

# Politically Astute People Seek Some Logical Answers

By Karen Parker  
Post Staff Writer

If you think the nation will be at a political standstill until the general election in early fall, think again!

June through November 6, 1984 will produce some politically astute people; those who you never dreamed held any savvy about world affairs, health, housing, and national deficit will be questioning their local and national leaders and, of course, expecting some logical and effective answers.

What are the forces behind the soul-stirring that's already revving up, particularly right here in the Tarheel state? First, it's organizations like SCLC, NAACP, Voter Task Forces and various political caucuses. These leaders and members are looked upon as the connecting arm between politicians and their constituents.

SCLC honchos like president Dr. Joseph Lowery and Rev. Albert Love have been across the country and they've heard the testimonies. "It's a disgrace that our elderly people, the backbones of our nation have to decide whether to spend their few dollars on medicine or on food," Dr. Lowery stated in his visit to Charlotte last week.

You could hear, "that is a disgrace" replayed by Dr. Lowery's audience. But when he emphasized that information was from a testimony given in Charlotte, the sympathetic agreements shifted more to angry tones of "what can we do about it?"

Being one of the political connecting arms, the SCLC had already decided last year at its national convention what to do. The organization is staging its August, 1984, convention in Charlotte.

"The timing is right," Rev. Love told a steering committee last week. "The national convention will be over, and the candidates will be selected. Wounds will be open." However, Rev. Love stressed after the final results are revealed in San Francisco, it'll be time to reunite. No battles should still be going on in the separate Jack-



Rev. Reginald Hawkins informs the participants in the convention planning session of arrangements that have been made. Radisson Plaza Hotel will be the convention headquarters for the SCLC annual convention August 15-18. Left to right are Rev. James Palmer and Rev. Albert Love.

son, Hart, Mondale camps. "Instead," he stated, "Democrats will have one goal. We have to get rid of Ronald Reagan," he commented.

## THE CONVENTION

The convention has been set for August 15-18. The theme is "Turning To Each Other To Turn The Nation To Jobs, Peace & Freedom."

Dr. Paul Beck, director of aging at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in Chapel Hill, cautions older citizens not to physically extend themselves beyond the endurance of their heart and lungs.

"It's important to start out slowly when exercising or working outdoors," he emphasized. "Take it easy at first by walking, or if gardening, working only a small plot of land." Gardens, as well as

Rev. James Palmer, pastor of University Park Baptist Church and president of the local SCLC chapter, guarantees, "this convention will be the best in the 27-year history of SCLC."

If everything goes as planned—it may very well be a highly successful event. A massive voter registration drive is al-

## Weather Tips For Older Adults

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This is an enjoyable and exciting time of year. North Carolinians of all ages become more physically active and enjoy taking part in our state's abundant outdoor life. However, it's important for older adults to use common sense and take special precautions during spring and summer.

Dr. Beck advises older adults with allergies or sensitivity to pollen to stay indoors when pollen is heavy. In addition, older people should check with their doctor before taking any drugs to relieve itchy eyes and runny noses. A person already taking medication could have an adverse reaction to mixing different drugs.

Another potential hazard during the spring and summer is tetanus, or lockjaw. Outdoor activities such as yard work or gardening could cause a cut, puncture wound, or thorn prick which could result in tetanus. Once the tetanus germ enters the body it

ready in the making. Several seminars have been planned that will address issues like the significance of women (especially in an election year), the KKK, and world peace.

SCLC will also publicize its report about the crisis in health care. The SCLC-Women will address the topic, "The Black Family" at its annual luncheon. To

causes the muscles to go into spasms and then lock unless the person has been properly immunized.

Dr. J. N. MacCormack, chief of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources' Epidemiology Section, advises all North Carolinians, and especially those over the age of 50, to keep up with their required tetanus shots. There were five cases of tetanus reported in North Carolina in 1983, and all people stricken were over the age of 50. The treatment for tetanus is lengthy and may be easily obtained from the family doctor or local health department.

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culminate the affair, SCLC has arranged for labor organizations to come together for a solidarity march. Those are only the highlights. There's still cultural night and other activities on the agenda.

The convention will be an action-packed four days, that will probably pass swiftly. But the meaning of the convention won't pass as quickly for most people. It will be on their consciences as they prepare for the presidential election.

"The convention, march, and voter registration drive are all significant," Dr. Lowery professed. He warned not only should North Carolinians consider carefully who they want for President, but should ponder about electing a U.S. senator as well.

Dr. Lowery described Sen. Jesse Helms as one who has "more control than any person in the country over right-wing money."

"I want you to know 1984 is a super-critical year," Dr. Lowery continued. The way you vote will affect the future of our nation for a long time. "Did you know one-half of the Supreme Court will be appointed in 1984?" he posed.

Certainly, everyone may not agree with every move made by the SCLC. However, the organization has proven it supports and works to protect the racially oppressed. The SCLC National Convention with its more than 1,500 delegates nationwide are staging a visit to Charlotte that will make history.



Pictured above are members of the steering committee for the SCLC annual convention. Along with many black leaders of Charlotte, are leaders from other cities across the state.



Rev. James Palmer, (center) president of the Charlotte chapter SCLC, urges the convention steering committee and other volunteers to make the Charlotte convention the best one the SCLC has had in 27 years. On the left is Rev. Reginald Hawkins; on the right, Rev. Albert Love.

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