The Carolina Cimes EDITORIALS

THE POLITICAL GAME

A significant and growing number of young blacks politicans, elected as well as appointed, are finding that the game of politics becomes an ever consuming one to gain all the power possible. Furthermore, no one likes to give up any power or its sources of power.

No mater how loud the rhetoric and the constant ranting, politics and power go together. For where a politican stands on issues will be determined by where he sits. And it also seems that the attitudes of many other political leaders on issues may depend on just who occupies the presidential chair at the moment

Meaningful input now demands that the fine art of communication and negotiation be used to its greatest potential. Minority groups must continue to use those alignments that will advance he economic and political equaliy that all must have for unified action and growth of power. However, even unity must allow for diversity of opinion.

The importance of voting, voter registration and voter education cannot be overlooked for the advance

ment of power by blacks. Current figures from the Research Bulletin show that the largest number of potential black voters are concentrated in 26 industrial and southern states and the District of Columbia.

North Carolina has a total voting age population of more than 701,401, persons and a black voting age of approxmately 20%. Durham alone has a black voting age population of 25,362 persons or an approximate 35% voting age population.

In this election year as well as others, the critical need is to get registered and vote after registration. Heed the call and take time to be present at precinct levels to assure and gain more political power.

We have a right to expect opportunities, justice and freedom in the responsible pursuit of happiness. Blacks must act now to secure more more power by actual participation in this important political process. Let us not be spectators, but get actively involved by knowing and practicing all you can to seek a share of the power. The time is at hand. It is NOW.

OUR BUSINESSES

For Black people, a promise exists for the best of times; and too, the threat continues connoting the emptest of times. Recently, the Norh Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company became the first black owned and operated business in the country to approach the billion dollar annual business mark. Its sister institutions such as the Mechanics and Farmers Bank made astounding strides in capital development. And many other self-help black organizations are shaping into viable institutions-all in the quest of Black community development.

But then, a great majority of these businesses, The Carolina Times included, are a long way from being "out of the woods." We are still laboring under the burden of growth and development "in spite" of a predominate situation of hardships caused by prejudice, ignorance and to a large extent, our own fears.

We here believe that perhaps the greatest battle for black achievement is won or lost in our minds-our own capacity to conceive of a change for the better; and our inherent rights to the best that there is to be had; and our endowned strength to get the best.

We take this time to deal with the subject of achievements because, in many instances black goals are

nearing. And for some, the conquest is dimly in view. Now then, is perhaps the best time of all to use the cliche once again that: No one ever won a race who quit, no matter how far ahead he may have been

Let us also ponder the truth element that, "rarely is there an accomplishment made under isolated conditions." Blacks in particular need the co-operation, brotherhood and sharing of each other's resources and spiritual re-enforcement.

Let us help a brother go that extra mile unmindful of personal gainthus putting God in our debt, whoever and whatever we conceive him to be, he is an expert bookkeeper and a conscientious bill payer.

Let us resolve to rise above our petty jealousies, our envy, and our tendencies to think solely in terms

One of the greatest lessons we, as Black people have learned from this society — unfortunately, a negative lesson—is the doctrine of selfcentered aggression. This is a doctrine we must forget.

Now is past time that Black people draw on their inner resources of warmth and spirituality and rise to a higher plain of achievement sufficient to benefit all.

UNDERSTANDING `THEM'

1 with people you don't know or misunderstand. This is not just a racial problem; it is a human problem. It was a factor in the establishment of racial segregation, and afterwards became an excuse for it. It is one of the basic problems of housing, education, recreation, religion and industry.

Too many white folks think all black people are cooks, wash women, stevedores or truck drivers. It would be better for black Americans if more blacks were in some of these occupations, but there are black people in the so-called whitecollar vocations. But white propagandists use black people in both classifications to their advantage whenever it meets their racial

A well-dressed black woman lawyer may easily be taken by white racists for a maid on her day off or just out for a visit with a friend. On one such occasion a well-dressed glack woman lawyer was asked by a white woman: "Do you have any free days?" The woman thought to be a domestic said "No, not this

A book written by two black women lawyers on "How To Get Along With Black People" discusses the idiosyncracies of white people in their contacts with black people. Many whites look for blacks they can ridicule or ignore. They ridicule the ignorant and poor and ignore the educated and the upperclasses unless they can use them to help keep the poor and ignorant in the place white America has assigned to them.

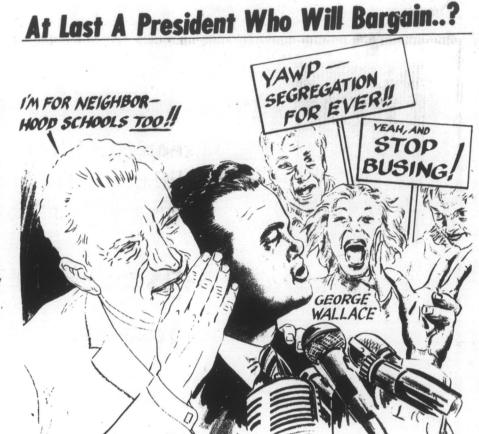
CHRIS CLARK and SHIELA RUSH, the authors of the much discussed book, point out that white people assume or presume a lot of wrong things about blacks. They even kill the fun at a party by discussing wrong topics. In company with blacks, the authors write, "whites suffer a temporary amnesia with regard to topics they normally discuss." Whites often talk among themselves on such topics on opera, theatre, world politics, stock market and the like. These topics "evaporate with the appearance of blacks."

