

Highlights Of National Newspaper Association Convention

'Time To Take Destiny In Hand'

Commissioner Benjamin L. Hooks, of the Federal Communications Commission, challenged the group by reminding them that "It is time for black men and women to take destiny in hand, to come to grips with our alienated children, to police our communities, to move to end our crippling dependency on welfare and to chase the drug pushers from our neighborhoods."

He stressed that he believes in the black press and "it is my belief that it is impossible to be a complete man unless you know what's going on in the black work...you can only know that by dealing with the black press."

Commissioner strongly emphasized in his remarks that he is dedicated to the rights of his people and all minorities. Hooks stressed the need for blacks in power not to forget

where they came from. He added that one out of every 25 black persons in the U. S. is behind prison walls, and over half of the black population is one the poverty level.

Further "The blood baths and exploitation of black women on public streets still exist. We are too often guilty of fiddling while the world is burning". The time for being a NERO is over.

FCC Commissioner Benjamin L. Hooks, center, prepares to speak while Garth Reeves, NNPA President, left and Longworth M. Quinn of the Michigan Chronicle look on.



At the opening luncheon are, left to right, General R. E. Cushman Jr., Lenora Carter of the Houston Forward Times and Dr. Eugene Mitchell of the St. Louis Argus.



Western Electric's reporting staff for the news service provided to NNPA members were, left to right, Helen Sanders, Helen Bryant, Helen Gibbs and Joe Mayberry, all students at Texas Southern University in Houston.



San Francisco Assemblyman Willie Brown, Chairman of the state's Ways and Means Committee.

There has been some reversal of direction in cutbacks since Watergate, but the rip-off of the black community by revenue sharing is a gimmick and many many persons are finding out.

Both remarked upon the richest country in the world, America, and yet, the burden has been placed on the poor people, white and black, when such programs of self-help have been eliminated.

Willie Brown and Mayor Kenneth Gibson of Newark discussed some of the local effects of Government Retrenchment in Domestic Programs. Political power must be continued to help nullify the Administration's cutbacks.

Jordan Challenges Audience

Congresswoman Barbara Jordan challenged the members of the NNPA Convention when she reminded them that we have a long, long way to go, before this country becomes the land of the free people and the land of the brave people. She said that the mass media can awaken people because "we have an unfinished agenda". She further reminded the press that the first Amendment to the U. S. Constitution is the one thing the press can rely on. Watering it down by possible amendments must not be allowed. Ms. Jordan concluded her speech by reaffirming her faith in this country and further, that she does not plan to abandon this faith. Whatever is wrong, she will do her best to correct it.

Kenneth Gibson, Mayor of Newark, New Jersey.



MRS. MATTIE HOLLOWAY HONORED BY FLORAL CLUB OF EBENEZER

Mrs. Mattie Holloway, the oldest member of the Floral Club of Ebenezer Baptist Church, received a plaque, honors and gifts from members of the club.

members march around and each gave personal gifts, showing their love and appreciation for her.

Rev. B. A. Mack, his choir, ushers and congregation and several clubs from neighboring churches of the city were the guest for this occasion.

Mrs. Martha Stanley presented the plaque for faithful, dedicated service to Mrs. Holloway and the club



Pete Rozelle, Commissioner of the National Football League, before speaking to NNPA members.

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OPEN LETTER TO THE BLACK COMMUNITY OF DURHAM

FROM MALCOLM X LIBERATION UNIVERSITY

One June 27, 1973 Malcolm X Liberation University officially closed its doors for the last time. The closing of MXLU ended a four year struggle to maintain and develop an independent Black Educational Institute.

MXLU started out to train our people in technical skills and to teach our students the real history of our people. In spite of obstacles placed before us we have accomplished these objectives, and in fact influenced the development of other institutions in this country that are continuing this work.

The institution also had its weaknesses. The fundamental weakness was our movement away from the total involvement of the local community. The internal development of the institution and the way we were structured tended to isolate us from the involvement in the day to day reality of our people. To a large extent this was also influenced by our over emphasis on Africa at the expense of the struggles of our people in Durham, Greensboro, North Carolina and the United States.

We have learned a great deal from our experience and hope that our continuing work in North Carolina will reflect the lesson we have learned.

It would not be possible for MXLU to close without expressing our sincere gratitude and thanks to the Black community of Durham for its support of MXLU.

Although the institution was in part a response to the general movement of Black people of the United States in 1969, it was specifically a development of the movement of Black people in Durham, North Carolina. There never would have been a MXLU without UOCL, FCD, non-academic employees at Duke, the Black students of Duke and NCCU and other supporters.

Those of us who have worked with MXLU are eternally grateful for the contribution the Durham Black community made to the development of MXLU.

I personally look forward to a continuing relationship with the Black community of Durham as we seek new ways of continuing our struggle to be free.

For Our People,
Owusu Sadukai
(Howard Fuller)