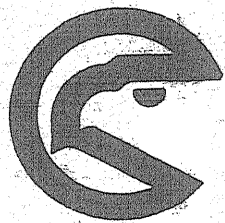


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MORNING
STREET EDITION

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

MORNING
STREET EDITION

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Carter Will 'Turn Screws' On Iran

President Carter told a group of congressmen Wednesday night that he will "turn the screws a little tighter" on Iran every few days.

The president, whose remarks were reported afterward by the participants, outlined a series of economic and diplomatic steps which he is prepared to initiate in coming days if the 50 American hostages in Tehran are not released. "It looks to me like a long, long siege," said one participant. "He certainly gave no reason for hope, nor did

The Lebanese government balks at an offer from Iran to send 17,000 troops to fight against Israel. Page 37-A.

he give any reason to give up."

The White House meeting, attended by about 100 congressmen, came after the militants occupying the U.S. embassy rejected as "worthless" Wednesday the Security Council resolution demanding release of their 50 American hostages. However the government radio said the U.N. action left open the door to negotiation.

Iran's ruling Revolutionary Council met Wednesday night but issued no comment on the U.N. resolution, adopted unanimously Tuesday.

Former Foreign Minister Abolhassan Bani-Sadr called for the release of the 50 American hostages, but there was no clear sign of wider support for a compromise within Ayatollah Khomeini's all-powerful Revolutionary Council.

Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, who a day earlier insisted the hostages See IRAN, Page 50-A

Kennedy Reveals Carter Vow On Shah

WASHINGTON — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, revealing comments made in a private briefing for Senators, said Wednesday the Carter administration has pledged not to grant the exiled Shah of Iran permanent asylum in the United States without first consulting with Congress. Kennedy said the assurance came from Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance

during a senators-only meeting in the Capitol Wednesday, one of several the administration's top diplomat has held since the Iranian crisis began last month. Kennedy, who has come under heavy criticism for three days for an attack against Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi's regime at a time when 50 Americans are being held hostage in Tehran, said Vance's statement put an end to the controversy as far as he was concerned.

Earlier Wednesday, Kennedy defended his criticism of the shah — who he had said Sunday "ran one of the most violent regimes in the history of mankind" and stole "umpteen billions of dollars" from his country — and called for a public debate on the question of granting the exiled monarch permanent asylum in the United States.

See KENNEDY, Page 51-A

The Underpaid And Under-Protected

Part VI: Work Ethic Alive Amidst Poverty

They'd Rather Collect Weeds Than Welfare

By Paul Lieberman
and Chester Goolrick
Constitution Staff Writers

NAHUNTA — Each morning last summer, Annie Mae Raines left her small house in this south Georgia town and set out to find and collect a plant called deer tongue.

Her husband Dan worked for a company installing septic tanks around the county, but his \$2.90-an-hour minimum wage was not nearly enough to support the couple and their four small children. Deer tongue, a wild aromatic plant that is mixed with tobacco in cigars and cigarettes, helped add to the family's income, but the main reason Annie Mae Raines collected the plant was to help her grandmother, who had been sick for some time.

After breakfast, Mrs. Raines and some other members of her family, including her mother, her cousins and her children, climbed into trucks — Dan Raines called them "movearounders" — and headed for fields, sometimes as distant as 40 miles. They drove along looking for signs of the rich green deer tongue, then parked the trucks along the road to gather the plant.

From 10 in the morning until five, you could see them, stooping to pick the plant and toss it into burlap sacks. If they were lucky, they would be near the trucks at the end of the day, but often they were a mile or more away, and Mrs. Raines would have to carry two bulky sacks all the way back, with the children ragtagging along behind. The work could be very hard.

But Annie Mae Raines is not very different from many poor Americans who still believe in the value of work and who labor long hours, with little complaint, for earnings far less than those of most of their countrymen.

Throughout the Atlanta Constitution's examination of the underpaid, reporters found people like Mrs. Raines whose words and work habits suggest that the old-fashioned American work ethic survives at the lowest-paid level of the work force.

There was turpentine dipper Clifford Giles, after a grueling day gathering gum from pine trees, gulping down a dinner so he could rush off and toss hay before nightfall; Sam, Giles' colleague, moving

See WORKING, Page 27-A



Staff Photo—Calvin Cruz

Annie Mae Raines Checks Her Day's Harvest Of Deer Tongue

Wage Law Enforcers Overwhelmed By Complaints

By Paul Lieberman
and Chester Goolrick
Constitution Staff Writers

Richard Robinette offers a succinct description of the philosophy which inevitably limits government enforcement of the minimum wage. "When you already have enough business," he says, "it doesn't make sense to drum up more."

