

THE PAPER

VOL. 38, NO. 5

222

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1973

—Langston Hughes

So we stand here
on the edge of hell
in Harlem
and look out
on the world
and wonder
what we're gonna do
in the face of
what we remember.

Community Strikes UFT

By RAFAELA TRAVESIER

Close to one hundred persons gathered in front of the cold UFT headquarters on Thursday, November 1st to protest the UFT's support of the present school board at District 1, and the harassment of superintendent Luis Fuentes.

Members of the Puerto Rican Student Union at City and Hunter, the Attica Brigade, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, Aspira, Bronx Church Coalition, Revolutionary Union, along with a group of parapro-

fessionals from District 1 were all present at Thursday's demonstration to show that they were not going to allow the present school board to remain in power.

Ever since Fuentes was unanimously elected as superintendent of the Lower East side he has met with adversity. Prior to his July '72 appointment Fuentes had applied twice for superintendencies in the Lower East Side and twice he had been rejected.

On July 19, 1972 Fuentes was elected to the post at District 1. Six days later, four Jewish organizations (the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Congress, and the Jewish Labor Committee), called on the School Chancellor and State Education Commissioner to nullify Fuente's appointment because of what they called "hostility towards Jews."

The case of racism on the part of Fuentes ended last May when the State Education Commission was unable to come up with sufficient grounds for discharging him. The school administration had appointed a hearing office to investigate Fuentes' case last spring and they too, ruled in his favor.

In May of '73 the usual election for a school board was held under what the parents of Dis-



The Paper/Robert Knight

trict 1 contended to be a most unusual situation.

A great many Black and Puerto Rican members of the community were unable to vote and a board non-representative of the Lower East Side Community was elected. This is the main claim to the entire controversy going on today. The nine member board, elected in May, has three persons from the old board which named Fuentes. Five of the new board members are white and only 5% of the district's population is white.

Frank De Jesus, a representative of Aspira, explained that the new members of the board didn't live in the community or have children which attended any of the schools in District 1. De Jesus also made it clear that the fight in District 1 was one of community control and that ever since the new board was elected the parents of District 1 have been fighting against it.

Fuentes held a multiyear contract, but since the new board was elected in May, he and his supporters felt that it was only

a matter of time before he was removed.

In July '73 a board meeting was held, and while a brawl was going on because of the stripping of much of Fuentes' power, the six anti-Fuentes board members voted among themselves to reduce his authority.

The most recent action of the local board (morally and financially supported by the UFT) took against Fuentes was to suspend him last month from his post on charges ranging
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The Paper/Robert Knight

Black Lawyers Trust-Banks Brings Justice

By KWAME KARIKARI

Traditionally, the role of lawyers in society is mainly viewed as on the defense side of law and the legal process. But when a section of the society, by the common and peculiar origins of its members and their common relations to the society at large, feels unequally treated before the laws of the land, that section begins to demand what it deems equal justice and, where necessary, demands total changes in the laws.

The National Conference of Black Lawyers, since its inception some five years ago, makes it its objective "to bring offensive action on all people and institutions that in various ways defy the legal and human rights of the members of the Black community." Also its objective is to defend Blacks in their confrontation with the law.

NCBL Beginnings

According to Mr. Heywood Burns, The National Director, a small group of Black lawyers from all over the country met in Capahosic, Virginia, in December, 1968, to dis-

cuss general matters in the legal process, particularly as it affected their community. The meeting also examined what they thought the role of the Black lawyer should be.

The consensus was that the need for an independent Trust of Black lawyers was long overdue. The absence of such a Trust in the past, they observed, had done a lot of harm. But that absence was not to deter them from organizing themselves "for the task ahead."

Consequently, the first actual conference of Black lawyers was held in May, 1969, and attended by hundreds of professional Black lawyers and law students. Black law students have since become full members of the organization.

"No sharp distinction was made, and is still not made," the Director explained, "for by bringing the students close to us we get them into the realities of the field which are not found in text-books and classrooms, especially when it comes to their own community's relation to the law."

(Continued on Page 3)



Solidarity At City

By KIM BRELAND

Black people came together on Monday, November 5, for the fourth annual Black Solidarity Day observance.

The purpose of this day is to refrain from buying, traveling or using white economic institutions for a period of 24 hours.

The theme of this year's celebration was the unity of the Black family. Brothers and sisters were urged to spend time doing enjoyable things with family and friends.

At City College, the Pan-African Students Association presented "A Moment of Meditation On the Day of

Absence" in commemoration of Black Solidarity Day.

This was to be a time for rapping, thinking and exchanging ideas with one another. Brothers and sisters were invited to recite poetry or to get involved with different types of music. But with 80 to 90 percent of the Black student body absent, only a few people attended.

