

TO DISPLAY AFRICAN FASHION WITCHCRAFT



Las Vegas members of the National Association of College Women are shown at a recent meeting making plans for the group's upcoming presentation of African Fashions by Rosana Wright (store manager of "Bootstrings" Boutique in Los Angeles, California) in the Sands Hotel Ballroom Friday, March 29... From left members of the local branch of the Association are Mrs. Louise Clark, Mrs. Gwen Booker, Mrs. Edna Perkins, Mrs. Laceryne Simmons, and Mrs. Ethel Booker.



"Ekhaya" models, who will display fashions at the unique event, are pictured in the workshop of the Boutique where a happy blend of contemporary bright American styles and exotic fashions of Africa, designed by blacks in the South Central Los Angeles Community, excite the attention of the most blasé women shoppers.

POWELL TO RUN AGAIN

NEW YORK - (NPI)--Adam Clayton Powell is back--in spirit, if not in the flesh. He had decided to run again for the seat in Congress denied to him last year. And thus, it will be the same old volatile problem all over again, should he win and again be denied his seat.

His Harlem constituents, lacking representation in Congress for more than a year, would have even bigger grievances as their period of non-representation increases. And Powell was setting all this into motion by simply staying out of the country and remaining the popular hero he has long been among his constituents.

His opponent, as in a previous election, is expected to be James Meredith.

"BOOTSTRINGS by L'TONYA", and out-growth of OPERATION BOOTSTRAP, job training center at 42nd and Central Avenue in Los Angeles, is the first step toward realization of a multi-phased dream for founders and supporters of OPERATION BOOTSTRAP, a phoenix of the tragic Watts riot.

The OPERATION BOOTSTRAP Center foresees many and varied businesses to be run by the men and women whom they train. Because "BOOTSTRAP" is not federally funded, it has enjoyed wide support by Southern California Business and Industry. Among the large corporations that have contributed to the support of the training center are IBM, Shell Oil, General Motors, Systems Development Corporation, and North American.

More than 1,000 Blacks are on the Center's waiting lists to receive training, and the Center has an incredible 97% employment record in placing its trainees on the labor market.

"Operation Bootstraps" first delved into the Fashion Field in June, 1967 when it opened "Bootstrings" where fashions could be made available to the general public. According to the long range plan, the non-profit shop's proceeds will revert to "BOOTSTRAP". The goal is to make the training center financially independent within two years.

African Fashion Witchcraft is an everyday event at "Bootstrings by L'Tonya", the Boutique located at 1038 West Santa Barbara Avenue in Los Angeles. African fashions hang in profusion in the shop's EKHAYA ROOM. "Ekhaya" is a Zulu word meaning "going home", and the term is justly applied for the clothes rekindle the mood of the designer's heritage.

The Boutique's African fashions are wrapped, sashed, draped, and trimmed in the authentic manner. Store manager Mrs. Wright labels the designs (many of them are her own creations) with descriptive names chosen from the African vernacular. Many of the styles are made to order from the bright bolts of fabric designed in Nigeria and Ghana. Fashions are often one-of-a-kind, as the designers allow their imaginations free reign. The resultant shifts, costumes, dresses, "at-home" and hostess apparel are priced from \$10.00.

The EKHAYA MODELS came into being after manager Rosana Wright decided that presentation of African fashions with models who wore their hair in the traditional style would lend a cultural, as well as an educational, background to Fashion Shows. Models all have African names, and during a Fashion Show, they move gracefully to the beat of Congo Drums superbly executed by the musicians who set the mood for showing of African fashions.

The National Association of College Women's

AKA Sorors Committed

"AKA-NAACP Project Freedom" was approved by the Alpha Kappa Alpha 1964 Boule as a national project to furnish the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with additional funds to continue the fight for freedom and the human dignity of all people.

Under this plan, each of the three hundred chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority were requested to institute a plan to obtain a NAACP Life Membership.

Theta Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha initiated its first major payment at the March 10th General Meeting of the Las Vegas Branch NAACP. Miss Margaret Crawford, Basileus, made the presentation to Attorney Charles L. Kellar, NAACP President, on behalf of the AKA sorors.

Since the emergence of this national project, more than \$50,000 has been contributed to the NAACP Life Membership Program.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. has also made substantial contributions to the National Association for Study of Negro Life and History.

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Las Vegas group, is enjoying tremendous response to the announcement of their sponsorship of a presentation of fashions from "Bootstrings by L'Tonya, Friday, March 29, in the Grand Ballroom of the Sands Hotel.

Tickets, priced at \$3.50 each are on sale at Sarann's Cleaners, Larry's Sight and Sound, Doolittle Center, and Bob Bailey's Sugar Hill. They may also be obtained by calling Ticket Chairman Mrs. Ethel Booker or Mrs. Laceryne Simmons.

Mrs. Charlotte Cooke is President of the Las Vegas branch of the National Association of College Women. Mrs. Myrtle Banks and Mrs. Lorraine Haynes are co-chairman of the Association's premiere public curtesy at the Sands, Friday, March 29.