"No memorial oration or eulogy could more eloquently honor President Kannedy's memory than the earliest possible passage of the Civil Rights Bill for which he fought so long."-President Lyndon B. Johnson, November 28, 1963.

File Copy 1



## Vol. 2, No. 17

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

## SENATORS' MAIL NOW BACKS BILL

THE TIDE HAS TURNED!

Attempts by well-financed segregationist groups to overwhelm Congress with a flood of protests against the civil rights bill apparently has resulted in a rip-tide of support for the proposed legislation.

It was no secret that administration proponents of the civil rights measure were uneasy-even dismayed-by the opposition to their efforts expressed in letters from their constituents and "foreign" protestants during the late winter and early spring avalanche of mail on Washington.

But the picture has changed drastically dur-ing the past several weeks. Alerted to the highlyorganized drive to sabotage the bill, the public has rallied to the cause of fair treatment to the Negro and other minority groups and is now making its voice heard in unmistakeable language.

Having complained to their constituencies about the heavily unfavorable margin of mail, advocates of the bill are now hearing in everincreasing numbers from letterwriters who applaud their stand.

For instance, Sen. Kenneth Keating (R-N.Y.) reported on March 14 that his mail was running 10 to 7 against the bill. Last week he received a peak of 1,179 letters with 849 in favor and 239 against, a majority of about 4-1 the other way around.

During the last five days of February, Sen. Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) got 413 letters opposing the bill and only 111 favoring it, about 4-1 against. This month, for a similar five-day period, his mail showed 677 letters for and 466 against, about 3-2 in favor of the bill.

ONLY THREE WEEKS AGO, Sen. Thomas Kuchel (R-Cal.) revealed that his mail was running about 5-1 against the bill. He now finds the pros and cons about evenly divided in a state which is the source of 90% of the most vehement hostility to the measure. Texas, Florida and Mississippi account for the other 10%.

A big reason for the high amount of unfriendly mail in California is an urgent appeal John Birch Society leader Robert Welch to his chapter heads to spear-head a letter-writing campaign against the bill. The Birchers are

very strong in the Golden State. When Sen. Philip Hart (D-Mich.) returned home early in April, he told newspapermen his mail reflected strong opposition to the bill. After this news was published, one day's mail showed 1,117 letters for and 433 against. A typically pro letter said, "We didn't think we had to tell you we were with you on this. But

if you need a letter, here it is, and I am asking 10 friends to write you, too." JUST RECENTLY, Sen. Notris Cotton (R-N.H.) received 75 petitions favoring the bill with 50 signatures on each. A month ago his mail was 4-1 against.

Following the March appearance of an ad-

Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING **Civil Rights Leader Speaks Here Sunday** 

vertisement calling the bill "a billion dollar blackjack". Sen. Gordon Allott (R-Colo.) re-ceived 2,500 letters, most of them hostile. Two weeks ago his mail still was 5-3 against the bill. Last week the pendelum had swung over to 5-4 in favor.

Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), floor lead-er in pushing the bill, is averaging 400 letters a day, with 90% of his Minnesota mail in favor

and 70% from out-of-state against. As might be expected, Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.), opposition leader, and Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), report that their mail is running 95% against.



discrimination against her former superior in the State Legislative Counsel Bureau by a Sun Valley Negro wo-man are scheduled to be aired today at the monthly meeting of the Nevada Legislative **Commission** in Carson City.

Mrs. Esterline Nelson claims she was forced to quit her job reemployment with the with the Legislative Legislative Bureau.

CHARGES of racial Bureau "because of the persistent unpleasant and unfair treatment I experienced. . . when I was subject to the super-vision of Mr. A mos Buckner." In accepting the in-

vitation of commission chairman Russell Mc-Donald to appear at today's hearing, Mrs. Nelson emphasized that she is not seeking

## **Noted Southerner** In Major Address At Convention Hall

Thursday, April 23, 1964

2

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S personal reactions to recent turbulent developments on the national civil rights scene are expected to highlight the distinguished Negro leader's address at Las Vegas Convention Center Sunday night.

The much-decorated Atlanta, Ga., advocate of non-violence in the civil rights struggle will be the featured speaker at the Freedom Fund rally of the local NAACP. The rally, scheduled for 8 p.m., will be open to the public without charge. Earlier, at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dr. King will attend the annual awards banquet of the local NAACP at the Paradise Rd. convention hall. Dr. King has indicated he will comment on

recent demonstrations in New York City, Cleveland, Jacksonville, Fla., and other key points on the civil rights front. The head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference also intends to discuss the progress of the bitter Senatorial battle over the civil rights bill now being debated in the national Congress.

Practically all segments of Southern Nevada's civic and cultural community have pledged support to Sunday's double-barrelled affair, which will mark Dr. King's first appear-

ance in this area. EXPRESSING THE HOPE that Dr. King's engagement "stirs the conscience of this community", a recent editorial in the Las Vegas Review-Journal commented:

"This newspaper will be pleased to welcome Martin Luther King here not alone as the Gandhi of the civil rights cause, not alone as the heroof the Montgomery bus segregation fight, but as a figure of national prominence whose words

and actions generally are of great significance." Referring to Dr. King as a "highly educated and highly articulate spokesman for one of the great causes of our time, and a man received into the White House as such by both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson," the Review-Journal called attention to the fact that Dr. King was named "Man of the Year" for 1963 by Time Magazine Magazine.

Dr. King is scheduled to arrive in Las Vegas about noon Sunday.

A limited number of tickets for the Freedom Fund banquet Sunday afternoon are still avail-

able at the following locations: Bob Bailey Realty, 1307 N. "D"; Drs. Mc-Millan and West, 812 W. Bonanza; Briar Root Acres, Comstock and Lake Mead; Bruce's Acres, Comstock and Lake Mead; Bruce's Liquors, 2027 N. Revere; Kelly's Liquors, 810 W. Bonanza; Coleman's House of Beauty, 801 W. Owens; Crockett's Barber Shop, 1305 N. "D"; Ethel's Beauty Shop, 1316 N. "D"; Larry's Music Bar, 1318 N. "D"; Margie's Beauty Salon, 512 Jackson; Sarah Ann's Cleaners, 1300 N. "D"; Sugar Hill, Miller off Highland; Zion Methodist Church, 911 N. "G";