

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNCOVERED

Words of Wisdom

Common sense is the knack of seeing things as they are and doing things as they ought to be done. —C. E. Stowe

The Black Press—
Our Freedom Depends
On It!

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29-YR-OLD UNATTENDED WAGRAM INMATE DIES

Dr. Womble Refuses To Transfer Victim To Prison Hospital For Diagnosis And Treatment

William McLaughlin, a 29-year-old inmate at Scotland County Correctional Center in Wagram, N. C. died June 18 as yet undetermined causes after 13 days illness. McLaughlin, complaining of chest and stomach pain, unsuccessfully sought medical attention as his condition worsened. Only after he filed a grievance complaint on June 14 did he see the unit physician, Dr. Womble, who refused at that time to transfer him to a prison hospital for diagnosis and treatment. Four days later in the late afternoon William McLaughlin collapsed and finally was removed to Central Prison

pronounced dead at 9:30 p.m. that evening. He is yet another victim of neglect within the North Carolina prison system.

Dr. Helen Othow, co-chairperson of the North Carolina Alliance and sister of Wilmington Ten defendant Rev. Ben Chavis, urged public attention focused on the situation at Wagram. "We call for an immediate, public inquiry into the death of Brother William McLaughlin and into the medical care of inmates at Wagram itself. A consistent pattern of neglect appears the norm in a prison unit where the physician is available one day per week at best and then

only available to inmates who have been able to sign-up in advance of the scheduled visiting hours." Inmates interviewed at Scotland County state that the physician sometimes is available only once during the month. The North Carolina Alliance demands the health needs of all inmates be met while they are under the custody of the state. In this state with an inmate population of over 13,000, the highest per capita in the nation, medical care must be ensured.

Wilmington 10 defendant Jerry Jacobs, currently imprisoned at Scotland County, alerted the Alliance of Brother McLaughlin's death.

The circumstances are but another indication of the racist and repressive character of the prison system.

The National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, of which the North Carolina Alliance is a branch, is calling a national March for Human Rights and Labor Rights on Labor Day, September 6 in Raleigh. The March will bring together thousands of North Carolinians and concerned individuals and organizations from across the country in a peoples' campaign to halt the barbaric conditions at Scotland County and within the prisons system throughout North Carolina.



MORE TROUBLES — Ruben "Hurricane" Carter leaves the Passaic County Courthouse in Peterson, N. J. with his daughter during a recess in a hearing held to determine if his bail should be increased after the director of his defense committee, Carolyn Kelley, claimed that Carter assaulted her. Carter is free on bail pending a retrial for a 1966 triple murder in Peterson. (UPI)

Roy Wilkins Charges President Ford Is Out-Wallacing George Wallace

NEW YORK — NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins on Tuesday, July 22, charged that President Ford was "out-Wallacing Gov. Wallace" in his repeated attacks on court-ordered busing to desegregate public schools.

Responding to what he felt were strongly racist statements by the President's chief counsel, Philip W. Buchen, Wilkins said that the President was deliberately undermining civil rights laws and court orders to enforce those laws.

In the New York Times story, Buchen was quoted as saying that Ford "really dislikes busing as a remedy" because he felt that "it is now causing more problems than it solves."

Buchen was also quoted as saying, that blacks would not particularly be interested in an "integrated atmosphere" if they could be assured of living in a "good atmosphere."

The following is the text of Wilkins' telegram to Buchen:

Assuming you were correctly quoted in today's New York Times by Philip Shabecoff, I submit the following response: Whether President Ford intended to or not in his quest for the Presidential nomination he has emerged as out-Wallacing (Gov.) Wallace as one who would turn back the clock

of civil rights. The only difference between Candidate Ford and Wallace is that Wallace would stop the civil rights program before legislation is passed; while President Ford presently undermines, deliberately prevents civil rights laws and court decisions by preventing effective enforcement.

We reject as preposterous the idea advanced by President Ford that if free to live where they choose blacks would not prefer an integrated atmosphere or area. The ghettos in which blacks have been contained were not self-imposed but resulted from deliberate government policies which Mr. Ford would reinforce. Mr. Ford has raised the greatest confusion over the phony issue of busing of school children

to eliminate unconstitutional segregation, which is far from an equal education required by the Brown opinion. Although the President wisely corrected the idea that he condemned Brown, he nevertheless undermines its principles by attacking the remedies needed to give it meaning.

