

Brief Black Issues

By JAMES VAUGHAN

NAACP Seeks Change in Sickle Cell Bills
 WASHINGTON — Clarence Mitchell, director, NAACP last week called for the elimination from two bills before the Congress of references tending to identify sickle cell diseases as one specifically affecting Black people. He testified before the District of Columbia Subcommittee on Public Health, Education, Welfare and Safety. He asked for deletion of the words "primarily among the black population of the United States" because "limited research in this area does not appear to establish a sufficient body of scientific evidence on which to base a finding by Congress." He said that respected members of the medical profession expressed the opinion that geographic rather than racial factors accounted for the incidence of the disease.

Judges Discriminate Against Minorities and Poor
 PHILADELPHIA — A recently released report called for the abolition of the discretionary powers of judges and parole officers, which are used "to justify secret procedures and unreviewable decisions" that discriminate against minorities and the poor. The report was released by the American Friends Service Committee following a year and a half of deliberation from a panel of 16 criminologists, lawyers, educators, and ex-convicts.

Federal Government Gets Low Mark From Civil Rights Commission

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Commission on Civil Rights credited several key Federal agencies with making notable progress but stated that the overall performance of the Federal Government continues to set low marks by failing to develop and communicate to the public a sense of urgency over the need to end discrimination. Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, Chairman of the Commission stated in the recent report: "We are asking nothing more than that Federal officials fulfill the obligation which our constitution has imposed upon them — that of faithfully executing the law."

Refusal to Rent to Blacks Reap Suit

LOS ANGELES — Attorney General John Mitchell said 103 housing discrimination cases have been filed by the Justice Department, the latest being against the owners of apartment complexes near Norton Air Force Base, in San Bernardino, Cal., for refusing to rent to Blacks and with misrepresenting that apartments are not available. The suits asked for court orders enjoining them to correct the effects of the alleged past discriminatory practices.

US Navy Guards Against Housing Discrimination

WASHINGTON — All members of racial minority groups are being urged by Admiral E. R. Zuwalt, Jr., the Chief of Naval Operations, to report off-base housing discrimination. The current effort is an attempt to halt the pre-judging of prospective tenants to ensure equal treatment of all U. S. Navy men and women through a sustained action program for all ships, squadrons and shore-based installations.

Minority Employment Improves in Five Companies

Reviews conducted by the Defense Department's Contracts Compliance Office show that in these five companies — Burlington Industries, Dan River Mills, J. P. Stevens, Fieldcrest Mills and Spring Mills — employment of minority males increased 25.7 percent; minority females employment rose to 118 percent; and a total of 48.3 percent.

Black United Fund Development of a national Black United Fund has been in the formative stages for the

past four years. Supported by the Interreligious Foundation For Community Organization, New York, N. Y., one of the first efforts to create such a power base is the Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade, Inc. Early this year the Crusade ran a fund raising drive that incorporated the services of over 400 volunteers. Door-to-door canvassing, payroll deductions, a fund raising banquet-tribute to Muhammad Ali successfully started the Crusade down the road to self-sufficiency. Since then, other community movements and organizations throughout the country have pledged help.

Detroit Blacks Angered Over Ordinance

A flurry of activity among black real estate operators in Detroit was stirred as a large group of homeowners in two predominantly white areas of Detroit recently proposed a ban on direct solicitations by real estate brokers in the Northwest and Northeast sections of the city. The blacks opposed the proposed changes stating that changes would discriminate against black brokers. City Council has taken under advisement the request for a hearing.

Black Woman Lease First Service Station

A black woman of Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. Felicia B. Hill began a working career as a 35-cent-an-hour Georgia field hand.

Recently she became the first black woman to lease a service station from the American Oil Company in Atlanta to add to an already profitable business enterprise of two grocery stores. Her philosophy is that no one owes her a living, just an opportunity to as far as her ability and energy will take her.

ASHLEY'S JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING QUEEN IS BLACK

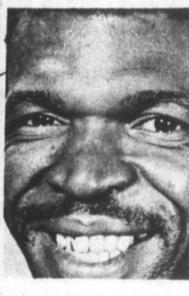
GASTONIA — Miss Earline Gary, granddaughter of Mrs. Mary Fonder, of 404 North Redding Street, was reigning Homecoming Queen this week of Ashley Junior High School. Miss Gary a ninth grader and the first black girl to be so

honored by the school, was selected Homecoming Queen out of a court of 26 contestants. This selection was made by the varsity football

team. Some of the considerations in selecting her were: participation in school and class activities, poise, popularity and personality. She was crowned by last year's queen, Cindy Smith, a sophomore of Hunter Huss

High School, Gastonia. Miss Gary was honored during the halftime ceremonies of Ashley's game with Crest High School of Bowling Springs, of Cleveland County. Sponsored by Ben Hopper, she was escorted by Lemorris

Sanders. First runnerup was Vivian Holloway; second runner up was Faye Jackson; third runnerup was Abbie Alexander and fourth runner up was Nancy Tiffey.



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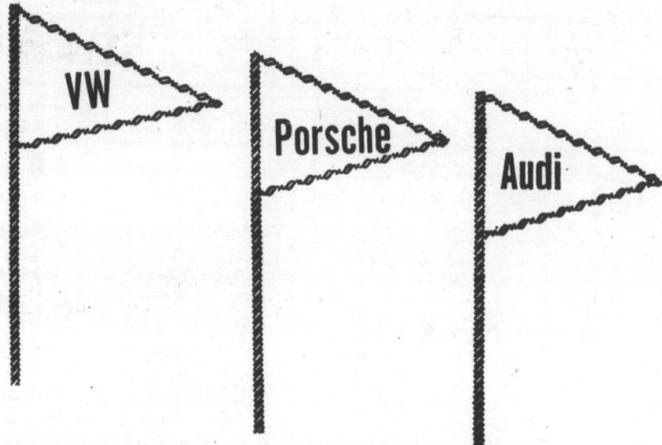
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