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EDUCATION WEEK**
NOVEMBER 16-22, 1980

The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIEDED
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Words of Wisdom
The most underdeveloped territory in the world
lies under your hat.
...
Don't worry about the job you don't like. Some-
one else will have it soon.

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Tenants Tell of Unsafe and Unhealthy Conditions

Ms. Burns: Holes in the Walls And Roof Allow Rats, Roaches, Rain to Enter My Home

By Barbara Taylor
Mrs. Katie Burns occupies a four-bedroom apartment, along with her seven children, in McDougald Terrace. Mrs. Burns says, "My roof leaks; there are holes in the walls and roof which allow rats, roaches, rain, and the cold into my home. Birds fly down the chimney where the heating pipe once belonged. The kitchen cabinet, which is coming loose from the wall, is a danger to me and my kids." "If that isn't bad enough," she continues, "since 1975, my rent has gone from \$79 to \$218 a month." She says that figure doesn't include the \$50-\$60 excess utility bill the Housing Authority attaches to her rent. Mrs. Burns explains that she has complained to the Authority about her maintenance since 1975. Mrs. Burns' sentiments were echoed during the meeting on last Wednesday night by tenants from public housing complexes throughout the city. An estimated 75 to 100 tenants attended the mass meeting in the McDougald Terrace Recreation Center. James Taborn, executive director of the Housing Authority, and three staff members sat before the emotional crowd and tried to answer questions regarding lack of heat, excess utility bills, rent, leaking roofs, and the removal of keys from the tenant council presidents.

to provide space heaters to families without heat. A good many rejected the heaters. One woman told this reporter, "they don't work. As soon as they come on, they shut off." Few Gardens residents expressed fear that the newly installed wall heating units will not properly heat the apartments this winter. One resident expressed concern that the thermostats were set too low at 74° and that they were too close to the heating units. He said, "As soon as the thermostat registers the temperature around the heating unit, it'll shut off. The rest of the apartment will remain cold." The tenants also called to the attention of the Housing Authority that those particular wall heating units posed a danger to the elderly and the young. Mrs. Norma Burton, Tenant Steering Committee member, urged Taborn to move the thermostats further away from the heating units to allow more effective heat distribution throughout the entire apartment. Taborn promised to look into the problem but told the crowd, "My first concern is to get a stable heat source where heat does not exist."

Tenants Question Authority's Priorities
Many tenants expressed disapproval over the way the Authority spent some of this year's budget, especially the purchase of a new fleet of cars. When asked about the purchase, Taborn invited to tenants to attend the yearly commissioners' meeting in which the budget is presented and discussed. There were serious con-

cerns expressed among the tenants about how far removed the Housing Authority is from the real needs of the people it serves. Taborn attempted to explain the purchase of the cars by saying that money which is earmarked in the initial package presented to the commissioners has to be spent for those specific areas. Ms. Pat Rogers reminded the director that although the Authority has to follow federal guidelines, policy is made on the local level. The tenants questioned the Authority's purchase of the cars in light of the maintenance problems discussed in the meeting, which were not new problems. The mood of the crowd was expressed by an elderly woman tenant who remarked that "They [the Housing Authority] don't care about people living in public housing. All they want is the r-e-n-t." Tenants contend that one gives up a lot to live in federal housing. One of the small freedoms the tenants had was the use of the recreation centers. Each tenant council president was provided a key, and some of the presidents served as recreation supervisors. Several weeks ago, the Authority took the keys back. Taborn said the reason was because of break-ins at the centers. The tenants wanted to know if he [Taborn] thought the council presidents were responsible for the break-ins and expressed confusion over why he removed the keys. "The recreation centers belong to the tenants," one woman commented, "they are the only places the kids have to go to play except in the streets. We



For Distinguished Service Miss Cynthia D. Perry, Area Director of UNCF, presents to Dr. C.E. Boulware the United Negro College Fund Distinguished Service Citation as Dr. C.D. Watts, chairman of the Corporate Committee, looks on.

