



NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE NEWS

No. 4

Published Quarterly by the New York Urban League

Summer, 1967

"HARLEM PREP" OPENS IN FALL

URBAN LEAGUE'S AWARDS DINNER ATTENDED BY 1200

The second annual Frederick Douglass Awards Dinner held on May 4, was a social as well as an economic success. More than 1,200 people paid \$100 per plate to assist in raising funds for the New York Urban League, to honor three awardees who received the Frederick Douglass Awards; to pay tribute to 19-year-old Benjamin Blakely, a student in the League's Street Academy program for school dropouts, and to be entertained by Hazel Scott, Ivan Dixon and Jessie deVore's choir.

President Johnson, in a letter to the New York Urban League, paid tribute to Frederick Douglass, the abolitionist for whom the awards are named.

"Many Americans today, both Negro and white, sometimes despair at the obstacles which are still to be overcome in the movement toward equal rights that Douglass began. But I deeply believe that we need not despair."

The Douglass Awards — the highest the League offers — were presented to Rev. James Robinson, executive director of Operation Crossroads Africa; Gardner Cowles, publisher of *Look Magazine* and the Rev. Leo McLaughlin, president of Fordham University. The awards to them were presented by John Mosler, President of the New York Urban League. Dr. Eugene S. Callender, executive director, made the presentation to young Blakely.

Other speakers included Dr. Albert C. Stewart, Chairman of the Board of the League, Senator Jacob K. Javits, Mayor Lindsay, City Council President Frank D. O'Connor and Manhattan Borough President Percy E. Sutton.

Ambassador and Mrs. Arthur Goldberg were honorary chairmen of the dinner and William R. Hesse, President of Benton & Bowles, and Samuel R. Pierce, Jr., former Justice of the Court of General Sessions, were co-chairmen. Mrs. Theodore W. Kheel was the dinner's executive chairman.

A paperback edition of the "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass," his autobiography, was distributed to each of the 1,200 guests through the courtesy of the MacMillan Company.



Mrs. Ira Aldridge, Women's Editor of the *New York Amsterdam News* and Mrs. John Mosler co-chaired the New Year's Cocktail Reception at the Huntington Hartford Art Gallery, January 8, 1967 for the benefit of the New York Urban League. The cocktail reception was sponsored by the Manhattan Advisory Committee of which George Norford is chairman.

Foundations Rally to Aid of U-L School

Plans being made by the New York Urban League to open a fully credited private preparatory school in Central Harlem next fall got off to a flying start with a \$75,000 contribution from the Vincent Astor Foundation. This donation was followed swiftly by \$30,000 from the Charles Hayden Foundation and another for \$10,000 from Arwood Foundation. Rawson L. Wood is chairman of the Board of Arwood and is also a board member of the New York Urban League.

The prep school — a first for Harlem — will be called "Harlem Prep," and will have as its nucleus those students who now attend Newark Prep under Urban League auspices. It will also enable the League to make its educational facilities available to a larger number of students without having to leave the community.

Dr. Eugene S. Callender, the League's executive director, has long advocated a prep school and a public high school for Harlem. There is neither in all of Central Harlem. "The League's school will provide a meaningful educational opportunity in the community for the community," Dr. Callender said.

Negotiations are going forward to involve area colleges and universities in the new school. Manhattan College has already agreed to supply Harlem Prep with three full-time faculty members.

The opening of the prep school will mark the third phase of the League's educational program, Harv Oostdyk said.

The first is a series of street academies it now operates in storefronts throughout Harlem. This program is designed as a first step to motivate dropouts to continue their education.

From the street academy, youths demonstrating that they are sufficiently motivated to seek higher education are sent to one of two Harlem-based academies in transition, where they are given remedial studies and tutorial help.

The third step is enrollment in a preparatory school.

Since Harlem has no prep school, the Urban League has been sending its third-phase students to the Newark Prep School. About 40 students now commute to the New Jersey School.

From Harlem Prep, the students will be sent to college.

"And all of them will go," Dr. Callender said. "There will be no drop-outs at this stage of their educational development."

