



RAY CHARLES GENIUS OR NOT!

Brother Webster defines "genius" so: "taste, talent, attendant spirit; a person who influences another in character, behavior or the like; inborn mental gift or endowment, talent; a person endowed with transcendent ability."

It was the Ertegun brothers, Neshui and Ahmet who first tagged Ray Charles as "genius." This description first appeared on his earlier recordings which were made for the E Brothers on the Atlantic label. As most of you know, Charles switched to ABC Paramount and then hit the Pop market. Ahmet and Neshui laid the groundwork. I submit that they were the sine qua non (that without which) and without them, he (Charles) might not have been.

As for ABC Paramount, they are largely lucky. Who deserves the credit? Don Costa, for one because he came up with the arrangements on the Country-Western album. Another large acknowledgement is due the guy who said "Let's do an album of the top Country songs". This soul deserves a special niche in the recording Hall of Fame along with the one who decided to let Jimmy Durante sing some of the old and great love ballads. (Charles should do this, too.)

Ray Charles has taste, talent, attendant spirit; he has influenced many others and his talent is an inborn endowment. I will agree, too, that his ability is transcendent, therefore he meets the various requisites in Webster's Dictionary.

We are privileged to be able to partake of his talent. Not enough of us did at his recent gig for the Fabulous Flamingo Hotel. We might have missed Ray Charles entirely if it were not for the Brothers Ertegun and the cats behind the scene at ABC Paramount. This "undeveloped" Charles would have had his own little groove with an occasional recording on the top forty and that would have been it.

With all his transcendent ability, he, alone, would never have made it. It took the Atlantic label, the Erteguns, Don Costa and many others to put him across as a recording artist. Now it remains for some one, or some agency, to present him properly in person! He has not been presented properly thus far. Charles should be one of the top attractions in show business. He is not.

I am reminded of Ella Fitzgerald, to this bearded one, a true "genius" even more so than Charles. Ella worked all the jazz joints, the dark, dank cellars, until she nearly quit then along came one man, Norman Granz, who is, in his own way, a great ability, and Norman said, "No more of this. Ella belongs in the Fairmont Hotel, the Coconut Grove, the Palmer House and the Waldorf Astoria." He was, and is right. She also became and is one of the big winners for the Flamingo Hotel here in Vegas, which is the same place where Ray Charles played at Christmas Week, --- a near disaster! Charles, properly presented, should and would become as strong a regular as Ella, or anyone else, anywhere!

In my own circuitous way, I am stating the fact that GENIUS ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH! Genius needs recognition and the aid of equivalent genius along the way. Without the attendance and devotion of several nameless geniuses, Albert Einstein would have been a gentle, unwashed man who would remain in the rain until someone brought him inside. Without similar attendance and devotion, Ella would have gone unsung and unless Ray Charles finds some more geniuses, his message, which is a great one, will never be heard by the great majority of the people. In fact, much fence mending will have to occur before he returns to this town. It is a pity! Genius improperly directed is a tragic waste. Let's not waste Charles.



Eight month old Rodney Nathaniel Glenn is well on his way to growing up so that one day he may take his rightful place here in this community and the same can be certainly said for cute little "Kay-Kay" Brown and each of us can help to make this a better community for them to grow up in if we just try.



Lovely Lorraine — Lorraine Grant, pocket-size package of talent, currently vending her sexy songs, and sensuous dancing with the Billy Williams group, will soon be joining her husband, Robby Robinson in Las Vegas. Lorraine will join with hubby, Robby, and his brother, Robbin, to reactivate the Fabulous Robinson Brothers, which was broken up more than a year ago when Robbin became ill. Robbin has made complete recovery from the illness which idled him, and is soon to join Lorraine and Robby to start rehearsals. The Robinson Brothers & Lorraine are negotiating for a World Fair spot. The fair is scheduled to open in New York City April 22, 1964. Robby Robinson is currently appearing with the Ink Spots at the Hacienda in the Las Vegas Strip. Robby is the tenor player with the Ink Spots. He brings down the house every night with his tenor sax solo in the Ink Spots' arrangement of "The Saints".

