

**The Black Press—
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On It!**

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

Words of Wisdom

Obstacles in the pathway of the weak become
stepping stones in the pathway of the strong.

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HOUSING PROJECTS HELD UP BY HUD FUND

No Leads Reported In Hayti Section Fires

Still there are no answers to who set or who was responsible for the fire that destroyed offices of THE CAROLINA TIMES January 7 and the offices of E.N. Toole and Son Electric Company. City law enforcement officials are awaiting a chemical analysis of samples of the ruins to announce whether or not the fire was set. Police Chief T.B. Seagroves says the \$1000 reward is probably too little to get information leading to the conviction and arrest of the arsonists. Meanwhile, E.N. Toole and the CAROLINA TIMES desperately search for new offices, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is interested in the fire (see story on page 1).

Police have discovered that a patrol cruiser passed by the office of THE CAROLINA TIMES just twenty minutes before the fire was reported, but did not notice fire. When the fire call was sounded at 4:53 A.M. not only was the entire complex of building engulfed in flames, but the heat was so intense that fire fighters said they could not get close enough to properly fight the fire.

E.N. Toole and Nathaniel White owners of E.N. Toole and Sons and Service Printing Company respectively were very critical of fire-fighting saying the fire was fought for a good while by one hose.

The extent that the fire had developed when the call was sounded and the short lapse of time when the last policeman

passed several investigators said, off the record, indicates professional arsonists did the job.

The \$1000 reward offered by the North Carolina Association of Black Publishers has produced no leads as to who set the fire, said Chief of Police T.B. Seagroves. Seagroves said that \$1000 is a small reward for information about criminal activity. "The larger the reward, the more highly likely you'll get information," Seagroves said.

So far police and fire investigators have not questioned the owners of the buildings to determine if they have information which could help solve the mystery. Almost a week after the fire, police and

fire investigators asked the State Bureau of Investigation for assistance in determining the cause of the fire.

An SBI investigator carrying a device called a "sniffer" covered the fire scene Friday, January 13 but found no leads. One of the investigators speculated that the call for assistance was made too late. The sniffer detects fumes of flammable substances to determine the cause of arson suspected fires.

Contacted this week each of the owners of THE CAROLINA TIMES, E.N. Toole and Sons, and Service Printing Company said they were not satisfied with local law enforcement investigations and wanted outside investigations.



MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING, standing before a portrait of the slain civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., announces that President Jimmy Carter is the recipient of the 1979 Martin Luther King, Jr., Nonviolent Peace Prize. Carter accepted the award on January 14, highlighting a six-day observance of the 50th anniversary of King's birth. UPI

Jas. Kerr Pleads For Increase

Increased funding by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposed for construction in the Hayti urban renewal area will be needed before construction of the 140 units can begin, said Durham Housing Authority Director James Kerr this week. The two project have been advertised for bids twice since 1975, but on each occasion bids have been well over the HUD approved budget. Kerr charges that the Greensboro HUD office and Southeast region have refused to raise or adjust construction costs with inflation.

Construction at the Carolina Power and Light Company Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant at Duke University Medical Center have contributed to higher building costs in the Triangle area, says Kerr. HUD has allocated only two per cent increase for inflation, he said, while other regions of the country are getting much higher increases.

The HUD funding
(Continued On Page 7)

Service Printing Co. Bldg. Okeyed By DRC

Despite requests of the Durham Redevelopment Commission to inspect fire damages to the last remaining structure in the Hayti business district, city inspectors passed Service Printing Company's building this week. However, at the request of the Redevelopment Commission, the other structures located on Pettigrew St. were inspected and placarded "CONDEMNED". Former occupants Toole and Son's and THE CAROLINA TIMES have relocated temporarily to Fayetteville St. and to 719 N. Mangum. Service Printing Company remains at the location. Fire damage to its building was slight.

Owners of E.N. Toole & Sons Electric Company, Service Printing Company, and THE CAROLINA TIMES met with the Redevelopment Commission Friday, in a session not too different from previous meetings which ended with heated tempers.

\$1500 agreed by the Commission to cover last week's payroll cost of E.N. Toole & Sons sustained moving from the fire charred Pettigrew St. Building did not cover other expenses that occurred in the move. Toole's daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Jefferson, upset over what she said was inappropriate relocation sites offered her father, moving expenses, and denial of liability for destroyed equipment valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars. Winding up her sometimes emotional appeal, Mrs. Jefferson promised to appeal the Commission's decision to Washington where the central offices of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development are located. The Hayti renewal project was funded from HUD funds and is required to be managed according to HUD guidelines.

Kenneth Edmonds, Vice President of THE CAROLINA TIMES questioned commissioners as to what payment procedure the Commission would use to reimburse the three

businesses for moving costs. Commission attorney Dan Edwards replied that the Commission's limited staff would work with the Greensboro HUD office to determine options available.

