An account becomes dormant after there has been no deposit or withdrawal activity for a certain period of time, usually two to five years depending on the account balance. After that stipulated period has elapsed, and that time may differ from bank to bank, the dormant accounts are identified



and kept separate from active Steve Brown accounts. This procedure removes inactive accounts from the work that must be processed everyday, and helps bankers monitor the accounts for protection against fraudulent use.

The need to push someone down in order that we might stand heads and shoulders above them is an ego need to which we are conditioned early in our competition between students at every educational level.

We are constantly in intense competition with everyone. If we fail to win the competition, we label ourselves as losers and chastise ourselves with inner humiliation, stress and self-flaggelation. We are driven to "win" over somebody - anybody. We select a victim who is harmless and compete. For the white person, blacks become the "harmless" victims who can provide whites with the feeling of "victory" that would not otherwise be forthcoming. Blacks must, however, take their frustrations out on each other.

Society does not provide blacks with an opportunity. to get back at their tormentors - the white person -

Regardless of our own sentiments, the nice thing about the Reagan Administration is the opportunity for all Americans to see the "true color" of our elected officials. The Democrats are not laying down and playing dead, but are showing their true conservative colors with their votes on the budget and tax cuts. Both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate are playing their trump cards, throwing caution to the wind, forgetting that the "jokers are still wild," and the deuce has yet to be played.

Ronald Reagan is the best thing to happen to black Americans. For too long we have taken a passive stance on issues affecting all aspects of our lives. For too long we've turned the other cheek without fighting against people, places and things which would adversely affect our lives. For too long we have not gotten out to work in our own best interest. No More! If we are to survive, if we are to get a piece of the pie, we had better wake up, speak up, and get out and hustle for our piece of the ac-

Augustus Hawkins, Democratic representative from California and a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, noted in his July 1981 address to the National Medical Association that it has been the southern Democrats (like Thurmond of S.C., and Stennis of Miss.) who have, with their swing votes, assisted in the reduction of benefits for those on food stamps, cuts in public service jobs, etc. It has been the southern sector of "the Dixiecrats" who have tipped the conservative scale. Interestingly enough in these southern states represented such as North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, black Americans often make up thirty per cent or more of the population in certain areas. As currently districted, this may not be,, enough blacks to select a black senator or congressman,

but surely there are enough to till the voting one way or

another. Do not be deceived. The present administration has the blessings of a larger segment of voting black Americans than is appreciated. Reagan captured at least 15-20% of the black vote during the last Presidential elections. Funny, when you listen to some of what he says, you hear middle class and upper echelon blacks echo many of the same type of sentiments in private. You've heard it, haven't you? "Blacks ought to get off their behinds and work. No one gave me anything!" "Welfare mothers have babies to get a bigger check. Now he's cutting them off and its what they deserve." On the other side, we hear the apologists for our behavior talk about how we have been denied equal access to education and jobs; yet one can point to "the boat people," Haitian refugees, and Cuban exiles who have risked life and limb to take opportunities at which many of us turn our nose up. Welfare mothers say they can't work without child care, yet funds for it are being axed. Black children, for too many generations, have been born to the welfare roles while their father's

DORMANT ACCOUNTS

By Steve Brown

Once a savings account becomes dormant, most banks will attempt to notify the depositor. Perhaps the depositor simply forgot about the account, or has died, or maybe moved out of state. The notification will inform the customer, or heirs, that unless there is a customer-initiated activity within a required time, maintenance fees will be charged. There are several alternatives available to the customer: 1) reactivate the account by making a deposit,

2) transfer the balance to an active account, 3) close the account or, 4) leave the account as it is and pay

Some banks may have a cut-off point above which no maintenance fees are charged. For example, a bank may not charge maintenance fees on a dormant savings account of \$100 or more. Accounts below that amount are often subject to a charge because the income earned from such small amounts

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does not offset the expenses. The amounts charged are usually small—about \$1 to \$3 per quarter—but they can delete an account over several years.

Under North Carolina law, accounts which are dormant for five years are escheated to the state, where they are held for seven years. During this seven-year period, account holders have a right to reclaim their money from the state. Money not reclaimed goes into the state's education fund.

