

THE COLLEGE STUDENT SPEAKS

By DORIS BROWN
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

The child's game of "Pin the tail on the donkey" is being taken over by some adults endeavoring to "Pin the blame on the honkey." It has become virtually a national pastime to blame this or that person or social evil for "crime in the street" and other anti-social behavior.

Negroes and whites join in putting the finger on everything in the book from lack of fire hydrants to the "peaceful" activities of those who preach "non-violence." Everyone seems to know which sinister force is at work to disrupt our national tranquility. But a few are willing to admit that all of us, collectively, may be responsible for producing the chaotic conditions that lead to unrest.

In any event, rioting and social disorder, in a complex, changing world of rising expectations, are not likely to result from any one phenomenon or misanthrope's sinister actions.

Actress Eartha Kitt apparently does not see things this way. She made headlines recently when she sought to "pin the blame" for social unrest on the Vietnam war. So important was it to bring this undying message to the nation's First Lady that Miss Kitt felt justified in haranguing her and bring her to tears.

A University of Chicago business professor, Yale Brozen, offered a not-altogether-different explanation of recent unrest. He blamed it on passage of minimum-wage laws, which, according to his understanding, keep the poor from obtaining work.

Bitter reaction to the joblessness resulting from minimum-wage requirements has exploded --and will continue to explode--in violence, the professor averred.

When riots broke out in Chicago in 1966, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., went so far as to attribute them to indignant anger over the lack of fire hydrants which neighborhood youths might use to cool off.

Failure to pass a piece of legislation, retention of an undesirable schools superintendent, the racially abusive attitude of some white policemen, the lack of Negro representation in some government administrations--all these are "explanations" of recent violence offered in the black community.

AMONG WHITES, the answers are even more simplistic. Communist influence in the rights movement, innate Negro "perversity," a desire for too many goodies, and a lack of "responsibility" among black leaders are typically cited by whites as the causes of urban unrest.

The trouble with these "explanations" is that they all have a measure of truth, while not telling the whole truth. Combined, they may offer at least a partial picture of a complicated problem. But merely used to condemn and "fix the blame," the "explanations,"--taken singly--can only mislead us and thus make a solution to the race problem even more remote.

What all of us--black and white--tend to forget is that the unrest plaguing us--some would say "blessing" us--results from the sort of undisciplined, rambunctious society we have ourselves produced.

We live in a society that is expanding economically and changing socially. Expectations among all our citizenry are higher than ever before. Frustration results when expectations outstrip actual gains.

A significant element of our society is taking its first steps as free men, after having been stripped of its social and family institutions during slavery and its segregation aftermath.

These people are entering a larger society which itself has a weak, degenerating family life. Cherishing only the negative value of "freedom," our society cannot see the need for developing the very personal and community discipline that could be used to cope with the problem of unrest.

Is it no wonder, then, that we have social disorder? What else is to be expected in a country with a "Wild West" tradition of violence and rule-breaking? A rebirth of Victorian prudery, perhaps?

Can we really blame the Vietnam war, the passage of undesirable legislation, or the lack of fire hydrants for mounting urban unrest? We can, if our goal is merely to find a scape-

Mabel Hoggard Off To Morehouse Inauguration

Dr. Hugh Morris Gloster, a cousin of Las Vegas' J. David Hoggard, will be inaugurated as Seventh President of Morehouse College, February 17. Dr. Gloster was former head of the English Department at Hampton Institute.

Mrs. Mable Hoggard, David's wife, who is a first grade teacher at Highland Elementary School, will fly to Atlanta, Georgia, early Thursday morning arriving in time to attend the three-day schedule of events attendant to the inauguration. Mrs. Hoggard is Nevada's first Negro teacher and has been hailed as one of the finest first grade teachers in the world. J. David Hoggard is coordinator of the Clark County Economic Opportunity Board.

Inaugural activities begin Thursday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m. with an Inaugural Concert presented by the Morehouse College Glee Club and Instrumental Ensemble with Wendell Whalun conducting.

