

# Negro Partnership With Business Improves Slums

NEW YORK -- The aerial photo in an office on the 16th floor of the aging Granada Hotel in Brooklyn makes it all look very neat. There are little squares for houses; you can recognize a ballfield or two, several parks and the old Navy yard in the northwest corner. Roughly in the middle is Fulton St. Under it rumbles the A-train. Duke Ellington urged everyone to take up to Harlem. On the south are the genteel red brick apartment houses of Eastern Parkway.

Broadway, a street of small shops, and Washington Av. are boundaries on the east and west. Between these boundaries, larger than most U.S. cities, lies Bedford-Stuyvesant: 90 per cent Negro and Puerto Rican, population 400,000.

The photo is deceiving. It isn't all neat. In Bedford-Stuyvesant there are pleasant tree-lined streets with sturdy brownstones, but just around the corner are some of the worst slums in the country. Some 3,000 abandoned cars at times litter the 65 blocks-39 square miles. The infant mortality rate is a shocking 39 cents a thousand. Twenty-eight per cent of the residents are unemployed. Seventy per cent of the children who enter third grade don't graduate from high school.

And until recently, there was little hope.

THE NEW HOPE for Bedford-Stuyvesant, the nation's second largest ghetto (after South Side Chicago), is a unique partnership between big business and blacks.

It was a partnership conceived and initiated by Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. And it may prove to be his most significant living memorial. One thing is clear: the work will go on with vigor, despite the assassination of Kennedy.

"We've set up a special meeting of the board for next week just to make a strong public reaffirmation of that," said former Treasury Sec. C. Douglas Dillon, chairman of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Development & Services Corp., one of the two non-profit groups working to aid the ghetto. "This is unique in the East. We've got this great opportunity and challenge and we're going to go on and meet it."

Since December, 1966, when Kennedy suggested the plan for improving the ghetto, significant progress has been made: International Business Machines Corp. has leased an old warehouse in the slums and is turning it into a computer cable factory, which will employ 300 residents. More than 80 banks and insurance companies have formed a low-cost mortgage. Local labor has renovated houses on 11 blocks; initial training programs are under way to give 2,700 persons skills.

AN ABANDONED dairy is being turned into a community center and two streets are being designed as "super blocks" with park and fountains to give some idea of the joys of suburban living. There is a television program that fosters community pride.

But all agree, this is just the beginning of what needs to be done.

"The question is really what the cities mean," says Franklin A. Thomas, speaking in his office in the Granada, which is decorated with the aerial photo of Bedford-Stuyvesant. Thomas, a former New York City deputy police commis-

**Kitchenland**  
CUSTOM MADE KITCHENS  
Better Planned by Kitchenland  
Complete kitchen and bathroom remodeling...also  
Furniture covered in tile. Appliances and floors.  
Guaranteed two full years.  
COME - SEE OUR BEAUTIFUL SHOWROOM  
PHONE 272-7766  
15309 WEST SEVEN MILLS  
2 Bks. E. of Greenfield

**RECIPE**

## RUM COLLINS

The first collins was concocted with rum, during the American Revolution. Still unbeatable.

1 oz. lemon juice and 1 tsp. sugar (or use a prepared collins mix). Add 2 oz. white or silver Puerto Rican rum, shake with ice, strain into a tall glass full of ice cubes, and top with club soda.

**PUERTO RICAN RUM** is light and dry and outsells all others 3 to 1

From 31 rum recipes in a 20-page color booklet. Write: Rum Recipe Booklet, 666 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10019.

such high interest rates that property improvements were impossible.

Sometimes, two or even three mortgages were needed before a family could buy a home. A typical family often found itself paying \$339 a month for

its mortgage and other debts. It is insured by the Federal Housing Administration, debts are spread over a longer term. A typical family now might pay \$182 a month.

is modest, people think he is simple. Thomas is highly articulate. But they communicate their commitment not only to visitors but to the ghetto itself.

"It gives a chance for the men in Bedford-Stuyvesant to do things they are fully capable of doing," says Doar of the project.

Says Thomas of his job: "You need general experience in administering multiple projects, close identification with the community, a willingness to take a back seat, to persevere. You need some overriding perspective which sees the big picture, with a willingness to talk to any trainee who thinks you have \$7,000,000 in your pocket and thinks you can make all things happen."

One of the first things that did happen was restoration of row-houses on 11 blocks. It was a difficult task, designed to show residents things could happen. Teams of 272 unemployed persons, mostly untrained, were recruited and trained. Home owners contributed \$25 each and pledged to keep up their property and to work to improve the interior of their houses.

"It was hard to organize," admits Modesto Bravo, president of a block association on Halsey St., where work was done. "I had to go to the people and tell them to sign the petition. It wasn't an easy job."

The houses on Halsey and on the other blocks have been kept up since the improvements last summer. And some of the trains have formed six companies which are now at work on other projects in the ghetto. One of the companies has prospered so well that it plans to bid on New York City contracts if it can receive the necessary performance bond.

Bravo, who works in New York's garment district, takes pride in pointing to a new wood-paneled room in his basement. Outside contractors estimated work on the room would cost \$2,000. One of the six companies did it for \$250.

On some of the streets there are now signs.

"This is our block," the signs read. "Please keep it beautiful."

But perhaps the most significant project, although largely invisible, is the mortgage pool. It is enabling some residents to break the cycle of poverty. The pool of 80 financial institutions was set up largely with the aid of Moore, the first National City Bank's chairman.

