



4-4-1973

Daily Beacon Article/Photo: "The Perpetual Merry-Go-Round"

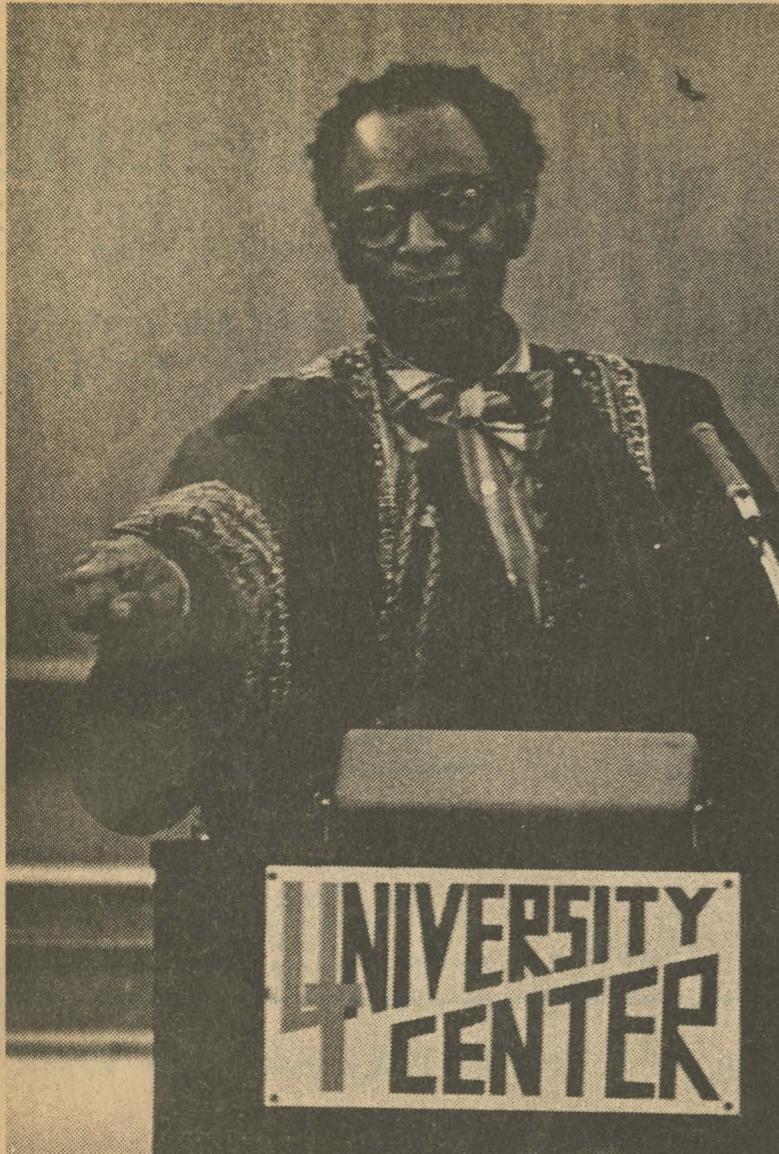
Commission for Blacks

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Humankind

Dr. Nathan Wright believes that urban renewal leaves no opportunity for the formation of communities.

Increasing urbanization

The perpetual merry-go-round

By JANE ARMSTRONG

"Urbanization uproots people by putting them on a perpetual merry-go-round," stated Dr. Nathan Wright, urbanist and historian in a speech last night at the university center.

Wright's speech, "Cities are People," commences *Humankind*, the spring lecture series.

Wright believes that urban renewal, the construction of modern slums to replace the older or existing slums leaves no opportunity for formation of a

community. He feels urbanization constantly moves people to the next area.

This constant shuffling from one neighborhood to another inflicts emotional mobility. Wright used as an example of this his conception that black people cannot learn because white people keep moving them. He says that as soon as a black student learns to love and trust his teacher the student is moved to another school. Soon he no longer bothers to care for his teacher or studies because he knows he will soon be moved again.

Wright said that people have not

addressed themselves to the creation of a community. "People need to do more than touch, they need to clasp and embrace one another." But in such a mobile environment black people do not get to know each other, they have no sense of community.

Since urban renewal causes people to constantly have to reregister to vote, Wright blames it for the low number of black voters. He said that in such a temporary living situation they just put it off or simply do not bother.

Another disadvantage the 49 year old educator sees in urban renewal, is that it creates black people into parasites

because it forces them to rent. People who rent tend to put out as little as possible in upkeep of the rented property. Wright believes that black people must build their own community beginning with ownership which in turn instills a pride in their living facilities.

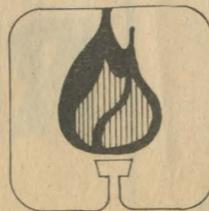
"Community is created when a person has an ideal to which he can look up to or aspire to and which is personified in his spouse or best friend," said Wright. But he believes that ultimately, community must be found in the idea, myth or fact of God as one in whom we may joyously live and move and have our being.

Norman Mailer, one of America's best known contemporary authors, will speak on Thursday evening, April 12 as a part of the continuing *Humankind '73* series.

Mailer, author of *The Naked and the Dead*, *The Presidential Papers*, *Why Are We In Vietnam* and his latest, *Existential Errands*, has always attracted attention from the public as an advocate of community rule.

"An Evening with Norman Mailer" will be open to the public. Tickets go on sale next Wednesday (April 12) for 50 cents (students) and \$1.50 (for non-students). Tickets will also be on sale at the door.

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