

DCABP Eviction of Reporter

I read with interest your editorial in last week's issue of *The Carolina Times*. When you mentioned Mr. John Edwards and his role in evicting the press from the meeting of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, one observation readily comes to mind. I believe that it would be in the best interest of all the citizens of Durham if Mr. Edwards, Mr. Ben Ruffin and all other members of Governor Hunt's team would excuse themselves from participating in deliberations on matters in which the Governor has special interests. Their participation in such matters clearly represents a conflict of interest. The Bible states that one cannot serve two masters. May I suggest that Mr. Hunt's workers serve Mr. Hunt and his special interests and other members of the Committee serve the interests of the people of Durham, particularly when the interests of the two differ.

It was my privilege to work for Mr. Hunt in the last two elections. I shall continue to support him, Mr. Ruffin, Mr. Edwards, and my many other friends who are on his team when their ultimate commitment is for the best interest of all the citizens of North Carolina.

James P. Green, M.D.

Law School Never on Probation

The use of the word "probation" by the American Bar Association appears each time North Carolina Central University School of Law graduates pass or fail the North Carolina Bar Examination.

The American Bar Association has never charged that North Carolina Central University School of Law was on probation.

The Association of American Law Schools is the proper Accrediting Agency.

The NCCU catalogues, located in the Registrars office, as well as the official NCCU School of Law Bulletins, located in the files of the new Albert L. Turner Law School building, will attest to the above information.

The NCCU School of Law Bulletins, dating 1967-1968, and even earlier, when the name was North Carolina College at Durham, School of Law are on record.

North Carolina College at Durham School of Law was changed in 1969 when it became a part of the University of North Carolina system. Volumes No. 3, 1967, No. 4 through Volume XIII, 1980-83 Edition, shows that the school was accredited or approved by the American Bar Association and the N.C. Board of Law Examiners.

Further, the Association of American Law Schools, the official accrediting agency for Legal Education, had given provisional accreditation in 1975, based primarily on lack of physical facilities, even with the addition of new space after the disastrous fire on September 18, 1969, and needed by the increasing enrollment of black, white and Indian students.

With the completion of the new Albert L. Turner physical facilities, planned by a former dean and executed by still another former dean, the NCCU School of Law received its full accreditation by the American Association of Law Schools.

Again, never has the term "probation" by the American Bar Association been used. Let the record speak for itself.

Elva P. DeJarmon



By the way...

By Joe Black

Unemployment is prevalent: many families have been forced to sell their homes; and too many of our youths have been forced to curtail their college educations because of the financial plight that besieges this nation. It has been many, many years since so many Americans have been out of work. One of the hurting aspects of this negative situation is the fact that the "axe" has fallen on thousands of employees who were "cut loose" because of the recession, or depression, that we are experiencing. These people don't want to be a statistic. They want to work.

And when we view the sad story from a Black perspective, our dismay is increased because there are 2 unemployed Blacks for each inactive white worker. Additionally, recently the Labor Department acknowledged that it has halted proposals to ease anti-discrimination guidelines for federal contracts. The new proposals include limiting back-pay awards and eliminating a requirement for formal Affirmative Action Programs for many of the 200,000 contractors with government contracts.

Remember the old children's rhyme: "Rain, rain go away, come back another day"? It sure would be great if we could wish our troubles away. We are challenged to utilize the hardiness and pride that we have acquired from our foreparents and overcome these "hard times."

The task will not be easy and before we can counter-act this uncertainty we must face some harsh facts. The primary reality is, regardless of which party is in office, most of the domestic cuts will not be reinstated.

Black people must begin to look inward for solutions to their problems. If we have a gross annual spendable income in excess of \$130 billion dollars, then why can't we build and create jobs within the Black community?

My friends, we have arrived at the time when we must decide which is of greatest importance—a self-help economic plan or retaining the reputation of being trend setters in the fashion world?

Joe Black

Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

Letters to the Editor . . .

State of the Black Community

I congratulate you and your executive editor, Mr. Milton Jordan, on the series about Durham. Keep up the good work.