The absences, however, proved to be significant. According to James Small, President of the Student Senate, "Staying home is good. It's more positive than being present when the whole concept is a day of absence."

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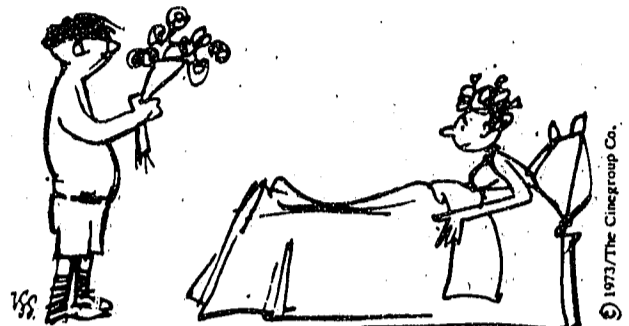
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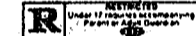
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Charlie Russell:

Counselor, Organizer, Writer

By MARIANITA LOPEZ

Tucked up in a five-by-ten cubby hole on the third floor of Mott Hall, is a multifaceted man by the name of Charlie Russell.

Ex-basketball player, organizer, writer, and SEEK counselor, Charlie Russell, of "Five on the Black Hand Side" fame, has been with City College since 1968.

Before coming to the college Charlie Russell was Program Director of the Stuyvesant Community Center in Brooklyn. Previous to this he was a New York state probation officer working with and training youngsters.

One of the greatest experiences in Russell's life was his membership in the Harlem Writers' Guild. In this group were writers who were established and making a living from their writing. Included in this group were John Killins, Douglas Turner Ward, Maya Angelou and John Henry Clark.

These people came together and discussed other writings, their own works, and works in progress. Charlie sees these discussions as an invaluable experience in helping him to gel as a writer.

At the same time these lively discussions were taking place, Charlie Russell was writing for "The Liberator," the vanguard of Black magazines in the sixties. There he met Larry Neal, Tom Feelings, Harold Cruse; men with whom he was later to get together on one of his important projects — publication of *The Onyx*, a serious, Black, writing-arts magazine.

Also published in *Encore*, *Essence*, *Black World*, and *The Amsterdam News*, Charlie Russell seems to be especially proud of his novella, "A Birthday Present for Kathy Kenyatta," which was published in Langston Hughes' *Anthology of Best Negro Short Stories*.

Asked about the problem most writers have in getting published, Russell replied: "You have to be talented, lucky, and a hard worker."

In getting his novella and "Five on the Black Hand Side" published, Russell supplied the talent and the hard work. Luck was supplied by two friends who read his work, were impressed, and passed them on to McGraw-Hill and the American Place Theatre.

Russell feels Blacks have always had trouble getting works published because they have not owned or controlled the vehicles for publishing. Toward this end Russell began a publication in 1964, *The Onyx*, whose goal was to publish short stories, poetry and plays by Black artists.

"I was putting sixteen to eighteen hours a day into it, and the money to keep it together was coming out of my pocket."

Russell realized that without outside funds the magazine could not continue, and these funds were not forthcoming. It failed in 1968 for this reason.

"Five on the Black Hand Side," currently showing with tremendous

success at neighborhood theatres, was written way before any of the Blaxploitation films were injected into the bloodstream of Black moviegoers. However, "Five" was not produced at that time because, "people who make films decided that Blacks only want films with violence."

Perhaps with films such as "Five," a new type of Black film will emerge. Russell is afraid, however, that only the comic aspects of these movies will be emphasized, and the information the writer is trying to impart will be downplayed. This can be easily done by the way the film is directed, and also by the

producers and editors.

"Since film is a collective effort, some compromise has to be made, but I have never compromised my integrity," says Russell. "Until Blacks start financing their own stuff, it's going to be tough."

All of Russell's works have subchannels of information. Each work leaves the reader or viewer, not always with answers, but with certain guidelines as to where to go to develop them.

"Art is not just entertainment," he says. "As long as people are sitting there, tell them something, but don't hit them over the head. Make them feel they've reached their own

conclusion, but put the steps there in such a way so that they'll be sure to come to that same conclusion."

"Five" has been described by critics as a film that is about the problems of a middle class family in Watts. Russell scoffs at this: "Mr. Brooks [the protagonist] is the proprietor of a barbershop, where he still works. There are certain pretensions toward middle classness, but so far they are only pretensions."

A critic is good, says Russell, only when he sits down with the writer and discusses and criticizes his work in detail. It is difficult to judge a work with just one sitting.

In the summer of 1972, through a grant from the Institute for International Education, Charlie Russell visited Nigeria. He stayed for three months, studying the rituals and religions of the Nigerians. He found them to be an industrious, warm, and open people.

"I was stripped of a lot of illusions," declares Russell, in terms of what he got out of the trip. Where he was used to seeing himself as an Afro-American, he was just plain American to the Nigerians.

