

MISSOURI EDUCATOR
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Banneker schools has sharply decreased.

In order to appreciate the enormity of Dr. Shepard's accomplishments, one must examine the locale of his labors, as Paul Friggens did for the PTA Magazine. Here is how Friggens describes the Banneker district in the March issue of the magazine:

"Mile after mile, the sooty Negro slums spread out from downtown St. Louis. In the littered yards and dark doorways of rotting, century-old red-brick tenements, idle men sit and talk. In the midst of this blight stands a high-rise housing development, occupied by low-income laborers and domestics and overrun with 7000 shouting children. With a young teacher from this school district, I knock on the door of a typical apartment in the already run-down-looking development.

"An expectant mother, surrounded by her brood of children, answers. The rooms are barren and devoid of amenities, but there is one surprise. On the table lies a dictionary. 'I want for my children to get an education and grow up and be something'!.."

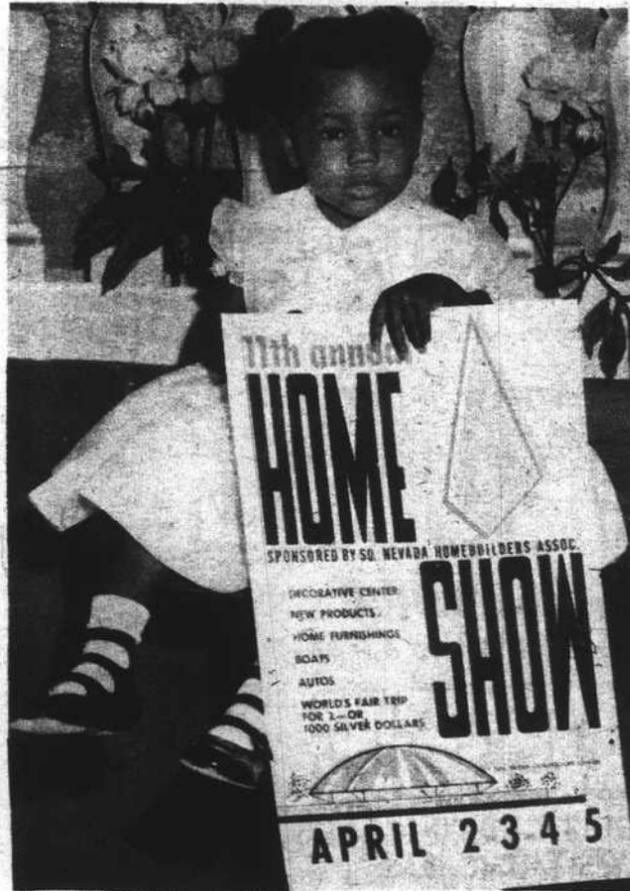
Friggens goes on to explain that the secondhand dictionary is a symbol of Dr.

Shepard's accomplishment in the slums. It seems that four years ago, Dr. Shepard discovered that the St. Louis schools were discarding 6000 used dictionaries for a new edition. So he arranged to have them sold for 25 cents each to families in his district. For many, it was the first book they ever owned.

IN DESCRIBING a recent visit to Dr. Shepard's office in a Banneker school, Friggens tells about clean, bright-looking youngsters marching down corridors dotted with colorful posters. "READING IS THE KEY THAT OPENS ALL LOCKS" proclaimed one poster. Another advised "THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU IN THE COMMUNITY--IF YOU'RE PREPARED." "We keep driving that home," Dr.

Shepard told Friggens. "The Negro is low man on the totem pole--the last hired, first fired. He has never prepared himself for a job or had much ambition, because he had little opportunity or place to go. But I tell them that it's a new day, that with education and preparation, Negroes can take their place with whites."

When the results of the 1957-58 Iowa Basic Skills tests were announced, Dr. Shepard refused to accept the low ratings for his district as permanent. "We know there is nothing inherent in the Negro to explain this showing," he told a meeting of school principals. "Given the same opportunities and motivation, our pupils can measure up to the whites. But first we must (see page 16)



WELCOME AS SPRING- That's what two-year-old Vicki Williams appears to be telling us about 11th Annual Home Show at Las Vegas Convention Center starting today and continuing through Sunday. Displaying her Easter frock against a floral background, Vicki; the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Williams of Las Vegas, chose this way to call attention to the largest show of its kind ever staged in Southern Nevada. Everyone attending the four-day exposition has a chance to win an all-expense-paid trip for two to the New York World Fair of 1,000 of those much sought silver dollars posted by the sponsoring Southern Nevada Home-builders Assn.

VOTE *(Yes)*

APRIL 7th

LAS VEGAS BOND ELECTION

SANITARY SEWER BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$3,828,100.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation sanitary sewer bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO

STREET BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$3,885,000.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation street bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO

STORM SEWER AND DRAINAGE BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$275,000.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation storm sewer and drainage bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO

HIGHWAY UNDERPASS BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$175,000.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation highway underpass bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO

RECREATION CENTER BUILDING BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$400,000.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation recreation center building bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO

PARK BOND QUESTION

Shall the City of Las Vegas issue not exceeding \$700,000.00 negotiable, coupon, general obligation park bonds?

Bonds YES
Bonds NO