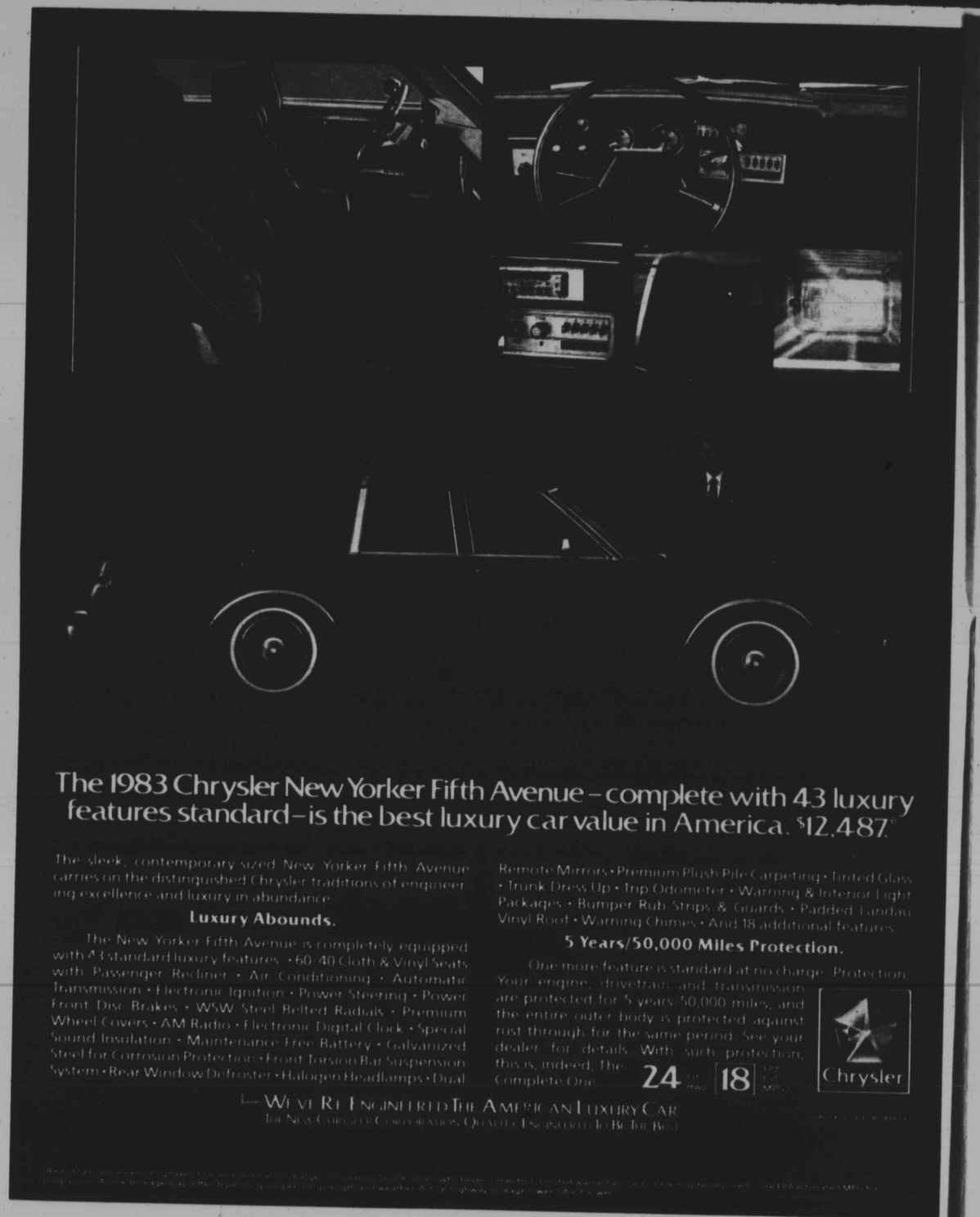

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NATIONAL ROUNDUP

WASHINGTON, DC — There is no doubt about it. The recent national elections for the 98th Congress reflect the changing patterns of population. The victory of new men and women members of Congress, more black elected officials, younger candidates and the expected return of Democratic party members indicate a "liberalization" of America produced by a new electorate of younger, darker and international minded citizens.

