

# Editorials & Comments

## Republican Rhetoric On Judgeships

Undoubtedly many voters, and particularly black voters, have very strong and mixed emotions about their presidential choices in this year's presidential election.

Whether he offers a good platform or not socialist candidate Lyndon LaRouche Jr., will get very little voter support. John Anderson will probably suffer a similar fate because of voters' reluctance to endorse an alleged "third party" candidate or, as some have called him, a "self-righteous" man.

Teddy Kennedy too has his problems as the shadow of Chappaquidick has tarnished the Kennedy image to the point that many autos have bumper stickers that read, "anyone but Kennedy." The point is many Americans simple don't trust Kennedy and do not respect him the way they did his brothers John and Robert. In addition, it is viewed by the vast majority of voters that Kennedy and others could actually get the nomination away from an incumbent.

This brings us to the front runner candidates, one of which will most likely be the next

President of the United States. Ronald Reagan, the former movie star of grade-B pictures, General Electric commercial television announcer, two term governor of California and an eloquent speaker is making a hard push to win the White House.

In what has been billed as a major address, Reagan appealed to the 15,000 attendees at the Urban League's annual convention in New York City this week to not judge him as a caricatured conservative who is usually described as being "anti-poor, anti-black and anti-disadvantaged." Rather he asked the delegates to "listen carefully to his plans for cutting tax rates, creating jobs, and helping the inner-city poor with self-help programs to lift them out of poverty."

As expected, Mr. Reagan attacked the Democratic Party, cited statistics on black unemployment and said the solution for blacks is "jobs, jobs, jobs," not "make-work employment that lasts for one year and then squeezes recipients back into welfare roles."

## Enterprise Zones

Reagan said, if elected, he'd push for the creation of "enterprise zones" in depressed inner-city areas where various regulations would be relaxed, property taxes would be stabilized and depreciation and tax rules would be changed to encourage business to locate in and hire inner-city workers.

Secondly, Mr. Reagan proposed to create a self-help urban

home steading program in which government-owned slum homes in blighted areas are sold to the poor for \$1 if they are willing (and able) to rehabilitate them.

He also proposes to aid black business developments and enact a variable (below) minimum wage for youths to encourage the hiring of unskilled and unemployed young blacks. He proposes too to not hire blacks at the expense of whites.

Mr. Reagan's rhetoric says nothing that is not already being done and he adds, in his own

words, if you "listen carefully" that he'll cut the minimum wage for youth on the incorrect assumption that it will create more entry level jobs and he would abandon affirmative action programs to avoid alleged reverse job discrimination.

The fact is, as a believer in the private enterprise ideology and their trickle-down theories, Reagan as President could not produce jobs. Would his administration save a Chrysler? We think not.

## High Unemployment

Jimmy Carter, the incumbent President, is asking the voters to return him to the White House for four more years in spite of high unemployment, high inflation, the Iranian crisis, the Billy Carter affair and a generally weaker foreign policy position.

Given this sad state of presidential politics, what is a voter to do? What kind of analysis should a voter engage in in order to begin thinking about whom to vote for that will enhance the progress of the American people in general and black people in particular?

While space does not permit a lengthy answer to these questions, and we are not committed to endorsing any candidate at this time, a few thoughts are noteworthy.

First, Mr. Reagan is offering nothing in his rhetoric that is not now being done, except that poor people can't afford to rehabilitate houses purchased for \$1 and ultra conservatives like Jesse Helms will block any really progressive innovations a Reagan White House might offer.

Jimmy Carter obviously has his weaknesses and some of them will continue. However, almost with the stroke of a pen, he can appoint some blacks to judicial posts including the Supreme Court during a possible second term. Given the long-term impact of such appointments on the progress of black people, that alone is reason enough to vote for Carter.



ARE WE GOING TO SIT AND LET  
BLACK COMMUNITITES CRUMBLE AROUND US?  
GRASS ROOTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS,  
MUST EMERGE TO FORGE  
A UNITED EFFORT AGAINST CRIME,  
NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING, BLIGHT AND DECAY.  
Leaders Must Organize

## As I See It

### Learn To Listen?

Gerald O. Johnson  
Post Columnist

When I was in college, a young man we called Spiderman used to bug me to death to listen to his music. Well, in those days I didn't have time to listen because I was too busy chasing women. So I used to tell Spiderman "not now man, I'm busy."

Later, Spiderman was writing a book and again he called on me to read his work. Well, I thought this had gone far enough. So I said, "Spiderman, I just don't have any time, man." You see, I thought Spiderman might be a little touched. He had a reputation for being a little tall on tales.

