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Vote Nov. 3

The general election will be held next Tuesday, Nov. 3, once again, calling registered voters to the polls to cast their vote for mayor and the aldermen. The mayoral race saw a single confrontation between candidates Wayne Corpening and Marshall T. Wills and that small debate took place during a breakfast hosted by the Chamber of Commerce to meet the candidates.

Wills challenged Corpening to a debate on several occasions immediately following the primaries but Corpening refused. The debate that took place at the breakfast was as unexpected as unplanned.

To date, neither one has addressed any problems relative to the black community.

Corpening has allowed several important issues in the black community to go unattended, preferring to rely on his relationship with the East Ward Alderman as his link to the community.

One such situation that Corpening has not dealt with is Winston-Salem State University. The school needs to expand. Corpening abandoned the university when it tried to acquire Bowman Gray Stadium. Corpening could have gotten behind the Chancellor and pushed for it, but he chose not to. We don't know what Wills' position is.

The two men represent diverse approaches to the way city government should be run, yet it is hard to pin point Corpening's stand on any issue facing the city, while Wills is direct and candid on his ideas.

On Fair Housing, both men feel that fair housing is already practiced in the city and, therefore, the need for an ordinance is unnecessary. Wills, part owner in Realty World, said that the realtors in the city adhere to the strict rules stipulated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Corpening said that if it is demonstrated that discrimination is being practiced in the city, then, he would want something to be done about it immediately, but until then, he thought the ordinance was not necessary at this time.

Crime was an issue Wills raised, quoting statistics from the police department, showing the serious crime (rape, murder, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, and larceny) had increased 21.4 percent, while Corpening has been mayor. Wills doesn't believe that the increase in crime is connected with the high unemployment rate and the cuts in social programs handed down from the federal government. But, we disagree.

Wills said that, if elected, he would ap-

By Clifton Graves

Howard Wiley's Victory

Larry Womble deservedly won the Democratic primary in the Southeast Ward, and hopefully, will be victorious in next week's general election against Dale Catlett. But the Womble-Catlett race, notwithstanding, perhaps, a more significant, more far-reaching political victory has already been won.

Rev. Howard Wiley's historic campaign run as an Independent (Unaffiliated) candidate may well have opened the door for future political initiatives of this nature. At a time in history, when there is growing disillusionment with both the Democratic and Republican parties, Rev. Wiley's precedent-setting campaign was at once a breath of fresh air and renewed hope.

By successfully challenging a Board of Elections requirement that "Unaffiliated" candidates for aldermen garner 15% of the registered voters in the city, as opposed to the respective ward, Rev. Wiley became the first Black in history to qualify as an "Independent," in a Winston-Salem election. And though, the actual impact of Rev. Wiley's efforts may not come into fruition until future elections, many in our community are already aware that a tunnel has been dug through the quagmire of Democratic/Republican politics; a tunnel

point a blue ribbon panel to consist of a citizen from each ward to study the crime problems in each area and report back to the board of aldermen and himself.

Corpening, however, doesn't feel that crime is nearly so serious and said that the statistics Wills quoted are unfair and isolated. Corpening said that the rate of crime increase in Winston was lower than that of any major city in the state.

However, it appears that Corpening has been so busy taking care of big business, he completely ignored the community. There definitely has been a lack of effort to get industry to address community needs.

Whoever is elected will have to address the needs of the community. Right now, we're not sure who it should be.

Mass Transit is another area on which the two men disagree, where Wills feels that the total way the system is run needs an overhaul. Corpening said that the idea presented this year is a good one that needs some work and refinement.

In contrast to these two candidates is Betsy Soares, the Social Workers Party candidate for mayor. Soares won her battle to be placed on the ballot as a third party candidate last week and called it a victory for working people.

Her campaign platform calls for the passing of the fair housing ordinance and a massive public works program to provide jobs at union wages.

Soares, a 27-year-old welder, is a member of Local 641, International Association of Machinists, and a member of the Young Socialist Alliance.

In the aldermanic race, incumbents Virginia K. Newell, Vivian Burke, and Larry Little are unopposed in their respective wards. Larry Womble will face republican candidate R. Dale Catlett for the seat in the Southeast Ward.

Catlett is opposed to the proposed East-West Freeway and supports the downtown revitalization efforts. Catlett does not support the transit system and said that the money the city spends on it could be used for more vital functions than mass transit. If the system can't operate on its own funds, then, it should be shut down, as was done in Birmingham, Ala.

