

Thousands Of Guests Sample Food, Hear Speakers At Food Festival

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The thousands of persons of various races and faiths who attended the National Council of Negro Women's Brotherhood Food Festival in Washington, D. C., recently were told "We either have to exist together as brothers or cease to exist."

The speaker was Mrs. Theodore O. Wedel, president of the United Church Women. One of four main speakers during the seven-hour festival, Mrs. Wedel said:

"The only way we can learn to live with other people is by being willing to give up a sense of personal importance and acknowledge instead the rights and privileges of others."

This can be done ultimately, but only by acquiring "a religious view of the universe in which we are all children of the one Heavenly Father," she stated.

Another speaker, Isaac Frank, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, said both religion and science agree on the dignity and quality of man.

Frank added that social scientists have found no evidence of racial superiority or inferiority and that furthermore they teach that prejudice is not inborn and that there is no instinct of disliking the unlike.

A third speaker, the Rev. Msgr. John S. Spence, director of education for the Archdiocese of Washington, said brotherhood is not a political dream based on democracy.

The Rev. James O. West, jr., of Washington's Calvary Protestant Episcopal church, warned that we must practice brotherhood or perish.

Despite intermittent cold rains, the Burlington hotel space occupied by the festival overflowed with people of diverse races and faiths shortly after the noon opening and remained so until the 7 p.m., closing.

Tables filling a room were laden with favorite foods of well-known personalities in the history of the 32 participating organizations.

B'nai B'rith Women won first prize for their table featuring kugel, a tasty combination of rice, raisins, eggs, noodles and cheese.

The embassy of Liberia was second-place winner with its cassava muffins, plantains and jollof rice, the latter a delicious mixture of highly seasoned meats, vegetables and rice.

Third prize went to the Continental Society of Washington for savory dishes of stuffed chicken breast with white wine sauce centered amidst a striking floral display representing the love of a mother — "the hope of the world," read a display card above the table.

There also was James Johnson who, denied a Capitol page boy job, was subsequently hired by several congressmen as messenger.

Among others in attendance were the heads of several national organizations, including Mrs. Nettie Carter Jackson, granddaughter ruler of the Daughter Elks; Dr. Jeanne L. Noble, president of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Themed "Creative Symbols of Brotherhood," the festival featured in addition to the foods, the sale of a variety of aprons displayed from a special apron bar, assorted items amassed from a "white elephant sale" and a jewelry mart for the sale of jewelry contributed by various prominent women.

Among the jewelry contributors were Mrs. Martin Luther King, wife of the Montgomery bus boycott leader; Congressman Francis P. Bolton, (R), Ohio; Congressman Edith S. Green, (D) Ore; Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, wife of the Vice President; Miss Lena Horne; Miss Loretta Young; Mrs.

Nelson Rockefeller; Mrs. Marguerite Belafonte;

Miss Mary Margaret McBride; Miss Etta Moten, the entertainer; Miss Phillipa Schuyler, pianist; Mrs. Katie Loucheim, Democratic national committeewoman; Dr. Helen G. Edmonds of Durham, N. C.; Mrs. Myrtle Sengstacke, wife of the Chicago Defender publisher;

Mrs. John F. Kennedy, wife of the Massachusetts senator; Miss Dorothy I. Height, president of NCNW; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder of Palmer Memorial Institute; Thurgood Marshall, chief NAACP legal counsel;

Congressman Marguerite Stitt Church, (R) Ill.; and Mrs. Lois K. Alexander, president of the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers.

Among the organizations participating in the Festival were the embassies of India, Israel and Liberia.

Also participating were the National Council of Catholic Women; the National Council of Jewish Women; the Washington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; the Beauticians of the District of Columbia, Chapters 230, 113, 53 and 221 and Sigma Gamma Rho sorority.

Other participants included the Ladies Auxiliary to the Robert T. Freeman Dental society; National Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star; Council of Presidents of the Purity Baptist church; Bethune-Cookman college Alumni association; Howard university Women's club;

The Continental society; Beta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta sorority; Practical Nursing Alumni of Margaret Murray Washington Vocational High school; Washington Housewives League; Mme. C. J. Walker Beauty Culture school; Les Femmes D'Affaires and Omega Wives of Washington;

The Caribbean American International organization, Iota Phi

Lambda sorority, Chi Eta Phi sorority, Woodridge Green Thumb Garden club, Associated Garden clubs, Hilda Vogel Studio, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Entre Amis and the Christian Endeavor Union.

Additional organizations included the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers, Teen club; NCNW's Junior and Metropolitan Council of Washington;

B'nai B'rith Council of Metropolitan Washington; the Council of Church Women, Arlington, Va.; the Bahai Area Committee for Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia; the Augustino Lutheran church; the Interdenominational Church Ushers Association of the District of Columbia and Bethune - Cookman Advisory committee.

Among the special events of the festival in addition to the four program periods at noon, 2, 4 and 6 p.m., featuring the brotherhood messages and entertainment were: A fellowship tea attended by Congressman Jessica M. Weis, (R), N. Y.; Mrs. George A. Padmore, wife of the Liberian Ambassador to the United States; representatives from the embassies of India, Israel, Indonesia;

Representatives from the United Church Women, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Augustino Lutheran church; B'nai B'rith Metropolitan Council of Washington and the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Another special event was an art exhibit from the Howard university art department featuring prints on the Negro woman and other subjects and various paintings; and Doll replicas of famous Negro women including Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune and Mrs. Booker T. Washington and a historical quilt of Independence War Heroine Harriet Tubman.

The Embassy of Liberia exhibited several items of arts and crafts.

Among the singers featured during the Festival were Misses Louise Burge, Adeline Guilbaud, Theodosia Jackson, Camille Nickerson, the Singing Nurses of Free-

men's hospital and the Simmons sisters.

A "candle dance" was performed by two Indonesian dancers under the auspices of the Indonesian Embassy. Mrs. Marie Williams was guest pianist.

The NAFAD presented a fashion show and a trio from the Reggie Corley orchestra played intermission music.

After expressing happiness and appreciation over the successful outcome of the Festival, Miss Dorothy I. Height, NCNW's national president, said:

"To break bread together is to come into close relationship with one's fellowman — thus a food festival is an appropriate medium for a brotherhood observance."