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STATE PROBES 'BIAS'

JOE LOUIS VIEWS CLAY-LISTON FIGHT

LAS VEGAS Voice 10¢

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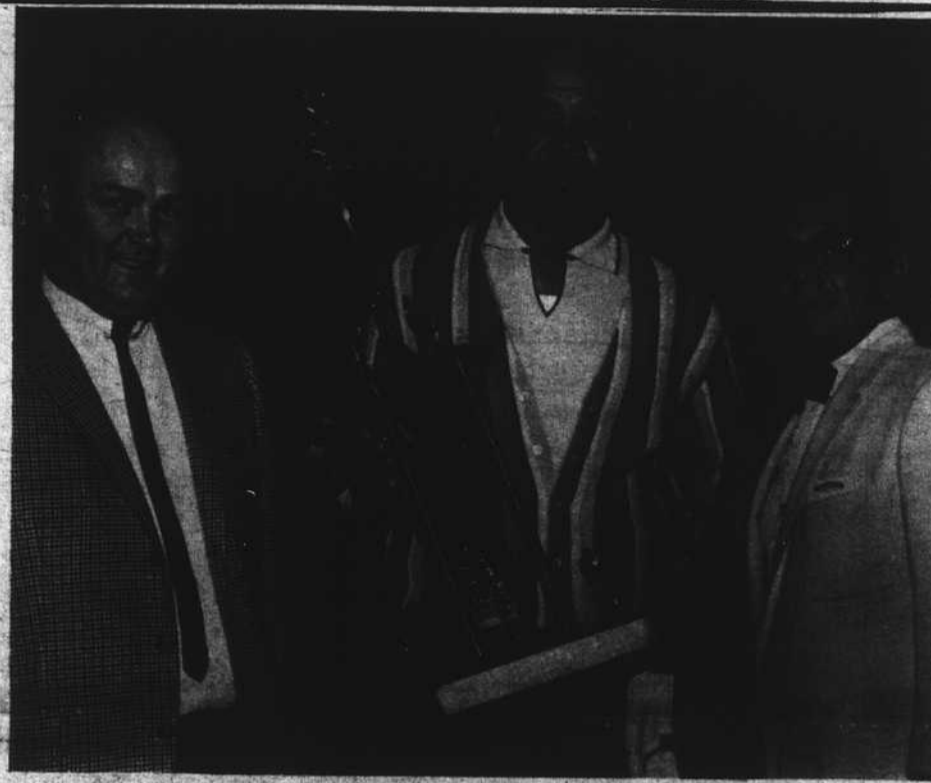
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1964

SONNY LOOKED 'TIRED'

"SONNY seemed to grow awfully old between the first round and the sixth round. He looked just like old Joe Brown when Joe lost his lightweight title to Carlos Ortiz right here in Las Vegas."

That's how Joe Louis summed up his impressions of



Cassius Clay's stunning victory over Sonny Liston in their heavyweight title fight at Miami Beach.

Former champion Louis, even more popular today than when he ran up a record 25 successful defenses of his title a generation ago, offered several interesting observations on the "big fight" (or should it be "big fizzle"?) during a recent visit to Las Vegas. While here, the one-time Brown Bomber refereed a bout on a Bill Miller fight show at the Castaways Hotel, answered questions from the audience and was presented with a special award. (See photo)

"I just couldn't believe what I saw down there," said Louis, who served as commentator for the Clay-Liston fight on closed circuit TV along with Steve Ellis. "And I was just as stunned as everyone else when Sonny didn't come out for the seventh round. I thought he should have tried to go on no matter how bad his arm was. I figure a champion should always go down fighting as best he can."

THESE were strong words coming from a man who was very close to Liston throughout his training for the Clay fight. But Joe Louis never was one to pull his punches.

"I figured Sonny would knock him out," Joe said, "and that's the way I picked it. Right now, I'd even have to pick Sonny in a rematch. But he sure looked bad down there at Miami Beach. Everyone seemed to think the fight was pretty even as long as it lasted. But I honestly can't see how anyone

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BROWN BOMBER HONORED--Former heavyweight champion Joe Louis (center) displays trophy presented him by Las Vegas sportswriters, sportscasters and Castaways Hotel during recent fight show at Castaways. Trophy was tribute to Louis as a great fighting champion and good American. Promoter Bill Miller is at left; Castaways casino executive Nono Scianno is at right. (See story this page.)

LEGISLATIVE BODY CHECKS COMPLAINT

AN INVESTIGATION into charges of racial discrimination by a Negro woman formerly employed by the State Legislative Counsel Bureau has been ordered by the Nevada Legislative Commission.

Mrs. Esterline Nelson of Sparks, an employee of the counsel bureau for two and a half years, complained to the Legislative Commission that she was forced to quit her job in the legal division of the bureau because of "persistent and unfair treatment I experienced . . . when I was subject to the supervision of Mr. Amos Buckner."

Mrs. Nelson had been employed in a different office of the bureau for two years before being transferred to the printing office headed by Buckner.

In separate letters of complaint to the eight members of the Legislative Commission, composed of four state Assemblymen and four Senators, Mrs. Nelson emphasized that she was not seeking re-employment.

Clark County Assemblyman Bernard Posin, who attended a meeting of the Legislative Commission in Carson City last weekend as an alternate for Assemblyman James Gibson, told The VOICE that Mrs. Nelson has been invited to appear before the commission at its next meeting late in April.

"THE COMMISSION has asked Mrs. Nelson to respond by April 12 to an invitation to appear at the April meeting," Posin said. "The commission intends to go into the complaint thoroughly at that time."

Russ McDonald, director of the counsel bureau, said his staff tried to persuade Mrs. Nelson not to resign. He said he welcomed an investigation by the Legislative Commission.

The complete text of Mrs. Nelson's letter of complaint to the eight commissioners follows:

"Because of the persistent unpleasant and unfair treatment I experienced during that part of my employment by the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau,

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