

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.  
Post Executive Editor



Hoyle H. Martin Sr. to \$2.50 on the same date the federal minimum reaches or exceeds that amount.

Mayoral candidates Ken Harris (R) and Jim Whittington (D) appear to be frustrating many voters by their failure to speak-out on relevant issues that reflect their different points of view. At one neighborhood meeting where the candidates spoke last week, a woman said to them, "I haven't heard anything about what's different between you, why I should vote for one and not the other."

The two leading black newspapers and 16 inter-racial organizations have been banned by the South African government. The editor of one of the newspapers and 10 other black leaders were arrested in the biggest crackdown by the white-supremist government since the early 1960s.

These developments by the South African government were designed to discourage any further efforts by blacks to take power from the minority white government and give it to the majority black population.

By a vote of 236 to 187 last Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a 35-cents increase in the minimum wage that raised the rate to \$2.65 per hour. Two days earlier the Senate had taken similar action. The new wage rate will take effect in January of 1978 pending President Carter's signature.

This congressional action represents the largest minimum-wage boost in history. It will mean raising minimum-wage workers annual wages by \$728 or to \$5,512. The some bill calls for hiking the hourly-base wage further in three annual stages until it reaches \$3.35 in 1981.

Reportedly, Republican Jim Martin was the only N.C. congressman to vote against the wage bill.

North Carolina's hourly minimum wage was raised from \$2 to \$2.30 last July. However, the same wage bill requires boosting the state minimum

In spite of having the world's most rigid apartheid (racial segregation) policy, there are apparently no racial barriers to medical transplants in South Africa.

A white woman received the heart of a mixed-race woman in a "piggyback" transplant performed by the noted surgical team headed by Dr. Christian Barnard of Cape Town's Groote Schuur Hospital.

"Project Match," a computerized system designed to identify Washington area welfare cheaters, turned up only 47 suspects, none of whom will probably be prosecuted for fraud, government officials said Saturday.

A "Ms" magazine sponsored seminar designed to get women to speak out on sexual harassment of working women revealed last Saturday what a meeting organizer called "raw exploitation in the work place."

One young woman, an alcoholic, said she was hired by an executive who took her out for lunch frequently. Encouraging her to drink alcohol, he would abuse her body as she became drunker.

A Civil Liberties Union's Women's Rights Project spokeswoman said the courts are finally beginning to recognize sexual harassment, and the consequences of sexual refusal, as a form of bland job discrimination.

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