On Friday, Feb. 16, a day long program is scheduled opening with a morning symposium "The Predominantly Negro College: What next?" moderated by Samuel M. Nabrit, Executive Director, Southern Fellowship Fund. Participating panelists announced are James M. Godard, Program Director, Higher Education Opportunity Project, Southern Regional Education Board; Martin D. Jenkins, President, Morgan State College; and Benjamin E. May, President Emeritus, Morehouse College.

James A. Colston, President, Bronx Community College, will serve as moderator of Friday afternoon's session. Panelists slated are Joseph H. Fichter, Stillman Professor of Roman Catholic Studies, Divinity School, Harvard University; Earl J. McGrath, Executive Officer, Institute of Higher Education, Teachers College, Columbia University; and Stephen J. Wright, President, United Negro College Fund.

An Inaugural Banquet at the Regency Hyatt House will conclude Friday's schedule of events.

On Saturday, following an 11:30 Delegates Luncheon, the Inaugural Ceremony will take place at the College's Samuel H. Archer Hall at 3 p.m.

An Inaugural Reception from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Sadie G. Mays Lounge of the Benjamin E. Mays Hall will precede the Inaugural Ball which will begin at 9 p.m. at the Paladium Club.

NAME DROPPING

RICHARD NIXON -- Announced candidate for GOP Presidential nomination declared he has had eight years to reflect on the problems besetting the nation and believes he has solutions for them....Evidently, we're not going to get the answers from him unless he's elected President. After eight minutes reflection, the thought occurs that the fact that Nixon is presently leading the polls in a sampling of Republican opinion is sufficient explanation to the oft expressed query as to why Negroes are, primarily, registered Democrats.

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MAURY WILLS -- Pittsburgh Pirates' ace infielder, who won his laurels as the world's greatest "thief" as a Los Angeles Dodger, won an enviable niche for himself in the hearts of Las Vegas during his just concluded engagement at the Cortez Hotel...In-Towners, Out-of-Towners, and celebrities galore flocked to the V.I.P. Lounge to dig the famed ball player's act. On Joe Delaney's TV "Viewer's Digest", Charlie Teagarden presented Wills with an honorary card to the local musician's union - an honor previously bestowed on only Louis Armstrong, the late Paul Whiteman, and Debbie Reynolds....That Delaney interview with Teagarden and Wills, by the way, was an especially engaging one - relaxed, informative, and entertaining.

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THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVES OF CONGRESS -- During the President's recent State of the Union address, did you note the wild round of applause which greeted the Chief's remarks about "crime in the streets" and "Saving the Redwoods" and the funeral quiet with which mention of civil rights legislation was met?...And does anything frost you more than those "in-depth" analyses after Presidential speeches by the staffs of the networks?... Like John Q. Public can't hear and understand what has been said....What really took the rag off the bush was that several hours after the President's State of the Union address, NBC pre-empted Ben Gazzara for their experts' round-table talk. The women-folk didn't like that at all; they probably wouldn't even buy pre-empting Gazzara for the President's speech.

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JOINT LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT COMMITTEE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN NEVADA -- Group headed by Attorney Pat Clary doing a great job....Their resolutions for legislative action which greeted Demo representatives when they reported for the Special Legislature Monday dealt with issues of primary importance to Nevada residents....Citizens should let their legislators know they are 100 percent behind the Committee's recommendations on the Medicaid Program, a State Hospital probe, and acceleration of construction of cottages in Clark County for retarded children....The Committee is also to be applauded for its premise that it just doesn't equate for Democrats to commit themselves to a proposed platform for legislative action and turn around and commit themselves to support a candidate who is diametrically opposed to every principle of that platform.

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HARRY BELAFONTE -- One of the show world's great talents has cornered the market on other great talents for NBC's Tonight show while Belafonte is pinch hitting for vacationing Johnny Carson if his opening show, Monday night, is any indication. Appearing on the late show Monday were such stellar names as Lena Horne, U.S. Senator Bobby Kennedy, Bill Cosby, and the Smothers Brothers (a feat in itself inasmuch as the Smothers Brothers' prime time Sunday show is on CBS)...Monday's show had much more political overtones than is usually heard on the Tonight show.

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OMEGA "SKEETS" TAYLOR -- Chicago's (See NAMES, page 13)



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goat.
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