"YOU SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE."

By FRED WEAVER

It all comes out in the wash. A Black Reagan aide boasted the other day that the Reagan Administration does not have an advisor on Black affairs. She said it wasn't necessary since it was the President's policy to treat everyone alike. Therefore Black advisors employed exclusively to advise the President on y'all's affairs is a thing of the past.

Which raises the question of how come he has a slot for a Jewish advisor to counsel him with respect to Jews. We learned about this when the White House announced last week that the President had accepted the resignation of Jack Stein, "his advisor on Jewish affairs," effective

All presidents, beginning with President Roosevely, have had people on their staff for the exclusive purpose of advising the President on how to handle y'all's problems. Both Roosevelt and President Truman employed Whites. Roosevelt had Jonathan Daniels, a Southern White, while Truman had David Niles, a Jew. Beginning with President Eisenhower, Blacks were placed in these slots

But this cat, Reagan, that them folks put in the White House, and who sits there today, when he's not in California, getting goose pimples worrying about Poland, doesn't give a damn about you folks or any country of predominantly Blacks, such as Haiti. As a matter of fact, Reagan doesn't give a damn about poor Whites either. You have to be to the manor born for him to notice. You need a name like Annenberg, or Bloomingdale, or some such, in order to receive his concern. Amen!

I am one who believes with Langston Hughes that "we all got a right to the tree of life." But one can't help reflecting, when we hear all this concern about Poland, that it was the Poles of Cicero, Illinois, who a few years ago, demonstrated, rioted and vandalized a Black family when they moved into what been an exclusive Polish neighborhood. The National Guard had to be called out to restore calm.

Nowhere in American history is it recorded that a Haitian or Black community ever objected to another nationality moving into their neighborhoods. If they had any objections, they certainly were not strong enough for them to riot, threaten, intimidate or perform any other unlawful acts.

One has only to look at what's happening in and to Harlem today. All along 125th Street and in dozens of residential blocks in central Harlem, fires have gutted buildings one after another — commerical and residential. They are being renovated and owned or occupied thereafter by every nationality except Blacks. Blacks are confined to the sidewalks to sell their merchandise

This Harlem community of Blacks, if not careful, will find itself like it was not too many years ago — taken over by non-Blacks and operated with a policy that will exclude. Some of us are old enough to remember when you couldn't rent a room in the Theresa Hotel, or eat in Frank's Restaurant, or go to Loew's Theater unless you were willing to sit in the peanut

Women of y'all's persuasion couldn't try on clothes in Blumsteins Department Store nor work as clerks The Telephone Company and Con-Edison, wouldn't employ you. Metropolitan Life had separate offices for you to transact business and pay your premiums, and then built Jim Crow Riverton for y'all to live in as a means of keeping you from applying for apartments in Stuyvesant Town or Peter Cooper Village which they built for

You were confined to north of 135th Street where Whitey built the Harlem "Y" and two blocks north of that they built the "YW" for y'all. After all, you couldn't sleep in the street, but when you came from out of town with your wife, you had to separate — the husband staying in the "Y" and his wife two blocks away in the "YW." You are rapidly getting back to that

During that period we had no Blacks, elected or appointed, who could speak for you There was no Black on the City Pouncil, And of course there was no Black . Harley community. Let the church say

BY The Allone of All Estimates audiobes again; / Audin/

lily-white. No mayor, not even the socalled liberal, Mayor LaGuardia, would appoint you to a full commissionership, or put you on the City Hall staff. They finally decided to appoint a Black to one of the many deputy commissionerships — I was one, and at the time it was the most prominent appointed position a Black held in any city administration.

We had only two Black judges, elected to the lowest court in the judicial system, the Municipal Court. And that was the quota. What we have today is the result of the fighting of people like Adam Powell, the first Black elected to the City Council, and for years, the only one. There was Ben Davis who succeeded Adam on the Council, but was chased out only because he was a member of the Communist Party, and who County Leader Carmine DeSapio couldn't control.

We also had strong Black leaders like Herbert Bruce and Daniel Burrows, two men with guts, who, unlike some people I know, couldn't be bought nor sold. Your highest police official was Sam Battle, an acting police lieutenant, and your highest fireman was Battalion Chief Wesley Williams, both confined to Harlem stations.

Y'all remember these facts when you read from a Black like Herbert Campbell saying that you "don't need Fred Weaver." Lou DeFreitas, an educator, says in a "letter to the editor," published last week, that "we do need Fred Weaver."

What we need more than Fred Weaver, I'll admit, are some elected public officials with the guts of an Adam Powell, the spine of a Herb Bruce, and the fearlessness of a Daniel Burrows, who will get up off their asses and fight to keep what we have and to gain more. Officials are needed who will fight to do something about the high unemployment of our youngsters. New York City has the highest unemployment rate among teenagers in the country. It is more than 50 percent above the national average, and higher than that among minorities. The number of Blacks between the ages of 16 and 19, in New York City had reached the 50.9 percent figure by March, 1981. You have read nowhere of any Black elected or appointed official of this City doing anything about it.

They say they are "concerned"; that they "view with alarm," but WHAT ARE THEY DOING? I know of no single Councilman, from any borough, who has introduced and seen to passage, any bill designed to improve the lot of the Blacks or Puerto Ricans. If you know of any send me the documentation.

