

# THE BETTER WE KNOW US ...

TAX REFORM: The Battleground of the Movement of the Seventies by The Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy [D., D.C.]

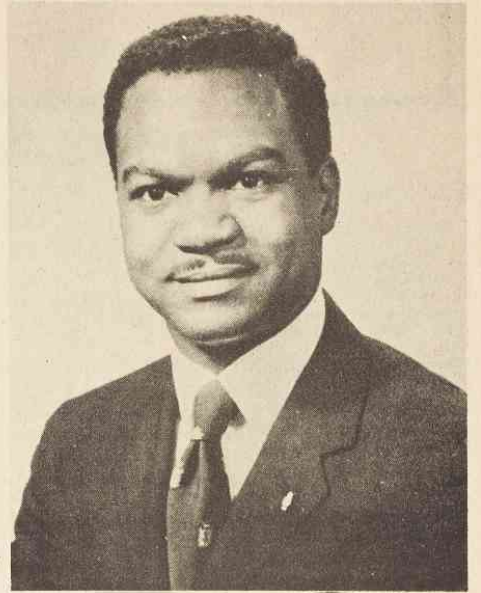
"THE BETTER WE KNOW US" is proud to publish the speech given by the Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy of Washington, D.C., in Salisbury, N.C. on Friday, December 5, 1975.

Congressman Fauntroy, formerly a top aide to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the guest speaker for a banquet held by the Association of Progressive Black Democrats of North Carolina's 8th

Congressional District. Listed among many of the congressman's accomplishments and responsibilities, he is a full-time minister and was appointed by Dr. King as a coordinator of

the "March on Washington" and also the "March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama".

This speech will be published in its entirety in a three-part series.



people. That amounts to a public welfare check to those millionaires of \$14,000 a day on every million they earn.

To see how such loopholes in the tax system can build up to an aggregate loss of \$77 billion a year in lost tax revenue, let us look at a few U.S. Treasury Department documented cases to see how, first, rich individuals and then, major corporations get by with paying nothing in taxes. There's the oil man who made \$1,313,811 a year but paid nothing in taxes last year because he combined

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## TAX LOOPHOLES:

**A Barrier to Socio-Economic Solutions**  
Until we close those loopholes, we will not be able to solve the nagging problems of unemployment, inadequate housing, poor schools and a host of other ills that plague the American people. Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr. used to say that the human rights programs that we must launch to fulfill the rights of black and poor Americans, unlike the civil rights programs of the sixties, will require money to implement, lots of money. How right he was! It will take money to put our five million unemployed to work, about 10 billion dollars a year according to studies done for the Brookings Institution. It will take money to house America's low and moderate income families, \$2 billion of more than we are now spending on housing subsidy by a modest estimate of the National Urban Coalition in its **Counterbudget**.

It will take money to provide quality education to all of the 50 million children in our elementary and secondary schools, \$3 billion more from the federal treasury than we are now spending according to

the National Urban Coalition in its blue-print for changing national priorities. It will take money to provide all of our young people access to higher education, \$3 billion more than we are now spending according to the American Council on Education. It will take money to provide America with a comprehensive national health insurance system, train the necessary health manpower and conduct much needed disease research, \$10 to \$15 billion more than we are spending today according to Dr. Alice M. Rivlin, Economist and co-author of the book "Setting National Priorities," published yearly by the Brookings Institution.

The average American tax-payer, particularly the middle class & the poor, already carries far more than his share of the cost of running our country. It is little wonder then that he is not willing to have his taxes raised in order to fund these desperately needed social programs. If the money to attack the basic problems of this country that are reflected so acutely in the black experience is ever to be raised, it must come through extensive tax reform. That tax reform will not come

about until the unmonied many, black and white together, are awakened to the fact that we are being fleeced by the wealthy few and unite as we did 100 years ago to march on ballot boxes and drive the monied special interests from the command posts of power.

Phillip M. Stern in a revealing book, **The Rape of the Taxpayer**, has pungently illustrated what Pechman and Okner carefully documented: that rich individuals and multi-national corporations are given an enormous free ride in this country, a welfare check that adds up to \$77 billion a year. Let me give you an example. A 1969 tax study by the U.S. Treasury Department reports that Ralph Senters, a typical laborer in this country making \$7,371.00 a year, must pay \$1,131.00 of it or 16% of his income in federal income taxes. This, while an oil rich millionaire who earns \$1.3 million dollars a year can get away with paying nothing in federal taxes.

Until we change such a system, we will never be able to develop the federal resources to attack the basic problems confronting us in this nation that just happen to be reflected most acutely in the

black experience. Let's take a closer look at this system which has the bourbon interests of our day laughing all the way to the bank.

