



MEMBER NORTH CAROLINA
BLACK PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION

Representation No Flake

During its past two editions, the Chronicle has looked at black representation on city and county boards and commissions.

Of the total of 370 appointments made by the county Board of Commissioners and the city Board of Aldermen, 91 or about one-fourth have been black.

Eight blacks have become chairmen of boards, commissions or committees.

The totals are due in large measure to the work of black public officials such as Commissioner Mazie Woodruff and Alderman Vivian Burke, Larry Little and Virginia Newell, who have continued to bring forward the names of blacks when appointments come up.

Frankly, it is somewhat miraculous that black representation totals are as high as they are in the absence of a unified thrust to assure that blacks are on such bodies.

Until the Chronicle survey, no one knew how many blacks served on committees. In fact, city and county officials were not sure how many people, period, served on these public bodies.

Now that the groundwork has been laid, careful monitoring of the appointment process should begin. Such occurrences as the recent reduction in black membership on the county Hospital Authority from four to two demonstration thereof for such an effort.

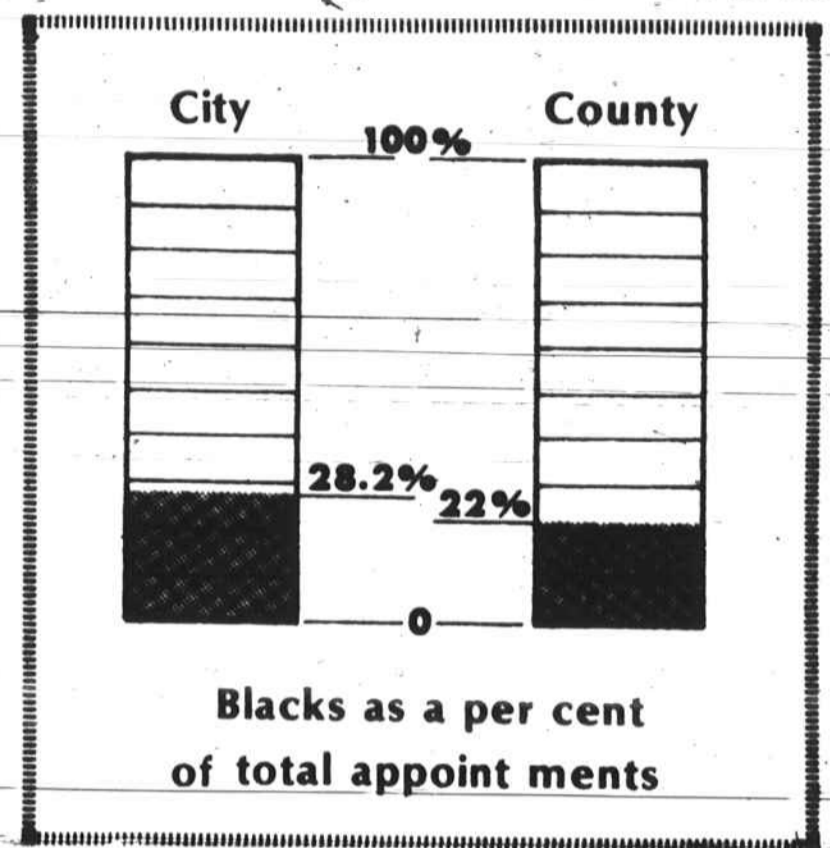
Interested citizens should put together a bank of qualified and willing blacks who should be put forward as nominees.

Our representatives on the city and county governing boards, both black and white, should be familiar with these lists so that the argument that black nominees can't be found is not aired.

Black attendance in aldermen and commissioner's meetings would help sink in the point that the black community is interested in governmental activities and

demands to be in the positions of influence and information.

Some might say that the proportions cited earlier show that the current system works well. However the



propositions are aided by concentrations of blacks on boards such as the Human Relations Commission.

More than a dozen public bodies still have no blacks as members.

The importance of black representation on the more than 50 public bodies which act in administrative, or advisory roles is equal to the importance of black as elected officials.

In fact, the two efforts are complementary parts of the same whole.

Tired Of Being Pushed

Plans by the city to put a water reservoir in the East Winston area have caused some concern to the residents of the area.

According to a spokesperson for the city, a 5 million gallon repumped ground storage reservoir will need to be constructed in the Gray Avenue, Hattie Avenue and 14th Street vicinity.

The concern of a majority of the residents in that area is that homes will be destroyed or moved in order to construct the storage tank in the area.

One resident of the area said that, "The tank will not only be an eyesore, but it will probably bring the property values of the homes down."

City officials that the reservoir is needed in the area because of a heavy increase in industrial demand and to lighten the load on the existing water tower, located at

Wake Forest.

