

Point of View

'New Realism' Needed In White House, Jackson Says

by Chester A. Higgins, Sr.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Democratic Presidential candidate Jesse L. Jackson declared "we need a new realism, not (merely) new faces in the White House."

Addressing more than 1,100 mostly white male audience attending the American Society of Newspaper Editors meet in Washington, D.C., Jackson

declared, "and tis world is not just White nor male." At the end of World War II, the Third World was just beginning its struggle for equality. The world, he said has changed dramatically since that time. Third world countries are struggling grimly against poverty, disease, despair. Communism holds no appeal to them. They seek help from whatever source is

national law and, in an obvious dig at the much investigated U.S. Atty. General Edwin Meese, III, for laws at home. He said he would convene a meeting of representatives of South African frontline states — Zambia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique — to bolster protection against the lawless and murderous raids across their borders by the illegal Botha regime forces. He reiterated that as president he would call for a peace parley in the Middle East and "get people to talking" with each other. For there can be no peace in that troubled area, he said, unless Arab and Jew, and Palestinian sit and talk of a peace plan that will guarantee an Israeli state within secure borders, and a recognition of Palestinian right to a homeland.

America, he asserted, is not endangered by alien ideologies, but by mind-altering substances. If elected president Jackson said he would strengthen the Coast Guard and all our border areas where the check points are, invest in a massive rehabilitation program which is also directed at cutting the demand for drugs, and go after the drug lords in high places. The multi-billion dollar drug trade in this country could not exist unless there is corrupt protection of the drug lords in high places, and he added that he would launch a \$3 billion war against it.

On his "qualifications" to be president, Jackson said, one has to be "old enough, American enough and have leadership ability," all possessed in his candidacy. On being Black, Jackson said President Reagan's remark that because of his color, little attention is being paid to what he is actually saying, is merely Reagan expressing "fright as I get closer to the White House." Former Rep. Geraldine Ferraro assailed Jackson's "radical" views and said if he "were not Black he would not be in the race." Jackson shrugged her off, declaring "millions of Americans have a point of view different from Ferraro's."

To Be Equal

REALITY COMES TO SCHOOL REFORM

by John E. Jacob

For the past five years, school reformers have preached a diet of higher standards and tougher requirements. But they've largely ignored urban schools and some of their reforms would only push kids out faster.

A signal that a new realism is taking hold comes from a new report by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which earlier had issued sweeping proposals for reform in teacher education.

The new report says many urban schools are flunking. They've been passed by in the reform wave that never addressed their needs.

The Carnegie report says

"We campaigned across the south . . . without a single catcall or boo. It was not until we got North to New York that we began to hear this from (Mayor Edward) Koch, president Reagan and then Mrs. Ferraro," Jackson said. "Some people are making hysteria while I am making history."

In response to a query from the floor that he would not meet with Jewish leaders in New York, Jackson pointed out that he has the endorsement of Jewish labor leaders, of the Nation magazine that has a number of Jewish writers and editors, that he met with a group of Jewish business leaders. "I reach out to all people, Haitians, South Americans, Afro-Americans," which is more than the other candidates do, he observed.

Finally, on the constant repeated question: Is the country ready for a Black president? Jackson pointed out: "People are speaking and we must let them speak."

This audience comprised of tough, hardened often cynical White newspaper editors, most of whom were male, gave Jackson a standing ovation at the end of his 35-minute speech. It is hard to imagine Jackson as a loser.

as many as thirteen million kids are trapped in urban schools with high dropout rates, low morale, rotting physical structures, and



John E. Jacob

— place extra hurdles in the way of kids who are already failing to cope, and who don't get the assistance they need.

that shouldn't mean lower standards, less homework, and fewer tests — not by a

John E. Jacob is President of The National Urban League

long shot. But it does suggest that instead of pie-in-the-sky reform plans we need solid basic skills teaching and new organizational structures that make those schools function the way they're supposed to.

It's been proven many times over that disadvantaged kids can perform at top academic levels, given strict standards and committed teachers and principals.

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stifling bureaucracies.

It describes those schools as "human storehouses to keep young people off the streets."

And it acknowledges that the prescription for reform — tougher homework, more testing and tough standards

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3-PIECE SUITS NO ARMOR AGAINST RACISM

by Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.

One thing our forebears understood was the insidious nature of racism. They understood its life-threatening nature and the necessity for fighting it consistently and in all its many guises. Now there are those—both African American and white — who claim that class is more important than race. It is a dangerous position to take, both personally and as a people.

An article in the *Washington Post* earlier this year noted ". . . [the] black middle class is emerging and succeeding by the standards of the majority white culture . . . class is becoming more an important predictor of behavior than race . . . This is true not only of black behavior, but also of white reactions to this new black middle

class." Although the article notes, in passing, the gap between African American and white employment, college enrollment and income levels, the majority of the article is devoted to proving that, as the article says, "white stereotypes . . . often have more to do with class than color."

This theory goes not give adequate weight to two very important considerations: First, that the majority of African Americans are still at the bottom rung of the ladder due to racist education and employment policies. And second, that even when African Americans move into the middle class it remains a very tenuous position due to the racism which they continue to face.

Let's take a look at em-

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Presidential Candidate Jesse Jackson

declared his "Jackson Doctrine" of economic justice at home and peace abroad is more ideally suited to the realities of a world that has vastly changed since World War II ended nearly 43 years ago.

"The next president must know this world," he asserted,

forthcoming. When leaders of America and Russia sit down at their chessboard they must remember that together they represent no more than one-eighth of the world's population.

Jackson declared that as president he would reinstitute a respect for inter-

IF YOU PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE YOU CAN DO THE STEERING!



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