

# THE BETTER WE KNOW US ...

STATESVILLE--After retiring from 44 years of teaching school, Mrs. Jettie Davidson Morrison, of Statesville continued her drive in aiding her fellowman. Retirement really meant a change of direction, for now church and community work are here priorities.

She began teaching in 1926 at Piney Grove School in Harmony, N.C., prior to her 18th birthday. From there, Mrs. Morrison taught in various other schools throughout Iredell County while spending 15 years as supervisor to the then Negro schools in the county system.

Mrs. Morrison, in reflecting upon her years of teaching school when asked about the changes in the field of education, slowly and carefully answered, "Seeing so many phases of

teaching, I believe that the concept of team teaching is the biggest change. I like it. Also special education has been a big asset to education."

When Mrs. Morrison retired in 1970, her eighth grade class of Troutman Junior High School, along with school officials and fellow teachers surprised her with a farewell party. At the time Tom Poston, Iredell County School superintendent, presented an inscribed silver reverer bowl to her honor for "many years of concerned dedication" to the students of Iredell County. Receiving the bowl, Mrs. Morrison tearfully exclaimed, "This is just too much."

Now that time permits, Mrs. Morrison spends her time, when not knitting, working in her church and community.

She is a member of Scotts Chapel United Methodist Church. She has served as conference president of the Woman's Society of Christian Service for the North Carolina-Virginia Conference of the Central Jurisdiction. Also since the merger of the Black and white churches, she has served on the Western North Carolina Conference, working with the Ecumenical Committee. Locally, she is coordinator of children's ministry.

Mrs. Morrison is one of those persons whom one naturally thinks of when one thinks of the North Carolina-Virginia Conference. She has completely represented her conference as Secretary of Children's Work and as Vice-President. To these offices she gave the same kind of interest, devotion, service and

time that she has given to all of her endeavors.

Mrs. Morrison has traveled across the country in the interest of the Woman's Society. She has accepted the invitation and answered the call of the Society on every level, from the local to the division, to appear in various places and areas and to give of her services.

Mrs. Morrison, who presently resides at 204 E. Turner Street, Statesville, is the widow of the late Charles Morrison, village blacksmith at Stony Point for 50 years.

Be continuously active and concerned, Mrs. Jettie Davidson Morrison, is most worthy of knowing, for the better we know her, THE BETTER WE KNOW US.



# THE TRIBUNAL AID

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The 1976 Editions of THE TRIBUNAL AID will be dedicated to America's bicentennial Celebration, with emphasis on contributions our Race has made in the making of America, from birth to the present.

In 1976 there should not be a need to lift these contributions from isolated sources. Our

past should be interwoven into the fabric of our civilization, because we are, except for the Indian, America's oldest ethnic minority.

We have helped make America what it was, and what it is, since the founding of Virginia. We have been a factor in many major issues in our history. There have been many misdeeds

Fay Ashe, Black History Editor

against us, yet we have been able to live through them and fight back. This is living proof of our history.

Our role in the making of America is neither well known or correctly known. Many positive contributions have escaped historians and have not found their way into the pages of

many history books.

We will strive to give readers, Black and white, many little-known facts about our past and it is hoped that a proper perspective of our history will be of value to persons who may believe that as Black People we have an unworthy past; and hence, no strong claims to all rights of other Americans.

## THE BLACK FAMILY

PART II

### FRUSTRATION, HERITAGE

Years of frustration of futility. Life of a woman, black, just like me. Seeing her husband, watching his face, As he tolls without gaining his rightful place.

No place for her husband, deaf ears to his plea, Denied for the reason, he's black, just like me. Though they set their goals, their standards high, Their plans for a lifetime whither and die.

She pretends not to notice the pain that shows there, As she watches his eyes try to hide his despair, She nurses his children on the milk of their plans, A vision for their future above any man's.

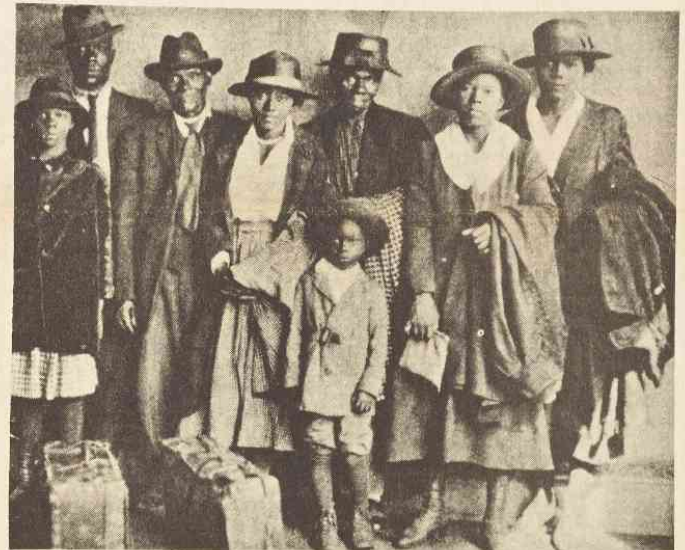
A future of joy, of success, and of hope, Is not for these children, they too, must grope, Through a life of frustration, of futility, For they too, must pay. Since they're black, just like me.

