Editorials & Comments

Thanksgiving For Whit?

On this Thanksgiving Day in 1981, many people are asking, Thanksgiving for what? This question should be a reminder that Thanksgiving is an annual celebration in honor and memory of a significant part of our nation's history.

Underlying that celebration is the nation's founding and continuing belief as eloquently stated by comedian Bob Hope that "This (America) is still a land of opportunity, where every individual, through his own initiative, talent and brain power, can reach his potential.'

Unfortunately, because God has blessed our nation with such abundant resources, many people have not only begun to assume these riches are a gift, they have adopted attitudes and philosophies that are referred to as a "psychology of entitlement." This implies a belief that Americans assume they have a right to or a guarantee of good jobs and decent housing in a livable environment.

The "entitlement" mentality says, for example, more and more workers are fighting for what they believe are their rights. "The vast majority of workers," says James Lindheim of the Yankelovich research firm, "feel entitled to good wages, health benefits, insurance, profit sharing, tuition benefits, financial advice, legal help and a greater voice in company policy." Furthermore, when employers don't offer these benefits workers assume that government should provide the requested guarantees.

Corporations too are caught in the "entitlement" mentality as they expect government to institute policies to assure the sur-

As we continue to vent our

frustrations over double digit

inflation, high interest rates,

mounting unemployment and a

creeping recession, we tend not

to observe some of the singular

remind us of much that we have

Three Charlotte firemen re-

cently received certificates of

citation for rescuing two South-

side Homes area children from a

fire in October. Assistant Fire

Chief R. L. Blackwelder said, "It

was what we call going beyond

the call of duty." This is significant too considering all the

media coverage given to the

conflicts between the city and

firemen over wages and working

Let us not forget too the

highway patrolman who earlier

this year saved a youth from

And let us be reminded in these

days of sexual promiscurity and

drowning on his off-duty hours.

human interest events that

to give thanks for.

conditions.

And For These We Give Thanks!

vival of their industry to the exclusion tothers.

It is these same workers and corporations who look with contempt upon these who have not been as blessedand must look to public welfare a sistance to survive. That is, too hany who have been blessed with an adequate share of our nation't abundance want and expect guarantees for continued shares but ouppse any guarantees of the basic necessities of life for the less fortunate members of our nation.

The philosophy of entitlement or the belief that the corperation and the government should guarantee us the good life is to forget the freedoms we have for which we should be giving Thanks. We can worship God freely; we can speak, write and travel without government approval or control; and we can change our places of employment at our own choosing. With the guarantees we have noted, these freedoms could be endan-

These freedoms and many like them, for which we should forever be thankful, are the telescopes through which we can see the visions of Thanksgiving in the future. However, unless we return to a renewed commitment to the work ethic and the striving toward individual goals we may not have Thanksgiving in the future as we have had in the

Thus, Thanksgiving is a unique holiday in that it causes us to reflect on our nation's past, to have a deeper appreciation for the present, and to see in the visions of the future a hope for a better tomorrow.

....And for these we give

high rates of out-of-wedlock

Boone. The 25-year-old singer

saw it then and now is that if we

had given in to our sexual urges

before marriage we would have

And then there are the tender

loving care of Anita Stroud, the

on-going work of the Salvation

Army and what you can do as an

individual to give someone else

who is probably less fortunate

and the family.

similar view.

Tony Brown's

Natically Syndicated Commercial

Journal

Television Series



Is The Public Being Told The Truth?

riving For Excellence

WE MUST GIVE OUR CHILDREN

BLACK. THE GLORY OF OUR PAST

AND THE DIGNITY OF OUR PRESENT

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL

A SENSE OF PRIDE IN BEING

MUST LEAD THE WAY TO THE

POWER OF OUR FUTURE!

There is new and crucial dimeson to the Voting Rights Act. It is the Reagan thinistration's position of the Voting Rights Act, where than the civil rights legislation itself.

Attorney General William French Smith and Edwin Meese III, Counselor to the President.

