

REALTY MYTH KILLED!!

COLORED YOUTH HEADS VEGAS HIGH BAND

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INTEGRATED COMMUNITY VALUES RISE

TRENTON, N.J.-- A one-family effort to salvage a declining neighborhood in this capital city of New Jersey, is beginning to pay off for Mayor Arthur Holland.

The project also has tended to prove false one of the pet contentions of racial bigots--that property values always decline in integrated communities.

Since the Mayor's arrival according to the New York Times, property values have gone up in the area, four houses that were for sale have been taken off the market, and other property owners have begun sprucing up. A few new White residents have moved in.

Mayor Holland's decision to live in the neighborhood attracted wide attention as an integration gesture, but he said that this had not been in his mind.

"If our moving in helped integration, that's fine," he declared, "but it really wasn't a factor. We don't seek Negroes or run away from them, either--people are people, black or white."

"We came here simply because it was a house we thought we could afford and one that had possibilities."

He added, however: "I think this sort of thing is the only way that cities like Trenton can be kept from becoming almost entirely Negro or Puerto Rican."

The Hollands paid \$7,000 for the four-story, nine-room brick house and are spending \$13,000 more restoring it. The



NEW BAND PRESIDENT--Marion (Tony) Wright, who has been elected President of Las Vegas High School Wildcat Band for next year, is congratulated by Principal Walter Long (left) and retiring band director A. B. Larson (right).

PTA in Strong Racial Stand

WEST LAS VEGAS civic and educational leaders have expressed satisfaction and gratitude for the strong stand on civil rights taken by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers at

house, built before 1862, and the neighborhood suggested the Georgetown section of Washington to Mrs. Holland.

In their remodeling, the Hollands have installed a modern kitchen as well as a dining room on the ground floor, uncovered a brick fireplace in the first-floor front parlor, moved a wall to create an upstairs bathroom and installed new heating, wiring and plumbing.

The work is still far from complete, and Mr. Holland comments ruefully that "money is the big problem." His salary as Mayor is \$15,000. There has also been the complication of his having had to spend three weeks in the hospital re-

the group's 68th annual convention in Chicago last week.

A resolution adopted almost unanimously by delegates from all sections of the country called for an end to racial discrimination

covering from an operation.

Relations between the Hollands and their neighbors--Negroes live on one side and whites on the other--have been "the normal ones that exist in a city," the Mayor says.

"We don't drop in on each other for coffee," he explains, "but we speak when we meet and everyone has been very friendly."

The prospects for the area have brightened with its inclusion in an urban renewal plan. Structurally acceptable buildings will not be demolished. A local businessman recently bought the house four doors from the Hollands and promised to remodel it as a "demonstration."

in education and job opportunity in the strongest terms ever approved by the national PTA. It said:

"We believe that some children because of their race or color or creed, suffer injustices and inequality of education opportunities and inequality of work opportunities, and we are compelled by conscience and conviction to right these wrongs through just and peaceful solution."

The resolution further pledged the national PTA to "put forth ever greater effort to assure that our constitutional guarantees of human dignity, freedom and opportunity will prevail for all children."

Another resolution approved by convention delegates said that "responsibility in spiritual matters properly belongs with the home and church" and urged PTA members "to accept their responsibilities in these matters."

WRIGHT ELECTION MAKES HISTORY

MARION (TONY) WRIGHT, 16-year-old honor student, has been elected President of the 65-piece, prize-winning Las Vegas High School "Wildcat Band" for next year. School authorities said young Wright was the first Negro to be so honored by his fellow band members.

A talented pianist, organist and saxophone player who can belt out a hot lick on the drums, Tony also is accompanist for the well-known Upperettes, a girls choral group at the Upper Room Church of God in Christ, and a member of the newly organized Holy Boys, a folk and spiritual music quartet.

Tony carried a B-plus average during the past school year. Following his graduation from Las Vegas High next May, he intends to major in languages in college while preparing to become a teacher. He would like to attend the University of Denver because "I was impressed by the school when the Upperettes performed in Colorado last year."

A pianist since his kindergarten days, Tony hopes to continue his musical career in college if his studies permit. He also likes track, but finds little time for athletics due to his other extra-curricular activities. His favorite entertainment personalities are pianist Lee Liberace and Los Angeles organist Billy Preston.

Young Wright is looking forward to working with the new Director of the Las Vegas High Band, Donald Graviet, formerly of K.O. Knudson Junior High. Graviet takes over from A. B. Larson, who resigned this month after many years of service.

Tony is the seventh-born of nine children of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Wright and lives at home with his parents, four brothers and one sister. He has two other brothers and another sister.

Psychology, Courtesy Stressed in Policing

ADVANTAGES THAT MAY be derived from the use of psychology and common courtesy in police work were stressed during a recent Human Relations Training session conducted at North Las Vegas Civil Defense headquarters.

Dr. Heinz Rettig, Nevada Executive Director for the National Conference of Christians and Jews, conducted the session, which was organized by North Las Vegas Chief of Police Nicholas Janise. About 50 members of the police, fire and other city departments participated in the program.

After discussing various peculiarities and traits of the many ethnic backgrounds with which public employees must deal, Dr. Rettig utilized several policemen to demonstrate how law enforcement officers may better handle problems where civil rights are involved.

"Police weapons and methods involve more than guns and clubs," Dr. Rettig pointed out. "They should include basic psychology and common courtesy."

Cautioning against "generalizing about minorities", Dr. Rettig cited the contributions of different racial and nationalistic groups to mo-

(see "Dr. RETTIG" page 3)