

NNPA President Scores Racism, Other Ills

By Aurelia Zak and Philip Taylor

Pittsburgh, Pa. — "We must not be lulled by efforts to separate those Blacks who have made it in white America from those who face bleak, hopeless, bottomless pits of despair and will never make it in white America," asserted Dr. Carlton Goodlett in his presidential address to the 34th annual convention of National Newspapers Publishers Association (NNPA).

Goodlett is a graduate of Howard Kennedy Grade and Central High schools in Omaha.

The NNPA president, who is editor and publisher of the San Francisco Sun Reporter, told an estimated 200 conferees that there are two major enemies which threaten the survival of blacks in America: racism and the misuse of alcohol, hard drugs and narcotics.

"In our crusade against racism we must show the same fervor that was shown in the crusade against lynching," Goodlett said.

He continued, "It is we the victims of racism who cannot forget that racism is the main enemy of our hopes and aspirations, and we must never let America, Black or white, forget. We must continue to clamor for the radical surgery needed to rid this nation of it." Dr. Goodlett said "testing time" has arrived for the nation and warned if racism is permitted to thrive that America would be a nation in peril. He stated that many young Blacks are developing a "dog in the manger psychosis" towards the white majority who persist in hindering Blacks from leading full and productive lives. This oppression, he said, is leading many young militant blacks willing to pay the price of death itself, to deny the American Dream to their white oppressors.

The NNPA president stressed



Goodlett... radical surgery needed

in his address that the future of Black America could well be a bleak one if Blacks cannot rescue their youth from hard drugs and narcotics. "We must launch a crusade to save our youth," he exclaimed. Quoting the words of Thomas Paine, he added, "If there must be trouble, let it come in my day, so that my children may live in peace."

Dr. Goodlett maintained "there are two basic ingredients which might give Blacks some operating room and a bare possibility of 'making it' in white America. Those

ingredients," he said, "are economic power and political power."

In contrast to the myth that Blacks are economically unstable, Dr. Goodlett pointed out that Blacks spent \$46 million in the marketplace in 1972 and concluded that Black consumer power in this country, when used judiciously, can continue the march against racism by economic boycott.

Dr. Goodlett urged his counterpart members of the Black press to take issue with corporate American giants and multinational companies who rape

the Black community of tens of millions while returning little in advertisement revenue.

On the subject of Black political power, Dr. Goodlett anticipated that by 1980 12 to 14 of the nation's major cities will be governed by Black mayors. It is crucial, he said, that these minority mayors be capable of wielding political power to eradicate racism in employment, housing, education, and law enforcement in their respective cities.

The NNPA president added that Blacks must mount a campaign to control air space (electronic media) in the Black ghettos. If necessary, he said, Blacks must undertake a mass-consciousness of the nation to the sive crusade to raise the consciousness of Black demands and force her (America) to deal with them, through systematic jamming of all white-owned Black orientated radio stations.

"People who struggle for freedom and human dignity must have their own mass communications media," he said.

Dr. Goodlett cited the Black press as the only means of communication and the sole spokesman for millions of Black Americans. He said it must bear the cross of exposing the misery, deprivation and crimes against the American Creed.

Quoting former Cleveland Mayor Carl Stokes, Dr. Goodlett reminded conferees that "the pen is mightier than the sword. It is not that the sword is a less efficient solution to human conflicts, but the pen is in fact

The NNPA president concluded that the Black press must sustain our most precious survival asset—Black unity, he said. We have a common fate, and we together shall forge a common victory of freedom, of justice and equality."

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