

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP

NAACP 79th YEAR
IN STRUGGLE

In 1953 the NAACP met in its annual convention and adopted a resolution that said "We'll be free in 1963." As we look back in retrospect, we now know that we were dreaming and our dreams turned out to be a mistake. Racism in America is still alive and well, because Black people are still not free socially, politically or economically speaking. Even after 79 years the NAACP realizes that the struggle for freedom must still go on.

MEDGAR EVERE, NAACP
SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

One of the principle highlights of the Convention was the observance of the 25th Anniversary of the assassination of the late Medgar Evers, Director of NAACP Operations in the state of Mississippi in 1963. On the first day of the convention a Memorial Service was held for Medgar at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., where he is buried. Murie, his wife and son Medgar, Jr. were present for the observance.

NAACP DREW NATIONAL
DIGNITARIES

The following is only a partial list of the National dignitaries present at this 79th convention: Rev. Jesse L. Jackson; Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, D.C.; Gov. Michael Dukakis; Vice President George Bush; Senator George Bentsen; Daisy Bates, Little Rock, Arkansas; Thurgood Marshall, Jr.; Senator Ted Kennedy; Mr. Lane Kirkland, AFL-CIO; Mr. Percy Sutton, Inner City Broadcasting; Honorable Douglas Wilder, Lt. Gov., Virginia; Dr. John Joyner, President, National Medical Association; Dr. Goler Butcher, Law Professor, Howard University; General Alfred Gary, Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.; Honorable Floyd Flake, Congressman, New York; and Mr. Randall Robinson, Director, Trans Africa.

NAACP RADIOTHON
PLANNED

The final plans were made at the convention for the NAACP nationwide Radithon. The purpose of the Radithon is to attain over one million NAACP memberships on September 24,

1988 for the first time in the NAACP's history.

ACT-SO

Act/So, the NAACP Olympic-type scholarship program, was a gigantic success in terms of participation. More than one thousand junior and senior high school youngsters from 650 American cities competed for the Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals earning \$1,000.00, \$750.00 and \$500.00, respectively.

JESSE L. JACKSON THE
MAIN ATTRACTION

More than 10,000 delegates, alternates and observers gathered in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Washington to hear the one and only Rev. Jesse Louis Jackson speak. The standing room only audience's reaction to Rev. Jackson's speech covered a wide range of emotions all the way from stark silence to hilarious pandemonium. Rev. Jackson completed his speech on a high note with the exclamation, "I know that I am qualified to be President," which was met with a standing ovation of approval.

WHITE AMERICA CANNOT 'BLOCKADE'
BLACKS, LEADER TELLS NATION

by Larry A. Still
NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—NNPA

Warning white America that it cannot isolate itself from the ills of society with barricades or blockades or the strengthening of its police forces, Dr. Benjamin Hooks, NAACP executive director, told the organization's 79th annual convention "the time has passed when the problems of Black America could be viewed as though they had no impact on the larger society."

As both of the major American political parties prepared for political campaigns which may again change the course of the country, Hooks emphasized that neither the Democrats or Republicans can afford the luxury of taking the black vote for granted or ignoring its strength.

Speaking before three major presidential candidates addressed the convention, Hooks said "Black American leadership understands its

responsibilities and is prepared to meet them. Others must be prepared to give, not a hand-out, but a hand."

Republican Vice-President George Bush and Democratic presidential candidates Jesse Jackson and Michael Dukakis were the key speakers in that order in a dramatic turn of events which attracted world-wide media to the convention. It opened with a memorial tribute to Mississippi martyr Medgar Evers and closed with the posthumous award of the Spingarn Medal, the NAACP's highest honor, to the late Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, founder of the United Negro College Fund and president of Tuskegee Institute.

"We, as a people (the American people, black and white) need to know our history and understand its lessons. We need to remember the heroes and heroines of the struggle for real freedom and equality. We need to know the height of the mountain of obstacles which

the thought processes. Suggested guidelines are:

- 1) Changing one's attitude to reflect positive thinking.
- 2) Believing in one's self, abilities, and dreams. Having faith and knowing that tough times never last, but tough people do.
- 3) Leaving one's comfortable surroundings to experience changes in life with confidence, courage, control and commitment.
- 4) Writing one's goals on paper, along with plans on reaching them by a specific time.

5) Acting on your plans now, and learning as much as possible to resolve or manage problems as they occur.

6) Frequently evaluating one's actions and plans. Taking a calculated, wise risk, and not being resistant to change.

In summary, the managing of psychosclerosis is related to illness and following medical advice will lead to better health and quality of life.

they faced, endured and finally had to overcome." Hooks told the 3,000 delegates and officials and 10,000 spectators.

"If America permits millions of young Blacks to grow to maturity in the belief that they have no stake in society," the NAACP executive continued, "there should be little wonder when those young people act out their feelings of alienation and hostility . . . America cannot permit millions of young Blacks to suffer from poor education, unable to properly compete or to fully participate in the developing post-industrial economy."

Hooks said "the greatest danger facing America . . . is not the increased tension in the Middle East, not ships and planes patrolling the troubled waters of the Persian Gulf; not angry Iranians or the homeless Palestinians, but the army of homeless men and women, black and white, in this nation, who have no place to call home . . ."

The hostage problem which should occupy the nation's leaders is not merely overseas Americans in captivity in Lebanon, "but the more than five million black men, women and children in this nation who live below the poverty level (and) the more than five million Hispanic poor and the more than 11 million white poor who must peer through the bars of limited opportunity . . . and cells of despair and hopelessness," he said dramatically.

The convention closed with the delegats passing resolutions on civil rights, the census undercount, political parties platforms, taxes and the internal revenue service, the homeless, fair housing, privatization, federal funding for education, funding for "Smart Start" in addition to Head Start, the Criminal Justice system, judicial activism, eradication of drug trafficking, vocational skills in prison, increased youth work and the establishment of an NAACP "Think Tank."

MEDICAL VOICE

by Harriston L. Bass Jr., M.D.

GENERAL SURGEON
PSYCHOSCLEROSIS

Negative attitudes, instilled within individuals, influence thought processes that create or increase physical illness. Psychosclerosis is defined as the hardening of the thoughts into negative processes. It results in an inhibition of an individual to reach their peak health and performance.

The plague of our modern society is stress and anxiety, which is the underlying cause of psychosclerosis. This leads to antagonistic personalities, boredom, confinement, distress, excuses

and fragmentation of life.

The results of psychosclerosis may be seen as high blood pressure, chest pain, ulcers, altered bowel habits, obesity, colitis, asthma, bronchitis, nervousness, migraine and tension headaches, alcoholism, drug abuse and skin problems. Being steadfast to bad habits, such as poor diet (Eq. high in fat), smoking and sedentary life style potentiate psychosclerosis.

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