"There are some real hard truths you run into after a while; but I felt better about myself after the trip. More energy."

Now we'll wait to see what that energy will produce. Charlie Russell, being the talented, hard worker, and lucky man that he is, will come up with something that will, no doubt be SUPER FINE!



Charlie L. Russell

Lawyers Serve Unpopular Clientele

(Continued from Page 1)

Membership of the organization cannot be expected to be very large, considering that Black lawyers form a mere 2% of the total number of lawyers in the entire country. There are about 4,000 such lawyers, and 500 of them belong to the N.C.B.L.

Initial progress was saddled by financial problems — the perennial crutch standing in the way of many a well-meaning community organization. If the N.C.B.L. surmounted the numerous obstacles, "praise," lauded Mr. Burns, "must be due to all the brothers and sisters whose hard work got the organization on foot."

For the first six or seven months the organization operated with volunteers in temporary premises until 1970 when an office was rented and a small number of full-time paid staff and a director were employed.

Litigations and Clientele

Through the "national office, local chapters and co-operating attorneys and the student branch," a program of litigation was successfully carried out. "Unpopular" Black political activists were defended, including Angela Y. Davis in 1972. N.C.B.L. member Margaret Burnham was instrumental in Ms. Davis' extradition fight in New York, and at her trial in California the chief

counsel was NCBL member Howard W. Moore, of Atlanta, Ga.

The case of the San Quentin 6 (connected to the death of George Jackson and others in 1971) involved the lawyers. Included in their cases were ex-S.N.C.C. leader H. Rap Brown, the Harlem 4, and the acquittal of Puerto Rican activist Carlos Feliciano.

The list covers cases in all parts of the country: from Ossining, N.Y., where the NCBL pursued suit cases on behalf of the local Black Liberation Front against "police brutality and suppression of the people's First Amendment freedoms;" to Jackson, Miss., where eleven members of the Republic of New Africa came under charges of murder and treason in that state.

When columnist Jack Anderson revealed at a Black Congressional Caucus hearings on "governmental lawlessness," that hundreds of Blacks were under FBI and Secret Service surveillance, the Lawyers undertook to study the situation and to seek redress through litigation.

Presently NCBL is working on the defense of former inmates of Attica allegedly involved in the 1971 uprising. It has also served a number of suits to redress charges of "brutality and mistreatment in prisons."

The Attica issue and similar cases

have urged the organization to embark on programs and projects towards prison reforms. Mr. Burns hinted that the project was also prompted by inmates "who flooded us with letters for aid, such as fair trial, parole practices, familial problems" et al. A sizable part of the two-floor office is devoted to the project, with a small staff including two law students from Columbia.

Actively working in conjunction with other groups, the Director has led an inquiry into "racism in the N.Y. state prison system." Data collected and on-site prison visits ended in public hearings last year. To the U.N. Committee on Human Rights the NCBL has presented reports, and demanded inquiries into prison conditions in the U.S.

The whole legal system is under constant scrutiny. Some areas considered detrimental to poor people were generally recounted by the Director.

"Bail laws are such that even now the poor have to wait for a long time without trial."

In a criminal case where the state provides counsel for the poor the director thought "it is an imposition."

Where judges enjoyed discretionary powers, "considering the manner of the choice of the bench," this

(Continued on Page 7)

Prophet's Corner

By ALONYA ABDUL HESHAAM

This will be the first of a continuing series of articles dedicated to the Unification of All African Peoples.

"Divided we are weak: united Africa could become one of the greatest forces for good in the world." — Kwame Nkrumah

Presently in West Africa, the peoples who inhabit the countries of Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger and Chad are experiencing the worst drought and famine in the history of the West African region known as Sahal.

What are we doing about it?

Many organizations have sprung up to aid and assist the drought and famine areas of the Sahal in West Africa.

R.A.I.N.S. (Relief for Africans in Need in the Sahal) is one such organization, that has answered the call for help to the brothers and sisters in the Sahal.

R.A.I.N.S. has a two fold platform which consists of:

(1) To launch a massive write-in campaign urging concerned people to write their representatives, senators and to the secretary of state to pressure for relief to the drought stricken countries of the Sahal, and;

(2) to organize and monitor research and technical assistance to the drought and famine affected areas.

The Research and Technical Committee will try to find Black Americans who are willing to assist in the rehabilitation of the affected areas.

In my opinion, I believe that caution should be used before sending personnel to the drought affected areas because it takes more than just a black face to work sincerely and dedicated to the cause of Pan Africanism. There must be certain criterias set up to decide who are sincere, strong, concerned and dedicated to the plight of all African peoples throughout the world.

For five years, the drought has brought many hardships upon the people of this region by first drying up all water holes and streams and causing the cattle to die. Cattle are the number one means of survival for these people.

