



# The Publisher Speaks

In May of this year, Cecil B. Thompson, a Black official of the Federal Energy Administration, spoke before students at Jackson State University in Mississippi. He announced belatedly that America was entering an Energy Age. This was seemingly a tardy piece of information to hand to eager college students. As acting deputy assistant administrator for international energy affairs, he should have known that college kids know we're in trouble in the energy field up to here.

What the students needed to know was how they and their relatives can survive next winter and how they might share in the infinite revenues which will come out of this massive energy producing future.

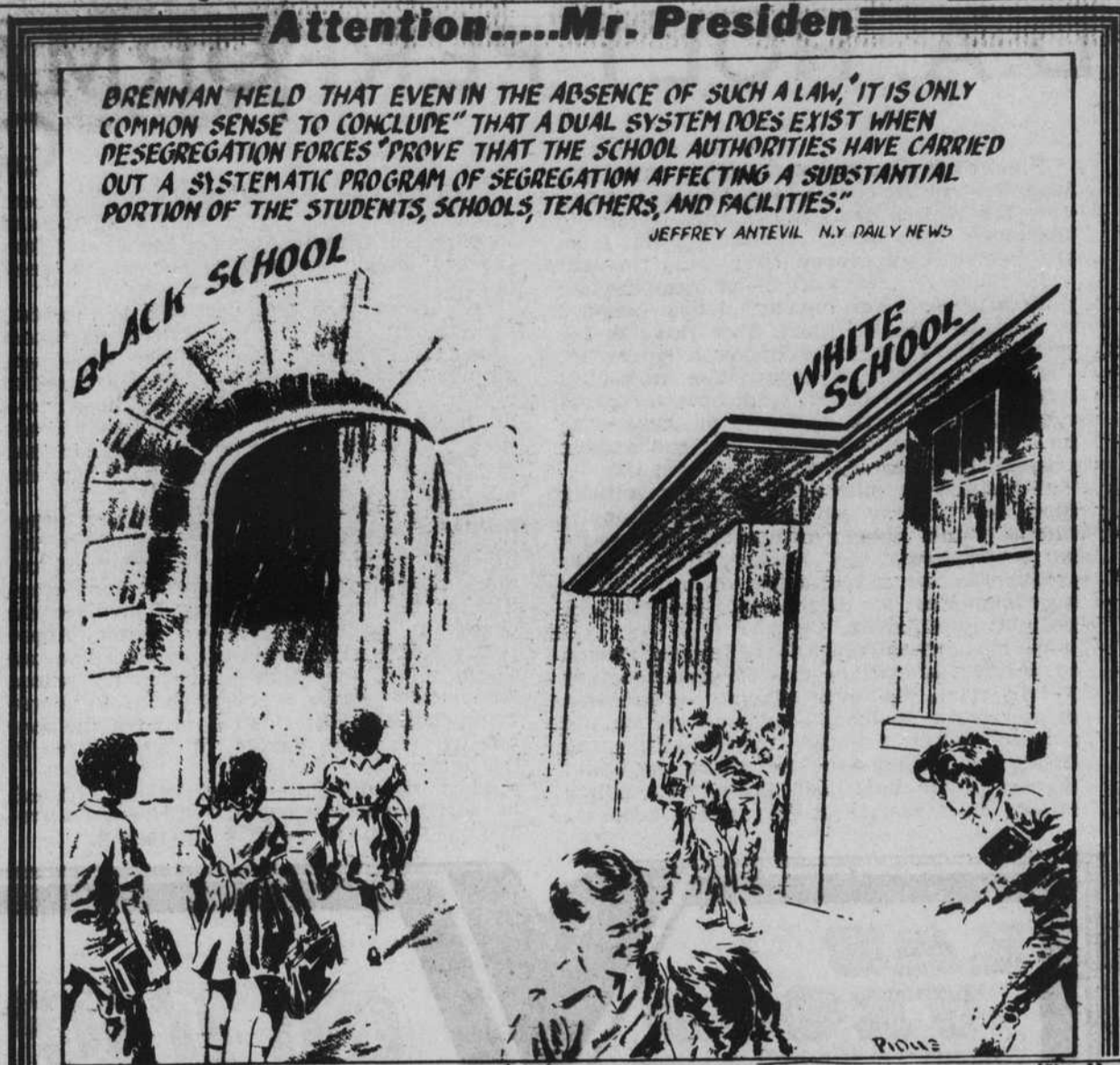
The script was followed about the nation's energy crisis creating jobs for Blacks . . . which is not that easy and not quite the case. Blacks must press and pressure their leaders and representatives in the statehouses and in Washington to make this happen. When the deputy said Black educators will play role in training the "next" generation of Black leaders to deal with the energy situation, he should have said "this" generation. There is no time to wait.