Today, Spiderman is a well known singer, writer and composer. He has cut over a dozen albums, appeared on numerous television shows, plays the college circuits, and writes songs for other singers. Many artists are singing his songs and copying his style. If imitation is the truest form of flattery... Spiderman has truly arrived.

Oh, by the way, you might know Spiderman by his real name...Gill Scott Heron.

The lesson I learned through this experience was to listen. Now I listen to the voices of those who want to get a critical opinion of their ideas, or their works.

Recently, a young man I work with finished a draft of a book he's been working on for several months. He let me read the first chapter and we discussed the book. The book has promise, but more importantly, the young man has promise. He is aggressive, bright and persistent.

Regardless of the outcome of his first book, this young man has the right



Gerald O. Johnson

chemistry to succeed. The only road block that might stand in his way could be his ability to shoulder initial failures.

But for anybody that worked as hard as he did to complete his work deserves praise. This man's name is Terry Wiley. You might be hearing it again.

### BUCKLEY ON BLACK EDUCATION

William Buckley recently used a study by Orlan Love to attack black leaders on misrepresenting the black people. The study concluded that 42 percent of 17-year-old Blacks are functionally illiterate. Then he adds that on any given day in the public school system, 4 out of 10 students are absent.

Buckley concludes that because parochial schools are clearly superior to public schools, Black leaders betrayed their Black constituency when they voted against the tax credit bill. The tax credit bill would grant tax relief for each child admitted to a non-public school.

This type of rationale by Buckley puts him in the same category with Dr. Shockley...an ass.

Even with tax relief the vast majority of Black parents still could not af-

ford to send their children to parochial schools. Hence, the tax relief would only benefit the white middle and upper class people of this country. Moreover, it would aid us in making the already stupid public schools even more stupid.

No Mr. Buckley, the Black leaders were absolutely right in trying to protect the only education outlet for the vast majority of Black kids. It is true, however, that the Black populace is being betrayed by the Black leaders of this country. But this is not a case of it. It seems to be a case of trying to pull a snow job on the Black people to benefit the vast majority of white people.

I was sorry to read Professor Sowell's comments on the subject. He is truly a great Black economist; but it appears he, too, can be non-objective on some topics.

### Martin Open

### Campaign

### Headquarters

Congressman James G. Martin's 1980 campaign for the U.S. House of Representatives from the 9th district will officially begin at 2 p.m. Thursday, August 7, with the opening of his headquarters in Room 706, Colwick Towers, 4401 Colwick Rd., Charlotte. We are looking forward to seeing you there. At that time you will have the opportunity to discuss issues of vital importance with Congressman Martin, and his staff will have the pleasure of meeting you. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at 704-365-2824 (headquarters) or 704-378-2798 (home).

# Affirmative

## Action

### Underpaid and Underprotected

By Gerald C. Horne, Esq.  
Special To The Post

Unemployment and jobs are getting to be like the weather. Everyone talks about it but few seem to do anything about it.

Nonetheless, the rates continue to spiral - ala the weather - with no relief in sight. This is the highlight of the Bureau of Labor Statistics report of unemployment rates by race and Hispanic origin in major metropolitan areas.

Among Blacks, the unemployment rate in May for adult males was 12 percent; for adult women, 11.9 percent, (who says Black women get hired before Black men?); and 35.2 percent for teenagers of both sexes.

On the other hand, the unemployment rate for white workers was 6.9 percent; for adult white men, the rate was 5.9 percent; for adult women, 5.8 percent; and for teenagers of both sexes, 17.4 percent.

Behind these bland statistics lie deep political repercussions. The Carter Administration is consciously driving up unemployment - allegedly to combat inflation - despite the disastrous impact on the Black community which put him in office.

However, high unemployment serves the interests of other Carter supporters; employees are reluctant to push for wage increases to keep up with double-digit inflation when long unemployment lines are staring them in the face. No doubt this policy is pleasing to Carter's corporate supporters.

But hard as it may be to believe, some folks who have jobs may be worse off than those who don't. The Atlanta Constitution, a bulwark of the Southern Establishment not usually noted for progressive politics, recently published a landmark series entitled "The Underpaid and Under-Protected," which won the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Awards' Grand Prize. This well-researched, enlightening study was conducted by a team of Black and White, male and female journalists.

Their conclusions were startling. They found workers - mostly Black - toiling for as little as \$1 per hour! This despite the Fair Labor Standards Act, the law guaranteeing at least \$2.90 hourly wage to nearly 58 million United States workers.

