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PRICE 20¢

On Death Penalty

Lt. Governor Green Challenge To Debate

Raleigh, (CCNS) - Lieutenant Governor-elect Jimmy Green has been challenged to a debate by a 20-group coalition that opposes re-enactment of the death penalty in North Carolina. William Geimer, co-convenor of the North Carolina Coalition Against the Death Penalty charged that Green and other legislative

leaders were attempting to "railroad" the death penalty through the legislature without input from the citizenry of the state.

Geimer, a Fayetteville attorney, was flanked by Rev. W.W. Finlator, pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, and Mary Dunn, spokesperson for the North Carolina

Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

North Carolina's death penalty was declared unconstitutional on July 2, 1976. A majority of the state's legislators were re-elected advocating a platform which included the death penalty.

Geimer gave members of the press copies of the death penalty bill that he had attained from a member of the general assembly, charging racial and class inequities in provisions of the bill which allow mitigating circumstances to be considered by juries that sentence defendants found guilty of first degree murder and rape.

"This bill is designed so that once again the white and affluent people who commit homicides will have all these mitigating factors that will allow them to escape the death penalty and the poor and the friendless and the Black will catch it as they have over the last 50 years," Geimer said.

According to Geimer, a letter was sent from the Coalition to Jimmy Green challenging him to debate. Green was out of town and could not be reached for comment.

Geimer said that Green and House Speaker Carl Stewart, a Gastonia lawyer, were to be co-sponsors of the new death penalty bill in the 1977 session of the General Assembly which convenes in January. (CCNS)

W. Blvd Food

Store's Opening

Well Attended

About 5,000 people shopped at the Grand Opening of Red & White Food Store, 1506 West Boulevard Wednesday-Saturday, December 15-18.

The new store is part of a chain of independent grocers over the country. Six stores are operated in the Charlotte area.

Store owner Wayne Page said the chain is a franchise service of Thomas and Howard grocery supply company. He said the store can now offer more discount prices and better service.

For one year, the store was under the name of Wayne's Supermarket. It was formerly a Harris Teeter Store.

Page said the grand opening customer count represented a 40 to 50 percent increase over normal customer flow. He expressed hopes of topping this figure on a regular basis with weekly trade.

The store has 12 employees. Personnel include Bobby Layell, manager; Joan Backus, head cashier; Barry Hogan, produce manager and John Austin, meat manager.

Present store hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Wednesday and Saturday; and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday.

To Inauguration Events

Governor Hunt Says, "Ya'll Come"

Governor-elect Jim Hunt this week extended a personal invitation to the citizens of Mecklenburg County to attend the North Carolina Inauguration in Raleigh on Saturday, January 8.

"January 8 is inauguration day for your governor, your lieutenant governor and your Council of State," the governor-elect said, "and it will also be a people's day."

The governor-elect said that the inaugural events were being held this time on Saturday so that school children

FROM ALL OF US

TO EACH OF YOU

BEST WISHES FOR A

Merry Christmas
and a
happy
New Year

- BILL JOHNSON
- GERALD JOHNSON
- SIDNEY MOORE JR.
- ALBERT CAMPBELL
- CLARA FORD
- MARGARET CRAWFORD
- BERNARD REEVES
- HOYLE MARTIN SR.
- JAMES CUTHBERTSON
- MARGIE EDWARDS
- JAMES PEELER
- MELVETTA JENKINS
- GARDENIA DALTON
- REX HOVEY
- DEBRA GATES
- ODURO MANSOH
- BOB JOHNSON

Lee Is

First Black Secretary

Raleigh, (CCNS) - Howard N. Lee, the first Black to become mayor of Chapel Hill, became the first Black to be appointed to a cabinet post in North Carolina government. Lee's appointment was announced Thursday, December 16 by Governor-elect James Hunt. Also appointed to cabinet positions were Joseph Grimsley, to be Secretary of the N.C. Department of Administration and Dr. Sarah T. Morrow as Secretary of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

Hunt promised Black voters, as did all major candidates in the democratic gubernatorial primary, to include at least one Black in a cabinet level position. Lee, an unsuccessful candidate for the democratic lieutenant governor nomination, had been widely discussed as Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, one of the largest departments in State Government.

Lee, well poised and flanked by Hunt, Grimsley, Dr. Morrow and his wife, in a modest speech said he was "committing himself to do the best possible job I can to support Governor-elect Hunt, the ideas he has set forth and the principles that he espoused in the campaign."