Residents in the area are banding together to see that plans can be worked out to the liking of both the community and the city. Many residents feel that questions still need to be asked and many more need to be answered.

Although the city officials have been receptive to the citizens' input so far, it is not known at this time how important their input will be, but the banding together of the residents has shown that they are concerned and will be ready to fight if they deem it necessary.

The water tower issue is just an example of how citizens can only be pushed so far. Citizens are now taking an active and vocal part in the things that affect their lives and governments are finding that they have no choice but to listen.

Brave New World

Columbus Day always reminds us of a saying the Indians have up in Cherokee: "Before 1492, the Indians were running the country. There were no taxes, no unemployment, no poverty, and no pollution. The white man thought he could improve on that..."

It has been 486 years since the Discovery and we are still struggling to achieve utopia that may have been here all along, but of course we will never get it, because society has become too complex to utilize the simplistic rules of an ancient culture.

Very few of us are going to give up our cars to fight pollution. In fact, most people resent being asked to give up their aerosol deodorant to avoid endangering the atmosphere. Besides, Utopia is a relative thing. On a winter night when the temperature hovers around zero, the thought of sleeping in an unheated teepee

might seem less than idyllic. And a generation raised on TV dinners would find it difficult to restrict their diets to whatever they could raise or hunt.

Like most sensible solutions the answer lies in compromise. We might give up some government services for a "Proposition 13" for instance, or pass clean air regulations to fight pollution.

Maybe if solar power becomes our only energy source we can get rid of pollution in a few hundred years, and maybe society will figure out a system to eliminate poverty and unemployment. But as long as society is complex, our problems will be greater than those of the Indians of yesteryear, because complex cultures have complex problems. So if some prophet foresees a distant year in which America again is free of tax-poverty, and pollution, look for the Statu-Liberty...embedded in the sand.



Cook

CHRONICLE CAMERA
In order to alleviate water shortage problems, the city of Winston-Salem has decided to build a new 75-foot water storage tank. The first choice for a site on which to locate the structure is a field owned by the Catholic Church of St. Benedict on the Moor on Hattie-



Sockwell

The Chronicle Camera asked the residents of Hattie Avenue whose houses face the proposed site if they favored the building of a water tower in that location. Here are their responses:

AGNES COOK: "I'm not for it! I'm waiting for my windows to get fixed. And they want to come build a