John Procope, President of the National Newspaper Publisher's Association: Evactly what the Administration of the National Newspaper Publisher's Association:

The backs of the liberal House rsion called the Presides position qualified ar lukewarm. One White buse source says that a leeting with the black leral leaders ended in agriment on the essential eleents of this centerpiece civil rights legislation. Iter, the pu-

blic campan was launched b these very same people the aide ex-plained, to discredit the births that "virginity is not outdated" says actress Debby administrati

and daughter of Pat Boone, says In a meetir with me and 10 other blac journalists, her beliefs are in God, virginity President Ragan hinted as much. "Tere seems to In a recent interview Ms. me and my paition on this. be some cofusion about Boone said that during her en-gagement to Gabri Ferrer she Voting Righ Act is the refrained from giving in to her most sacred ight of free physical desires. "The way we men and ween. It's the crown jewel f our American liberties and we will not see its uster diminished. And fo that reason, planted seeds destructive to the I have approved the idea of life of that marriage." Debby a ten-year exension of the present Votis Rights Act encourages young girls to take a which has priven, I think, its effectivenes and it has been a good jece of legis-lation that di a remark-

able job." In the interst of clarity, it seems that he best thing for those of usat the closed meeting to dos share with our readers ind viewers exactly what re were told by two cabine members:

Exactly what the Administration's decision on the Voting Rights Act? There seemed to be equivocation last Friday with respect to the intent clause and the bail out provision. Civil rights groups feel that that particular position will cripple the Act.

Attorney General Smith: Perhaps I should answer that by relating a little history. You may recall, about three or four months ago, the President asked me to review this whole question of the Civil Rights Act, how it had operated in the past, its history and its successes and failure and so on. And we did that, and we did that in three stages. The first stage was to

review the whole background, the whole history and to consider are where there had been complaints or criticisms and comments or suggestions, and what have you. That was really, I guess you'd say, more of a factual inquiry than anything else.

Now, what the President has done is not confused in any sense. It is only confused because some have seen to make it that way. What the President has done is to accept the uniform and unanimous recommendation of every civil rights group that we talked to. Namely, to support the Act as is without change for ten years. In addition, he has made the bilingual requirement coextensive in terms of time. And that is his position, it is the position that has been started. There is no confusion about it. it is out front, it is simple, and it is ex actly in accordance with the recommendations of every single civil rights organization that we talked to during that enture period. That's his position.

,r. Procope: You're saying he would not support a version of a bill that called for more liberal bail out. provisions?

Attorney General Smith: Well, now, in addition to that - that's his basic position: extend the Civil Rights Act for ten years. Now, he has also said, in addition to that, that he would accept a fair and realistic bail out provision.

Now, bail out provisions are very - they sound simple; they're actually quite complicated. At least they can become quite complicated. But he has said that if Congress sees fit to develop a fair and realistic bail out provision, that he will accept that.

Mr. Meese: Let me say this. We are not interested in changing the criteria for the bail out. We still want -you have to change it somehow from the present law. just because the present law historically doesn't make sense. There have to be some technical changes in it anyway, which I'm sure you understand.

Attorney General Smith: The President's statement See IS THE ... on Page 7

Walk Your Talk



Improved Education Needed

ı believe our children are a gift that we cannot take for granted. We must take responsibility for providing the education and training thay young black people need in order to become the leaders of tomorrow. Our young people deserve individualized attention to help develop their abilities.

The church must take more leadership in the development of our children. Our churches have the human and physical resources to make a positive impact upon young lives within the community. Organizing a tutoring program is one example of what churches can do. We have done that in our community. This program helps supplement the school and home by providing a person that will take a special interest in the child and give assistance with schoolwork. It is also an opportunity to share Biblical truth and help young Christians develop their spiritual life.

Our local churches are going to have to hire full-time Christian education workers who would develop a curriculum for the church Sunday school that would motivate the children and make learning enjoyable. Christian education workers would maintain contact with the local schools and be available to provide personal assistance to the young people.

We must look for ways of improving the quality of education within our black community. I believe we ought to support the local public schools, but at the same time I feel we must establish local schools within our Christian community.

I am not against the public schools, but I am concerned for our children. When I see the educational needs in the black community and see our black teachers losing jobs, I believe it is time to think about how we can establish Christian schools that would educate our kids in the community.

In Fresno, California, I saw an example of what can be done. What I saw there was one of the most creative educational programs that I have ever seen any place. It is a small black Christian school. Each student gets individual attention. They learn individually and also collectively. In a large room with 18 kids, each child had a desk separated by about six feet. When I spoke to the class, the questions the children asked showed a very high level of understanding and creativity.

I asked one of the founders why they started the school. She told me they ha become very concerned about the quality of education in the black community and the lack of leadership in the junior high and high school level within their churches. So began to send their kids to a private Christian school. She began to go over to the school and became involved as a volunteer. She saw the quality of education and the improvements that her child was making.

