

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

Congratulations, Sheriff Baker

Congratulations, Sheriff-elect John Haywood Baker, Jr., and your fine staff. It is with pardonable pride that we salute a fellow black in his astute campaign for the public trust he now assumes in one of the most responsible offices in Wake County.

The campaign was executed in such a manner that President Jimmy Carter, Governor Jim Hunt, Jr., and U.S. Senator Robert B. Morgan (D-N.C.) and others of like calibre among whites saw fit not only to endorse Mr. Baker, but to campaign in his behalf. So it seemed fitting that the whites who helped vote Baker in saw to it that the Governor's choice for sheriff was honored. History was made by the Governor, along with the electing of a black sheriff for the

first time, as we have no record where a N.C. Governor has aided in the election of a black sheriff. We commend the Governor for the endorsement he made of Judge Richard C. Erwin to the N.C. Appeals Court as well as for the part he played in behalf of Sheriff Baker.

That Sheriff Baker is in good company goes without saying as birds of a feather flock together. And should advice be needed, he is in a strategic position, through his able association, to get it. There is no doubt Wake County has chosen well its new sheriff and we foresee benefits the county may expect in the years ahead in the decision it has made in selecting John Haywood Baker, Jr. its sheriff.

Churches Need Better Programs For the Elderly

As our life span increases, our churches find that the percentage of aged members increases. But too many churches fail to meet the real needs of this growing part of the membership.

"The most creative and best-designed program in the world will not succeed if it is not attuned to the real needs of the individual involved," once said Dr. Sue Saxton, a professor of Aging Studies at a southern university. More still, the elderly cannot be involved in social and spiritual programs provided by religious groups in a creative way if they are worrying about physical needs or personal security.

3. By providing continuous contact with homebound members, with attention to such details as help with minor home repairs and upkeep.
4. By making certain that the elderly have transportation for necessary shopping trips and medical appointments, as well as church services and weekday programs.
5. By training lay visitors to spot signs of unintentional drug abuse or malnutrition.
6. By providing more counselling specifically designed to deal with fears about illness and death.
7. By increasing opportunities for the homebound and other elderly persons to participate in Bible study and by providing tape-recordings of sermons and other messages designed to keep the homebound in touch with the church community.
8. By keeping abreast of all community resources available and knowing how to use them for the benefit of older persons.

- Some of the needs of the aging are:
1. Physical needs — food, health and freedom from pain.
 2. Safety and security — adequate housing and freedom from worry about criminal attack and invasion.
 3. Affiliation — a sense of belonging to the larger community.
 4. Self esteem — a need to feel respected as a person and useful to the community.
 5. Self actualization — the achievement of "being all that you can be."

One church instituted what it called the "Hi-Neighbors" program, which provided retirees with a myriad of activities every Wednesday. Organized and coordinated by the group themselves, the program ranges from classes in physical fitness, bell ringing and vocal music, to courses in history, Bible study and politics. The handicraft program produces items — such as the highly prized handmade quilt — that area sold in annual bazaar benefitting many people.

- Different churches may attack the problem of helping their aged members in a variety of ways.
1. By "bird-dogging" the government leaders and agencies that are responsible for health care for the aging and increasing contact with hospitals and nursing homes — "it does make a difference in the care an individual receives from someone who shows an interest."
 2. By offering person-to-person financial and legal aid in the form of guidance. Many members would rather talk to a church member about their problems than to go to a stranger.

But we hope that no church will have a sad program like one we witnessed in a church that had a meals program. Immediately after the meal, the individuals held a prayer meeting that seemed like a funeral. This would depress most anybody. Most churches can do better than this.

Another Look at the Death Penalty

Often we have heard that the death penalty is not a deterrent to crime. In the first place, we never thought it was. We have always considered the death penalty simply punishment for committing crime.

But let us look at some other arguments against the death penalty. Take this argument: Capital punishment is racially unjust. "From 1930 to 1965, 53 percent of those executed in the United States were black, although blacks comprised only 10 percent of the population. To us, this is not a logical argument. The argument begs the question.

