

# EDITORIAL

## CITIZENS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO GOVERNMENT

When John F. Kennedy, in his inaugural address, said, in essence, "... don't ask what your government can do for you, but ask what you can do for your government . . ." I am certain that, among other things, he was thinking of the exercise of the right to VOTE.

The right to vote, and take part in the destiny of the country, is the one basic difference between a democratic form, and other forms of government. The perpetration and perpetuation of a true democratic form of self rule depends upon the people using their right to vote.

Every law abiding citizen who is 21 or older is entitled to one vote, provided he, or she, has registered to vote. It is the duty of every citizen to exercise this privilege. When the majority of the people do not vote, we do not have true democratic process, because the minority, rather than the majority are ruling. When

such a situation exists, Democracy stands in jeopardy. Nothing is more dangerous to the stability of self rule, than to place too much power into the hands of too few people. All, or nearly all of the eligible voters must register to vote, and must use the right to vote, or we will not have a real democratic rule.

It is my opinion that those who fail to exercise the right to vote are not deserving of the better way of life that our form of government affords. There are some countries that keep a score card on the citizens, and punish the ones who do not take enough interest in themselves, and their government, to exercise the use of the ballot. It is unfortunate that we do not have that right to fine, or in some way punish the voting slackers in our own community. It is also unfair that the slackers should share in any of the spoils of victory at the polls.

It has been estimated that more than 8000 residents of West Las Vegas are eligible voters. Only half of this number is registered to vote, and only slightly more than half of those registered take enough interest in themselves and their affairs of government, to go to the polls on election days. This situation is not only disgraceful, but it seriously encumbers the strides and efforts of the leaders of the community to accomplish their aims of gaining full citizenship for all citizens. The greatest of Generals, in the annals of history, could have won no battle without soldiers. Your leaders need registered voters to win your battles for you. If you sincerely desire full rights as citizens, you MUST REGISTER, AND YOU MUST VOTE. If you do not assume this small responsibility to government, you deserve even less than what you are getting.

THE BALLOT IS YOUR PASSPORT TO FREEDOM, USE IT . . . BUT WISELY.

Help yourself while you help your country  
BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

## A TALE ABOUT BARING

There once was a Congressman named Baring,  
Who cared less how Negroes were faring.  
He tried to kill  
The Civil Rights Bill  
By giving the measure a paring.

We thought the issues were clear,  
A Civil Rights law for this year,  
But Baring did holler  
From under his collar  
"Federal control is the thing I fear."

This same Congressman spoke loud,  
Right along with the Dixiecrat crowd,  
"No morals to legislate,  
"Or bigots to regulate,  
"Racial injustice must be allowed."

The United States Civil Rights Commission,  
Asked Congress for its permission,  
To get some power  
If just for an hour  
To carry out a Civil Rights mission.

Up jumped the Congressman Baring,  
Again with his big mouth blaring,  
He let out a roar,  
Upon the House floor,  
"About Negroes we should be caring?"

When the time comes for re-election,  
And each voter must make his selection  
As for Baring,  
And how he's faring,  
Let's cast our votes in another direction.

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Editorial & Advertising Offices at 812 West Bonanza Rd.,  
Las Vegas, Nev. — Distributed Every Wednesday (Weekly  
Publication)

Advertising Rates Available upon request  
Subscription Rates ..... 10c weekly  
Telephone Numbers — DU 4-1276 — 642-5308

## Africa In Today's World

By C. I. West, M.D.

There is far too much controversy, as to the origin and differentiation of the two non-Negroid people of Africa for us to attempt any detailed discussion of the topic. We shall briefly relate our interpretation of consensus opinion of the subject.

There is little criteria to distinguish one from the other. They have common language roots, derived from the HEBREW, ARABIC, and AMHARIC (Ethiopian) tongues. It has been theorized that both groups entered Africa from Asia Minor, or the Near East, via the Isthmus of Suez which is a narrow land strip connecting the two continents. This writer differs with that theory and will elaborate upon it later in this article. The Hamites, descendants of Ham, chiefly inhabit the Mediterranean coast, North Africa, and the great desert regions. The Semites are composed of both Arabs and Jews, and are found chiefly in Egypt and in the Southeastern section, as far south as Zanzibar and Portuguese East Africa (Mozambique).

The Semites are fair with keen classical features, and with straight hair, ranging in color from light brown to black. The Hamites, though fair, are quite swarthy in color texture. Their features are also sharp, but their hair ranges from straight to curly, and is either black or dark brown.