It is evident that the lines of communication between the races need to be opened and used for the good of both races. There is not much problem where Ku Klux Klan members are concerned. Nor is there much trouble where the Wallaces or Bilbos or Faubuses are concerned. We are more often disturbed about our white friends. Too often they arouse suspicion among black people. It is often difficult to tell whether they are real friends or "spies."

Americans are facing real problems on the domestic front. We seem to be losing abroad and becoming more divisive at home. Black and white Americans and every other racial group in the country must get together on a broad and unselfish program to save the nation from enemies abroad and at home. Black people can be trusted to support America if the American government does more than give lip service to democratic principles.

VANCOUVER - A Pinkerton guard, on the phalanx of detectives surrounding the suite of Howard Hughes, in Vancouver on a surprise

"We don't have this much security for Prime Minister Trudeau."



FLOYD MCKISSICK-A GREAT MAN

PRESIDENT

NIXON



by Lucy Cain

Floyd Bixler McKissick was born in Asheville, North Carolina. He attended public school in Asheville, graduating from Stephens-Lee High School in 1939.

During his youth, he always managed to find some source of income from enterprising self-employment. He was a shoe shine boy. waiter, bus boy, yard man, hellhop and errand boy.

In spite of poverty. Mr. McKissick was destined for college. While working his way through Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, he even managed to help support a sister in college.

In DEcember, 1941, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he enlisted in the Army. Prior to duty in Furope he married Evelyn Williams. The McKissicks have four children. Joycelyn and Andree are both working toward law degrees; Floyd, Jr. is currently enrolled at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, Charmaine attends school in New York City.

Upon his return to civilian life, McKissick returned to Morehouse College and completed his undergraduate studies. He enrolled in Law School of North Carolina and led the first group of law students to picket the North Carolina State Legislature demanding that the North Carolina Law School be accredited. While still in school, he advocated the overthrow of trespass statutes which were used to frustrate non-violent direct action campaigns against segregation.

Mr. McKissick was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1952 and the United States Supreme Court in 1955. He is licensed to practice before the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal District Court of Appeals, the United States Court of Appeals and the United States Customs Court.

All four of his children were "firsts" in desegregating the Durham, North Carolina.

To Be Equal By Vernon E. Jordan Jr.

Executive Director-National Urban League

BLACK POLITICAL CONVENTION

NEW YORK.—The National Black Political convention, held recently in Gary, Ind., was a milestone in the politi-cal development of black people. Largely neglected by the media, its full signficance will become apparent only after the passage of time, when distance will lend to it the kind of perspective and long-range influence that histori-

ans will acknowledge.

But the days following the Gary meeting saw a good deal of confusion and even disap pointment over the results of the convention. These, I believe, are misplaced.

The very fact that the convention took place and that it brought together the disparate elements of the black community in common cause. is important. It also marks giant step in the evolution of black political power. The very existence of such a convention was an indication that thinking black people no longer see political power as a function of a charismatic per sonality or of a black politician whose office is dependent upon higher governmental

Political power is more than that; it is the formulation of organization of people to achieve them. So there was no single candidate presented by the convention, nor did deal with choices among the established political par ties. It was less a political convention in the electoral sense, than a black conven tion forging a political con-sensus on the issues affecting black people.

A Remarkable Development

This is a remarkable de velopment, especially when one considers that so many black people have been so long denied the vote and delong denied the vote and de-nied participation in the political process. It was only within the past decade that black people in many parts of the country were permitted to vote, and the numbers of black elected officials, even now an inadequate 2,000, were very

For a people to go in so short a time from exclusion from the very idea of politics, to so sophisticated a parley as the Gary convention is not only historic and impressive; it is also a measure of the

city schools. During his career he has handled a record number of civil rights cases. His clients have included demand as a lecturer and public speaker. In 1968, he spoke at more than forty colleges and universities across the nation and he addressed numerous conventions including the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the American Liturgical Conference. He has testified before various Congressional committees including the Senate Committee on Urban

faith black people still have in this nation and its political

PIOUS

In the face of the broad overriding significance of the meeting, the criticisms of it can be taken in stride. Some people have called it "a circus," and others fret about the nationalist slant embodied in some of the resolutions. cus" than any political convention ever is. Confusion is always present at mass gath erings where people are poli-ticking in the aisles, and there certainly was neither the violence nor the high-handed tactics evident at the established political party's conventions in 1968. Just tune in on the forthcoming political tions this summer if you really want to see a cir-

Comfort To Enemies

I have my problems with ne of the resolutions too; the anti-bussing resolution, for example. It is clear to me that such a resolution gives aid and comfort to the ene mies of black people, as well as being wrong in itself. De-spite the heavy press play given this particular resolu tion, the convention adop another one in effect canceling out its previous antibussing stance.