In the last 20 years, the U.S. voting age population under 25 years old, has increased over 50 percent, from 112,952,000 in 1962 to 169,342,000 in 1982, as a result of the post World War Two baby boom and the lowering of the voting age from 21 to 18 in the 1970s. In the November, 1982, elections, two out of five voters were between the age of 25 and 44, and one out of five (20 percent) was under 25.In another ten years, nearly 50 percent of the approximately 190 million voting age population will be under 35 years old — and half of them will be black and Spanish and Asian combined — in the country's ten largest states and the growing new Sunbelt area — comprising the majority of the American electorate.

Already, black voters constitute from 20 to 30 percent of the voting age population in 11 of the most populous states (If they would only vote), plus two - thirds of the population of the nation's capital, the District of Columbia, which is seeking full statehood, with Puerto Rico, and newly admitted Alaska and Hawaii. New Mexico has the highest percentage of Spanish origin population with 33 percent, followed by Texas (17.7); California (16.1); Arizona (13.3), with New York and Florida in succession and still counting.

Demographers are vigorously studying the election results for the possible effects of the population shifts as well as for the purpose of projecting 'future shock' from the well defined trends in the 1982 results. The changing voting pattern could portend another non - violent revolution in the nation's poltical methods, manners and and morals which may even surpass the upcoming Supreme Court decision on race and genealogy.

The high court is being asked to rule on the case of a New Orleans matron who was identified as a member of the negroid race because one of her great grandparents was classified as a black woman. The litigation could result in a final ruling on the centuries old mis cegnation laws which ruled that any person born of "mixed blood" could be declared "non - white."

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The growing signs of coalition among the darker brothers of the nation — and the world are found in the current series of seminars scheduled last month in Havana, Cuba, by Casa De Las Americas, a Cuban cultural institution that focuses on the Americas. Representatives of black, chicano, native Americans, Puerto Rican and Cuban communities in the U.S., plus delegates from such organizations as the National Association of Black Lawyers, attended the sessions. Contact Adbis Nobia at (703) 471 - 4527 or Roxanne Dunbar at (415) 541 - 0310 for more information. The first major step toward world wide coalition of the non-Caucasian races was taken at Bandung, Indonesia, in 1957, when the late, great, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D - NY) was the only American representative to attend . . . and firs reported on the historic occasion to the Capital Press Club.

Adam C. Powell

Carter Woodson

Paul Robeson Jr.

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The Association for the Study of Afro American Life and History will soon open its Carter G. Woodson Memorial Home here in honor of its founder, a Harvard honor graduate who taught "true" American history at Howard University. Plans for formally opening the home were announced at the ASAALH convention in Baltimore. If you wish to organize or revive a chapter in your area in time enough for the annual Black History month observation in 1982, contact Mrs. Willa L. Miles, ASAALH, 1401 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20005, for exhibit and multimedia material.

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The main post office in the district of Columbia really set an example for the nation in sponsoring an open house for employees, their families and customers. Visitors were given an escorted tour of the post office's latest facilities by proud workers as they distributed souvenires (no free stamps), refreshments and information on improved electronic postal services. D.C. Postmaster John R. Cochran deserves commendation for the effort which should be copied by Post Offices in major cities to provide greater appreciation of the postman's job . . . . Incidently, the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Workers are moving ahead with the building of their $1.5 million headquarters in uptown Washington in the heart of the "inner city." The modern new building will be another testimony to the skill and accomplishments of President Robert White and his staff which operate the largest, black controlled labor union in the nation.

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New York City's African Travel Association cited Henderson Tours of Atlanta, Lindblad Travel, Inc., and Percival Tours, Inc. for these firm's efforts in promoting travel in Africa, along with Pan American World Airways . . . . Frances B. Blackwell is still the energetic president, developing the organization of African tour organizers . . . contact

(Continued on page 14)

by Larry Still and Art Carter