Take the turpentine industry, for example. This \$25 million a year industry, which has over 700 producers is important in the making of paint thinner, shoe polish, crayons, etc. In the Georgia woods where the industry is based, Black workers live in almost medieval existence that would be condemned by some as "propaganda" if it

were portrayed in a movie. Yet, the fact remains that Black workers work for next to nothing, then fork over to the boss what

remains of their paltry paycheck for rent, water and electricity, etc. In fact, the worker usually ends up owing the employer and is thereby forced to continue working on pain of being jailed for "larceny by trick" or "fraud."

This was an industry worked by slaves in the 19th century and little has changed since then.

The most prominent turpentine man in the nation is Jim Gillis Jr. president of the 780-member Turpentine Farmers Association. Gillis is a member of one of Georgia's most powerful families - his father was long the road commissioner - and runs the largest turpentine operation in Georgia

## From Capitol Hill

# Black Lawyers Accuse American Bar Association Of Racism

Alfreda L. Madison  
Special To The Post

The American Bar Association (ABA) which has a great influence on judicial appointments in the United States still practices racism. Until the 1950s black lawyers were barred from membership in the ABA. While now admitting blacks as members the association has not purged itself completely of racism.

The all-black lawyers organization, National Bar Association (NBA) has challenged the ABA to discard its racism practices. They accuse the ABA of using a double standard in evaluating lawyers for judgeships. The association often ignores its own due process rules of interviewing prospective appointees when it comes to blacks.

This violation was greatly evidenced in the recent Federal Judicial appointments of Grand and Clemons of Alabama. The ABA's Judicial committee filed huge reports with the Senate Judiciary committee, contending that these two former civil rights law-



Alfreda L. Madison

yers were unqualified. These reports, considered largely "confidential hearsay" and newspaper clippings, to substantiate their disqualifications.

The ABA violated its own criteria by presenting hearsay information to the Senate Judiciary without even allowing Gray and Clemons the opportunity to face their accusers, arguing that it was necessary to shield the identity of the accusers. Such a practice is highly unfair, especially so when it comes to black candidates for judgeships.

Reliance upon such a practice for evaluating blacks for judges will guarantee continuation of the same old discrimination policies.

The NBA emphasizes that because the ABA has found 34 extremely well qualified lawyers for judges over the past years, does not erase its double standard qualification practices.

NBA bitterly criticizes the ABA for beginning its report on Clemons by stating that "his undergraduate education at Miles College in Birmingham, which is a small black institution, did not prepare him well for a national law school such as Columbia, from which he graduated in 1968. He undoubtedly had to work very hard with great determination in order to have a successful law career." NBA says this statement is an insult to every black college in America and every black American.

Does the ABA have an aversion to the virtue of hard work and determination? Does it place a high

value on indolence and the lack of stamina?

In the six charges made against Mr. Clemons in the ABA report, upon cross examination, all but one, were admitted by the ABA as being insignificant. Even the significant tax lien charge against Mr. Clemons upon rigorous examination of Mr. Jones, the ABA witness, was based upon the witness' own subjective opinion rather than proof.

The NBA learned in September, 1979, that the ABA embarked upon its own investigation, in order to present its evaluation to the Justice Department and the Senate. This was a scheme to disqualify these two prospective black judges. The ABA has greatly objected to being vigorously cross examined about its presented evidence.

The ABA has historically when a tentative unqualified rating is given, it is tantamount to death for the person being rated. Yet, the ABA did not apply its rule of talking with a per-

son before tentatively communicating the unqualified rating to the Justice Department. This right was not accorded Clemons and Gray. Through the vigorous insistence of the NBA and other organizations, the Justice Department would not have proceeded with these nominees and the ABA's ratings would have kept both of these outstanding black lawyers from becoming federal judges.

The 8,000 NBA members are furious over the ABA's double standards which they term as only racism and it feels that the ABA should apologize to both Gray and Clemons; not for investigating their cases but for the carelessness of the reports and for its obvious violation of its own rules in investigating them.

The NBA is demanding that the ABA change its methods of judicial investigation - and the NBA has no faith in the ABA's evaluation methods. It demands that confidential hearsay be completely eliminated from the evaluation process.

NBA further states that if ABA refuses to remedy its unjust process, it will advise all black lawyers to resign from the American Bar Association.

## SCLC 23rd

### Convention Set

ATLANTA - Delegates from across the nation will gather in Cleveland, Ohio to attend the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's (SCLC) 23rd Annual Convention, Thursday, August 7 through Sunday, August 10.

This year's theme, according to SCLC President, Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, pastor of Atlanta's historic Central United Methodist Church, is, "Developing A Moral Agenda For The Nation And The World Community."



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