

Editorials & Comments

Greetings' Black Democrats

By Hoyle H. Marin Sr.
Post Editorial Editor

The Charlotte Post wishes to extend "Greetings" to the Caucus of Black Democrats during its three day conference in Charlotte this weekend. We believe that the South and the State of North Carolina in general, and the City of Charlotte in particular, should feel a sense of pride that approximately 2,000 black elected officials, civic, business, and labor leaders and clergymen should select our city for their issues conference.

This decision by a majority of the black leadership in America to hold a conference in a southern city, is in part a recognition of the emergence of what has been appropriately called the "New South." What "new" means for blacks is growing equal opportunities in housing, education, employment, business, and the political process.

Enough Of The "Ethnic Purity" Flap

More than enough has been said about the Jimmy Carter remark on "ethnic purity" in neighborhoods. Equally wasteful and useless has been Carter's attempt to apologize for the phrase and Congresswoman Yvonne B. Burke's reported comment that "this statement about ethnic purity is the sort of thing that is going to turn blacks away."

The fact is each of the presidential candidates in both parties have said as much about not racially mixing neighborhoods and more significantly have generally ignored the special problems of blacks. The only difference between Carter's comment and the rhetoric of the other candidates is that Carter's phrase tended to generate a greater emotional response from blacks, some white liberals, and of course Carter's political opponents.

The really important issue that should be of greater concern to blacks is in the charge, already noted, that the Democratic presidential candidates have to a large extent been ignoring the special problems of black people. Eddie Williams, president of the Joint Center for Black Political Studies has said, "We've been hearing complaints from blacks throughout the country who feel isolated and ignored in the presidential race."

Something On Your Mind?

Something on your mind is the name of a column devoted to you - young at heart readers 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,

While this optimism does not mean people believe that racism has been eradicated in the South or elsewhere, it does indicate that in this, the Bicentennial Year, blacks can look with renewed hope to a better America.

If the Caucus of Black Democrats can translate and transfer their issues into the platforms of the Democratic presidential candidates and the eventual party candidate, faith in the American political system will have once again been enhanced.

Basil Patterson, chairman of the CBD and vice-chairman of the National Democratic Party, put this in perspective at a news conference in Charlotte Friday when he said, "These are not just black issues... these issues affect everyone in this country."

Good luck CBD as you seek to make a good America a better America.

This feeling of isolation is reflected in the complexity of social problems like "busing" and the depressing economic problems that have plagued blacks since the civil rights days of the 1960's. These have resulted in a decline in voting participation by blacks that is clearly recognized by the candidates.

What I am sure Congresswoman Burke is aware of and black voters must understand is that no (white) candidate is going to make firm public political commitments to blacks if such commitments are going to alienate large numbers of white voters. Furthermore, blacks cannot afford to express feelings of apathy and indifference to the political process just because of economic hard times.

As long as blacks continue to equate economic prosperity to political participation they can expect presidential candidates and others to make statements like "ethnic purity" or worse without any attempt to apologize. Furthermore, since blacks are a minority as a voting group they must pool their political muscle, then when Congresswoman Burke says blacks will turn away, it will result in immediate and more positive responses from the candidates.

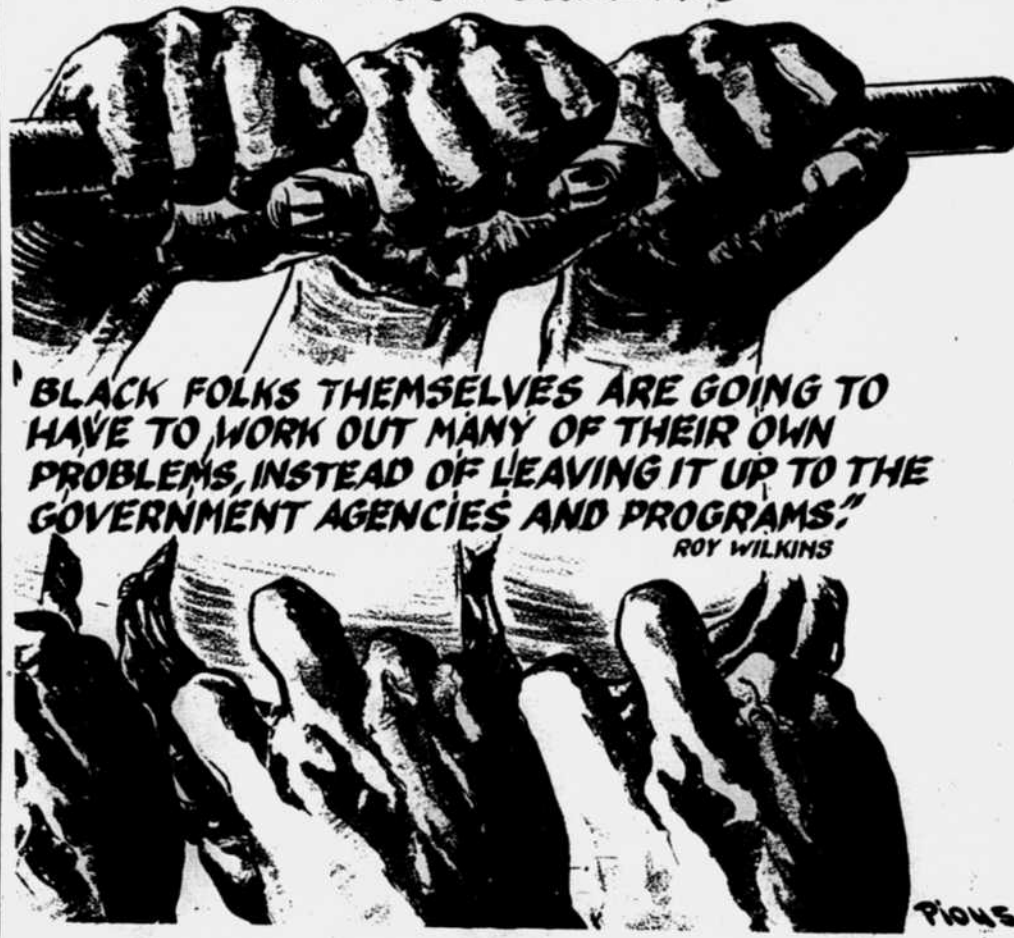
Black people let us register, vote, and make our voices heard.

Generation Gap, Welfare, Gangs, 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 spaced preferred. Include your name, age, school and a clear photo, and send it to the Editor, Charlotte Post Newspaper.

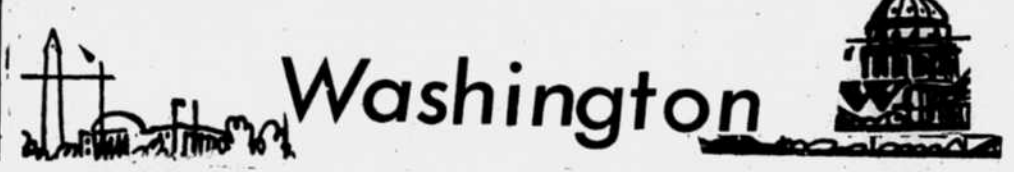
BLACK AMERICA

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES



Blacks' Destiny In Own Hands

REPORT FROM



Government Created Jobs

By Jim Martin, 9th District Congressman

Another pie-in-the-sky bill has been unloaded on Congress. The measure introduced by Senator Humphrey and Congressman Hawkins has the goal of creating new government jobs giving them to the unemployed, if they cannot find a job in the private sector.

Unemployed is currently running 7.6 percent of the total labor force. The Humphrey-Hawkins Bill would drop the "adult" unemployment rate to 3 percent within 4 years and keep it there legislatively. Any difference in what the private sector could provide in the way of jobs and the 3 percent statutory figure would be picked up by the federal government. Senator Humphrey has guessed at the cost of the program and estimated 25 billion dollars. Of course you only have to look at past experience with such programs to find that such estimates generally don't come close to the mark.

As regards the 3 percent unemployment tar-

get, let me remind you that the level of unemployment has gone that low only twice during the past 30 years, during the Vietnam and Korean Wars.

The legislation would put an interesting new twist on the term "Right To Work." In this case, the bill is proposing a "Right To A Job" as an inalienable right. Where the powerful labor organizations are opposed to "Right To Work" laws (because they grant a right to work without having to join a union) labor leaders have thrown their weight in favor of this "Right To A Job" proposal.

We have seen from recent history that wage-price controls are harmful to our economy. The artificial controls in a supply and demand economy only creates a false security at the marketplace and thus generates shortages. Consequently, along with a free spending Congress, wage-price controls led to spiraling inflation coupled with an economic recession. The same forces

would apply to the labor market if this bill were to pass. False conditions or impressions would be created by legislating jobs.

The subject of jobs was the point of 2 questions on my 1976 questionnaire. Should government or private industry be responsible for creating the market for jobs? Government jobs funded through tax monies received a strong negative response. On the other hand, the alternative idea of jobs created through tax incentives for business expansion received a very favorable response.

I believe that a majority of Americans are like the people in Iredell, Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties: they do not want to see this classic paternalistic response to unemployment through public service jobs. Such "jobs" would produce nothing and would consume taxes. They would have no productive purpose other than putting more people on the government payroll.

TO BE EQUAL



VERNON E. JORDAN JR.

New Racial Code Words

Jimmy Carter's remarks about "ethnic purity" have disturbed a lot of people, including myself, but the rush of politicians to denounce the phrase isn't very encouraging since their basic positions on integrated housing are pretty much the same as Carter's.

Senator Henry Jackson leaped on the Carter statement with a strong one of his own, but is the same candidate who threw a cloud over his historic support for civil rights measures by making busing a campaign issue.

And Representative Udall's criticism of the Carter statement didn't include a positive stance on what strategies to take to grant blacks and. Finally, President Ford told a press conference he didn't like the term "ethnic purity" and then proceeded to laud America's "Ethnic heritage," saying that it is "a great treasure of this country and I don't think that federal action should be used to destroy that ethnic treasure."

