

# EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS

## EMERGENCY JOB PROGRAM

The Emergency Job Program which President Ford signed into legislation in late December is in process of being administered in Durham by the Durham-Orange County Manpower Consortium and should help to give some public service jobs to currently unemployed persons.

It is important to remember that requirements have been set up for those individuals who can participate in such public works programs. Individuals must have been unemployed for 30 calendar days and must be residents of the Durham-Orange County Area.

Preference will be given to those persons who have exhausted or used up their unemployment insurance benefits, to those unemployed persons who are not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits and to those who have been unemployed

for 15 or more weeks.

Special consideration will be given to the most severely disadvantaged persons, veterans, welfare recipients and former manpower trainees.

It is hoped that many of those persons who have been unemployed and are actively seeking work will make all efforts to become a part of the Emergency Jobs Program. With the high cost of living and with the rapidly growing unemployment at all levels, we hope that those who meet the criteria and who have been unemployed for some time will be able to share and participate in this program.

Durham's economy is in dire need of an assist from such a program and it is hoped that all who qualify can become a part of the new Emergency Jobs Program.

## CRUCIAL SESSION

The 1975 General Assembly convened this past Wednesday and observers and legislators alike agree that it should be an interesting session, one that very likely could extend into late June or early July.

But because the times are so uncertain we think the word "interesting" does not clearly define the importance of this legislative gathering. "Crucial" is a much more appropriate term, for in a sense, the General Assembly has the opportunity to deal with measures that could dramatically improve the lot of many North Carolinians, especially in the areas of economic and consumer matters.

We hope the legislature will act swiftly in approving some kind of tax reform package, while at the same time approving measures to limit the power public utilities have in imposing higher rates. The giant utilities already exert too much control over our lives and purses.

The General Assembly should also act favorably in approving a law that would protect renters in their relationship with landlords, and the Equal Rights Amendment that would in effect, bestow full citizenship rights upon women. Repeal of the sales tax

on food is another matter that has attracted considerable attention of those advocating consumer reform, and repeal of the death penalty deserves the closest of attention from those in Raleigh.

The matter of allocating funds for the NCCU Law School is an issue that can stand no equivocation. The school must be supported and the General Assembly must come up with the funds needed to construct a new building for the school. The only professional school at a predominantly black college in the University of North Carolina system must be saved, and in order for the school to maintain its accreditation, a new building will have to be constructed. Positive action on any allocation of funds for NCCU is imperative.

The General Assembly will also be watched closely to see if the members exercise economy in government. In this day and time of rising costs, etc., there can do no malarky and hanky panky in Raleigh. The people's representatives must work - and work hard at arriving at the solutions to the problems of the people of the state. It is time to get down to business.

## FIRST IN HYPOCRISY

The 1975 license plate with its slogan, "First In Freedom," is an embarrassment to the those North Carolinians who are aware of the restrictive and repressive actions and attitudes of many in this state.

The slogan was attached to the new license plates at the request of the State's Bicentennial Committee to commemorate what it considered two significant events in the state's history during the country's move for independence. The first was the signing of the Halifax Resolution which made North Carolina the first colony to authorize delegates to attend the Continental Congress where the Declaration of independence was signed. The second event was North Carolina, in 1775, being the first colony to expel its royal governor.

Unfortunately the Bicentennial

Committee, the governor and others entrusted with the authority to dictate the state's image seem more concerned with the state's past than they do with the present.

One has only to remember that there are more persons on death row in North Carolina than any other state to recognize the foolishness of the "First In Freedom" slogan. One has only to recall the governor's recent action dismissing the members of the state's Human Relations Commission to see the absurdity of such a slogan. The list could go on and on, but that would only add to the embarrassment.

Perhaps a more appropriate slogan to stick on the state's license plates, and one which would seem to characterize North Carolina's present and possibly its future, would be "First in Hypocrisy."

## Jackson Advocates Silver Rights

STATEMENT OF THE REVEREND JESSE L. JACKSON, NATIONAL PRESIDENT, OPERATION PUSH, ON HOLY DAY SERVICES AND MASS DEMONSTRATIONS

For the last three months the National ecumenical minister's Division of Operation PUSH has attempted to serve as the moral catalyst in re-establishing the coalition for progressive change. The responsiveness of the religious community, civic and civil rights organizations, schools, organized and unorganized labor, the unemployed and just ordinary decent people of all men and all political and economic viewpoints have convinced us that the economic issue and our timing were both correct.

On Dr. King's birthday we will launch our "Silver Rights" program by marching around the White House, and around U.S. Labor Departments and Manpower Offices across the country, seven times. Just as Joshua marched around the wall of Jericho, we intend that Ford's economic policies shall fall. Our initial "Silver Rights" program includes:

1. FULL EMPLOYMENT—The right of every person willing, able and desiring a job to be employed in meaningful and socially productive work at liveable wages. Specifically we are supporting congressman Augustus Hawkins' Bill, entitled the "Equal Opportunity and Full Employment Act of 1976."
2. DECENT HOUSING—The right of every person to safe and

decent housing. Specifically, 300,000 units of housing sponsored by not-for-profit corporations are scheduled for foreclosure in the coming year in the midst of the present housing crisis. These units must be saved.