The 16th Amendment to the Constitution back in 1913 authorized the first U.S. income tax and empowered Congress to tax "incomes from whatever source derive." The monied special interests of our day laugh all the way to the bank because they have been successful in getting Congress to develop an Internal Revenue Code which exempts certain kinds of income from taxation. If you earn your income from the sweat of your brow like Ralph Senters and virtually all voters in America, you are taxed on that income. But if you earn your money in oil, real estate ventures, the stock market or interest on state and local bonds, substantial portions of your income are exempt from taxes.

The result is that over 3,000 millionaires in this country last year with earnings of more than one million dollars were told that they didn't have to pay \$720,000 to Uncle Sam that they would have had to pay if their income were taxed like that of 99% of the American



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## Notes & Reminders

**HIGH POINT** - The Sounds of Christmas are coming to the Washington Street Branch Library, every day after school, Dec. 15 through Dec. 19.

At 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday all week, school-age children can take part in a variety of Christmas activities, lasting about an hour.

The Sounds of Christmas will include seeing Christmas films and filmstrips, listening to music of the season on records, hearing holiday stories and singing Christmas carols. The children will also have the opportunity to do creative construction by making Christmas cards.

A decorated Christmas tree and holiday books and records will be on display.

The Washington Street Branch of the High Point Public Library is located at the corner of Fourth and Washington Streets.

For full information on library Christmas programs, interested persons should call the Washington Street Branch, 886-4015.

**HIGH POINT** - The breaking of the "pinata", a traditional part of Christmas festivities in Spanish-speaking countries, will be the highlight of three separate holiday parties for children this week at the High Point Public Library.

The annual preschoolers' celebration, will be held on Thursday from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Parties for older children will be held Saturday. First, second and third graders are to attend a morning party at 10:30 a.m. Fourth, fifth and sixth graders will

celebrate at 2:30 p.m. The programs will last about 45 minutes.

**HIGH POINT** - The High Point Jaycees, the High Point Chapter of the American Red Cross, and WGHP-TV will sponsor a blood drive on December 19, 1975. The blood drive will be held at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church on the corner of Chestnut Street and Westchester Drive from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. the goal of the blood drive is to collect 700 pints of life. Coming throughout the day to give blood and greet others who are there to donate will be Miss Sharon Maness, the North Carolina Junior Miss; Miss Libby Garten, the High Point Junior Miss; and Betty Bambalis, Miss High Point. Also arriving throughout the day will be television personalities from Channel 8.

Christmas and New Years is a holiday season when the Red Cross gets calls for considerable amounts of life-giving fluid. So, this Christmas, give the gift of life. Come to the Jaycee Blood Drive, Friday, December 19, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. Nursery service will be provided.

**HIGH POINT** - YWCA (Fourth Street) Wednesday thru Friday: 8 a.m.--Adult Day Care...3 p.m.--After School Care. (Wed., Dec. 17) 7 p.m.--Open Recreation. (Thurs., Dec. 18) 11 a.m.--Golden Agers...4:30 p.m. Piano Lessons.

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# THE TRIBUNAL AID

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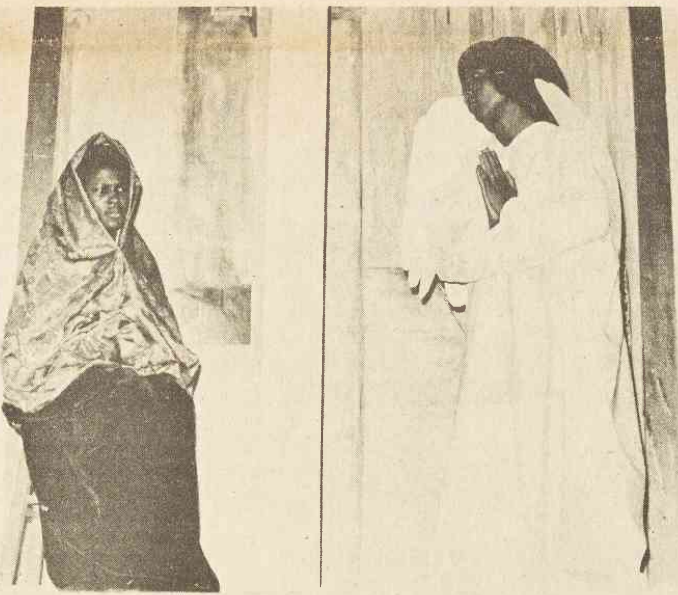
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## BENNETT COLLEGE PRESENTS LIVING MADONNAS



Among the "Living Madonnas" scenes was "The Annunciation." Bennett students participating were Marva Vaughn, Charleston, S.C. as the Madonna and Sierra Joyce, Washington, D.C., as the angel.

