

WDIA NIGHTHAWK



Chris "Nighthawk" Turner

Monday thru Saturdays 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

PLUS

Young America Speaks Sundays 5:30 P.M.

He's All Soul on WDIA!

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WOPC Defends Class Program

\$20,000 Project To Reach 45 Persons Is Called 'Bold, Probing'

By DALE RICHARDSON
Herschel Feibleman, War On Poverty Committee chairman, yesterday defended \$20,000 program that would reach only 45 persons as "bold and probing."

Mr. Feibleman's defense came during a City Council hearing on charges by the Youth Guidance Commission that the WOPC misled councilmen into approving a 27-point summer program by causing it to believe the YGC approved the program.

Phillip L. Brooke, a YGC director, told the council that the YGC approved only 22 of the 27 programs and probably could not have approved 2 of the 5 extra programs.

At issue were two programs totaling more than \$40,000. One program, the MAP-South Life Experience Project, would directly reach only 45 persons. The city and county are not contributing to the \$20,036 program.

The other, a Neighborhood Organizing Project, is to involve 12 student groups in neighborhood projects. The city and county are contribu-

ting \$4,184 to the \$20,919 program.

"We are going to have to take a risk on a quality program which may not produce quality," said Mr. Feibleman of the MAP-South Life Experience Project. "If you want to water down this program to the lowest common denominator, you will join its enemies," he said.

The program, apparently the more contested of the two, will be used to teach 38 students about contributions to society by minority groups. Each student will be paid \$1.60 an hour while attending. A director-instructor will be paid \$100 a week, and six student teachers will be paid \$1.60 an hour. Mr. Feibleman termed it "bold and probing."

James Powers, YGC executive director, said he personally opposed the two programs because he believed the money should be spread out among more young persons.

Mr. Feibleman said the plan for both programs is indefinite but the supervision is sound.

Councilman Robert James said, "It seems the militant groups are chosen to be leaders of such groups in other cities. Who are the 38 students? Is it primarily a militant group?"

George Hunt, assistant director of the Memphis Youth Opportunity Project, described his work with WOPC projects to the council and said: "These programs are not

geared to destroy anything but to build."

Isaac Taylor, director of the Life Experience Project, said his group also discusses pressures against the Negro family and current events as well as Negro history. "We have them talking about the hard questions."

Mr. James said it sounded like an excellent program and he would like to be invited to one of its sessions.

Councilman Wyeth Chandler said he didn't know whether the program was good but that the money had been appropriated and a judgment will have to be made at summer's end.

Councilman James Netters, whose committee on hospitals, institutions and welfare heard the charges by Mr. Brooke, said his committee will meet and make recommendations on the matter. A time for the meeting was not set.

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