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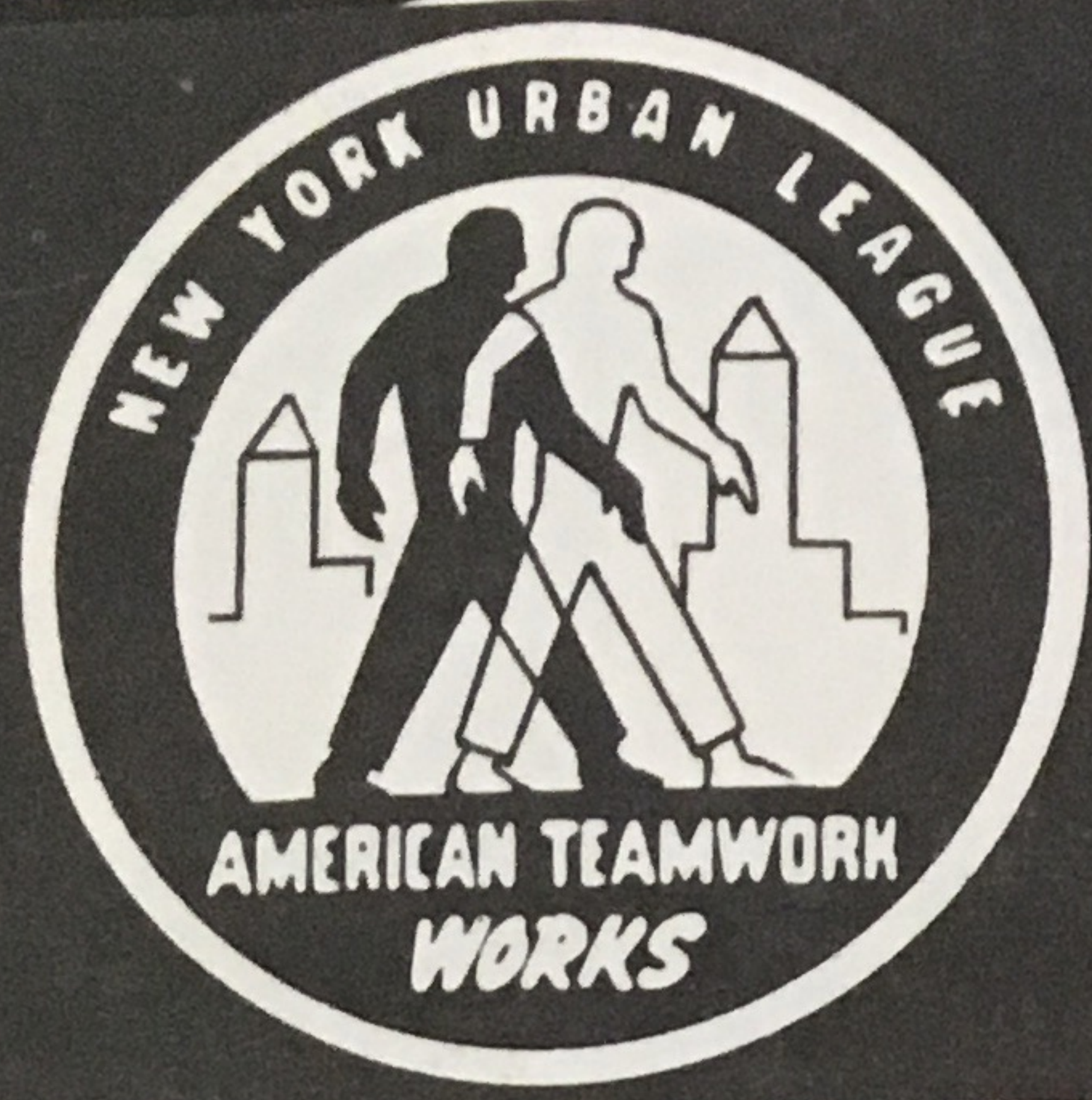
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NEW YORK URBAN LEAGUE NEWS

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Fall, 1967

HARLEM PREP OPEN

60 Former Dropouts Pioneer Revolution In Education

With much ado and a lot of hope for a new day in education for Negro youth in the ghettos of America, Harlem Prep opened its doors for the first time to some sixty students on Monday, October 2. Each of these youngsters, most of whom were former dropouts who had re-found the "magic" of a good education through NYUL's Street Academy program, expressed great excitement at being a part of the League's attempt to provide the best kind of education for the deprived children of New York's minority communities.

