

Hawkins Pleads Persecution By Establishment

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

Dr. Reginald A. Hawkins, Charlotte dentist and Presbyterian Minister, has announced that he intends to be the first Negro governor of North Carolina. 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-

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 you.

Journal: A few questions concerning 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 difficulties?

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 integrate Negro dentists into the society. I fought for the right of the poor people to select their doctors and be treated as any other human being.

A health care is a human right, not just a dole. Because a person's poor does not mean that they should be treated less than anyone else. We fought for these people to have these rights.

This was anathema to the establishment who had been using this money for administrative

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

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 trying to do. So this helps.

These charges of voter registration, they are accusing me of having been responsible for three people being placed on the books who, they claim, cannot read

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 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 white people get involved in the political this upsets the appellation.

In North Carolina the right to vote or to run for political office has been considered a sense

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



Dr. Reginald A. Hawkins

(Journal Photo by Dan Cook)

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 Charlotte YMCA and Charlotte Memorial 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

lined office on Friday, March 22 --

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

Swain's Charcoal Steak House

1800 W. Morehead St.
 RESERVATIONS: 332-2414

The Cellar
 Often Imitated Never Duplicated
 300 EAST MOREHEAD ST.
 OPEN 4:30-11:45 Mon.-Sat.
 2:30-11:45 Sun.

Wheeling Town
 Charlotte 1st Luxury Mobile Home Park
 3 Minutes From University on US 29 North
 596-1893 ONLY \$35.00 MONTHLY

the WORLD FAMOUS **OPEN KITCHEN**
 Fine Italian Food
 1318 W. Morehead St.
 Charlotte, N. C.
 375-7449

the **ANDERSONS**
 OUR FINE FOOD - FINDS FRIENDS
 "The world's best pecan pie"
 Jimmie Anderson 1617 Elizabeth Ave

ATHENS RESTAURANT
 Corner 4th & Independence Blvd.
 Open 24 Hours A Day
 We Serve
CHARCOAL STEAKS
PIZZA and SPAGHETTI
 Try Our Famous Greek Dishes

CITY CHEVROLET CO.
 QUALITY SALES & SERVICE
 5101 E. Independence Blvd.
 Phone 536-1410

COLLINS

COTSWOLD AND FREEDOM VILLAGE



the look is linen in

Arnold Palmer

casual slacks by Tailor's Bench

A wash 'n wear blend of Dacron polyester / Avril rayon linen with ribbon belt featuring authentic Arnold Palmer umbrella emblem buckle. In great colors!

15.00

Collins' men's furnishings - Cotswold and Freedom Village

Charge it! Use your First Union Charge Card, . . . NCNB Americard . . . or Collins Charge Card.