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MISS HARRIET PORTER
...Livingstone freshman

Harriet Porter

Is Beauty Of Week

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

The POST Beauty of the Week is Harriet Porter, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Porter. A 1977 graduate of South Mecklenburg High School, Harriet is a freshman at Livingstone College in Salisbury, majoring in political science. She plans to go to law school and hopes to become a corporation lawyer. "There are presently only 8 black corporation lawyers in the United States," she said, and added that none of these are women.

Her interest in political science was stimulated by work she's done with her father, who is a precinct chairman. She said she's helped him since she was "about 12" and through her work with voter registration drives, etc. she became serious about learning how the democratic process works and so decided to major in poli-sci.

A member of Cannon's Ca-

thedral Church of God in Christ, where Elder E.C. Cannon is pastor, Harriet has been a member of the choir ever since she can remember. She sings first soprano and has written several songs for the choir. Her favorite music is gospel and she is a member of the Livingstone Prayer Meeting Choir, which she describes as "fantastic."

Harriet is also a member of the Student Government Organization at Livingstone, is chaplain of the Babcock House Council, on the year book staff and The Bear's Tail, a literary guide published each year at the college.

This serious young Gemini expressed concern that young blacks often fail to become involved in community affairs as well as social affairs.

"The world is full of opportunities," she said, "and young people of today have a chance to take advantage of them and help chart the direction of the world if they will only apply themselves."

Minimum Wages Increase

To \$2.50 An Hour

January 1 was a red-letter day for many employees of small retail and service businesses in North Carolina.

That's the day on which the Tar Heel State's required minimum wage will move up from \$2.30 an hour to \$2.50 an hour.

On the basis of a 40-hour workweek, the increase will bring an extra \$8.00 a week for thousands of North Carolina's lowest paid workers who make no more than the minimum wage at their jobs.

It will be their second "raise" in six months. By action of the 1977 General Assembly, the required State minimum wage was raised from \$2.00 an hour to \$2.30 an hour on July 1, 1977. That increase, plus the additional 10-cent rise slated for January 1, add up to a 25 percent increase over the old \$2.00 minimum.

"The \$2.50 statutory minimum wage will apply to all non-exempt employees in establishments having four or more employees who are not covered by the Fair Labor

Standards Act (Federal Wage-Hour Law)," explained N.C. Commissioner of Labor John C. Brooks. "Many North Carolina employees are covered by the federal minimum, which will advance from the present \$2.30 an hour to \$2.65 an hour on January 1, 1978, in those businesses having a gross annual income of \$250,000 or more. However, there are thousands of other North Carolina workers in small establishments to whom the federal law does not apply. These workers are often employed in small retail, wholesale, food service and service industry establishments. These people are indebted to the foresight of our General Assembly which built in the traditional increase in the State minimum wage in anticipation of the increased federal minimum."

"Without making a comprehensive Statewide survey, for which there is neither budget nor personnel, we have no reliable way of estimating either how many workers are covered by the State minimum wage at present, or how many of those who are covered are currently being paid less than \$2.50 an hour," Commissioner Brooks stated. "I believe that the new minimum wage will have a substantial impact upon the earnings of many North Carolina workers who are covered by the State Law."

Like A Lovable Pup?

City government's own Christmas tradition, Santa's Puppy Sale, will be held near the Square in Uptown Charlotte December 12-14. For just \$4 you can buy a lovable puppy, and that price includes a check up at the Animal Shelter and a distemper shot.

Memoriam To Dr. Martin King

Will Be Held Sunday, January 15

Without Interrupting Benefits

States Must Renew

Food Stamp Eligibility

WASHINGTON, The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making sure people using food stamps are given enough time to renew their eligibility before it runs out, Assistant Secretary Carol Tucker Foreman said Tuesday.

Assistant Secretary Foreman said new USDA rules will require local welfare agencies to give people using food stamps advance written notice that their eligibility is ending. These notices must arrive in time for people to re-apply for their stamps without an interruption in benefits, she said.

The assistant secretary said the department is issuing these rules to settle a nationwide class action lawsuit, *Basel v. Butz*, which challenged USDA's food stamp re-certification procedures. Ms. Foreman said the new rules will make the re-certification process fairer by requiring state and local agencies to take more responsibility for keeping food stamp users informed about the status of their eligibility.

