



The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIEDED

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Words Of Wisdom
Difficulties strengthen the mind, as labor does the body.
—Seneca

He climbs highest who helps another up.
—George Matthew Adams

There is not a moment without some duty.
—Cicero

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NAACP Asks For Firing Of Leary

By Donald Alderman
Durham Branch NAACP president George W. Frazier has written a letter of complaint to C.H. Lewis, chairman of the ABC Board requesting the dismissal of R.W. Leary as ABC Chief of Police. Frazier said the local chapter is also requesting

the firing of Ronald Allen as an ABC officer. The local chapter contends Leary has acted differently to the alleged misconduct of ABC Officer Ronald Allen.

Allen allegedly struck Leroy McNeill on the head while attempting to conduct a raid at McNeill's mother's home on November 7.

Immediately after the raid, Frazier called for the suspension of Allen pending an independent investigation of the incident. Leary, however, did not suspend Allen. Frazier said that inaction represents gross negligence on Leary's part, and that he has not acted in accordance with his duties.

"The Branch is very concerned about the seemingly lackadaisical approach [Leary] has taken in this matter," Frazier said in the letter. Leary announced this week that he will run for Durham County sheriff next year.

District Attorney Dan K. Edwards, Jr., is reviewing Public Safety's investigation of the incident. It was learned that Edwards, his post up for reelection next year, will not act on the findings until after McNeill's trial.

Allen has obtained warrants against McNeill, charging him with assault. McNeill's trial was delayed for a second time Wednesday.

McNeill has said he may seek warrants against Allen, pending the findings of the Public Safety investigation. McNeill was asked by detectives not to obtain warrants against Allen. McNeill said investigators felt the results of their investigation would work in his favor in obtaining warrants.

McNeill suffered a bruised brain, fractured skull and a loss of hearing in his left ear due to Allen's alleged blows.

When contacted by telephone, ABC General Manager W. Leathers said he has not seen the letter.

However, Lewis said in a telephone interview, that he gave the letter to the ABC Board of which Leathers is general manager. Lewis said the ABC Board has not responded to the complaints.

Leary was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

.....
Inside This Issue
.....
Howard Researchers Developing Instant Blood
.....
Page 15
.....

H. M. 'Mickey' Michaux, Jr. Honored

By Bernadine Moses Duncan

Former United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina and three-term state legislator H.M. "Mickey" Michaux, Jr., was honored Friday, December 4, with an appreciation dinner followed by a reception given by close friends, supporters and family members.

The \$100 a plate festivity, held at the Governor's Inn in the Research Triangle Park, was attended by over 100 well wishers primarily from Wake, Durham, and Orange counties.

Michaux, who is expected to be a candidate for the fourth district representative to the United States Congress, was toasted by prominent political, community and educational leaders for his conscientious and continuous service to his community, the district and the state of North Carolina. Well known actor and Shaw University faculty member Thalmus Rasulala served as Master of Ceremony.

Dr. Prezell Robinson, president of Saint Augustine's College, cited Michaux's many efforts while serving in the N.C. Legislature on behalf of private higher education institutions to receive state funding as well as sponsorship and support of legislation for sickle cell anemia, fair employment practices, consumer finance and the Equal Rights Amendment.

Similarly, Michaux was presented a plaque by Mrs. Patricia Rogers, executive director of the Durham Tenants Association, in appreciation.

(Continued On Page 2)

Old Council Out — New Council In

By Donald Alderman

Durham City Council unanimously voted to send back to the Finance Committee for further consideration a proposal that the city enter a relocation assistance contract with the Durham Business and Professional Chain. The Chain is to provide technical assistance to eight businesses of the old Hayti community dislocated by urban removal.

The action was one of many taken by a newly seated council Monday night.

The Chain, with the \$40,000 contract, is to determine the viability of the businesses and aid in their permanent relocation. The businesses are temporarily located east of Old Fayetteville Street in aluminum buildings often referred to as Tin City.

Concern arose among the businesses' owners as to what the city's Hayti redevelopment plan entails, prompting a delay in the council's decision until further discussions can be held.

Citizen Participation Urged

A packed council chamber was told by outgoing council members to keep the pressure on elected public officials to ensure responsibility.

