

White America 'Uncivilized,' Carmichael Says Here

By ROBERT ALT

To wild applause, Stokely Carmichael, former head of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and controversial civil rights figure, condemned as uncivilized white America Wednesday night in a speech at Fountain Street Church.

A standing room only crowd of more than 1,700 turned out to hear Carmichael. The audience was evenly distributed between Negroes and whites.

Dr. W. W. Plummer, one of those bringing Carmichael to Grand Rapids, told the audience of telephone calls and letters he received protesting the "black power" advocate's appearance here.

"One woman said she could not understand why Carmichael was brought here because Grand Rapids has been good to you people. The remark drew loud laughter from the audience."

The importance of Carmichael, Plummer said, is in his appeal to the nation's youth.

Loree Glover, chairman of political activities for the Trade Union Leadership Council, sponsoring organization for the speech, told the spectators the TULC is an organization dedicated to helping Negro tradesmen gain full equity in the trade unions.

Advice to Policemen

Glover cited the AFL-CIO as practicing discrimination and warned Grand Rapids policemen not to join with the union. "Shop around for the services available," he said.

Carmichael, who wrapped himself in a shroud of secrecy

white men to brainwash Negro who is out of sight," Carmichael said.

signifying superiority.

In the primary readers "all the characters are white, even the dog Spot" is white. The only Negro heroes written about are George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington, Carmichael said.

He described them as bowing and scraping "Uncle Toms."

Negroes such as W. B. Du Bois and Frederick Douglass should be included as well as a study of African culture, Carmichael said. The only cultures taught are Greece and Rome and Africa which had the world's first university is neglected, he added.

America was not discovered by Columbus because there were red people there all ready but that didn't qualify for discovery because the white man had to be first, Carmichael said.

And the biggest lie the white man has told about us is that we're lazy, Carmichael said. "We're so lazy they went to Africa to get us to do their work for them."

Telling Negroes that if they work hard they'll succeed is "a lot of junk" man because if that was true we'd own this country lock, stock and barrel. We are the hardest working, lowest paid workers in this country.

Carmichael continually referred to "hunky" white men and, each time, the term was greeted with laughter. "Hunky" means a person of east European descent, usually an industrial worker and is used as a derogative term.

Referring to deposed heavy weight boxing champion Cassius Clay, "We have a beautiful black brother named Muhammed Ali

"Well here sit white folks with their ingrained racism and they sit up there and say we're going to take his tele away — as if they gave it to him."

The church was heavily guarded with police officers but the only incident came when Carmichael complained that television lights bothered his eyes and demanded they be shut off. News crews working out of network offices in Chicago and Detroit at first refused to comply with the order but when some in the audience began clapping in unison the lights were put out. Carmichael held his hands in the air signifying another victory had been won over "hunky." He was applauded wildly.

Policemen came under heavy attack by Carmichael who said, "The most violent man is a white cop in a black community because he has the license to kill."

In probably the most succinct statement of his philosophy, Carmichael said:

"We sat and watched them make our great grandparents run. We sat and watched them make our grandparents run. And we sat and watched them make our parents run, but we're out of breath and are not going to run no more."

In a news conference before his speech, J. Edgar Hoover's charge that Carmichael belongs to a subversive organization known as Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) was dismissed as the ramblings of a hunky and man that should be retired.

J. Edgar Notetaker, that's who he is, Carmichael said. "A notetaker because his men stood around and took notes while we got our heads pounded in Mississippi."

himself in a shroud of secrecy during his visit to Grand Rapids, said all civil rights legislation is really aimed at civilizing the white community rather than promoting integration of the races.

Using the Vietnam war as an example of "white" aggression and inhumanity, Carmichael said he was not going to let anyone tell me who to kill.

The Vietnamese never called me nigger," he said. "I know who I'm going to shoot."

Cleveland Sellers, a SNCC worker, was introduced by Carmichael as one of 17 SNCC workers who have refused to be inducted into the armed services and faces a federal prison term.

Plot Is Charged

Carmichael said the Selective Service induction of Negroes is a plot to destroy the strength of the race. Jail is preferable to service, he said, because it is better to be "fed than dead."

The Negro people, he said, have been the victims of white definitions. For example, Carmichael said when the white man killed the red man it was a victory, but when the Indians defeated the white man it was a massacre.

"Violence is okay against everybody except the white man."

Negroes have been inculcated with the white idea that black equals evilness to such an extent that many Negroes look upon themselves as evil and inferior, he said.

But "Negroes must be proud of themselves as a people," Carmichael cried. "We must begin to see ourselves as a people."

And the way to do this is by consolidating and use the power of the group. "When they touch one, they got to touch all," he said. "Only as a group can we move to take the power."

The white community has instilled within the Negro the idea that his looks are not beautiful, that the Caucasian characteristics are best, and that the Negro must imitate the white man to be beautiful, Carmichael said.

But beauty, he said, is again only a white man's definition and, therefore, needs redefining.

Education came under attack as being a further attempt by

Carmichael Urges Negroes Organize

Following his speech at Fountain Street Church Wednesday night, Stokely Carmichael met with about 350 Negroes at the First Community Church AME and talked on organizing local Negroes into an effective group, it was learned Thursday.

All eligible voters must be registered, he said, and the individual must be ready to make sacrifices. There must also be an organizer, he said, and preferably the man would devote full time to organizing activities and be paid a low salary.

If you make \$25,000 a year, he said, you've got everything you want and there's nothing really to work for.

Many of those present voiced dissatisfaction with community conditions with the main barb aimed at the educational system. The Campaign Housing project also came under heavy attack.

Carmichael also called for the formation at Central, South and Ottawa High Schools of units to affiliate with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

While Carmichael called for whites to integrate black groups rather than blacks integrating white groups, a Grand Rapids Press reporter showed up but was barred from the meeting because it was not for newsmen or, as some called out, "funkies" and "spies."

Wyoming Invests Operation Funds

As of April 30, the city of Wyoming had \$3,124,000 invested in area banks and securities, according to Comptroller Robert Zaelke in a report to the City Commission.

Some of the funds are short-term investments pending spending for projects in the offing. The total includes \$300,000 from the general fund, continually tapped for city operational expenses.

Almost half of the funds—\$1,497,000—are invested with the First National Bank of Wyoming.

Amounts deposited with other banks of the area include: Michigan National Bank, \$753,000; Old Kent Bank & Trust Co., \$465,000; and Union Bank & Trust Co., \$70,000.

Interest rates being paid

city range from 4 per cent for auto depreciation reserves invested in 1961 and 1962 to the 5 per cent for more recent short-term certificates of deposit.

Of the \$3,124,000 sum, \$725,000 has been deposited from the 2 mill storm sewer levy that has accrued.

The \$428,000 remainder of a \$9.3 million sewer bond issue of 1961 yield from 4½ to 5 per cent interest from Michigan National, where the bulk of funds from this account are on deposit, and Old Kent Bank.

Wyoming has \$496,000 of its water system bonds invested, plus \$450,000 of a 1961 special assessment bond issue.

Of the \$157,000 of cemetery perpetual care funds, \$80,000 is invested in long-term bonds of the utility companies.