

Black Fed. Judge Won't Disqualify

Asked By Union To Lay Off

PHILADELPHIA — A black federal judge, last week, rejected a union petition which asked that he disqualify himself from trying a racial discrimination suit without a jury on grounds he could not give unbiased resolution of the issues.

It is regrettable that in this case, I must take substantial time to answer the defendants' worthless allegation. U.S. District Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. said.

The petition to disqualify was submitted by local 542, International Union of Operating Engineers, a defendant in a 1971 complaint charging it with bias against blacks.

Abraham Freed, attorney for the local, charged that remarks by Higginbotham here Oct. 25, made the community aware of his "significant role as a spokesman and active supporter of the advancement of the black cause."

The judge spoke at a meeting of the Association for the Study of American Life and History, a nationwide group of black historians.

In denying the motion, Judge Higginbotham said his remarks showed, at most, zeal for upholding the rights of Negroes under the Constitution and the indication that attempts should be made to deny them their rights.

"A judge cannot be disqualified merely because he believes in upholding the law, even though he says so with vehemence."

"I do not apologize for these feelings nor do I apologize for my remarks."

Given the same opportunity I would make those remarks again today. If I had not made them I would wish that I had," Judge Higginbotham said.

Volunteers In Action Have 'Hour'

BY MISS J. E. HICKS
The RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Personnel) from the central office in Raleigh, sponsored a coffee hour at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at the WIAL Call For Action headquarters, located at 209 S. McDowell Street.

The occasion was presented in appreciation, especially of Mrs. Ethel Howard, who had earned another pen for her services as a volunteer on the Call For Action line.

Women In Action For the Prevention of Violence and Its Causes makes an earnest effort to recruit black and white volunteers to answer phones and help people solve their problems of various kinds. During November, 225 requests were received during a 39-day period. Calls about financial aid led all the rest, followed by health, employment and consumer problems. The requests over the country are similar and indicate trouble spots in the United States. Eighty-two calls were from Raleigh, 35 from Wake County and 44 from surrounding areas. Senior volunteers attending the affair were as follows: (See VOLUNTEERS, P. 2)



RETIREE CHAMPION HONORED — Albuquerque, N.M. — World heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali (R), presents trophy on behalf of state of New Mexico, Dec. 15, to retired light heavyweight champ Bob Foster, at retirement dinner. The two had exchanged heated words earlier, Dec. 15, when Ali criticized the plight of the blacks in Albuquerque, Foster's hometown. (UPI)

City Mayor's Wife Charged

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GUNNED IN NECK

Of Black Caucus Bill Knight On Nat'l Bd.



CHILD STAYS WITH MOTHER IN PRISON — Pikes Corner, Del. — Joyce Law gives her 15 month old baby boy, Darrell, a kiss during his stay with her at this prison in Delaware. Ms. Law is serving a term for embezzling from a Wilmington bank and was given permission to care for her child in prison this week before being transferred to a federal youth center in Morgantown, W. Vir. The child is with a foster family in Wilmington. (UPI)

National Organizations Talk Aid To Private Colleges Plan

A representative of the CAROLINIAN had several conferences with national organizations over the weekend. Reports show that all of the conferences were quite favorable toward the CAROLINIAN-sponsored aid to private colleges through church giving.

Judge Rules Against Carter; No New Trial

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Former middleweight contender Rubin "Hurricane" Carter has been denied a new murder trial despite the sworn testimony of the only two "eyewitnesses" in the case who have now admitted they could not place Carter at the murder scene.

The ruling came from the original judge in the case, Superior Court Judge Samuel A. Lerner, who said he simply did not believe Alfred P. Bello and Arthur D. Bradley when they said they lied at the first trial.

Appreciation Money Is Won By Two Here

Two persons saw their names in The CAROLINIAN's Appreciation Money Feature last week and both were awarded checks of \$100 each for their good eyesight. This feature is sponsored by the newspaper and participating merchants found on the back.

Wilson New Prexy Of Education

AKRON, Ohio — John W. Wilson, new president of the National Black Alliance on Graduate Level Education and director of the University of Akron Black Cultural Center, sees a greater need for "supportive services" for graduate minority students in American universities.

Appreciation Money SPOTLIGHT THIS WEEK

NATURAL HEALTH FOODS

"For A More Healthier And Happier You"

Indicted As Are 3 Others

BY STAFF WRITER
The wife of Raleigh's first black Mayor, Mrs. Marguerite Lightner of Delany Drive, was indicted, along with three other persons here Monday by a Wake County grand jury on charges of conspiracy to receive and dispose of stolen goods. According to the indictment, over a period of several years, the wife of the Honorable Clarence Everette Lightner conspired to receive and dispose of stolen women's clothing and various kinds of meals.

Also indicted on similar charges were Frank Ridley, head of Ridley Real Estate Co., his wife, Mrs. Ethel Ridley, a former teacher at Broughton High School, and John Thomas Pearce, owner and operator of the Hot Dog Hut at Quail Corners shopping center.

The charge is a felony, with penalty on conviction of up to 10 years in prison. MAYOR DECLINES TO COMMENT

Mrs. Lightner could not be reached for comment. Her husband referred callers to his wife's attorney, The Attorney, Samuel S. Mitchell, said he would have no comment.