The Semites were chiefly responsible for spreading the Islamic faith in Africa. They took their religion into Egypt and to East Africa. In North Africa, where they blended with the Hamites, they imposed their creed upon Ham's descendants who carried Mohammed's teachings into the great desert and all the way across the continent to West Africa where they spread it among the Sudanese Africans with whom they traded. The end result was that today more than 60% of the entire population of Africa adheres to Islam (Mohammedan). Together with their religion, the Arab traders imparted many of their social and cultural patterns to the black Africans.

The Semites descended from the mixture and blending of people of Asia, Asia Minor, and the Mediterranean Islands, comprising Hebrews, Arabs, Assyrians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Persians and others.

It is our theory that only the Semites migrated across Suez into Africa, and that after thousands of years of miscegenation with the indigenous Africans, the Hamites came about. The typical Negroid features depicted in ancient Egyptian carvings, idols, and in the face of the Sphinx, lead this writer to theorize that the original Egyptians were Negroid, and that centuries of blending with the migrants from Asia produced a new racial entity. It is reasonable to assume that the Israelites who were held in bondage by the Egyptians (originally Negroid) were forced to miscegenate with their black masters, at the pleasure of the masters. Many generations later a new anthropological group descended - the Egyptians, who inherited predominantly the Semite characteristics.

In our own country we have many million citizens, only 10 to 15 generations removed from slave-master relationships, who cannot be distinguished from pure Caucasian. About ten years ago, the Department of Anthropology of Harvard University, after extensive research, revealed that one of every five white Americans had African ancestry. The Harvard report strengthens my theory of the non-Negroid Africans origin.

Africa is comprised of all races and mixtures of races. The people of Africa are no longer all Negroid, any more than the people of America are all white, or any more than the Afro-Americans are all black.

The anthropological characteristics of the two groups of so called NON-NEGROID AFRICANS took on additional Caucasian identity from intermarriage with the Europeans during the last few centuries.

Our next writing will be devoted to certain African personalities.

## Communications Establish Unity

People must be able to talk to one another, if they are to understand one another. People must come together to talk, and they must have some common denominator to hold their interest in a constructive conversation. When the common denominator is a major issue in the lives of these people, they seek, major issue in the lives of these people, they seek and they usually find a line of communication with one another. Through the medium of communication, they seek counsel of one another in a common quest for answers, and solutions.

The Negro residents of our community, by the accident of their African ancestry, have the common denominator of being classed as second-rate citizens. They have the unenviable denominator of being deprived of equal opportunity because of the blood of their ancestors. It makes no difference how completely Caucasian a Negro might be in physical appearance, he is denied equality of American citizenship, with the same resistance that faced his African ancestors, provided his identity is known. The American Negro is a mixture of all bloods of all races, but his African blood sets him apart from all other Americans as something different from all the other American mongrels.

Our nation came into being because it was a haven of freedom from tyrannical rule. Pilgrims from Europe pioneered, but pilgrimages from every corner of the earth followed in rapid succession. America became the meeting ground and the melting pot of people from all lands and all races. They mingled and they intermarried, procreating a population of every imaginable blend and mixture. The people of America are today the most mongrelized people of the world. Ironically, the American Negro can boast of less mongrelization than any other people of this nation, but he is looked down upon by other Americans. This factor gives the Negro the most binding common denominator, and makes him an enigma in a democratic nation.

The social revolution taking place in America today was generated by the Negro's impatience with the snail paced racial reforms of the past century. Since his ancestors were declared free by Presidential Proclamation and established as citizens by Constitutional Amendments. The momentum of social reforms, taking shape in America today, must be reenergized by each Negro doing his part in a unified effort. Unity will turn the tide. We must have communications for developing this unity. WE MUST GET TOGETHER IF WE WANT EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY.

The Las Vegas Voice is your voice. It is the only focus of communication that is practical, as well as available for the tasks ahead. The Voice was established to fill our void of communications. This instrument for "keeping in touch" offers refreshed hopes of pulling us together to accomplish our missions. We beg your faith in us. With your faith behind it, your Voice will be heard, and victory will be both rapid and complete.

Read the Voice. Look carefully for announcements of meetings. Attend all meetings and dedicate yourself to a united effort.

UNITY WILL PROVIDE THE POWER FOR TOTAL VICTORY. LET US UNITE AND WIN, SUPPORT THE VOICE! IT WILL ALWAYS SUPPORT THE CAUSE.

Dr. Charles I. West  
Publisher

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