

THE PAPER

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.

—Langston Hughes

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Thursday, October 6, 1977

Black Alumni Seminar On 'Career Decisions'

by Angela Henderson

"Career Decisions," was the second topic in a series of seminars sponsored by the City College Black Alumni Association.

Edward Evans, Assistant to the Vice Provost of Student Affairs and President of the Black Alumni Association, was the speaker.

Mr. Evans said that the problem most people make in career decisions is over choice; especially in terms of liberal arts students. There are a lot of things liberal arts students can do. They must decide in terms of narrowing down the choices available, he said.

Many people think of job titles in terms of what they know. "This is just the tip of the iceberg." Mr. Evans suggested that each person first find out what types of jobs exist. They can do this by talking to people in the field. "Find out what they do," he said, "not their job title. Often, a job title doesn't reveal the job function."

Usually college students, especially minority students, don't know anyone personally in their field of interest. "The white middle class usually have the opportunity to see role models. One must have first hand experience to get this. One must talk to people with that experience."

Many college students are anti big-business. But it's important to realize, he said, that "seven out of ten jobs in the United States are in



The Paper/Ronald Moore

Edward Evans, Assistant to the Vice Provost of Student Affairs, President of the Black Alumni Association

big business. Therefore, most people will work in big business or starve."

There are many things a student can do before he or she graduates to prepare for the job market. John Brathwaite, a member of the Black Alumni Association, said that "tightening up your written and verbal skills is very important." These skills enable a person to present themselves in an interview situation. You are selling your intelligence and your ability to make decisions.

A person must sell him or herself in an interview. A company

continued on page 7

Law Services Will Be Offered To Students

by Selwyn Carter

A survey is presently being conducted by the National Conference of Black lawyers to determine the feasibility of developing a prepaid legal services plan for City College students. The project was recommended to City College President Robert Marshak, by Vice-Provost Ann Rees, after consultation with Lenox Hinds and Roan Morrison (NCBL) and the College's Center for Urban Legal Studies.

According to Ms. Rees, the NCBL was chosen for the study because of its affiliation with the college through the Center for Urban Legal Studies. In speaking about the NCBL Ms. Rees said, "Their reputation is well known for interest in delivering legal services to poor communities."

In addition to being geographically close to CCNY, Lenox Hinds, the NCBL's National Director, is a City College alumnus. Professor Haywood Burns, Director of the Center for Urban Legal Studies, came to the college from the National Conference Of Black Lawyers.

The study, which cost \$5000, is being paid for by the Jacob Schiff Fund. The money is being used to develop questionnaires, conduct a survey, interview students, analyze

the data and develop plan alternatives. Commenting on the college's decision to use the NCBL Ms. Rees said, "The college's concern is to get as good as possible an estimate of the feasibility of developing a prepaid legal services plan." Mr. Morrison said that "such plans are usually designed for people whose income is too high for legal aid and too low to constantly afford a lawyer. Unions and colleges usually utilize prepaid plans."

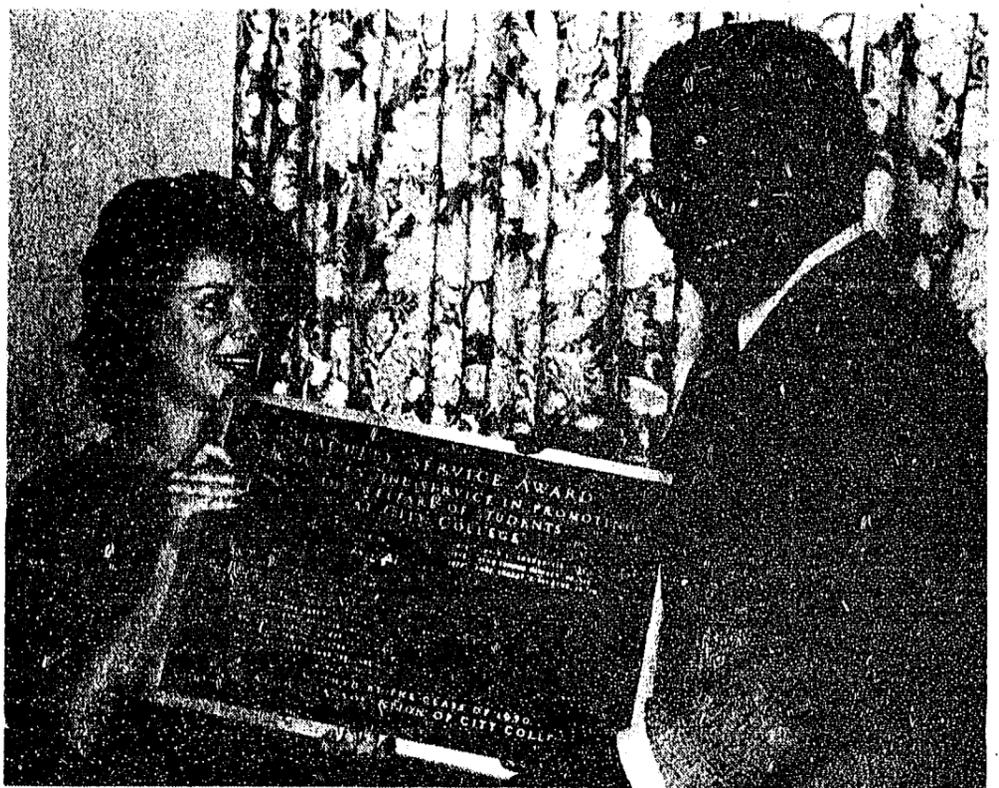
Exactly how much the plan would cost or what it would encompass is yet to be determined. While any adopted plan would provide specified legal services and advice for all students, the exact details will be determined through a survey. The survey is being conducted in randomly selected City College classes. It will encompass a sample of 3000-4000 CCNY students. The data from this survey will then be analyzed to arrive at a cross section of the legal needs of City College students. Among other questions, the survey asks about various civil and criminal problems students encounter and their success in affording a lawyer. Because of the time needed to conduct the survey the final presentation of alternate plans will not appear before January of 1978.