This woman who was one of the founders said she, and others who joined with her, decided to make the same kind of education available to a broader group of people within her own community. People from her church and community came together to start the school. They were able to rent a building that had formerly been used for a head start program. So in that community they are developing a unique school for black kids.

I am committed to doing what I can to create new Christian alternatives for the education of our black young people.

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than you to be thankful on this Thanksgiving Day. From Capitol Hill

White House Gives Rich Media Preferential Treatment

By Alfreda L. Madison Special To The Post There has been wide spread opinion that the Reagan Administration controls the press. The big television, radio and big white newspapers and magazines make up part of the huge corporations. So they all fall under the same bureaucratic umbrella. The little white press and, of course, the black media operate outside the preferred group.

During the transition period, a reporter for a small white magazine asked President Reagan if he would continue the practice of having the big media reporters on the front rows in press conferences, and his reply was that he would not. However, it seems far, more entrenched now that it was during the previous Administration. Reporters were moved around to different seats during the Carter press conferences. Occasionally, blacks did get on at least the second and third rows.

The press has been moved back into the west wing press room for daily briefings, where metal



Alfreda L Madison

plates are on the seats. Before this, during daily breifings, reporters had no permanent seats, so all had the same chance to get preferred seats. Only black media - Sheridan whose reporter is there daily has a seat, and he is on the row next to the last. I don't go everyday, so I do not have a daily briefing seat. When I spoke to David Prosperi, who makes seating assignments for the White House Press Corp about it, he said they could not give seats to all White House press members and since I do not come daily to the briefings, I could only occupy a seat if someone is absent. I told David that our papers can't get the

advertisements like the big porters were doing. Finalafford to have a person just assigned to the White House, but that the black press is the voice and source of information for black citizens; that my articles appear in 124 papers, and that I dare say influence more people than just about anybody in the White House Corp.

Some of the little White House Press people also complain about the preshown to those who work for more affluent media. Since the people back home feel a close intimacy with their little hometown paper they are more influenced by it than the big media. So the White House seating arrangements may prove to be self defeating.

Since Press Secretary Jim Brady's accident, Larry Speakes, Deputy Press Secretary, has been conducting most of the daily press briefings. He appears to become greatly annoyed by my questions, Generally, he is insulting, sarcastic and sometimes nasty. At a recent briefing, I kept raising my hand and trying to get in a question as the other re-

white papers, that we can't ly, Larry looked at me and said, "Do you want to ask me a question?" I said, "Yes." He then said, "Ask it then." But as soon as I began he cut across me and said, "Wait, let me finish." He replied, "Well, go on and finish." My question was, "Considering the recent unemployment figures which show black unemployment more than twice as high as that of whites. how can the President take ferential treatment being a stand against affirmative action, doesn't the great difference seem to prove that discrimination practices are going on in employment?" Larry's answer was, "When the President's programs causes the economy to rise everybody will benefit." I've been told by Larry before that I come to the briefings with my mind made up. I replied that after research, I do come there with questions in mind that I want answered. After the recent press briefing, those of us who are members of the black press, decided that if anyone of us is insulted, all of us will have to take a stand against those actions. So to avoid what could become a somewhat

explosive situation, letter to White House Chief of Staff James Baker, I registered my complaint.

Surely, the questions about issues, relative to blacks are hard to answer. However, all public officials must be responsive to them. Racial discriminations and injustices can't be glossed over, neither can they be called right. As much I abhor insults, sarcasism and nastiness, I'll let nothing deter me from my duty to my publishers and readers. The cause of justice and equality is much too important for that.

Larry Speakes, who hails from Mississippi and worked on Capitol Hill in Senator Hames Eastlane's office - everyone knows that Eastlane was no friend

to blacks, might find it hard to be confronted with legitimate issues that are peculiar to blacks and then have a black person question him about them. I'm sure he'll change with some help.

Jim Brady was one of the nicest persons one could ever wish to have for a press secretary. White House Deputy Press Se-

cretary, David Gergen, is also very cordial and he treats all reporters with the

same respect. Wachovia To Relocate Its

Arrowood Office Wachovia Bank and trust

Company has applied to the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency for permission to relocate its Arrowood office. The branch will be relocated from 6021 Ar-rowood Blvd. to the 1900 block of Westinghouse Blvd.

"We are very pleased to announce this proposed relocation in Charlotte," said Harold G. Hoak, regional vice president for Wachovia in Charlotte. "We have outgrown our current Arrowood office, and the larger facility at the new location would allow us to better serve our customers in that area."

