

ATTICA 2 YRS. LATER LITTLE CHANGE



Assemblyman Arthur O. Eve tells of little change, as indicted Brother Charles Parnell and Brother "Black" Bates intently.

Photo by Roland Barnes

On Thursday, September 9, 1971, 36 souls from Buffalo a spontaneous combustion occurred that shot sparks of realization around the world; opening up a "Pandora's Box" as conditions in this State's prisons were exposed.

Following a series of events the population of "D" Block, Attica State Prison found themselves in control of the Yard. It seemed clear that the opportunity was there, that Thursday morning, to call for and obtain responsible, effective and humane involvement to correct the inhuman conditions of, not only Attica, but prisons in general.

Speakers were selected, according to their ability, from among the population. The inmates asked for outside observers. Thus, the Attica Observer Committee was formed. During the next four days the "Attica Brothers' Demands" were formulated, structured and restructured with full vote of the inmates, delivered by the Observer Committee to state officials and thus negotiated.

Assemblyman Arthur O. Eve, Chairman of the Attica Observer Committee, took a four-hour tour of Attica last Sunday, prior to the commemoration services, in order to determine the changes of the last 2 years. Following are listed the 28 demands and the results that Mr. Eve determined on Sunday, September 9, 1973.

1. Provide adequate food, water and shelter for all inmates. (ED. Note: This request was for the time during the rebellion.)
This was not done.

2. Inmates shall be permitted to return to their cells or to other suitable accommodations or shelter under their own power. The observer committee shall monitor the implementation of this operation.
This was not done.

3. Grant complete administrative amnesty to all persons associated with this matter. By administrative amnesty the state agrees: A. Not to take any adverse parole actions, administrative proceedings, physical punishment or other type of harassment, such as holding inmates incommunicado, segregating inmates, or keeping them in isolation or in 24-hour lockup. B. The state will grant legal amnesty in regard to all civil actions that would arise from this matter.

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BUFFALO ROCHESTER
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BUFFALO
New York **Challenger**
NEWS WEEKLY

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St. John Baptist Church Burns Three Mortgages

Photo by CE



SCLC President Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Rev. Bennett W. Smith joyfully conduct mortgage burning services.

Over 1,000 members, cotemporary leaders and guests witnessed the triple mortgage burning Sunday at St. John Baptist Church.

Guest speaker, Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, President of SCLC, reminded the audience that "all the wealth in the world doesn't automatically make a person a candidate for the Kingdom of Heaven and that poverty doesn't mean a first-class ticket to Heaven."

"You must believe in God and follow his teachings, by doing unto others as you wish to be done to," he said.

Participating in the historical event, along with Dr. Abernathy were St. John's pastor, Rev. Bennett W. Smith, Mrs. Alice McCarley, widow of St. John's founder, Rev. R.C. McCarley, Mrs.

Melba McCarley, Deacon Charles W. Locke and Curtis Johnson, chairman of the board of trustees. Mrs. Janie Peterson, daughter of the late Rev. McCarley read the history of the church and Mrs. Bennett Smith read the history of the first Black Baptist Church.

Each member of the Church participated as they were handed a strip of the mortgages and in turn, dropped them in a receptacle for burning. The St. John Baptist Church was founded in 1827 in a store front church at 657 William Street. After six months at that location, the congregation moved to 616 Clinton Street and in 1908, moved to 92 Monroe St.

In 1945, the congregation purchased the church at 583

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Banks Charges Conspiracy In City's Minority Hiring Practices

Ted Banks, endorsed Maxine Dierkes Councilwoman candidate, requested the U.S. Attorney in Western New York to conduct an investigation into a "City Hall conspiracy" to "block out Blacks" from jobs in the city administration.

Banks, endorsed Republican Conservative, told members of the press at a news conference in the Stocker Hilton that the "Statewide administration used civil service lists that had been marked as a means of controlling the number of Black persons hired."

The lists, which Banks said had gone into place on them by members of the Executive Dept., have been used in the fashion since the Rodia administration, in which the incumbent was deputy mayor.

"We know," Banks said, "the people whose names had been green-dotted did not get hired."

In his telegram to U.S. Attorney John T. Evin, Banks said that, "considering the serious nature of the 'conspiracy in City Hall' he 'respectfully requests a separate, immediate investigation.'"

Banks also made several demands. He asked the mayor to "immediately, openly, and publicly produce the green dot lists."

"We demand," he continued, "that he produce the names of any Blacks hired from those lists if he is capable of doing so."

And, he added, "We demand the immediate resignation of all Executive Dept. members who took part in this conspiracy to block out Blacks."

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ATTICA
MEMORIAL RALLY
Thursday, September 13, 1973 7:30 PM
ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH 184 GOODSELL