At a meeting on September 29, 1977, Professors Haywood Burns and Leora Mosston (Director and Assistant Director of the Urban Legal Studies Program), Roan Morrison, Vice Provost Ann Rees, Maxine Horne (student Ombudsman) and interested students, discussed the survey and related questions. Ms. Horne's office currently houses the Legal Aid Center which offers free services to all students. Exactly how the two could work together, or if there will be a Legal Aid Center as is presently constituted is yet to be determined.

In all probability, the group plan, if implemented, will be paid for through student activity fees. If this happens, then it could only be approved through a student referendum. Along with student monies, the possibility exists that the administration could subsidize the program. If the latter happens, a conflict of interest could arise when the administration and students are on opposite sides of a legal dispute.

Students who want additional information on the survey, or want to be interviewed by an NCBL lawyer, should contact The Center for Legal Education Of City College, in Shepard, Room 8 or call 690-5425.

Ernest Boynton Receives Award



Ernest B. Boynton, Jr., receives The City College Alumni Faculty Award from Alumni Association President Rence Roth at this year's annual alumni meeting. A Lecturer in the Department of English, Mr. Boynton is on a Fellowship Leave for the 1977-78 academic year.

Mr. Boynton is currently conducting, among other studies, an investigation of the relationship

of Black Americans to the print media. In particular, this Association for Education in Journalism study calls for an analysis of the media attitudes and behaviors of Black adults toward four types of print media—majority, Black entertainment, Black establishment, and Black nonestablishment.

Problems With Financial Aid

by Benny James

The financial aid situation here at City College is pretty grim for a lot of students this semester. There have been substantial cuts as far as all sources of acquiring the necessary aid; from BEOG, TAP, SEEK, CWS.

The Financial Aid Department is still heavily overburdened and back-logged due to the delay of funds coming from the state and city.

Students who have applied for BEOG during the spring find that the awards are presented on time in order for them to register, yet to receive the actual funds (cash) they have to endure the "stress," until the first of November.

Some non-SEEK students were able to get \$50 book loans but it was on a first come first serve basis. As far as College

work-study, many students received awards very late over the summer intermission, thus they were unable to use the entire award and then were cut off during the beginning of the school semester. In order to re-apply they have to continually check with the Financial Aid Department. The Department says they have no definite date as to when the balance will be available for those who only applied for fall and spring aid.

TAP and SEEK have come in on time on the prescribed dates and those who applied for NYAC loans usually have a month before any monies can be attained. TAP reimbursement for the spring and summer semesters have experienced many delays. Those students who did not receive money during August, have to wait approximately three weeks into the semester before receiving it.

