

editorials & comments

The Primary With No Surprises!

In one of the most spirited primary elections in many years in North Carolina, a predicted voter turn-out in Mecklenburg County of 54 percent slipped to a still respectable 38 percent undoubtedly as a result of heavy rain throughout election day. No doubt, too, the biggest surprise of the day was in the initial election tabulation that had former Charlotte mayor Eddie Knox in third place trailing

face Republican winner Alex McMillan who received 56 percent of the Republican primary vote.

In the Mecklenburg County Commission Democratic primary, incumbents Fountain Odom and Bob Walton led the ticket with newcomers Raleigh Bynum, Randy Kincaid and Edward Heasley. They will face a slate of unknown Republicans in the November general election.

Five School Board incumbents - Bennett, McKeithen, Winter, Austin and Stevenson - all won out-right re-election. Finally, the referendums for County-wide district representation and City Office bonds won by large vote majorities.

The logical question that follows is what does it all mean, what impact will these primary elections have on the life and welfare of citizens concerned with inflation, child abuse, the dangers of nuclear war, taxes, declining morality and the high cost of living?

In a word, these elections probably mean very little. However, the direction these public officeholders take, assuming on when and if elected, based on some circumstance totally beyond their control, may have some impact on the quality of life that we and our children and even grandchildren will experience over the next 40 to 50 years.

In fact, it is not so much in what elected officials say in their campaigns to get votes, rather what is in their sense of moral commitment, integrity, character and commitment to principles and honesty. It is primarily in these intangibles that the real worth of an elected official is found. Yet these are qualities that are not visibly seen or reflected in political campaigns or in the voting booth.

announced that all Chinese citizens must now carry a permanent identification card which must be provided upon demand by any police officer or other government official.

Such a lack of freedom for any nation of people should be a clear reminder to us to exercise our right to vote in free elections to further insure our freedoms. China's "1984" is real and it can happen here if we don't assume a sense of responsibility as voting active citizens.

Jimmy Green by nearly 100,000 votes in the Democratic primary for the governor's race. A mechanical error in the Raleigh voter tabulation machine, therefore, sent short lived shock waves throughout much of North Carolina and the Knox headquarters for nearly an hour. Of course, Mr. Knox finished a strong second with 27 percent of the votes (229,737) behind Rufus Edmisten with 31 percent of the vote (263,588) out of a crowded field of 10 Democratic candidates.

Significant in the statewide primary, too, was the impact of presidential candidate Jesse Jackson who finished third in the balloting with an impressive 216,169 votes or 25 percent of the votes cast. Interestingly too Jackson not only caused a large black voter turnout, but he apparently received some votes from white people which may not have been expected. As expected, Walter Mondale won the N.C. Democratic presidential primary with 36 percent of the vote followed by Gary Hart with 31 percent and Jackson's 25 percent.

In the 9th District congressional Democratic race, former Mecklenburg County Commissioner Susan Green got 27,968 votes or 39 percent to lead D. G. Martin with 24,076 votes or 34 percent. Following the June 5 run-off primary one of them will

Orwell's "1984" Is Here!

It is ironic that as we experience this week's free Democratic election, George Orwell's novel, "1984," depicting total dictatorship should be further confirmed in China with its 600 million population. Already in that controlled society, citizens must get government permission to marry, change jobs, change their place of residence, move to another city, and citizens are trained and oriented to spy on each other for the government. Furthermore, this week it was

"IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PROTECT US AND THE POLICE CANNOT, IT FOLLOWS THAT BLACK CITIZENS MUST PROTECT THEMSELVES."