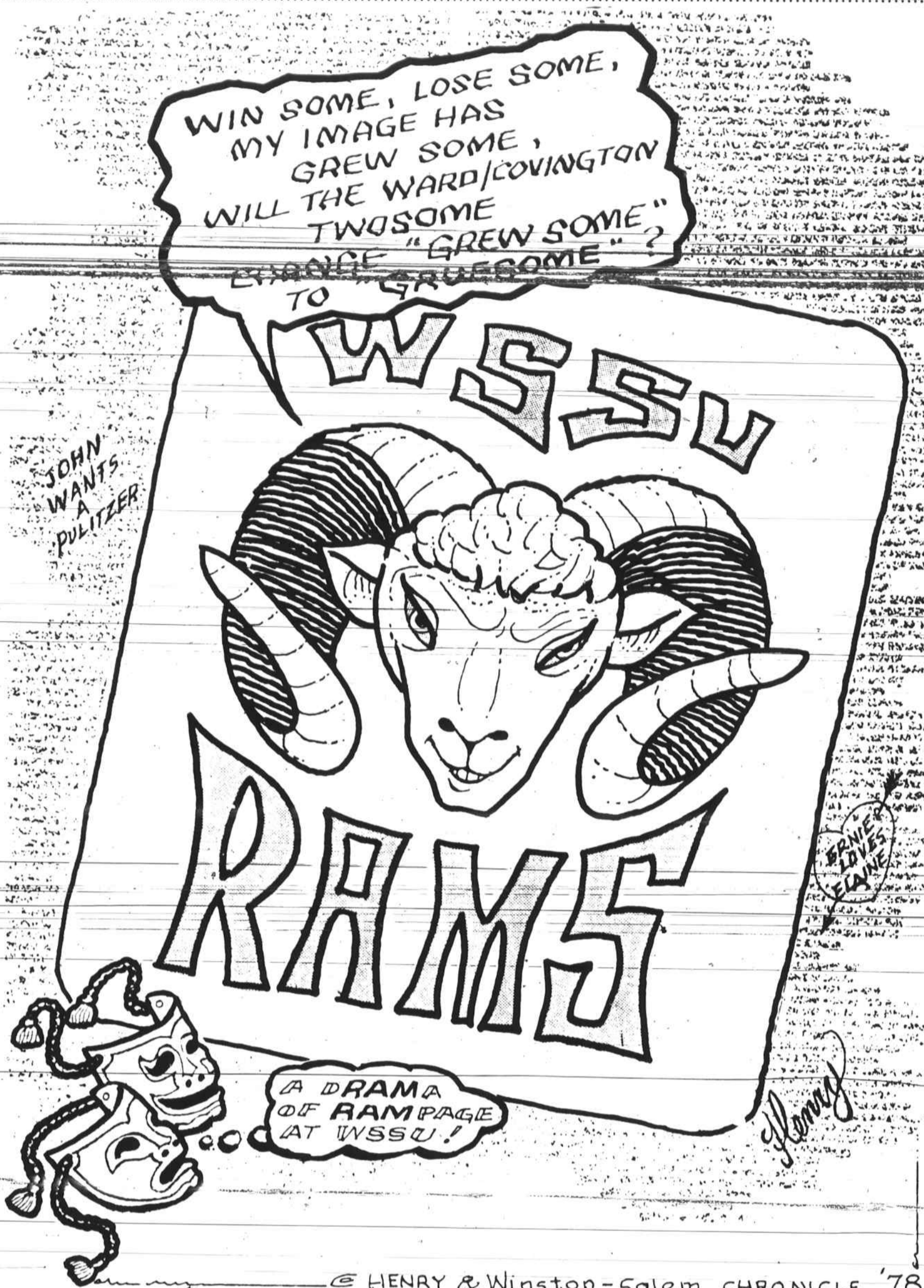


Braham

tower over here and they haven't fixed my windows yet? Ain't no way. I'll tell anybody. I'm against it."

PAULINE RODMAN: No. I don't think they need it."

MARTHA SOCKWELL: "I used to live on 8th Street, and they (the city) run me out of there and bought over here. I don't know



© HENRY & Winston-Salem CHRONICLE '78

Speaking Out

By T. DIANNE BELLAMY-SMALL
North Carolina State Youth Conference President NAACP

The educated person is the one who is supposed to succeed in life. Since black people were freed from their bonds of slavery they have sought to learn and develop with the hopes of someday being equal. Some people say that experience is the best teacher and I agree that until you live through something you never really know what it is like. However, in this day it is necessary for the young mind to turn itself to a more formal experience—school.

In June I patted on the back the graduates who had accomplished a special level of achievement. But now it is time to look forward and begin again. No matter how much you dislike school, it is a necessity. Therefore, with a brand new year ahead I hope each student will consider these suggestions:

Education is the key to a life with many successes, but what you get out of it is determined by what you put into it.

Teachers are human and make mistakes, but the biggest mistake is if you don't take what they have to offer.

Be a leader and not a follower because followers rarely know where they are going.

Sports are fine and many students use this as a status symbol, but a failing grade tells more about the person.

Sitting in the back of the classroom only shows that you want to be last in all that you do and not that you don't like the teachers, they have already been where you have to go and they don't have to go back.

Teachers are employed by the state who in turn get their salaries from the taxpayers, the parents of the students, so if you refuse to learn mom and dad pay the cost and you come out empty handed and headed.

To socialize is fine, but in this world there are people who never come off of a high and never know where they are, where they are going, or where they have been.

Priorities should fill your mind, if you don't want to be in school just see how long it takes you to find a job.

When you are 12, 13, 14, and 15 you think the world is still before you, but when you are 22, 23, 24, and 25 and uneducated you'll think the world has put you down.

If you know you cannot read, write, add or speak don't put the blame on mom and dad, principal or teacher because nobody knows what you want out of life but you.

And if you think welfare will take care of you, think again. You may have to work anyway and a job you really don't want.

Learning to read, write and add may seem like a drag, but it is tragedy when you own child shamefully says, "My mom and dad can't teach me because they can't read either."

This is a new school year; this can be a new start. Put education first then all the other fun things in life will follow. Put other things first and life may be funny to you but it will never be fun. If you are out of school, go back because a part of life is being able to cope with the obstacles you have to face for the rest of your life, and being ignorant does not have to be one of them.

Good luck on the start of a brand new year!!!

The Winston-Salem Chronicle
Founded 1974

Ernest H. Pitt
Editor & Publisher

Ndubisi Egemonye
Co-Founder
Isaac Carree II
General Manager
Yvette McCullough
Photo Editor

John W. Templeton
Executive Editor
Sharyn Bratcher
Managing Editor
Robert Eller
Sports Editor

Contributors: Azzie Wagner; Naomi McLean; George Boots; Joey Daniels, Lucile Douthitt

what they'll do here. But they got one tower on the corner here (the church) and that's enough."

BERNETTA BRAHAM: "I'm not for it. My reason is this: we need more space for additional houses."

FATHER O'ROURKE: "The diocese does not want to sell the land. As people

here to serve the community, the last thing in the world we would want to do would be something that the community did not want."

BETHENIA WISE: "You know we're against it! What if it bursts or something? Why do they want to put it here? We don't want that here!"