The backsliders and interpreters are having their day contested every foot of the way by those who believe differently. We don't expect that the President of the United States would take sides. After all, Mr. Ford is President of all the people, conservatives and liberals alike. We still ask, "Why did this issue of busing arise now?" A denial is come from the White House but that is no answer.

N. C. Coalition Speaks ON THE DEATH PENALTY RULING

The dust has not yet settled from the various decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court regarding the constitutionality of the constitutionally of the Death Penalty. In principle, the High Court has ruled that Capital Punishment is not unconstitutional under the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. Further rulings may narrow the spectrum of capital crimes to murder, treason and skyjacking. For North Carolina, the mandatory Death Penalty law was struck down. This will have the immediate effect of removing the more than 110 persons now on Death Row to be sentenced to life imprisonment.

The North Carolina Coalition Against the Death Penalty formed in May, 1976 in response to the crisis situation generated by the real possibility of executions in the near future in North Carolina met this week in response to the U. S. Supreme Court decisions. At that meeting, Coalition members agreed that not only is there ample reason for remaining active, every effort will be made to enlarge the organizational participation of the Coalition.

In the first place, the situation nationwide is very serious. Deborah Leavy, National Coordinator of the Capital Punishment Project for the American Civil Liberties Union, in a phone interview Tuesday morning, stated that, "There will be a nationwide effort mounted by groups opposed to Capital Punishment in response to impending executions." The N. C. Coalition Against the Death Penalty joins with those persons throughout the country who are joining together to oppose state-imposed deaths. The Coalition expresses "deep outrage at the possibility of executions and solidarity with those efforts".

North Carolina is far from over as gubernatorial candidates, solicitors and legislators call for special sessions or the opportunity in the next regular session of the legislature to "Try again to get a Capital Punishment Law which is constitutional." For the Coalition, the next few months are seen as a unique opportunity, in the words of William Geimer, Fayetteville attorney and new chairperson of N. C. Against the Death Penalty, "to halt this rush to enact another bad as well as immoral, law".

The Coalition plans to focus on the N. C. Legislature Efforts are underway to ascertain the position of candidates as well as to educate candidates and the electorate on the horror of executions, the lack of proof of the deterrent effect of capital punishment, and the real possibility of executing an innocent person as recently occurred in Florida when two young men, Freddie Lee Pitts and Wilbert Lee convicted of a capital crime, were recently removed from the Fla. Death Row after another person confessed to the crime crime.

Marion Wright, the Linville Falls attorney and long time opponent of Capital Punishment stated recently in a talk, "The Death Penalty and Public Morals":

"Let us recognize that there are in North Carolina, men and women seeking public office who realize that the obligation of one holding such office is not to lag behind, or merely keep abreast of, the prevailing mood of the electorate. The obligation is not to put votes for or against a policy in some mythical scales and act as the beam tilts this way or that but rather, on a moral issue, a life and death issue, to follow the dictates of his own judgment and conscience."

DON'T LET THEM LABEL YOUR CHILD

When educators discovered that certain children were prevented from learning because of neurological problems dyslexia is one, but there are others—they came up with the phrase, "the learning-disabled child." LD, as it is known, has become something of a fad among school specialists, and the term is being applied to children without adequate testing and diagnosis.

The danger, is that children who may be difficult to teach of have problems learning can be lumped with of the education they deserve. As enthusiasm for LD diagnosis grows among educators, some questionable practices are being employed—including pre-school screening to determine the learning disabled of the future. Samuel A. Kirk, one of the founders of the LD specialty, says, "Evidence to support such screening is scanty and far from conclusive."

Before the LD fad reaches epidemic proportions, here are some steps a concerned parent can take:

If a pre-school screening program is considered in your district, enlist the support of the PTA to fight it.

If teachers, counselors and administrators use medical-sounding terms when they are discussing your child, find out what these words mean. If they persist, ask to see the doctor they consulted.

Ask to visit your child's classroom. While it may be that your child can't learn, it could also be that his teacher can't teach.