That stand ought to alert every white democrat in the Southeast Ward to elect Womble. We hope the voters will realize that black politicians did not get us in the mess we're in, but could get us out. Womble could be the man.

No matter what your preference, it is important that you vote. And no matter who wins, we all should hold them accountable.

of hope that offers all the citizens of this city/county/state viable, alternative candidates, not necessarily bound to "Party" dogma nor dictates. Viable, alternative candidates who address the issues, not personalities; and who will strive to put new meaning into quid pro quo politics - the system of political trade-offs (something for something) that has usually resulted in quid pro non ("something for nothing") in regard to the Black and low-income white communities. The "something" has been our votes and financial support; the "nothing" has been the return on our investment in candidates/parties that have taken our votes for granted.

Therefore, be you staunch Democrat or ardent Republican, you, nonetheless, must appreciate Rev. Wiley's courageous campaign. For the issue here is not "party politics," but rather, "Power"; the need for the Black community, in particular, to establish an independent political and economic power base!!

Thus, we are indebted to Rev. Wiley; his able attorney, Mrs. Mary Wright-Hunt; campaign manager, Mrs. Lee Faye Mack; and a host of volunteers who assisted in his campaign. They have dug the tunnel, and lighted the path...it is now up to us to follow.

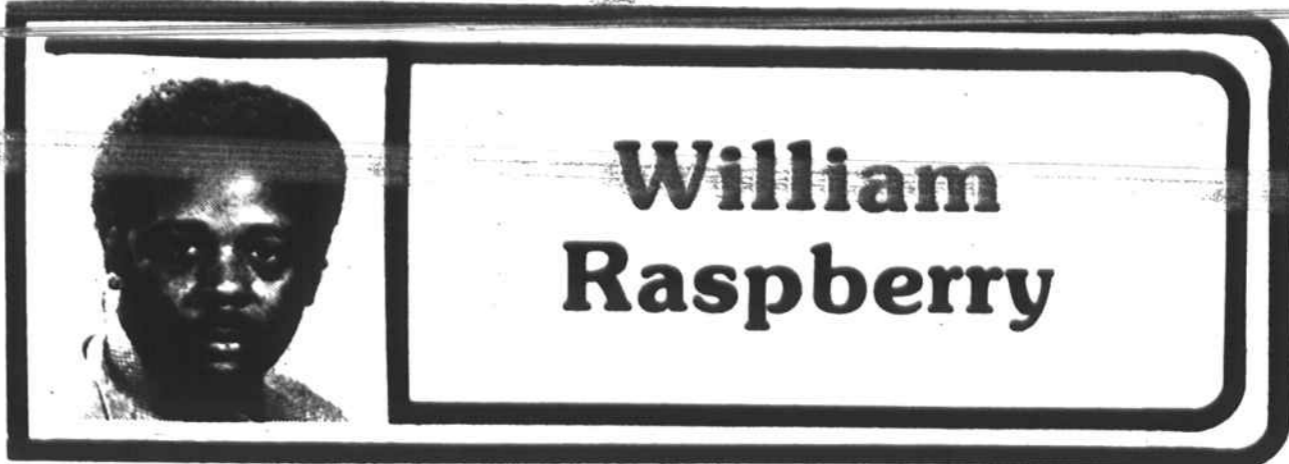
Alcohol - Tobacco Tax, A Good Idea

Washington - President Reagan, admitting that we are now in a recession, is casting about for ways to increase federal revenues without proposing further budget cuts in basic services to the needy.

Michael Jacobson, alarmed at the national trend in alcohol abuse, is looking for ways to wake us up to the danger and also to pay for the treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics.

They may be about to arrive at the same solution: a bigger tax on alcoholic beverages.

The Congress has served notice on the President that further assaults on the



William Raspberry

already leaky "safety net" programs won't be tolerated and is casting a baleful eye at Reagan's untouchable Defense budget. The administration is now looking at increased taxes on alcohol and tobacco as an escape hatch.

Jacobson, executive director of the Washington-based Center for Science in the Public Interest, must be smiling. Earlier this month, he wrote budget director David Stockman with a proposal strikingly similar

to the one now reportedly under consideration at the White House.

