

The Carolina Times
EDITORIALS

AMERICA CAN'T SOLVE PROBLEMS

HUD Secretary George Romney warned that there is a paralysis of the Nation's decision-making process which could lead to an American Crisis—the inability to solve social problems.

He has called attention to the need for restructuring of the government problem-solving mechanism.

"We have always had problems," he said. "But now we are also facing a crisis of confidence—a crisis of confidence in the problem-solving capability of our society."

As members of the nation's largest minority, we could not agree more with Mr. Romney that a crisis of confidence exists, and so rightfully where black people of this country are concerned. We further agree that perhaps the government decision-making structure is in need of restructuring.

But we question whether priorities should be placed on the structure of the system or the decision-maker's state of mind—their attitudes, and their real concern for solving the problems that are before us and have been for the last 400 years where blacks are concerned.

We question whether it is the structure of the decision-making body or the attitudes of a majority of policy-makers responsible for the distorted busing issue—one

which has loomed before us camouflaging the real issue of the denial of quality education for black children.

And too, we wonder what is really responsible for the near-doubled rate of unemployment of blacks as compared to whites. We wonder about the inattentiveness to Sickle Cell Anemia, the disease found predominately among black people; about the sub-standard housing, and about the many, many other "problems" faced by black people.

It seems reasonable that, how decisions are made is of far less consequence than "what is being decided."

We would like to say to Mr. Romney, and to the world, for that matter, that the American society, with all its benefits, ideals, high standards of living and the many other positive elements—has a warped attitude of fairness, equality and the inherent Godliness of all men, blacks included. And so long as this attitude prevails no method of decision-making can solve the problems of society.

It is apparent to us that the seed of this country's ills is the attitude of self-centered, power-hungry men, seemingly stripped of the capacity to think and act beyond their immediate gains, at the expense of our social unit as a whole. And one does not get raisins from a fig tree.

JAMES (JAY) RODGERS ACCLAIMED
NATIONAL TEACHER OF 1972

The worldwide and national acclaim, as well as the many honors won by James (Jay) Rodgers should certainly give all Durhamites and North Carolinians a special feeling of pride. For to be selected as the recipient symbolizing the finest in the teaching profession was no easy task.

Rogers was selected as the National Teacher of the Year by a panel of eminent educators for his superior ability to inspire a love for learning and intellectual curiosity in students of varying backgrounds and skills. His Black studies course was of particular interest since it was discovered to be as exciting and as important to white students as well as his black students.

In accepting the award nationally for the teaching profession, Rodgers stated, "I think the primary motivation of any teacher teaching today has to be a sincere and very real respect for the individual student. Not students as a group, and not black or white, but just the student."

"If the teacher can communicate this respect he has a chance of getting something done. If not, no amount of expertise or even work will make any difference."

Rogers' philosophy of life is posted in his classroom—"First we must develop trust. Then there will come understanding—and as we understand, we come to have peace. And once peace is accomplished, there will be time to love."

His philosophy of education is expressed as being the great equalizer . . . to deny man education is to deny him life . . . to me, education transcends the formal classroom.

Perhaps this young gifted black man of high achievement and inspiration will encourage teachers everywhere to excel and continue in their profession and to interest other gifted and dedicated young men and women to pursue the teaching career. Perhaps his enthusiasm and other techniques can be observed and put in practice so that human understandings and peace can come to all in these perilous times.

Again, we too, salute and offer our congratulations to James (Jay) Rodgers, Durham High School Teacher of Social Studies and Black History for bringing this great honor to Durham, North Carolina and across the country and the world at large.

DECLINE IN SCHOOL BOND ISSUE
FUND RISING

It is important to note that statistics of HEW show that the percentage of school bond issues approved by the nation's voters during Fiscal year 1971 reached a record low of 46.7%.

Of more than 1,086 elections seeking to raise \$3.3 billion for public elementary and secondary construction, only 507 or less than half were approved for a total of \$1.4 billion. This represents a 21.6 per cent decline from Fiscal year 1970 when 647 approved issues raised \$1.6 billion.