Robinette is sifting through a file in the office from which he directs the Southeastern regional office of the U.S. Department of Labor's wage and

hour division. "We have enough complaints on hand right now," he says while looking for a piece of paper, "and enough work right now, to keep us busy for six or eight months — without any new complaints coming in."

Finally, he finds the document he was looking for. "Let's see, nationally it's 14,581 complaints that we haven't been able to check up on," he says. "Here in this region, we have 4,886 of those."

There is such a large backlog of complaints that the wage and hour compliance officers have lit-

tle time to investigate investigations not spawned by workers' complaints. And seldom is an industrywide investigation attempted.

A 21-year veteran of the wage-hour division who headed a Kentucky office before becoming the top man for eight Southeastern states, Robinette is typical of his colleagues in his matter-of-fact assessment of the difficulty of making a legislated minimum wage a reality.

See SERVICE, Page 24-A

Rebels Agree To End War In Rhodesia

LONDON — Britain and the Patriotic Front guerrillas agreed Wednesday on the broad terms of a cease-fire to end the war in Zimbabwe Rhodesia, clearing the way for internationally recognized independence for the breakaway British colony.

Details of the cease-fire still had to be worked out, but British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said he hoped that would take only two or three more days and that a formal peace agreement could be signed by early next week.

The Patriotic Front said it might take longer and warned that there "are hazards-ahead in the process of implementation."

Although the still-unsettled details included some potentially confrontational issues, Carrington said he thought that, after 12 weeks of tough, often agonizing negotiations, peace was finally at hand.

"This is the breakthrough for which

we have been waiting," Carrington said. "We are delighted that the Patriotic Front has been able to accept our proposals."

The agreement broke a five-day deadlock that had threatened the talks with collapse.

Earlier, the conference had agreed on an independence constitution for Zimbabwe Rhodesia and arrangements for a two-month interim period before full independence.

Britain, confident that the toughest part of the negotiations is over, already was setting the legal and constitutional wheels in motion to prepare for Zimbabwe Rhodesia's transition to full independence.

Carrington and his deputy Sir Ian Gilmore announced that an independence bill is being submitted to parliament Thursday and will be signed into law by Queen Elizabeth later this week.

See RHODESIA, Page 36-A

Lovett Collars, Shakes Administrator Of PSC

By Frederick Allen
Constitution Chief Political Writer

Georgia Public Service Commissioner Billy Lovett grabbed the commission's 58-year-old chief of staff and shook him Wednesday during a heated exchange in the PSC offices.

Chief of Staff Hugh Jordan confirmed the incident and said Lovett, 34, "came around his desk at me, grabbed me and tried to shake me. He pushed me against the wall and my glasses came off."

Lovett admitted, "I did grab him by the collar" but added that "I don't think I pushed him." He said Jordan had been holding his glasses in his hand and merely dropped them during the incident.

Jordan said he made no effort to fight back. "I said, 'Are you through? You want to hit me?' I was cool through the whole thing."

The incident apparently was touched off by remarks attributed to Jordan in published reports earlier Wednesday. Jordan was quoted as saying Lovett told "outright lies" in releasing a list of "major accomplishments" that he had

See LOVETT, Page 22-A

Inside



EXPULSION CANCELED
Mayor Bassam Shaska

Israelis Release West Bank Mayor

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Bells Says Vesco Had No Influence

Page 6-A

GOOD MORNING. Thursday in Georgia will be cloudy with rain spreading from the west. Highs will be mostly in the 60s. Details on Page 2-A.

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Joan Ready To Live In White House With Ted

BOSTON — Joan Kennedy and her husband Ted are getting along "better than ever" and that she would "live with him in the White House but will "never be Number 2 again."

In a wide-ranging interview, her first since Sen. Edward M. Kennedy formally entered the 1980 presidential sweepstakes, Mrs. Kennedy also hinted that her bout with alcoholism actually may have renewed the couple's troubled marriage.

"If he (Kennedy) becomes president, I'll live with him in the White House," she said. "I did not leave Washington because of

the so-called pressures of political life or because of any of the other things I have read about, or leaving Ted and the family. That was pretty far from the truth. Again, I left, pure and simple, because I was a very sick lady and needed to try a new treatment program," she said.