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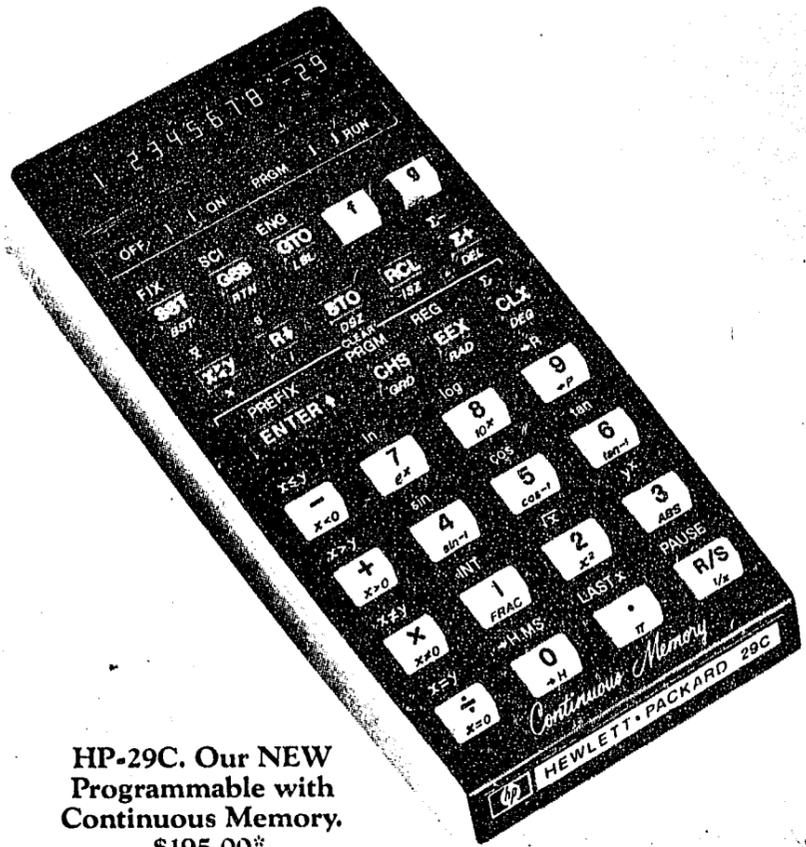
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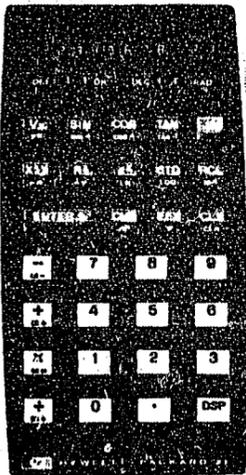
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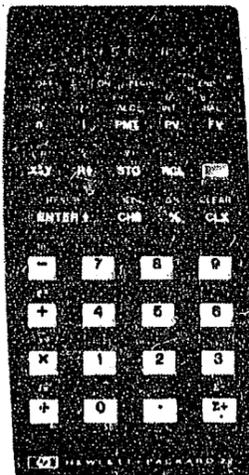
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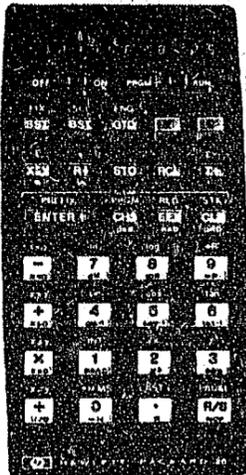
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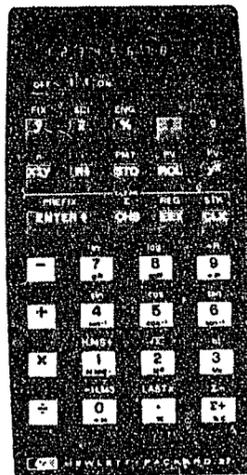
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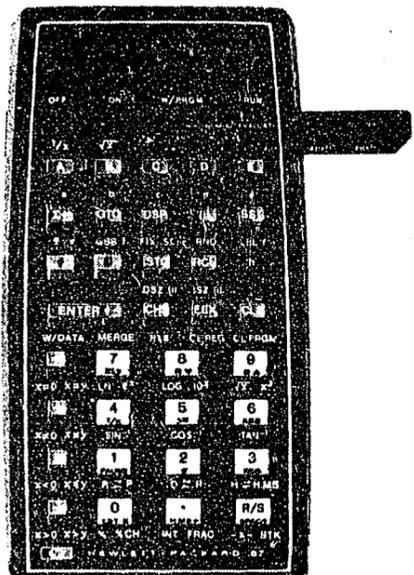
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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



by Ken Jones

Juxtaposed with the struggles and triumphs of the sixties, the present stage of the Black Revolution has reached one of diverse magnitude. By that, a collective allegiance towards restoring and maintaining identity and self-realization has embodied the mainstream of this most significant and far reaching social development.

An exemplification of this has been the proud rhetorical scream of Black literature; in all of its vibrant, spiritual, and exhilarating forms. Most interesting is the twentieth century breed of Black poet. It is these Disciples of Black Awareness that personify the true meaning of "neeeeeeeever say die;" pulling and poking at our shoulders to awaken us from the stupor of complacency, a malignant disease that began with the death of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Now, two centuries old, in America, Black poetry has been the voice of several generations of a people whose destiny, to the present day, has had extraordinary, distinctive features, strangely setting it aside from the destinies of their fellow man. It is for this reason that we must see Black poetry as a organized substance of psychological and social documents of exceptional value, and not just an exclusively literary phenomenon.