Indeed, Mr. Thompson, jumped way ahead of the game when he talked about conservation, construction and exploration and development. Instead, this is the time for a gritty approach to this issue. Energy, which is heat, light, food preparation, job performance, and transportation, touches deeply, very deeply, the lives of energy soul in this country. The poorer the soul, the deeper energy touches.

He spoke of energy conserving structures, of geologists, engineers, production and control experts. Unfortunately Black engineers comprise one percent of engineering graduates. There may be 1700 in America. Getting young Blacks to enter engineering and the physical sciences has been so futile that funded and non-funded groups have been frantically trying to find and motivate them. Science and engineering is really where the action is.

Although Thompson's position in government is quite minor, but most major to us and bright-eyed college students, he might have suggested how the government could institute a crash training program and bring young Blacks into the numerous technological and technical opportunities the vast program will need. In this case, government might truly overcome the negative history which made these fields taboo to our children in the first place.

Every Black who lives and breathes has a rendezvous with the energy crisis. . . . if they don't move fast and pressure leadership into moving government in their direct-



ion. They can freeze and starve in the dark, or they can survive and get a piece of the action. Without bombarding the state capitals and Washington, there will be no surge of instant engineers and technicians . . . and there will be no guarantee of adequate heat this winter. But strong collective action can get adequate energy and can also get youngsters enrolled in programs which will allow them significant roles in this fantastic era of energy development.

An while Black are pressuring and demanding, they might also insist on the elimination of state and federal laws which keep electric companies from building additional plants which will have to provide the energy for today and tomorrow.

The fight must touch the barriers in the construction trades and in all areas where energy production will need technicians, technological and labor support.

In short, the fight for survival in the energy crisis is no difference from any other fights . . . past and present. If we don't ask and demand, we'll never get, but this time, and in this special case, if we don't get . . . we don't make it at all.

### BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

Bond issues are the I.O.U.'s of the masses for the benefit of the bigshots. Street languages like this is more accurate than many people care to comprehend. In San Francisco there are currently three bond issues which deserve defeat in the name of the people.

The reason is the same all across this nation. Not enough niggers working and contracting there in the right places at the right times. These bond issues amount over \$105 million in San Francisco which will be enlarge blow by the Black American community.

The San Francisco airport, fire and park & recreation authorities desire to collect funds for fine white controlled projects. These types of programs should be placed in an all white cemetery. Big city mayors consistently cultivate Black American votes for bond issue money to make white controlled construction companies hard currency. But,

no jobs or contracts are cut out specifically for black people.

kick the pig in the brain

Black Americans are told to get in line for some promised positions on the staff. Janitorial work is not bad -- but -- blacks should not jump the chance to get in the broom closet. Before anymore bond issues are passed with a plurality of black votes, quotas, yes, I said quotas, must be written into the contract relating to hiring, promotion and vendor services for minorities.

The time has come for Black Americans to kick the pig in the brain. The post World War II high unemployment of Black Americans with every other poor young adult unemployed is criminal and dictates action by all concerned American people.

Teh continuing "yas suh" on bond issues by Black Americans has enabled racist Americans to borrow billions of dollars from the public at below going market rates, while practicing racist ideas against more than 25 million poor people. No new airport expansion, fire or park and recreation facilities in most major metropolitan cities of this country can be constructed without the support of the Black American voters in those cities.

The price for the people must be a piece of the action, promotions and job quotas in writing before any bond issue is approved by these voters.

## Just the FACTS

SCLC had an open meeting on Tuesday, November 8, 1977 at the "D" Street Library.

This was an important meeting concerning CETA.

There was a fairly good turnout, but nothing near what was expected.

The members just could not seem to be able to reach any kind of an agreement, so a committee was formed to look into this matter and present their facts at the next regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, November 22, 1977.

**LAS VEGAS VOICE**

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