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The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBIDDEN

Words of Wisdom
Everything has two handles, by one of which it ought to be carried and by the other not.
—Epictetus

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LIGHTNER TAKES OATH

Dr. John R. Larkins Presides At Capitol Building Ceremony

CLEMENT AND LIGHTNER SWORN IN — A. J. Howard Clement, III and Clarence Lightner are members of the North Carolina General Assembly. They were sworn in August 4th and 9th in the state capitol building with Secretary of State Thad Eure administering the oath and Assistant for Minority Affairs John R. Larkins presiding. Clements and Lightner will finish the unexpired terms of former Rep. H. M. Michaux and Senator John W. Winters. Michaux vacated his position in July following his appointment by President Jimmy Carter to be U. S. Attorney of the U. S. Middle District Court in Greensboro. Winters was appointed to a commission on the North Carolina Utilities Commission. Dr. John Larkins said the swearing in ceremony represented the first time in the state's history that blacks have vacated posts in the General Assembly and their replacements were blacks. Both ceremonies were attended by family and friends of Clement and Lightner. Governor James Hunt was conspicuously absent, but Larkins made a first by presiding over the ceremonies. Secretary of State Thad Eure said Larkins presiding over the ceremonies marked a first. Larkins, according to Eure is the first black to preside over swearing in ceremonies for members of the General Assembly. (CCNS).



CLEMENT TAKES OATH

MINORITY BUSINESSMEN GATHER AT SOUL CITY

Southwest Regional Meet Set For New N.C. Town

Soul City is the site this week of the South/Southwest Regional Meeting of the American Association of Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Corporations (AAMESBICS).

Over thirty MESBIC officials from across the country are attending the two-day session Thursday and Friday.

The meeting is being hosted by James F. Hansley, president of Vanguard Investment Company, North Carolina's only MESBIC, and Kirk Saunders, president of Norfolk Investment Company, Inc., Norfolk, Va.

A wide range of topics of interest to minority-owned enterprises will be discussed including industry goals, objectives and trends, pending legislation, new market opportunities and successful operating strategies.

Speakers will include Philip T. Dornring, Director of Corporate Social Policy for Standard Oil of Indiana; Michael Lacagna, Purchasing Director of Westinghouse Turbine Components Plant; Clarence Bishop, legislative aide to Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus; and Howard N. Lee, North Carolina Secretary of Natural

Resources and Community Development.

MESBICS originated in the early 1970's when the federal government recognized that businesses owned, in part or whole, by American's of minority descent, were without adequate capitalization and the means to raise equity and venture capital for modernizing, expansion or start up costs.

In 1972, Congress officially authorized amendments to the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to create business investment companies with a special responsibility of providing venture capital to businesses owned by socially and economically disadvantaged minorities.

Later in 1972, the American Association of MESBICS was formed to promote joint action among the newly formed investment companies entering the capital market area for the first time.

Today, the members of AAMESBIC represent more than \$100 million in assets, including participation by some of the country's largest banks, insurance companies and retailers.

HHS CLASS OF 1947 IN REUNION

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A&T SURPASSES STADIUM FUND RAISING DRIVE

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Wilmington 10 Pardon Sought By Justice Dept.

RALEIGH (CCNS) — Top officials of the U. S. Justice Department have been in contact with Governor James Hunt pushing for a pardon for the Wilmington 10. Jack Cozart, special counsel for Gov. Hunt, said last week that a meeting is being arranged between the governor and representatives of U. S. Attorney Griffin Bell. That meeting followed a meeting of Wilmington 10 defense counsel and Hunt held Wednesday, August 10.

The action by Justice Department officials followed a petition signed by sixty members of Congress who recently asked Attorney General Bell to do what he could to persuade Hunt to intervene in the case.

Hunt has reluctantly approached the pardon issue

which will have serious political consequences for his career. Repeatedly he has said that he ought not intervene in the case as long as it is in the courts. The case is now on appeal in the U. S. Federal District Court in Raleigh and in the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

The defendants' chief counsel, James Ferguson, has said the appeals might take as long as four to five years to complete the judicial process. Meanwhile the defendants would have to continue serving long prison terms until they became eligible for parole.

