

# March On Washington—10 Years Later

More than 300,000 persons of all races, ages, and religious persuasions converged upon Washington, D.C. and gathered around the famous Lincoln Memorial and its reflecting pool to listen, sing and share in the activities; remembered primarily by the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's outpouring address and the soul-stirring singing of "We Shall Overcome" led by the late Gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson.

Now, some ten years later, questions have been asked time and time again again as to what have been the effects of this great cooperative action by persons from diverse sectors and groups of our country.

Many comments have been written and made about the past effects and present gains and goals. Some of the comments give the view that it was indeed a great feeling to participate in the March on Washington as it told the nation that we must come together and work for a better America. However, the lack of strong moral leadership has also had its ill effects. It would seem that blacks and other small minorities have fallen heir to the Nazi and Fascist type of surveillance in America. This has been evidenced by the many repressive facets that appear all over the country today and even many whites have become victims of such tactics as well.

In some areas of the country there have been great political and social growth, but in the larger urban areas subtle and repressive types are apparent.

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A more positive aspect can be seen in the changes in attitude by many persons, especially in the southern areas as against northern subtle type racism.

The kind of power that Dr. King represented was a moral and religious type, moving from, and based on his strong religious convictions or persuasion that all must gear themselves for the fight in the equality of all mankind.

There appears to be a resurgence of the religious convictions as we note the seeming demise of the dope cult for a return to religious and moral convictions by young people. These are our leaders for the future and we look to this as a good sign.

Yes, the March on Washington in its aftermath has taught us that there is still a lot of work left to do if we would have OUR AMERICA AND YOUR AMERICA, the truly great democracy she can and should be.

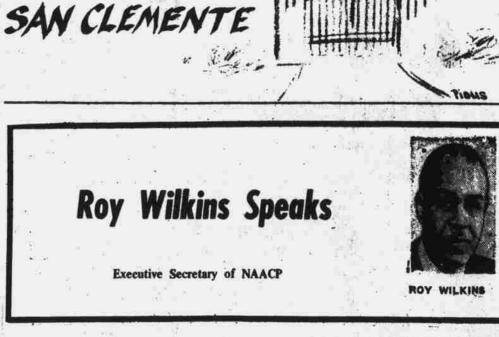
We must look upon the great unfinished legacies left by such fallen leaders as Rev. Dr. King, the Kennedy Brothers, Lyndon B. Johnson, Whitney Young, George Wiley and many, many others who pushed ahead for the equality and justice of all men in the great human and civil rights movement.

This then is our task- to continue to work for the completion of those unfinished legacies of injustices that will bring true political, economic, educational, legal and social justice to all persons irrespective of race, color, age, sex or religious persuasion.

## The Poor Are Not The Only Ones On Welfare

USUALLY, WHEN ONE PICTURE'S WELFARE ONE THINKS OF POVERTY-STRICKEN, NEEDY PEOPLE, MANY OF THEM FROM MINORITY RACES. PRESIDENT NIXON HIMSELF WHO HAS OFTEN CRITICIZED FOR MAT HE CHARACTERIZES AS WELFARE CHISLERS, HAS ALSO BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF A FORM OF WELFARE THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO IMPROVE THE KEY BISCAYNE AND SAN CLEMENTE NIXON RESIDENCES WAS \$1.283274. NICHIGAN CHRONICLE

KEY BISCAYNE

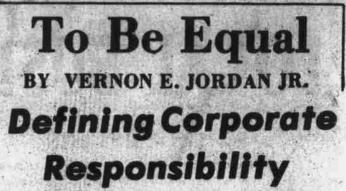


# 'SPEAK TO OUR CHILDREN!'

A Negro school teacher murmured something as she shook hands. Then it came distinctly: "Speak to our children because they are so nasty to us and to whites and the white children are so nice!"

