Page 2-THE CHARLOTTE POST-Thursday, June 22, 1978

# Califorials & Comments **Liquor By The Drink**

## Will It Make A Difference?

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr. Over most of the last ten days the media has inundated or outright intoxicated us with news about developments leading to the N.C. General Assembly's passage of a local option liquor-by-the drink bill last week.

The new law gives any county or city which currently has an ABC system the right to have an election to let the voters decide whether their local government should allow certain licensed businesses the opportunity to serve liquor-by-the drink. The bill does not create drinking places such as open bars or lounges. What it does is simply allow local elections to be held to decide the issue.

In spite of that simple but important fact, many people are already assuming a major economic boom in new and huge profits from the expansion and creation of new restaurants, hotels and increased convention business. Others appear to anticipate open bars with liquor and money following in the streets of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. In addition, leaders in the Airport bond camp-aign have attributed at least 10 percent of their two-to-one margin of victory on Tuesday to passage of the mixed drink bill.

The liquor bill has created political vibrations too. The Rev. Coy Privette and his anti-liquor forces accused Gov. Jim Hunt of failing to help defeat the liquor bill while professing to oppose it. At the same time, the bill has been credited with the making of a new political leader -Parks Helms. Helms, as one news story so aptly stated, "was credited by his colleagues for guiding the bill through the House with tireless effort, skillful parliamentary maneuvering and quiet persuasion." Finally, and inspite of opposition to

premature action expressed by some state lawmakers, the Mecklenburg County Commissioners agreed in one of its few unanimous decisions to allow voters to express themselves on the issue in early September.

The emotional upheaval reflected in these developments appear to indicate we have become intoxicated by the very thought of liquor-bythe-drink. Therefore, come late-September we may all go on a drinking binge to celebrate our new freedom, even if it kills us.

The sobering realities that may keep us from this drunk orgy are seen in a number of largely ignored but significant factors. First, its possible for the anti-liquor forces to win in a local mixed drink vote. Ironically, it is liquor drinkers brown-baggers - who may help defeat a local mixed drink vote because of their opposition to higher priced mixed drinks.

Secondly, a Charlotte Chamber of Commerce official has reportedly said mixed drink revenues in many places have not come up to expectations. Thirdly, some restaurant and night club owners don't think mixed drinks will significantly change Charlotte. One well known owner said it would be five or more years before any distinct change would evident.

Lastly, exactly how liquor-by-the drink will affect Charlotte-Mecklenburg will depend largely upon how the state ABC board writes the rules. Indications are they will be strict.

Therefore, in spite of the hoopla over liquor-by-the drink there may be little change, little difference, little interruption in the pace and pattern of Charlotte-Mecklenburg's lifestyle. That, we believe, might be a blessing we are not even now sober enough to appreciate.

might ask, will one more organiza-

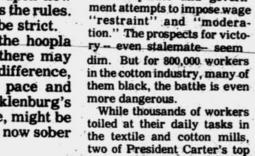
believe in this case the answer is



yes.

On June 30, Vernon E. Jordan Jr., executive director of the National Urban League will visit Charlotte to discuss ways in which a Charlottebased affiliate of the League might be able to serve the interests of Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Underlying Mr. Jordan's visit is a concern about high levels of black unemployment and low levels of



simutaneously

economic advisors - Charles Schultze and Barry Bosworth -- solemnly pondered the "economic impact" of long tion make a difference. Can the awaited regulations to protect cotton workers from byssino-Urban League find solution to these sis, a serious disease more problems when others have not? We commonly known as "Brown Lung.

By Bayard Rustin

**Special To The Post** 

once again become the first

"war on inflation." Caught

between the crossfire of pro-

blem and solution, workers

are steadily bombarded by

rapidly rising prices while

casualties in the renewed

American workers have

Numerous medical studies Our response in the affirmative is have shown that a significant based on our belief that a Charlotte number of cotton workers,

tions (to protect the health of reported, Secretary Marshall cotton workers) do not impose strongly and quickly protested unnecessary or uneconomic Schultze's callous disregard costs on American industry."

**Black's Destiny In Own Hands** 

**Price Tags On Workers** 

BLACK COMMUNITY

SELF IMPROVEMENT - CO OPERATION

SELF HELP - MUTUAL AID-

ing that the health - even the very lives - of American workers has a price tag. In this particular instance, Bosworth's economists as the

neconomic.'