The Wilmington 10 issue, along with dissatisfaction with political patronage among many blacks, has been signaled by many black

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Dr. Ralph Abernathy Hires Paul To Stop King Film

(CCNS) — Civil rights attorney, Jerry Paul, has been retained by Dr. Ralph David Abernathy to prevent the showing of the film Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Abernathy is President Emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Paul says the film is controlled by whites and redefines Dr. King's role to make him acceptable to white America. The film was written by Abby Mann and is to be shown by NBC television affiliates. Besides distorting the image of Dr. King, Paul says, the distortion of the character of Dr. Abernathy will be the subject of a civil suit to prevent the film's showing.

Abernathy has been presented a contract which Paul says is "totally unacceptable", because they are attempting to get Dr. Abernathy to "sign his life away and make it impossible to present Dr. Abernathy in any light they want, whether truthful or untruthful."

The film has been attacked by two other Southern Christian Leader-

ship Conference (SCLC) board members, Dr. C. T. Vivian and Rev. Hosea Williams who read the script and viewed the film clips

along with Dr. Abernathy. They both claim that the movie represents a distortion of the civil rights movement and its leaders as well as Dr.

King. They are calling for immediate action to prevent the showing of the film by NBC affiliates. Rev. Hosea Williams and Dr. Vivian have been particularly critical of the film's depiction of Dr. King as being "manipulated" by a white SCLC fundraiser from New York.

Williams has said, "For them to have a Ralph David Abernathy just around to tell a few jokes, and just a jolly fellow around is a great injustice done to black history..." He noted that, "Martin Luther King, Jr. depended upon no individual living as much as he depended upon Ralph David Abernathy, who gave him a kind of strength that I have never been able to explain." The negative portrayal of Dr. King and other black leaders in the film prompted Williams to remark, "Black people will have betrayed Dr. King and gambled over his legacy the same as the Roman soldiers did with Jesus' garments if we sit idly by and allow this movie to be shown around the world without raising a voice of dissent."

C. T. Vivian contends that the divisiveness among black leaders depicted in the film and the portrayal of Dr. King as being dictated to by a white New Yorker give the impression that black people were never together. Vivian says that, in the film, "Black

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Nat'l Bar Association Holds Annual Confab

The National Bar Association held its 52nd Annual Convention in New Orleans, La., July 31-August 7. Members of the Louis A. Martin Legal Society were hosts for the convention.

Convention co-chairpersons were Ms. Etta Kay Hearn, Revious Ortique, and Judge Ernest Morial. Carl C. Character, president, Cleveland, Ohio presided over the convention.

Featured speakers included the Honorable Griffin Bell, Attorney General of the United States; the Honorable Leon B. Higginbotham, Federal District Court Judge, Philadelphia; the Honorable Wade McCree, Solicitor General of the United States; and James Kelly, president of the American Bar Association.

Various Seminars on current problems facing the legal profession were held.

Harry E. Groves, Dean, North Carolina Central University School of Law, served as moderator for the Seminar.

"Performance of Blacks on Bar Examinations-Implications for Legal Education." The Judicial Council Seminars dealt with impacts of the recent decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court. Panelists included the Honorable Theodore Newman, Jr., Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for District of Columbia; the Honorable Kenneth Wilson, Appellate Court of the State of Illinois; and the Honorable Julia Cooper Mack, Judge of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Mark T. McDonald, Houston, Texas, was elected the new president of the Association. Junious W. Williams of Newark, New Jersey is president-elect.

The 1978 meeting of the National Bar Association will be held at Hotel Diplomat, Hollywood, Florida.

Durham lawyers in attendance included C. C. Spaulding, Jr., W. W. Perry, Jr., Dean Harry E. Groves and Ronald Belfon.

N. C. ARTISTS SUPPORT WIO

RALEIGH (CCNS) — Eighteen North Carolina artists are coming together for a Black Cultural Festival, to be held August 14 at St. Augustine's campus from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. All the artists are donating their time and talent to the event.

The festival, organized by the North Carolina Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, is for the freedom of the Wilmington 10 defendants. Mrs. Elizabeth Chavis, mother of Rev. Ben Chavis, will address the gathering.