The school bond issue appears to be fighting a losing battle for funds. However, we must remember that good schools cost money and all must do his or her share in seeking sources of funds.

Perhaps our priorities can be changed so that all children can get the best possible education as well as insuring the additional funds so better and improved facilities can be provided.

The general cry of tax unfairness has been raised many times.

The report also found that at \$1.4 billion, the par value of bond issues approved for Fiscal year 1971 was down 47.9 per cent from the record \$2.7 billion approved in Fiscal year 1966, when 74.5 per cent of all school bond issues were passed.

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China Gains Power

There can be no doubt now that President Nixon's recent trip to China has paid dividends for the Republic of China.

In addition to being guaranteed the recovery of Formosa, recent appointments at the United Nations indicate that China is going to have more power within the World Organization than formerly.

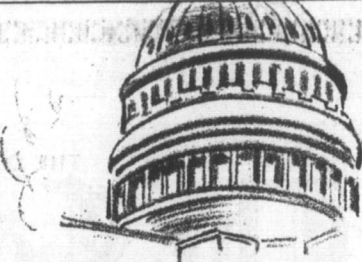
A Chinese delegate has been appointed Under Secretary General for

Political Affairs and Decolonization. This is a top rank position, placing the Chinese official on equal footing with three other Under Secretaries—United States, Argentina, and the Soviet Union.

Communist nations now hold three of the United Nations' most powerful positions. What the United States has received from the much publicized visit of its President remains to be seen.

"HE KEPT THE FAITH"

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL



AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF EDUCATION AND LABOR, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN FIVE YEARS OF HIS CHAIRMANSHIP, HE GUIDED SIXTY MAJOR LAWS TO PASSAGE.

HE FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHT OF THE BLACK COMMUNITIES TO ELECT AND SELECT ITS OWN REPRESENTATIVES.

"WE MUST GIVE OUR CHILDREN A SENSE OF PRIDE IN BEING BLACK. THE GLORY OF OUR PAST AND THE DIGNITY OF OUR PRESENT MUST LEAD THE WAY TO THE POWER OF OUR FUTURE."

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL

Lincoln U. Acquires Big Microfilm Collection of 232 Newspapers

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—A vast microfilm collection of 232 black newspapers of the 19th century has been acquired by the Lincoln university Inman E. Page library through the university's journalism department.

The collection of 192 microfilm reels represents about 95 per cent of all microfilmed black newspapers available in the United States, the entire collection of black newspapers on file in the Library of Congress.

"With this addition last month, Lincoln university, I believe, has the largest and richest collection of black newspapers of any university west of the Mississippi," Dr. Armistead S. Pride, head of Lincoln university's journalism department said. "Kansas State Historical society at Topeka has one of the largest collections of black newspapers in this area but the collection is not available to the public."

The Lincoln university microfilm is available in the library periodical room not only to students and faculty of the university but also to the general public and researchers in black history and culture.

An incomparable record of Negro life and thought in 1800's, the newspapers carry articles ranging from information to southern blacks on the best place in Kansas in which to settle, editorials denouncing the disfranchising of blacks and a wire story from London discussing the perils of black domination to fictional short stories, an article on the virtues of breakfast and a public confession of adultery.

A Year's Research

The collection is a result of a year's research in 1947 by Dr. Pride sponsored by the Committee on Negro Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies.

Pride's assignment was to locate and microfilm as many black newspapers published before the turn of the century as were available. Previous microfilming of black newspapers, which was very limited, was not duplicated and therefore the Lincoln university collection does not include the first black newspaper in the United States, "Freedom's Journal," published in 1827 in New York City.

A questionnaire seeking information was sent to more than 300 libraries and historical societies. Community, state and national newspaper histories and bibliographies were consulted including Winifred Gregory's "American Newspapers, 1821-1936, a Union List of Files Available in the United States and Canada" which listed 257 black newspaper titles.

Warren Brown, a graduate student at Hunter college (N. Y.), for his doctoral dissertation had made a check list of black newspapers in the United States from 1827 to 1946 in which he listed 467 newspapers and had located files on 148 of them.