"Local government is

Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People To Hold Annual Meet

The Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 13, 5 p.m., at Covenant United Presbyterian Church, 1306 Lincoln St. Chairman Willie C. Lovett will report on the Committee's accomplishments and achievements during 1981. There will also be the presentation of community and service awards and the installation of officers for 1982. The public is invited to attend.

going to be only as good as citizens' demands," said Mrs. Margaret Keller who is resigning after an eight-year service. Mrs. Keller was the only outgoing council member to receive a standing ovation during certificate presentation ceremonies.

Ms. Adrienne M. Fox and James W. Brown, Jr., also resigned their seats. They expressed hope that citizens will become more politically active.

Similarly, three defeated conservatives — Harry Rodenhizer, Ms. Judy J. Harward, Stewart M. Pickett, Jr. — said they hope Durham will continue to progress.

The statements came after Rodenhizer sought last remarks from outgoing council members. There was silence as he caught them by surprise.

"This council has not been one given to un-

necessary conversation," Mrs. Keller remarked to laughs from the audience.

Among their last official acts, the old council adopted a resolution naming E.J. "Mutt" Evans as Durham's mayor emeritus. Evans was mayor from 1951 to 1963.

In other business before changing composition, the council presented Mrs. Margaret W. Rollins a certificate for 36 years service as City Clerk. She resigned to take a position in the City Manager's office.

Ms. Margaret M. Bowers was sworn in as interim City Clerk.

So, it was out with the old and in with the new as outgoing council members and the mayor, following tradition, stepped down and shook hands with the newly sworn council members before the new representatives took their spots.

Hunt Mayor Pro Tem Committees Named

Mayor Charles Markham, demonstrating fairness, appointed Councilman Ralph Hunt as mayor pro tempore. Hunt, re-elected for a third consecutive four-year term, will preside as mayor in Markham's absence.

Markham, announcing chairmanships and appointments for the council's three standing committees, named Carroll Pledger as Public Works Committee chairman, Kim Griffin as Finance Committee chairman and Thomas Hudson, Jr., as Community Services Committee chairman.

Newly seated council members are: Thomas H. Campbell, Jr., Ms. Jane S. Davis, Chester L. Jenkins, Mrs. Sylvia Kerckhoff and Maceo K. Sloan.

The newly seated council voted 10-3 to accept the condemned Kingston Mill building on Walker Street in Edgemont. Councilman Ralph Hunt, who voted against accepting the building, said, in light of tight budget, the city needs to assess total cost involved in accepting the building before doing so.

"I wonder if we are moving opposite that we ought to be. We need to

(Continued On Page 3)

Anti-Reagan Demonstrations Being Planned

By Donald Alderman
Major, week-long demonstrations, display of resistance to the Reagan program, will be held in urban centers and the country beginning April 26, with delegates attending a regional conference in Detroit.

A coalition of labor, racial and political organizations, the All People's Congress, also decided to mount a "winter offensive" of national campaigns that will lead up to the demonstrations called National Days of Resistance.

Pressuring President Reagan to reverse his program of budget cuts and defense build-up are goals of the days of resistance.

The demonstrations will take place in Atlanta, Detroit, New York, Chicago and other centers hard hit by the economic condition of an All People's Congress official said. Devising a strategy to fight back against the attacks by the Reagan administration," nearly 100 delegates from 45 states attended the conference in Detroit'sobo Hall.

During the two-day gathering, President Reagan and his programs were vigorously denounced as speaker after speaker urged delegates to vote for the Days of Resistance.

"We have come together to let the Reagan administration and the Pentagon know that we, as a unified body, will be mapping a strategy to fight back to overturn the Reagan program," said Monica Moorehead, member of the National Coordinating Board of the All People's Congress. She spoke at a speak-out held before three plenary sessions.

Delegates represented diverse population of labor unions, minorities,

women, civil rights groups, anti-war, anti-draft and anti-nuclear groups, welfare advocates, the elderly, church groups, Native groups and war veterans. National security was on the minds of the delegates, but they did not want the Pentagon's help.

"The security of the people demands that the money that has gone to the Pentagon be given back. Our security requires that we be able to feed our families, to heat our homes and apartments in winter. We need jobs, not bombs. . . . We need more and we will win more," said Sahu Barron, a conference organizer.

Twenty-six workshops were also held in which resolutions, action proposals and detailed discussion critical of the Reagan program resulted. "Racism and repression," "Attacks on the rights of labor," and "Prisons and political repression" were among the workshop topics.

The All People's Congress was organized subsequently to a march and rally in Washington on May 3 in which nearly 100,000 persons participated. Sponsors of the march, the People's Anti-War Mobilization, prompted by the march's success, quickly moved to organize a group to fight budget cuts and a military build-up.