"We have calculated," he told Stockman, "that if the alcohol tax had kept pace with inflation since 1951, the U.S. Treasury would have received \$77

billion more than it did. The lost revenue in 1981 alone would amount to about \$15 billion. If, in addition to adjusting the tax for inflation, the tax on beer and wine alcohol were raised to equal that on distilled spirits alcohol, the Treasury would have received an additional \$10 billion in 1981. Thus, these two sensible adjustments would provide the Treasury with \$25 billion per year."

The result would make unnecessary, Reagan's proposed additional cut in federal spending of \$13 billion. Still more savings would result if the "sin tax" were extended to cover tobacco. Under the present system, tobacco (except for large cigars) is taxed on the basis of quantity sold, not the selling price. Thus the 8-cents-a-pack federal tax on cigarettes, a pretty stiff bite when a pack costs 25 cents, is a bargain, now that the selling price has tripled.

Jacobson's proposal was not based on its revenue-raising potential but on its potential for reducing alcohol abuse.

"Excessive drinking destroys thousands of lives and families each year," he wrote for the current issue of Nutrition Action Magazine. "Alcohol can cause mental retardation when it reaches fetuses. Alcohol - especially in combination with cigarette smoking - can cause cancer of the mouth, throat, pharynx and larynx. Alcohol can rot the brain and liver. And alcohol leads to thousands of traffic fatalities, falls, suicides, fires and domestic disputes and deaths each year. The death toll due to alcohol is estimated to reach between 50,000 and 200,000 people a year." The dollar cost alone - in medical bills, property damage and lost wages and productivity - reaches \$100 billion a year and more, he said.

Jacobson, who admits to liking "my glass of Chablis as much as the next fellow," argued that it is time to "put some real money and muscle into the fight against excessive drinking."

He told Stockman that he was surprised to discover that the alcohol in beer and wine is taxed at a lower rate than the alcohol in hard liquor, "even though alcohol, regardless of its source, has predictable effects on the body," and that the federal excise taxes on alcohol had not been raised in 30 years. The additional taxes he proposes would, he said, "undoubtedly reduce the alcoholism problem in certain segments of the population."

It is a good idea, on virtually every count. Even those of us who would like to see Reagan change his mind about his mammoth defense outlays, or who favor the closing of some of the more unconscionable tax loopholes for the rich, can see the value of a proposal that promises to improve both the physical and fiscal health of the nation.

As Jacobson points out, "thousands of lives and \$100 billion a year is nothing to sneeze at."

He also notes that some of the budget cuts already enacted are for money that would support health care, including alcohol-abuse programs. Thus, if his proposal is accepted, Jacobson told Stockman, "It would be appropriate to earmark some of the increased revenue for alcoholism treatment and prevention programs, as well as other health programs. I'll drink to that, too."



"Here, I'm giving you these pretty bootstraps! You, of course, must buy your own boots."

To Be Equal

Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

The Birth Of An Arms Race



The President's decision to back a new strategic arms package including the reborn MX missile and the once-dead B-1 bomber signals the start of a new arms race that will make the world an even more dangerous place.

The debate over the President's plan will feature volumes of expert analysis both for and against the specifics of each weapons system.

But amid the welter of conflicting claims, one basic fact is not expected to emerge with any clarity, so it might be well to state it now and to remember it in the days to come.

Both the United States and Russia have enough nuclear missiles to blow any enemy off the face of the earth and to wipe out much of the rest of humanity at the same time.

That's it. You can forget all about the supposed "window of vulnerability" theory that says the Russians can take out our missiles unless we install new delivery systems. They won't, unless they are mad enough to accept a retaliatory strike that would leave them in nuclear ashes as well.

If, as the Pentagon fears, land-based U.S. missiles are vulnerable to attack, then the Russians still have to take into account airborne and submarine-launched missiles.

Chronicle Letters

Spread The Word

Dear Sir:

I would like to spread the word on Larry Womble, the people's candidate for Alderman of the Southeast Ward. I couldn't think of a better way to do that than

through your newspaper. The people should know about the man they chose to represent them and their ward in the general election on the Democratic Ticket. Mr. Womble is a very hard worker. See Page 25

"Sizwe Bansi And Us"

Dear Sir:

In times when Black Unity should be the chime of the day and is not, your written reflections of the North Carolina Black

Repertory Company's recent production of "Sizwe Bansi Is Dead," your acute comprehension of the essence of the play and its social/political ramifications. See Page 25