

"SOBU Is Functioning"- A First-Hand Analysis

The following statements were made to reporters by (Student Organization for Black Unity) delegates some time after the SOBU Conference in Durham was held:

Sandra Philpot, Student



SANDRA PHILPOTT

from across the country together to define and discuss the aims of Blacks. It was designed to provide Black people with opportunities to deal with specific projects that would enhance the ultimate goal of Black people-- total liberation."

The entire experience to Sandra was inspiring. She liked the conference for the "kinds of workshops, the consultants for the workshops, and the mere fact that a lot of Black people had gathered and talked about the state of the revolution. It was a beautiful thing." The discussion sessions were found to be very good and very enlightening. "One point all panelists stressed was that Black people must not

Senate President, described the conference as being very beneficial, and as an occasion that set a beautiful tone for the opening of Malcolm X Liberation University. Sandra saw the purpose of the conference as a call "to bring Black students and other interested Black individuals

included a Night of Arts with poetry, plays, etc., featuring Don Lee; and a Culture Festival. When asked how Bennett could use what came out of the conference, Sandra gave several possibilities. Included among them are: "We can set up seminar sessions and bring out some ideas gained in the conference. We can begin to use some suggestions brought out in terms of making our education meet the needs of Black people and in nation building. Because of the conference we have established better communications with Black people across the country who are engaged in the same kind of struggle as we are in Greensboro. We can always call on sources made available at the conference.

One thing we need to do on campus is to motivate more girls to get involved in more things outside, the book covers and Bennett's four walls." Sandra explained that she was glad to see Bennett girls at the conference and the dedication ceremony. Her only wish was that "more could have been there to see the amount of pride Black people have exhibited in setting up their own institution."

Miss Rose Coles stated that she found SOBU to be a "major necessity if Blacks are to have some national student organization relevant to the needs of Black people. Her findings at the SOBU conference have convinced her that the organization is and shall be effective in helping Negro campuses become Black campuses. Ideas for projects directly related to this campus stemmed from the conference; however, Miss Coles said that she is not at liberty at this time to give specific details retailing these projects. They will be disclosed at a later date. She did state that some of these

Thought For Today

"Out of all that we've been through we stand head to shoulders with any other ethnic group." Shabazz

An Observation

Non-compulsory classes should be an incentive to the Bennett College instructors. After all, if a teacher is interesting he won't need a captive audience.

Of course there are those teachers who feel insecure because of the ruling on non-compulsory classes, and the reason is understandable. How many classes have you taught where the only person awake has been yourself? How many times have your students left one of your lectures and could not even remember the topic that you lectured on? It's time to put you, the instructor, on the ball. This of course does not apply to all instructors, but if there is a picture of a cross on a desk, in one of your classrooms, with the inscription: "This is in honor of those who died waiting for the bell to ring," then you'd better take heed.

long range projects are designed to integrate the Black student with the Black community.

Miss Linda Goodman expressed strong faith in the SOBU organization before and after attending the SOBU conference. When asked to compare SOBU and NSA she stated that it was better to belong to an organization orientated to help Black students (SOBU) than one that was unable to do so (NAS). She feels that the conference was a rewarding experience. The open panel discussions and small group discussions were most informative and helpful in defining the problems that all Black schools face. Many suggestions were given on possible ways to solve these problems.

Ange McNeill represented the sophomore class at the SOBU Conference in Durham. The purpose of the conference,

as stated in a newspaper article issued to all delegates, was "...to bring together Black students and other interested Black individuals to define and discuss the aims of Black people."

Before Ange left for the conference, she had, in mind as being the principle aim of a conference of this type: "...to get ideas for student projects to further the liberation struggle." Having this in mind before hand, she had a basic idea of what the proceedings of such a meeting would include. She added that conferences and workshops were held "...to define and discuss (plans) for such projects," and that the conference's basic goal was reached.

Plans were made for several days for commemoration for Black people.



NELSON JOHNSON

Students Support Strike

In support of black workers on strike at UNC-Chapel Hill, several colleges who are members of BSUL held a news conference Friday, Nov. 14. The workers are striking for better wages, standard working conditions, and several other demands. Bro. Franklin Williams, coordinator for BSUL, and Bro. Nelson Johnson, national convener for

SOBU, were key speakers at the conference. Bro. Williams pointed out that as black students, we support black people wherever there is a struggle involving black people. In addition, Bro. Johnson emphasized that any act of aggression against black people in Chapel Hill would be interpreted as an act of aggression against black people

Spanish Club News

The Spanish Club held its first official meeting at which newly elected officers for the 1969-70 school year were as follows: President...Karen Woods; Vice President...Joylette Mills; Secretary...Brenda Steele; Treasurer...Sherry Peterson.

The Spanish Club Advisors are Dr. Hortensia Boudy and Mrs. Maria Tano of the Spanish Department.

The aims of the Spanish Club are to work diligently as a group to further acquaint the Spanish-speaking students, and other interested students with the Spanish Customs. It is hoped that the club will afford the opportunity for the students to express themselves in Spanish outside of the

classrooms. The club will also serve as a means of conveying to the other members of the student body what is taking place in the Spanish Department.

The Spanish Club is now in the process of planning a Spanish Program, which will be presented in the future to the entire student body. The program will feature Spanish songs and dances among many other things done by the Spanish students.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Attention students that are now receiving aid or hoping to receive aid for the 1970-71 school year. Applications will be distributed Dec. 15-16, 1969 in the Financial Aid Office.

Quotable Quotes

The following are notable phrases made by Betty Shabazz during the dedication ceremony of Malcolm X Liberation University in Durham.

"Black people have been used as a political football since the civil war. We're put in the limelight and dropped. When we decide to do something for ourselves, then they (whites) tell us how to do it."

"We can only solve our problem by facing reality. This is a war based on the color of our skins."

"There's been a missionary mentality" and African culture from the West."

"Politics and greed are the enemy."

"Black people must support each other. Though there're many things to do in our lives to divide us."

"Many people say that Malcolm was a violent man, it Malcolm not say discriminately "carry the name." He merely asserted that

forget that we are an African people. We must not think of liberation of Black people only in the United States, and not of the revolution only with the United States.

One thing Sandra found particularly interesting was a film "Battle of the Algerians." It is the story of the successful struggle by Algeria for liberation from French domination. It was interesting to her "because not only men fought, but also women and kids. That's the way I look at the Black struggle; not only brothers, but sisters and kids help. The film offered a way to encourage sisters to get into active struggle."

Other events of interest during the five day conference

"wherever and whenever the federal government is unable or unwilling to protect black people, then black people have the right to protect themselves. Malcolm taught self-defense."

"They (whites) can kill as many blacks as they like but the revolution will go on."

"Youth are put in a bad position. When they should be studying they're spending their time trying to eliminate some of the oppression."

"Our job is to defend the territorial integrity of Africa, because while we're busy with who's got the best dashiki or who's got the largest afro, whites will have taken Africa and there would be nothing left for us."

"Whites can't expect to constantly kill without eventually being killed."

"The U.S. spends millions for international and national defense. Why not spend more for education of the black man--there must be something that he (the white man) doesn't want us to know."