So what else is new? The result of this flap over words is that no one has really committed himself to integrated housing and everyone has discovered a new racial code word.

Politicians can now talk about preserving ethnic heritage and voters will know that this is a veiled promise to keep neighborhoods white. It's a new addition to the vocabulary that produced "neighborhood schools" and "law and order", terms that were unmistakably understood as messages against school desegregation and as a promise to "get tough" with minorities.

Jimmy Carter apologized handsomely for what he wants understood as a slip of the tongue. Even in his original statement that got him into trouble he promised federal backing for black families to live anywhere they wished, and President Ford repeated his intention to honor open-housing laws.

So there never was an issue in the first place. Carter made a serious mistake in injecting this phony issue but he's been attacked for the words he used and not for making an issue out of whole cloth.

By promising he'd never use federal power to break up ethnic enclaves or to construct high-rise public housing in wealthy suburbs Carter merely repeated the obvious. The point is that neither policy was ever considered by the government, nor do blacks favor such policies.

If people want to live with people of their own background in a specific neighborhood they can and should do so, so long as they don't infringe upon the constitutional rights of others.

And high-rise public housing is a dead horse, no one has proposed building a Pruitt-Igoe in the suburbs. The real issues is whether blacks will be ensured the right to move anywhere they wish, and whether scattered site housing - not high-rises - will be permitted in all-white, upper income neighborhoods.

Since the alternative is to lock black and poor people into inner city ghettos and inferior housing removed from new job opportunities in the suburbs, it would be more comforting if candidates addressed that important issue instead of getting involved in semantics.

Instead of worrying about the non-existent threat to ethnic enclaves, the candidates might do some worrying about exclusion of black people from decent housing and by our slide into an apartheid society in which races and classes are kept rigidly apart.

as i see it

Local Television Stations Bias In Airings?

By Gerald Johnson
Post Staff Writer

Being an individual who feels that the television set stunts mental growth I watch the "Idiot Tube" seldomly. It is the one medium that has caused the ignorance this country is beginning to face. It does this by not allowing an individual to use his head. The TV does all the thinking and creating for you; all you have to do is watch it unfold before your eyes. Consequently, people are not able to communicate ideas to others.

However, there are times when the national networks come up with a "biggie" that I would like to see. But whether I'd like to see it or not, if the TV show has any hint of controversy in it the Charlotte stations will not show the program. Especially if the controversy has racial overtones.

Many of you probably re-

member channel three's Blundering black-out of the movie "The Great White Hope".

The movie was about the black boxing great, Jack Johnson, which includes his escapades with his white wife. CBS aired the show on one of its Thursday Night Movies. Channel three, CBS' local affiliate, aired the show the following Sunday at 11 o'clock p.m. If this wasn't bad enough at 11:10 the show was blacked out because of transmitter trouble in the mountains. Imagine that, the show has already been moved to an ungodly hour for watching TV and even then something goes wrong. Well, every since then I've hated channel three with a passion. They eventually ran the show, but the scar had already been left by then.

Not to be out done, channel nine, who trails channel three in the local ratings, wanted to



show the people they could wash the video waves. Therefore, when NBC this past Thursday night aired the "Scottsboro Boys" channel nine, NBC's local affiliate, did not air it. Instead they aired "Coogan's Bluff". Because I can get channel twelve in Win-

ston Salem on my TV, I was still able to see the show. For you people who aren't up on your Black history, The "Scottsboro Boys" which channel nine refused to show centers around the trial of the nine Blacks and how, with all the evidence in their favor, they were still sentenced.

So, there, channel three, channel nine in its quest not to be out done has shown you that they too can be unscrupulous with their TV time. Meanwhile it is the TV viewers who must suffer.

While channel seven in Spartanburg shows NBA basketball on the weekends, sports enthusiast in Charlotte are watching 1919 Tarzan movies. Or if we are "lucky" we can see C. J. Underwood in the back woods of North Carolina interviewing a toe playing banjo picker.

Television, because it is the

most widely used communication media, has a responsibility to the community. That responsibility is to televise shows that are entertaining, documenting, factual, humorous, and versatile. In the repertoire of programming a local TV station shouldn't have the right to censor shows that have been approved for national viewing.

In closing, I would like to know the rationale used in determining what shows a local station will air. It would also be interesting to know how much public input is used in determining what shows will be aired. All the Black folk I know have sworn that no one has ever contacted them About local showing on TV.

While on the subject of TV, I would like to say one more thing. I find it thoroughly disgusting to be watching a TV program to have some one

butt in and say "We hate to interrupt this program, but from the news room". Then a news man comes on and say "from our latest results we predict President Ford will win Massachusetts with 86 percent of the vote." Then when your show convenes it is at the end.

Who in the heaven cares about primaries. The results from all the primaries will be shown on the news. You wake up in the morning and it is splattered all over the newspaper. Why in God's name is it necessary to interrupt one of the few programs I watch on TV with this junk. Primaries like most things in this country are a big rip off. It has absolutely nothing to do with picking who is right for a political office. It is a way of raising capital to cheat and to connive people. But that is another story.

As for television....!

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