Terming the occasion a part of an "educational revolution" in black communities, Dr. Eugene S. Callender, Executive Director of NYUL stated that "the kids in Harlem have not previously been taught . . . by a concerned and committed faculty." He expressed assurance that this new program "will have another one hundred youths ready for college in a year."

Opening day included a morning conference in which Dr. Callender, Dr. Stephen Wright, Chairman of the School's Board of Directors and Attorney Harvey Spear, Senior Partner of Spear and Hill and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Harlem Prep, addressed the student body, faculty and guests.

Dr. Wright, a former president of Fisk University and the present president of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), explained the schools assets. Dr. Wright emphasized the importance of the school's "hand picked" faculty and small classes for individual instruction. A distinguished educator himself, Dr. Wright praised the school's staff, referring to headmaster Edward Carpenter as an "unusual person." He further cited the presence of many persons consistently dedicated to providing good educational opportunities for Harlem Youth, who are now on the staff of Harlem Prep.

Mr. Carpenter, who holds a master's degree in psychology, is a former Principal in the N. Y. C. school system and for many years, taught in a central Harlem Junior High School.

Dr. Wright also lauded the school's Advisory Committee consisting of persons "experienced in organizing and administering details of a Prep school situation." The Advisory Committee is made up of representative independent preparatory schools



Dr. Stephen Wright (right), Chairman of the Board of Directors of Harlem Prep and also President of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), attended opening day ceremonies at the school's temporary location in the 369th Regiment Armory in central Harlem. Discussing the school's merits with Dr. Wright are Attorney Arthur Spear, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Harlem Prep and Dr. Eugene S. Callender, Executive Director of the New York Urban League.

in the city. Members of this committee interview faculty, assist in drawing up curriculum, serve on the Admissions Committee, work with college admissions officers to help place future graduates in suitable colleges, and make available the resources of the New York independent schools. Schools represented on the committee are: Academy of the Sacred Heart, Collegiate School, Columbia Grammar School, Horace Mann, Riverdale Country Day School and Trinity School.

Other members of the Board of Directors are Mrs. John Mosler, Vice Chairman; Mother Elizabeth McCormack, President of Manhattanville College, Secretary; Dr. Eugene S. Callender, Treasurer; Harvey Spear; Dr. Henry Callard, Princeton University; Dr. Charles Silverman, Editor of *Fortune Magazine* and Director of the

Carnegie Foundation's Institute to Service Education; Kenneth Barton, Instructor in History, Riverdale Country School; Percy Hill, Architect and Cyril Tyson, Deputy Commissioner, Human Resources Administration.

In addition to Headmaster Carpenter, the Board of Directors announced the appointment of the following members to the faculty: Mother Ruth Dowd, Ph.D., former professor at Manhattanville College, administrator; Anthony M. Lewis, Jr. B.S., Long Island University, M. A., Columbia University; Duan Jones, B.A. University of Pittsburgh, advanced certificate from Sorbonne, Oslo, Sweden, and advanced degree credits from New York and Columbia Universities; Jane Early, B.S., LeMoyne College, Syracuse, New York, M.A., University of

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FAMILY POTPOURRI

Robert Mangum, former board chairman of NYUL, is now chairman of the New York State Human Rights Commission, and *James L. Hicks*, whose wife is a board member, is Executive Assistant to the Chairman.

Mrs. Evelyn Cunningham is editor of the new *Women's Unit News* published by Governor Rockefeller's office.

Andrew T. Hatcher joined the international public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton, as Vice President. Mr. Hatcher's counsel and experience in handling general media will be available to all clients of the firm.