Black poet lords of the past, such as Paul Lurance Dunbar, whose poetry was known for its rhythmic and dramatic integrity; Countee Cullen, haunting and yet majestic wizard of poignant conveyance, greatly exemplified in his "Incident"; Claude McKay, whose vigorous and vibrant poetry was and still is adrenaline for the dying Black soul; Jean Toomer, whose spiritually embroidered "Cane" is among the most significant first fruits of the Black Renaissance; James Weldon Johnson, educator, legal expert, diplomat, civil rights leader, journalist, and writer . . . thought by many to be one of the most distinguished and influential personalities the Black world has ever known; and Langston Hughes, by far the most productive poet of the Black

continued from page 8

Throughout this period, Blacks organized various organizations which fought for the rights of Negro workers, such as: "National Negro Council," the "National Negro Labor Council" and the "Negro American Labor Council." The National Negro Council, which came into existence in 1936, waged many an important struggle. Most of these Black organizations were accused by the AFL and CIO of dual unionism and of communist control. Red-baiting was frequently used in order to divide the workers and the progressive labor movement.

In the contemporary labor scene, we find figures like Martin Luther King Jr. who also struggled with many unions against discrimination. Many a Black union leader as well as white union leaders offered the civil rights movement important aid. Many Blacks pointed to the contradiction of many of these white union leaders. Reuthers, of the United Auto Workers, marched in civil rights demonstrations but failed to fight against discrimination inside his own union. In the late 1960s and early 1970's Blacks, who were affected by the Black Power Movement, started to organize Black caucusses and form separate Black militant Unions; For example: DRUM, Dodge Revolutionary Union movement.

One aim in writing the book was Black and white unity. Traditionally companies have greatly benefitted by planting racism in the minds of white workers, this led them to barring Blacks from the unions. The consequence of excluding Blacks from unions was that strikes were usually lost since Blacks weren't going to fight on the side of the unions. When whites united with Blacks they were able to uplift the conditions of labor in general.

In contemporary times, the union leadership has been more sophisticated in dealing with the Black worker. Now they let Blacks into the unions but usually do not give them an opportunity to become part of the union leadership. Seniority rights have also affected Blacks in their struggle for better wages and genuine participation in setting union policy.

To point out the strength and weakness of Foner's book. First, his work tries to encompass the whole history of the Black worker in this country in one volume. The strength of his work lies in the fact that he has been able to present a general but detailed history of the labor movement and its treatment of Black workers.

Foner's literary style seemed somewhat cut and dried, yet his presentation of the facts was extremely interesting. I highly recommend his book for anyone who is interested in the history of Black people in this country. The history of the Black worker is tantamount to the history of Black people, since no other part of any society is more important and more vital than the worker.

Renaissance, all epitimized Black consciousness at a time when racist affluence tried so very desperately to tear out its eyes.

Poetry is a vital limb of expression. It will never die. On a contemporary scale Black poetry has followed along the footsteps of its pronounced ancestry; shaking to consciousness those who have sunken into the lazy euphoria of the devil may care, and lubricating the wheels and axles of involved minds.

Cost Of CUNY Copy Machines Not Uniform

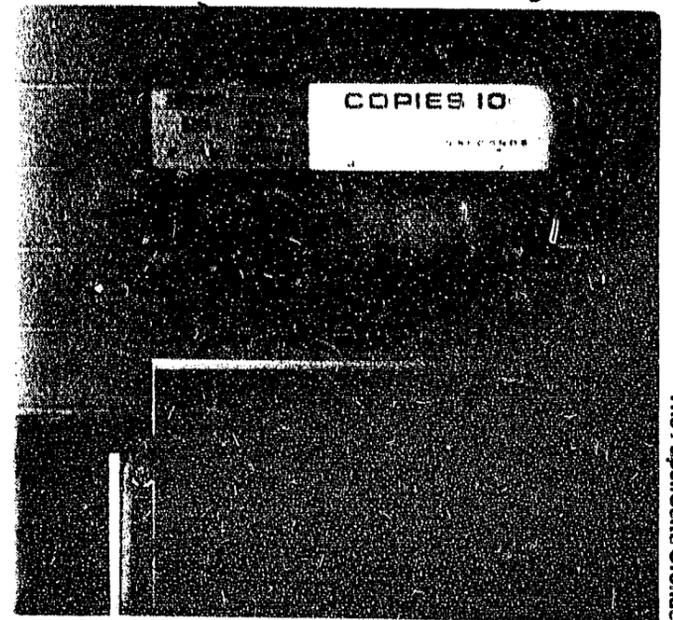


Photo Copy Machine in Cohen Library

The PaperSetts Chronicle

There is no uniform price for using copy machines in the CUNY system.

City College charges ten cents per page. The photo copy machines at many of the colleges in the CUNY system copy at a cost of five cents per page.

These colleges include Baruch College, the City College Graduate Center, Queens College and Queensborough Community College.

When the new price was

instituted at City College, last year, many students were angry.

Recently, one City College faculty member suggested that the increase in vandalized library books and periodicals may be attributed to the increased price of the copy machine.

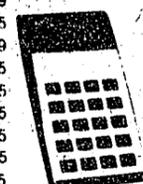
When asked about the ten cents cost, one student commented that they hoped the price would be equalized throughout CUNY, in favor of the cheaper one.

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THE PAPER

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Black Accountability

How much real power do Black people have? The appointment of Blacks to visible positions forces us to examine this question.

In federal, state, and local governments, in corporate boardrooms and on the administrative levels of colleges and universities, Black faces appear.

But for whom are they speaking? Who do they represent? Are these people the legitimate leaders of the Black community?

Black people, for want of leaders and leadership, tend to accept a Black person at face value. They don't dig underneath the surface layers to discover what this person is all about. "Is he or she speaking for me?" they should ask.

Learn To Differentiate

We as a people must become more sophisticated and learn how to differentiate between whites in Black face and legitimate Black leaders.

Also, we must carefully examine the positions Black people hold in terms of real power. Are they really positions of power or just window dressing for a token nigger?

What this person does in their job is important. Time is running out for window dressing.

A few years ago the situation in the Black community looked good. More Blacks were entering college, the employment situation was looking better, Blacks were entering the professions. But for most Blacks, the poor quality of life remains unchanged: substandard housing, poor diet and health, no real earning power.

By conservative estimates, the unemployment rate for Black teenagers is 40 per cent. There is still a wide disparity between the average income of whites and the average income of Blacks.

The media talks about the emerging Black middle class. What they fail to mention is that the Black middle class consists of two or more incomes, wherein the white middle class consists of only one. The Black middle class always faces the prospect of becoming a part of the massive Black poor, again.

Becoming More Vocal

Our Black politicians have to become more vocal regarding the creation of jobs and training programs for Black unemployed and underemployed; and not just during election time.

Black people must come out and vote ineffective politicians out of office.

We are not satisfied with no where jobs, we want jobs with unlimited growth potential.

Higher Education is slowly being closed to minority men and women. Through the elimination of free tuition and tuition deferrals, the lowering of TAP monies, etc.

Our Black college administrators and faculty have to become more vocal regarding the right of access to higher education for all people. Everyone already knows how minority students feel.

Accountability

Black people must make those Blacks who are visible more responsive to their needs rather than the needs of those who put them there. Ultimately, they will always be members of the Black community.

The recent mayoral primary was a good example of accountability. Many Black people didn't come out for Percy Sutton, or their support was half-hearted. Ask yourself "Why?"

Black people must hold accountable those Blacks who are in visible positions. Otherwise it will seem as if there is really no one there at all.

Letters To The Collective

TO EDITOR:

The column in your last issue entitled "Student Voices: How effective is the Black and Hispanic vote in bringing desired changes to those communities?" mistakenly excluded the significance of the Hispanic vote on such an important and controversial issue. It also refused to recognize the impact of the other minority/students represented at this institution.

It is important that "THE PAPER" become more representative of all minority students here at City College, since the other campus newspapers reluctantly decline to acknowledge us unless they do it in a negative manner. In order to bring the student body together it is important that their nationality be recognized when necessary. But just as notable is the fact that in order to end the systemic exploitation and oppression confronting our educational institution, students must become one nucleus because we cannot expect to have our needs met if we are not a united student body. Students are the core for social change in our institutions.

Luis Benitez
Vice President
Community Affairs
Day Student Government

(Mr. Moore responds) You state that the column 'Student Voices,' "mistakenly excluded the significance of the Hispanic vote on such a controversial issue." This is wrong, there was no attempt on the part of this columnist to avoid certain minority groups, such as Hispanics. This column is directed to all minority students at City College. However the question did not receive the response it should have. Out of thirty people asked, ten were Hispanic. Out of the ten, NOT ONE wanted to answer this question. Since this is such an important and controversial issue why were students apathetic toward answering the question?

Student Voices reaches out to students, giving them an opportunity to voice their opinion on certain issues. When there is such an opportunity, it should be taken.

El Grito De Lares (The Scream (Outcry) of Lares)

by B R Brown

On September 23rd, 1867, the first armed struggle against colonialism took place as the people arose to take back the land. 'The good doctor', Betances, one of the principles behind the brain thrust of these rebels, failed in his attempt to bring the ship and 1000 troops he had managed, to amass. His forces were held up due to the political and bureaucratic intervention of the Dominicans, allowing the Spaniards to march through three towns butchering men, women and children; Lares being the last and the base of operations of the ill-equipped rebel forces. It was this incident that inspired the Puerto Rican national anthem, La Borinqua. Two-hundred of the five-hundred man army were killed, the rest jailed. Sometime later, five-hundred sympathizers were arrested. Whatever name colonialism wears, South Africa, Attica, Haiti, South Carolina, it is an evil which must be eradicated.

"They need poetry," Mary McLeod Bethune said to Langston Hughes. So one-hundred and ten years later, despite heavy rains, I found myself down on the lower east side, at the New Rican Village. In remembrance of Lares, a group of poets got together to render readings of their works. In order of appearance, the poets were: Brother Louis R. Rivera, Rico Velez, Sandy Esteves, Noel Rico, B J Ashanti.