When a household is approved for food stamps, Assistant Secretary Foreman explained, it is certified for a specified length of time and must re-apply when this certification period ends. Periodic re-certification is necessary, she said, because it gives local agencies an opportunity to review changes in family income or resources.

Under the old rules, households were told at the time of application when their eligibility would expire, and no further notice was given.

Basel v. Butz was filed in October 1974 in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The District Court ruled in USDA's favor, but the U.S. Court of Appeals reversed the lower court early in 1977. On May 13, USDA agreed to settle the case by issuing new regulations.

To give interested parties a chance to comment, the department published proposed rules on June 3. USDA received 63 comments on the proposal, 39 from state and local welfare agencies and the rest from legal aid groups, interest groups, and interested individuals.

The proposed rules would have allowed people who appeal food stamp cutbacks or cutoffs to get full benefits pending a hearing decision. But, because of a conflict with the recently-enacted Food Stamp Act of 1977, this provi-

sion was dropped from final regulations.

Under the final rules, local agencies must notify households in writing between 30 and 45 days before their certification periods end. Expiration notices will tell households they must re-apply for food stamps by a certain date to continue receiving their benefits without interruption. People who are certified for one month or less will be given their expiration notice when they apply.

Changes In

Food Stamp

Regulations

A number of important changes in Food Stamp utility deduction regulations will go into effect January 1, according to Larry Coolsby, Eligibility Director of the County's Food Stamp Program.

Under the new regulations, your latest unpaid heating bills may be included in the expenses that are taken into consideration when the amount you pay for Food Stamps is set.

Food Stamp recipients receive a standard food coupon allotment but must pay cash for the coupons, based on a sliding scale. A family's net adjusted income determines the purchase price. Usually utility bills, among other expenses, can reduce the net adjusted income and thus result in a lower cash purchase requirement. The new regulations, according to Coolsby, will allow greater utility deductions in many cases.

Only paid heating bills were counted under the old Food Stamp rules, and in some cases families had to make the difficult choice between buying their Food Stamp allotment and paying for heating bills. As a result of the new regulations, some recipients may have their purchase price adjusted whenever an increased heating bill entitles them to a lower purchase price.

Coolsby said that under certain conditions households may receive an authorization-to-purchase (ATP) card with in 10 days if their heating bills increased by \$25.01 or more. Also, uncashed ATP cards may be turned in for replacement within 10 days if there is a \$25.01 or more increase. Proof of the higher bill is required in both cases.

At First United Presbyterian Church Sunday

Rev. Dr. Raymond Worsley To Be Installed

By Abigail L. Flanders
Special To The Post

Approximately two years ago, First United Presbyterian Church faced the loss of its minister, Rev. Ezra J. Moore, with some despair and some anticipation of filling the void with someone equally as dynamic and personable... Then a strong perceptive yet sensitive minister with a pleasing smile and inspirational message introduced himself to the church family, filling its void, uplifting its spirit, and instigating a flow of love that is greatly needed between congregation and minister... a love that is sure to be felt throughout First United Pres-

byterian Church Sunday when Rev. Dr. Raymond Worsley will be officially installed as pastor.

Rev. Worsley has had a lot of experience in instigating love. During the Civil Rights Movement, he coordinated several marches in the eastern part of North Carolina, and became the "herald of truth and justice" in many of the newspapers and legislative halls in this state. That same love blossoms in his family life as well through his wife, Magnolia, daughter, Marie and son, Raymond Jr.

Although Rev. Worsley is a native of Rocky Mount, North



T.J. REDDY
...Received 20 years

Charlotte 3 Case

Raises Questions

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Over ten years ago, an integrated group of people went to the Lazy B Riding Stable on West Boulevard and were denied permission to rent horses, although the stable was supposed to be public. The next day they returned with friends, and in front of television cameras and reporters, one member of the group was allowed to ride. Integration has been accomplished and the matter was considered closed.

Approximately one year later the Lazy B burned. Investigations at the time determined that the fire was accidental. No mention was made of arson.

The aftermath of the two seemingly unrelated incidents described above eventually resulted in criminal proceedings against three men and subsequent prison sentences for them totaling 55 years.

The Charlotte Three case, as it has become known, has raised questions in the minds of some observers as to the credibility and fairness of the North Carolina criminal justice system and has drawn the

attention and criticism of jurists, journalists and human rights advocates across the nation and around the world.

