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Sign of the Times... This sign is typical of the resurgence of racism. Busing is still a problem and the dragon is once again raising its ugly head.

Co-op Set Up To Aid Black Area Residents

by Chronicle Correspondent

A food cooperative (co-op) has been set up by the Black Business League (BBL) to aid black families and unify the black community, according to the group's president, Johnny X. Williamson.

A co-op seeks to buy items in volume which saves the individual members a considerable amount of money. "We hope to save families anywhere from 20 to 40 percent on the items they buy through the co-op," Williamson said.

The co-op will be formed initially with small groups and distribution points will be set up to make sure families get the items they order.

"The purpose really is to teach black mothers how to buy food at a reduced rate by buying together. We want to teach them home economics which is saving money."

The program is a non-profit making venture of the BBL. "We're not in it to make money," Williamson said. "We're trying to help our community." In addition, he said "this really is a self-help program. We believe in self-help."

Williamson said the co-op is just one way his group is trying to unify both local black businesses and the black community.

Williamson also said the federal government has made a commitment to give some money to the program "once they see the program as a help to the community."

"We talked to a representative of the Agriculture Department and they gave us

a definite commitment for some funds. Depending, of course, on our help to the community."

Initial registration for membership in the co-op is \$10. "This is basically for setting the program up," Williamson said. "Then the members will be able to buy whatever foodstuffs they want at savings from 20 to 40 per cent."

Williamson said his group hopes to include everyone in the community but because it is new they will work with small groups and grow to include everyone. "Right now

we are working with some families in the Cleveland

Avenue project," he said. "We're hoping too that some of the recipients will be able to handle the whole outlet themselves."

Co-ops have worked successfully in many parts of the country. It works on the premise that volume buying cuts out the middle-man (retailer) and allows the co-op to deal directly with the wholesaler. Eliminating the retailer's profit usually means a substantial savings to members of the co-op.

Portrait Of Nation of Islam to Be Aired

An indepth study of the Nation of Islam will be shown October 1 at 10 p.m. on the Public Broadcasting Stations (channels 4 and 26). It is a one-hour portrait of the Nation of Islam.

The Black Muslims have been called everything from hatemongers on the one hand, to the most aggressive force in the black community on the other.

It is a portrait of the organization through the eyes of followers of Islam. This is the first time an outside group has been given permission to film a story on the Nation. "And we have covered everybody," said the producer, Marieta Rivero of WGBH in Boston, Mass. "We covered everybody from man-in-the-street interviews to an interview with the leader, the Honorable Wallace D. Muhammed."

It approaches the values of the Nation of Islam through very personal and individual viewpoints and is therefore a portrait of this Nation rather than a straight documentary.

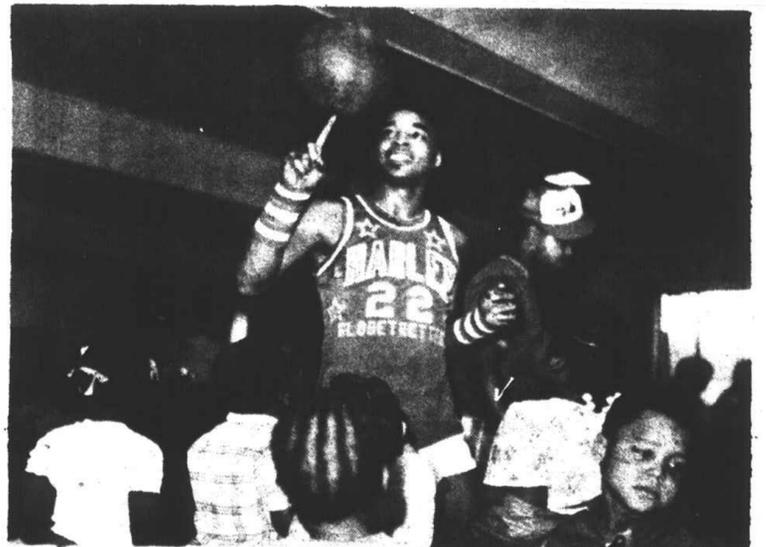
It was filmed in Chicago and Boston and includes material filmed at the historic scene



SUPREME MINISTER Wallace D. Muhammed at a recent speaking engagement.

when Elijah Muhammed had just died and Wallace Muhammed had assumed the leadership role.

"This is an attempt to see them as they see themselves."



World famous Globetrotter, curly Neal, performed recently at First Baptist Church to a packed house of tiny tots.

Neal Amazes Tots

The "Supertrotter" was in town last week-end and entertained at the Northside Shopping Center.

Curly Neal has played with the trotters for 13 years. He is also the star on the Saturday morning Globetrotters Show.

"I love kids," curly said in a recent interview. "I like to see them laughing and having fun."

The Globetrotters start their grueling season next month playing more than 200 games during a six-month period.

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