

One of Nevada's largest papers tells why you should elect ED FIKE.

RENO EVENING GAZETTE

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE HOME

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Editorials

Elect Ed Fike

IF AMERICA needs new direction in Washington, so does the state of Nevada.

The reckless policies of the current administration have been felt in this state on a larger scale than in most or all of the others.

Nevada must have help now, and the voters can provide it by casting their vote with Republican Lt. Gov. Ed Fike in the coming election to replace Democrat Alan Bible as their U.S. senator.

Fike has much to offer this state, and should be given a chance to prove it. His youth, enthusiasm and energy will be needed to help reshape Nevada's relationship with the federal government.

He has proved himself an able and honorable politician as assemblyman from Clark County and as lieutenant governor.

That he is well liked and respected by the people has been demonstrated by his lopsided political victories in heavily-Democratic Southern Nevada.

Though Fike comes from the South, he has been a friend of the North. He has campaigned fervently here and recently, he showed great courage in supporting Reno over Las Vegas as the site of a state medical school, though this issue has been hotly sectional.

In Las Vegas, his home, he is a successful businessman. This provides him a qualification that should serve him and the voters well in Washington, where too many legislators are career politicians out of tune with the reality of work-a-day life.

Fike offers more than just a change. He offers a program. He has promised help to attract new industries, to protect Nevada cattlemen from foreign beef imports, and to work toward returning more public domain to state control.

As a senator, he will need to apply himself to the national and international affairs, as well, and he has spoken forthrightly on such touchy issues as Vietnam, civil rights, firearms control, federal aid to education, foreign aid, law enforcement, the draft, and taxation.

Suffice it to say that Fike represents the moderate conservative philosophy, and that alone would justify sending him to Washington. How refreshing this will be as an alternative to the ultra-liberal policies of the last six years!

The administration of President Johnson will surely go down in history as the era of the great give-away. In Nevada, however, the period will be remembered longer as the time of the great take-away.

Reno will not soon forget the phase-out of Stead Air Force Base and the two years of economic drought that followed. Nor will this community forget the impact caused by the removal of the Air National Guard unit from Reno.

The Southern Nevada economy has been hurt by cutbacks in the NERVA nuclear engine research project.

All of Nevada has experienced the impact of the freeze on highway construction funds.

Nevada, perhaps more than any state, can complain about federal meddling during the Democratic reign. The gaming industry has been harassed outrageously and with virtual impunity by the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Service.

Federal interference has been challenged bitterly by Gov. Paul Laxalt on a number of other fronts.

Sen Bible must share the blame for the whole mess. He has been tied closely to the administration. He backed virtually all the Great Society programs that have dragged this country almost to ruin.

Bible's strongest campaign pitch is the seniority he has built in his years in the Senate. But his so-called mighty influence has done little for Nevada or the nation.

For instance, his influence couldn't help Nevada in keeping Stead Air Force Base from closing, nor could it help the nation in doing anything to head off the disgraceful rioting, ruin and anarchy that swept Washington D.C., a city Bible served as "mayor."

But, worse than having little influence, Bible, is a relic of a by-gone political era, more interested in his dying style of oratory than in making its contents measure up to the complexities of modern life.

Fike, on the other hand, is aggressive and serious in approach and purpose, and he commands the respect needed to deal with the complex problems which Bible and other politicians have been unable to solve.

The Gazette feels these problems should be solved, and it urges you to retire Bible and replace him with Fike so this nation can get on with it.

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Give Nevada a voice in the new administration.

Elect **ED Fike** U.S. SENATOR
REPUBLICAN