During Dr. Pride's year of research he microfilmed those 148 and extended the microfilm files to include 232 newspapers. A single issue or a few scattered issues, in some cases, are the only evidence that the newspaper ever existed.

Treasure In Attic

Pride's search often took him to attics, trunks and ash

cans. From a Brookline, Mass., trash receptacle, Mrs. Mary Moore of Boston retrieved several cartons of old Negro periodicals including the few extant copies of the Boston "Courant" (1890-1902) for the collection.

A two-year bound file of the Trenton "Sentinel" published in 1880-1882 by M. Henri Herbert was found in the attic of the old Herbert home in Trenton, N. J., by Caesar Arena, a local contractor engaged to raze the building.

Dr. Pride's call on Charles Hall, retired Census Bureau official who had once edited the Illinois Record at Springfield in the late 1890's, salvaged a two-year file of that paper which Hall had been toying with the idea of throwing away.

Twenty reels of the collection each valued at \$200 were donated to five black university centers at the time research was completed in 1947. The universities receiving microfilm were Atlanta (Ga.) university; Dillard uni-

versity in New Orleans, La.; Fisk university in Nashville, Tenn.; Howard university, Washington, D. C.; and Lincoln university in Jefferson City.

Reels included in the Lincoln university gift were a 40-year file of the Washington, D. C. "Bee" and one reel of miscellaneous black newspapers.

Purchase More Reels

The journalism department was able to purchase 162 reels to complete the set last month through a \$1,000 grant from General Electric and \$425 from the Lincoln Clarion, campus newspaper, advertising fund.

"We had for a long time needed to complete the collection so that we would be able to use it as supplementary material for Lincoln university courses in the black press and history of American journalism," Dr. Pride said. The total set is valued at \$1,600.

To Be Equal

By Vernon E. Jordan Jr., Executive Director, National Urban League



A GIANT PASSES ON

NEW YORK. — Its hard to imagine a political scene without the presence of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., who died last week after a long illness. Adam was bigger than life; he strode across the country's political and civil rights scene like a colossus, dwarfing many who tried to keep up with him. I think it is fair to say that we shall not see the likes of Adam again. He was unique.

His faults, like his virtues, were large, but too much attention has been paid them. It pained me to read in his obituaries, the old familiar stories about the playboy congressman, the junkets, the legal battles, and the final retreat to Bimini. That was only a part of the Adam Powell story, and a small part at that.

It is the good that men do that should live on after them, and Adam did enough good for several lifetimes. He was an authentic pioneer. Decades before slogans like "black is beautiful" became popular, Adam was preaching a doctrine of pride and black power. And he did more than preach it — he was the embodiment of black political power as one of the most important Congressmen in Washington.

Started in Depression

He first became widely known as one of the leaders of the crusade for jobs in Harlem during the depression. In the early '30's Harlem was a world-famous center of black population, but black people could not work in the bustling stores and offices of 125th street.

Still in his early 20's, Adam became one of the leaders of a "don't buy where you can't work" boycott, manning the picket lines and speaking in the streets until the stores relented and started hiring

black people.

Then he went into politics and became the first black member of New York's City Council and later the first black Congressman from the East. And all the while, this brilliant man who was labeled "lazy" by his critics, was presiding over the fortunes of Harlem's largest church.

Adam wasn't just a congressman, he was a black Congressman. That meant a lot in a Southern-dominated Congress in the forties and fifties. It meant, for example, that he was excluded from the "Club" that informally runs the Congress. It meant taking a back seat on an important committee run by an avowed white supremacist — never getting the recognition or subcommittee chairmanship his seniority entitled him to. And it meant that white Congressmen, who were known for fancy European junkets on tax dollars and some indiscreet activities of their own, tried to hold him to standards they themselves ignored.

What others did covertly Adam did openly, with a joy and zest for life that confused his pinched critics and colleagues. And the louder they condemned him for being sassy and uppity, the more black people loved this bold, proud man.