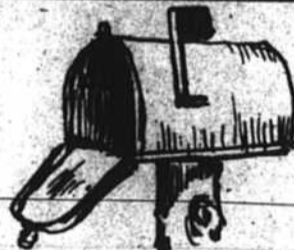
"WE CANNOT WAIT UNTIL DISCRIMINATION ENDS BEFORE WE RID OUR COMMUNITIES OF CRIME. WE CAN NO LONGER EXCUSE CRIME BECAUSE OF SOCIETY'S INEQUITIES, WE STAND MENACED BY OUR OWN KITH AND KIN. IT IS INCONCEIVABLE TO ME THAT WE WHO HAVE PREVAILED IN SPITE OF THE BARBARISM OF WHITE PEOPLE SHOULD IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE CENTURY, STAND AS MUTE SPECTATORS TO OUR DOOM."

ORDE COOMBS
N.Y. MAGAZINE



BLACK'S DESTINY IN OWN HANDS.....

Letters To The Editor:



Where Does Black On Black Crime Stop?

letter to the editor

Dear Sir:
On any given day I can pick up the newspaper or watch a newscast on TV and see where a Black has been raped, wounded or murdered by another Black person. The Rape Crises Victim Assistance Center in Charlotte has noted that approximately 70 per cent of rape victims are Black women, and in most cases the rapist is Black.

Over the Easter weekend, two Blacks were killed near the Rozzells Ferry Road area, in separate incidents. One of those victims was the brother of one of my dearest friends. It was at that point that I began to take a very hard look at the amount of BLACK ON BLACK CRIME, not only in this city but throughout the U.S. Please tell me, my Black brothers and sisters, what kind of hatred is it that makes it so easy for us to rob and kill and abuse each other, time and time again?

I am a Charlottean. I lived in the Dilworth area during the 1960s and in Brooklyn and First Ward

during the 1970s. These were not neighborhoods that offered a great deal of hope for Blacks, but we strove every day to rise above the "high poverty" level. I've heard so many times that it is our economical situation that causes some of this crime. I can't accept that excuse. I've heard that the summer here makes tempers boil. Most of us grew up not knowing what air conditioning was, but never felt the desire to pick up a gun or knife to kill another person. So I can't buy that either.

Do some of us, for some bizarre reason, hate ourselves, our race? Think back to our mothers and fathers, our grandparents, our great grandparents, and back to the cotton fields. They had something to be angry about—the injustice that they encountered at every turn of every corner. The old people whom you young robbers consider "easy prey" are the same people who made it possible for you to sit down and eat at the restaurant of your choice, to sit at the front of the bus, to vote, and to have

doors open to you that were forever shut in their faces. We destroy our neighborhoods, we destroy our property, and most of all, we destroy each other every day. And we say we do it because we are angry. Who are we angry at?

BLACK ON BLACK CRIME has to stop. But it can only be stopped by us. The attitude we have that "if it doesn't concern me personally, then it's not my worry" is unworthy and unworkable. If it's in your community, how does it not concern you? You could be the next victim!

What makes more sense to stand and watch a person be killed or to call the police when the ruckus starts? The life you save may be your family's or your own.

It makes me sick to think how many Black people have been victimized, injured and killed in Charlotte, and no one has seen a thing. My Black brothers and sisters, it is time we started thinking about more than "numero uno" (Number 1).

Ms. Wialillian Howard
Charlotte

THE CHARLOTTE POST

"THE PEOPLE'S NEWSPAPER"
Established 1918
Published Every Thursday
by The Charlotte Post Publishing Co., Inc.
Subscription Rate \$17.68 Per Year

Second Class Postage No. 965500
Postmaster Send 3579s to:
1531 Camden Rd., Charlotte, N.C. 28203
Telephone: 704-376-0496
Circulation: 11,023

106 Years of Continuous Service

Bill Johnson Editor, Publisher
Bernard Reeves General Manager
Fran Farrar Advertising Director
Dannette Gailher Office Manager

Second Class Postage No. 965500 Paid at
Charlotte, North Carolina
Under the Act of March 3, 1878

Member, National Newspaper
Publishers' Association

North Carolina Black Publishers Association

Deadline for all news copy and photos is
5 p.m., Monday. All photos and copy
submitted become the property of The Post
and will not be returned.

National Advertising Representative
Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.

