates the possibilities are in range. Men in the Winston-Salem black community are seriously talking with excitement and faith. Attorney Roland Hays, citizen of Winston-Salem with 15 years of experience in the banking business, recalls when the policies stated in writing that banks would deal



Hightower

only with colored people of high caliber (doctors and professionals). This trend has been enforced among banks especially in regards to loans dealing with business.

Jerry Gilmore of Gilmore's Funeral Home related that the idea of the black bank is worthwhile and could be

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Suit Filed Against Wachovia

Blacks Charge Job Bias

A civil rights suit was filed Monday July 28 in the U.S. District Court in Greensboro by four black former employees of Wachovia Bank's offices in Winston-Salem, alleging discrimination in employment and opportunity.

A 90-day stay order was entered simultaneously by the Federal Court "in order that the parties may attempt to conciliate and settle all matters in dispute". The order means no action will be taken for 90

days.

The plaintiffs in the suit are Misses Thelma Williams, Belinda Williams, and Mildred Garris, and Mrs. Marjorie Phillips.

John F. Watlington Jr., chief executive officer of Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, has expressed disappointment over the filing of the suit.

"Wachovia has been a strong and long-time leader in the field of equal employment

opportunity," Watlington said. "We have made substantial progress over recent years in all areas of equal opportunity."

One of the plaintiffs in the suit was contacted but would not comment pending consultation with her attorney.

The suit was filed under the provisions of the Federal Fair Employment Act, which prevents discrimination on grounds of race, sex or color.

Black N.D. Is Now Certified Counselor

Dr. James P. Hightower, a well-known local Naturopathic Physician, was recently certified by the Chicago Board of the Mid-West Association of Marriage Counselors.

The doctor has done extensive study in the field of marriage, sex, drugs and alcoholism. He holds a B.S. Degree from A&T State University in Psychology. He has done graduate study at the

Eastern Nebraska Christian College and the Institute of Advanced Psychotherapy and Counseling in New York. The latter school is approved by the Board of Regents of New York University.

Dr. Hightower is a Naturopathic Physician which means that he treats diseases largely through the use of "natural agencies." Most of Dr. Hightower's treatments call for health foods or other non-chemical medicines. "I don't prescribe narcotic drugs," he said flatly. "You get what I prescribe from health food stores or from nature."

He holds a Doctorate in Health Science (D.Sc.), an N.D. from Lincoln College of Naturopathic Physicians and Surgeons, Inc. of Indianapolis, Ind.

He holds membership in the Forsyth Mental Health Association, American Counselors, Society of Psychological Counselors, an Associate Member of National Medical Society and the American Association of Christian Marriage Counselors.

His office is at 135 East Seventh Street.

Worthless Checks Haunt Small Stores

by Gwen Dixon

Chronicle Staff Reporter

Merchants throughout the city are experiencing severe losses from bogus checks. Bad checks have become such a routine that many do not even report it to the police. "That is the case with many merchants," one police officer said recently.

Although practically all merchants, big or small,

suffer some losses due to bad checks, small black businesses seem to suffer the most. "Mainly because we're too small to absorb the loss," one store owner said. For some businesses the loss ranges from several hundred dollars per year to well into the thousands of dollars.

Willie Cross, who operates a gas station, says his loss totals a couple of thousand dollars a year. "We get all the information we can get and it

does no good," the gas station owner said. "Just the other day I got a bad check for two tanks of gas."

Cross has been in business for 10 years. He agrees that the number of bad checks are increasing and worse still he says "you can't collect." He added that if he gets a bad check and the account is closed he would have to sue to get his money. "When you go downtown the judge gives a person time to pay and they

never do. People know there is no punishment and that's why they do it," he said.

Joe Bacote, who runs a gas station, believes in prosecuting. Bacote had been to court the day of this interview for a \$28 bad check. "I don't cash or take checks from everybody because I couldn't afford to lose a thousand dollars," he said.

Mrs. J.W. Ford expressed her unhappiness over the

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