

# NEGRO STUDENTS PLAN AID PROJECT

Long-Range Program Aims  
at Rebuilding Communities

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PRINCETON, April 12—Negro college students ended a three-day meeting here today with the announcement that they would begin a long-range economic and education project.

The aims of the project are to rebuild Negro communities, to re-educate Negroes and to form manufacturing and financial concerns.

The project was outlined in a paper by Howard Bell that was presented at the second annual Association of Black Collegians' conference at Princeton University.

Mr. Bell is a 20-year-old Princeton sophomore majoring in aerospace engineering.

"This program," he said, is dedicated to a restoration of the internal strength of character, purpose and black awareness with which we can free ourselves from the chains of mental slavery which this country has placed around us.

"This proposal is consistent with the universal principals underlying the black power movement."

Students will begin the project by conducting research and interviews to find Negro college graduates and professionals competent and willing to take over and run the project. Mr. Bell said he hoped this would be done by the end of the summer.

## Activities Described

He envisioned such diverse activities in the project as buying homes in Negro communities for resale to private persons or cooperatives, producing television programs, establishing UHF television stations, pressuring for better education and providing loans and technical know-how to black businessmen.

Funds to undertake these projects, Mr. Bell said, would come from such sources as the sale of stocks and bonds, private and government grants and the operation of profit-making enterprises.

"We welcome any aid whites may want to volunteer in helping us to set up this project," Mr. Bell said, "as long as they are willing to operate within the framework of this program and do not try to dictate to us how we should define our destinies."

Diane Lewis, a senior in economics at the College of the City of New York, said the proposal was "great."

## Need for Support

"I did a paper on economic growth and development of the black community and it convinced me," she said, "that more of us need to engage in developing black businesses."

Miss Lewis, who lives in the Bronx, is vice president of the Onyx Society, the Negro student organization at C.C.N.Y.

The more than 100 students attending the conference came from some 42 colleges from Massachusetts to Florida and as far west as Ohio.

They were representatives of Negro student groups on their own campuses. Their expenses at the conference were paid either by themselves or by their colleges.

Titled "Black Awareness — Direction, Prospects and Perspectives," the conference dealt mostly with economics as a tool for getting control of black communities.

This disappointed some delegates.

Jerrome Duncan, a junior in political science at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, said the conference did not deal with the problem of inter-college communications, violence in the streets, unification of Negro colleges and the relationship between students and "the brothers in the streets."

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Maybelle Anne Taylor of Baltimore who is studying demographic methodology at Vassar, said that she enjoyed "discussing, blowing steam and meeting people," but that she felt there should have been more discussion on family problems.

"We have gotten together and that is impressive," said Robert Blockum, a Princeton graduate student in chemistry who comes from Birmingham, Ala.

"The death of Martin Luther King had a lot to do with peoples' feeling that they must be committed to do something.

"But the conference didn't do anything to let people know that the big problem is the [American] system itself. We cannot adhere to all the values of the system. We need a basic reorientation."

## WESTERN ELECTRIC POLICY PROTESTED

About 13,000 Western Electric installers, protesting what a union spokesman described as "disparities within the Bell System" in connection with the funeral observances for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, staged a half-day walkout in the metropolitan area yesterday.

The Western Electric Company is the supply and manufacturing arm of the Bell Telephone Company.

Their union, local 1190 of the Communications Workers of America, A.F.L.-C.I.O., said the New York Telephone Company had authorized time off with pay for employees who wanted to give tribute to Dr. King on Tuesday, but said that Western Electric employees were told they would be charged for lost time if they left their jobs because of the funeral.

A spokesman for the company confirmed that members of the union had left their posts yesterday in the metropolitan area. The union said "the men will all be back on the job Monday morning."

Yesterday's walkout, the union said, had "nothing to do" with a threatened strike of some 200,000 Communications Workers of America members against the Bell system scheduled for Thursday at 3 P.M. The union is seeking "substantial" wage increases.