Mrs. Frank O'Connor was honorary chairman of "An Evening of Elegance" which was held as a benefit for the New York Urban League.

Harriet Van Horne is now a columnist in the *New York Post*.

Ralph Gross accompanied *Whitney Young* and *Dr. Thomas P. Melady* to meet the Pope last June in Rome.

Andrew R. Tyler was chairman of the Committee on the Bill of Rights and Suffrage at the New York Constitutional Convention in Albany this Summer and has been nominated as judge of the Civil Court.

Mrs. James Booker, new President of the N. Y. Continentals was a stunning hostess at their annual Bums Ball which benefited the Monrningside Community Center and the Northside Center for Child Development.

Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Logan returned from Italy. *Mrs. Jill Capron* has returned from a trip to Russia and *Mr. and Mrs. R. Peter Strauss*, from Africa.

Mrs. Hugh Smythe has returned to her post as principal of the New Lincoln School while her husband, former Ambassador to Syria awaits reassignment.

Rawson L. Wood served as chairman of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.

James Fleet, who has been named President of the Public Development Corporation to attract new industry to New York was quoted in a *New York Times* profile as saying, "I'm in love with New York City."

Attending the recent Urban League Convention in Portland, Oregon were *George Norford*, *Eldridge Waith*, *Mrs. Theodore W. Kheel*, *Dr. Thomas P. Melady*, representing the Board of Directors and *Mrs. Donald Dammond* for the Manhattan Advisory Committee.

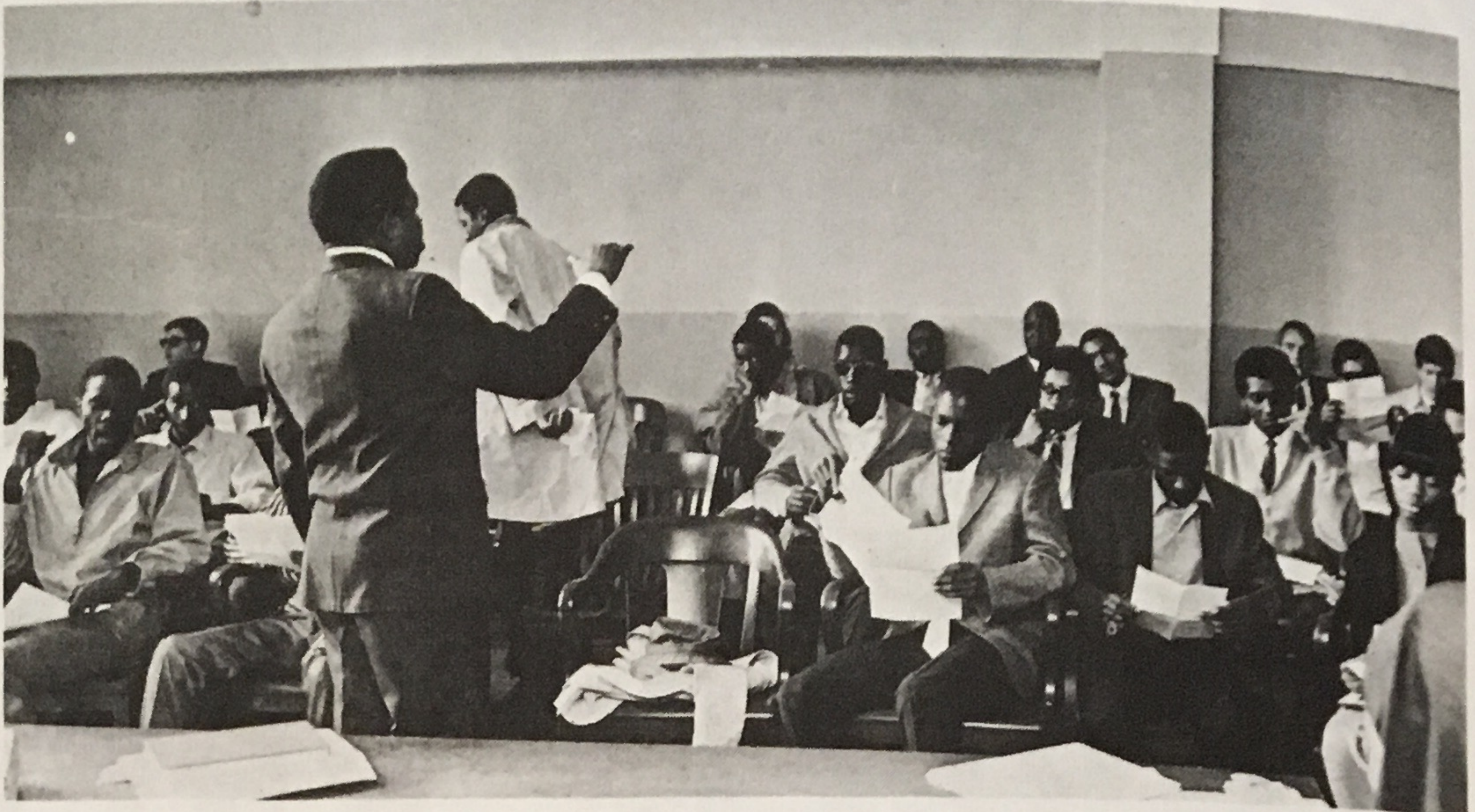
Rawson L. Wood received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from St. Johns on October 5th.

Dr. Theodore Stent's wife, *Madelon* gave birth to a baby boy. The happy couple named their son, who weighed nearly 9 lbs. at birth, *Evan*.

Art Show Honors Afro-American Artists

"The Evolution of the Afro-American Artists, 1800-1950" is the theme of an exhibition of paintings and sculpture which began October 16, in the Great Hall at City College.

The display, which brings together some 200 paintings by an estimated 50 artists, is being presented by the City University of New York in cooperation with the New York Urban League and the Harlem Cultural Council. Co-directors of the historic display are art expert, *Carroll Greene* and well-known artist, *Romare Bearden*.



HAS EVERYBODY FOUND PAGE TEN? Mr. Ed Carpenter, headmaster of Harlem Prep, takes students through the rigors of registration on opening day at the new school. Mr. Carpenter, who formerly taught at a Harlem Junior High School commented, "these kids are going to destroy a lot of old myths about education. Their potential has been grossly underestimated. They have the ability to change the world."

Harlem Prep Open (Continued)

Rochester; *Gaywood S. McGuire*, B.S., Morgan State College, completing M.A., at New York University and *Oonan Ryan*, B.A., Manhattanville College completing M.A., at University of Detroit.

More than anything, the new school "symbolizes the hope of the community that better education for its children will assure opportunities long denied them," *Dr. Wright* said in summary. He told the student body that this "idea was dreamed up because there are people who wanted to be sure that you received the chance that you deserve."

Dr. Callender, adding that "we are building a consolidation between businesses, foun-

dations, and other groups," further stated that "since there has not to my knowledge been a project developed that gets at the heart of the problem of high school drop-outs, this project's success might make it the model by which deprived communities and outside supporters battle this problem throughout the nation."

The opening of the school was made possible by grants from the Astor Foundation, Hayden Foundation and the Arwood Foundation, with a special grant of \$100,000 from the Sheila Mosler Foundation for the purpose of assisting in the purchase of the building in which Harlem Prep will ultimately be located.



THE STAFF AND FACULTY of Harlem Prep includes a myriad of top flight teachers who offer a myriad of educational backgrounds and experiences. Pictured above in a curriculum meeting are l-r: *Mrs. Dee Rodriguez*, secretary; *Mr. Duane Jones*, chairman, English dept.; *Mother Oonah Ryan*, chairman, Art dept.; *Mr. Edward Carpenter*, headmaster; *Mr. Gaywood S. McGuire*, chairman, Mathematics dept.; *Mother Ruth Dowd*, vice-principal; *Mr. Anthony M. Lewis, Jr.*, chairman, Social Studies dept. and *Mother Jane Early*, chairman, Science dept.

