

## EDITORIALS & COMMENTS

### A Community Model

In a recent issue of The Charlotte Post (Sept. 9) we commented about a series of workshops and seminars held by the major national black organizations - NAACP, Operation PUSH, Urban League, to name a few - who discussed plans and strategies black Americans need to implement of a self-help nature in order to reduce the economic gap between themselves and white Americans.

More significantly, we suggested that it is long past time for idle rhetoric and a need for concentrated positive action by black consumers and business people if we hope to see the black community--by whatever definition--achieve a higher standard of living and improved quality of life.

A significant step in this direction without the fanfare of the national or even local news media (as sought by the national black organizations) is taking place in Charlotte with positive results. We are referring to the quiet but forceful efforts being made by Nasif Majeed, senior partner in the Burger King restaurant located on Beatties Ford Road and I-85.

A few months ago a young woman attended the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club (Trade Street YWCA) and introduced herself as the community relations specialist liaison officer for the Beatties Ford Road Burger King. In a very proud and dignified manner the young woman noted that her job is to get Burger King intimately involved with the black community and its varied institutions and organizations.

As a progressive thinking businessman Majeed's philosophy calls for putting back into the community some of what he

takes out. He notes that his community involvement concept makes his restaurant part of a fast food chain of businessmen serving the black community.

Mr. Majeed and his partner Lee Andrews are not just talking; they are doing things that show and reflect their community involvement commitment. For example, their Burger King does its banking at Mechanics and Farmers Bank and has hired over half of its 50 employees from the immediate community. In addition, the Beatties Ford Burger King has made substantial contributions to the United Negro College Fund and has contributed also to the West Charlotte High School cheerleaders and Easter Seals.

Civic activities often occur at the restaurant: voter registration--encouragement drives, free blood pressure checks and the registration of classes of CPCC are just a few of the numerous activities going on frequently at this Burger King.

While Mr. Majeed is certainly mindful of his across the street competition--McDonald's, and the pressures of the current economic recession--he is doing and demonstrating what many other blacks just talk about. As consumers we should patronize the Beatties Ford Burger King for tasty food at reasonable prices and to encourage and support the restaurant's community outreach effort. As business people we should assess our resources and develop some form of community outreach program just as Mr. Majeed and his partner have done. We salute the efforts and positive action of Majeed and Andrews. Let's stop talking and start doing something now.

### Perpetuating Bias

In the 1960s a movie entitled "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" was produced by the motion picture industry. Who was coming to dinner was a young black man to meet for the first time the parents of his intended wife, a young white woman and daughter of a liberal judge. The judge and his wife had their supposed liberal beliefs pressed to the acid test with the thought of having a black son-in-law and possibly half-black grandchildren.

However, since the movie appeared to be suggesting a social union still largely opposed by most whites and many black people, the black man in the picture (played by Sidney Poitier), was portrayed as being a superman. He was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate from a major highly prestigious university trained in architecture. He was knowledgeable of the fine arts,

worldly-wise in numerous other areas, handsome, well-dressed and possessing an outstanding personality.

The message this film was offering as entertainment was that if a black man wants to marry a white woman he'd better be a superman--superior in every respect to nearly all white men because in reality white women are not to be had by black men.

Then too for many years we have seen Carrol O'Connor portrayed on television as Archie Bunker, a dumb blue-collar uneducated anti-black and anti-Semitic, beer drinking man who showed little respect for his not-too-bright wife. This television show is an example of what can cause people to develop a bias against Blacks, Jews and white people referred to as blue-collar workers.



Don't Make The Sidewalk A Health Hazard For Children.

### Letters To The Editor:



### Church Has Great Responsibility

Dear Editor:

Understanding Christianity can be quite a difficult task, especially for those who hear about it, but can't understand what it is that they are supposed to gain from it. "It's nice to hear about the golden streets, continuous music, always sunshine, no more sorrows and no more wars, but where does all of that lead to? I guess that it is okay when I am no longer a part of this world - what about now? The indoctrinations of what you can't do (always first) then what you can do, are so prevalent, but in turn you see the very ones telling you don't are doing. And what makes the teachings useless is that sometimes they take the don'ts to the extreme. Thank God for the fact that there are still some people "Christian" or not who consider first then react. But, then there are those who don't. How do we deal with these people? Do we turn from our compassionate, patient, intelligent, peace-loving selves. At this point this is where the "Christianity" or "Christlike" ideology comes into play.

Christ lived and died to show a remarkable love which is to be passed from heart to heart, soul to soul, and from generation to generation. But by observing the world today there is so little love from so many people. Now, the church being an instrument for God's work

has a great responsibility, not only to man but to God as well. Somehow it seems as if we've forgotten. We don't have time to obstruct God's work, reason being we don't have the right. But, we do have the duty to carry the message.

When will the day come

that the church is again a sacred sanctuary of peace, love and brotherhood? That day will come when we all examine our minds, open our hearts and acknowledge the truth.