Seniority system Works

When his big chance came, he took it. The seniority system, long a mechanism for keeping power in Southern Congressmen's hands, finally worked for black people, and Adam took over the powerful House Education and Labor committee. Under his chairmanship, the Committee churned out bill after bill, many of them constituting sweeping reforms aiding equal opportunity. Adam proved a brilliant chairman, getting these bills through the com-

TAKING A
CLOSER
LOOK



By JOHN MYERS

Watts Hospital Building Development Plan distributed to the county commissioners and the hospital board of trustees in 1966 listed as part of its expected expenditures for the proposed new Watts Hospital, on page 5 of the planning program, "48 beds to replace those in Lincoln Hospital." On page 6 it again stated, as part of the expenses, "48 beds to replace those in Lincoln Hospital." On page 7 as part of the space and cost planning, "one floor to accommodate Lincoln Hospital."

These references in the defeated plans for a new Watts Hospital would certainly lead one to believe that Lincoln Hospital was about to merge with Watts. However, according to John Wheeler on the Lincoln board of trustees, the staff or its trustees knew nothing of the plans until they saw them in the program.

Wheeler and several other interested citizens have been carrying on the fight to save Lincoln Hospital since 1965. Wheeler is convinced that Lincoln is doomed unless the fight continues. He points to a tax factor to support his reasons. The countywide tax rate of \$0.386 is distributed between six sections of the community. Interest, one of which is hospital operation. The levy for hospitals, which is divided between Watts and Lincoln 60%-40% is \$309,416.29. If Lincoln Hospital should suddenly be closed the entire levy would go to Watts Hospital and in the future to the new County General. This fact in itself would appear to be sufficient

evidence that a merger or a closing of one of the hospitals would be an interesting proposition. In addition to the tax rate, funds from OEO and from other federal sources were attempted to be stopped in 1968. Without federal funds at that time, Lincoln would have had no choice but to close.

In the present controversy the statement continues to arise that Lincoln Hospital and Treatment Center will both continue to operate "if funds are available and if they continue to serve a useful purpose." This leads one to believe that there is a question of the continuation of funds. Why?

Another recurring statement is that "Lincoln is not as yet under our control. We feel this will be forthcoming." The county hospital board has stated that Lincoln is holding out on becoming part of the hospital corporation. Why?

Wheeler says the main reason for Lincoln's reluctance to come into the corporation is that he and the other members of the Lincoln board have not been given a guarantee, that if they sign into the corporation, Lincoln will not be closed. These are points of the hospital controversy which should require careful attention by all of Durham's citizens. They could mean the success or failure of the new County General, for without the continued operating clinic facilities of Lincoln and Watts Hospitals, the new county hospital could not possibly hope to accommodate all of Durham's medical needs.

N.A.A.C.P. In Action
For 1972

By Jeremiah Cameron

It is unfortunate and bodes ill for the peace of this community that recent statements by those participating in one way or another in police leadership in Kansas City indicate an entrenched, almost pig-headed commitment to police brutality. The cry of the people, both white and Black, against a variety of police malpractice seems to have stiffened the leadership into a support of "our police officers right or wrong."

The continuance of crime in

the community, and at all levels, involving rich and poor, would indicate that police malpractice is not the way to secure the peaceful welfare of the community. Were it not so tragic, we would be tempted to laugh to scorn the futile, frustrating efforts of an ineffectual chief and his officers, who believe that the quality of life in the community can be measured out by degrees of repressiveness.

A citizenry expects more of a police chief, of a head of the Office of Citizens' Complaints, of presidents of national and local white police officer associations, and certainly of the president of the governor-appointed board of police commissioners than the business as usual approach that they have taken to complaints from a citizenry that can hardly be written off as capricious, carping, rabble rousers: The Rev. John W. Williams, of the St. Stephen Baptist church, is no rabble rouser. Representatives Harold L. Holliday-Sr., and Herman Johnson are no police baiters. But of course, they are black. The people beseech in the name of human decency; the Police department remains defiant.

We are not unaware of the pressures under which the chief of police, may have to work, the fact that he has to be concerned about police morale and, right now, sees a growing policeman's association within his rank. But we in the NAACP submit that it constitutes a sorry state of affairs when police morale has prime consideration over justice and the rights of the people.

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