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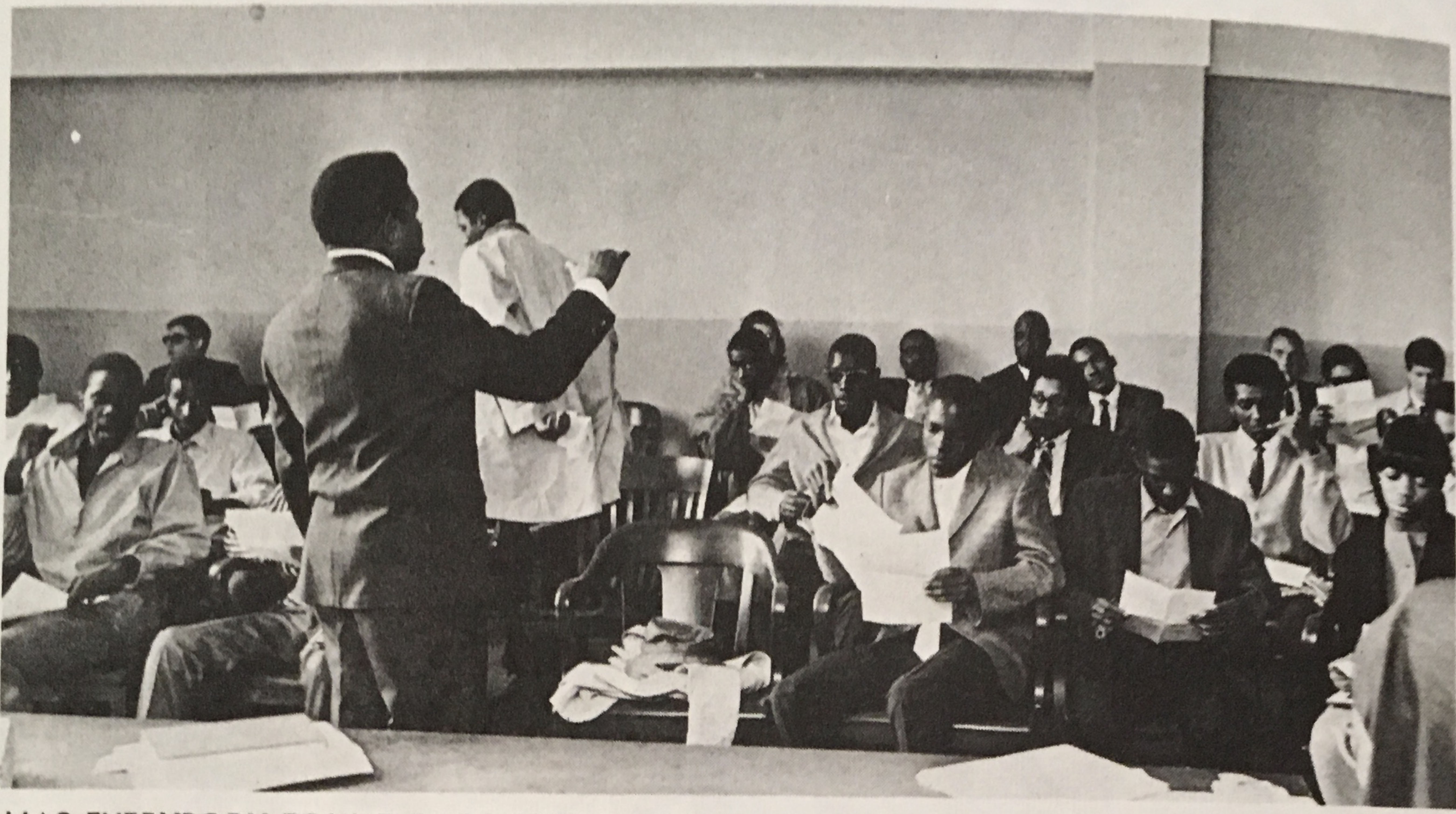
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