

Voice of the NAACP

by Ellis Casson

[Author's note: This week I'd like to share with you these outstanding comments by Hazel James. Mrs. James is a personal friend of mine, and is an active NAACP branch member in Houston, Texas. She serves as an advisor to one of the city's five NAACP Youth Councils. I trust that her words will find deep meaning for you as they have for me. "Hear Ye" — HAZEL JAMES]

My children, I worry about you. I worry because daily I see you slipping downward into the bubbling slush of immorality and degradation. You carry, clutched in your hands, deadly instruments of self-destruction and death! You have embraced drug-worship; you have engaged in the mind-blowing experiences of other cultures. You have strayed, like lost sheep, into the heroin houses of this country and have indulged in this ritual of fools. Your bright eyes have become dulled; your feet stumble uncertainly through this land of your fathers. Your strong hands tremble as they reach eagerly for the deadly poisons held out to you. You have offered your bodies as living sacrifices to the Master of Darkness. You have pawned your souls. My children, I am disturbed

about you. I am disturbed because you have learned the language of the forked tongue. You smile with your lips and curse with your heart. You mouth "brother" and "sister" while your soul remains cold to the meanings of the words. You have learned to use the deadly poisons of deceit and hatred. You have cursed your mother; have slain your father. You have deserted your wives and denied your offspring. You have forsaken the instructions of your forebears. You have slandered your ancestors.

My children, I weep for you. I weep because you have set at naught the sacrifices of your fathers. You have made a mockery of their years of bondage by making game of the inheritance they left you — the inheritance of freedom. Their toils and labors mean nothing to you. You have ridiculed their unwavering faith in the Supreme Liberator. You have placed undesirable labels on your sires. You have shamed your people.

I saw you emerging, a strong, steadfast people, refined by suffering; strengthened by adversity. I envisaged you pointing the way to a world of hate-blinded, war-weary people — leading them to true brother-

hood. Instead, you have joined the ranks of the rabble. You have deserted your goals. You have united with the foul-mouthed shouters; you have flouted tradition; have ridiculed convention. You have disgraced your race.

My children, I pray for you. I pray because I am the mother who bore you and I still love you. I pray because I have hopes that you will put aside your tools of death. I beg you, forsake this road to destruction with all its allure. Return to the path you left. There you will find the respect you lost. There, you will rediscover love of your God, your country, and love of me. Take heed, my children, and put down the acts of inhumanity which you copied from those blinded by fear, ignorance, and greed. Come back to freedom while there is still time.

MEDIA director resigns

(Continued from page 1)

provided strong leadership and yet will not allow the director to take that role. Bostic feels they have harmed the program by allowing the staff to contact them personally with their gripes rather than going through proper procedures and by allowing decisions to be made around the director rather than through him.

MEDIA also has had difficulties with the Model Cities Agency staff. Bostic considered the role of Model Cities staff is to monitor the program and insure that it meets the requirements of its contract with the city; but the Model Cities staff has attempted to become involved in the internal affairs of the agency. Threats have been made, the Model Cities has presented a negative picture of MEDIA, and they recommended termination of the program at the end of

the Third Action Year (June 15, 1973). The Model Cities Citizen's Planning Board, however, funded the program for the first 8 months of the Fourth Action Year.


According to Bostic, relations between MEDIA and Model Cities have worsened since Charles Jordan resigned as director of Model Cities. Jordan was "amenable to ward programs, understanding of their purpose and problems". Under Raubeson, regulations and directives are interpreted in their strictest sense, often to the detriment of the programs. Decisions have been made in the interest of Model Cities and city administration rather than in the interest of the people they serve.

Bostic hopes MEDIA will find a director who is a strong administrator and has the personality to win the support of the staff. "Perhaps someone who will accept 80 per cent efficiency

instead of 100 per cent of effectiveness and still get the job done."

MEDIA will be funded at \$135,000 for the first 8 months of the Fourth Action Year, beginning June 16, 1973. There will be no money for direct loans and the program will provide technical and managerial assistance and financial packaging. Applicants will be assisted to find loan sources. The current budget, June 1972-June 1973 is \$430,000; to wit \$200,000 is for operating expenses and \$230,000 for seed money. Under this budget, media was able to make small loans and supplemental loans.

Currently there are 44 programs with outstanding loans of about \$500,000; 33 cases receiving technical assistance alone; and 23 prospective clients who have applied within the last three weeks.



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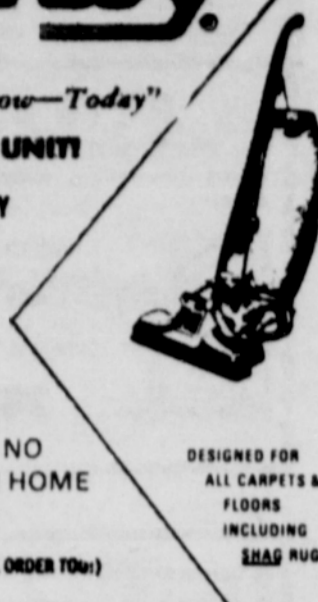
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38¢

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48¢

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49¢

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Margarine

22¢

Mustard

46¢

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98¢

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