2400 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, Ill. 60616
45 W. 45th St., Suite 1493
New York, New York 10036
Columet 5-0200 212-489-1220

From Capitol Hill

Don't Blame Nation's Failure On Blacks

Alfreda L. Madison
Special To The Post

Blame it on the Blacks, seems to be the great resounding cry as the campaign progresses. Almost, daily, the papers are crying for Jesse Jackson's scalp, for not disassociating himself from Rev. Farrakhan and his around 15,000 voters' support. Jesse has condemned the alleged violent threats made against Milton Coleman by Rev. Farrakhan and all reference to Farrakhan's alleged call for violence against Jews. Jackson asked the Reverend and Coleman to meet in an effort to solve the controversy. According to Rev. Farrakhan, he heeded Jackson's advice. Farrakhan said his statements concerning Coleman and the alleged anti-Semitic comments were taken out of context.

A recent press release from the Anti-Defamation League said, "The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, today, rejected an offer by Black Muslim Leader Louis Farrakhan that they hold a meeting because his continued threats and public utterances have created an atmosphere far more conducive to fear and divisiveness than rational discourse."

No one can endorse Rev. Farrakhan's alleged



Alfreda L. Madison

threats of violence. Yet, when he has asked to meet with the aggrieved parties, and received denials from them, the parties are, equally, wrong. Everyone has made mistakes, and according to the Bible, has sinned. Yet, God has cast no one out who has come to Him. So if Coleman and the Jews do not meet with Rev. Farrakhan, and at least, hear what he has to say, they are exacerbating an issue that perhaps could be easily and amicably resolved.

The Reagan Administration, which has used every possible effort to reverse Blacks' gains uses the Farrakhan issue as an introduction of racism into the Presidential race. Racism arose when Jackson first hinted that he might run for President. The media kept his being Black before the public. Any time a Black person

strongly espouses truth, justice and right or steps out of the traditional path whites have carved out for them, racism flairs its ugly head. Martin Luther King was a prime case all through his life and even in death of the label of a racist.

The Ku Klux Klan announced that it will support President Reagan. Bill Wilkinson, Imperial Klan wizard, told a number of reporters, in 1981, that President Reagan stands for the Klan's ideas. Yet no one is asking the President to deny the Klan voter support, although some of his ideas and the Klan's are similar.

Some reporters have said, if Jackson doesn't get what he wants at the convention, many Blacks will refuse to vote and Reagan will be reelected, some whites will jump ship and vote Republican. Bush blames Democrats for anti-Semitism; Jackson gives rise to white backlash. Farrakhan is no issue. His was only an unwise statement by one man, who is now seeking to rectify it. For all of these alleged adverse effects on whites, don't blame the Blacks. Blame the whites for their deep veiled racism which blots out rationale, and impedes progress for really making this "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and

justice for all."

Rev. Jackson, like Martin Luther King, has come out with a policy different from that of any other

Presidential candidate. His policy like King's, which jolted the entire world into concentrating on ideas of solving problems through compassion for all humanity, expressing love and a strong stand for the realization of those factors. Certainly, not all of those goals have been accomplished, but even in the midst of the insane war hysteria, there is a growing anti-war, anti-oppressive leadership throughout the universe. The world has not been the same since King arrived on the scene. This nation and the world will continue in that same vein with Jackson's policies. They are bringing the American left-outs, overlooked, and ignored into the main stream of American life, and they are echoed around the world. The whites who have been beneficiaries of those unfairnesses feel their old order threatened, and they are blaming the Blacks, instead of considering their own wrong doings.

Jesse Jackson has put to rest the media's prediction, that he might run as an independent, which will cause many Black voters to follow him and Reagan will be reelected.

Reflections On Well Spent Life Depends On You

By Bossie Simmons
Special To The Post

Raleigh - Past Grandmaster Bossie Benjamin Simmons, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, headquarters in Richmond, recently told a capacity crowd of some 200 people or more in this capital city, that the Reflections on a Well Spent Life in this Day and Time will depend mostly on you.