By no stretch of the imagination could this woman be called an Uncle Tom. She does not bow down to white people. She is not afraid of them. She does not need them to keep her job. Of course, she could be called a Tom,

Black school children have many frustrations. They feel rightly or wrongly, that they are being treated unfairly, even persecuted. They see instant and unequal punishment meted out to them, while white youngsters go free. After a clash at a school, they see frequently that only black students are suspended or expelled. There is a tendency on their part to take matters in to their hands. This unfortunate development is not merely a Dixie



THE IDEA of "corporate responsibility" is a relatively new one and while a good number of executives accept the need for their corporations to become active in tackling some of the problems facing the society, others are reluctant to do so.

I wish these reluctant corporate chieftains and their apologists had been present to hear Coy Eklund's address to the National Urban League Annual Conference in Washington last month. EKLUND, President of the Equitable Life Assurance Society,

laid it on the line with one of the best definitions of corporate nsibility I've ever heard. And his defense of the concept could not have come at a better time, since all too many business leaders and others are weary from their brief experiment in social involvement in the 1960s.

Those who self-righteously proclaim that their company is in business to make profits ought to have heard Mr. Eklund declare that "the business of business is not only profits: it is people too. Fortunately business does not have to choose between profits and people....There is considerably greater likelihood of bettar social conduct in a company enjoying first-rate financial results; conversely, there is considerably greater likelihood for first-rate conversely, there is considerably greater likelihood for first-rate financial results in a bsuiness attending to its social conduct."

MR. EKLUND took the long-term view all responsible business leaders must take: "To survive long-term," he said, "the corporation has a selfish interest in the preservation and well-being of the total society in which it operates. You can't do business-you can't make profits-in a crumbling, disintegrating, poverty-pocked social environment.

"Indeed, we are coming to understand that social forces, no less than market forces, operate to determine corporate success and longevity. Just as the intelligent person must give thought to what makes for a more fulfilling existence for himself, so must the corporation be converned with whatever makes for a better environment in which to survive or prosper. Call it enlightened selfinterest. Don't call it generosity or altruism.

HE MADE A very telling point new to the whole debate over the corporate role—the fact that:"The corporation is the creation of the people. And created by them, it is intended to fulfill certain purposes of the people and to perform in ways beneficial to them ....

"From inception the corporation has always carried an implied social responsibility. It is not a new burden lately added to the chief executive's duties, nor is it an optional accessory to be discriminately adopted or rejected. It is inherent in the corporate charter. It was there in the beginning."

AND HE called on the business community for immediate action "to strengthen their corporate resolve to lift the burden of poverty, to clean up the physical environment, to erase bigotry and racial prejudice, and to provide full equality of opportunity for all Americans '

That's quite an agenda, but it is one that the corporate community, as Mr. Eklund made so very clear, has a direct responsibility to achieve. As he rightly pointed out, this responsibility is necessary to "the fulfillment of promises inherent in the corporate charter," as well as to the continued viability of corporate America

I THINK every corporation and businessman in the country ought to ponder Mr. Eklund's words and his thesis, and begin to act on them. Business should be going beyond the most elementary acts-assisting local communities, increasing job opportunities. contributing in far larger amounts to social action programs and agencies-but also should be fighting on behalf of important social goals like welfare reform federal social legislation and a full employment policy.

I am a good deal more hopeful that this situation will come about after listening to Coy Eklund's thoughtful remarks, for they indicate that at least some of the most important business leaders in the nation are not about to sink into the quicksand of a policy of corporate "benign neglect."



Perhaps the great and progressive advancement, of many Black Americans over the period since

share what he had learned at Stanford with a black school. The resources are there and he can help make them big

reconstruction days may well stem from such a philsophy as that expressed by assistant football coach Bill Moultrie of Howard University.

His willingness to share his great developmental skills, knowledge and talents gleaned from his years as an assistant coach at Stanford University with the current crop of young black athletes at Howard University brings to mind the many unselfish attitudes and foresight of those black pioneers who in the early years of black development sought to pave the way for coming generations.

Moultrie said that he would like to see the athletes graduate in four years and want to see them receive national recognition in both football and track. Even though he had many offers to go elsewhere, he felt that he wanted to

time. He also felt that it was a privilege and a honor to share what he has learned with black athletes because he gained much in his association at Stanford and other schools in California.