Swing Low Sweet Chariot

| | |
|--|--|
| Swing low, sweet chariot, Coming for to carry me home, Wing low, sweet chariot, Coming for to carry me home. I looked over Jordan and what did I see Coming for to carry me home, A band of angels, coming after me, Coming for to carry me home. | If you get there before I do, Coming for to carry me home, Tell all my friends I'm coming too, Coming for to carry me home. Swing low, sweet chariot, Coming for to carry me home, Swing low, sweet chariot, Coming for to carry me home. |
|--|--|

Your Ad
IS THE
Shortest Distance
BETWEEN
Seller & Buyer

JOIN THE NAACP

POLITICAL SPOTLIGHT

By ANDERSON & WEST

Congressman Walter Baring, joined Southern Congressmen in an effort to defeat Civil Rights last week. In spite of Baring and the Southern coalition efforts, the Civil Rights Bill, without crippling amendments, is expected to pass the House next week.

Mike O'Callaghan's active support of County Commission, Ralph Denton, for Congress, may make it possible to retire Congressman Baring from public office.

The Civil Rights bill will face a crucial Senate test this month. Negroes, and Civil Rights supporters, should begin flooding the offices of both Senator Cannon, and Senator Bible, with letters and telegrams, urging a vote for cloture. Nevada Senators must dispel the myth of the late Senator McCarran "that it is necessary to vote with the South against cloture in order to protect Nevada's gambling."

Bud Albright, Convention Center Major Demo, whose recent high-handed methods deprived Negro employees, at the Convention Center, of a substantial part of their pay checks, is finally facing some political realities. He lost the Bond Issue to purchase the old Race Track property. Now, he has the Motel Owners Association at his throaf. Labor and the Negro community should get into the scrap and help send Brother Albright packing.

Helen Carrothers, Negro, Rest Home Operator was given a fast shuffle by the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital Board. All of her county patients were moved to another rest home. Mrs. Carrothers will find it hard to sustain this shock. If there is a County Board the Negro must have voice on, it certainly is the Hospital Board.

Atty. Gen. Harvey Dickerson, delivering a recent opinion that the Governor was powerless to issue executive orders affecting privately owned establishments, added to his anti-Civil Rights position last week, by demanding that the Gaming Industry Challenge the license of John Drew, Stardust Executive, for taking the 5th Amendment. The 5th Amendment, although brought into ill repute by witnesses before Congressional Committee, is fundamental to the democratic concept. Mr. Dickerson faces Nevada voters soon and should be remembered for his legal opinions which obstruct Civil Rights progress.

Bernard Posin, who could be a crusader for Civil Rights in the Nevada Assembly, appears to be under strong influence of some of his Anti-Civil Rights associates.

ADVERTISING PAYS

"I'm really not wealthy and I don't have a yacht and a convertible like Jerome Green," apologized the suitor. "But darling, I love you." "And I love you, too," replied the girl. "But tell me more about Jerome."

One woman to another: "My husband is absolutely no good at fixing anything, so everything in our house works."

Waiter, holding tray with change behind his back: "Your change is \$2.66, sir. Want it?"

FOR THOUGHTFUL REFLECTION

A real man never talks about what the world owes him, the happiness he deserves, the chance he ought to have, and all that; all that he claims is the right to live and play the man. A real man is just as honest alone in the dark, in his own room, as he is in public. A real man does not want pulls, tips and favors; he wants work and honest wages. A real man is loyal to his friends and guards their reputation as his own. A real man is dependable; his simple word is as good as his Bible oath. A real man does not want something for nothing, so the "get-rich-quick" people cannot use him. A real man never hunts danger, and never dodges it when he ought to meet it. A real man is —well, he is an honest man, the finest, best, noblest, most refreshing thing to be found on all the green earth — unless it is a real woman.

— Cheer, Las Vegas

EL RIO CLUB

GAMBLING CASINO

Wine
Liquor

It's a
NATURAL!



Beer
Barbecue

"Slots That Pay"

PH: 642-4070

REVERE & "H" STREET
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA