

**EDITORIALS & COMMENT**

**Admiral Zumwalt and People to People**

Despite the many headlines of the racial disturbances in the Navy, it must be remembered that the problems are not new. They are as old as the Naval Services itself and have been for the most part totally ignored. Times now are different. Doctile blacks who previously endured and endured is the word, the humiliations and indignities of subservience to an unresponsive system which treated them as less than human, have been replaced by young, impatient aggressives.

These young men are essentially activists, demanding the immediate resolution of their grievances. When there is no adequate response, they lash out angrily at the system, caring little about tired old traditions or consequences. Thus at long last, race relations have come to a boiling head at sea.

Riots and sit-ins have taken place on carriers Kittyhawk and Constellation and the oiler Hassayama. There have been other unreported incidents. One hundred and thirty-one black servicemen from the Constellation have been transferred following their part in the rebellion of November 9.

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Chief of Naval Operations, addressed the NNPA convention in Atlanta in 1971. He related the setting up of a series of "People to People" pro-

grams—all designed to improve race relations and to implement guidelines on equal opportunity in the Navy. He has demonstrated his sincerity; but too often sad to say, his directives have been ignored. The hide-bound hierarchy of the Navy is so jealous of its traditional prerogatives that it cannot bear to be forced to deal with the realities of the changing times. Equipment may be modernized, but not policies in human relations.

Congressional Committees are now looking into the incidents. The apparent intent is to place the blame for "permissiveness" and breakdown in discipline squarely on the shoulders of Admiral Zumwalt, although there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Further, to date, there have been no black congressmen on the Committee. It is hoped that some will be appointed at the new session of Congress so that they too can have some input into the severe apparent problems evolving from the investigations.

The Admiral, while holding firmly to discipline has just as forthrightly insisted that his subordinates obey the rules on EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. We think that central issue is far greater than Admiral Zumwalt and "permissiveness." It is whether the Navy can catch up with

**STOP THE FEAR AND TREMBLING IN BLACK STREETS**



**The Black Church & Preacher**

Americans who have spent any time in England will no doubt remember that one of the show places in London is Hyde Park, the meeting place for public discussions on all the problems that confront the country in its internal and external relationships. If you have the time and the patience, you can listen to a variety of speeches from would-be experts who have the answers to the problems that baffle world statesmen.

Philadelphia, as far as we know, has no such center. But Philadelphia's counterparts of the Hyde Park orators may be found, when the weather is good, on certain corners in Philadelphia on Saturday evenings, giving advice to Government officials from the President of the United States down to the dog-catchers.

One of the pet topics often discussed is the Black Church and Black preachers. If you listen to the majority of these orators and did not know better, you would perhaps be influenced by the distorted picture of religious organizations and their leaders.

It may be interesting to be reminded that, making allowances for all the weaknesses from which the human institutions and their leaders are wont to suffer; that most of the orators are "outsiders," who speak from what they hear, rather than from what they know.

It is significant, however, to remind our readers that three of the present movements which have as their aim Negro betterment and which have gained nationwide attention in the last ten years have been the brainchildren of Black preachers.

First, there was the SCLC - the Southern Christian Leadership Confer-

ence - which tackled the problem of segregation in an Alabama town, won a victory there, and went on to lift the status of the Blacks and to improve their lot as citizens of the United States. The leader was the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., who, before an assassin cut short his life, had made an imprint on national and international life that won him a Nobel Peace Prize.

The second Church-oriented program, which has become nationally and internationally known, emphasized JOBS. This organization - the OIC - was started by another Black clergyman. As a result of this movement, hundreds of thousands of Black men and women have been trained for specific tasks. A high percentage of these trainees have found gainful employment and the OIC now has affiliates in several North African countries. The guiding genius of this movement is another Black preacher - the Rev. Leon Howard Sullivan.

The third Church-oriented program, fast gaining national and international attention, is Business oriented. Known as PUSH (People United Saving Humanity), the organization has for its guiding genius another Black preacher, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, who has attracted a wide variety of the Black business leaders in the United States, and is also gaining attention in Liberia, West Africa.

The Black Church, its members being human, has its weaknesses. Its detractors should ask themselves, and answer honestly, what the status of Blacks would be in the United States today had it not been and were it not for the Black Church and its leaders.

**A Fresh Return to Nature**

As December carries the year rapidly to its close and daylight shrinks toward its minimum, the earth is revealed in all its beautiful and ageless dignity. For we know that Spring gave it a freshness and a budding sense of green. Summer dressed the hills and valleys with leaves that hid the scars of time. Autumn dazzled the eye with color and bespangled the winds.

