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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

VOLUME 54 - NUMBER 1

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1976

THIS PAPER CONTAINS

DUPLIX BLACK GOLD MUSIC PROGRAM

PRICE: 20 CENTS

Giving In To Racism, Mob Rule

WILKINS ACCUSES U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Roy Wilkins, Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a letter to Edward H. Levi, sharply criticized the attorney general for what Mr. Wilkins called "a capitulation to ignorance, racism, anarchy and mob rule" and warned him that blacks will not sit by and watch the undoing of their status as Americans.

The attorney general was taken to task for his recent remarks on a television interview

program in which he spoke of the need to "reread" and "rethink" what is currently being done to bring about school desegregation. Mr. Wilkins accused the attorney general of stripping an effective desegregation remedy from the school system and urged him not to miscalculate the mood of black people.

The complete text of Mr. Wilkins' letter to the attorney general follows: "The intention of the Department of Justice to seek judicial reexamination of the SWANN v. CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG school desegregation remedies is, pure and simple, a capitulation to ignorance, racism, anarchy and mob rule. It is the thread that will unravel the constitutional rights that black Americans fought to establish through years of litigation.

"We find it shocking, and unworthy to those who have labored to give real meaning to the 14th Amendment, for the United States Department of Justice and you, as the Attorney General, to participate in shaping this strategy of retreat.

"The step you have indicated the Justice Department is about to take is so grave that we would

be derelict if we failed to emphasize to you the gravity with which we view it.

"Harm has already descended upon this nation as a result of your signals that a reexamination is either contemplated or under way.

"Faced with a desegregation challenge in Detroit, where a District Judge and an en banc Court of Appeals had agreed on the propriety of an inter-district remedy, the Justice Department with its argument, provided the Supreme Court with a rationale for reversal. Faced now with a crisis in Boston, a single district, due to school board default, and outright intransigence, you proceed to undercut a fearless District Court judge who has sought to obey his oath and vindicate the constitutional rights of black children.

"Although we were disturbed at the way in which some quarters of the media and

political opportunists sought to defile the recent fraudulent representations of Dr. James S. Coleman, we felt that the flaws inherent in his so-called research, and the superficiality of his conclusions would ultimately be rejected by serious-minded and thoughtful Americans. Certainly they would come to realize, we believe, that the white exodus from central cities predated school desegregation orders.

Of course, we are mindful, as you should be, that the 20 cities he cited to prove his case were under no such orders of courts to desegregate at the time he indicated.

"Yet, what we did not anticipate and what we find inexplicable, is for the Attorney General of the United States to have the audacity to call for, in actuality, the stripping of one of the effective remedies needed for the desegregation those school systems proven to be

unconstitutionally segregated. "As you know, Mr. Attorney General, courts have not recklessly ordered desegregation, nor have they directed busing unless absolutely necessary to correct constitutional violations. But, they are mindful of 'Swann's' teaching that:

"Absent a constitutional violation there would be no basis for judicially ordering assignment of students on a racial basis. All things being equal, with no history of discriminations, it might well be desirable to assign pupils to schools nearest their homes. But all things are not equal in a system that has been deliberately constructed and maintained to enforce racial segregation. The remedy for such segregation may be administratively awkward, inconvenient and even bizarre in some situations and may impose burdens on some; but all

awkwardness and inconvenience cannot be avoided in the interim period when remedial adjustments are being made to eliminate the dual school systems."

"With respect to transportation or 'busing' the Court in 'Swann' quite properly observed that 'Bus transportation has been an integral part of the public education system for years, and was perhaps the single most important factor in the transition from the one-room school house to the consolidated school. Eighteen million of the nation's children, approximately 38% were transported to their schools by bus in 1969-70 in all parts of the country.'

"Difficulties were anticipated. But, they should be no cause for abandonment of these principles.

"Any reexamination of or other forms of tampering with See WILKINS page 3



60th SPINGARN AWARD TO HANK AARON

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Brewers, who broke Babe Ruth's record when he drove in his 715th home run, will be awarded the Spingarn Medal at the annual fellowship dinner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People being held on Sunday, January 11, at the Americana Hotel in New York.

Aaron, who will be the 60th Spingarn recipient, is being honored, not only for his singular achievement in baseball, but also, as the citation reads, "for his off-the-field activity, as the citizen he is, in working to improve the lives of others in his community, regardless of race or color and bring to them greater opportunities for health, education and economic well being.

The annual Spingarn award consists of a gold medal which presented annually by the NAACP for "the highest achievement of an American Negro." It was instituted in 1914 by the late Joe E. Spingarn, then chairman of the NAACP board of directors, "to perpetuate his lifelong interest and that of his brother and wife in the achievements of the American Negro.