Brother Louis MC'd the program, recalling Lares (always a strong brother) and reading a selection. He called on Rico Velez. Rico and I go back seventeen years so all I can say is that I am glad that he has come out of self imposed retirement, and hope that he gets published soon.



Louis Rivera, poet

Another piece from Louis, which happens to be one of my favorites of his, is about Mari Anita and her 'admirer.' Then he introduced Sandy Esteves.

Ms. Esteves is very highly spoken of as a painter, she did a couple of drawings for Mr. Rivera's books. She read a folk legend of African origin that tied together the lores of the NATIVE AMERICAN, PUERTO RICAN and the WEST INDIANS.

Taking nothing away from her love/street pictures which are often humorous but poignant, I would suggest that she familiarize herself with her material. Repetition seems to serve adequately but the force of her words are lost as she finds her place on the paper.

Noel Rico, a poet of Spanish (Spain) descent, a rebirth of the beat poet, lives his poetry. His view

of the world, from a park bench in Washington Square Park, to Nathans, where a hobo gives him a dollar in sympathy of his plight. The ease with which he meshes Spanish and English in the simple but complex statements he uses is beautiful. A product of the village, the streets and an unjust system, living poetry by a living artist, check him out.

Byron James Ashanti (BJ) whose volume of poetry is on Shamal Books publication, rounded out the program. A politically astute brother, BJ loaned his sympathies and understanding of the significance of the event. The background he has to draw upon for his being at home on the African continent, in Puerto Rico, the Carribean, or the streets of New York, is rich indeed.

Brother Rivera closed the reading with another piece from his book. We said goodnight Brother Eddie, a little sunshine on a rainy night in New York.



Lemme Pull Ya Coat

In Bryant Park, October 21-23, small press publishers will gather at the New York Book Fair. If you write, make it over and see what you can see.

On November 17th, in Finley Student Center, B.J. and Louis team up again. Brothers Askia Muhammed Terrile and Sekou Sundiata, two more dynamic poets, will join them. You got to check this one out.



B.J. Ashanti, poet

The Paper/Setiu Oronde



MANDATORY ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION FOR EDUCATION MAJORS AND MINORS

All education majors and minors who have not successfully completed the English Proficiency requirement, specially mandated by the School of Education, must appear for the next examination scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th, 1977 in the Steinman Auditorium commencing at 3:00 P.M. Blue or pink exam booklets will be provided, but candidates must bring their own scrap paper and pen.

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from Dean Wagner's Office — Administration Building—

Application Deadline: October 11, 1977

KENT STATE FORUM

12 pm October 7, 1977; The Grand Ballroom

SPEAKERS

1 Al Canfora,

who was wounded at Kent State, May 7, 1970.

2 Ed Whitfield,

a former student at Cornell University who participated in the armed takeover of the Administration Bldg.

Any doubts — check info at 152 Finley Ctr.

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1977 EXAMINATION FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT.

DATE: Dec. 3, 1977
Deadline for Application*: Oct. 21, 1977

*Applications available in S206.

Mr. David Smith, U.S. Dept. of State, will be in our office to answer questions concerning the above exam and about careers in the foreign service and U.S. Information Agency on:

TUES. OCT. 11, 1977
In S206
From 10 am to 12 noon



THE COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM . . .

is a plan of education which integrates academic study with actual work experience. Students participating in Coop Ed alternate semesters (including summers) of fulltime classroom attendance at City College, with fulltime working semesters in government, business, industry, or non-profit agencies. Through Cooperative Education you will learn more about your career interests, you will develop your skills and abilities, and you will prepare yourself well for the future.

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- You'll earn money to help defray educational expenses.
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- You'll improve your prospects for employment and a higher salary upon graduation.
- You'll develop self-confidence, and discover new abilities and interests.
- You'll have a basis for defining your career goals and for evaluating whether you have chosen the best major.

ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Completion of at least 30 college credits with a current 2.0 (C) grade-point average.
- 2) Completion of a Cooperative Education application one semester before your first placement.
- 3) A reasonable commitment to working at least two non-consecutive semesters.

To Participate during the Spring Semester You Must Apply No Later Than Oct. 15, 1977

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Cooperative Education Program
Shepard Hall, Room 205
The City College of New York
Convent Avenue & 138 Street
New York, N.Y. 10031
Telephone number: (212) 690-5326, 27

P.S. Interviews for Comp-Sci, Mathematics, & L.A. majors for Spring Assignments with a Federal Agency will be held Oct. 7, 1977. contact us immediately if interested.

continued from page 1

is making an investment when it hires someone. Your job is to produce for the company. The person who hires you is risking his or her professional reputation on an unknown entity. Be prepared to explain why you should be hired, what you can do for the company.

