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REPORT OF YOUTH WORKSHOP ON PROGRAMMING
48TH ANNUAL NAACP CONVENTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1955

Presiding: Herbert L. Wright
Youth Secretary

Consultant: Harry Burns
Youth Council Advisor
San Antonio, Texas

Theme:

Program Planning for NAACP Youth Councils and College Chapters.

Attendance:

Approximately 175 youth delegates and advisors participated in the workshop.

Procedure:

1. Explanation of purpose of workshops
2. Buzz session - 10 minutes
3. Discussion of major problems as reported by buzz groups
4. Summary

Problems:

As a result of the buzz session the following problems were presented for group discussions and for the suggestion of possible solutions:

1. How can we develop a more attractive program?
2. How can our recreation facilities be improved?
3. How can we get more active members?
4. How can we secure greater employment?
5. How to secure better Branch-Council relations?
6. What can we do to offset the negative effects of antagonism in membership drives?
7. In what manner can youth be more effective in political actions?
8. How can councils and college chapters encourage higher educational and vocational endeavors?
9. How can we work with other community civic groups and other NAACP groups?
10. How can we develop the interests of young people in the work of the Association?
11. How can we determine the age limitation?
12. How can we get more youth councils to follow up on actions taken at the National Convention?
13. How can we get a good advisor and keep him, or her?

Possible Solutions:

These were reached by discussions on the part of the whole group and reflect a cross section of workable solutions used by youth councils and college chapters throughout the country.

Problem # 1

1. Plan on the basis of interest of the council or chapter members.
2. Make a systematic survey of the interests within the group.
3. Sponsor varied activities which reflect an awareness of local problems.

Problem # 2

1. Work with other civic and community groups.
2. Place pressure on the city administrators to increase recreational facilities.
3. Collect data on costs, tax money used on recreational facilities for use in a campaign for increased facilities.

Problem # 3

1. Work with other youth groups.
2. Find youth leaders in the community and bring them into the councils.
3. Set up more active committees engaged in building themselves up as committees involving more of the membership.
4. Plan programs to include and encourage full participation by younger council members.

Problem # 4

1. Get the facts on special factories, stores, and other local businesses that do not hire Negroes.
2. Set up job placement services.
3. Contact local labor unions.
4. Take advantage of apprenticeship training programs.

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5. Utilize state employment agencies.
6. Carry on a campaign for FEPC which will assure equal pay and job opportunities.
7. Increased employment for minority groups will raise their economic status which will serve as an additional weapon in their fight against second-class citizenship.

Problem # 5

1. Coordinate Youth and Branch programs, fund-raising projects and membership campaigns.
2. Discuss local conflicts with the Advisor, Branch Youth Work Committee and Executive Committee, contacting the National Office only when an agreement cannot be reached.

Due to the limited time, the group was unable to discuss the remaining questions. It was agreed that these be referred to the regional conferences for solutions.

Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, spoke to the group at the close of the session. Mr. Wilkins urged the youth and college units to fulfill their quotas for the Fighting Fund for Freedom. He concluded with these two important thoughts:

1. The continued success of the Association's program will depend heavily upon the cooperation and support of the youth members of the Association.
2. He is wholeheartedly for a strong youth movement, and every assistance will be given the youth at all levels to carry on this program.

An announcement was made urging as many youths as possible to attend the 2nd USAY Conference which is being held at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio on September 7-13th.

After a brief summary of the workshop findings by Mr. Wright, the workshop was closed at 5:00 p.m. with general agreement that projects for desegregation and integration must continue to play an important part in the program planning for youth councils and college chapters.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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