It is reported that between 45 and 80% of the herds have died as a result of the drought.

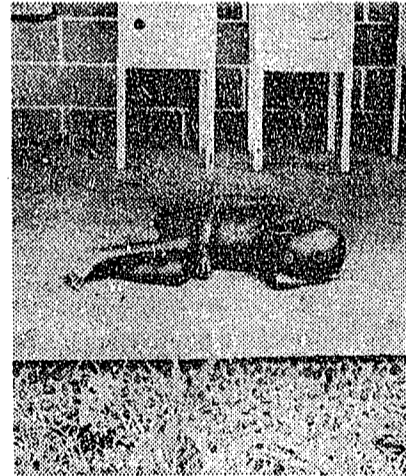
Since the drought and famine has affected the food and water supply, most of the inhabitants live nomadic lifestyles and therefore, travel around in search of food and water.

Many people are dying every day and many more will continue to die unless we, as a people, become responsible to the

needs of our brothers and sisters in the homeland.

"I do not know of any greater satisfaction than honest and efficient service rendered to the people in the best interest of all the people." — Kwame Nkrumah

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Noise In The Valley

By QADRI

You know how you go to a doctor's office for an appointment?

He's got all them back issue magazines. Well, this doctor is no exception. Among the assorted magazines was **U.S. News & World Report**. In the October 22nd issue was an article entitled, "Comeback of violence in America" (like there was a moratorium on violence, or something).

Anyway, it focused on the "race-motivated" killings in Boston. They got hold of a dude named Dr. David Abrahamsen, a New York psychiatrist who wrote a recent book called **The Murdering Mind**.

Being an expert in criminal psychology, the folks at **U.S. News** thought that he was just the man to speak to about why those "murders" took place.

In order to set the mood the interviewer asked a "natural":

"Dr. Abrahamsen, is the United States becoming a nation of increasing violence?"

Answer: "Yes!"

He goes on to say that in 1972 there were "8.9 victims of murders for every 100,000 people in the nation."

Legit question. Legit answer.

However, the interviewer gets to the good part in his next question:

"What about the recent murders in Boston and elsewhere that seem to be motivated by racial hatred? Are they in the same category?"

The good doctor's answer: "They seem to be a part of the same trend. We can't be sure whether they were done coincidentally or as part of a plan. But I would say that racial anger among Black and white youths is in the picture (clouds the issue), particularly where Black people have moved into white neighborhoods."

He says further that the Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence showed that in Boston "many Black people there had a great deal of resentment towards whites because of the precarious living conditions."

The interviewer goes on: "Could a Black liberation group have been responsible for the killings?"

Answer: "No, I do not believe it was organized by the Black-liberation movement or anything like that. Rather I think the racial violence in Boston and in other big cities is intensified — you can say — mobilized — by the racial tension we find there."

What he is really saying is the Black folks are beginning to be a power in the large cities, politically, economically, and socially; and white folks is just plain scared.

Further, he says that this was the reason for setting a young white girl on fire.

These were just the first three questions the interviewer asked and he probably had a nocturnal emission behind each of the responses he received.

What this interview represents is another one in a series of **intelligence reports**, or notifications used by white folks to keep tabs on us colored folks. They hook-up their "great minds" in order to determine our next probable move so they can be prepared whenever we turn over in our sleep.

This is how the Panthers got watered down; how Dr. King got side tracked on his "March On Washington"; why the N.A.A.C.P. is "making progress"; why the Otto Kerner (a convicted felon) report on **Black Matriarchy** was so important; why they are concerned about how many Black folks are killing each other; and why the Black Liberation Army got squashed.

The tremendous effort and expenditure of time and money white folks put themselves through just for us is simply amazin'.

Why are we in such a lowly condition?

But I have been asking myself, why?

Why are there so many volumes written about us?

Why are we always in want of things secret?

Why are we mean towards our brothers and sisters?

Why we got European names?

Why do we seem so lost — clean cut off from our parts?

WHY?

THE PAPER

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News In Brief

By AYAD MOHAMED

Universal Black Consciousness of CCNY

Check out the Black Universal Consciousness of CCNY. Unlike what many may think, this organization is not just a bunch of bloods who do nothing but party. They are involved in a lot of positive things for our people.

First, much of their proceeds from the dances they give both on and off campus go towards various Black programs. The proceeds of the recent dance held on campus (.25 admission) totaled to over \$110 and given for Sickle Cell Anemia research.

Universal Black Consciousness also sponsored a tutorial program at Harlem Prep last year and is now sponsoring a similar program of its kind on campus this semester in room 129 Finley.

More to come about U.B.C. in the next issue.

* * *

Blood Donations To Where?

For those of you blood-generous bloods, do you know where the pint of blood you gave is going?

