Hawkins Pleads Persecution By Establishment

Dr. Reginald A. Hawkins, Charlotte dentist and Prewby-terian Minister, has announced that he intends to be the first Negro governor of North Caro-lina. It is far from surprising that the forty-four-year-old

charged with malpractice in August of 1967, in an incident involving the dental treatment of preschool children in the Charlotte Head-Start Program.

The following interview was taped in Dr. Hawkins'book-



Dr. Reginald A. Hawkins

Johnson C. Smith graduate is entering the race for the executive office. His list of credits includes fifteen years as chairman of the Mecklenburg Organization On Political Affairs, past membership on the North Carolina College Board of Trustees, and membership in the North Carolina and American Dental Societies. Hawkins became the first Negro member of these societies after a long series of court battles for integration. Dr. Hawkins was also instrumental in the integration of The Charin the integration of The Charlotte YMCA and Charlotte Memorial Hospital. A constant striver rial Hospital, A constant striver for equal housing, education, and voting rights for the Negro, Dr. Hawkins led the boycott of Irwin Avenue Junior High School in 1961. A democratic precinct chairman, Hawkins was indicted in 1964 for voter registration irregularities. The case is still in court. Dr. Hawkins was also

(Journal Photo by Dan Cook)

lined office on Friday, March

Journal: Much interest has been raised on our campus by your announcement to run for Governor of North Carolina.

BY RODNEY SMITH "Interview with Dr. R. A. Hawkins"

Hawkins: Not only on your campus. I have witnessed this all over the state of North Carolina. We feel that we are the only ones who have in interest in

Journal: A few questions con-cerning your problems. I know that you have problems of time and finance. How much of a factor in the elections do you see your present legal difficul-ties?

Hawkins: The present legal difficulties are going to help just like this dental involvement that the Board of Dental Examiners, which is an agency supposed to be acting on charges that people bring against one-no charges were ever brought against me. No charges were brought against me but I fought the dental society in order to

purposes. The Board and the health department and welfare department and school board, along with the press, colluted, thinking that they could bring up charges against me. They would have the power, they though, under judicial immunities such as the Board of Examiners, which is already mad at me because I integrated the society.

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They brought these trumped up charges and they tried me by innuendo. Then when we got into the hearing and they found out that we were some of the best dentists in the state of North Carolina, and they found out that our work was superior to the white dentists, you didn't see any retractions and you haven't seen any statements. They terminated the hearing rather than let us present evidence that was more damaging to what they were

and write. So this is a laugh. The state of North Carolina is persecuting me. They registered people, yet, in Madison County where they have stolen the books, they have registered dead people, and the registrars have done everything in the world to the books, they have never been any charges brought against these people. This state has a history first where one should vote because of property rights and the cause of property rights and the next thing was a matter of in-

next thing was a matter of inheritance. Now one who considers the right to vote a privilege rather than a duty.

And what I say is the right to vote is the duty of every citizen and I will get out here and work for people to have the right to register and vote. I think this is their citizenship right. But there again, this is anathema to the establishment because the black people and poor whim.

Often

The Cellar

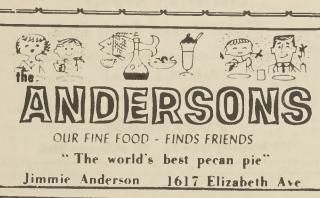
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