

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



The NAACP appeals to the Black youth of America to stay in school no matter what the problems or consequences might be. Remember it's tough enough if you are young but it's even tougher if you are young, black and male. Never, never forget the tough gets going when the going gets tough. Young people, please listen to me: Do you know if your great, great grandfather had not had the ability to survive, you would not be here today? All of the doors that the NAACP fought for more than 78 years to keep open for you will all be in vain. Now, if you are not ready and willing to walk into these doors of op-

portunity and claim your rightful place, you will be the loser. Sacrifices of time, efforts, energy and money which have been made by someone for your sake, go unrewarded or unappreciated. More than you know, there have been tears dropped, blood shed and lives lost in the struggle for you.

The following article on the NAACP's Back To School/Stay In School Program, was written by Dr. Benjamin E. Hooks, Executive Director, National NAACP, and appeared in the March issue of The Crisis Magazine, the official publication of the NAACP.

If You Think School Is Boring... Try Dropping Out

The NAACP's "Back to School/Stay in School" Program

You may be so bored with school that you just want to get away from it all.

But before you do, think about things that are really boring: flipping hamburgers, washing cars, pushing brooms.

Get the picture?

Without an education and a high school diploma, these are probably the best jobs you'll ever get.

If you think you are bored now, try one of these jobs for the rest of your life.

There's a better way and some people who are ready to help find it.

The bottom line is that we want to help you stay in school and get a decent chance at life. But we can't help unless you call us. So before you give up, pick up the phone, dial the NAACP and give us a chance to help.

The March issue of The Crisis deals with the state of race relations in America. In 1968 following the riots of civil disorders which engulfed many of our nation's cities, President Johnson impaneled a commission which included the then Governor of Illinois, Gov. Otto Kerner; the NAACP's Executive Director; Roy Wilkins; and then Congressman and later President Gerald R. Ford, and others to look into the causative factors responsible for the violence.

After extensive hearings, comprehensive investigations by academicians, civil and human rights activists, theologians and others, the Kerner Commission issued a report which was a stinging indictment on racism in America. Briefly, the Kerner Commission reported that

America was rapidly moving towards two societies — one white and privileged, and the other, minority and poor — and that in large measure, racism which breeds despair and hopelessness contributed to the violence which permeated many of our nation's cities. Despite the crippling joke of racism, progress has been made by blacks in all walks of life. Today, there are over 6,400 black elected officials; over 1 million black college students; and blacks reside in many suburban areas.

A number of recommendations were made which included providing jobs, housing and career opportunities for black Americans and the removal of the veil of racism from every walk of life. In study after study, report after report, including the Urban League's "The State of Black America in 1987" report issued in January, it is abundantly clear that the recommendations of the Kerner Commission have gone unheeded and that America has indeed deteriorated into that predicted quagmire of divisiveness, hopelessness and despair. Housing discrimination is as pronounced in 1987 as it was in 1968. Cicero, Illinois contains rabid racists who are just as determined as they were when Dr. King led demonstrations there in the 60's to exclude black Americans merely because of the color of their skin. In Howard Beach, New York, a black man can be killed merely for having the misfortune of his car breaking down in a "white enclave." In Forsyth, Georgia, one county among three in the State of Georgia where no blacks reside, brotherhood

Summer School Registration Deadline June 12

The deadline to register for summer school classes is quickly approaching.

Elementary summer school will be held June 22 through July 30 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 17 Clark County elementary schools. Registration deadline is June 12.

Summer school for junior and senior high school students will be held June 22 through August 5 at Western, Rancho, Las Vegas and Basic High Schools.

Final registration will be held June 17-18.

The cost for attending elementary summer school is \$70 per student. Junior and senior high summer school cost is \$70 per class with a two class maximum.

For more information, contact Janice Bennington, elementary summer school coordinator, at 799-7911. For junior and senior high summer school information, call Shelly Channel at 799-4080.

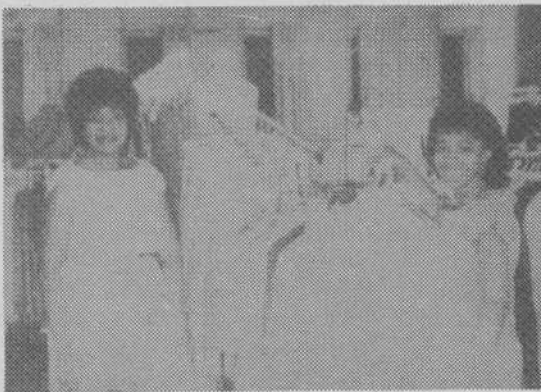
Ahoy, Young Bookners To Drop Anchors At Library This Summer

Captain Cayenne, that peppery pirate, and his band of bookneers invite youngsters of all ages to come aboard library ships for eight weeks of fun in the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District's free summer reading program.

The jolly roger unfurls over the LV-CCLD this June as the Young People's Libraries present tales of treasures, stories worth their salt, movies, crafts, games and more.

Adventures by the galleon are in store for Captains and Kidds (2-3 years); Playful Pirates (3-5 years); Merry Marauders (6-8 years); and Super Swashbucklers (9-12 years).

Pre-registration will be June 1-5 for Spring Valley; June 8-12 from 9 AM to NOON for Charleston Heights, Clark County, Las Vegas, Rainbow and Sunrise; June 9-13 for West Las Vegas; and June 15-19 for Green Valley.



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demonstrators have been brutally beaten, killed and threatened by members of the KKK.

In the field of education America is moving toward becoming two permanently separate and unequal societies. White flight and the active encouragement of our Justice Department have led to a re-segregation of many of our school districts, particularly in the northeast, the midwest and the west. The dropout rate has reached epidemic proportions, and if left unchecked, will result in hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of young people being ultimately unprepared not to prosper, and not to exist in a highly technologically advanced society.

Despite the cries and protestations to the contrary, blacks have not received preferential treatment in the area of employment. The unemployment rate for blacks is twice as high as it is for whites, and much of the progress made in the late 1960's and the decade of the 80's for blacks in management positions have been eroded. Many of the pioneers who blazed the way have now reached retirement age. Unfortunately, these persons are not being replaced by other qualified blacks. There are instances

where a corporation's middle and upper management levels are more segregated in 1987 than they were in 1967. As manufacturing jobs decline and as other jobs move to the suburbs, many of our young people are trapped in economic "homelands" in the inner cities with no job prospects on the horizon. In a real sense, America is moving rapidly to a system of economic, educational and housing apartheid.

It is abundantly clear that we must look for new solutions to old problems, while at the same time, not abandon those tried and true methods which have worked. We must continue to utilize the ballot in an effort to force a recalcitrant political status quo to open farther the doors of opportunities. Organizations like the NAACP, the National Urban League, and others, must continue to litigate, lobby and where necessary, march against the Goliaths of injustice. Unfortunately, there are no easy solutions to the complex problems which we face.

We in the NAACP will continue to push our "Back-to-School/Stay-in-School" program in an effort to encourage our young people to remain in school and get the best education that those school systems have to offer.