Park Avenue. Poverty breeds crimes of violence, not blackness. Relative affluence may breed, perhaps, the embezzler or the defrauder. Crimes of violence — the ghetto crimes — carry stiffer penalties than crimes against property alone, for the simple reason that in any civilized society the crime which takes, injures or threatens human life is regarded as more reprehensible than the crime which takes or threatens only property.

Are the condemned on death row there because of their blackness or because of their guilt? At one period in our history, there were more murders in the Hell's Kitchen section of New York City, a predominantly white area, than on the exclusive residential section of

The solution, therefore, to the difficult problems caused by ghetto poverty — black or white — does not seem to lie in adjusting the criminal code, including the death penalty.

The question of the death penalty may not be the simplistic one of deciding whether convicted murderers shall live or die, but of deciding just who shall do the dying.

We Must Warn People Against Alcoholism

From what we know about alcoholism, the public must face reality and cease sugarcoating the fact of alcohol addiction among youth. It has become a national disgrace.

After having observed the immeasurable social misery stemming from horrendous alcoholism among youth, in conjunction with observing the shriveled moral conduct and base outlook of our young people as a consequence, have we not had enough compromise on the issue? It is granite stupidity for adults to continue to maintain a veneer of apathy, remain dispassionate and continue to weakly yield to teen,

drinking, which has resulted in a mass poisoning of our youth and a sickening of the national body.

Alcohol usage among teenagers must not be tolerated as necessary evil in our society. American citizenry must be fired by concern, and not make themselves accomplices in the slow prostitution of our future, which lies in the coming generation.

The so-called right to even "limited" alcohol usage among youth recedes before the duty to preserve a decent America and prevent the further degeneration and social deterioration of our society.

BIBLE THOUGHT

The Psalms of David rang with praise to Jehovah, the God of Israel. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday season, thanks be to God who giveth us the victory: victory over poverty, sickness, pain and suffering, and finally, over ourselves to keep us from cheating, lying, stealing and being selfish.

A DARK POINT OF VIEW

BY "BILL" MOSES
THE BLEAK SEASON

We are now in that season of the year between Halloween and Christmas when the weather produces more cheerless, dreary days than any other time of the year. There are hints of the winter to come in the temperature; the balminess of the fall has just about disappeared; the trees are rapidly becoming bare of leaves; the rains are silent and depressing. In short, we are in what I call the bleak season of the year.

Except for the hiatus of Thanksgiving and the anticipation of the Christmas season, which helps soothe the dreariness of the days, our psyches are on the "down" side. November is void of holidays except for Thanksgiving. However, there is one slight pick-up on the Autumn scene — The first Tuesday in November — General Election Day — when Americans go to the polls and things can get very exciting or very bland for a day. We have vague thoughts about "what shall I get for Aunt Sarah for Christmas," but very little else to wipe out the dreariness of the weather.

Perhaps it is good that two of the most wonderful holidays of the year occur during this bleak season. The spirit of joy and happiness they arouse is further heightened by carrying with the weather. The picture of the horse drawn vehicle carrying us "over the river and through the woods" to grandmother's house, is not always a snowy scene. For many the travel may be dismal and depressing until we reach the warmth of grandmother's house.

So, look up and be merry for these bleak days too shall pass.

UN AFFAIRS

IMPERIAL RHETORIC
BY LAURA PARKS

At British Tory party conferences, old imperial rhetoric briefly drowned out voices of reason during heated debate over Britain's role in Rhodesia and Southern Africa. Rancorous voices of the old establishment demanded British support for the governments of Ian Smith in Rhodesia and Botha in South Africa.

All last week, the Tory imperialists and the British Tory press was beating the drums in support of the Smith mission to Washington, suggesting that Smith was about to accomplish some kind of miracle and change the attitudes of the Carter administration and its policy towards the Rhodesian regime.

By mid-week it was clear that the Smith mission could never have succeeded. At this point the Tory die-hards decided to mount a last-ditch fight at their party's annual Brighton conference, the last one to be held before Britain's mandatory general elections sometime in 1979. First they demanded that Smith be invited to Britain and accorded the same courtesies that he received in the United States, then they demanded settlement, then as the last resort, they accused the Russians and the Cubans for causing most, if not all, the troubles of Africa.