Is it really going towards saving a life or is it going to sustain (or help) one life kill another?

Be careful who you give your blood to, blood!

There are questions you all should ask yourselves because many of these blood banks donate blood to Israeli military expansion, which is presently engaged in a war against Arabs in their own land. No blood goes to the Arabs.

Many gallons of hemoglobin are flown to the Portugese who are killing our African brothers daily.

Some of these blood collectors are located right on campus.

The next time you see these collectors on campus or anywhere, think about what I said.

Rather than donating for an unknown cause, we should be about checking out where it's going.

* * *

Chile's Plan To Return Local Companies To Foreigners

Shortly after the military take-over of the Chilean government, plans were made to return the ownership of local companies to foreign investors.

One main cause of this is because International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) was allegedly involved in soliciting the aide of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in order to prevent Salvador Allende from assuming his presidency.

Allende was president since 1970 and during his three-year office span, many foreign investors were chased away from his homeland.

Petroquimica-Dow, which is one such company, was also recently forced to invite the return of its foreign investors because it is owned by the Dow Chemical Company in America.

Members of the CIA probably influence Chile's military and forced the take-over of the Allende regime.

* * *

Free Cornrow Workshop

For those brothers and sisters who are interested in learning how to braid the famous "cornrow style," the Studio Museum in Harlem is giving free weekly workshops on Wednesdays from 6 pm-8 pm at 2033 Fifth Avenue at 125th Street.

Cornrowing is said to be good for the scalp. For information call 427-5959.

* * *

Plan To Prevent Transit Fare Hike

Even though the \$3.5 billion mass transportation bond issue was defeated, former US Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau recently announced plans to try to prevent a possible transit hike in New York.

He plans to join environmental, transportational and citizen groups in a law suit against the Metropolitan Transportation Authority on grounds that if the fare rises then more people would be driving.

This would cause more air pollution produced from cars and other motor vehicles.

In effect, this would be against the Federal Clean Air Act of 1970, which would require the state to produce various mechanisms to cut down pollution to a certain level by 1976.

Solidarity Daze

By TAWALA MICELL KWELI

Last November 5, I regarded the sunset and closed my book *Management and Machiavelli*, which I've read three times over. I remember that three years ago the Black Solidarity Day Committee — 1970, put together a show of force in Black.

Armed with badges and armbands (red black and green), we brought on the Farrakhan's, the dancers, the Sonia Sanchez's, etc. The vibes were so totally, so spiritually, so mystically, so sensually, so blatantly, so soothingly, so lovingly African. Us folks abstained from work and partook in our glory.

And then I answered my phone. It was an old buddy who was directing a cultural center in Virginia. He wanted to know what was going on for "Black Solidarity" up in the city. "Silence . . ."

It's tremendously sad that very little was presented and that very little was involved. Dance at La Martinique or sit in a hall, half deserted and desolate. Gone the poets, the dancers, the singers, the love.

Sometimes it is necessary to make a mistake to realize one's limitations, but that mistake must not be repeated. Likewise, the event or lack of event of November 5, 1973 must not be reiterated.

If only one representative from each of the African-American organizations at

C.C.N.Y. worked collectively, the rising "bloods" would have the constant encouragement to dare to be Black; and then even the courage to be African. Those who are ignorant must learn. Those who think they know must find out. And those who were taught must now teach.

When it is dark outside in such a way that the ebony siding and riding between tenements and apartments is almost touchable, is it Black inside your African soul?

We who spectate and participate, must now initiate solidarity by condoning and by working with the Black-African organizations across campus who are creating a Pan-Africanist forum or collective. It would create policy for Afro-American students from this campus to the world while not interfering with the valued role of each respective member.

Black Solidarity Day would be a priority, and Black unity every day would be the rule.

This is the purpose of Black Solidarity any day. Do not let it slip into the haze with which Marcus Garvey Day and Malcolm X Day have fallen.

One can be cosmopolitan, international, political, or non-political, but first and foremost, one must be culturally intertwined in the African nature of our Blackness.

Free Time

Jesse Gray At City

On Thursday, November 1, 1973, Harlem Assemblyman Jesse Gray spoke before a small group of SEEK students and counselors, in the Auditorium of Steiglitz Hall, in a program that was sponsored by the now active SEEK STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

The Black assemblyman made a "brief but sweet" statement ranging from topics such as the Watergate on down to the SEEK PROGRAM, itself. Gray described President Nixon as the "biggest crook of all," but added that he is also the most shrewdest and most capable leader America has.

Concerning the public school system, which the assemblyman pointed out to us as becoming more and more populated with Third World people, warned that the bureaucracy must be changed in order to meet the needs of non-white students. He feels that a complete restructuring of the system is inevitable and that "something has got to give" soon, if the public schools are to continue to serve the oppressed people.