## Classic To Be Exciting, Informative

**GREENSBORO, N.C.** - assembled a competitive tournament with representatives from the top conferences. I feel that this cross section of competition will make for an exciting tournament and will give the country an early look at possibly the best black college team.

The field will include Jackson State of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, Elizabeth City State of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, North Carolina Central of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Association, and North Carolina A&T of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

"Last year I was certainly disappointed that not one predominately black college team was chosen to compete in any of the major post-season tournaments," said J.D. Haynes, chairman of the Classic committee. "We feel that we have

and excellent shooters.

"North Carolina A&T, winner of the MEAC championship last year, is tough again. A&T is coached by Warren Reynolds, who was named as the MEAC's top coach in 1975.

With the NCAA expanding its number of teams for post-season play and the NIT publicly announcing that at least one black team would be included in its tournament, Haynes feels the Aggie Holiday Classic would be an excellent opportunity for tournament representatives to evaluate the talent and the caliber of play displayed by the participating schools.

"Jackson State, coached by Paul Covington, is an exceptional basketball team," Haynes said. "They have height, speed,

**GREENSBORO** - After 33 years of producing "The Living Madonnas," Bennett College's faculty and students were faced with the task of creating original themes and scenes to depict the traditional Christmas scene this year.

"There's always the chance of repeating scenes from past productions," said Mrs. Alma Adams, assistant professor of Art.

"It means hours of research in several libraries and browsing in dusty magazines for copies of the Madonna and Child. This year we gave two senior art students a theme and told them to get busy."

The creative work of Greensboro residents Michelle Crosby and Mich-

elle Grandison were presented on December 7 in Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel.

Given the theme "Living Madonnas, Constancy and Change", both Michelles developed a multi-cultural presentation which depicted scenes from Spanish, Tahitian, African, Eskimo; American Indian and Indian cultures. They designed six of the scenes and authentic costumes. Assisting them was William McMillan, chairman of the Department of Art at Guilford College.

The joint-effort of the music, art, drama, clothing, and maintenance departments was an hour-long production done in total darkness, except for

the appropriately lit 8' x 10' picture frame.

Background was established by off-stage narration with organ and choral music. Guest organist was Clarence Whiteman, of the music faculty of Virginia State College.

"The multi-cultural dimension of this production was the element of change in our theme," explained Mrs. Adams. "It was counterbalanced with a pervasive madonna image of the Renaissance Period, "The Annunciation" by Fra Angelico."

Among the student models participating in the "Living Madonnas" were foreign students from Africa, Sri-Lanka and India.

## A Gift Of Woods

**GASTONIA**-Mrs. Janet Woods sincerely believes that a person should do "what you can, when you can, with what you have." And to prove it, she's remodeling a house in her backyard for the sole purpose of attending to, feeding, and even clothing children-free of charge--on Sundays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. This unique,

child-care service began Sunday, December 14th and the only criteria for Mrs. Woods acceptance of a child is that he or she be between the ages of 3 to 13 and that they be delivered and picked up.

Mrs. Woods states "that any child is welcome...but especially those children with no church or do not go to church."



## Tax Packages On The Way

**GREENSBORO, N.C.** - The Internal Revenue Service will mail out 2.2 million 1975 tax packages to North Carolina residents next week as part of a nationwide mailing of over 81 million packages, Robert A. LeBaube, IRS District Director for North Carolina said today.

Of the total packages to be sent out nationwide, LeBaube pointed out, 43 million will be of the 1040 type and 38 million the short form 1040A variety.

He explained that the number of taxpayers being sent the 1040A package includes 16 million who received the 1040 package last year. The reason for the change, the IRS District Director said, is that IRS records show the taxpayer could have used the short form 1040A, based on his or her particular financial situation.

Both the 1040 and 1040A tax packages contain forms, instructions, and additional tax information such as a

listing of local IRS toll-free telephone assistance numbers. North Carolina taxpayers can call 1-800-822-8800, if the instructions do not answer their tax questions. Each tax package also contains an order blank which taxpayers can use to obtain additional tax publications and forms.

LeBaube said that 1975 forms reflect changes primarily due to changes in tax law. The form changes reflect a special housing

The "Little Gold Temple Mission" proves, as Mrs. Woods so eloquently states, "Love that doesn't understand the language of sacrifice is not Love. Those who give most are least concerned about returns."

Anyone wishing to accept Mrs. Woods' "gift" to the Gastonia community may do so, any Sunday, at either of the following addresses: 1104 S. Miller Avenue (Tel.: 865-9316) or 2140 W. 5th Avenue (Tele: 867-2959).

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