I know of one concerned college student in Brooklyn, Walter Johnson, a public policy major at Eisenhower College of Rochester Institute of Technology, and a former member of Community Board No. 3, in Bed-Stuy. Walter is in the process of making a survey to determine just what the elected officials of Brooklyn are doing to improve the plight of minorities He says that those interested in his survey should contact him by telephone, 443-1371,

On another subject, I hope that some of our elected or appointed officials will become concerned about the large number of complaints about Harlem Hospital, and the rudeness with which patients are treated when they have the unfortunate occasion to visit the emergency section. Especially, someone should look into the morning of January 2, when everybody's friend, Mel Patrick, had occasion to take his aged sister. Edna, to the emergency section, after a stroke What the Black female doctor and duty nurse put Mel and his friend, Hilda Stokley, through is unbelievable. Both Mel and his sister live in the Riverton jus' across the street from Harlem Hospital, so that is where they went. After having to wait more than an hour in the reception area, they were lectured by the doctor with "We are not baby sitters for you Riverton people," and "there is nothing wrong with your sister not incident to old age," they were referred to psychiatry. Lord, have mercy! If this is the type of service and treatment we are to receive from Harlem Hospital, then I say it has become irrelevant to the



Cited by the 'Hundred'

Arthur H. Barnes, president of the One Hundred Black Men, Inc., is flanked by recipients who shared equally the club's recent \$10,000 donation to a variety of community groups. From left: Robert A. Williams, Sports Foundation; Joan Maynard, Society for the Preservation of Weeksville and Bedford-Stuyvesant History; Wendell Wray, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; and Jeffrion Aubry, Elmcor Youth and Adult Activities. Inc.

## CLICK didn't click; Jobless ticked off

**By PETER NOEL** 

Special to the Amsterdam News Black and Hispanic residents of Ft. Green, Williamsburg, and Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn are blaming the Koch Administration for their crushing unemployment burden: Sixty percent of the qualified labor force have been denied jobs in the three communities.

At the center of controversy is the old Brooklyn Navy Yard which the Federal Government sold to the city at the close of the sixties.

Almost twenty years ago a quasiindependent city agency named CLICK (Commerce, Labor, Industry of the County of Kings) was mandated by the city with developing the Yard into an industrial complex to create thousands of

jobs for the neighborhood. But after all these years there is no industrial complex. The Brooklyn Navy Yard is an industrial ghost town and CLICK executives are swimming in allegations of corruption.

The frustrated unemployed see the Yard as the "sleeping giant" which could revitalize their depressed and underserved neighborhoods. Amsterdam News has discovered, however, that there are no community residents on the senior staff of CLICK

Residents are barred from attending CLICK board meetings and are only informed of "unimportant policy changes" in the organization.

"The situation is desperate down here," said Jim Bennings, newly elected chairman of the Brooklyn Navy Yard Coalition (BNYAC). BNYAC was formed after invited CLICK officials assertedly snubbed residents and community leaders at a December 17 showdown.

The coalition is comprised of leaders from sundry groups calling themselves variously, Black Veterans for Social Justice, the Brooklyn Chapter of Citizens Alliance, East Brooklyn Corporation, and the Sisterhood of Black Single Mothers.

"The aim of this coalition is to wrest control of the Brooklyn Navy Yard from the Koch Administrtion so that we can realize the hope of building the industrial park," said Bennings.

Asked what kind of action BNYAC is prepared to take, Bennings replied "Whatever is necessary.

"CLICK must be dissolved!" Bennings described CLICK as a "nickel and dime operation" whose only income is the low rents it charges to "thriving companies" conducting business in the Yard. There are over thirty such companies, including shipbuilding firms, machine operators, and packaging outlets

Bennings told the Amsterdam News that some companies are charged as low as from 14 cents to 21 cents per square foot. The rents do not exceed \$165 per month, he 

Richard Aneiro, CLICK president and a career city employee who came out of the Bronx model cities program to "clean up CLICK, refused to comment on the agency's operations. Aneiro referred the reporter to CLICK chairman, David Lenesky, who, like Aneiro thereafter, remained perpetually "tied up in a meeting right now" and never responded.

Bennings charged that, "CLICK, by its very nature, by the way its funded, could never build an industrial park. Furthermore, I don't think the Koch Administration or the white establishment would build this park for Blacks and Hispanics, anyway.

Bennings described the hiring practices of some companies in the Yard as "prejudicial and atrocious." He said that the companies have a track record of "overspecialization in their job requirements."

"Typists are required to type as many as 75 words per minute — far in excess of what would normally be required to fill such a position." he said.

Bennings accused the "Coastal Dry Docks" ship repair company of excluding residents from receiving jobs at the

company. "Coastal claims that they have a 2,000-man waiting list and that when they decide to hire they would hire people from off that list. I am saying that they are using that list to bar and exclude the residents from working," he charged.

The owners of Coastal Dry Docks could not be reached for comment.

"The job market is tight on the outside but there are jobs in this community and the Brooklyn Navy Yard could provide these jobs," Bennings added. He said that the communities' mushrooming youth population is daily growing frustrated and disgusted with the system.

"When they come out of school there is nowhere we can send them," Bennings cried

The Koch Administration apparently has its own interests in the Yard. The city plans to build a waste recovery treatment plant at the Williamsburg end of the Yard. This plant is expected to burn 3,000 tons of garbage per day to provide steam for buildings in Manhattan. Residents and environmentalists are opposed to the building of the plant.

"We have got to move fast," said Brooklyn Assemblyman, Roger Green, who is, so far, the only elected official to respond to the cries for help from BNYAC and the residents.

"We must make sure that the board of directors of CLICK adopt an agenda and have the Koch Administration advance it," he added.

If that doesn't work, the Assemblyman continued: "We will have to take direct action . . . or whatever is necessary.