Before the pool, mortgage money had all but dried up in the ghetto. And the few mortgages which were available to homeowners carried

**Eddie Peigner**  
Pitching Sensation  
Now you see it, now you don't!  
THE KING AND HIS COURT  
4-Man Softball Team  
Coming July 12-8:30 p.m.  
Claude Allison Field  
sponsored by REDFORD JAYCEES  
REDFORD TOWNSHIP MICHIGAN  
King and His Court Will Play Redford All-Stars  
Tickets May Be Purchased From Any Redford Jaycee  
Ph. 532-1758

Do-it-Yourself! **TileTown** MICHIGAN'S LARGEST TILE CHAIN

Save on all your **Carpet and Tile** needs

BUY DIRECT & SAVE! DISCOUNT PRICES!

**OZITE CARPET TILES** Sq. Ft. \$59  
12"x12" LARGE SELECTION

**MOSAIC TILE** Sq. Ft. \$39  
Large Selection of Colors, Patterns & Sizes

**VINYL TILE** 9"x9" \$13  
GOODYEAR Lifetime Guarantee

**ARMSTRONG LINO SALE** REMNANT and FULL END  
MONTINA - Sq. Yd. \$5.99 SARRIL - Sq. Yd. \$3.49

**CERAMIC BATHROOM FIXTURES** - Complete Line All Colors

**100% NYLON CARPETING** For All Your Rooms  
Special! \$3.99/sq. yd.  
**Save! Kitchen Carpeting \$4.50** from "NEW" Do-it-Yourself Type

**SAFETY FLOOR TILE** 45 Sq. Ft. \$429  
9"x9" 80 Pcs.

**PLASTIC WALL TILE** OTHERS TO 4 1/2c

**CERAMIC WALL TILE** 1st QUALITY ea. 6c

**FORMICA LAMINATED PLASTIC** White & Gold, Wood Grains, etc. Sq. Ft. 44c

CEILING TILE 11c ea.

28885 Plymouth Rd. 1 Bk. E. of Middlebelt  
177-0100

FREE ESTIMATES • OPEN MON. THURS. FRI. 9-11 P.M. WED. 9-11 P.M. SAT. 9-11 P.M. E-Z CREDIT • BANK RATES

WED. THURS. FRI. SAT.

# KRESGE'S

## SUMMER Clearance

**Chic, The Thirties Look!**  
Cotton Knit Tops To Take You Thru Summer  
Our Reg. 1.96  
4 Days Only **1.57**

**Folding Web-Aluminum Chair or Chaise**  
NON-TILT CHAIR 6 x 4 x 4 WEBS **2.76**  
Reg. 2.94  
For summer relaxation... firmly webbed, cool-looking aluminum frame in yellow and white or green and white poly.

NON-TILT CHAISE 7 x 16 WEBS **5.44**  
Reg. 5.87  
propylene plastic on sturdy 1" tubular aluminum frame. The 74-inch chaise adjusts to five restful positions. Special!

**Clearance of Men's Short-sleeved Dress Shirts That Never Need Ironing**  
Our Reg. 2.37  
4 Days Only **2.33**

Enjoy the comfort of polyester/cotton shirts that stay fresh and wrinkle-free. Regular-collar white shirts and regular or snap-tab styles in rustrals. 14½-17. Save!

With Big 64-Ounce Pitcher!  
**7-Pc. Avocado Iced Tea Set**  
Our Reg. 2.77  
4 Days Only **1.77**

Save \$1 on this beautiful Spanish-inspired "El Dorado" set in avocado green glass. Set includes six tall, 16-oz. glasses and a 64-oz. pitcher.

**28-in. Nylon Scarfs**  
Shimmering nylon "Twinkle" georgette, hand-printed in three colors to give a stained glass-color effect. Save now! **5.91**

**Fashion Earrings**  
Lovely pierced and pierced-look earrings, including dangles, buttons, simulated pearl, stone-set, tailored. **4.91**

**Gear For Fun And Games! Terrycloth Knit Sport Shirts**  
Our Reg. 1.57  
4 Days Only **1.97**

Short-sleeved, crew-neck shirts of cotton terrycloth. Styled with side vents. In a wide range of summer colors. Boys' come in stripes, too.

Your Choice of Five Favorite **Aluminum Utensils**  
Reg. 1.19 to 1.73  
4 Days Only **86c**

Reg. 1.75, 4-qt. covered pot; reg. 1.59, 7-cup pot; reg. 1.27, 2-qt. covered pot or 3-qt. sauce pan set; reg. 1.19, 3-pc. range set.

**Plasticware For The Home**  
4 Days - Reg. 2.19 or 97c **2.88c**

Baskets for kitchen and utility rooms, laundry baskets, dish pans, mixing bowl sets, pails, refrigerator sets and more.

**For Chewy, Delicious Refreshment Fresh Jelly Candies**  
Our Reg. 2.38 lb.  
4 Days Only **2.38c**

Wholesome, delicious candy that satisfies the sweet-tooth. Choice of Spazminut Leaves, Spice Drops or Assorted Large Jells. Save!

★ WESTLAND CENTER Wayne at Warren Road

★ LIVONIA MALL 7 Mile at Middlebelt

★ WONDERLAND CENTER Plymouth at Middlebelt

PLYMOUTH Main at Ann Arbor Trail

FARMINGTON PLAZA

7-GRAND SHOPPING CENTER

8-MILE & BEECH SHOPPING CENTER

TELE-CRAFT SHOPPING CENTER

GRANDLAND SHOPPING CENTER

WAYNE 35004 Michigan

CHERRY HILL PLAZA Cherry Hill at Inkster Rd.

7 MILE at EVERGREEN