Some banks elect not to pay interest on dormant savings accounts. Other banks continue the payments which prevents them from becoming totally inactive and protects them from escheatment. In either case, it's in your best interest to take care that your accounts do not become dormant so that your your accounts do not become dormant so that your funds will be available when you want them.

Steve Brown, a banker for six years, is manager of Wachovia Bank and Trust Company's East Independence Office in Charlotte.

(For use between August 3-August 15, 1981)

Coping

Racism: The Need That It Fulfills -Part VII

By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

except vicariously. It is for this very reason that physical confrontation between the races, such as boxing matches, bring out the ugliest elements of racism. Whites side with the white combatant and cheer for him to pound to black into submission. This symbolizes the re-establishment of their "superiority." Blacks support the black opponent and glory in his victory which symbolizes their "Getting back at the man."
In racial terms, the character of leaders is of utmost

sent a characterization and possible fulfillment of one's own needs. If the leader is successful, followers are hap-

significance because they represent a model. They reprepy, proud and have minimal frustration. They have something to live for. If the leader is unsuccessful, followers tend to be unhappy, frustrated and depressed. If no leader exists, people of similar hue tend to wander

aimlessly and, often, hopelessly.

Leaders provide a psychological "ground," a basis for self-pride and an inspiration to carry on the fight. Blacks tend to be presently in a nearly leaderless void Hope is diminished and frustration is at its historical highest. Whites can point to this factor as a reaffirmation of black inferiority and white superiority.

Your questions are welcomed. Suggestions for future articles will be appreciated. Cassette tapes of this and other articles are available for individual use, discussion groups and classroom use. All letters and inquiries should be sent to: Dr. Charles W. Faulkner, Post Office Box 500l6, Washington, D.C. 20004

vatism is fine, but not at the expense of our souls.

Black People, Wake Up! Talk is cheap. It's the votes that count. Votes speak a language which all politicians hear be they liberal, moderate, or conservative. A number one priority for all Americans is the extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The one way to maintain a finger in the action is to exercise our Democratic right to vote. Black People, Wake Up! Register and Vote. Fight back if you disagree. If they give you block grants which do not speak to your needs, give them block votes and put them out of office. Fight for your freedoms. Do not lose your soul.

Spectacles: A Closer Look

Conservatives Out Of The Closet

By Ada M. Fisher

their mothers and the system.

The conservative posture is fast becoming pompous, overbearing and accusatory - blaming the victim for his/her plight. They would limit the access of women to legalized abortions yet deny assistance to children born of misfortune. They would deny women their equal rights yet make it impossible for a man alone to support his family in a business world dominated by a sole concern for profit. They would insist that prayer be allowed in school, yet some subscribe to a view that the prayers of the Jews are not heard. They would complain of the Band-Aid approach of previous administrations to society's stab wounds, yet now seek to take away the Band-Aids and tell us to heal ourselves. They would espouse their belief in the Bible which has Ten Commandments one of which they interpret to mean "Thou shalt no kill"; yet they would finance enough bombs to blow up the world six times over while millions are being deprived of enough food to eat. They would go to no end to get folks off of public assistance yet keep Lear Jet, McDonald Douglas, Chrysler and other large corporations on public welfare. They would cut off benefits to retirees yet pad their own pension plans at the public's expense. They would support the Constitution, yet invoke censure on those who do not share their views. And the list of contradictions in the present conservative posture could go on; but they've got the votes

so why should they care? Those of us who have become conservative by our station and comfort in life, would do well to appreciate that in all of our getting, we should not forget our compassion for those less fortunate and we must not lose our humanitarianism. Black conservatives, Wake Up! We may reap financial benefits now, but they are coming at the expense of our brothers. "What profits a man

absence financially and emotionally is permitted by to gain the whole world, if he loses his soul." Conser-



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a voteless people is a hopeless people.

