

# Editorials & Comments

## Dying Community Revitalizes Itself

The Third Ward Community once considered by some the most run-down area in Charlotte has recently become one of the most active and most news worthy areas in Charlotte.

These citizens with the help of the Y.W.C.A. has taken it upon themselves to revitalize their community and to realize the full potentials of helping each other help themselves.

The Third Ward Community is centered around the Third Ward Community Organization Group whose overall program is to inform and help. This organization has instituted such functions to the community as the "Intoxication program," the "Mental Health" and "Social Service Program," the "Transportation Program," and the "Young Mothers Program." Under the guidance of the Y.W.C.A. and under the leadership of Mr. James Mitchell these programs help give much needed advice and even more needed aid to the elderly, and the young, to the poor and to the needy, to the sick and to the forlorn of the Third Ward Community.

The Community Organization Group provides transportation to those needing it for medical or legal reasons. They provide seminar services by inviting professional people into the community to give much needed counseling on such topics as insurance, legal aids, and health.

## Keeps Youths Off Street

To keep the youth off the streets the Third Ward Community Organization Group renovated the now known community building located at 1433 South Church Street into a recreation center. With planned activities going on the young people find themselves participating in organized fun and games which has curbed crimes which occurred out of Boredom.

## Something On Your Mind?

Something on your mind is the name of a column devoted to you-the young at heart reader of this newspaper-as long as it relates in some way to young people, regardless of age.

It will be written by you and about whatever is on your mind!

So, if you have something to say.... WRITE ON!

Some subject that may be of special interest to you are: Drugs, Generation Gap, Welfare, Gangs.

The group was also responsible for the much publicized community clean up activity that collected trash and debris, had junked cars removed, old homes painted and renovated, and had weeds cut down and removed. Another clean-up campaign is scheduled for October 19 to finish a quite successful project.

With such success, all is still not perfect with the Third Ward Community Organization group. A lot of services, a lot of counseling, and a lot of just plan help is needed to finish a very well started project. People versed in special talents should be willing to give some time to help a community that is going overboard to help themselves. Church groups, Civic organizations, fraternities, and sororities can give time and-or donations to a worthy cause. The community organization group is not funded and so far this entire project has been sponsored by the Y.W.C.A. in fact the Y.W.C.A. was the initiators of this community self pride effort.

## Third Ward Is Typical Example

The Post feels that Third Ward is a typical example of what can be done when the desire, and the spirit to do something is there. What warms the heart even more is that the residence of Third Ward are not homeowners, but rather renters who have taken pride in their living conditions and pride in their fellowman and have started a ball rolling to do something about it. The Post also would like to tip our hats to thank the Y.W.C.A. for caring about a community, a people. With such assertions of people helping people we at the Post feel that the world is not all bad. It's just a shame though that good tax dollars are going to waste in administrative cost because it is a shame that the city will not foot some of the bill.

Schools, Going Steady, Police, Revolution, Whites, Blacks, Integration, Busing Draft, God, Negro Churches, etc.

Or any other subject you want to write about. Remember it's your column. Your article should be at least 250 words, type-written and double space preferred. Include your name, age, school, and a clear photo, and send it to the Editor, Charlotte Post Newspaper, Post Office Box 97, Charlotte, N.C. 28201.

We will pay \$10 for each column used.



Added Fuel For "Black Rage" !!!

## roy wilkin's COLUMN

The people of South Boston, Mass., are victims in the drama of equal education. First, they are victims of the policy of administrative segregation, widely practiced by northern school administrators. Second, they are the prey of a federal government that has no clear-cut support for the desegregation of northern schools and whose elected officials encourage citizens to defy the law.

The law is that no school systems be maintained for white or black children. The goal is equal education, not the busing of children, or "forced," as former President Nixon said, or any other kind. The courts again and again have upheld the busing of children as a proper tool to be used against dual school systems. As recently as 1971 in the Swann case, the U.S. Supreme Court approved inconvenient or "bizarre" efforts for getting rid of racially segregated schools.

But the federal government has been playing a shell game with the people in South Boston. The government knows that the law is against schools maintained for whites alone, but they are hiding behind the confusion of the administrative-and unapologetically segregative-school procedures in the North, behind the egos of ethnic districts, behind the political opportunism and emotionalism of busing and behind the encouragement given by federal officials to defiance of the law.

As has been noted, resistance to law enforcement by a people is deemed sufficient excuse for non-enforcement



by Secretary Caspar Weinberger of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. A study by the Center for Policy Review found that, although the law prescribes the cutting off of HEW funds as a last resort from school districts that fail to comply, HEW had not cut off funds.

A black child is hurt as much by law segregating the races as he is by administrative procedures. Racial segregation is outlawed as unconstitutional. Since schools in black neighborhoods were generally inferior in equipment and in the experience of teachers, the only way black children could have access to equal education was to be bused to the schools where better education was being taught.

Besides recognizing this truth, an unnamed South Boston housewife put her finger on another irritation. She said:

"The coloreds aren't getting an equal education, right? Yet they (the school authorities)

want to put our children in these schools where they're not getting an equal education, so then our children aren't getting an equal education."