3. ELIMINATION OF HUNGER—We're closer to soup lines today than we've been since the 1930's.
  4. SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESSES—The little man's desire of self-determination cannot be sacrificed.
  5. SPIRITUAL REGENERATION—We must have an abundant moral as well as material life.
- January 15—Martin Luther King's Birthday is the occasion for a rededication to the kind of unrelenting mass action that will make these goals a reality in this decade.



"WE CAN NEVER BE SATISFIED AS LONG AS THE NEGRO'S BASIC MOBILITY IS FROM A SMALLER GHETTO TO A LARGER ONE."

REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING

POLICE SAID A NOTE WAS LEFT READING "NIGGERS BEWARE."

## Profile: Angela Davis Today

By EMLY F. GIBSON

LOS ANGELES—It was Sunday afternoon, June 2, 1972. The small office on South Broadway, which for almost two years had housed the local "Free Angela Davis" committee, was filled with supporters. They spilled out onto the sidewalk and along the curbside anxiously awaiting the verdict. They were the faithful, the believers, those who had trod the streets getting signatures on petitions, selling "Save Our Sisters" buttons, staging rallies, collecting coins -- and sometimes dollars for the defense. As they waited, the minutes dragged by agonizingly.

Abruptly, the newscaster's voice shattered the silence: "Miss Davis has been found not guilty on each of the three counts -- murder, kidnapping, and conspiracy...."

An incomprehensible shriek, almost like one voice, pierced the air, as the crowd exploded in jubilation. Throwing into the streets, they clapped and chanted in unison: "The power of the people has freed Angela." Simultaneously, on the steps of the San Jose County Courthouse, a tearful Angela Davis told reporters, "This is the happiest day of my life."

An all white jury of seven women and five men had cleared her of complicity in the Marin County Courthouse shoot-out which had left a white judge, two black San Quentin inmates and 17 year old Jonathan Jackson dead in its wake. According to Angela's mother, Mrs. Sallye Davis, the period preceding the acquittal had been "Twenty-two months of total nightmare."

The nightmare is over for the present. Today Angela Davis is at home in East Oakland's black ghetto. The door is always open to the comfortable, freshly-painted, yellow frame house which she shares with her long-time friend Victoria Mercado, a young Chicano activist. At 30, Angela is a striking woman with quiet good looks and a generous smile. Tall and willowy clad in Levi cut-offs, knit body shirt

and knee socks, Angela no longer bears the emaciated appearance which was evident during the latter part of her 16-months-long incarceration.

The walls of her study are lined from ceiling to floor with books, perhaps 1,200 of them which she has collected over the years. There is a 40-volume set of the "COLLECTED WORKS OF KARL MARX AND FRIEDRICH ENGELS" in German, dating back to 1965 when Davis was a graduate student at Goethe University's Institute for Social Research in Frankfurt. Spanish language selections by Cuban poet Nicolas Guillen are remnants of the summer of 1969 which she spent working in the cane and coffee fields of Havana. The numerous French-titled literature books bring back memories of student days at Brandeis and a year spent studying at the Sorbonne in Paris. At the far end of the room is a large wooden desk, rescued from the San Francisco headquarters of the former National United Committee to Free Angela Davis.

It is in these surroundings that the former philosophy professor recently completed her autobiography which she drafted during the early months of 1973 in a Cuban villa.

Between puffs on the small, narrow-stemmed pipe, Angela talked about the experiences which had taken her from "an intellectual conviction about the necessity of social change to actually working for the revolution."

Davis first drew headlines five years ago when she was fired from her teaching post at UCLA. The action was triggered by a blurb in UCLA's student newspaper, the DAILY BRUIN, June 24, 1969, which reported that the Philosophy Department had made a two-year appointment of an Acting Assistant Professor, and added, "The person is well-qualified for the post and is also a member of the Communist Party."

Bill Divale, the author of the article, earlier admitted that he was a paid informant for the FBI when he testified

as such before the 1968 Los Angeles hearings of the Subversive Activities Control Board. Divale's article formed the basis for a "scoop" by the SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER's Ed Montgomery July 9, 1969.

Davis incurred the wrath of the California Board of Regents by her admission of membership in the Che-Lumumba Club, an all-black collective of the Communist Party of Southern California. The regents summarily dismissed her. Thus, on September 19, 1969, Angela Davis, became perhaps the first teacher in the history of the American education system to be fired without ever having taught a class.

Basing their decision on anti-communist resolutions which had been passed by their predecessors nearly thirty years earlier, and re-affirmed during the "Red Scare" of the McCarthy era, the action of the regents sparked a nationwide controversy over the question of "academic freedom."