The indictment, returned by the grand jury in late afternoon, charged that on Nov. 15, "and for several years theretofore," Mrs. Lightner "unlawfully and wilfully did feloniously conspire in combination and agreement with Linda Jones to feloniously receive and dispose of goods that had been feloniously stolen from various business establishments and persons, including Mrs. Lightner's home."

According to Officer B. W. Harris, "the law" was called by Leroy Peterson, 727 E. Lenox Street, Apartment 6, at 9:35 a.m. Sunday. Upon arrival at 10:07 a.m., Harris was informed by Mr. Peterson that he and John Dickens "had a domestic argument" that resulted in Peterson shooting Dickens, allegedly at close range, on the right side of the neck.

According to examiners at the hospital, the gunshot caused a puncture wound in the neck. It was not determined at CAROLINIAN press time whether or not the missile came out of the man's body.

Peterson was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious bodily injury.

Mr. Peterson will face a judge on the gun charge on Friday, Jan. 10, 1975, at 9 a.m.

Councilman Gets Honor At Confab

During the recent annual meeting of National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials in Houston, Texas, Councilman William R. (Bill) Knight was elected to the Board of Directors. One of the two black members of the Raleigh City Council, Bill Knight, is the director of public relations at St. Augustine's College.

Knight, who is a first term Councilman, was nominated by Mayor Clarence E. Lightner, who is also a member of the Black Caucus Board. Mayor Howard Lee of Chapel Hill, was also nominated. However, he withdrew to support Knight's nomination.

As a member of the Board of the National Black Caucus, Knight joins other noted public figures.

CRIME

DON'T LET IT HAPPEN!

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column or feature is produced in the public interest with an aim towards eliminating its content. Numerous individuals have requested that they be given the consideration of overlooking their listing on the police blotter. This we would like to do. However, it is our position to judge or jury. We merely publish the facts as we find them reported by the arresting officers. To keep us out of the Crime Beat column merely means not being registered by a police officer reporting his findings while on duty. So simply keep off the blotter and you won't be in the Crime Beat.

ASSAULTED WITH BOARD — Ms. Mary Elizabeth (last name not on offense report sheet) 810 Wilmington Terrace Halifax Court Apartments, told Officer W. H. Buchanan at 1:38 a.m. Saturday, that she and Bobby Len Harrington 26, House 1, Box 229, Anger, got into an argument in the 800 block of N. Person Street. The woman said she left her apartment and started walking toward Krispy Kreme Doughnut Company, when Harrington assaulted her with a board.

The man also had scratches on his face and hands, but the young woman suffered injuries to the fingers of her left hand and her right eye was bruised. Mr. Harrington was "hauled off" to Wake County Jail and charged with assault on a female.

PROTESTER IS STORMED

St. Marie, Martinique — Angry citizens of St. Marie (L) storm a protester (R) who was trying to hand out leaflets protesting the talks between President Ford and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Dec. 15 and 16. (UPI)



COED WISHES COMMUNITY A MERRY CHRISTMAS — On behalf of the administration, faculty, staff and students of St. Augustine's College, pretty Miss Lisa Richardson, wishes to you and yours, a Merry Christmas, and a prosperous New Year. Lisa is a freshman early childhood education major from Petersburg, Va. She lives in Delany Hall on the campus, which is beautifully decorated for the season as well as other buildings on the St. Aug.'s campus.

NBL Blasts Census' Black Business Stats

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In response to a flood of inquiries, the President of the National Business League, Dr. Berkeley G. Burrell, has issued a statement assailing the Bureau of Census' special report on black-owned business enterprises.

Blasting Park 1 of the document, entitled "1972 Survey of Minority Owned Business Enterprise," the leader of the nation's oldest business, professional and trade association said: "You can trace the daily status of mainstream American business by reading the Wall Street Journal. Yet at mid-fiscal year '75, we have just received the most recent statistics on minority business for calendar 1972."

"The most unfortunate thing about this report is that it has not been placed in its proper perspective. As a result, it renders a great disservice to black business development."

"Statistically, the figures incorporated in this report are clearly misleading. We are told that between 1969 and 1972, the number of black-owned firms has increased by 20 percent and the gross receipts have leaped by 60 percent. Yet, we know nothing about the viability of these businesses."

"What we do know is that these new businesses were created during the middle of a recessionary period that was (See NBL HEAD, P. 2)

Females Train In Electronics

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Electronic mechanical work may not be exactly a stronghold of female workers, but 7 black women are claiming it as their province.

They are among a group of 14 women enrolled in the apprenticeship training program being conducted at Robins Air Force Base. The program at the base's Air Logistics Center is being conducted in accordance with U.S. Department of Labor national standards.

When the first of the women enrolls graduate from the current three-year program in 1975, they will be placed in jobs as full-fledged electronic mechanics at the center.

Their training, both academic and on-the-job, covers all levels of airborne electronic equipment repair; i.e., disassembly, repair, and testing.

As a reaction, South Africa has been making concessions such as pledging to relax the rigid segregation practices within its own borders and recognize the independence of Namibia (Southeast Africa) and the ultimate end to white-rule in Rhodesia.