Usually presented at the Association's annual convention, the 1975 award was deferred from July until the annual dinner because of a conflict with Mr. Aaron's baseball schedule.

The 1974 Spingarn winner was Judge Damon J. Keith for his "steadfast defense of constitutional principles as revealed in a series of memorable decisions he handed down as a United States district court judge. Previous winners have included such well-known figures as A. Philip Randolph, Dr. Charles Drew, Dr. Ralph Bunche, Leontyne Price, Jackie Robinson, Duke Ellington, Senator Edward Brooke and Gordon Parks.

In addition to NAACP members and the national board, others attending the dinner will include sports personalities, many from baseball, the business community and friends and well-wishers of both the Association and Mr. Aaron.

Gulf Forced To Suspend Angola Works

PITTSBURGH, PA. — Gulf Oil Corporation has announced that it has been forced to withdraw its personnel from Angola and to suspend operations there temporarily. Border warfare and continued civil war in Angola have made it impossible for the movement of personnel, supplies, and equipment necessary for the maintenance of operations there.

Furthermore, the U.S. State Department has requested Gulf to promptly evacuate its personnel and their dependents from Angola for reasons of safety.

Contending factions in Angola warring for control following independence last month have made conflicting requests relative to the payment from Gulf of the taxes and royalties due the State of Angola

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Theme: "The Right To A Job"

Leaders Coming To Atlanta For Birthday of Dr. King, Jr.

ATLANTA — Officials of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Social Change have announced plans for the celebration of Dr. King's 47th birthday anniversary January 14 and 15, and the list of participants reads like a "Who's Who" in labor, business, politics and civil rights.

Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minnesota) will address a message rally in downtown Atlanta on the 15th following a demonstration expected to draw substantial numbers of people in support of a full-employment policy for the nation.

Luminaries including playwright Ossie Davis, actress Ruby Dee, Steelworker President I. W. Abel, economist Leon Keyserling, and the Honorable Ambassador Mwall from Zambia are expected to join the two-day celebration.

The need for full employment will be dramatized during the celebration. A King Center spokesperson said, "We intend to bring the cruelty of unemployment to the attention of the country in no uncertain terms."

The mass march and rally, following a traditional Ecumenical Commemorative Service at historic Ebenezer Church, will be the largest in the city since Dr. King's funeral here in 1968.

Significantly, the rally will be held in front of the Federal Reserve Bank in the heart of the city's business district.

The two-day anniversary will begin on January 14 with a labor-management breakfast featuring Mr. Able, also President of the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO, and J. Paul Austin, Chairman of the Coca Cola Company.

A day long conference of labor, community workers, civil and human rights workers and business leaders from across the nation follows.

The evening of the 14th will see a presentation of an original play, "Life of a King", and a mass community rally at the new Center. January 15, when Dr. King would have been 47 years old, will include the traditional wreath-laying ceremony in the morning, followed by the Ecumenical Service, march and rally in downtown Atlanta.

Labor leaders committed to participate in the celebration include: Cleveland Robinson, Secretary Treasurer, Distributive Workers of America, District 65 in New York; Jerry Wurf, International President, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Olga Madar, President, National Coalition of Labor Women; Bill Lucy, President, Coalition of Black

Trade Unions and International Treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Mark Stepp, Vice President, United Auto Workers; Murray Finley, President, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and Patrick E. Gorman, Secretary, Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, AFL-CIO.

Political and governmental figures will include: Lt. Governor George Brown (D-Colorado); Representative Walter Fauntroy (D-Washington, D. C.); Representative Augustus Hawkins (D-California); Detroit Mayor Coleman Young; New Orleans Mayor

Moon Landrieu; Pennsylvania Secretary of State, Ma. C. Delores Tucker; and, Frances 'Sissy' Farenthold, Co-Chairperson of the Women's Political Caucus.

Business leaders, in addition to Austin, will be headed by John Johnson, President, Johnson Publishing Company and Jesse Hill, Jr., President, Atlanta Life Insurance Company.

From the ranks of Atlanta's own well-known political and civil rights community will come former Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor Maynard Jackson, Representative Andrew Young (D-Georgia), State Senator Julian Bond, Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr., and John Lewis, head of the Voter Education Project.

Mrs. Coretta Scott King, President of the Center that bears her husband's name, said the tremendous participation by well-known figures was brought about by the emphasis on employment.

"The Civil Rights Movement led by my husband always centered around economic injustice," she said. "It is only fitting that we celebrate his birthday anniversary by demanding this country to address itself to the issue of full employment.

"Martin's work began with the Montgomery Bus Boycott 20 years ago and ended in Memphis during a garbage strike. Both were concerned with basic economic issues.

"We have won the right to vote, the right to use public accommodations and the right to attend non-segregated schools.