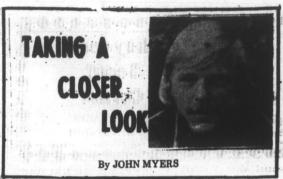
It would be absurd to sug gest that one meeting or one document can accurately reflect black opinion. Black peo ple, like everyone else, are divided on many philosophi cal, political, and economic issues. Anyone who expected the Gary convention to come up with a utopian unity was bound to be disappointed. But the convention did prove that there is far more that unities black people than divides, and that the will to unity is strong

The convention was made up of people of all political persuasions, from high Administration officials to representatives of anti-Establishment groups. But all shared the desire to help bring black people together; not to speak as one voice for all blacks. but to inaugurate the process formulate the strategies and goals that will make this nastructures work for us as they now work for white Ameri-

Problems.

He has also written many articles and essays which have been published in numerous journals and periodicals. His first book, Three-Fifths of a Man, published by Macmillan, is now in its second printing.

In the summer of 1968. Mr. McKissick resigned as CORE's National Director in order so spend full-time helping to build the Black Economy which he first advocated twenty-five years



"A lack of communication" seems to be the scape goat of all our nation's problems currently. Everyone talks about a lack of communication. "People can't understand." That statement is not exactly true. A more truthful statement would be "people refuse to understand."

A good example of misunderstanding in the city of Durham presently is the conflict of the new county hospital. On one hand, the board of directors are not listening to what is being said by the committee of poor people. They are hearing the complaints, but hearing and listening are two different things.

On the other hand, the lowincome committee is not listening to the answers or reasons for lack of answers given by the hospital board of directors. Each side has its own opinion on the topic and neither side is willing to compromise to meet the other.

Other examples coming across nation wide this year are the elections. How many citizens are truly listening to what the candidates are saying; They possibly hear the speeches and the promises and then go to the poles and cast their ballots for the man with the pretty smile or the family man who has all his pictures taken with his chil-

There is a fine art to listening. There are a lot of people talking but there is a great demand for listeners. One must get his own head in fine with the thoughts and feelings that make him feel most comfortable. But it is a rare man who has reached the point of total rightness. Therefore, one must retain an open mind to change. Listening to the otherside may open your eyes to facts you might otherwise have

missed. If one's own thoughts and feelings are in order to provide happiness and contentment for his own life, then what does he have to fear from listening to another man. If one feels he is right then confrontation with wrong can only strengthen him. It can not destroy him. I truly feel we are in need

of listeners. That rare breed of

man who can collect information, sort it, analyze it, and draw a logically based conclusion from the facts. These are the kind of voters and civic workers this city needs. The next time you intend to confront a person with a problem it might help to put Yourself through a test. Ask yourself if you know what you are talking about. Can you prove it? Do you have facts to substantiate your charges? If you can answer yes to these questions then you are on firm ground for the next set. Do you know the power structure of the organization or group of people you are going to confront? Do you know how they operate as a unified body? Are you willing to listen to their replys to your questions even if they are not the replys you wanted? Are you willing to listen and draw a conclusion from what is said: not from the emotional surroundings in the room. If you can understand these questions and answer yes to them, then you may stand a chance for doing something about your complaing. If you do not understand them or are not willing to listen, you stand no chance at all. The power structure of government is too strong to be dismissed with a wave of the hand. It must be listened to. It must be under-

stood if one is ever to change

Editors

dead at 63. Although tragic, it is no great shock. All men must die, even statesmen. What is a shock is the national wire service's treatment of the telling of this man's death. He was referred to as a flamboyant minister with a woman on one hand and a drink in the other. The fact that he was an ordained minister before and during his years in public office went unheeded. The fact that he was still the head of a large congregation in Harlem,

Powell was noticed in the wire services as the owner of a harem of women. They failed

Note

Adam Clayton Powell is to mention the more than 300 bills of public service legislation that bore his name when they were enacted. They failed to mention this man's early struggles over the legislation of civil rights bills. They failed to mention his work with housing, equal employment, and racial bigotry. The main concern of the ories coming over our n tion's wire services evolved around a "high-living minister

and booze. The wire services repeatedly told of his exploits N. Y. was also left untold. while being a minister. Yet, in all the columns not once did they title him Reverend.

Black Protestant Heads Catholic U. Of Detroit

DETROIT University of Detroit Wednesday named a 42-year-old black Protestant as the first provost in the predominantly tory.

Dr. James W. Woodruff will have full responsibility for the day-to-day operation of university. He becomes highest ranking black man in any Jesuit college in the na-

THE APPOINTMENT, made by the Rev. Malcolm J. Car-

sity, is effective immediately. Reporting to Woodruff will be the Dean of Faculties, the business manager and treas urer, the Dean of Studen. Affairs, and those units which had been reporting to him in his capacity of vice president for academic services.

with a reputation for women

SINCE Woodruff joined U. of D. in 1968 he has initiated the black-oriented "Project 100" education program and directed the school's special projects office.

