

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Washington, D.C. — The significance of the Aug. 27 "March to once again awaken the consciousness of America" by its neglected hordes, as they commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the footpath of the immortal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to the Lincoln Memorial, will have a lasting place in the memory of most of its survivors. It was an enthusiastic and purposeful trek of the neglected and the proud, some with unheard, and others with lost, causes. It was a mass of humanity marching against the perpetration of democracy's oldest and most devastating quota system, "The Status Quo."

Beautifully caught up in the honest confusion of the amateur coordinator, the history of the event was its montage of personalities, its causes and events, some dramatic, some funny, some significant and other frivolous, local and universal; all asking that government not just turn over a new leaf, but tear out the entire page and make a fresh new honest start to take care of people-business rather than political desires. Take action now that's analogous to Jobs, Peace and Freedom, all targeted to

eradicating those barriers which divide human beings while creating an atmosphere in which hate thrives to fan riots in the streets and wars on strange battlefields. Let us ban the political bums and the deadly bombs they hide behind.

It was a rewarding sight to fill your seeing with so many people turning out to honor one whose dream was of man's humanity to man. Dr. King in his immortality must feel good that it all wasn't in vain. In many quarters, portions of that dream are becoming a reality. Twenty years and three days after his stirring speech electrified the world, Mission Specialist Guion S. Bluford, Jr., a 40 yr. old Air Force lieutenant, who flew combat in "Nam," became the first black in space. He took off with 4 white astronauts on the third mission of the Space Challenger for a six-day flight circling in space. He is one of four blacks in the astronaut corps. Out in Chicago where Dr. King had so much trouble (they stoned him in Cicero), they have elected a black, Hon. Harold Washington, Mayor. In Atlanta, Ga., the former capitol of the Confederacy, two black

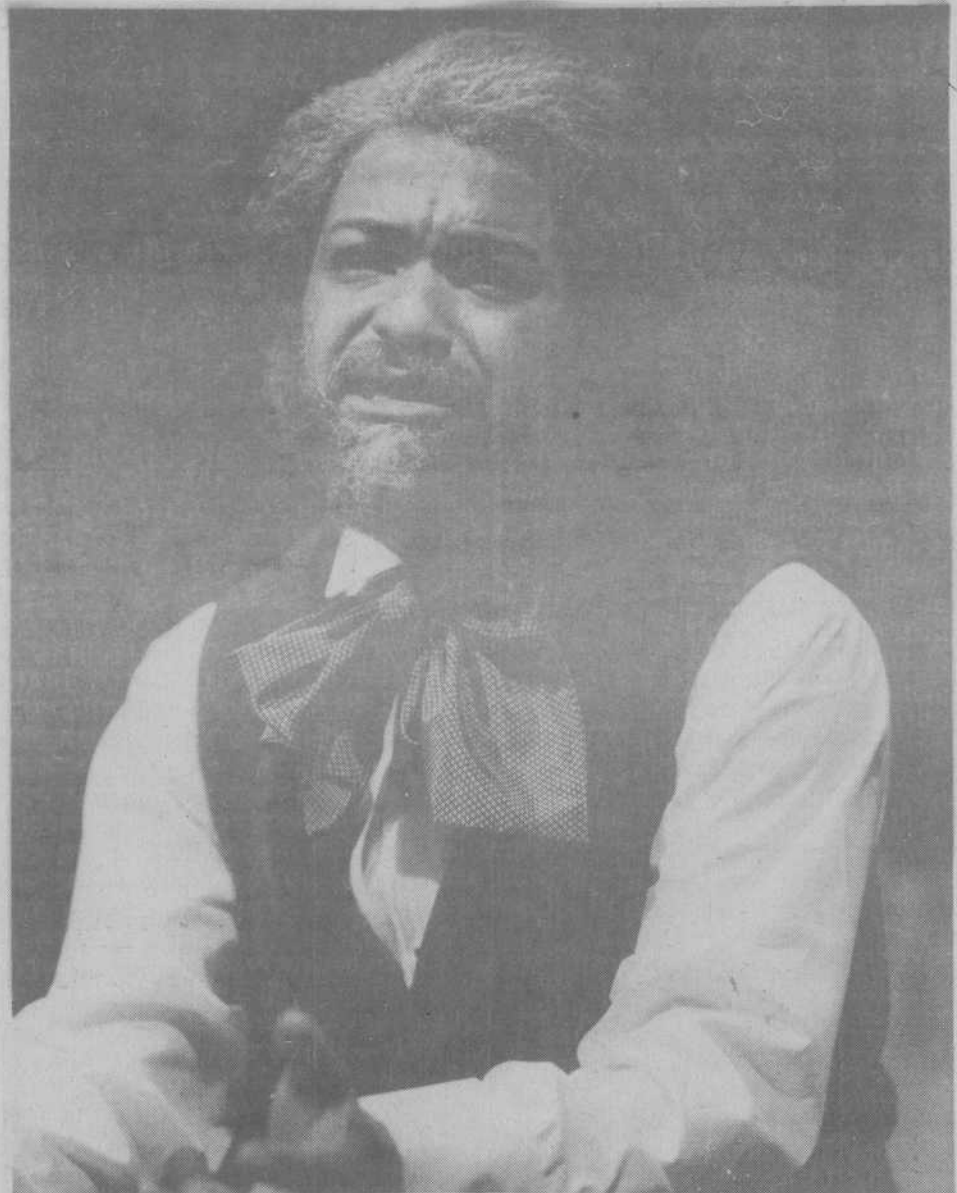
mayors have three times been elected by a mixed population, setting a style and a tempo for a city on the grow racially and economically. Mayor Maynard Jackson snapped the City Hall color barrier, and was re-elected. Now it's Amb. Andrew Young, one of the more astute disciples of the immortal "Peace Maker."