The former graduate of Texas Southern also remarked that many times black coaches at the predominantly white schools do not always get the recognition that they observe, however, that was not so in his case.

We hope that many more outstanding blacks will continue to move out in the arena and share their unusual skills, knowledge and talents with our youngsters.

For only with a sharing of such skills, talents and knowledge can any group move ahead.

because thoughtless blacks who toss this word around are not necessarily logical. The behavior does not have to fit the name. The quickest way in a disagreement is to yell "Tom."

Back came memories of the quiet heroism of Negro school teachers during the first days of desegregation of the schools. Some, it must be admitted, were pretty bad. Some were tale-bearers to the white superintendant and to their white contacts on the boards of education. But many more were upstanding men and women. They were unafraid and if they were cautious it may have been because of those dependent upon them.

There was a woman in a Southern town who always left an envelope for the NAACP speaker in her city. She could not afford to have

her co-workers tell on a Monday morning that she had been present at an NAACP meeting Sunday afternoon. So she gave her money in the collection in the envelope. She was helping to keep up the agitation for change in her own

There is no need here to repeat teh fearless action of the black teachers in Elloree, S.C. They knew when they indicated the organizations to which they belonged that they would be fired if they wrote "NAACP." But 22 of them wrote just that and 22 were fired.

enomenon. It happens, more often than not in cities and in schools outside the South.

The black teacher was praying for something to put a little kindness, not nastiness, into the relations between pupil and teacher. After all, schools are for learning and study. One does not try to solve complicated racial problems there.

Once, long ago, there was an idea abroad that people did not have to obey a law that they considered unfair to them. Perhaps the black school children who are "nasty" have a variation of this idea. They will decide what rules and regulations they will accept.

It just does not work out that way. Nastiness begets nastiness, not understanding and learning. Not only does it hurt the learning process, but it brands a whole race as "nasty." A healthy pride of race does not require one to be nasty. In the creation of an image, it is self-defeating. Who would hire a had mouth? Who wants a complainer on the job or in the neighborhood?

One does not have to love everybody or expect love in return, but one ought to be smart enough on priorities to forego nastiness. All available figures show that Negroes need, in the words of that great black comedian, Bert Williams, "everything from an overcoat in." One of the ways not to get the things we need, as school children or adults, is to be "nasty."

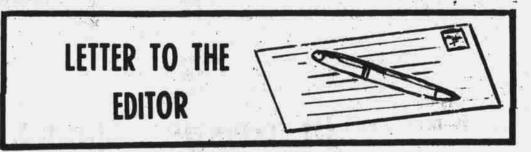


FLORIDA A & M UNIVERSITY -This institution is the only public assisted predominantly Black University in the State University System of Florida. It did not award its first baccalaureate degrees until 1910, although the institution was founded in 1887. The university was established as a normal school. For a number of years a Law School was operated at the University along with a Pharmacy School. The Law School has been phased out. Most people are aware of the famous marching band of Florida A & M University and the familiar nickname for its football team, The Florida A & M Rattlers. This writer remembers and recalls well the many "beautiful homecoming and Miss FAMCEE Queens."

FORT VALLEY STATE COLLEGE - was established initially as a high and industrial school through the cooperation of local black and white citizens under the leadership of John W. Davison, a graduate of Atlanta University. The institution served for 44 years as a private school until July 1, 1939. It was then consolidated with the State Teacher's and Agricultural College at Forsyth and thence came under State control.

**GRAMBLING** COLLEGE in Grambling, Louisiana owes its establishment to action taken by the Farmer's relief Association of Louisiana. The Association, in 1901, authorized three men to write Dr. Booker T. Washington asking that a man be sent from Tuskeegee Institute, Alabama to North Louisiana to help start an industrial school. Charles P. Adams was sent on August 4, 1901 and started what is today known as Grambling College: Its operation continued for eleven years as a privately supported institution.

Today, Grambling College is known for its outstanding students in both academics and football or sports excellence. More football players have entered the pro-football teams teams than any other predominantly black school and only Notre Dame University stands ahead of Grambling in colleges in general. Its many illustrious pro-football athletes return to Grambling and render many valuable services, thus contributing greatly to the growth and development of the university in its service to the youth of Louisiana, as well as its general citizenry.



