

N.C. Black Youth Corps

The North Carolina Black Youth Corp is an effort to organize and employ the talents and energies of Black Youth in building a strong unified state organization. For the past two years, the efforts by Black people to gain a better life has been fragmented, uncoordinated and lacking a clear set of guiding principles. This situation has aided in the maintenance of white control over our communities while creating a sense of dependency and confusion among our people.

It is timely that a determined effort be made to eliminate fragmentation and confusion by welding together the masses of Black people in the state into a strong, unified political organization governed by sound principles and cooperative work, self development. Such an organization would become involved in a number of areas. For example, farm consolidation and development, the control of city development. Programs in the Black community, participation in the electoral process on county and state levels. The organization would in essence be an independent political party which would speak to a range of problems affecting Black people.

The development of such an organization will require the voluntary services of every possible Black person. The North Carolina Black Youth Work Corp will undertake a portion of the task of building this much needed political organ. The work corp is interested in recruiting serious young Black people to work on a full and part-time basis.

The full time worker will be placed with a county or small

town organization to work directly with the people. He (or she) will be given five days of intensive training in ideology and the general techniques of working in the community. There will be no salary. The full time worker will be provided food and lodging, plus a small stipend for toiletries and other necessities.

The part-time worker will form voluntary cadres in whatever section of the state he happens to be in. The part-time workers will help with general organization; research or population ratios, voting patterns, purchasing and marketing patterns, or will conduct voter registration campaigns. Part-time workers will also provide valuable contact in communities throughout the state. It is absolutely necessary that every Black person residing in the state of North Carolina fill out a Black Youth Work Corps form. On the form you can indicate whether you can work full time, part-time or any time.

It does not matter how little or how much time you have. If you believe that our people should be unified and should seek to control our own destiny, then you can help, you should sign up now.

The summer portion of the program begins June 7th and terminates August 30th. Upon receipt of full time or part-time forms, additional information will be forwarded to you giving specifications, training location, site placement, etc.

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He cited that very effective teachers find themselves moved out of the classroom and promoted to administrative posts which results in the stifling of intellectual minds on black campuses.

He advised students to "keep up and get ahead at the same time. There must be effort put forth to overcoming prejudice and still continuing to seek intellectual pursuits. Intellectualism is learned in the total educational process.

Another renown speaker was Dr. Broadus N. Butler, former assistant to the U.S. Commissioner of Education and Special Assistant to the Associate Commissioner of Higher Education. He is presently serving as the president of Dillard University. His lecture was entitled "The Black Intellectual: Commitments and Concerns."

Dr. Butler advised each college campus to retain a good Black intellectual on the campus for a short period of time so that he could interact with the students.

In his talk, he described an intellectual as anyone with a skill of knowledge. He is also a

creative genius. He cited that so many intellectuals like Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mark Twain were not appreciated for the intellectualism behind their novels. They were rejected because they were not "on the streets as Lloyd Garrison.

He noted that "Intellectuals must decide whether they want to be commercial or social functionaries or commit themselves to the arena of their disciplines.

He added that we cannot accept the term "Black" without digging into the intellectualism behind the thinking of men like Malcolm X., Marcus Garvey, and W.E.B. DuBois. He stated: "We have a sufficient body of knowledge which must be synthesized intellectually."

Harold Cruse, from the University of Michigan, spoke on the theme of "The Black Intellectual." He is author of "The Black Intellectual" which is a classic cultural history. He has worked as a full time television film director and a theatre and film critic.

Cruse's stimulating message was based around thesis that Pan-Africanism must decide

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upon the priorities of the movement. He said that "discussing the Third World involves all kinds of problems."

"Black students have challenged the intellectuals to meet the problems of today. In meeting this challenge we must decide what is the point of our getting into world perspectives. First we must confront the American intellectual world. We must deal with one specific role and arrive at a better definition of the American past and develop totally new frameworks of reference."

The symposium was organized by the Division of the Social Sciences, the Special Services Program, the Association of Colleges and the Universities for International-Intercultural Study. The Symposium committee consisted of faculty members and six students. The students were Savannah Cotman, '71; Myra Davis, '72; Linda Gerald, '71; Carolyn Riley, '71; Madie Robinson, '72; and Ivana Trollinger, '71. Dr. George Breathett was the Program Coordinator and Dr. Dorothy Bardolph, Program Associate.



Veronica Pickett and Lynnette Pratt participated during a week of May honoring secretaries

SOBU Conference

The Student Organization for Black Unity held its second national conference at Penn Center Conference Site in Frogmore, S. C. It was held April 1-4, 1971.

The Conference was well attended by about 150 representatives from a variety of Black colleges, Black groups on white campuses, and Black community groups from across the country. The goals of the conference was defined to be "to facilitate the dispersion and consumption of information, an analysis and evaluation of current activities on campuses, the development of program priorities, and the defining and refining of instruments of implementation and coordination.

The schedule of the conference included an address by Brother Owusu Sadaukai (Howard Fuller) Mwalimu of Malcolm X Liberation University in Greensboro, N. C. Brother Sadaukai stressed that as students we must study but we must not lose sight of the reason for studying; we must not oversell ourselves to Black people. He emphasized that we, the students, must develop the correct political ideology, we must develop a skill that can be useful in the Black community and we must have total allegiance to Black people.

Other speakers were:

Brothers Cleveland Sellers and Mark Smith who gave us an overview of the movement of the last ten years. They went through SNCC, Mississippi Freedom Riders, CORE and other student groups. They also analyzed the trends and methods used by the groups. Brother Tim Thomas traced the history of the Pan-African Movement mentioning such famous Pan-Africanist as W. E. B. DuBois, Marcus Garvey, and Kwame Nkrumah. A Pan-Africanist was defined as one who was for and believed in all a African people. Brother Milton Coleman spoke on the overall direction of S. O. B. I. and some of the plans for the next year. He stressed that our people are determined and we must move on and be about the serious business of the complete liberation of all Black people.

A panel consisting of brothers Bob Brown, Willie Ricks, Alvin X and Otu Lumumba discussed the concept of community control and its significance in the struggle for total liberation.

Also scheduled were discussion groups on Pan-Africanism and workshops on Black studies: Which direction? Save Black schools, Structuring a viable communications system, and The Draft.

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