Perhaps in days to come Mayor Young will be the one who will occupy the Oval Office. He's politically tuned to the proper national and international channels, polished and people-prepared for the task with the flare and the flavor of one for whom Destiny has reserved a special niche in the history of this time. He was brilliant on "Face the Nation" a Sunday ago. I loved his subdued self-assurance.

Then there are others who have, in the 20th year of Dr. King's soulful utterance, "I Have A Dream," in the shadow of the sculptured likeness of history's avowed emancipator, made that statement seem more like a premonition.

In Detroit where race riots once flared, at the drop of an angry word, WWII combat pilot Coleman Young, who had to battle to fight for his skin tone, is the Chief Executive. In Los Angeles, the parent city of Hollywood, where not

Original Production "Agitate . . ." To Be Presented



Herb Cawthorne

The City of Las Vegas will present the original production "Agitate . . . our work is not finished," at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m.

A one-man dramatization performed by Herb Cawthorne on the life and times of the brilliant orator and abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, the program is funded by the City of Las Vegas and the Nevada Humanities Committee, Inc.

Please bring your family and friends for an evening of inspirational drama, music and history.

Admission is free. Call 386-6211 for more information.

too long ago we fought the make believers who only saw us as "coons and buffoons," Tom Bradley has a popular hold on City Hall and almost became Governor of the whole of them.

Was this just a dream that Martin had or a prognostication? Only history will tell!!

In big and small cities like Birmingham, Ala.,

Philadelphia, Penn., Washington, D.C., Hartford, Conn., and Gary Indiana, the color spectrum is changing. In City Halls, County Seats, State Legislatures and the House of Representatives the rainbow government is beginning to show its colors. Can the Senate and the White House remain a one-color enclave forever?

NEWS BITS — A dirth of black musicians at Atlantic City gambling casino showrooms has become the concern of Casino Control Commissioners Joel Jacobson and E. Kenneth Burdge. On a recent tour they found but one black tuner in all the house bands. The EEO agreement struck with the Casinos were that 20 percent minorities and 43 percent women would be hired at all levels . . . Sammy Davis, Jr., chartered a chopper to make the "Memorial on DeeCee" despite the fact he had two shows at Harrah's in Atlantic City Friday and Satdee nites. The lovely Diana'mite Ross nixed the invite for the same reason. Harry Belafonte, See ROWE, Page 14

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