And now with winter, the rugged outlines, bold features and sharp contours are revealed. Mother earth has a mellowed and mature look. There is a firmness to its hills, valleys and mountains that is reassuring. Its valleys like the lines in a well-known face, were shaped by time and living. There is no question now of earth's reality or identity. Even the scars of man's ignorant abuse are in plain sight and points up the many ways that Nature has tried to heal their wounds.

All things are reduced to barest fundamentals of nature. Trees are simplified, bare shapes against the sky. Brooks are quiet in their icy

beds or perhaps running out of their banks where man has not tried to shape the edges. Ledges are sheer, fundamental rock is in somber hues. You can stand on a hilltop now and see the breadth of this earth, horizon to horizon. You can look up and imagine the height of the sky and even dream with the astronauts this week. Realizing and knowing these things, you know the fundamental dimensions of this birthplace and home of life.

First snows, freeze and even unusual rains have come and gone. More snow, sleet and rains will come. All earth will be cleansed and purified, rounded, smoothed, made new and gleaming as we look to the New Year.

But for a while, between the falling of the leaves and the coming of the deep snows or sleet, the rugged beauty, dignity and power of the universe is revealed in its own age and time.

Nature then shows that she is still in command as we often say, "for every time there is a season."

**Dr. Elizabeth D. Koontz**

News of the acceptance of Dr. Elizabeth Duncan Koontz resignation from Department of Labor by President Nixon was received with a touch of sadness. It will be recalled that Mrs. Koontz moved from the presidency of the powerful National Education Association (NEA) to take over this post several years ago.

The resignation of Mrs. Koontz will serve as a tremendous void in women's advancement in the Department of Labor. As its director, equal opportunities for women and especially minority women reached great heights.

We are well aware that the women's movement has demonstrated that it is not just a passing fad. It is expected that continued opportunities in jobs, education, family roles and other areas will continue to be closely scrutinized by all.

Hopefully, we anticipate also that the new appointee, instead of taking a new direction, will continue to build on the already firm foundations of those programs that give much inspiration to women in general and was so well attuned to our times as initiated by Dr. Elizabeth Koontz.

**Horton Appointed**

An announcement by Gov. Elect Holshouser that Rev. Larnie T. Horton would serve as Special Assistant on minority affairs appears to be a good move in the right direction.

The time is long past for all minorities to have input and active participation at all levels of the state government.

We hope that this appointment will be the opening wedge for the accomplishment of these goals.

Rev. Horton, former minister of Emmanuel AME Church of Durham and president of Kittrell College can offer much to the new team.

It is a good step in the right direction. the 20th century as we march swift-

ly toward the 21st, or whether it will continue to hang back sulking in the ruins of its pride.

We do not by any means, condone unruliness and wilful disobedience of just and lawful regulations. Those who break such rules must be dealt with firmly. However, we do insist that there must be no DOUBLE STANDARDS in the Navy, either in the application of JUSTICE or in the CHANCE for ALL personnel to advance under equal opportunity guidelines. And this seems to be the core of what Admiral Zumwalt is fighting for. He has our full support.

**Black unrest follows youth's killing by cop**

GREENVILLE, N. C. (AANS) Several nights of Black unrest struck this Eastern North Carolina city last week following the killing of a young Black man by a white policeman who claimed it was an accident.

After the shooting of Constable James, 24, by policeman Charles Williamson late on the night of Dec. 6, local Black people took to the streets, stoning and overturning cars of passing white motorists and beating the inhabitants.

Breaking of store windows also took place, along with several fire-bombings.

Police put out extra patrols and Police Chief Glenn Cannon announced that Williamson was being relieved of duty pending a probe by the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI).

According to the policeman, a larceny suspect was being chased by him. The suspect had fled on foot and Williamson had taken out in pursuit. Unable to catch the suspect, the patrolman said he confronted three other Blacks, one of whom he placed under arrest for "using profane language."

A second officer soon arrived on the scene and tried to arrest James for allegedly interfering with the arrest of

the first person.

Williamson was then attacked by James, the police report claimed. In the scuffle that followed, the policeman's .357 magnum revolver accidentally discharged, killing the Black man, said the report.

Williamson's account of James' death has not been accepted by the Black community. James' death is the second such one in as many years here in Pitt county.

In August, 1971 32-year-old William Murphy of nearby Ayden was shot by state patrolman Billy Day who claimed the Black farm worker had scuffled with him in a patrol car.

Murphy's death was disputed by Black community investigations, however, which instead said the man had been shot in the back while handcuffed after being pistol whipped by the officer.