Black Voting Participation Hits Record In Presidential Election

NEW YORK — As many as 75-80 per cent of all registered black voters took part in the November 3 national election, according to projection figures released by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. NAACP executive director Benjamin L. Hooks, speaking the morning after the elections noted, "No other single interest group, including the elderly and women, demonstrated the great strides that blacks showed in realizing their full voting potential. These gains are especially important, since most political observers had expected a continuation of the downward trend that had been evidenced over the past fifteen years."

eligibles. This represents the highest percentage of blacks registered in our history, and is even better than the 63.8% registered among the 133 million white eligibles." Joe Madison, national director of the NAACP Voter Education Department, noted also that black voters maintained their tradition of supporting the Democratic Party. "Preliminary results show that in spite of Catholics, blue collar workers, ethnics and women going heavily for Ronald Reagan, President Carter received a solid eighty per cent of the black vote. Those same figures showed Ronald Reagan and John Anderson splitting the remaining difference."

precincts on the West Coast. NAACP officials there reported the black turnout was 10-15 per cent lower than the national average, and as much as twelve per cent lower than the turnout in 1976. The executive director said, "This was clearly the result of the news announcements of Carter's defeat, and a few minutes later the President himself conceding." According to an NAACP official in Los Angeles, many community canvassers reported their turnout had been almost fifty per cent, with three hours left to vote, when the news was broadcast. "Thereafter, the turnout was light. Canvassers

who were contacting blacks, were met with a response that the race was over and their vote was not necessary." "With the exception of the West Coast, blacks not only turned out in record numbers, but showed up at the polls much earlier in the day than in previous years," Madison said. "Our findings show that in many cities, such as Detroit, New Orleans, Atlanta, Miami and Raleigh, almost fifty per cent of the registered black voters had cast their ballots before 3 p.m. Helping to swell this figure was the unusually large increase in the black youth vote on college cam-

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Schools Make Plans For Education Week

The week of November 16-22, has been set aside as American Education Week. This observance serves to increase public understanding and appreciation of the schools, to encourage parents to visit their children's schools, to secure civic and community support for measures to improve schools, and to help students gain an appreciation of what the schools are doing for them. This nationwide event is sponsored by the National Education Association, the American Legion, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, and the United States Department of Education. The theme of this year's celebration is "Education in the 80s — Preparation for the Future." All Durham County and Durham City Schools will be celebrating this event with special programs. The Durham City Association of Educators and the Durham County Association of Classroom Teachers are sponsoring displays and performances at Northgate and South Square Shopping Malls during that week. On Thursday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m., the two groups are sponsoring a Parent Seminar at Rogers-Herr Junior High School. The seminar will begin with a general session at which time Ms. Jo Ann Norris, 1979 North Carolina Teacher of the Year, will speak on "Together We Teach Your Children." There will be two rounds of small group sessions. The following topics will be discussed during both sessions: [Continued On Page 2]

Expresses Concern Over Treatment of Haitians Sent to Puerto Rico

NEW YORK — Amnesty International has called on the United States Government to make clear the treatment and status to be given Haitians seeking asylum in the U.S. who are expected to be sent to a military camp in Puerto Rico. The international human rights organization said it had sent Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti questions on October 17 in response to reports that recently arrived Haitians were to be transferred to Fort Allen, Puerto Rico, but had not yet received any reply. It made public its questions last Thursday, November 9, because of reports that the transfer is imminent. Amnesty International said it had received persistent reports that some Haitians who were previously refused entry and sent back to Haiti were harassed and imprisoned on their return there. The organization also expressed its concern over reports that eleven Haitians were shot dead last week as they tried to leave for the U.S. from Cap Haitien. Amnesty International noted that the people who may be sent to Fort Allen may have a legitimate claim to political asylum and, under international and U.S. law, should not be treated as prisoners. In the October 17 message to Civiletti,

Amnesty International Secretary General Thomas Hammarberg requested information on the following points: • What freedom of movement will the people transferred to Fort Allen have, how will their status

be determined, and what is the projected period of time they will spend in the camp? • What access will they have to lawyers and community groups who can inform them of their rights [Continued On Page 2]

NCCU Must Fill Leadership Vacuum, Cobb Says

North Carolina Central University must act to fill a "seeming vacuum" in national leadership, Dr. Charles E. Cobb told the university's students at Friday's observance of Founder's Day.