Administration's econometric techinicians, who have difficulty discerning the difference between a living human being and a pile of machinery, prevailed on President Carter. To a very large extent, the

cotton dust affair illustrates some disturbing aspects of President Carter's approach to controlling inflation. Like

worth of each human breath, and each drop of human blood without looking into a worker's pitiful eyes, I fear they have lost touch with the human values that movitated the generous, and far-sighted economic policies which characterized most of the

post-war era, especially dur-While workers have their

on inflation."

mills.

Moreover, Marshall person-

ally appealed to the President

on behalf of America's cotton

workers. Unfortunately, the

his conservative Republican

predecessors - men who at

least never pretended to be

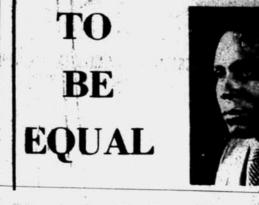
friends of working people -

President Carter and his

economic advisors have

pushed American workers

into the frontlines of the "war



### Voting Rights For D. C.

The Congress is considering a proposed constitutional amendment that would finally, give full Congressional representation to Washington, D.C.

By Vernon E. Jordan Jr.

Such a move is long overdue. There can be ndtjustification for depriving the people of the District of so basic a right. A nation whose founding revolution based on the principle of no taxation without representation can no longer refuse representation to citizens of its capital.

Along with the overriding philosophical principle of representation, there are important arguments supporting an amendment that would end the colonization of Washington, D.C.

Its size is one. Home to 760,000 people, the District is already more populous than ten states. Its people pay well over a billion dollars in taxes - more than was returned from 19. states. Its per capita tax payments were higher than all but three states.

So the argument that giving the District two. Senators and a voting representative would be... unfair to the states, whose voting power in: Congress would be diluted slightly, is meaning-se less. States with smaller populations and states generating fewer tax revenues have been" admitted to the Union and received their share of two Senate seats and one or two Representatives.

The District has always been treated like a ... political colony. It has not had a voting representative in Congress since 1800. Since 1970 .... it has had only a single non-voting Representative. It wasn't until 1964 that District citizens had the right to vote for Presidential and Vice Presidential electors. For a hundred years, until 1974, its local government was appointed.

That's a disgraceful record, made the more disgraceful by the continued disenfranchisement of its citizens who are taxed but have no say in... how their taxes are used.

The blatant unfairness of this situation makes voting rights for the District a major civil rights question. And that aspect is heightened by the District's large black population - about 70° percent of the total. Thirteen years after upassage of the Voting Hights Act, black and U white - Washingtonians are still deprived of basic electoral rights.

Some may fear that the District's two Senators will be black and liberal. But such an objective is too base even to surface into the open. Simple fairness demands change, and blacks and liberals have never objected to the right of... representation for areas that are all white or

for health and safety of cotton In effect, Schultze was sayworkers. In a memorandum to President Carter, Marshall opposed any delay in implementing anti-Brown Lung measures in America's cotton

confronted with corporate and govern-Council on Wage and Price Stability calculated the cost of saving one life at \$440,000, a figure deemed highly

> Perhaps I am naive or oldfashioned, but the thought of producing "economic impact statements" about the biological organs of human beings leaves me cold - and dis-

mayed. If modern economists have become so sophisticated that they can now "accura-tely" calculate the monetary

quality housing in the city of Charlotte. While these problems are evident, there exists in Charlotte a number of agencies and organizations that are at least partly concerned with aiding in the pursuit of solutions. The organizations we are referring to are the Black Political Caucus, the NAACP, the Black Women's Caucus, three or more ministerial organizations, numerous neighborhood organizations, fraternal and religious groups and the Charlotte Area Fund.

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Urban League affiliate might and should direct its energies exclusively to the problems of housing and unemployment. None of the existing agencies have that charge. Therefore, we believe the Urban League will and can make a difference in the progress of blacks in Charlotte.

However, this difference, in the final analysis will depend on our willingness to learn and our willingness to help the Urban League help us to be what we want to be. Will you do your part?

pernaps as many as 20 percent of the total work force, eventually contract "Brown Lung" in one form or breath. As the disease progresses, workers experience more advanced and painful breathing difficulties leading to total disability and eventually a premature death.

