

VOICE READERS COMPRISE A \$30,000,000 MARKET

EDITORIAL

Honorable Alan Bible
U. S. Senator
U. S. Senate Office Bldg.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator:

Statements recently credited to you by the press lead me to believe that you spoke in haste when you, as reported, quibbled about the Public Accommodations and Fair Employment Practice sections of the Civil Rights act now before the Senate.

I interpret your quoted statements as an expression of sympathy for certain special interest groups which for three centuries have made hypocrisy of democratic principles, as well as of Judeo-Christian doctrines.

Let us assume that the lives of some Caucasians might be temporarily altered. We could be extreme enough to imagine financial problems falling the temporary lot of a few. I doubt that such apprehension is feasible, but will accept the possibility of these unfounded fears.

I can not support your implication that a probability of displeasure falling upon certain special interest groups and could out-weigh on the scales of justice the welfare of 10% of the population that has never been given a chance "to belong".

Should the probability become reality I do not fear that the scales of justice would hesitate to impose mild temporary punishment upon a few to pay the penalty for punishment of so many, for so long.

The special interest folks that you appear to help are the progeny of a society that has soiled the virtue of democracy for three centuries. You would be aiding the immorality that threatens the basic principles of freedom and equality

ly evident even without the discreet reminders in the form of a Max Webber pastel and Jawlensky painting he has put up.

These stylized and abstracted sculptures have made a vital contribution to modern civilization. Their spell helped turn Picasso and Braque towards cubism, which was the beginning of abstract art.

We also can sense in some of these pieces what historians, archaeologists and anthropologists are slowly and painstakingly beginning to discover. Africa did not, as the arrogant West was prone to believe all these centuries, remain from the beginning of time immutably untouched by history, a continent of primitive savagery.

Ancient cultures, both indigenous and from as far away as China, built cities and civilizations on the "dark" continent long before the Europeans came to exploit it. There are, no doubt, strong remnants of their creativity and skill, memories of their deities and customs, in the works displayed at the Douglass house.

It is, in fact, not difficult to believe that perhaps, as an authority on African sculpture recently observed, "Egypt owed more to Negro Africa than the other way around."

In addition to invitational showings, the Museum of African Art will be open to the public on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

which spawned this great nation.

I do not choose to believe that your conscience would allow you to do anything but that which was best for the nation, and for the future. I can not attach credence to the possibility that your stand on the dignity of man could be altered by letters written by poison pens which would perpetrate the abominable practice of bigotry which has marred the image of our nation since the time of its birth.

If you would protect democracy's virtue and save our nation's face, you have but one unalterable choice. You must vote to support cloture, and you must vote for a Rights Act with realistic punitive measures to implement that act.

A 'yes' vote on both issues would return rich reward. Your dividend would be peace of mind, which is man's most precious treasure. The warm feeling of self respect and of a clean conscience would give you a lifetime of wealth. You can ill afford to pass up this opportunity to possess life's richest treasure.

You will never be bigger, nor America stronger, than forever after the day you vote 'Yes'.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Charles I. West, M.D.

cc US Senator Howard Cannon

BARING MUST BE DEFEATED

When Congressman Walter S. Baring seeks the Negro vote in the coming election, I wonder if he remembers saying "Morals can not be legislated, nor can private rights be dominated, nor can any group intimidate the American people and the Congress of the United States."

Baring made this statement, among others, as he explained his reasons for voting against extension of the Civil Rights Commission.

Walter Baring says that Civil Rights are now Special Rights. The Voice says that Walter Baring has forfeited his every right to solicit one single Negro vote.

The Voice also says that any Negro who votes for Baring, ever again, is a traitor to the cause of Civil Rights.

Baring believes in States Rights, which is the Right to do wrong. DON'T EVER VOTE FOR BARING.

In awakening the Nation's conscience, in reminding Americans of their heritage and their essential values, the Supreme Court decision of ten years ago played a memorable and healing role. It will be recorded, surely, as one of the great events in the history of America.

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AFRICA in Today's World

By CHARLES I. WEST, M.D.

A HANDSOME NEW American showcase for African art opened its doors to the public in Washington, D. C., the other day. On display are some 160 fascinating "primitive" sculptures and high hopes that this ambitious Museum of African Art will become the first permanent institution of its kind in this country.

The most easily fulfilled of Robbins' noble hopes is that his museum will help us understand the great impact African sculpture has had on modern Western art. This is immediately evident even without the discreet reminders in the form of a Max Webber pastel and Jawlensky painting he has put up.

The Museum's home is the handsome, Victorian Frederick Douglass house at 316 A St., NE, a few blocks from the Supreme Court in the up and coming Capitol Hill area.

Douglass was the famous abolitionist orator who was born a slave and held high government office under five Presidents from Grant to Cleveland. Some call him the father of the civil rights movement and there is, if you wish, symbolic significance in the fact that his house is now to serve "crosscultural communication."

That is the aim Warren M. Robbins, a former cultural exchange specialist in the State Department and a collector of African art, has set for his hopes and endeavors. Robbins believes that the best way to launch a museum is to launch it and see if the money to run it rolls aboard. Let's hope it does, for whether the art of Africa does anything crosscultural for the brotherhood of man, it is decidedly enjoyable, interesting and stimulating.

The sculptures Robbins has put on display, in addition to his own collection and several gifts, are on loan from the Museum of Primitive Art, the Smithsonian and numerous private collections.

"PRIMITIVE" IS ENTIRELY the wrong word for them. For what we have here is not crude or even unsophisticated. These works are superbly artful renderings of both vigorous and lyrical emotion.

Even to us ignorant unbelievers of tribal religion, the human and animal figures convey a deep spiritual meaning. They were not made as objects of decoration but of devotion. They do not merely represent spirits. They are spirits.

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