Dr. Cobb, who is executive director of the Commission for Racial Justice, said that "abuse of power by government and industry" results daily in "the suffering of poor people."

He asked, "Who would deny that this abuse has its genesis in leadership corrupted, creating a crisis for the 1980s unprecedented in the nation's history?" Cobb said in his prepared address that Tuesday's election reflected a nation "born as to whom we would elect as President to the 'Ship of State' through the raging storms of national and international life." He said the conflicts of the election demonstrated "an absence of leadership with integrity." "Into this breach, into this seeming vacuum, North Carolina Central University must step and make its presence felt, and all other institutions that touch and impact the lives of black people and their future, always keeping in mind that as a people we need a particular kind of leadership," Cobb said. Dr. Cobb, who graduated from NCCU in 1940, listed three characteristics he described as essential for leadership in the end of the twentieth century. He said the characteristics were possessed in full by Dr. James E. Shepard, the founder of NCCU who was commemorated in Friday's exercises. "Those who lead us into the 1980s and thereafter must be leaders with in-

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Instructor Charges Community College With Racial Discrimination

The president of the North Carolina Community College system has been asked to investigate racial discrimination practices at Wilson County Technical Institute. Clyde Pulley of Goldsboro, former candidate for Lt. Governor and a criminal justice instructor at Wilson Tech charges that Dr. Ernest B. Parry, president of the college and two of his senior faculty members have engaged in discriminatory and abusive practices against him for the past six months. "It all began last May when it was necessary for me to counsel one of my white students who had reportedly made racial slurs in the student lounge," Pulley said, "But the situation got out of hand when David McLawhorn, my department head and the college president demanded that the matter be dropped." When several black

Students angrily complained to Pulley about the racial slurs, he said he took the matter to McLawhorn and asked him if he would talk with the student. "We were not even certain the student had made racial slurs," Pulley declared, "the only thing I suggested we do was to talk with the student and remind her that the use of racial slurs was not condoned on our campus." According to Pulley,

Dr. Parry said the student had the right to free speech under the Constitution and to engage in private conversation. Pulley insisted that speech is no longer private when used in the presence of those it offends, especially racial slurs at a tax-supported public institution. "Harassment, hostility, and abusive tactics have been heaped upon me for the past six months," Pulley claims "by selec-

tively demanding me to turn in written medical appointment slips to evaluating me more frequently than required of other instructors." A recent letter from president Parry directs Pulley's two immediate superiors to step up their frequency of individual contact and visits to measure his progress in attitude and behavior. "They have already

threatened me about losing my job," Pulley went on "and it is evident they were pressuring me to resign or planning to desecrate my records so they can justify firing me." According to Pulley his former supervisor deliberately wrote false information into his records which Dr. Parry refused to comment on or review. "I have seen the same old game plan in action

and been a victim of it before." Pulley proclaimed, "They tell me my behavior and performance are marginally acceptable, but my education, training, records, and reputation all speak for themselves." Pulley says throughout his career he has been selected to provide orientation and instruction to U.S. congressmen, generals, prison wardens, judges, and district attorneys, but is now being told he is not competent to teach junior college students.

Women's League to Monitor Breakthrough's Election

The League of Women Voters pleased to have the opportunity to serve Operation Breakthrough and Durham County in the role of monitor to the election of eleven members to the Operation Breakthrough Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of Operation Breakthrough is currently made up of 33 members.

One-third of these members are public officials or their designees; one-third of these members are representatives from private organizations or community groups; and one-third of these members are representatives of the poor from target areas in the county where poverty is concentrated. These representatives need not

be poor to qualify. There were 51 candidates from the various target areas. This large number of candidates indicates a strong belief in the importance of Operation Breakthrough to our community. It has been our job to work with Operation Breakthrough in the planning and implementing of this election. We ap-

preciate the cooperation of the Operation Breakthrough staff, League of Women Voters, Iota Lambda Sorority, Duke University students, NCCU Political Science Club, RSVP, Women-In-Action, Volunteer Services Bureau, Phi Delta Kappa National Sorority, Guys & Dolls and interested community residents.