

Business  
in the  
Black

By Charles E. Belle



NUCLEAR NEWS —Part 1

Dr. Chaurcey Starr, Electric Power Research Institute, testified before the joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy that the Federal government must apply the same degree of attention to the electricity supply over the next two decades as it does to primary energy sources in order to avoid playing Russian roulette with our social structure.

Black Americans, must be sure the gun is not pointed at our heads. Most minorities, black or white, are aware of the potential increase of their cost

of living caused by the higher cost of oil. White labor forces in the West Virginia coal mines have made coal as equally costly.

Environmentalists seek to support higher exaction cost for all energy sources. But for blacks, Nuclear energy is news. This industry unlike the others offers new opportunities for Black Americans.

Only shale oil development in the western states of Colorado, Utah and Wyoming can provide job positions equal for blacks to the Nuclear age. The established technical labor force in oil and

gas exemplify the exclusion of blacks.

And while employment discrimination against blacks by Southern mines and minds keeps us out of many coal fields, it also helps keep us away from black lung disease. This blessing in disguise for blacks shows no sign of change even in strip mining in Kansas and Missouri.

Nuclear energy is new. New industrial developments give blacks an opportunity to open new doors to economic progress. An electric utilities official claims even at a cost of \$100 per pound, Uranium breaks even with oil at \$12 per barrel or coal at \$30 per ton.

Currently all three are below these figures and Uranium by two-thirds. Meaning it would take a tripling of Uranium prices to equal present prices of coal and oil. It is cheaper for people to accept the use of nuclear energy rather than coal or oil.

All other alternatives to energy supply are interesting to discuss, but difficult to develop. Solar is some thirty years away and shale oil costs billions of dollars to produce. Why divert these dollars to the same old place when we can develop new industries with new people? (NNPA)

Representatives Aid NAACP In Financial Drive

NEW YORK — A group of labor leaders, representing more than 7 million working men and women and approximately 23,000 local unions, gathered in New York on December 2 to help the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in its financial crisis. "We cannot allow the NAACP to go down the drain," declared Roosevelt Watts, secretary-treasurer of the Transport Workers Union, AFL-CIO, who serves as co-chairman of the labor group. "The NAACP must survive and become even stronger," he said. William H. Oliver, of the United Automobile Workers called upon labor to make emergency contributions and to take out life memberships.

The meeting, called in response to the Association's critical year-end deficit, was organized labor's reaction to the plight of the civil rights organization with which it has worked closely over the years. Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP, and other officials outlined the Association's financial position and explained the urgent need for immediate funds.

William Pollard, director of the AFL-CIO's civil rights department and an NAACP board member, said that the enemies of labor are also the enemies of the civil rights movement. That was why labor had come together, he explained, and with the blessing of George Meany.

Echoing the theme that the NAACP must remain solvent and must keep its doors open, labor leaders pledged to raise substantial and immediate contributions from 109 international locals and their affiliates. An on-going committee was formed to plan for long-range financial support by the labor movement.

Co-chairman for the group are Roosevelt Watts and William Pollard. Other union representatives attending the meeting: Robert Brown, National Mail handlers Union; John Burnell, New York City Central Labor Council; James Campbell, Mail Handlers Union, AFL-CIO; Moe, Mail Handlers, AFL-CIO; John William H. Oliver, United Automobile Workers; Frederick Labor Council; James Campbell, Associated Actors & Artists of America; Jasper Charles Faulding, Black Trade Unionists Leadership Committee; Alex Fuller, United

Steelworkers of America; Charles Carrahan, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Raymond Gray, Sr., American Federation of Government Employees; Leon Harris, Retail Wholesale & Department Store Union; Harry Harrison, International Union of Dolls, Toys, Playthings, Novelties & Allied Products; Norman Hill, A. Phillip Randolph Institute; E. V. Lewis, American Federation of Musicians; Vito P. Mangum, Mail Handlers, AFL-CIO; Ronald Moe, Mail Handlers, AFL-CIO; John William H. Oliver, United Automobile Workers; Frederick Labor Council; James Campbell, Associated Actors & Artists of America; Jasper Charles Faulding, Black Trade Unionists Leadership Committee; Alex Fuller, United

International Association and Walter Waddy, Region III, AFL-CIO. In addition to Mr. Wilkins, other NAACP staff present were Gloster B. Current, director of branches and field administration; Walter Christmas, director of public relations; Warren Marr, II, editor of "The Crisis" and Edward R. Muse, director of life memberships.

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The Veterans Administration hired 1,207 handicapped persons in 1974. This represented 17.5 per cent of the total federal number of handicapped hires for the year.

Department of Justice Files Civil Suit Against Atlanta Fire Department

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Department of Justice filed a civil suit last Monday charging the Atlanta Fire Department discriminates against black persons in job promotions.

Attorney General Edward H. Levi said the employment discrimination suit was filed in U. S. District Court in Atlanta, Georgia.

Named as defendants were Fire Chief P. O. Williams, Public Safety Commissioner A. Reginald Eaves, the city, its department of public safety, its fire department, and Local 134 of the International Association of Firefighters.

The suit said only 2.5 per cent of fire department jobs above entry level are held by blacks, although blacks comprise 25.5 per cent of the fire force.

The fire department has 963 firemen, of whom 246 are black.

Only six of the 242 positions above the entry level are held by blacks.

The suit charged that the defendants have pursued and continue to pursue policies and practices that discriminate against blacks in promotional opportunities.

These practices include refusing to hire blacks as firemen before 1964, using promotion tests that have an adverse impact on blacks and that have not been shown to predict successful job performance, and failing to correct the effects of the discriminatory policies, the suit added.

The suit asked for preliminary and permanent injunctions prohibiting the defendants from engaging in any racially discriminatory employment practice.

In addition, the suit asked that the defendants be required

to adopt promotion goals for blacks, to promote blacks to jobs they would have held but for the alleged discriminatory practices, and to give them back pay.

Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger, head of the Civil Rights Division, said the suit is the first filed by the Justice Department charging discrimination solely in promotions.

He said the suit is also the 10th filed against a fire department. Cities involved in previous suits are Boston; Buffalo, New York; Chicago, Dallas; Jackson, Mississippi; Los Angeles; Memphis; Milwaukee; and St. Louis.

The suit is the 45th filed by the Justice Department against public employers since enactment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972.

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After becoming part of Southern Folks, Clisby completed the month-long course in locomotive engineering at our training school near Atlanta. Then another five months of on-the-tracks training under another qualified engineer.

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Get square pegs for your round holes.



The modern pushbutton phone is a real improvement over the old-fangled dial phone.

You can punch numbers a lot faster than you can dial them. And fast is always preferable to slow.

You make far fewer mistakes with a pushbutton phone because of its simplicity. And even when you do slip up, re-punching isn't nearly as frustrating as re-dialing.

The pushbutton phone even has its aesthetic side. When you push the buttons, each plays a different electronic note. So every call you make is accompanied by

a brief musical interlude.

Pushbutton phones are now available in many colors and styles: desk phones, wall phones, compact phones.

To order one, just pick up your phone and slowly dial our business office.

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