As one outraged Tory stalwart put it, "They are cutting our throats in Africa while Callaghan and Carter sit and smile." Wiser heads at the party conference tried to introduce logic and reason into the debate over Africa but it soon became obvious that important elements in the Tory party were not about to surrender Southern Africa to the Africans without some kind of a conference floor. The Tories were duly outraged again when it was reported of them that the United Nations censured the U.S. for having given Smith and his party visas to a "U.S.A. At this point the United Nations was described as a "wild bunch."

Away from the Brighton conference but echoing its deeply rooted anti-black African sentiments and its Oxford-accented racism was Enoch Powell. Mr. Powell was, in fact, in West Germany giving an interview to his favorite West German weekly magazine, Der Spiegel, in which he said that Britain's blacks and browns were aliens and would always remain aliens. It has been a long time since Enoch Powell has spoken, typically attacking Britain's minority population and the country's immigration "awa."

His speech drew discreet applause from the Tory faithful and favorable comments from West Germany's neo-Nazi and conservative elements. Mr. Powell has been described as the establishment's racist, though he would deny this and take refuge behind his well cultivated image of a gentleman and classical scholar.

During the economic debate, former prime minister Edward Heath rocked party unity with his speech in support of labor Prime Minister Callaghan's plans to keep British wage settlements within a five percent limit. The interesting point he made in support of his argument was that if the price of British goods were allowed to rise because of inflationary pressures caused by steep wage increases, then British made goods could be priced out of Third World markets.

This is to my knowledge the first time that a major Western political leader has publicly admitted that Third World markets have become crucially important for several industrial nations, including Britain. Mr. Heath, who negotiated Britain's entry into the European common market, fears Third World market penetration from Japan and West Germany. Both Germany and Japan are carefully cultivating their black African friends with future profits in mind.

The truth of this thesis appealed to the dominant elements within the party's business sector, who were in the end, and after some severe floor fights, able to hold off the die-hards and successfully urge moderation in their policies on most of the items under consideration by the conference.

It is worthwhile to note that in Europe no major political conference takes place where Africa and the Third World do not play an important part in the deliberations.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS SAY

ON THE NATIONAL SCENE
News of the defeat of Republican Sen. Edward Brooke of Massachusetts was one of the more disappointing results of Tuesday's election. The charismatic and lone black member of the United States Senate was pushed out of office by his 37-year-old Democratic challenger, whose campaign was boosted by generous personal appearances from President Carter and Sen. Edward Kennedy.

Of course, other factors contributed to the senator's loss.

most notably a scandalous divorce settlement, the details of which were brazenly and zealously reported by the media.

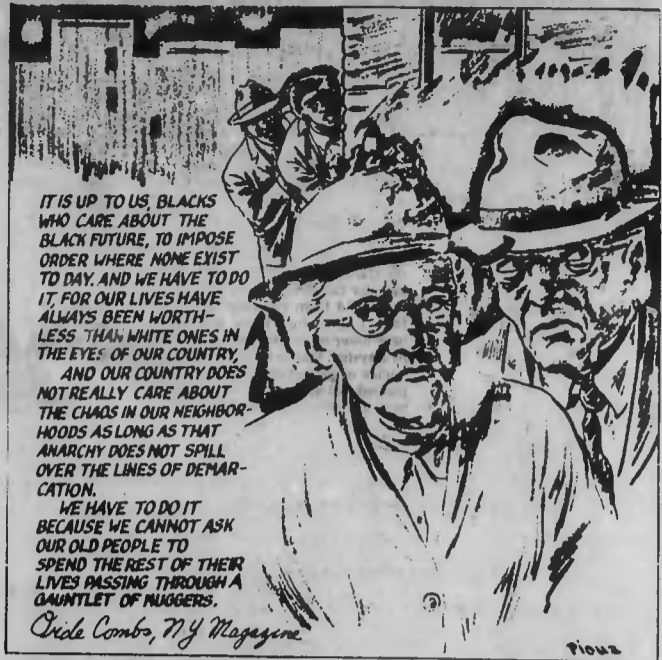
In his address to supporters after Sen. Brooke's concession speech, newly elected Rep. Paul Tsongas spoke of the big shoes he would have to fill. That was no exaggeration. Brooke not only stood out because of his distinction as the only black, he stood out as an individual whose compassion for his fellow man was reflected in his voting record by the issues he supported and introduced before his colleagues.