### My Black Brothers, Sisters, and Others:

As you recall, I am sure, shortly after the death of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., the black community came together to collectively discuss ways and means of bringing to the attention of those in positions of influence, the many ills of the Durham Community.

After several months of deliberation, the city council established the Human Relations Commission, giving the body specific tasks. I sincerely felt that through the commission, this community would work diligently towards solving it's solial-economic problems. However, to date we find that it is "business as find that it is no evil, usual; "hear n continue to do evil.'

It is my belief, based upon experience, that employment is the key to equal justice, decent housing and education of our young black sisters and

brothers. Yes, I've heard that if we are qualified we can obtain non-traditional (white male) jobs. Black people in this community are so well qualified that our city government continues to hire white males that are less qualified; in fact, they go as far as California to hire them. Even the cemeteries that are owned by the city are segregated. My specific reasons for

resigning from the Human Relations Commission are as follows:

\*Mr. Becton and staff need support in their efforts to bring to the attention of the City Council social and economic problem areas and I came to realize that this could not be done through the Human Relations Commission under

it's present membership. Mrs. Thorton and Messrs. Green, Bryant, Henderson and Pearson are dedicated and hard working in an effort to do

whatever they can to make the commission and effective catalyst. Yet it took two years for the commission to recommend to the city council that the city include the statement "Equal Employment **Opportunity** Employer, Minority and Female" on all job advertisements, contracts, and purchase orders. The only programs that the commission endorsed have been "Human Relations Week" and the "Green Circle Program."

We failed to muster support for chapter 9, of the city-county merger proposal, although it would directly affect the commission. Yet the commission saw fit to endorse the proposed bond referendum after reviewing a seven-minute slide presentation. Two summer Interns crystallized what the employment committee has been attempting to point out for two years; that the city of Durham grossly under utilizes Black males, and

Getting Smart

### The Death Wish

WE ARE faced with an armed camp in our cities...nothing new. It has become a very old concept. But still there is nothing being done about it. Why does it happen? What causes us to be the targets as well as the purveyors of mass killings?

We must realize that violence does not happen in a vacuum nor does it pop out of the ground without it being fertilized and nurtured

A STUDY a few years back indicated that crimes of passion account for roughly 60 per cent of homicides, etc., husband vs. wife, neighbor vs. neighbor, relative vs. relative, friend vs. friend, between people who knew each other, casually or intimately.

These crimes of passion are not only the results of the cauldron in which we are placed, but from the repeaters and those detained waiting for trial. Utter contempt developes for the judicial system when a man is in fact preventively detained for unreasonable months-sometimes years before he is tried. Bail was never menat to be a means to keep a man off the street but merely a bond to make sure he appears for trial.

BLACKS are less likely to be counted as victims in a racist society. For years the police have looked upon the ghetto as an armed camp of savages. They have exercised a complete disregard toward crimes of Blacks against Blacks. These policemen are not any different from the broad base of their support in middle America. They want and do periodic roundups of the innocent along with the guilty. How often have we witnessed the fat cat wrongdoers, never being punished in relation to the gravity of their crinies against humanity and Blacks caught in the same net punished severely.

THE LATEST rash of Black movies, Shaft, Sweetback, Return of Shaft, Jim Brown's escapades, packed with violence, are hungrily viewed by the young regardless of ratings.

This over-saturation of violence, its implication that violence yields automatic solutions to prevent ills of society, with the flash of a blade, a round of ammunition, a quick karate chop. lend more fuel to the condoning of violence on a massive scale.

GUN control has been and continues to be urged as a means to disarm potential killers. Much more support is needed to accomplish gun control.

black and white females. Before the Interns had completed their report, members of the commission have begun to offer excuses. Since silence is not only

criminal but suicidal, I have been making as much noise as I can. If change is to come we,

the oppressed, must force change by joining together as one and point-out to our elected officials that equality of opportunity must come to Durham for all of it's citizens.

> Sincerely, James N. Potter

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