Commission members agreed with Edmonds that HUD regulations mailed THE CAROLINA TIMES were incomplete, but Dan Edwards, Sr. assured Edmonds "I think that your real, legitimate expenses will be paid."

Fires At Vacant Dwellings Have Appearance of Arson

Recent fires at vacant dwellings in Durham have had the appearance of several fire officials conceded that the fires may have been an attempt to bring attention to some cause.

Between January fifth and seventh, firemen are sure that a firebug or firebugs got the year off to a blazing start with six vacant and one occupied dwelling being torched.

The houses had one thing in common. Generally not fit to be occupied by humans, and except for one, all had been condemned by the city or voluntarily closed by owners. Except for two, the fires were concentrated in the East End section of Durham, a neighborhood whose leaders have frequently complained to city officials about lax inspections.

One active leader in the East End said recently that several residents of the community were "tired of begging City Hall and complaining that they could see little progress."

Fire Captain Beck said this week that officials have considered that the fires were an attempt by someone to bring attention.

Officials cite that owners of the torched houses were different and that no connection

Hiring practices of Durham County District Attorney Dan Edwards, Jr., have come under question by the Durham Chapter of the North Carolina Black Women's Political Caucus. At issue is the Caucus' desire to see Edwards hire a black woman as Assistant District Attorney - a post filled by two white women.

Contacted Tuesday by THE CAROLINA TIMES, Edwards, son of a prominent attorney, said his office is funded to have six assist district attorneys by the N. C. Legislature. All of the positions are filled, one with a black - Daryl Smith, formerly employed by the North Central Legal

Assistance Program. A position to become vacant February 1, 1979, currently held by Assistant District Attorney Ron Stevens, Edwards said, will be filled by Michael "Mike" Nifong. The position to be held by Nifong was not advertised by Edwards, who explained that Nifong had volunteered his services for a while, and was later paid on a per day basis with the understanding that when a position became vacant, Nifong would get "the first refusal".

Edwards said that in a letter to Attorney Shirley Dean, Chairperson of the N. C. Black Women's Political Caucus, he outlined

the qualifications for assistant district attorneys. The N.C. General Statutes require law school graduates and a person licensed to practice in North Carolina. Attorney Dean and Edwards admit that several qualified black women have applied for the position, but Edwards says he offered the job to one who turned it down.

"I don't use race and sex as criteria for hiring and I don't intend to start now," responded Edwards to a question of what action he would take to overcome racially discriminatory practices of the past. "I will give everyone who applies her equal consideration", Edwards continued.

It should be noted that of the six assistant district attorneys now serving the court, Edwards has filled two positions with "Dick" Chaney and Daryl Smith. Chaney is white. Nifong will make the third assistant that

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Black Woman District Attorney Sought

Mentally Ill Man Slated To Stand Trial Tuesday, January 22nd

RALEIGH - Superior Court Judge James H. Pou Bailey ruled last week to suppress two confessions of James Barber charged with the September 2 shooting death of Hulon David Winters. The confessions "didn't make sense", Bailey said after denying motions of defense attorney Jerry Paul that Barber be found incompetent to stand trial. Trial is scheduled to begin January 22.

Psychologist Dr. Brad Fisher and Doretha Dix Hospital psychiatrist Dr. Herbert Rollins testified that Barber suffered from a mental disorder, paranoia schizophrenia. The disorder is marked by hallucinations and feeling of persecution.

Dr. Rollins testified that he had examined Barber by court order in September and again January 4 and had found Barber's thought processes "disoriented", but in January found Barber's condition better, at least to the extent that he could assist attorney Paul in his defense.

That is where the experts disagreed. Dr. Fisher testified that after examination of Barber on January 8, HE CONCLUDED that Barber was not competent to assist in his defense.

Attorney Roger Smith a state appointed lawyer appointed to defend Barber in September,

testified that after discussing with Barber his version of the events surrounding the murder he was convinced that Barber suffered from mental disorders, probably worse than any other experienced during his legal career.

Raleigh Police officer Billy Williams testified that he took Barber's confession after reading the 35 year old Tenton, N.C. native his rights to remain silent and to be represented by an attorney. Bailey ruled that Barber did not understand a waiver of those rights signed by Barber, as the judge set aside the confession.

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UC COLLEGE HOSTS INNER CITY STUDENTS

Members of the Organization of Black Students at the College of Chicago held a discussion with visiting students from nine inner-city high schools in two November afternoons.

The "College Day" visits were organized by College Admissions Counselor Clarence B. Norman to acquaint students with Chicago, one of the nation's leading colleges. "After all," says Mr. Norman, who is a 1977 graduate of the College and former OBS President, "what is really elite about the University of Chicago is its

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