Migration of Blacks to Northern Cities has resulted in much disorganization in the Black family. Because of a rural background and ignorance, the Black man entered modern industry as an unskilled worker. These Blacks were among the "lower-class families and they were segregated to a large extent in the deteriorated areas. In this "lower-class", could be found a large proportion of

families with females as head of the family. This condition is the result of economic insecurity of men and illegitimacy.

There is also in the "lower-class" a "church centered" core of families that endeavor to maintain stable family relations despite their economic insecurity.

Occupational differentiation of the Black population in Northern city has made possible the emergence of a substantial middle-class. The middle class is comprised largely of clerical workers and persons in the service occupations also professional workers and businessmen. Perhaps the most important addition to the middle class family in Northern Cities has been families of Industrial workers, especially Skilled workers. Among this occupational class the male head of the family has



sufficient economic security to play the conventional role of provider for his family without the aid of the wife.

Although the husband or father in the middle-class Black family is recognized as the head of the family, the wife and mother is not

completely subordinate. There is a spirit of democracy in the family because much cooperation Continued on Page 8

## Historical Landmarks Of Black America

No more substantial testimony to the role of the Black in the growth and development of America can be found than the numerous historical landmarks in various regions of the country which are associated with Black Americans. Many of these--like the Alamo and Bunker Hill--are not conventionally known as sites involving chapters of Negro history.

### CALIFORNIA, FREMONT PARK:

"Fremont Park State Park" John C. Fremont - soldier of fortune, explorer, writer, politician - was a key figure in the development of California and in the war which was fought against Mexico to make this vast territory a part of the Union.

Fremont led four exploratory and mapping missions into California, and took along Blacks on two of them. John Dodson, a free Black was a servant of Fremont's father-in-law, Senator Thomas Hart Benton, accompanied the second of these expedi-

tions, while Saunders Jackson, likewise a servant of Benton, volunteered for the fourth in order to raise the \$1700 needed to buy his family's freedom.

After considerable hardship, the ill-fated fourth expedition ended with Fremont and his party finally arriving in California via a southern route. Once there, Fremont discovered that, in his absence, gold had been discovered on land he owned. Jackson was given permission to prospect for gold and, within a few days, had dug out nuggets valued at \$1700. He then returned to Missouri, emancipated his family as planned, and disappeared from history.

Having become a millionaire, Fremont, whose political ideology was abolitionist, was to experience several ups and downs

## Livingstone College's 122nd Observance

SALISBURY--This the Founder's Day address delivered by Dr. Broadus N. Butler, director of leadership development in higher education, Ameri-

can Council on Education, Washington, D.C. The occasion was one hundred and twenty second observance of the birth of the founder and first

president of Livingstone College, Dr. Joseph Charles Price, February 12, 1976. Many thanks to Livingstone College and Dr. Broadus for allowing us to share parts of his address with our readers. We feel that is a warning as well as a challenge in his address.

We offer the same to our readers in two parts.

### PART ONE

What is needed of us now, especially now, is a new unapologetic drive for intellectual and spiritual leadership and a renewed drive within the main currents of national and community political, economic and cultural participation. These must be combined with a determination to be universal people, to be fully integrated into every high reach of American life while lending the fruits of our historical knowledge, talents and service to the broadest uplift and benefit

of every group and sector of mankind. This should be no more! No longer! Neither in our institutions, in our civil life, nor in our persons should we ever again withdraw from the mainstreams of American life, culture and civil obligation.

We must be one, united in commitment to the highest ideals of nationhood, and we must emulate and be one with the thinkers and doers who are still seeking to have unity and harmony prevail for and among all mankind. That has been our hidden role all of the time, and now is the time to openly fulfill it in the highest. We have given of ourselves, our lives, our souls and our minds--even at times in subservience to evil and wrongdoing--to help develop this nation and to set our native land aright in its human aspect. We must now refine and

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A VIABLE, VALID REQUIREMENT RESPONDING TO BLACK NORTH CAROLINA

## BICENTENNIAL BLACK HISTORY "Lost-Strayed-Or Stolen"

Black history in the Western Hemisphere most probably begins with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Blacks are known to have participated meaningfully in a number of later explorations made by Europeans in various parts of the United States and Spanish America. Facts such as these at once fashion a new dimension for Black history within the mainstream of American history. Inasmuch as one of the primary purposes of this feature is to record some historical achievements of the Black, it becomes most important to offer the reader chronological accounts through which he can conveniently familiarize himself with the broad sweep of American Black history. The years covered here are 1492-1954.

### 1803: NEW YORK CITY

Blacks of New York actually succeeded in burning parts of the city and in destroying several homes. Some are arrested, but others remain at large until they are caught and convicted of arson.

### 1804: OHIO

The Ohio legislature enacts the first of the "Black Laws" restricting the rights and movements of Blacks. Other Northern states soon follow suit (Illinois, Indiana and Oregon later have anti-immigration clauses in the state constitutions.)

### 1805: NEW YORK CITY

Birth of the great Black tragedian, Ira Aldridge. Educated in the African Free School, Aldridge made his stage debut in a play called "Pizarro", later studied in Scotland, played Othello in London, and toured Ireland and the Continent. In his prime, Aldridge was ranked among the world's great actors.

### 1807: NEW JERSEY

The state alters its 1776 Constitution by limiting the vote to free white males, thus extending previous restrictions which had established the proper age and property qualifications as the only conditions to be met before residents would be allowed to vote.

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