



Panelist during symposium were Frenise Logan, Elliott P. Skinner, and Dr. Broadus Butler

Abernathy: 'Your Thing'

"If you do your thing you will save the civilizations of the world, so that coming generations will say there lived a Black lady from Bennett College who did her thing."

Reverend Ralph Abernathy, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, spoke at the last vesper program of the school term. Before delivering his heart-warming speech, Rev. Abernathy aided the college chaplain in administering the baptismal rites to Mark Dana Headen, son of a Mrs. Patricia Ann Haith, class of '71.

The text of his speech was based on the 4th Chapter of Esther from the Old Testament of the Bible. His sermon-lecture was entitled "Esther Did Her Thing."

Rev. Abernathy said that the world faces a serious tragedy because of racism, poverty, and war. "All civilizations are fastly dying," he proclaimed. "The serious part of it, he continued, "is that we are sick and don't know that we are dying and don't know how to get well."

"We are so complacent that we don't care about the fact that we are decaying. The plight of the poor is the same as of Biblical days when it was believed that Jews were responsible for all that occurred. Poor people and

Blacks do not realize that a wicked king by the name of Richard M. Nixon has issued a decree that all Blacks and poor people are to be destroyed.

Abernathy well illustrated the plight of the Black man in this country when he mentioned that of sixty-four heart-transplants, 63 donors were Black and only one was a recipient. There are also Blacks here in Greensboro and on this campus whose eyes are so dim that they believe that the white power structure is in love with Black folk.

Rev. Abernathy cited that all the Black money lumped together is not enough to travel across town and back, but that 10% of the people control 90% of the wealth in this country. He criticized the big foundations who use philanthropic contributions as a disguise for paying taxes.

He warned the audience that just by having a degree does not provide security for any Black. "Those who've been to Morehouse have got to work with those who have no house," he exclaimed. "We've got to do our own thing and sock it to America."

He advised Blacks to stop wondering if that "Black man is qualified" when he seeks election throughout the nation. "I say hell yes!" "In 200 years whites have messed it up. Blacks should be given the chance to better it or mess it up further. Blacks have got to learn how government operates. "We will never learn politics until we get out there in it."

"Esther did her thing. All of us have a thing we ought to do. We must stop being afraid and ashamed of our culture."

He summed up his speech by citing his purpose in this world he said, "My time is to tell America that there will be liberty and justice for all or liberty and justice for none."



Abernathy

BLACK INTELLECTUAL SYMPOSIUM

A symposium was held in Black Hall with the theme "The Black Intellectual in World Perspective." The event was dedicated to the memory of the late David Dallis Jones, president of Bennett College 1925-1955. He worked diligently striving to maintain scholarly excellence and integrity at Bennett College. The purpose of the Symposium is one of bringing to the campus stimulating people in all fields of learning and living.

The event began with the showing of two films which are relevant to Black thinking "Ethiopia: The Lamb and the Cross" and "The Emperor Jones." On Tuesday, April 27, two more films were shown, "The Addicted" and "Generation Without a Cause." Later in the evening a lecture was given in the film "America in World Perspectives" by Elliott P. Skinner.

Aon April 28, Ewa Eko lectured on "The African Personality." He is a native of Nigeria who is serving as coordinator of the Six Institutions' Consortium while working on his doctorate at Ohio University. Eko has traveled extensively throughout the world and edited several curriculum plans on Africa and Afro-American materials.

Elliott P. Skinner spoke on Wednesday, also on the topic "The African and the Afro-American: Some Attitudinal Comparisons." He presently serves as professor of Anthropology at Columbia University. He also served in the capacity of U. S. Ambassador to Upper Volta. He is a specialist in African ethnology and published many articles in professional journals, along with several books. He serves as president of the African Heritage Studies Association and recently received a Guggenheim Award. Also speaking during the

week was William A. Hunter who spoke on "The Black Intellectual on the Predominantly Black Campus." His is Professor and Dean of the Tuskegee School of Education. His articles and reviews have appeared in many educational journals.

Frenise A. Logan, Chief of the Eastern and Southern African Programs in the Bureau of Educational Affairs of the Department of State spoke on "Some Reflections on the African Intellectual." Logan presented his assumptions on the nature of an intellectual.

"I assume that an intellectual is one who is pro-efficient and competent in reasoning and formulating of significant concepts and judgements which in the final analysis would have an impact on human thought and endeavor. It entails any reference to an individual who is self-recognized in race as

being black. Intellectualism without pragmatism is ambivalent and self-defeating."

He stated the problems of intellectualism as becoming incumbent in expediences of desired outcome as it moves into the world's social forces. The intellectual is forced to compromise in his ideas. Academic intellectualism derives on "freedom of thought and in a climate that thrives on ideas." On "so-called black campuses" intellectuals are so caught up in its struggles, that little time is devoted to intellectual pursuit.

Logan expounded on the fact that the black intellectual has suffered because of prejudice, segregation, and lack of concern in the black experience by the outside world. He stated, "Many leave the black community to seek acceptance by writing on the non-black experience."

HONOR SOCIETIES

Members of the senior Honor Society are Betty J. Jones, Linda J. Bell, Wanda Bracks, Raynarda Brown, Carolyn Crump, Linda David, Mabel Gaillard, Nedra Hamer, Connie Hammond, Jennifer Jones, Alma Nobel, Rubea Whaley, Vivian White, Ella M. Willaims, Geraldine T. Willaims, Patricia Williams, and Ruby D. Willaims and Betty Wright.

Those students elected to Alpha Kappa Mu are Ethel Bonds, Ellen Carter, Winona Griffin, Juanita Hicks, Betty Jones, Edwina Langaster, Rubea Whaley, Edna Willaims, Mabel Gaillard, and Carolyn Everette.

Those students who were elected to Pi Gamma Mu were Gwendolyn Bradley, Ellen Carter, Diann Dawson, Lingda Gerald, Barbara Frierson, Veleria Nash, Patricia Shouse, Rubea Whaley, and E. Marilyn Williams.

Those students who were accepted to Bata Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society were Linda Bell, Raynarda Brown, Carolyn Crump, Nedra Hamer, Dorathin Murphy and Shirley Sellars.

Banner Staff Named

The Banner Staff elected new staff officers for the 1971-72 school term. Serving in the capacity of co-Editors will be Jane Blue and Myra Davis, who are both juniors from Charlotte, N.C.

Diann Dawson will serve as Managing Editor. Feature Editor is Cynthia McCaskill who is being trained to fill the position of Editor in the following year. Photographer for next year is Myra Davis who will be assisted by several other students.

The Copy Editor is Shirley

Francis. Since the addition of the Bennett Basketball team, a sports Editor has been added to cover the games. This position is filled by Elizabeth Hemingway. Circulation Editor is Myra McCoy who also is the Banner Roving Reporter.

The staff is analyzing the functions of the various positions so that the Banner will be a regular campus publication in the future. There is a need for other interested underclassmen to join the Banner family.

Students on TV

Students of the Home Economics class presented a few of the garments on WFMY-TV May 6th on the Cordelia Kelly's "Fashion - Sense."

The program featured students from the beginner's and advanced classes, The models were Madelyn Mebane, Deborah Moore, Gwendolyn Hill, Jackie Speas, Jacqueline Butler, Paula McNair, Vernelle Robinson, and Delores Cotman.

Mrs. Louise G. Street, Co-ordinator and professor of the Home Economics Department, discussed the types of materials and general knowledge about sewing. Also on the program was Mrs. Ruby C. Carraway, who is the instructor of the beginners' class.