To zero in on a career choice, Mr. Evans suggested that everyone do the following. List twenty things you enjoy doing. In the next column, note if you've done each item in the last three months and in the last six months. Can you do each thing with other people? Do you prefer to do it alone or with others? Next, note if each item costs more than \$5.00 to do (exclude equipment cost). Which of the items would your parents approve of? Now rank them in order of preference.

Examine the list after you've finished. Look for inconsistencies. If you say you enjoy doing something yet haven't done it in the last few months, ask yourself why.

If this doesn't help you decide your career objective, try listing those things you dislike doing. This will narrow your choices.

Mr. Evans suggested that students read these books: "What Color Is Your Parachute?" by Richard Nelson Bolles, "Learning For Tomorrow" by Alvin Tofler and "The Aims Of Education" by Alfred North Whitehead."

The next seminar, "Management Skills," will be held on Saturday, October 8, at 12 Noon, in Finley 121. The fourth seminar, one week later, will concern legal action.

Caribbean

Culture

Production

On Friday, October 14, 1977, at 8:00 p.m. in the Schimmel Center For The Arts, Pace University, 1 Pace Plaza, New York, the Caribbean Evening Students Association of Pace University will present a cultural stage production entitled "A FLAME IN THE SUN".

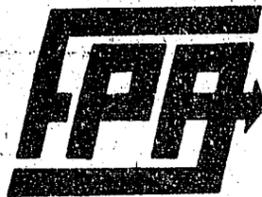
This event promises to be a night of music, song, dance, poetry and comedy depicting the many elements in the life of Caribbean people. Prominent among the many entertainers will be the Mighty Sparrow, Cheryl Byron & Co., and the Natural Roots Folk Performing Company.

Admission is \$4.00 and \$3.00. Tickets are now on sale at Pace University. For further information, call 285-3590 or 285-3715.

Student I.D.'s

Available

Student I.D.'s are available until October 28, in Finley, 206 during the following hours: Monday and Tuesday, 10AM-1PM, 3PM-4PM; Wednesday and Thursday, 10AM-7PM; and Friday, 12 Noon-4PM.



Providing CCNY with the very best!

FPA Presents

- Mon, Oct. 3 Silkscreening- New: Photosilkscreening
- Tues, Oct: 4 Leathercrafts
- Weds, Oct. 5 Needlecrafts

In room 350 Finley, starting October 3 thru the semester

Thurs, Oct. 6 **ELLEN MANDEL & MIKE LYDON**

In the Monkey's Paw Cafe 12-2 P.M.

Fri, Oct. 7 **"Ninotchka"** (starring Greta Garbo) & **Duck Soup** (with Marx Bros.)

In the Monkey's Paw at 12, 2, 4 & 6 P.M.

Noon Poetry Readings

The Fall 1977 Noon Poetry Series will begin October 6th with a reading by Roger Hecht, whose latest volume, BURNED OFFERINGS, will be published in 1978. The series will continue throughout the term and all are invited.

All readings are on Wednesdays, at noon, in room 330 Finley.

Oct. 5 Roger Hecht, author of *Signposts, Parade of Ghosts*, and other volumes.

Oct. 26 Marvin Cohen, author of *Fables at Life's Expense, The Self-Devoted Friend*, and other volumes.

Book Review:

"Organized Labor and the Black Worker"

by Franklin Velasquez

Philip S. Foner, the author of *Organized Labor and the Black Worker 1619-1973* is an excellent historian who has written various other books relating to the Black experience. Among the books relating to the Black experience in the United States we find: *The Life and Writings of Frederick Douglass* (4 vols.); *Business and Slavery: The New York Merchants and the Irrepressible Conflict: W.E.B. Du Bois Speaks* (2 vols.), and a host of other books relating to various aspects of American and labor history.

I found Foner's book on the Black worker in the United States to be an extremely excellent source of the history of the labor movement in the United States and its treatment of Black workers. Foner presented the case of the Black workers and the discrimination they faced in the labor unions realistically and he wrote history without attempting to cover the sky with his hands.

Indeed, it is very refreshing to find an historian in this country that does not white wash history and create a picture of a panacea when in reality this country is but a Medusa. Foner's methodology of presenting a concrete picture of reality enables the reader to see the bigoted nature of American society and the way it has excluded Blacks from union participation and from obtaining decent jobs with a good salary.

After reading several chapters of the book we begin to see how the veil is gradually removed from the face of American history and the imprint of the Black struggle emerges. Most historians begin the history of Black people in this country with the advent of slavery usually forgetting to mention that the African slaves in the United States often revolted against oppressive conditions of slavery. Most historians who have robbed us of our history would have us believe that Blacks only recently started their struggle, but in reality the history of struggle dates back to the moment Blacks started working, first as slaves and then as wage workers.