Some of these mothers say they have no objection to Negro children going to school with their children. Then they tell the story of a lone black student at the high school who was hung by his heels and thus "persuaded" to go to school elsewhere.

What is lost in the dislike of skin color is that black mothers want exactly the same things for their children that white mothers want for theirs. The whites are fighting fiercely against what they see as a danger to the education of their children. The blacks are fighting, too, for a better education for their children and a new place for them in the world of tomorrow.

Both need to heed the late James Michael Curley, mayor of Boston in another era. Said he at an NAACP dinner:

"Some politicians carry this NAACP membership card to get votes. I carry it because I know about race discrimination. When I was a boy an Irishman couldn't get in City Hall not even to scrub the floors. When I was mayor, I defy you to find one Yankee in City Hall. We Irish know what discrimination is."

It is still the same today, regardless of whether the Irish or the Negroes use it.

## ... DOWN TO BUSINESS



Dr. Berkeley G. Burrell

## Black Power And Community Development

We in business and those in the social services talk constantly about the concept of community development and the potential it holds for Black people. But very few sit down to say what it means in terms of an economic and political base or even where we should begin to develop it. Recently a member of NBL's Committee for National Policy Review commented, "We must demonstrate unity in the struggle for survival of all segments of the Black community. All of us must find a common bond of sharing the deprivations of Blacks."

I think that is the starting point...UNITY. Understanding and sharing in the problems somehow makes achieving the future successes more satisfying. When that bond is translated into a unified body of people-committed to a common cause and with the resources to achieve their goals-then we begin to understand the "power of unity."

At the National Business League's Convention in Atlanta, October 23-26, 1974, we will devote our attention to making the concept of the "power of unity" the foundation upon which we as Blacks will develop into an economically and socially viable part of the international scene.

The strategy to achieve this includes pioneering new areas of African and Caribbean business opportunities. But it also calls for the revival of some of those basic institutions that have brought the Black community to the point it is today. I'm talking about our Black banking, lending, saving, and insurance institutions.

That is what I call development-identifying, challenging, and conquering these new frontiers that will shore-up and solidify that which we already have.

If there is one element that has stood by us through the other hard times, it has been our Black money institutions.

Historically, the majority banking and lending enterprises have been the happy recipients of our deposits and repositories of our hard-earned savings. Yet when the time comes to assist us in financing our dreams of ownership of home, property, or business, we are time and again met with unhearing ears. The other method was to charge an interest rate so far above prime interest rates that we couldn't afford it anyway. Where did we go then, to the "Brother" down the street.

I am not hesitant to repeat a belief that I have expressed to Black people across this country and that is: every time you bank, save, or borrow from a white institution, you are financing your own discrimination. That's what the facts of money-making are all about.

When we have at our disposal every sort of Black bank, credit union, lending and saving association, there is no excuse for any one of them failing because of lack of support from the Black community.

As far as I'm concerned, banking and saving Black equals Black power for community development. When the Black-earned dollar stays in our community we can rest assured that that money is going to serve the needs and interests of our community.

There is no question of the power of economic unity. If we can amass the money we earn and spend outside our community and then channel it back into the community; no one will have to worry about or study the possibilities and potential for development in the Black community. We would be a model for the world. The power of unity would have another REAL example.

Representatives of each of our major national Black banking, loan, and saving associations will meet with us October 23-26 at the NBL Annual Convention. Join us and we'll all get down to business.

Support The Black Press  
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## as i see it

### Lanning For District Court Judge

by Gerald Johnson

With election day just around the corner it is time to take a close look at the candidates running for office. In some cases this is a hard task, but for the district court judge I think that black people should cast their votes for James Lanning.

Mr. Lanning's opponent, Mr. Joseph Beard, has a long record of conservatism, apple pie, law and order that sort of thing. Mr. Beard is an anti-abortion proponent and his supporters are relishing in the fact that Mr. Lanning is a Liberal. Mr. Beard's supporters are using Mr. Lanning's recent participation as an Attorney behind the school's desegregation suit as an issue that should be held against him. This would imply to me that Mr. Beard is against school desegregation. Even if



he wasn't against school desegregation. Mr. Beard's supporters are not the type that would benefit the well being of blacks in this metropolis. If Mr. Beard won the election he would be obligated to his

backers. I have said once and I will say it again that any office holder is obligated to those who put him in office regardless of how unfair it may seem. That's politics.

Mr. Lanning of course is a partner in the law firm of Chambers, Stein, Ferguson, and Lanning. His ability as an Attorney is unquestionable, but more importantly his values seem to be in line with what is fair for all. He played a major role in desegregating Charlotte's school system.

In my attempts to evaluate the candidates until election day and to give my personal opinion on who to vote for this choice was by far the easiest. My judgement is completely bipartisan and my conclusions are strictly on a candidates record As I See It. Consequently these two candidates are as different as night and day. Needless to say who is the day,