Blacks and Latins must have control of selection of Administrators, educators, and other personnel who are of the same racial make-up as the students of such schools. He emphasized that young Black, Puerto Rican, and Asian minds are being wasted

in the present white controlled environment of the public school system.

Mr. Gray, who speaks with both authority and eloquence, thrilled and electrified the students as well as the counselors and administrators present as he spoke of the present war in the Middle East between the Arabs and Israelis.

Gray warned that "we'll be feeling the effects of the U.S. involvement and support of Israel this winter."

He stated that those who reside in the Ghetto areas know well the result of living under inadequate heating services— due to apathy and neglect on the part of landlords, who get rich while the tenants freeze.

"That was when there was plenty of oil," he shouted, "what's going to happen when there's little oil?"

Finally, Assemblyman Gray expressed his belief that we (people of America) have time to attempt to correct the wrongs of the Capitalist society through the collective unity of all of the oppressed people who are made to suffer as a result of our allowing a few wealthy groups to control us through our apathy and failure to face the issues of the most oppressed peoples (Third World peoples) of the United States.

But, he warned, "that time is running out."

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AND A WARM SUN

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A black earth

A Saturday beer
A Sunday dress

A fried chicken
A plowed field

A Sunday sermon
A mother's prayer

IN A COOL BREEZE
AND A WARM SUN

A still skyscraper
A child's echo

A bus' roar
A busy bar

A soul song
A police siren

A rusted firescape
A rolled reefer

IN A COOL BREEZE
AND A WARM SUN

— Lyle S. Waters

Pressure

Here I am . . .
Here I am . . .
Right here.
With the pressure of Tricky Dicks
dick pounding its bull-doggish
attitudes on me . . .
. . . and when he pisses it
radiates all the shit of
the world . . . and may
I add has the same viscosity.
Daily I feel the weight of his thick
flesh . . .
and I hear, . . .
he has yet to get hard.

— Kalon.

Contradiction

Post-school hours
. . . waiting for boat at ferry terminal
journeying home.
There the person sat,
jeaned, legs crossed, arms folded.
Walking to arrived boat,
figure eight, derrier keeping pace with
her walking rhythm,
My eyes glued to her . . .
Sat with her, talked.
Experiencing a transition with my
observations:
Low voice . . . bottom molar sticking out from top ones,
leveled bosom.
Name — Clarence.

— A.M.

Free Thought

I never knew
life
could be so beautiful
and pleasant
until I met you
and that only means
you are someone special
to me; that nobody
better even think about
taking a second look at,
but just learn from us
on how to make
a beautiful thing happen
that's untouchable
and divine
and groovy
and hip
and all that stuff,
but baby
just tell me if anyone
takes that second look
and I'll kick their
imagination
to their momma because
nobody gonna mess up
our thing because
it's divine.

— Darryl Alladice

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NCBL And Law Today

(Continued from Page 3)

could work to the disadvantage of Blacks.

Over 80% of those condemned to capital punishment involving sex crimes have been Black.

The September 1973 drug law passed in N.Y. state is being studied to find out how it will affect the Black community. "Right now it seems to go to punish the victims, who are already down."

Blacks and Law Today

Burns said that Blacks today enjoy legal status as rightful citizens, unlike in the past. "But what you say may not be taken. A seemingly good law may be passed, but how are you assured that its implementation will be just and fair?"

This is one of the reasons why the NCBL is on the offensive "to strive to see justice done."

Biases in the system such as landlord/tenant relations, commercial interests of businesses operating in the community, and various violations of the people's rights abound.

"We wish we had the resources to be actively involved in all these issues affecting people's daily lives. Presently," Mr. Burns lamented, "we can't serve everybody, more so voluntarily. We defend those we can, or refer them to other bodies whose credibility we can certify."

"Though the NCBL attentions are principally trained on the situation

of Black people here in the U.S.A., world-wide events have such major importance for us that we can't afford to ignore what is going on in other lands, least of all other Black people's struggles for liberation."

This position of solidarity with oppressed peoples outside of America has brought the organization in touch with Freedom Fighters in Southern Africa. Robert Van Liepop, a member, spent a part of 1972 traveling with and making a film about FRELIMO's liberation war in Mozambique.

The NCBL actively helped in the African Liberation Day ceremonies and joined other groups to bring suit against U.S. violation of the international trade embargo against Rhodesia by permitting importation of chrome from there.

Significant also is the office's contacts in Trinidad to provide outside counsel to intercede in the conviction and death sentence passed on Black activist Michael X.

With the World Council of Churches NCBL has helped review charges of racial crimes and violence perpetrated by the apartheid state of South Africa. In this connection the organization contacts the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to make appropriate charges and reports for redress.