Whether Lee will have a free hand in choosing the deputy secretaries and division heads in the Department of Natural and Economic Resources (NER) was not made clear by Governor-elect Hunt. Hunt was questioned by reporters as to whether Lee would have final word on choices for a deputy secretary if the two of them differed on Lee's choices. Hunt quipped, "I'll just say to you that we'll work that thing out and we'll come to agreement together as to who the best person is." Hunt's response to the reporter's question was drowned out by laughter by the seventy-five persons attending the announcement ceremony, including Lieutenant Governor-elect James Green, who defeated Lee in the September 14 runoff for the democratic nomination for Lt. Governor.

The Department of NER has seven divisions and 20 semi-independent commissions and councils in its structure. Hunt has said that he will ask the legislature to move the Division of Economic Development to the Department of Commerce, saying the division's functions are more in line with those of the Commerce Department. Hunt's plan to move the division is opposed by many including the present NER Secretary George Little.

County Offices

Will Close

December 23-24

Mecklenburg County Government offices will observe the following schedule for the Christmas and New Year's holidays:

County offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 23 and 24, for Christmas holidays and Monday, January 3, for New Year's Day. This includes the Food Stamp Office, the Register of Deeds, the Health Department and its clinics and the tax offices.

Day Care Centers operated by the Department of Social Services will close Friday, Monday and Tuesday, December 24, 27, and 28, and Monday, January 3.

All branches of the Public Library will be closed Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 23, 24, 25, and 26, and all branches will close at 6 p.m., Friday, December 31, and remain closed on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, January 1, 2 and 3.



LOVELY BEVERLY CASON
...J.C. Smith sophomore

Miss Beverly Cason

Is Beauty Of Week

By Melvetta Jenkins
Post Staff Writer
Beverly Cason, a Sophomore Marketing major at Johnson C. Smith University, comes to us this week as the Beauty.

Beverly is a native of Wadesboro, S.C. and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Cason. She is a graduate of Bowman High School in Wadesboro.

With a major in Marketing and concentrations in advertising, retailing, and management, Beverly is preparing for the business aspect of her future plans. She wants to enter the Los Angeles Institute of Designing Arts and Modeling after her graduation from Smith and plans later to do some professional modeling and fashion designing or merchandising.

Pursuing her interest in the

Arts, Beverly has an Art minor at Smith and says that she has submitted pieces of her work to art exhibits, festivals, and bank displays in Charlotte and Wadesboro. She does sceneries in oil.

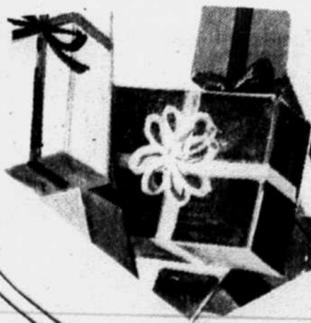
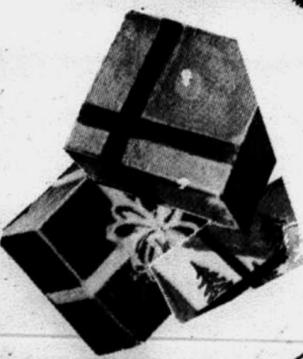
Born on August 23, our 20-year-old Beauty falls under the sign of Virgo. She describes Virgos as being lovable, ambitious, somewhat independent, and hardworking, but admits that she is "not deeply into astrology."

In Wadesboro Beverly attends Harris Chapel, but since she's been in Charlotte she says she attends the Pentacostal Church of God in Christ, pastored by Bishop J.H. Sherman.

Beverly cites Vonetta McGee as her favorite actress because "she seems to be for real" and Richard Pryor as her favorite male entertainer because "he's a crazy guy who can make people laugh. He's down to earth and can communicate on any level."

Next to her mother, Beverly deeply admires Mrs. Grace Murphy. "Mrs. Murphy is a warm, loving person. I've known her since I first came to Charlotte. She reminds me so much of my mother."

As for her reaction to being chosen Beauty of the Week, Beverly says that she is pleased. "Success," she says is the key to life. Once you set a goal for yourself, you should try to reach that goal; everybody is somebody, everybody should want to make something good of himself."



TURTLE-TALK



Be KIND to your FRIENDS.
If it WEREN'T for THEM
you'd be a total STRANGER.



Jim Hunt
...Governor-Elect