

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



The Following Is Part Two Of A Four Part Series Written By Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, Executive Director, NAACP

INTRODUCTION TO ANNUAL REPORT PART-2

For our critics, no we did not get all that we wanted to get in the 1991 Civil Rights Bill, but we will be back in 1992 and 1993, if necessary, to make sure that the rights of all who have been traditionally left out are protected.

Our Department of Branches and Field Services is heart and lungs of the Association. Without its work, there would be no life.

The memberships and life memberships generated are the vital blood that carries the oxygen to all of our vital organs. Under the direction of William H. Penn, Sr., our veteran director, 31 new branches, 32 youth councils, 12 college chapters, 2 junior youth councils, and 6 authorized committees were developed — for a total of 83 new units chartered in 1991.

Memberships were up, and branch activity was at an all-time high. Janice Washington, Assistant Director; Edythe Hall, Life Membership Director; Isazetta Spikes, our new Membership Director; and Doris Edwards, Assistant to the Director. Once again, the regions were well served by Paula Brown Edme in Region II; Reverend J.C. Hope in Region IV; Earl Shinoster, Region V; newly-appointed D. Marcus Ranger, Region VI; and LeRoy Mobely, Region VII.

I am pleased to report that we ended 1991 with a slight increase in membership. Under the enthusiastic leadership of Ms. Spikes and Ms. Hall, we expect 1992 to be a banner year for both memberships and life memberships.

The Youth and College Division, the pride of the NAACP, was in good hands in 1991. Yvonne Finnis, National Director, aided by Michael Nelson, National College Coordinator, did an outstanding job coordinating the youth activities at our regional and state conference meetings and at the 82nd Annual Convention.

Youth units sponsored back-

to-school programs, engaged in direct action demonstrations, organized tutorial programs, fought racism on college campuses and engaged in a myriad of other activities.

1991 was also an eventful one for our Economic Development Department. With the signing of four public sector Fair Share Agreements, it brought the total to fifty-eight (58) since 1982.

As you know, the signing of agreements with corporations or agencies of government is essential if they are to have teeth and meaning. In 1991, under the directorship of Fred Rasheed, our Economic Development Department monitored some thirty-eight (38) agreements. Mr. Rasheed has done a very fine job. Loretta Lever functions well as Economic Development Director for Region VI.

Education continues to be a major focus of the Association. As a part of our evaluation of the effectiveness of desegregation, we convened an education summit in Little Rock in May, 1991. The Daisy Bates Education Summit brought together more than 200 educators, academicians, education activists and NAACP leaders. A definitive report has been released on the findings.

In 1991 the NAACP awarded a total of \$142,000 in scholarship aid to needy and deserving students. Under the supervision of Dr. Beverly Cole, Education Director, the Association also developed a format for black teachers who must take the National Teachers' Exam. The clinics offer ten weeks—twenty sessions—of test preparation to prospective teachers. The program is run by Dr. Mabel Lake Murray.

In an effort to stem the swelling rolls of dropouts, we established a program in 1985 to address the problem. Today, despite some setbacks and problems, we have sixty-three (63) programs operating nationally, reaching over 43,000 young people. Dr. Aileen James continues to direct the Back-to-School/Stay-in-School project.

We have become known worldwide for the outstanding

work of our Legal Department. Such legends as Charles Houston, Thurgood Marshall, Constance Baker Motley and Robert Carter are household names. Our record in the federal courts is second to none. Dennis Hayes, our General Counsel, reports that 1991 was no exception. We filed 15 voting rights cases, two employment cases, nine education cases eight sub-urban employment discrimination cases, two housing cases, two police misconduct cases and 125 communications cases.

In the case of the NAACP vs. Boston Housing Authority, we settled the lawsuit for \$3.1 million in damages for black tenants who were discriminated against by the housing authority in its placement practice. We also settled the Stewart vs. Kostick case which has been in litigation for almost a decade. Michael Stewart was killed by

New York City Transit Police while being arrested for a minor infraction. The NAACP spent thousands of dollars and thousands of hours by our attorneys to procure justice in this instance. The case was settled for \$1.2 million.

These are but two examples of the effectiveness of the Association's Legal Department, which is not given credit by the media for much of the work that we do. Sure, winning cases in the courts is less dramatic than marches and irresponsible speeches, but it is the only thing, in the final analysis, that gets results.

Our Legal Department, in addition to General Counsel Dennis Haynes, consists of Assistant General Counsels Willie Abrams, Everaldo Thompson, Judith Eagle, Sam Walters, Bruce Roberts, Nyisha Shakur, Pace McConkie,

Stephanie Rones, and corporate Counsel Blaine White.

Wade Henderson, who stepped into the shoes of Alliea T.L. Simmons, provides the Association with effective and creative leadership on Capitol Hill. Under his leadership, and working with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, we mounted our successful opposition to judge Kenneth Ryskamp to the U.S. Court of Appeals. When the President nominated Judge Clarence Thomas, it was our Washington Bureau the conducted an exhaustive study of the Thomas record.

Our Washington Bureau became the primary resource for the 1991 Civil Rights Bill and has established itself as the premier civil rights lobby in Washington. Wade Henderson is ably assisted by Bureau Counsel Edward A. Hailes, Jr., Carolyn Johnson and Cecelie Blakey.

NORTH LAS VEGAS OFFICIALS ATTEND NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES MEETING

Mayor Pro Tem Theron Goynes and Councilman William Robinson of North Las Vegas were in Washington last week attending a National League of Cities meeting to formulate a set of national policy priorities to spur economic recovery and investment in America's future and to hear how President Bush and congressional leaders view those issues.

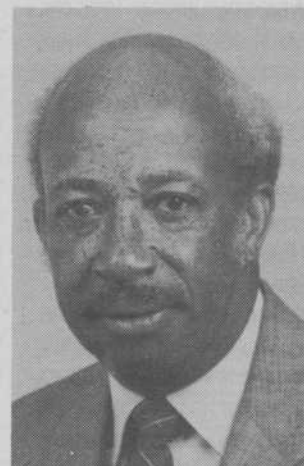
President Bush addressed the nearly 3,000 municipal leaders at the annual NLC Congressional-City Conference about the choices that must be made at all levels of government to move America forward.

The president also repeated his concern about families and children, which he discussed at a white House meeting in January with a group of NLC leaders. After that meeting, he announced the formation of a Presidential

Commission on Urban Families during his State of Union Address to Congress in January 28.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine) also addressed the NLC officials. He pointed out where differences in approach, timing, funding and other issues would have to be resolved between the Administration and Congress in key areas of budget priorities and tax policy, as well as other legislation.

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