Black Students in Law

Mr. Burns considers the task of

Black lawyers so huge that all Black lawyers have no choice but to try to be as versatile as possible in the whole realm of legal practice.

"One must be able to help in tax law, real estate, criminal law and everything you can think of. We are very few, and we cannot afford to be unnecessarily specialized," he tells prospective Black law students.

He is an Adjunct Professor of Law at NYU which helps him and other Black law professors to be informed of developments (flaws and problems) in law education, bar exams, law school entry exams, and general requirements.

Recently there has been a relatively large influx of young Blacks into law school. In a few years about twice the number of existing Black lawyers will be realized. "This," noted the Director optimistically, "is going to inject a lot of dynamism in the law business."

For prospective law students the choice of a school must take into account what the school can offer beyond the curriculum.

"The prestigiousness of a school's name doesn't matter much. It is what it can offer outside the classroom, where the student gets studies in civil rights law, law and the poor, urban problems, international law and the Third World, and ac-

cess to clinical experience must guide the student's choice."

Four all-Black colleges recommended (but not the only ones for admission inquiries) were Howard U., Washington, D.C.; North Carolina's Central U., Durham; Southern U. in Baton Rouge and in Houston, Texas. There are many more law schools of considerable reputation, but the Director emphasized the need to make a choice based on extra-mural programs a school is able to offer.

As to the problem of financial aid for students, Burns wasn't in a position to locate particular sources of scholarship funds. However, individual schools could be contacted for such information.

One of the part-time staffers on the prison project assured law students of the availability of part-time job openings in the field. There are avenues for obtaining loans and other sources of scholarships for law school. Also, specific schools could advise students on inquiry.

Whatever a student gains out of the law school job opportunities are not as scarce as in other fields of study. In the profession the Black lawyer is free to choose between earning money for money's sake, and working for his own living and that of his own community of origin and membership.

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Community For Control

(Continued from Page 1)
from misapplication of funds to insubordination.

The parents of District 1, led by Miriam Gonzalez, head of the President's Council of Parents Associations in District 1, immediately took action against Fuentes' suspension and boycotted the schools of the district. Out of 17,000 students who attend District 1, 11,000 took part in the boycott which lasted a number of days.

Fuentes was temporarily reinstated a couple of weeks ago. But the main problem in District 1 has not yet been resolved. The fight in the Lower East Side is not to keep Fuentes, but to remove the illegally elected school board.

Claudio Tavarez, a paraprofessional at P.S. 122, a member of the Coalition for Education and of the UFT, explained that although the group was demonstrating in front of the UFT

building it was not gearing its protest towards all of the members off the UFT, since he and other paraprofessionals belong to the union; but instead towards Albert Shanker, president of the UFT.

Shanker wrote a column in the July 30, 1972 edition of the N.Y. Times, entitled, "The Outrageous Appointment of Luis Fuentes." In the article Shanker wrote of the "capture of school districts by unrepresentative extremist groups."

He added that, "Now is the time for all those who oppose bigotry and racism to speak up. There should be no place in our school system for Fuentes or for the community school board which finds in him the embodiment of its ideas."

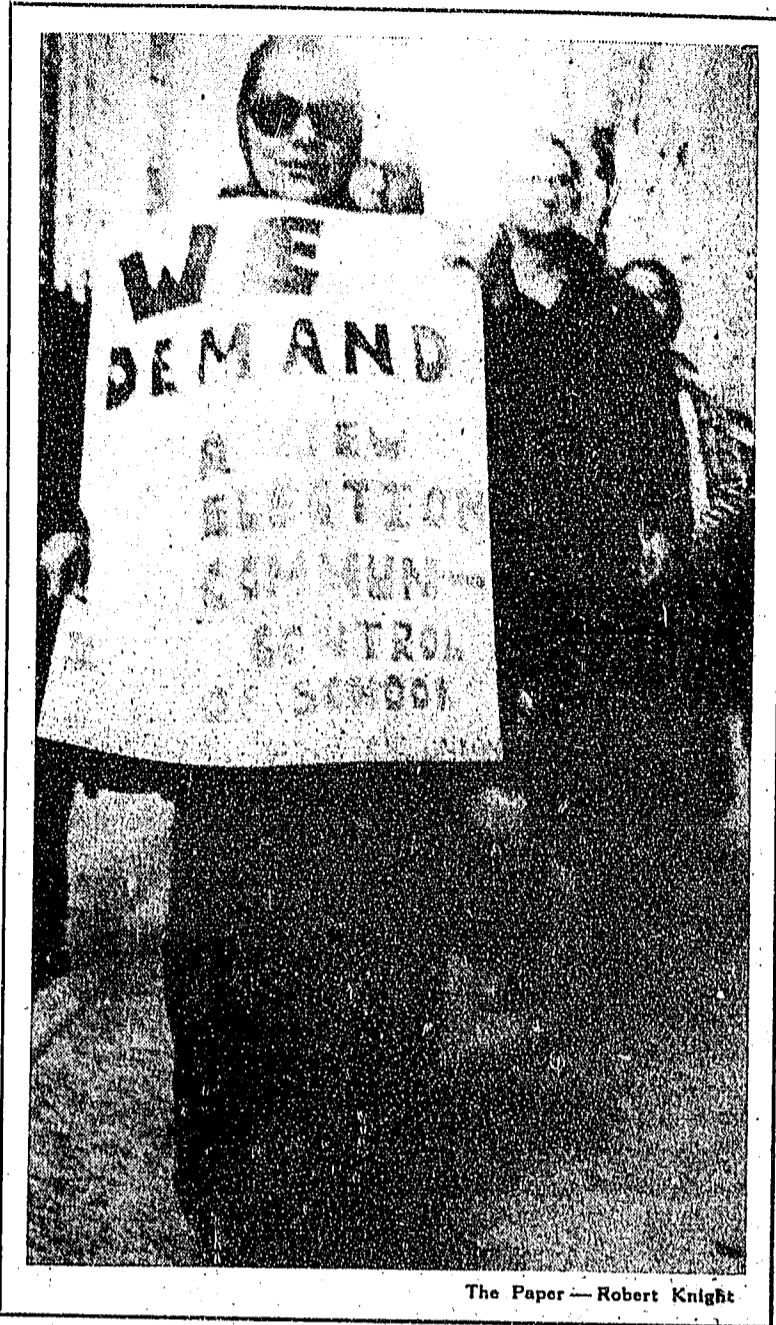
Miriam Gonzalez added that the group supporting Shanker was also anti-teachers. She felt that the media had failed to mention the part the parents

