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EDITORIAL

OUTLOOK ON CULTURE

How many blacks are truly familiar with their culture? E. B. Tyler, a British anthropologist, in 1871, wrote of it in this manner. "Culture . . . is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, customs, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society." In general, he has said that culture is the total of human achievements.

From the 700's A.D. to the 1000's A.D. an African empire called Ghana flourished along the upper waters of the Niger River. Between 1200 and 1600 A.D. a Negro-Arabic university flourished at Timbuktu in West Africa. Both of these serve as examples of a great culture attained by the black people.

However in the 1400's the European traders arrived in Africa bringing with them a new and completely different culture. In this process of acculturation (impact of one culture on another) the simple, but sophisticated culture of the black, almost died out under the more complex culture of the Europeans. In addition, as blacks were brought to America, they were forced to give up the remnants of their past great culture and thereby lose their identity with their ancestry.

After about 250 years in slavery, the blacks were freed. But in what sense was he free? He had achieved his political freedom, but economically and culturally, he was still dependent upon a race which had enslaved him for 250 years. The white man controlled

the industry and the nation's financial resources, so the black man had to depend on him financially to survive.

Two hundred and fifty years had erased the traces of the great culture which the African had once built up. Therefore the black man had to accept the culture which a white-oriented world had impressed upon him in slavery for a hundred years hence, the majority of the black people were satisfied with blue-collar jobs. A few Negroes sought to improve their position in life. After World War II, a hand full of black Americans won recognition in various fields. Gwendolyn Brooks became the first black American to receive the Nobel peace prize. Marion Anderson was the first black American to sing the leading role in the Metropolitan Opera in New York. But the efforts of a few blacks cannot return to the black people the pride, the glory, and the prestige that was once theirs. The black people must mass together in an effort to rebuild culture that will in their own eyes exemplify the achievements of a proud race.

Abraham Lincoln once said in his Gettysburg address, "It is for us . . . to be dedicated to the unfinished work which they . . . have thus so far so nobly advanced." The great Negro leaders who fought the battle of racial strife and injustice have left a legacy, a tradition of racial pride which must be developed by the black race.

We are dependent on a slave race. We must develop our own resources. We must abandon the way of those who would keep us a culturally and economically slave

A LOOK AT OUR PRESIDENT

On November 5, 1968, our nation was faced with the task of electing another president. As expected, Richard M. Nixon won.

Richard Nixon, former Vice-President and now President of the United States, was said to be confident all during his campaign that he would be our next President. He ran very strong in the southern states and in the west, where he was born.

Dick Nixon (1913-). Served eight years as Vice-President under Dwight Eisenhower (1953-61). In 1960, Nixon ran against John Fitzgerald Kennedy for the presidency. He was defeated. In 1962, Dick was a candidate for governor. Again he was defeated. Richard M. Nixon was born to Quaker parents in Yorba Linda, California. He graduated from Whittier College and Duke Law School.

WHAT THE ELECTION OF MR. NIXON MEANS TO THE NEGRO

I think the election of President Richard Nixon will not be as dangerous to minorities as it seems. I say this because Mr. Nixon still has more Democrats to work with than Republicans. There isn't too much Mr. Nixon can do without the consent of Congress. However, I think that any person elected to the office of President of the United States, who does not receive an overwhelming majority of votes from the people, cannot become too successful as a president. I don't believe that minorities will get any great benefits from Mr. Nixon's being president, but I really don't think that we, as a race will lose too badly.

We have a mind to our own. We won't stand by and let Mr. Nixon tear down all we've worked for. He may be president of the United States but he can't control our minds and our thoughts.

AFRO-AMERICAN

By Shelia Jones

Most Negro youths prefer to be called, "Afro-American." They feel the name "Negro" given to them during slavery is meaningless. If, however, they aren't called Afro-American, they rather be called "Black" or "Soul brothers and sisters," because these names really point them out as being someone. Afro-Americans describe themselves as Black yes "Black and Proud and Black and Beautiful."

race. We must bring peace and unity among our people, and work to build a prosperous race. A race that is free economically, politically, and culturally.

HONOR ROLL

FRESHMAN

"A"

"B"

Johnny Banks, Ethelyn Adams, Constance Brooks, Barbara Forbes, Jasper Guion, Genero Hukins, Brenda Foye, Glenda Jenkins, Sheila Jones, Milton Kornegay, Barron Scott, Gregory Williams.

SOPHOMORE

"A"

"B"

Patricia Bryant, Fannie Daniels, Alfred Harkley, Carolyn Jackson, Mary Rodgers

JUNIOR

"A"

Lerla Williams

"B"

Kenneth Whitehurst, Gerry Fisher, Carolyn Perry, Barbara Greene.

SENIOR

"A"

Lillie Lawrence

"B"

Jacquelin Daniels, Henry Harper, Rebecca Hargett, John Martin, Delores Jones, Cheryl Moore.

WHY EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT TO US

Education is learning and learning is life. Why did I make such a statement? Well, you know for yourself that, you learn something new almost everyday.

Education is the key to success. It is your passport to a better job. Education is something that should be cherished, not taken for a play thing.

As you know, many young people drop out of school for causes that could be avoided. But, as you might agree, most of our fellow classmates drop out of school only to follow in the footsteps of the uneducated people.

To me, education is all we need to get by, education is only a nine lettered word but it means a lot.

So stay in school and work to the best of your ability. Have confidence in yourself. Don't come to school with just passing on your mind, come to school with determination to learn.

ful.

For Afro-Americans to be a respectful race, we must know something about African culture. We can't only look like them with our "Afros" and make up we must also know why we are dressing as we are. If we must wear the afro hair style, then it should be shaped neatly. If we must wear the African colors, then they should be harmonizingly blended. This is what will make "Black" beautiful, and have Afro American a respected race.