Trooper Day's action was ruled justifiable homicide despite continuous marches and arrests of hundreds of Blacks. Several firebombings took place.

Eventually 11teen-age Blacks were arrested following the firebombing of a school wash-room in Ayden and sentenced to a total of 133 years in jail on controversial evidence.

One of them -- 17-year-old Donald Smith -- was given 40 years in jail.

**Panthers challenge muggers**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- (NBNS) -- Black Panther Co-Chairman Bobby Seale has announced the formation of a non-profit corporation, "Seniors Against a Federal Environment," (SAFE) to provide free busings and escorts to take the elderly to and from banks to cash social security checks to protect them against muggers.

Many North Carolina crop farmers become cattlemen in the winter. They buy beef calves in the fall to clean up behind grain and soybean combines and to graze winter cover crops such as rye, wheat, oats and barley. In the peanut production area, peanut hay is used to supplement the winter feeding. Silage is often fed, also. The calves are fed to gain 1 to 1 1/2 pounds a day through the winter, to be sold next spring as stocker cattle.

**TO BE EQUAL**  
Another Try At Welfare Reform  
By **Vernon Jordan**

High on the list of priorities facing the new Congress when it convenes in January should be the question of welfare reform has been debated for the past three sessions.

Everyone agrees on just one point -- that the present welfare system is not working and badly needs overhauling. One of the major tasks facing the new Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Casper Weinberger, will undoubtedly be to brush up the Administration's Family Assistance Plan.

How successful renewed reform efforts will be depends on whether the aims of the welfare system are to cut costs or to help poor people. Confusion on that score helped to defeat previous versions. The Administration started off with a proposal that established the principle of federal assistance to all in need, but the plan was rewritten several times and each revision added layers of punitive measures that amounted to a war on the poor. The last Congress gave welfare reform an unceremonious burial, to the relief of all who want to see a just and equitable assistance program worked out.

The most recent development on the welfare scene was HEW's plan to tighten management of state welfare programs by taking away some \$400 million a year because allegedly ineligible people were collecting welfare payments or were receiving overpayments.

This move illustrates the cost-cutting approach to welfare at the expense of the human needs the system is supposed to meet. Attention is focused on the statistics of payment distributions with no consideration given to the needs of the individuals involved. Regulations can be interpreted narrowly, resulting in apparent overpayments or they can be interpreted more broadly, in which case there is no pattern of overpayment. In this case, poor people may pay for managerial errors.

Whatever the bureaucratic mechanism employed, the recipients are still people who are poor and who are dependent upon public assistance for their

rent payments and for their children's food. All the stress on statistical overpayments also neglected the many who get less than they are legally entitled to under the law. Playing a numbers game with welfare statistics does nothing about the real problems.

Real welfare reform will require a comprehensive program of tax reform, extension of social security benefits, increasing and extending unemployment compensation and minimum wages, family allowances, and above-poverty-line minimal federal assistance standards.

And for all the talk about "permissiveness" and the "work ethic," a massive job-creation program is needed to enable everyone who can work to have it. Study after study simply confirms that people on welfare want to work and share the same values as those who hold jobs. It's the economy that is the villain here, not the poor.

As national attention once again focuses on welfare reform, it would be most beneficial to the emotionally-supercharged atmosphere of myths and stereotypes about poor people and to concentrate instead on the ways in which our faltering economy can be made to work for everyone.

It may be easier to win headlines by attacking "cheats on welfare," but the problem of hunger and poverty will remain long after those headlines fade and the papers on which they are printed is recycled.

Attempts at welfare reform will be doomed if they once more degenerate into a circular competition to see whose plan can punish more people. The work ethic is just a faded idea if it exists in a vacuum created by lack of job opportunities, and welfare costs can be sharply cut if the nation is prepared to tolerate widespread hunger and misery.

The real goal of welfare reform has to be the relief of the hardships of poverty coupled with the expansion of opportunities for human growth and development. That's the lesson of the futile deadlock of the past several years.

**Do's And Don'ts**



**The Carolina Times**  
Editor-Publisher 1927-1971  
L. E. AUSTIN

Published every Saturday at Durham, N. C. by United Publishers, Inc. MRS. VIVIAN AUSTIN EDMONDS, Publisher

CLARENCE BONNETTE Business Manager  
J. ELWOOD CARTER Advertising Manager  
Second Class Postage Paid at Durham, N. C. 27702

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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Foreign Countries	1 Year \$7.50
Single Copy	20 Cents

Principal Office Located at 436 East Pettigrew Street Durham, North Carolina 27702