

Bi-racial union seeks nation's full employment

The Labor Zionist Alliance and the United Black Trade Unionists Chapter of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute are calling upon blacks and Jews to unite in a fight against unemployment.

The coalition stresses that an effort to promote racial harmony should involve an attempt to improve the country's economic conditions.

The coalition made its announcement at Temple Emanuel-EI, Oak Park. The Labor Zionist Alliance has its area offices in Farmington Hills.

The coalition will pressure Congress to pass a full employment bill. The lobbying began Monday when the coalition too part in an appeal by 16 ethnic groups to President Jimmy Carter to raise the minimum wage to \$1 an hour.

The coalition is asking the federal government to recognize the right of all Americans to be employed. If private businesses are unable to offer employment, the coalition wants the government to create meaningful jobs.

"A COALITION can't ask for something unless they have the strength of a joint project," said Bayard Rustin.

National President of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute.

"I face both a political and moral problem. As a black, I have no right

to ask for aid just for the blacks. I must ask for the same aid for the whites also. As a human being, I have an obligation to stop suffering for all people," said.

The need for employment, free education, medical care, medical delivery service and better housing is a problem that encompasses both blacks and whites, Rustin pointed out.

"Blacks who are poor need these things. But there are whites—Catholics, Protestants and Jews—who need the same things," Rustin said.

"Society isn't going to do anything special for the blacks, Jews, the Puerto Ricans, the Chinese or any other group," he added.

These groups need a coalition to help them fight for a better way of life, according to Rustin.

The Labor Zionist Alliance works out of the same commitment to helping the poor and unemployed, according to its national president Judah Shapiro.

"WE HAVE A COMMITMENT to make government and society respond to the needs of people," Shapiro said.

The Jewish community is in need of a national commitment to full employment, also. It is faced with working against a stereotype to secure attention to its need for employment.

"We are not necessarily the members of the affluent communities that we are made out to be in this country," Shapiro said.

There are 550,000 Jews in the United States who live below the poverty level, according to Shapiro.

"There is lack of employment. There is inadequate care of the aged. We can't solve these problems alone, but we can with people who suffer similarly. The blacks suffer from the same problems. They also have different problems, too."

"This is a coalition that has been organized to touch human beings and the needs of human beings," he said.

In touching the needs of different people across the country, the coalition will try to add to its strength by promoting racial harmony. Friction between Jews and blacks stem from



BAYARD RUSTIN



JUDAH SHAPIRO

economic and social conditions, according to the coalition's leaders.

"Friction exists largely when there

was some deprivation on one side.

"THERE WAS NO FRICTION between Jews and blacks except when

there is not enough for some. I can't believe that if everyone was satisfied there would be anyone who was discriminated against because how was different in the color of his skin or on the basis of his faith. It's not in the Jewish faith to do this," Shapiro said.

The quality, mood and atmosphere of society can contribute to discrimination as well as to harmony, according to Rustin.

A society in which everyone knows and understands the goals of the people is bound to be harmonious, according to Rustin. Everyone is working toward a common good. Everyone has an equal opportunity at reaching that ideal.

"In the early '60s the blacks didn't make demands which went beyond those of other groups. When the economy goes against us and then gimmicks such as affirmative action programs and breaking through seniority lines are used, then, there we are going to have people against us," Rustin said.



Growing your own

When Gerald Judge of Farmington Hills placed a queen Italian bee on a cloth on his son Joseph's chin, a swarm of bees quickly converged to complete the "Bee Beard" Joseph sports in this photograph. Tune in to our next edition to learn more about bee keeping as taught by Judge in his course at Orchard Ridge Campus beginning May 2.

Road battle is fought

(Continued from page 1A)

their neighbors that the advantage of a black-topped street would be worth the price.

"Last year, we wrote to the city asking about the specifications of getting something done on the street. Besides the right-of-way, they would put in ditching and make a regular blacktop road. They said they wouldn't gravel it, which would be a lot cheaper."

The approximate cost of black-topping would be \$32 a running foot on the property's frontage (the property adjacent to the road).

"Most people have 110-foot frontage or about \$3,000 to have it done," says Mrs. Brown. "Some people have double lots, which would require about \$6,000."

And since the city doesn't like to blacktop without putting in water and sewers, an extra \$22 a running foot might be tacked onto the cost.

"New subdivisions are required to have all these things, and the contractor adds the cost of these improvements to the selling price of the lot," Majors explains.

"Most people think the city does more for residents in the northern section of town," says City Clerk Floyd Cairns. "People have to realize the price is paid by the homeowner."

Cass residents who are willing to pay the price of the road's improvement also have to contend with unwilling property owners on the street.

"There could be a real tragedy if

the condition of the road costs a lot someday," worries Mrs. Brown.

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