Sincerely,  
Judy Fountain Dewberry

### Follow The Teachings Of Christ!

Dear Sir:

To my dear brothers and sisters of Gethsemane Baptist Church: If we are to be true Christians, we must open our eyes and wake up. When a church is under the govern and rule of one person it is not a Christian fellowship church. It is a cult group or organization.

If we have been born again we have a great responsibility that we are accountable for. We should

not place this responsibility on someone else. We should not let ourselves become victims of another Jim Jones tragedy. We must follow the teaching of Christ. We must trust God and not man. Christ gave his life to set us free. He paid it all. Now, all to Him we owe. Let us wake up and take our own responsibility.

Ollie Mae Elder, Member  
Gethsemane Baptist

### Speaks Out Against Area Fund

Dear Editor:

As an interested citizen, I am compelled to speak out about the conditions of the Charlotte Area Fund. The Fund has served the citizens of the county for a number of years. However, lately, it seems that the very people the Fund is supposed to be helping are being left out. Some children are not getting a "head start" on developing their educational potentials.

I have always thought that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link. It

seems to me that the Board should be able to identify the weakest link, do something justifiably about it, and move on to serving the citizens who are deserving of the services.

What is the Board waiting for?

Sincerely,  
Anna M. Hood,  
Chairperson, Social Action  
Committee

WALLS MEMORIAL  
Walls Memorial AME  
Zion Church will present its annual Homecoming and Revival services November 7-12.

### From Capitol Hill

## Manipulation Of The White House Press May Backfire

Alfreda L. Madison  
Special To The Post  
Recently newspapers and "talk shows" have been severely criticizing the White House press for news reporting and questions at the President's press conferences. Perhaps the White House reporters are not really to be blamed.

Robert Kaiser, associate editor of the Washington Post related how the White House stages good news. "The fact that the drama is regularly as false as a television opera," said Kaiser. He spoke of how network executives decide whether a President's address is news or politicking. Generally, White House reporters are able to distinguish between the two, but most often, their bosses pay little or no attention to their views, if they run counter to the White House purpose, according to Kaiser. He likened the White House coverage to a television show which has to have a star. So the President plays the star for television and some big newspapers. Kaiser continued, "the entire system of reporting news in

this country is distorted by preoccupation with the White House."

It appears the White House uses the networks and some big newspapers in its attempt to mislead the public into ignoring their economic woes and fears of being completely wiped out by nuclear warfare. The White House is telling them to "stay the course" which led to these conditions. The people are constantly being told that prosperity is just around the corner and that they can only be nationally secure by having enough nuclear weapons to destroy humanity several times.

Although President Reagan denies that he caters to the rich, his White House press does not exemplify that fact. Previous Administrations have allowed all members of the White House press the same opportunity for getting a seat at the daily briefings, and there was always a large crowd or reporters in attendance. Not so, with the Reagan news staff. Only the rich press members have seats and the less affluent press members have to stand.

he is supposed to protect the President from having his actions and motives questioned. Being unable to do that often causes him to lash out at reporters.

I'm the only White House and Congressional reporter representing any Black newspapers all across the country - 131 Black weeks. The white press rarely ever gives any consideration to the concerns of Blacks, so Blacks have to rely on the Black media. Besides covering Congress and the White House, I often have to cover issues relative to Blacks in other places, so I cannot go to the White House everyday. During the Carter Administration my White House visits were more frequent than they are now. There are two reasons for that; one is that there is no seat for me at the briefings and the other is Speakes insults and is full of nastiness whenever I ask a question. He has absolutely no conception of Black concerns and becomes furious when he is faced with questions from Black newspapers. Some White House reporters asked me why did I take Speakes' nastiness. I

told them that I did not want to cause confusion before the other press members.

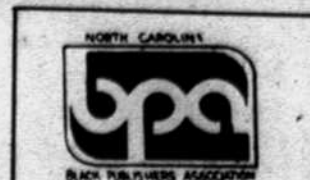
Recently, I felt that I had enough of Speakes' nastiness. My question, "Larry, when the President went to Richmond, The Washington Post said he gave some money to Hampton Institute and at the same time he said Tribble would continue the Byrd tradition. If he gave the money, on that trip, hoping to influence Black votes there seemed a conflict when he spoke of continuing the Byrd tradition because Blacks consider the Byrd tradition as highly racist, so who advises the President on Black issues?" Speakes flew into a rage, "You come down here once a month insulting the President and questioning his motives. Why don't you get your facts right. The President was talking about the Byrd fiscal policy. You come here with your prejudicial views. I'm going to protect this President." I insisted that the Post said nothing about fiscal. He continued to say that it did. Of course Larry was totally wrong about the Post story.

This was before the entire press. The argument got progressively worse for a few minutes. Speakes said, "I get along with the other Black reporters, but you are the only one I can't get along with." There are only two regular Black reporters at the White House - one works for a white paper, the other works for a Black radio station. Perhaps Speakes has a line that Black reporters have to walk, and I get out of that line. A CBS reporter told me to continue to come to the White House and ask questions.

Changes are greatly needed in the entire White House communication system, and I firmly believe White House reporters are not going to continue to take public criticisms about their questions and their allowing the White House to get away with truth distortions and camouflages.



Alfreda L. Madison



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