The Block Grant Proposal

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

In addition to slashing spending for social programs by nearly \$40 billion and cutting taxes, (at least for big business and the well to do), Mr. Reagan hopes to change the way in which the Federal government funds programs for health, education and other social services. Mr. Reagan hopes to bring about this change by consolidating nearly one hundred categorical programs into "block grants" to state and local governments with no strings attached.

The next on of block granting to which Mr. Reagan refers is not new, and has been

The notion of block granting to which Mr. Reagan refers is not new, and has been pushed by various groups since the 1960's as a way of turning federal decision making

back to state and local officials. Simply stated, "block grants" are federal payments to state or local governments for generally specified purposes, such as health, education or law enforcement. The monies which the Federal government gives to the state or local governments as a

monies which the Federal government gives to the state or local governments as a block grant must be spent on programs in the general area, but state or local officials make the decision on specifically how the money is to be used.

According to the President and supporters of block granting, "The Federal government in Washington has no special wisdom in dealing with many of the social and educational issues faced at the state and local level; and those who are closest to the issue should decide how it should be approached."

Proponents of block granting point out that the 84 health, education and social services programs that the Administration proposes to consolidate into block grants encompass 616 pages of laws, 1,400 pages of regulations, more than 10,000 separate grants and about 88,000 grant sites. As a result, administering the grants now requires grants and about 88,000 grant sites. As a result, administering the grants now requires more than seven million hours of paperwork and several thousand federal employees. Proponents argue that consolidating the programs into six or seven block grants will promote greater economy and efficiency and enhance coordination by forging links

between formerly separate activities. Critics of the Administration's block grant program go on to contend that aside from not achieving greater efficiency or responsiveness, block granting will result in a brutal struggle at the state and local level over which programs to fund. The critics argue that those without politically strong constituencies — who just happen to be organizations which serve minorities and the poor — are almost certain losers. With already deep funding cuts and no special protections for poor, minority, and handicapped citizens, disadvantaged groups would be pitted against one another for "a piece of the pie". As a result, handicapped individuals would be pitted against the aged, foster care parents against child care advocates, mental health patients against the schools atte

Contrary to the President's claims of social safety net and protections for the truly needy, there is nothing in his block grant plan that would specifically protect the truly needy. In fact, according to his critics, the President's block granting plan would abolish dozens of specific protections. For example with respect to health, there would be no requirement that funds be targeted to low income or needy people. Consequently, all families, regardless of income, would be eligible under the social service

In a time when funding for worthwhile social programs is diminishing, everything possible must be done to root-out waste and inefficiencies in existing programs. However, if the block grant concept is used to achieve this end, I urge the Administration to first address concerns raised by critics of the proposal.

Buy only a Black newspaper September 17.

You'll do more than read the news. You'll be the news.

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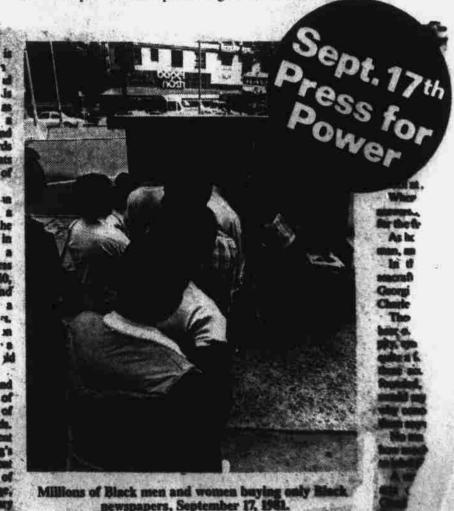
And that you recognize the historical relationship between Black papers and Black freedom. (One of the very first Black businesses was a Black newspaper - The Freedom Journal -started in 1827 by an ex-slave, John Russworm.)

Just as important, you'll be a part of an opportunity -a chance for a grand scale demonstration of the consumer power that exists when millions of Black people work together. And that's

something you can be proud of.
Just as White newspapers across America report news that reflects the interests of Whites, Black newspapers continue to struggle to present the news that reflects Black interests.

Mark your calendar for Sept. 17th. Buy a Black newspaper and only a Black newspaper. Then be prepared to read all about it.

September 17th is brought to you by BOCA who is proud to be sponsoring this Press for Power.



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