He went on to tell his attentive audience that the fate and hope of our civilized world tomorrow may very well depend on what we do here today and how we shoulder our responsibilities, for the sun of each life is rising and we stand on tiptoe to see our life emerges over the distant hills.

In his talk to the group, Simmons went on to name several ways by which the Reflections on your life will shine in the mirror of our soul and he admonished his listening audience to speak the truth, always, as you know the truth, for truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of all good virtues.

He closed his 25-minute address by asking everyone facing him in the large audience to walk humbly before God and man, be fair in all dealings with mankind, and live a dedicated and satisfied life that will reflect outstanding service to and for all of mankind.

"If you do this," he concluded, "your life and those lives all around you, will offer nothing but good reflections in the mirror of life, always and through time eternal."

Simmons, who is a member of Shiloh Lodge No. 33, Prince Hall Masons in the 12th Masonic District of the MWPGL of Virginia, was the keynote speaker at the first annual testimonial banquet and honor program, sponsored by Golden Star Lodge No. 150, co-sponsored by Golden Scepter Chapter No. 122, Order of Eastern Star, PH affiliation, held at the FEW Entertainment Center, Raleigh, North Carolina. Master of Ceremony for this historical event was William Harris, worshipful master of the local Prince Hall masonic lodge, from Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina. Pastmaster (Brother) James Williams of Raleigh, is the District Deputy for the PH masonic area in which the lodge is located.

Appearing on program during the evening to bring words of fraternal greetings,

bring words of fraternal greetings, give salutations and make remarks were DDGM James Williams, District Deputy (Sister) Mary Greene, Worshipful Master William Harris, Worthy Matron (Sister) Odell Thorpe, Worthy Patron (Rev.) Harold Trice, Senior Warden (Dr.) Frank Reade, and soloists Leroy Farrar and Miss Amanda Greene.

Several PH masons and Order of Eastern Star members were honored at the program for outstanding performance of duty and services rendered to their community and the fraternal order over the past several years. This distinguished group of PH masonic dignitaries were Pastmasters Claude Thorpe, Rev. Harold Trice, Claudie Winston, and Brothers William Burton and Reuben McNeill.

In the Order of Eastern Star chapter the ladies honored included Goldie Burt, Tearusell Henley, Olivia Reade, Lois Reid, Exola A. Speed, Edith Stephen, and Odell Thorpe.

Also cited during the day and night were Brothers James Blue, Marshall McKoy, and two deceased brothers in absentia, Brothers Algernon Burton and Ira Burton, a father and son team.

Order of Eastern Star members receiving special recognition were Mary Adams, Mary Blue, Louise Ceasor, Nevada Griffin, Dala Rogers and Leora Womble.

A delicious three-course dinner meal was served. At the end of the meal and the testimonial program, several cash prizes were awarded to several lucky winners of door prizes. Order of Eastern Star members participated in a grand march around the ballroom floor, a well planned fashion show, featuring female models and several male models, paraded around the dance floor, with the crowd on hand tripping a light fantastic toes and having a good time dancing to the music furnished by the Power Steering band, a six-piece dance orchestra under the leadership of Junnie W. Taylor from Angier, North Carolina.

This musical aggregation has been furnishing music to dance by for the past 14 years. Worshipful Master William Harris formerly served as a member of this outstanding musical group, having played up and down the Eastern Seaboard, from Maine to New Orleans, Louisiana.

In addition to those already named, other persons who participated during the evening were Pastmaster (Rev.) Norman Davis, Worshipful Master Jesse J. Fowler, Worthy Matron Louise M. Fowler, Worshipful Master William H. Harris, Secretary Charlie N. Brown, Senior Deacon Marshall O. McKoy, Jr., and Brothers Jesse J. Fowler, James G. Hall, Garnell Heggie, Keven Jackson, Marshall O. McKoy, Jr., Willie Monds, Wade H. Parham, Jr., Sidney A. Russell and Johnnie W. Taylor.