

# Black Caucus participate planned for national meet

Plans for the participation of more than 120 elected officials and community leaders from Maryland in a national black political convention were made February 6 in Glenarden, at the initial meeting of the Maryland Black Caucus.

The convention will be held March 10-12 in Gary, Indiana. Provisional chairmen of the National Black Convention are Congressman Charles Diggs (D-Mich.) and Imam Amiri Baraka, internationally-known black playwright and poet.

Participants included were: Delegates Arthur King, Kenneth Webster, and John Douglas, members of the Maryland General Assembly, Deatur Trotter, Jr., Mayor of Glenarden, and 150 other black public officials and community leaders over 5,000 voting delegates from all 50

states will attend the convention where a "black platform based on black needs" will be formulated to be presented to the Democratic and Republican conventions this summer.

Del. Webster, in opening remarks to the Caucus, stated "Blacks have historically supported the Democratic Party and historically gotten nothing. This pattern is going to be changed."

The Caucus voted unanimously to accept a black platform based on three issues: economics, politics, and education.

The Black Caucus platform states that the crucial issue in education is that of quality schools vs. bussing; there is no need, the Black Caucus asserts, "to follow white children into the areas if we want quality education in our own areas." The group ex-

presses urgent concern about the millions of dollars poured into white-oriented early childhood education. It is urgent, the Caucus adds, to develop concern about the development in the schools of the black curriculum and the teaching of black values.

The Caucus platform states that one of the central purposes of the Black National Convention will be to unite black voters to support a black platform. Delegate Webster said "The approach of black people to the Chisholm candidacy will in all probability be determined at the Black National Convention." Repeatedly, Black Caucus participants urged the need for black unity.

Accordingly, the Black Caucus established a one-dollar membership fee so that, as one spokesman

said, "the masses will join the Caucus. This is a movement of the whole black community, not just the community leaders and elected officials. The whole black community is going to be involved in the Black Caucus, all socioeconomic strata."

Maryland participants in the National Black Convention will be more than 60 elected black officials, and 65 other black delegates, selected by the Black Caucus from all Maryland counties and Baltimore.

Mayor Decatur Trotter, Jr. will hold a press conference on Friday, February 11, 1972, in the city hall of Glenarden. At that time Mayor Trotter will discuss with the press the Maryland Black Caucus and the National Black Convention. The press conference will be held at noon.

## Canadian group sends birthday gift to Angela

TORONTO — Supporters of Angela Davis in Canada showed their love for her by sending more than \$1000 and best wishes on her last birthday, marking the second such occasion behind bars.

A telegram to Angela said, "We Canadians are with you as you spend your second year behind bars. Inspired by your courage, our support for you can only grow as your trial begins."

"We will not allow you to be silenced nor isolated from the people. Our birthday gift to you is a further pledge to do all we can to win your freedom and that of all political prisoners," the telegram said. Mrs. Lillian Marcus, secretary of the Toronto

Committee for Angela Davis said her group has received "fantastic response made at the beginning of the year to send greeting to Angela on her 28th birthday."

At the same time, another group, the Coalition to Free Angela Davis and all Political Prisoners held a concert dedicated to the former UCLA professor.

Groups participating at the affair, held at Tech Voc. High School, included the Afro-Caribbean Association of Manitoba, the Barvok Women's Choir and the young people's dance ensemble of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

The choir of the United Jewish People's Order presented songs of the Warsaw Ghetto and folksingers Beverly Dobrinsky and Ilana Greenberg presented freedom songs.

The Black Action Movement presented an original drama depicting black people's struggle against oppression.

## CCB student seeks youth primary vote

Steven T. Becker, a student at the Community College of Baltimore, has announced his candidacy as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention from Maryland's Third Congressional District.

A resident of Kenyon Avenue in Baltimore, Mr. Becker said.

"I'm announcing my candidacy because I'm con-

cerned about those who have been unconcerned with trying to solve the many problems of America and because I want to mobilize the youth vote of today into a political force which can change America for the better."

He will not concentrate his campaign on just the student vote, he said, "my

campaign will be based on knocking on doors to find out how the people of the Third District feel about who should be our next President."

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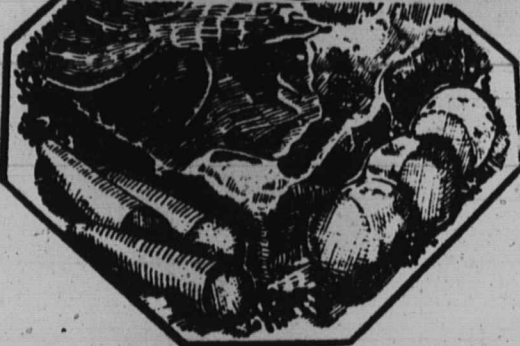


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