An editorial in the Charlotte Observer in January of 1975 said "What is so disturbing about the Lazy B stable burning case is the pattern of official misconduct surrounding it. The issue of whether the three men convicted received a fair trial is now before the courts. But from court documents, testimony and investigative reports, it is clear that federal and state officials bent and distorted the powers society entrusted to them."

In the same editorial the Observer charged that "the federal men were looking for 'black terrorists' and convinced themselves of the basis of bought testimony from Theodore Alfred Hood and Walter David Washington, that they had found three of them."

Comments from The Washington Post editorial page included one reading, "Although civic interests in North Carolina like to present the state as the epitome of the 'New South', parts of its judicial

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Two-Hour Symposium

Set For First Baptist Church

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

A two hour symposium entitled "There Is Neither Slave Nor Free In Jesus Christ - A Memoriam To Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." will be held at First Baptist Church, 1801 Oaklawn Ave., Sunday, January 15. This event is sponsored by the Afro-American Cultural and Service Center and is funded by the North Carolina Humanities Commission as one of the five-part series on Black Life.

Guest speaker for the symposium will be Dr. George B. Thomas, director of the I.T.C. Research Action-Advocacy Project called "The Religious Heritage of the Black World," in Atlanta. Dr. Thomas has recently returned from Africa where he delivered a paper on Black Theology and Liberation. He is a professor of Missiology and a member of the faculty at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta.

Formerly a professor of religious studies at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, Dr. Thomas is one of the leading Black theologians in his field today, according to Durwood Hall, who will moderate the program. A well-known TV personality seen on WSOX-TV each Sunday morning at 9 a.m., Hall is president-elect of the Johnson C. Smith Seminary at the Inter-denominational Theological Seminary where he is a third year student majoring in Christian Ethics - Church and Society.

He said that questions revolving around "The Black Church as a Christian Change Agent in American Society" and "Is the theology of Blackness Effective in the Black Community, asked why he felt community, Past and Present?" will be discussed.

Asked why he felt there is a need for the kind of seminar planned, Hall replied, "The Black man's role in the Judeo-Christian heritage has truly never been elevated from the seas of racist Biblical history expounded by the writers and interpreters of the slave master's influence on his black brothers. It is about time for on-going seminars which deliver another side of this one-sided history and present more than the flimsy truths encased in Western historical scholarship's Wright, Albright and Bright's schools of racist thinking."

Continuing, Hall said, "A man with no past is a man with no present and definitely no future. Christianity for the black man must be inextricably bound up in his life style or its relevancy is null and void."

The symposium will begin at 6:45 a.m. with the invocation by Rev. Robert Walton and breakfast, during which a video tape of Hall's TV program will be shown, featuring Dr. Herman Thomas, assistant director of Black Studies at UNC-C and associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Dr. Jewett Walker, an AME Zion minister, and another guest to be announced.

Following breakfast, the audience will be divided into the three workshops led by Rev. Preston Pendergrass, pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, Rev. Smith Turner of Grace AME Zion Church and Rev. Reginald Durante, minister associate of Bethel AME Church. Dr. Thomas' address will be immediately after the workshops.

The host pastor, Rev. J.B. Humphrey, will deliver the benediction.

Hall stressed that the January 15 symposium is the first of several planned for Charlotte and said he hopes for massive involvement from throughout the community. Donations of one dollar will be requested to be turned over to the Martin Luther King Jr. Statue Drive.



Durwood Hall
TV personality

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January Is

Tax Listing

Month

January is tax listing month in Charlotte Mecklenburg.

State law requires all residents to list their personal property, including cars, trucks and boats, with the City-County tax supervisor's office during the month of January. Failure to list your property by January 31 will result in penalty, which you must pay in addition to the property tax.

Unless you are a new resident of Mecklenburg County, you should receive your tax listing form in the mail by January 10. Approximately 160,000 forms have been mailed, according to Tax Supervisor Robert P. Alexander. Newcomers and those who have not received their forms by January 10 should request them from the Tax Supervisor's Office, telephone 374-2813.

Tax list takers are in the town clerk offices in Matthews, Pineville, Cornelius, Huntersville and Davidson and are available to help those who need assistance with their listing.

Elderly and/or permanently and totally disabled persons are eligible for a property tax exemption if their total income (including your spouse, if you are married) is no more than \$9,000 a year.

TURTLE-TALK



...Nothing is more depressing than to feel bad in the morning without having had any fun the night before.