played in the controversy, stating that, "If Fuentes is to be removed from his post let it be the parents of District 1 who remove him."

The case of the election which took place in May is awaiting the decision of Judge Stuart. If he decides that the election was legal the parents will boycott once again. Plans are already being made with agencies to set up substitute classrooms in the neighborhood.

Norma Ferrares, from Borriouas Unidos here at City summed up the demonstration by saying that the image of Puerto Ricans as being "stupid and docile" is very wrong, and that they were going to stay on the backs of UFT until everything going on was stopped.

When Ms. Ferrares finished talking to the crowd of supporters they dispersed on the final note of, "Board of Ed. UFT — we know you're the enemy."



The Paper — Robert Knight

Al Green At Apollo

By KIM BRELAND

The worst thing that can happen to a brother is for another man to come between him and his woman. That is exactly what took place for two glorious hours during the Al Green Revue at the Apollo Theatre.

Women, young and old alike, were mesmerized by the dynamic singer, and maybe even a few men too. The Apollo was packed to the limit, but then,

if you're a true Al Green fan, then you wouldn't notice the scenery, the band or the standing room only crowd.

Laura Lee opened the show and gave a soulful performance that balanced the complete revue. According to the hilarious comedian, Herb Jübert, "Laura Lee is what the men came to see."

Some people in the audience were not satisfied with Green's performance, saying that for five dollars there should be less talking and more singing.

I would rather listen to Al Green's shy, soft voice with its personal tones than to hear some song that I could hear on a record.

The monologue which caused so much excitement during the performance was when Green said that he was tired of singing about being alone. At that moment, he was overwhelmed by phone numbers being shouted. Well if that's the case, my number is...

Letters...

This letter was received in response to a column entitled "I Witness News," which appeared in the October 18th issue of THE PAPER. We wish we could have understood the point. But we lost it. — Ed.

Oct. 31, 1973

Hi Jona

I'm not a college student. But I ran across a copy of THE PAPER and saw your very true article.

I was born on Myrtle Ave., County of Kings, City of Old Brooklyn, N.Y., in the year 1913 A.D. when nobody locked doors because they didn't have to do so.

My parents never taught their sons hatred and neither did brother Sol who passed away. He left two sons, 6' 7" and 6' 4". I raised 5 children, 3 boys and 2 girls and nobody can teach them hatred in no manner.

I am no big shot. I graduated

Public School 148 in 1927 and that was my formal education because I had to go to work.

Anyway what I'm trying to say is this. I have worked for the Deems Ice Cream Co., 1235 McDonald Avenue, from March 1946 until October 1972 (Parkville).

It is only a stone's throw from F.D.R. The so-called outside agitators do not come from the community. No indeed. I have seen the no good rotten scum of the earth agitate the pupils as they got off the train at the Ave. I station of the F train preaching and agitating against the whites & F.D.R. and these punks didn't come from N.Y.

I could tell by their accent. Sure there are some ignorant Blacks as there are whites. The majority should not suffer for the likes of them. Amen and may God bless you.

Ralph Gassberg

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