Walter Norflett of WVSP-FM radio is one of the co-ordinators of the event and has worked continuously to bring together talented North Carolinians for the festival. "It's (the festival) giving artists a chance to make a positive political statement. For so long people have thought artists are apolitical; and here we will have a collective of artists making a political statement."

Texas Farmworkers Union March to the Carolinas

Continuing their 1500 mile "March for Human Rights," fifty members of the Texas Farmworkers Union (TFW) are scheduled to arrive in Charlotte on August 15, Greensboro on August 19 and Durham on August 22.

They embarked on their 80-day trek on June 18, when they left Austin, Texas, on their way to Washington, D. C., where they are scheduled to arrive on Labor Day weekend. Since then the marchers - including children and elderly persons - have maintained a twenty-mile-a-day pace afoot. They have passed through Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

The TFW is marching to raise support for federal legislation to extend collective bargaining rights to all agricultural workers in the United States and to repeal Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, the legal basis for the passage by states of "right-to-work" laws.

from the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, which they call "El Valle de Lagrimas" (The Valley of Tears).

With annual incomes of only \$3,000, farmworkers in Texas comprise the most poverty stricken section of

farmworkers in the U. S. They have the lowest life expectancy in the country (49 years), the highest disease rate (250 per cent above the national average), and an educational level of less than eight years.

The growers and the Texas Rangers have reacted violently to TFW attempts to organize workers in the fields. When some 3000 farmworkers struck the melon harvest two years ago, one ranch supervisor shot and wounded eleven pickets. A local newspaper quoted him as saying, "I'm going to make sure my melons get to market even if they have a little Mexican blood on them."

Farmworkers in Texas and other states, excepting California, are excluded from the union elections and representation guaranteed to other workers by the National Labor Relations Act of 1935.

Unionization is also made difficult by state "right-to-work" laws which outlaw the "union shop." (In a union shop, once the majority has voted the union in, all must join and pay dues.)

Labor complains that "right-to-work" laws enable the employer to break the

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Hearing To Be Held On Amendments to the FLCRA

RALEIGH — Fourth District Rep. Ike Andrews, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, announced Monday that the subcommittee will hold a hearing here on Wednesday, August 24, on proposed amendments to the Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act.

The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. at N. C. State University's Jane S. McKimmon Center on Western Boulevard at Gorman Street.

Testimony will be received from farmers, representatives of farm workers,

and others on bills introduced in Congress by Rep. Dave Stockman of Michigan, Rep. Ron Sarasin of Connecticut, Rep. Charlie Whitley and Rep. Bill Hefner of North Carolina.

The act, originally passed by Congress in 1963, is enforced by the U. S. Department of Labor. Persons who contract for farm labor must register with the department and meet certain guidelines for housing, sanitary and employment conditions of workers who live within a 25 mile radius of their place of employment.

Whitakers Boycott Slowly Gaining Black Support

WHITAKERS — One by one, black patrons can be seen drifting in and out of the highway grocery and convenience store of Joe Judge, located on Route 301 in the town of Whitakers. One week ago, a boycott was imposed upon Joe Judge by three organizations, the Peoples Coalition for Justice, African Liberation Support Committee and Workers Viewpoint Organization, at a rally. Two of the organizations are not Whitaker-based organizations. The boycott of Joe

Judge's store was called after Judge shot and killed a black man, Charlie Lee, on April 19 when Lee attempted to get \$7.00 change back from Judge. Judge was charged with murder and released on bond. No trial date has been set.

For a brief period following Lee's murder the town's blacks did not patronize Judge but following cessations of demonstrations, then led by Rev. Edward King and Golden Frinks, the town's residents again began to patronize Judge.

Black businessmen in the town say they can't understand why blacks still buy goods at Judge's store since the same goods can be purchased at black-owned stores. Mack Williams, who operates an Amoco station on the town's main street, said, "It's frustrating. When I ask them (blacks) about a bill they won't come back. The white man has all of his color trading with him and 95% of the blacks."

Ms. Clyde Worsley, a black woman in her late

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