The real issue, according to Davis, was a question of political repression which encompasses both academic freedom and racism. "They did not question my qualifications, academic training, or ability to teach, only my politics. And had I not been so deeply involved in the black liberation struggle, it is doubtless they would not have cared."

Defiantly, she replied to the regents: "As a black woman, I am used to fighting and I will continue fighting now."

The first round of the fight ended scarcely a month after it began when the courts declared Davis' dismissal improper because resolutions on which it was founded were unconstitutional.

When Davis returned to UCLA to present her first lecture in a course entitled "Recurring Philosophical Themes in Black Literature," the largest auditorium on the campus could not accommodate the students and spectators. More than 7,000 showed up to greet the professor.

## Resolution Passed In Memory Of Mrs. Zoe Parks Barbee

The 1974-75 School for County Commissioners held at the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill passed the following resolution in memory of the late Mrs. Zoe P. Barbee, the black woman county commissioner who was fatally injured in a car wreck on December 23, in Durham County.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Zoe Parks Barbee, late of Guilford County, had been elected as a County Commissioner on November 5, 1974 and by virtue of such election was a member of our freshman class of newly elected County Commissioners of 1974, and

WHEREAS, she had attended the first sessions of

this class at the Institute of Government in December of 1974, exhibiting her usual intense interest in furthering her own knowledge to the betterment of her county and constituents; and

WHEREAS, shortly afterwards, on December 23, she was suddenly removed from our midst in a most unfortunate and tragic highway accident, thus depriving her family, her friends and her constituents, county and State of her valuable counsel and service;

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this group of her contemporaries do hereby go on record extending sympathy to her family and friends, and expressing our

sincere sense of loss in her untimely passing; and

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners to her family, and to the Board of County Commissioners of Guilford County.

Done at the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina in the town of Chapel Hill in the County of Orange, this the Ninth Day of January in the Year of Our

Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five and in the One Hundred Ninety-Ninth Year of Independence, and adopted by unanimous vote.



## THE PROBLEM AND FUTURE OF HOUSING

By DR. GLORIA E. A. TOOTE

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

Homeownership, with its many benefits, also carries with it the burden and responsibility for maintaining and improving the property. The properly cared for home pays dividends that can be unnecessarily forfeited if improvements and maintenance are deferred.

Under the new Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the HUD/FHA insurance program for Home Improvement Loans has been made more attractive for the individual.

Previously, the interest rate had varied according to the amount and term of the loan, and the loan maximum was \$5,000 for seven years. Single family home improvement loans may now be made in amounts up to \$10,000, with a maximum finance charge of 12 percent and maximum maturity period of 12 years.

Borrowers are free to shop around and should for the most favorable rate, and lenders can charge any rate up to the ceiling. The HUD/FHA loan insurance program is authorized by Title I of the National Housing Act. These HUD/FHA-insured Title I home improvement loans may be used for any improvements that will make your home a basically more livable and useful place. The loans can even be used for dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers, and ovens that are built into the house, however, they may not be used for purchase of free-standing appliances.

Neither can these loans be used for what are considered luxury type articles, for example, swimming pools and outdoor fireplaces. Additionally, it is not permissible to use the loan to pay for work already done.

The loan can be used to pay for materials and labor, and the improvements can be made by a contractor or dealer, if you have the experience and skill for the job, you can do it yourself.

HUD's pamphlet, "Fixing Up Your Home: What To Do And How To Finance It," provides guidance and information that you would do well to review before undertaking improvements on your home.

There are three requirements you must meet to secure one of these loans. First, you must own your property on a long term lease on it. Second, you must have a satisfactory credit rating. And, third, you must have enough income to repay the loan over its term.

The loan insurance program is generally available throughout the country through banks and other qualified lenders.

The loan can be small enough to pay just for materials, or larger, and can cover architectural and engineering costs and building permit fees. In most cases, loans under \$7,500 do not require any security other than your signature and no cosigner is needed.

With the present national economic climate, second thought should be given before acquiring new financial indebtedness. Creditors are seldom sympathetic as to the whys, when you are late in making a loan payment.

However, some home repair is essential to maintain property value and excessive cost when minor repairs go unattended and cause major structural damage.

There are several good plans with reasonable terms for financing home improvements, if one must borrow. You should shop around. And you should never sign anything you do not completely understand.

Single copies of "Fixing Up Your Home: What To Do and How To Finance It" are available free in any HUD office or by writing: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Publication Service Center, Room B-258, 451 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20410.

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## Things You Should Know

the Rev. **Absalom JONES...**

THE FAMOUS PHILADELPHIA CHURCH LEADER WHO WORKED WITH BISHOP RICHARD ALEN (FOUNDER OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH) TO SAVE THE CITY IN THE YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC OF 1793 / WHEN THE BRITISH CAPTURED THE CITY OF WASHINGTON IN THE WAR OF 1812, THEY RECRUITED 2,000 NEGRO FIGHTERS / TWO BATTALIONS SERVED UNDER GEN. ANDREW JACKSON IN THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS ON JAN. 3, 1815!

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