The American Conservative Union recently released the results of the organization's ratings of U.S. Congressmen. Sen. Brooke made a dismal showing, which in itself attests to his value in Washington and the job he did for minorities and their causes.

One good bit of news coming from the northeast was that Philadelphia voters will send Mayor Frank Rizzo packing after his second term expires in January 1980.

Rizzo, who was trying to force a City Charter change that would have allowed him to run

for office from North Carolina? The most unin-



ODDS AND ENDS

BY JAMES AUGUSTUS SHEPARD

BAKER WON—BLACKS LOST

A strange headline? NO! It is a true statement of what went on in Wake County November 7, election day. John Baker, Jr., the black candidate for sheriff of Wake County, received 32,882 votes. Of that number, approximately 8,000 were cast by black voters.

There are 18,000 black registrants in Wake County. There is no way to determine accurately the number of blacks who voted on November 7. There are 6 precincts in Raleigh that are, together, at least 99 percent black. Ninety percent of the 18,000 black registrants in Wake County live within these 6 Raleigh precincts. Yet, Baker received only 4,035 votes from them. There are three, possibly four, other Raleigh precincts with a more or less sizeable sprinkling of black voters, particularly in precinct 40. It may be realistic to say that in these precincts, Baker received 1,500 votes from blacks. Altogether, Baker picked up around 5,500 votes from his fellow Raleigh blacks.

There are no heavy concentrations of blacks in the rural areas of Wake County. The larger towns, Cary, Garner, Apex, Zebulon, etc., have very little to offer blacks, so very few blacks reside in these towns from a comparative viewpoint. It is interesting to note that, outside of Raleigh, with its heavy concentration of blacks, Baker succeeded in winning only 2 precincts: Holly Springs, where he received 315 votes, and Wake Forest, 619 votes. Of these 934 votes, it might be safe to say that one half came from black voters. Outside of Holly Springs and Wake Forest, Baker possibly received 1,500 rural black votes.

Getting back to Raleigh. It is possible, though not probable, that Baker picked up an additional 1,000 votes from blacks scattered in various pockets within the city. There are several black voters living in the different apartment projects in West Raleigh, North Hills, the Avenet Ferry Road section, North Raleigh, Oberlin and Method. Still, we feel that we have given a most liberal estimate of the votes cast by blacks for John Baker. We believe that if we were compelled to anticipate the 8,000 we have projected, we would not be able to do so.

So we stick to our headline, Baker Won—Blacks Lost. They lost the chance of a lifetime to join in this history-making event. The first black elected to the position of sheriff in Wake County (or in any other N.C. county) in over 100 years. If such an event does or will black to vote, pray tell us what can, or what will? And more particularly, Raleigh blacks. Baker is a Raleigh native. He has spent his entire life in Raleigh, with the exception of the fall and winter seasons of his professional football career. Baker has given all of his time, energy, intellect and resources to working for the uplift and rehabilitation of Wake County youth. It was because of his shining example of giving and helping those in need of his help, that the approximately 30,000 white voters cast their votes for him on Nov. 7. A GOOD NAME won this battle for Baker.

WHO SAID VOTERS ARE INTELLIGENT? Things are tightening up, earning a decent living is becoming more and more of a problem. Inflation and rising costs are sending cold shivers down the backs of millions of Americans, worried citizens, looking for relief.

There are those here in North Carolina who are saying that the majority of the one-half million-plus who voted to return Jesse Helms to the U.S. Senate, did so because they were looking for relief, economic relief. It is said that because of Helms' lip service to the cause of economy in government, these misguided N.C. voters allowed themselves to believe that Helms could and would help them with their economic problems.

