

# Annual Ohio NAACP Conference Among Best

Annual Ohio Conference of a close in Cleveland members and participants at this conference most stimulating meetings ever. Delegates were in the three-day conference at the Hollenden House. Delegates and other participants participated in workshop-sessions, business meetings, on topics such as development, Emancipatory Justice—Use of Excessive Power and Fund-raising: A Right or Privilege. Delegates in attendance at the conference were held on Friday at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Congressman Louis Stokes, keynote speaker for the conference, addressed a 'full-house' on the conditions of African Americans today and

the importance of the dedication to the continuous civil rights struggle to make the necessary changes for the betterment of life.

In his address, Congressman Stokes stated, "You should be concerned about a Congress that passes a bill to balance the Federal Budget but has no concern with balancing people's lives. You should be concerned about a Congress which refuses to stop this mad insanity of preparing for a nuclear war which no one can win. You should be concerned about the insanity of a Congress which sends 128 million dollars of American Taxpayers' funds to El Salvador, while it sends cheese to Cleveland, and Detroit, and Chicago."

Saturday's activities began with the annual Ministers Breakfast at which Rev. Julius C. Hope, the National Director of Religious Affairs-NAACP, delivered an inspirational message to his fellow clergymen. Rev. Hope reiterated the importance of the Black

Church in the struggle for civil rights.

The zenith of the conference was the Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday evening. Keynote speaker, Rev. James O. Stallings, brought forth a stirring and thought-provoking message to the several hundred guests at the banquet.

Presently, Rev. Stallings serves as a Resource Conferencer-Evangelism Board of National Ministries-American Baptist Churches. From 1972-1977, he was the Executive Director of the Cleveland NAACP.

Newly elected officers of the State Conference are: President-Dorothy Burch; 1st Vice President-James Daniel; 2nd Vice President-Roland Alexander; Secretary-Ercille Oglesby; Treasurer-Abe Goldhagen; and Chaplain-Rev. Edward Stoleworth. Conference board members include: Richard Austin, Lee Martin, Wadell Wm. Simmons, Marshall Williams, Walter Morgan

and Roberta Fann.

According to Cleveland Branch President, Judge Sara J. Harper, "This was an extremely successful conference. There was an abundance of energy radiated throughout the weekend. The delegates and NAACP supporters overwhelmingly exemplified our theme, 'Stand Up and Be

Counted'."

Members of the State Conference Planning Committee were: Naomi Adams, chairperson, Local Planning Committee; Carol Bugg, 2nd vice president, Cleveland Branch; Dargan J. Burns, chairperson, Publicity; Theodore L. Carten, chairman, Hospitality; Roberta H. Fann, chairperson,

Program Committee; Cecelia Hoffman, chairperson, Souvenir Journal; Odessa C. Salvant, chairperson, Registration; Pauline Tarver, executive secretary; and Jocelyn Travis, Youth Work.



CONGRATULATING Rev. James Stallings (l) for his provocative banquet address were Dorothy Thorne and James Hardiman, Atty.