As far as share-cropping is concerned we can practically consider it slavery in a semi-feudal nature. Foner concentrates however, not on slavery, but on the period in which Blacks became wage laborers.

Foner's documentation of the history of the exclusion of Black workers from organized labor was excellent. An analysis is made of exclusionary practices from most labor organizations starting from the National Labor Union to the A.F.L.-C.I.O. When Blacks were confronted with exclusion from the National Labor Union, they quickly formed the Colored National Labor Union. The Blacks in the C.N.L.U. learned not to be poisoned with race hatred as the whites were. This was proven by their willingness to have Chinese laborers in the union, which was the first union in the history of the United States to do so.

When the Knights of Labor was formed, this particular white union gave verbal support to the right of Black workers to belong to the Union, unfortunately they soon abandoned their initial ideals and began to jim crow Blacks into separate unions. In its initial stages the Knights of Labor recruited many Blacks when compared to the National Labor Union.

Another labor formation which initially began calling upon the elimination of racism from unionism and calling upon the unity of Black and white workers, was the A.F.L. which was headed by Samuel Gompers. But in subsequent periods, the A.F.L. continued the trend of racism and jim-crowism against the Black workers while simultaneously giving lip service to the struggle against discrimination. While most labor unions discriminated against Black workers there existed a notable union which didn't discriminate: the Industrial World Workers (I.W.W.)

The I.W.W. or wobblies as they were commonly called, was a militant labor union which treated white and Black workers alike and maintained a firm principled position on the unity between Black and white labor against capital. Because of its progressive positions and militant actions, the wobblies faced much repression which gradually led to its downfall. Foner points to the fact that W.E.B. Du Bois felt that the wobblies were one of the few unions that respected the Black worker.

In the history of the A.F.L., Foner points out to the efforts of many Black unionists who fought courageously to eliminate discrimination. One particular union, composed primarily of Black workers, which spearheaded the struggle against discrimination in the A.F.L., was the "Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters." This union was organized by A. Philip Randolph. For nearly half a century Randolph combated the postures of the A.F.L. in its conventions, but to no avail.

Another organization which seemed to provide hope for Black workers in its initial stages was the C.I.O., this industrial organization organized itself in terms of industry and not craft. By organizing itself by industry the CIO gave Blacks the opportunity to join the union. Since the AFL was organized according to craft, many Blacks were excluded since they were basically unskilled. In the beginning the CIO had a consistent policy towards Black workers, this was due to the strong influence of the Communist Party members who fought against discrimination. However during the cold war, many communists were eliminated and racist bureaucrats took the predominant position.

When the AFL merged with the CIO in the 1950's, more racism against Blacks occurred. Thus far I have presented some of the main labor unions which existed: the National Labor Union in the last half of the 19th century; the Knights of Labor in the end at the 19th century; the AFL in the first half of the 20th century and the CIO which was begun in the 1930's.

continued on page 3

Student Voices

by Rynard Moore

Question: Why are students less politically active?



Marcia King, Senior:

"Students are less politically active because they are not seeing anything done for them. They vote to put a particular party in office and the same people turn around and stab voters in the back by not fulfilling promises that were made to them."



June A. Allison, Sophomore:

"There are a large amount of students who are not politically active. I find this is so because our government system is so messed up. Another reason is that students are so involved with their own personal gain they forget that they have a government to run."



Diane Stefani, Junior:

"Around 25 percent of the total population of New York are politically active. I am talking about your so-called adults. The student population has not only been born out of this apathy but we have developed our own misconceptions of the powerlessness of the vote. If we would vote and participate, we would have more say on what goes on. But we have been disillusioned by those who wish us to."



Mary Flagler, Sophomore:

"I think that students are less politically active because the educational institutions of this country educates the student population to be non activist. Many of our educators consider students to have no voice in the political society. If students do, they are a threat to the establishment which supports the educators. Since the sixties, students have been politically apathetic towards themselves and the political society. This can be illustrated in the last decade which has turned students off to government and it's officials. One example of which is Burt Lance."



Rosemary Quiles, Freshman:

"Students are more involved with themselves and their school work. This is because in the future they can become somebody with authority in the field that they choose."



Marc Barash, Senior:

"Students are less politically active because they are spending time coping with the problems of school. Larger classes, fewer sections, bad professors and rotten food are some of the problems each student encounters. These problems are more important to students. Also, trying to get out of college takes up most of our time as students."



Zayeed Aleem, Sophomore:

"Students look around their neighborhoods and find no changes and no jobs for the people. They still see filth and garbage in the street. After elections, not one politician utters a word about these conditions. This leaves students with no choice but to look for other alternatives to politics."



Talib Aleem, Sophomore:

"The students of today are more politically aware than the students of old. For example, if you break down the work politic, you will find that poly means many and tic, blood sucker. Being aware of this, the students of today are tired of being prey for this parasite."

"The Paper" requests intelligent questions on important issues from you. Please send your questions to "The Paper," Finley 337.