But, she said, "You ask Ted Kennedy, I will never be Number 2 again. We talked all about this."

She said she fears for her husband's safety, that she no longer is bothered by rumors linking the senator romantically to other women, and that she believes her hus-

See JOAN, Page 13-A



NO LONGER SECOND
Joan Kennedy

House Tries To Make Sunday King's 'Day'

WASHINGTON — The House dealt another setback Wednesday to the proposed national holiday to honor Martin Luther King Jr., shifting the observance date to the third Sunday in January and causing sponsors of the bill to pull it off the floor.

The 207-191 vote to establish the Sunday holiday stunned supporters of the original bill, which sought a holiday on King's birthday, Jan. 15, or on the third Monday in January.

"If we couldn't get a holiday for Martin Luther King, we're not going for a

commemorative day," said Rep. Robert Garcia, D-N.Y., who managed the bill on the floor.

"I'll bring the bill back to the floor when we have enough votes to honor this man in a proper and dignified way," Garcia said.

Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the slain civil rights leader's widow, watched the vote from the galleries with her hand on her chin.

Republicans and Southerners joined forces to support the amendment that provided that King's birthday be cele-

See KING, Page 22-A

Service

Continued from Page 1-A

He concludes that of the total number of violations of the minimum wage law, "whether we get half of them or one-third of them is difficult to say. We just don't know."

The figures are not realistic, the government men say, because many employees either don't know they are being illegally underpaid or are afraid that complaining will cost them their jobs.

Joe Allen, the wage and hour investigator in Gainesville, in the heart of Georgia's chicken country, tells of warning workers who may be illegally underpaid that their bosses may learn if the workers file complaints. Allen, an affable man who has worked in Gainesville for 15 years, knows the warning may frighten workers away and kill potential cases. But the warning is necessary, because the risk is very real, he says.

Allen explains: "According to the law, the employer can't discriminate against them in any way because they have made a complaint. But practically speaking, we know that eventually an employer can find some reason to discharge them."

Most of the wage-hour officials will tell you that they rarely have to tell workers that complaining is dangerous. "The complaints we get are only a small fraction of the problem," says Alfred Mitchell, head of the Atlanta-area office



REGIONAL WAGE-HOUR CHIEF
Richard Robinette

of the wage-hour division. "Many people are reluctant or afraid to file a complaint. Things that go along with low-income jobs often include low education. Those people are likely to be a little distrustful of government."

Especially in rural areas, where a worker finds it difficult to escape a

reputation as a trouble-maker, laborers are reluctant to complain of low wages. Or they may feel loyalty to employers they have known all their lives.

Sandy Babb, who left a chicken farm after nearly losing her left hand when it got caught in a feeding machine, was hesitant to complain about the refusal of the farm's insurance company to pay her medical bills. The company said only her husband had signed a workman's compensation card. "I would have liked to have parted friends," Mrs. Babb says of her husband's former employers.

Robert Clayman, a Georgia Legal Services attorney who represents two families of poultry workers now suing their former bosses, notes that the workers are very timid about asking for back pay to bring their earnings up to the minimum wage.

"They're hard working people, and whenever they think of getting lump sums of money, even though they earned that money, they are almost apologetic," Clayman said. "It's almost like they think they've done something wrong."

On the other hand, employers discussing workers' minimum or lower wages are not hesitant to make their cases far more forcefully. A pattern throughout The Atlanta Constitution's examination of underpaid workers emerged: Employers readily minimized the hours worked by their workers and questioned the

laborers' honesty.

In the end, however, the inevitable difficulty of enforcing an often-unpopular federal law is only one reason millions of Americans earn less than the federal minimum wage.

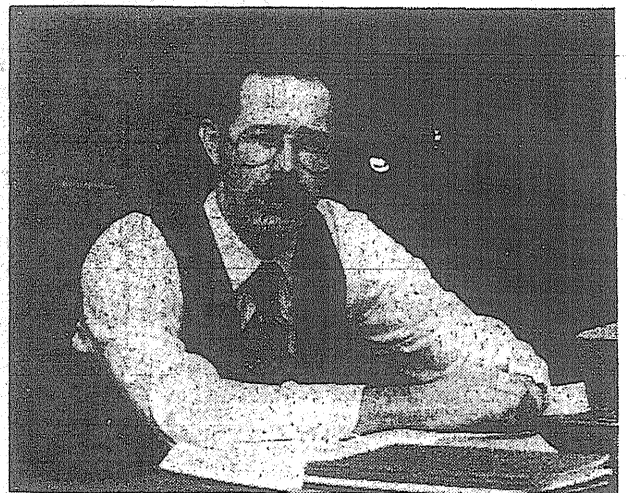
Almost 40 percent of America's estimated 103 million workers are not covered by the regulations which mandate at least a \$2.90 hourly wage.