The shallow thinking and unsubstantiated deductions of those who really believe in this Helms doctrine of obstruction cause us to seriously question the highly-touted intelligence of the American white voter. A simple perusal of the many votes Helms cast in the U.S. Senate in the interest of, and for the protection of, the combines, the trusts, the moguls of business and the organized industrial complexes of this nation, should be sufficient evidence for any intelligent citizen that Helms cares only about the prosperity and the expansion of the vested interests that Helms supports.

A look at the list of corporations who contributed to his unprecedented campaign fund should cause the voter to at least ask himself why are so many big enterprises all over this country giving money to a person running for office from North Carolina? The most unin-

formed voter knows that these corporations are only interested in making money. They never give, they invest. They were investing in Helms' campaign because they expected to receive. How many of these firms are represented here in this state by the Ellis law firm?

We wonder how a candidate for office, a high office like a U.S. Senator, can believe he is being honest when he engages a fund-raiser and agrees to split the proceeds of the funds raised on a 50/50 basis. Is Helms honest when he contributes half of the \$7 million in campaign funds to Richard V. Greene, the Virginian who headed Helms' campaign drive?

Wan't it apparent to all of those voters that Carter will be president for at least another two years, and that there is absolutely nothing that Helms can do to alter, change or dilute the Carter program because the overwhelming majority of the Senate is Democratic and is following Carter's leadership? Yes, we seriously question the intelligence of the white North Carolina voters.

BLACKS MUFFLED CHANCE
Yes, it is a fact, there are enough registered black voters in North Carolina (about 1/4 million) to constitute the balance of power in any given issue. Because of this fact, blacks could easily have brought about the election of John Ingram to the U.S. Senate.

That this is true, can be attested to by the fact that in three eastern North Carolina counties, the black vote gave Ingram the majority.

The question naturally arises, how come after having lost so much through, and by, the negativism of Jesse Helms, blacks would not be willing and ready to do all within their power to unseat him? The answer is: lack of leadership. The average black voter really does not know, or appreciate, the value, and the power, of his vote. President L. B. Johnson believed that the Voting Rights Act that he put through Congress was the weapon that would equalize many things for black Americans. Johnson was right about the power of the weapon. However, that weapon unused is, of course, powerless.

When, and if, the day ever comes in this state when the black clergy will stop wasting so much of their constituents' time in having to listen to the fanfare about walking the golden streets of heaven, and point their listeners to the worthlessness of paying more attention to the statement of Christ, "I am come that ye might have a more abundant life," black people will have the type of leadership they so sorely need.

The average black voter is politically ignorant. The average black registrant in North Carolina has a feeling that politics is for the white man only. The whites, naturally, want him to keep on feeling that way. The black pastor reaches more blacks than any other medium. He should take it upon himself to enlighten the ignorance of his black followers. The way out of darkness for all blacks is the way of the ballot. Had the black voters of this state been rightly guided and motivated, John Ingram would have been the next U.S. Senator from this state. Maybe, by the time the next major election rolls around, black pastors will have awakened to their duties and have their followers ready to respond meaningfully and intelligently. We hope this will be the case.

WHAT IS THE REAL STORY BEHIND THE BROOKE DEFEAT?

Senator Edward W. Brooke, the only black senator in the U.S. Senate, recently lost his bid for reelection for a third term as the Republican Senator from Massachusetts.

The very strange thing about his defeat for reelection was wholly apart from the service he had rendered as Senator. Those services, mostly motivated by and through liberal thinking, had, during his 12 years in the Senate, won him the goodwill and admiration not only of his constituents, but also of his fellow senate members.

Sen. Brooke's marital problems were supposedly the root of his downfall. Somewhere along the line, one gets the scent of a dead rat. One gets the impression that some type of shenanigans were introduced so effectively that the Brooke bid for reelection was blocked.

During the 1976 presidential campaign, the name of Edward Brooke as a Republican vice presidential candidate was heard. Is there any reason to suspect that his defeat for a third senatorial term was in any way connected with the desire to get him out of the way as a presidential or vice presidential candidate? Oh, well! We are just wondering out loud.