

Point of View

Editorial

Celebrations, last night, to welcome in the new year were made across the land. It was to ring out the old and ring in the new. NOW WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

None of us can predict the future. However, we as Blacks, must now turn to this new year, 1986, with the hope that it will be a better year than 1985.

How can we do this? We can do this by coming together to work out a program for progress, a program that will help our community, our city, our state, and our nation. Never before has togetherness been needed as much as now in our Black community.

Not long ago the question was asked: Who is the one Black person in our community that can speak for us? We do not know of any person who can do this for everyone. We are individuals just as any other ethnic group. However, we must band together for strength to face the future.

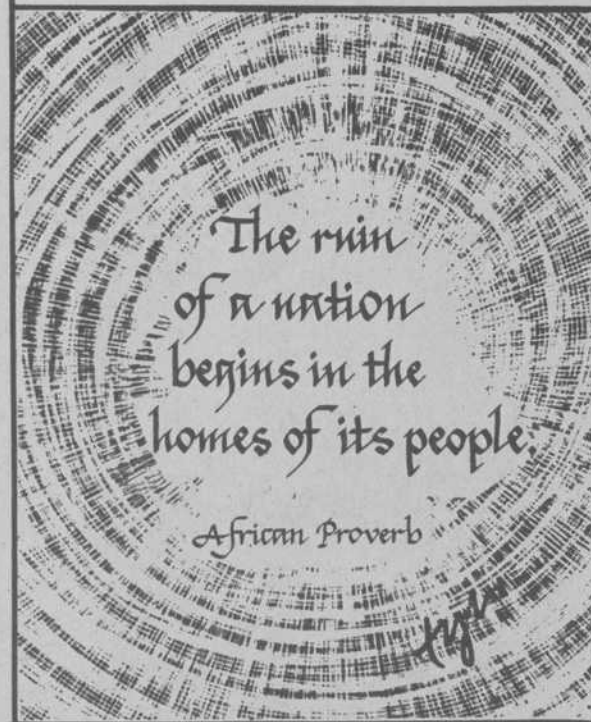
The year 1985 has not been good for the Black community. Promises have been made and not carried out, investigations of Black activity have been made, and in some cases, we have come out on the short end of the stick." By banding together we should be able to "get our piece of the pie." Remember that "together we stand, and divided we fall."

By standing together in 1986, we should be able to get what we deserve to improve our lot in our community. Our youth need our attention badly. Our jobs are crumbling, and our senior citizens are being neglected. We must decide, and decide immediately, what we must do.

We must not let the end of 1986 catch us in the same old rut that we find ourselves in at the end of 1985. Togetherness is the answer.

We Can't Spell S CCESS Without U

The Family Is Important...



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To Be Equal

CHALLENGING YEAR AHEAD

By John E. Jacob

The new year brings some major challenges to the nation and to the black community.

As in previous years, the black community in 1986 will have to fight off continuing threats to past civil rights gains. There is little reason to expect the Administration's offensive against affirmative action, school desegregation, and other key issues to slacken.

Nor is there any reason to expect social programs to escape further attempts to cut or end them, especially with the massive federal deficit likely to grow beyond current projections. At year's end, Washington was full of talk about a 1987 budget that would slice another \$50 billion out of government programs.

The Congress is determined to lower the massive deficit and the Administration is equally determined to continue increases in military spending. Since neither side

is willing to raise taxes, that means programs for the poor and domestic programs in general will be the targets for budget-cutting.

So a major challenge in the coming year will be to



John E. Jacob

reorder national priorities, for we can't allow poor people to suffer more — they've already been driven to the wall by earlier cuts in survival programs that helped increase poverty and hunger in this rich land.

Another challenge will be to create jobs for those bypassed by the economic recovery. As of November, white unemployment was down to under six percent

while black unemployment rose to about 16 percent.

The black-white job gap is growing instead of closing, and this intolerable situation has to be met by programs bringing work to the jobless and training opportunities for displaced workers and youth.

There is no sign that an

educational system become responsive to the needs of the black community.

That won't happen through current proposals to undercut public education by vouchers, tuition tax credits, and similar schemes. But it can happen if the black community harnesses its political power and its

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Administration and Congress crowing about the economic boom understand that black America is deep in an economic Depression and needs urgent action.

This will also be a year in which education becomes the major issue in the black community.

Black dropout rates are high and college entrance rates are lower than in past years. The new jobs coming on stream today demand skills, knowledge and attitudes not found among many poor youth, so it is imperative that the

volunteer power to insist on schools that provide quality education for all.

And it can happen if a business community concerned about the need for a more skilled and better trained work force joins fully in the struggle to make the educational system function in inner-city ghettos as it functions in suburban communities.

There are signs that this may happen. A blue-ribbon group of top business leaders has issued a report calling for massive new resources for public education, and many individual companies are working to make the schools more effective.

So 1986 will find a growing community of interest between industry and the black community, with both having a major stake in making the schools provide quality education.

NNPA FEATURE

COPING

by

Dr. Charles W. Faulkner



If only I had lost that weight like I promised myself I would, my figure would be trim just like I wanted it to be."

"You just wait. Next year, I'm really going to be serious about my diet. I am going to be extremely careful about what I eat."

"After Christmas, I'll start losing weight so that I can be slender for the spring. I know that I said the same thing last year, and the year before that, and the previous year. But this time I mean it."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor:

The children at Child Haven experienced a beautiful Christmas because of the tremendous response from the Clark County community. We were all greatly impressed with the gifts and well wishes of community residents who gave freely "in the true spirit of Christmas."

Community support in the form of donations has often supplemented our needs. This Christmas has been no exception, but rather an

increase in the amount and variety of gifts given to us.

Not only did every child at Child Haven receive several toys and needed clothing, but children involved with some 14 other community-based service agencies received toys too.

We are proud that the community has this kind of feeling toward us. Thanks to all of you and may the New Year be happy for everyone. CRANFORD CRAWFORD PROGRAM COORDINATOR CHILD HAVEN

Sounds familiar? Does this sound like anything you have said? What will you say next year at this time? Will it be another empty promise like this year? Or are you really, really serious this time?

Do you want to be slender and trim by next spring? Want to lose weight before the nice weather returns? And do you want to, finally, keep that promise to give yourself the body you will be proud of? Now is the time to

do it -- or at least to get started. Actually, it would have been nice to have started before Thanksgiving.

Many people probably think it's silly to start losing weight now for next spring. Most people want to wait until Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays pass

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