Self-employed professionals and employees of small farms and retail businesses — those grossing less than \$250,000 a year — are not covered under the law. But there also are some surprising exemptions.

At a meeting of the Atlanta City Council last year, for example, Ella Yates, director of the Atlanta Public Library, complained that the library's part-time employees, including some on the job more than 20 years, were making substantially less than the minimum wage.

In fact, many state and city government workers are not covered by the law. Nevertheless, after Mrs. Yates issued her alert, the City Council raised the library employees' wages to the federal minimum.

In businesses covered under the federal wage law, employers may still be allowed to pay certain handicapped workers one-half the minimum wage; this exemption is justified by its support-



Staff Photo—Steve Deal

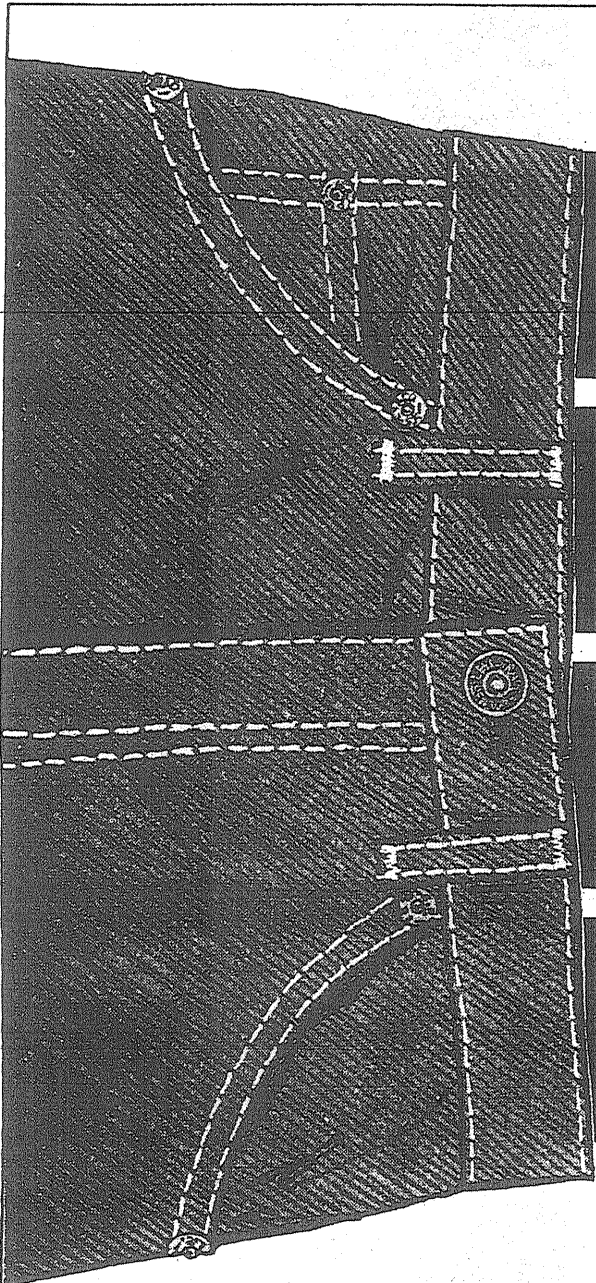
Larry Stine Says Cases Can Take 'Thousands Of Hours'

ers as an incentive to get jobs for people who might not be hired at the full minimum wage.

wage regulations went into effect in 1938, they brought forth a new set of government bureaucrats appointed to en-

When the nation's first sweeping set of

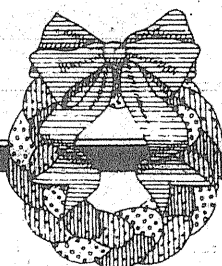
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Service

Continued from Page 24-A

forces the Fair Labor Standards Act. In many places, these bureaucrats became known simply as "Mr. Wage-and-Hour."

