

Voice of the NAACP

by Ellis H. Casson, President NAACP, Portland Branch

As I look at the calendar I quickly notice it's the end of June and already six months of this year's activities for us have gone by. It's been a good, active six months and we have made our impact throughout the city and state. Since the NAACP won't be meeting "formally" until September, I want to take this opportunity to "thank" each of you for your support to the NAACP by becoming members and encouraging us in our efforts to make our community a better place for all.

I want also to thank Mr. Alfred Henderson and his staff for giving us the opportunity to speak with each of you through the "Voice of the NAACP". Your comments and expressions have been helpful.

Each of you, I'm sure, realize it's not easy to please everyone. We wish that we could have more personal involvement with each of you, but with over 1200

members, it's impossible; but nevertheless, we are concerned about you and your welfare. However, the NAACP belongs to you and you have a responsibility to find out what is going on and to take an active part in it's work and programs.

The sad part is we never see "you" until you get in trouble or need the support of the NAACP. We never see our "Black elected officials", our "Black directors of programs", or the "Black 'so-called' leadership" at our meetings and we've been meeting on the third (3rd) Sunday in each month for over seven (7) years. And whether you want to admit it or not - all of us are where we are today because of the NAACP.

We need you when times are good and when times are bad and rough. We need to know you are concerned and interested.

The NAACP is a volunteer organization - no paid staff, just faithful workers for the cause of freedom.

Because of this, we have kept a branch going for almost 60 years, and we still stand tall as the most feared and respected civil rights organization in America.

I trust that when we return in the fall you will come out and support us so in return we can support you.

Your President will not be sleeping during the summer, but will continue to keep his

pulse on what is happening in our community and city. The job is too great and the time is far too short to waste a minute, an hour, or even a day without being concerned and active.

Have a good summer and remember "you need the NAACP and the NAACP needs you".

Yours in love and peace.

New daily covers Caribbean scene

The Caribbean Daily, a newspaper directed to the estimated 1,500,000 people in the U.S. and Canada who come from the Caribbean area and those who have an interest in the area, has begun publishing six days a week in New York City.

The tabloid-size newspaper carries news from throughout the Caribbean, with wire services provided by Reuters and United Press International, as well as what is happening in the West Indian and other Caribbean centers of interest in New York.

The publisher and owner is Frank Rojas, from St. Vincent where he was a civil servant and news editor of the Windward Islands Broadcasting Service. The editor is Rojas' son, Don, who was educated in Grenada, St. Vincent, and the University

of Wisconsin.

The younger Rojas was co-founder and assistant editor of the Black Voice, the first Black-oriented student newspaper at the University of Wisconsin. He was also news editor of a Madison, Wisconsin radio station and communications coordinator for the Afro-American center in Madison.

While the publication is of primary interest to people from the Caribbean, the Rojas' see a considerable market for their publication in the 24-million U.S. Black population.

The Caribbean area is one of the primary vacation regions for America's Black travelers.

The initial issues have been well received by readers and advertisers, according to Frank Rojas.

Committee hears human needs

"We must somehow get over to the American people the fact that the Watergate budget is just as damaging to America as the Watergate event," said Henry Maier, mayor of Milwaukee and chairman of the Coalition for Human Needs and Budget Priorities in his opening remarks to the Coalition-sponsored Senate Ad Hoc Hearings on the Budget vs. Human Needs.

Maier explained that "while the Watergate event poisons the well-spring of our political process, the Watergate budget poisons the well-spring of our governmental process."

The Coalition - an umbrella organization comprised of over 90 local and national citizens' groups - sponsored the hearings to highlight the widespread, detrimental impact of the Administration's budget and to discuss legislative proposals for restoring domestic human needs to the top of our national priorities list.

Senators Edward Kennedy and Walter Mondale co-chaired the Senate hearing panel, and were joined by Senators Richard Clark, Edmund Muskie, Jacob Javits, Henry Jackson, Richard Schweiker, William Proxmire, Gaylord Nelson, Hubert Humphrey and Charles Mathias.

Members of the Coalition's Board of Directors presented expert testimony focusing on both the overall problem and specific aspects of it. Witnesses included United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, Urban League President Vernon Jordan, League of Women Voters

President Lucy Benson, and Clay Cochran of the Rural America Committee.

Vernon Jordan, Executive Director of the National Urban League, told the committee, "I believe that it is up to the Congress to assert its Constitutional role in our government and to initiate the changes so desperately needed by your constituents. I see little hope for action from the Executive Branch. Many people feel that the changes in staffing arrangements in the wake of Watergate will open the government to more liberalized programs. But I fear that the basic domestic policy is set within this budget, a budget that is a rigid coffin for the hopes and dreams of the poor."

Paul Warnke, attorney and former Assistant Secretary of Defense, testified that "With the end of our Vietnam involvement and the negotiation of the Moscow Arms Agreement in 1972, we are entitled to expect a major reduction in the military budget for Fiscal Year 1974 - similar to the massive reductions achieved upon termination of the Second World War and the Korean War. But, instead of reductions, President Nixon has proposed a \$5.6 billion increase in national defense budget authority for FY 74 and simultaneously, a vast cutback on federal domestic programs essential to our genuine national security."

The Ad Hoc Senate Hearings on the Budget vs. Human Needs were an outgrowth of local action hearings and town meetings held during the past few months

School of Engineering seeks Black students

The University of the Pacific School of Engineering is working with the nationwide Minority Engineering Education Effort (MEEE) to create more opportunities for minorities in the engineering profession.

Officials at the UOP school, which has considerably increased its percentage of minority students in recent years, have written letters to some 230 high school students from minority backgrounds who have expressed an interest in engineering.

A nationwide list of students was supplied by MEEE, which was created by the Engineer's Council for Professional Development as a special task force. Goal of the task force is to increase the number of minority engineer graduates from the 400 last year to 4,000 within the next decade. A full-time executive secretary at the national level was named recently to help sustain the program, and the task force is comprised of academicians, minority leaders, businessmen, government officials and engineers.

UOP School of Engineering Dean Robert Heyborne reported that in addition to the 230 letters, Pacific officials have personally contacted Stockton area youths who were on the list. He said the desire to attract minority youth and women also was stressed at a January institute at UOP for high school science teachers and counselors from throughout the Central Valley.

"We are doing everything we can to attract qualified minority students into our program," explained Dr. Heyborne, "and we believe this nationwide move by the

Engineer's Council for Professional Development certainly will assist us in this area."

The UOP School of Engineering, with a current en-

rollment of 120, has approximately 14 per cent minorities, an increase of 10 per cent over the figure four years ago.

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