"Now we must carry on my husband's work by insuring the most basic right of all — the right to a job."

working in Asia, Egypt, Europe and in the Philippines, where he was appointed school superintendent in the latter country. Returning stateside, he received a master's degree in history from the University of Chicago and in 1912 was awarded his doctorate in that same field from Harvard University, being only the second black in that time to attain a Ph.D. from that prestigious school.

Woodson later taught French, history and Spanish and English at Washington's Dunbar High School, was principal of the City's Armstrong High School and became dean of Howard University's college of liberal arts in 1918. A year later he was appointed dean at Virginia State College.

With all of his background, Woodson was best known in his role as the father of black history and as a historian. He founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, the predecessor of ASALH, in 1915 "to keep the history of black America from being suppressed and forgotten," according to a biographical sketch.

Woodson produced the first issue of the Journal of Negro History in 1916 and 10 years later he initiated the first yearly observance of Negro history week.

Because publishers in his day saw

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BOSTON — U.S. Senator Edward Brooke (right) met with anti-busing leaders at his Boston office. He stated that he would support desegregation of Boston's public schools without busing, if such a plan could be worked out. Listening to Senator Brooke during the 90 minute meeting were anti-busing leaders Louise Day Hicks (left) and James Kelley (2nd left), President of the SouthBoston Home and School Association. (UPI)



Robert C. Perry, right, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. W. Perry of 2012 Otis St., Durham, is shown receiving a Meritorious Honor Award from Nathaniel Davis, Assistant Secretary for African Affairs of the U. S. Department of State. Perry was Deputy Consul of the U. S. Consulate in Asmara, Ethiopia where, during the Eritrean rebellion earlier this year, he was acting chief officer of the Consulate. Among the activities he supervised was the evacuation of all U. S. civilians from the area.

Perry is a graduate of Hillside High School. He received a master's degree in Foreign Service from American University in Washington, D. C. His father is a retired vice president-controller of N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Mother of Bank President Last Rites For Mrs. M. H. Wheeler Set For Friday

Funeral services for Mrs. Margaret Hervey Wheeler who died on Monday, December 29, will be held from St. Joseph's A. M. E. Church on Friday, January 2 at 1 p.m., with the Reverend Philip R. Cousin, officiating.

Mrs. Wheeler was born on April 12, 1877 at Nicholasville, Kentucky, where she attended the public schools. In June of 1900, she completed her collegiate training at Wilberforce University in Xenia, Ohio. Shortly thereafter, she married John L. Wheeler, a former president of Kittrell College, Kittrell, North Carolina.

In 1908, she moved to Durham where her husband had accepted a position with the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. In 1912, she and her husband moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he became manager of the Atlanta District and superintendent of the company's

work throughout the State of Georgia.

While in Atlanta, Mrs. Wheeler took an active part in the work of her church and in numerous cultural and civic affairs, one of which was the Board of Trustees and Sponsors of the Carrie Steele-Pitts Orphans Home.

Following the death of her husband in 1957, Mrs. Wheeler moved back to Durham where she demonstrated an interest in the St. Joseph's A. M. E. Church and the Golden Agers Organization.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Beulah T. Mason of Nicholasville, Kentucky; two daughters, Mrs. Ruth W. Lowe of Durham and Mrs. Margery W. Brown of East Orange, N. J.; one son, John H. Wheeler of Durham; five grandchildren, three great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

\$200 Million A Year Industry

Standardized Tests Must Go, They Hinder Quality Education, Nat'l Educ. Ass'n Executive Declares

WASHINGTON — Standardized tests are "like a lock on the mind, a guard at the factory gate," the executive director of the National Education Association said, noting that "the only real beneficiaries, aside from the test marketers themselves, are insecure school managers striving for comfort in their relations with school boards, legislators, and governors."

Terry Herndon, in a speech to be delivered at a San Francisco meeting, said the tests follow the technocratic industrial model in which teachers are treated like assembly-line foremen and students are treated like cars.

"Apparently, it's a mood that, in the absence of a unifying national leadership, moves a great many of us to lash out indiscriminately, taking insufficient care to identify the enemy," said Herndon. He pointed out that polls show a loss of confidence in business and government, and to only a slightly less degree in virtually every other institution of authority.

Herndon underscored the "enormous expense" of testing programs, the product of a \$200 million a year industry. "To assume that the testing industry would improve scores to the point where it would put itself out of business is like believing that the Soviet state is actually going to wither away," he remarked.

Pointing out that the 118-year-old NEA was formed on the concept of accountability to professional standards, he noted reasons why the association objects to evaluating teachers, or accountability, on the basis of standardized test results. Among these, he said, is objection "to being required to teach the minimum performance level permissible on a test rather than to the maximum achievable through the individual capability of the child."