Curtis T. Perkins

Frustrated Blacks

I have been moving around the 2nd Congressional District in an effort to generate support for a "write-in for Michaux for Congress." I am surprised at the number of frustrated blacks, including a few who work for the present Democratic administration in Raleigh. They seem to be confused and are considering voting for the Republican candidate for Congress.

I am sure these citizens would very much like to see conditions in our country improved. On the other hand, in their confusion, the citizens have failed to realize that the Republican Administration has attempted to balance the budget at the expense of the poor and elderly in this country.

In order to balance the budget the administration has caused:

1. Over 500 businesses to go bankrupt each week
2. The housing industry to all but collapse
3. Thousands of college students to be denied college educations and a reduction in the quality of aid at lower levels because of fund cuts
4. The withdrawal of the food stamp program from mentally retarded individuals and institutions, orphanages, elderly poor between the ages of 60-64, deserving and needy citizens
5. Hospitals to deny services to critically ill citizens because of cuts in Medicaid and Medicare
6. Unemployment to rise to the greatest height since the depression
7. Soup lines for the destitute to be formed around the country
8. Prospects for the withdrawal of rental subsidy from houses for the poor and elderly
9. Social Security to be on the brink of collapse
10. Textile and steel mills to close around the country
11. The imposition of huge taxes on tobacco that is spelling doom for many farmers

The list could go on and on with despair.

In the face of all of this, the administration smiles and tells the American people that his budget cuts have only "weeded out the crooks" and that Americans should "stay the course".

I submit to you that the poor, elderly, and citizens of conscience cannot "stay the course" while their brothers and sisters are sacrificed.

James P. Green, M.D.

Warren County PCB Issue

Thank you so much for your total coverage of the Warren County PCB issue. Unlike many other papers, *The Carolina Times* dug up more facts and got to the issues behind the story.

The people of Warren County, and others who joined their protest, deserve the highest praise for their steadfast, nonviolent witness. When the State chose to put their lives on the line with a leak-prone landfill (there's no other kind of landfill), Warren County united to let the truth be heard.

All the denials of racial prejudice ring hollow to me. Where is the landfill in a wealthy white residential area? What landfill is near a major white church? If that landfill is so safe, why was it put at the far edge of the PCB spill, away from 900,000 acres of more suitable soil?

What the State has done speaks so loudly I have trouble hearing what they say. Plus, one knowledgeable State employee told me, when I asked why the State was picking on Warren County, "They're mostly Blacks and Indians, there aren't many of them, they're poor, and they don't have any political clout."

Landfills are "cheap" to build and fill, but no one can pay the cost of cleaning up ground water with poisons in it. The human cost is too clear to anyone who has ever worked with retarded or handicapped children. How dare our industries poison our future? How dare the State help them? How dare we let it happen?

Some scientists have figured out how industry can clean up, re-use, recycle and de-toxify these wastes, and save money doing it. A fine meeting on this "pollution prevention pays" idea was held in Winston-Salem in May, 1982, with State help. But the powers in State government do not seem to understand this idea, and they are not working seriously (yet) to use it. That is why the stand of the brave people in Warren County was absolutely necessary. They have done a great service to the rest of us. And they deserve our support and service in getting all those PCBs removed or de-toxified as soon as possible.

The rich and the powerful, who take the profits from pollution, have always dumped it on the poor and the minorities who lack power. That is why we see headlines like "Blacks have higher levels of lead in blood" and "Minorities have higher death rates from cancer". The environment is what we have around us. The environment is a racial and political issue because some short-sighted people seem to think they can take the good environments to surround themselves with, and shove all their wastes on the rest of us while crowding us into the worst environments.

South Africa is a good example of this policy: The white minority takes over 80% of the land (all the best) and resources, forces the black majority into rural ghettos and makes them work under slave-labor type laws to do all the dirty work that makes South Africa wealthy. The situation in North Carolina is not as obvious, but the same kind of political forces are at work. They just aren't as honest about it.