By linking racism, all forms of discrimination and oppression, the All People's Congress has formed a large, diverse support population.

Prompted by the conference's success, delegates agreed to select cities to mount a winter offensive, then voted for the "Days of Resistance" to be held April 24 through May 2, during which massive demonstrations will be staged in the nation's largest cities.



Speaker and Honoree DISCUSSING OPPORTUNITIES are (l-r) H.M. "Mickey" Michaux, Mrs. Pat Rogers, Durham Tenants Steering Committee executive director and Appreciation Dinner MC actor Thalmus Rasulala during break from dinner held at the Governor's Inn last Friday.

Photo by Kelvin A. Bell

The Black Church Response To Reaganomics

By Donald Alderman

NOTE: Political and social activity in the black church, in response to Reagan economics and the new political climate, are examined in the second of a two-part series. In the first part, economic and social issues rendered by the black church to help those affected by budget reductions were cited. It was reported that churches, some of which are nationally connected, have seen an increase in the number of people seeking economic assistance. Congregations have responded by initiating assistance programs including aiding families with housing and fuel costs, financing programs to aid senior citizens and the unemployed. Local ministers noted that the new political climate is partly the reason the church's role in affecting social concerns has increased. Similarly, ministers say, a cohesive spirit is gaining momentum in the black community.

Rev. W.W. Easley, pastor of St. Joseph's AME Church, said he has held special letter writing campaigns after Sunday services, urging the congregation to write the state's two senators and fourth district congressman.

Extension of the Voting Rights Act, legislation on child care, social security, education, and fair housing bills are the subject of many of the letter writing campaigns.

Partners In Ecumenism (PIE), a national organization of ministers and lay persons, is one of several church groups formed this year to combat Reaganism, particularly budget cuts, Rev. Easley said. He said PIE is the only church organization that has lobbied in Congress during the Reagan Administration, with one controversial exception — Moral Majority.

Carolina Conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church resolved that the rapid reduction in social programs cease. The conference convened Saturday in Charlotte, according to Rev. L.H. Whelchel, pastor of Russell Memorial

CME Church in Durham. Rev. Whelchel heads the conference's social concerns committee.

Other church-related groups formed recently include the National Conference of Churchmen, National Conference of Black Pastors, National Conference of Black Churches, National Caucus and Center on Black Aging and National Council of Churches.

Raising the level of political awareness among the people may be the most significant political action of the church, Rev. Lorenzo A. Lynch, pastor of White Rock Baptist Church in Durham noted recently.

Letter writing campaigns and lobbying lawmakers often times seems worthless. After all, politically active ministers and churches are nothing novel. But they can have an impact, even if the lawmaker seemed not to listen, Rev. Lynch said.

"Politicians listen although they may not obey all commands. It's politics. They sometimes play the 'middle of the road' game, Rev. Lynch commented. And, he continued, when politicians seem to pay us no mind, we're steadily preaching

and organizing, making people more aware so that they can be informed voters.

Rev. Lynch noted that the impact of political action by churches is often felt more at election time than when first sought. So, politicians and voters will have a call for action, one of them will.

Efforts by churches are also concentrated toward self-help programs.

"The political pendulum is moving to the right at such a rapid pace that it is difficult to effect concerns on a national political level," said Rev. Whelchel, while stating that at Russell Memorial, self-help, survival programs are in effect.

"We are generating greater concern for one another among black people. The power of blacks is in togetherness. The conservative climate is reminding us as a people that we have not arrived," Whelchel said.

Food cooperatives and pantries, and clothes closets are among the 'sharing' programs in effect in several churches.

Working closely with black groups

as the National Black Independent Political Party, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is also part of the church's political action, Rev. Whelchel said.

"I very much subscribe to what they are attempting to do. They are certainly needed to work with the masses and create a sense of awareness," Rev. Whelchel said, referring to the NBIPP. "We need to renew our awareness of blackness. We need not be ashamed of having our own coalitions.

"Black Americans — as most Americans — are crisis-oriented," Rev. Whelchel said.

"We tend to come together in time of crisis," he said. "When the climate changes and things get better, we tend to relax again. I'm not sure whether this is bad. Unfortunately, when we relax, the oppressor tries to put us back. No other ethnic group suffers this. We really can't afford to relax."

Awareness and togetherness, the ministers said, are what blacks need in these conservative times.