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VOICE NEWS &

VIEWPOINT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1971 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA Phone 263-3171 Week 5¢

League holds annual meet; elects new board; officers

The San Diego Urban League held its 17th Annual meeting last Thursday evening with over four hundred persons in attendance at St. Rita's Parish Church, Churchward & Euclid.

Among the notables there were board members of such national organizations as NAACP, ICBO, ASB, NIA, Urban Coalition as well as the Urban League.

Guest speaker was Richard Allen, a recently retired Black businessman who at the age of 39 was a self-made millionaire. Allen, from Los Angeles, founded the Economic Resources Corporation on $1000 capital with a partner and saw the business grow rapidly to a point where it may offer Watts residents 16,000 new jobs by 1973.

Allen insisted that it was imperative for Black people to set their own policies and objectives. "That is why we're in the fix we are in today," Allen continued. "We should set our own policies."

Regarding education of Blacks, Allen said, "High schools are graduating students with a fifth-grade education. In this computerized society it is not enough to know Swahili . . . we should learn English, and learn it well."

"Soul food is good but we should try to eat as 'high on the hog' as possible," he added.

"I'm tired of one party taking my vote for granted. (The party) should work for it . . . We must use selective spending and voting power as vehicles for freedom," he added.

Addressing himself to the great chasm between Blacks and whites, Allen said, "Economics is what this country is all about and we're not even in it . . . America must be great for ALL its citizens or for none!"

In concluding his speech, Allen urged Black organizations such as the Urban League to interest more Black students in economics, marketing, banking and finance. "Black people should be involved in economics to the point where they can control it after they earn it."

The Urban League announced a number of new programs begun this year, or revitalized this year. Among them are Project STAR, OJT Training, NYC, Consumer Affairs Project, Economic Development Program, Keypunch Training, Community Organization and the Consumer Health Training Program.

Election of new officers for the Urban League were held, Hoye was elected 1st vice and Henry Hill was elected president of the board. Walter president, Chip Goodwin, 2nd vice president, Mrs. Catherine Thomas, secretary, and Mrs. Josiah Collins, the treasurer.