I am encouraged by leaders like Mickey Michaux, who are trying to clean up the political pollution in North Carolina. But there is too much hypocrisy: Yesterday I read a small news item that Jim Ramsey, who ran third in the Democratic primary, had finally endorsed Tim Valentine for Congress. I'll take Valentine over the Congressional Club any day. The Congressional Club aims to destroy human rights and the environment and anyone who doesn't follow their line. But how much publicity did Ramsey get for holding off his endorsement of the Democratic nominee for Congress for several weeks after Michaux finally endorsed him?

The State's politicians need to know that you have to be better than the lesser of two evils, so that people will support you enthusiastically. I enthusiastically support Citizens Concerned About PCBs. And enthusiastically oppose the Congressional Club. Which side are our politicians on? The dictator-style Congressional Club is not going to leave much middle ground, as they strip-mine our fields of elections and sow their poisonous politics.

Wells Eddleman

Roundtable Seeks Funds

Beginning last December, progressive groups and individuals responded to the Durham City Council's threat to allow Duke Power to cut back on bus service to the city. After the initial stormy Council meetings, the Durham Citizens Roundtable Coalition was formed. We conducted a petition drive in workplaces, shopping centers, churches, and communities all over Durham, passed out thousands of leaflets, met with the mayor and finally hired a legal team and sued Duke Power and the City. Since then we have held a fundraising rally and a raffle to help pay the legal fees.

We are currently awaiting the State Utilities Commission's decision on whether or not to let Duke Power cut off the night bus service and cut back on two day routes. The actions we have taken stopped them, for nine months, from taking yet another swipe at the people of Durham's standard of living. There are people who are riding now who would be walking if we had not taken action. The coming together of many diverse organizations and individuals in the Durham Citizen's Roundtable Coalition made this possible, a true people's success story.

As we await the SUC's decision, let people be reminded of the facts of the case. 1) Duke Power owes the people of Durham, by contract, "fair, adequate and reasonably satisfactory" bus service in exchange for the privilege of operating the extremely profitable electricity franchise. They pay no other fee for this privilege; 2) Duke Power's profits on electricity far exceed its losses on the bus service; and 3) Bus service affects all the people of Durham directly or indirectly. Workplaces suffer if people have no reliable way to work and businesses suffer if people can't get to stores to shop. Churches, recreational and educational facilities are also served by the bus system. The SUC should consider these facts and how they affect the peoples interest as they make their decision.

The Durham Citizens Roundtable Coalition is continuing this fight for better bus service in Durham. We urge all citizens to write the local papers to express your support and to join or contribute money for legal fees to the DCRC by calling 682-7777.

Robert Markham

For the Durham Citizens Roundtable

Family Safety

KEEP HOME FIRES FROM BURNING

Although about three out of every hundred thousand Americans die by fire every year, there are things you can do to help keep yourself and your family out of such grim statistics.

One of the most important things you can do is to install at least one smoke detector in your home. A recent study found smoke detectors to be 85 percent effective in giving the first warning of a home fire. This early warning can provide valuable time in which a family can execute a pre-

arranged escape plan.

Fire officials also encourage families to practice using escape routes at night. Families should meet at a predetermined place where members can assure themselves that everyone is safely out of the house.

You might also like to learn more about recent advances in upholstered furniture construction which can make it more cigarette resistant. Most upholstered furniture in the marketplace now offers a new feature for your consideration.

To the Citizens of Durham:

If I am re-elected to serve my third term in the North Carolina House of Representatives, I want to continue to hear from you regarding your views on legislative issues.

I solicit and welcome your input on the issues and laws that we consider in Raleigh.

To benefit you in reaching your legislator, you may call me at the following numbers:

489-1638 (Home Number)

682-5678 (Law Office Number)

733-5973 (Raleigh Legislative Number)

I welcome and encourage your calls. By expressing your views and opinions, you help to make me a better legislator for all of Durham County.

Thank You,
Kenneth B. Spaulding
State Representative

Paid For by Committee To Re-Elect Kenneth B. Spaulding



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