Writing to some obscure governmental body known as the Regulatory Analysis Re-view Group, Charles Schultze - once known as a liberal warned "it is important to insure that any new regulaas ise

ambulance services, and

reason proeprty owners bear

the burden of taxes is simply

atic Administra tions." While the Carter Administration's handling of the cot-

ton dust affair leaves me deeply disappointed and shocked, the role of Labor Secretary Ray Marshall fills me with genuine hope. In-

deed, the labor secretary seems to be the Administration's only economic advisor with compassion and an informed understanding of the needs and aspirations of America's working people. As the New York Times

wages suppressed and their jobs threatened, the real causes of inflation - exhorbitant interest rates, fat salaries for corporate executives, lawyers and doctors, and high fuel and food prices. - slip by virtually unchallenged.

If the President persists in his largely ineffective and misguided anti-flation strategy, we can rest assured that the 150,000 victims of Brown Lung will be the first of many helpless people sacrificed in the name of "price stability." predominately conservative.

The House of Representatives has already" passed a resolution calling for granting the District two Senators, House members and Presidential electors based on population, and participation in the ratification of Constitutional ? amendments. The Senate is considering a slightly different measure, but both agree on the substance of Congressional representation for the District.

It is important that an amendment draft be:: passed for consideration by the states. Three-s fourths of the states have to back it for the measure to become part of the Constitution making voting rights for the District effective,

## **Proposition 13 Passes**

By Geraid Johnson annual income inherits some land. If this person wanted to keep the deduction he would The citizens of California have shown that the primary receive on his income tax for indifference by voters towards paying property tax is worth-less, since his income tax was Government stems from the fact that we have too much of Citizens of California neglible anyway. Or we could take an older couple who is receiving social security as turned out in record numbers to demonstrate their concern their only source of income. If about too much Government. In an overwhelming victory this couple had accumulated Proposition 13 has found its property in their younger days, then they wouldn't be able to keep it because of the way into California law books. The victory has caused widetaxes. Apartment dwellers can get by without paying spread concern nationwide. Politicians everywhere are worried that this type of situproperty taxes. The owner of the dwelling has to pay taxes. But everybody enjoys the parks, public schools, and ation can happen in their

To see what Proposition 13 means to the taxpayers of whatever at the expense of property owners. The only California, let's take an example. A taxpayer owning \$50,000 home would pay \$1,250 a year in property taxes before Proposition 13. After because property owners are controllable. To own property the passage of Proposition 13 you must go through yards the same home owner will have to pay a modest \$500. Before going into the pros

vicinities.

and yards of red tape and filling out forms. This inand cons of Prop 13, let me say formation is kept on file downthat property taxes are unfair. town where it is readily accessible to tax collectors. On the Unlike income taxes property taxes are based on accumulaother hand apartment dwelltion rather than earning ers don't go through this humpower. A quick example will drum ritual. Moreover, apartdemonstrate the point. Asment dwellers can afford to sume a person on an \$8,000



only requires grabbling up belongings and splitting. This causes another headache for city tax collectors. Consequently, homeowners must bear the burden.

Back to Prop 13. With a massive cut in Government. Revenue, Government will be forced to cut back on spend-ing. A lot of people will dislike this, but I think it is good. I can't talk about California and its cutbacks because I'm not familiar with their spending. But it goes without question that there are massive ways to cut back without losing that much. For example, here in move at a drop of hat since it Charlotte if the situation

without much loss in effi- the bill and the burden of ciency in Government. Snoopy' the Police helicopter is nice but it is not worth its expense. The crap in the school system with option thisoption that would go. The Government purchased ambu-lance service could be scraped. And because most minority geared government funded programs are not worth the paper they are written on, they could be scraped. The point here is after

balancing cost over need many programs can be scraped. Those programs felt to be worthwhile will be picked up by the private sector.

Currently we despise the Government for overspending and underthinking. But be cause taxpayers request most of the stupid programs in existence, they only spend what we ask them to. This has

caused a lot of people to use the Government as a crutch. Anything somebody wants the government can deliver at the laxpayers expense of course. The private sector plays little or no role in social programs

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occurred we could cutback and the Government is footing is cutting back. No planning promoting socialism, and they do it inefficiently.

It is past time that Churches and Social Clubs, Fraternities and Soriorities, Communities and the like, take a more positive role in providing social programs. Proposition 13 will force this on their shoulders. shoulders.

The massive layoffs and cut backs currently going on in California are exaggerated. As hap-hazardly as they spend it, the California Government

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no study to find the fat in them budget, just straight cutbacksou I don't think this is necessary

新新日 文、御山子

But there will be some suf fering as a result of Propost tion 13. But this is necessary in order to reverse our current course. terro:

If the tax revolt continues: the in 10 years we might be able to balance the budget. As at the heading in the observer is a: neatly put it: How do America cans spell relief: T-A-X-CtOres

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