Your goal is what is best for your child. "Whenever possible," the article suggests, "demonstrate your knowledge about LD and your concern for your child in such a way that you and your school system become partners working toward a common goal."

Bond Seeks Re-election to Senate, Asks More Help

ATLANTA — State Senator Julian Bond has qualified for re-election without Republican or Democrat opposition.

"I am grateful for this expression of confidence from the citizens of the 39th District," Bond said, "and promise to do all I can to continue meeting their needs in the Georgia General Assembly."

Bond, 36, is one of two Black Senators in Georgia. First elected to the State House of Representatives in 1965, he was twice denied his seat by legislators who objected to his opposition to the Vietnam War, but was reinstated after a successful appeal to United State Supreme Court. He served four terms in the House and was elected to the State Senate in 1974.

In the Senate, Bond serves as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Economy, Reorganization and Efficiency in Government and as a member of the Committee on Consumer Affairs and the Committee on Human Resources.

Bond also serves on the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Overview Committee, a legislative watchdog committee which oversees the

Atlanta region's rapid transit system, and on the Joint Medicaid Overview Committee, which advises state officials on Georgia's program of medical assistance to indigents.

Additionally, he has been appointed by Georgia Lieutenant Governor Zell Miller to four newly created legislative committees that have been asked to help find solutions to problems, in a variety of areas -- including small and minority owned businesses, the use of generic drugs, lack of youth involvement in public affairs, and the Joint Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority financing.



JULIAN BOND



MINOR OCCASION — Maybe we shouldn't have intruded... It isn't much but now she may not even get that bouquet. Then again, if we mind our own business and go away the night. The romantic setting? New York's Central Park. (UPI)

Mayor Cavin Appoints 15 To Promote Bond Issue

Mayor Wade Cavin announced this week the appointment of 15 persons to a citizens' committee to promote the city's \$8-million water bond issue which will be decided in a referendum on August 17.

The bond issue will be primarily for the construction of a new 12-million-gallon-per-day water treatment plant on city-owned land on Infinity Road, to supplement the existing 22-million-gallon-per-day treatment plant on Hillandale Road.

The bond issue also contains funds for some improvements at Hillandale plant which are required by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Attorney Jim Maxwell was appointed by Cavin to head the committee. The other appointees include Jesse Anglin, comptroller of Mechanics and Farmers Bank; Mrs. Dolores Clement, director of supportive services at Lincoln Community Health Center; Pete Cruse, commercial manager of Duke Power Co.; Kim Griffin, Jr., a real estate agent with Frank Ward and Associates; Attorney Bill Harris; Carey Ilderton, vice president and general manager of Ilderton Dodge; and Mrs. Dorothy Loftis, a homemaker.

Also appointed were Dr. Waltz Maynor, assistant dean of undergraduate

Wood Tax Revision To Help Equalize Tax Burden

RALEIGH — A tax revision program which would help "distribute the tax burden equitably according to ability to pay" was proposed Tuesday by George Wood.

Wood, a candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, put forth a seven-point program which would, Wood said, "bring about some effective and much-needed equity."

He stressed at a Raleigh press conference that his recommendations were aimed at tax revision not tax increase.

Under Wood's plan, these changes would be effected:

—The tangibles tax would be abolished.

—The inheritance tax exemption would be raised from \$10,000 to \$60,000.

—Net taxable income of \$30,000 and above would be taxed at 8 per cent rather than at 7 per cent.

—Corporation income of \$50,000 and above would be taxed at 7 per cent rather than at 6 per cent. (Corporations would also be required to pay estimated taxes in

quarterly installments with a six-month extension, if desired, at prevailing market interest rates. This would not go into effect until the 1978-79 fiscal year.)

The present \$80 and \$120 ceiling on the 1 and 2 per cent sales tax items would be removed.

The \$15,000 tax exemption for dividends received from North Carolina-based corporations would be eliminated.

The formula by which all Alcoholic Beverage Control taxes are distributed would be revised to insure that all such profits are assigned solely to local governments. This change would replace revenue lost by repeal of the intangibles tax and give local governments a net increase of \$10.3 million.

Eliminating the intangibles tax would help the retired person who lives on his savings, Wood said. Increasing the inheritance tax exemptions would remove the unreasonable burden on those who wish