Robert E. Lamb, who until retiring earlier this year headed the wage and hour office in Columbus — supervising 13 investigators for 59 counties — recounted personal experiences which made him believe in his job.

"My father's people, around Phenix City, were hard up and starving, and they were taken advantage of. Paid \$2 a week," Lamb said. "I have great aunts who went to work here in Columbus for \$2 a week — and then didn't even get all that to take home."

Lamb then started talking about the type of cases which take up most of a wage-hour man's time these days: the motel maid paid \$.80 a room and who couldn't clean enough rooms to earn the minimum wage; the fast-food restaurants which "cheated" workers by deducting from their wages for meals; the couple paid \$150 between them to work at a motel "72 hours each and furnished with a room full of rats."

"That's what bothers me," Lamb said, "the poorest employee, the person on the lowest end of society is financing someone in the middle."

He concluded, "I think people are greedy, it all goes back to that."



James Woodson, Federal Prosecutor For Wage-Hour Cases

While the small cases took up most of the time of Lamb's investigators in south Georgia, or the time of the 15 investigators who work for Mitchell in the Atlanta region, one large case can al-

most freeze several wage-hour offices for months.

Larry Stine, a Labor Department attorney in Atlanta who prosecutes cases brought by the wage-hour offices, said

more than 250 different investigations over several years went into a recent case against Munford Inc., which operates more than 1,300 Majik Market convenience stores throughout the Southeast. Stine said that while the company "does not deserve to wear a black hat" for the type of violations found, "thousands and thousands of hours" went into the case.

And the outcome of the Munford case reveals another problem in gaining minimum wages for workers at the bottom of the pay scale. An agreement signed by Munford in March called for payment of back wages of \$735,000 to 18,000 clerks in the convenience stores. "But we'll only have to pay about \$500,000," Dillard Munford, president of the company, said this week.

Stine agreed that Munford might be right. He explained: "Many of these workers are transients. Once they've left their jobs, it's hard to find them; and if we can't find them, we can't give them the money they're owed."

Often, when a judgment is won for a group of workers, the government is only moderately successful at forcing the employers to pay them back. "We collect 60 to 70 percent of what we find," said Robinette. "A lot of time, the employer doesn't have the money or we can't find the employee."

Beverly Worrell, 73 and retired now, was one of the government attorneys trying to enforce the wage-hour law at the start, in 1938, when the minimum wage was set at 25 cents an hour. Looking back more than 40 years later, he concluded, "It actually in many ways saved the country. . . . This country was ready to revolt."

The minimum wage has risen steadily over four decades, and every time it goes up, there is a renewed outcry from businessmen and economists who believe the regulated wage is damaging to the economy.

Mac Moore, a professor of economics at Georgia Tech's College of Industrial Management, sees some hypocrisy in economist colleagues who point to the minimum wage as a dangerous cause of inflation. "When I hear people criticize the minimum wage as inflationary, I say that it is very unfair," Moore said, "especially when this guy who is doing the criticizing just got a \$5,000 or \$10,000 raise."

Yet Dr. Beverly Schaeffer, a professor of economics at Emory University and the author of a book on labor negotiations, was more typical of the profession when she voiced "concern" over whether the rising minimum wage "causes unemployment" by forcing businesses to lay off workers.

Among economists, she said, "the minimum wage is not a terribly sexy topic these days. Economists have had their say, and Congress seems to have decided what it is going to do — increase it."

And, indeed, the minimum wage is due to rise again, to \$3.10 on Jan. 1, then to \$3.35 on Jan. 1, 1981. And wage-hour investigators are steeling themselves for a new flood of complaints.

In a federal office building on Peachtree Road just north of downtown Atlanta, James Woodson, the government attorney responsible for wage-hour prosecutions, said he was getting ready. "On the minimum wage, there's a pattern. Every time the wage is amended, there's an upswing in violations. This always happens."

Nearby, in his office, Richard Robinette shook his head and agreed he could expect another flood of complaints into his office from workers whose employers disregard the minimum wage increase or find some means — perhaps a new system of wage deductions — to get around it.

Don Essig, another official of the Department of Labor here, said resignedly, "We try to keep on top of it."



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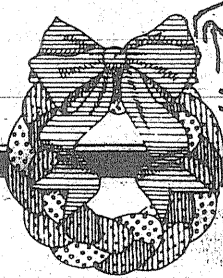
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