

(SEMINAR, from page 1)

agency, conceived in 1959 by then Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson, is designed to provide assistance in solving civil rights problems on the local level and provided in Title X of the new law.

"The law specifies that our findings must be held in strict confidence," Heilborn said. "This permits witnesses to voice their true convictions and to give testimony without fear of adverse publicity or recrimination."

Heilborn said his group attempts to create a common meeting ground to eliminate a "void in communication" between different racial groups and has been particularly gratified by the cooperation extended by business men.

He explained that the agency attempts to

function along three basic lines; through conciliation, by probing for causes, and through public meetings to discuss problems and seek remedies. He further stated that in areas where there are no public accommodation laws, local courts can refer cases directly to the Community Relations Service.

HEILBORN ALSO touched on Title II of the new law, which bans racial discrimination by motels, hotels and restaurants. This section was challenged in federal court by a Georgia motel and Alabama restaurant, but was declared constitutional in a unanimous decision of the U.S. Supreme Court only last Monday.

Conference workshops on employment, education, housing and the administration of justice were chaired by Dr. Heinz Rettig, state executive director for the National Conference of Christians and Jews; Dr. Irving Katz, Nevada Advisory committee, USCCR; Earle White, Jr., Assistant Counsel, Southwest Gas Corp., and Leslie B. Gray, Vice Chairman, Nevada Advisory Committee, USCCR.

Following the luncheon, which was featured by an address by Mayor Herman Goldner of St. Petersburg, Fla., chairman of the Community Relations Commission of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, workshop reports were submitted to the general assembly.

Other reports were made by Bob Bailey, chairman of the Nevada Civil Rights Commission; the Rev. Mathews and Deutsch.

In his introductory remarks to the "What Next" wrapup session, Dr. West said:

"Laws are not self implementary. Public law can regulate a man's actions to some extent, but a law in itself will not control his thinking, nor his attitudes--particularly in those areas where the climate of racial differences has become a heritage as strongly ingrained as fetish religion.

"People have defied laws which prohibit gambling, embezzlement, bribery, prostitution, restraint of trade, illegal sale of drugs and intoxicants, among others. Why not, then, defiance of a civil rights law?"

IN AMPLIFYING his suggestion for the necessity of creating a "climate for acceptance" of the Federal Civil Rights Act, Dr. West said:

"As we formulate solutions, we must be constantly aware of skepticism on the part of the minority and unwillingness to conform on the part of a defiant segment of the majority. We must devise some feasible approach to narrowing the gap between the two groups. Mutual,

reciprocal understanding is a fundamental foundation upon which all the rest must be constructed if we are to realize 'The Great Society'. Education is in the field of solution, but the exact techniques must be devised.

"Solution through education must be sought out and put to work not merely in the establishment of learning, but in every facet of our daily lives. We must have a constant program of education in human relations in the home, on the job, in the schools and churches, in the streets, in places of public gathering and public accommodation--in all places where men meet men face to face.

"The problem areas remain the same today as they were yesterday. They are to be found in employment, public schools, public accommodation, housing, voting and the administration of justice. Solution to these problems must be uniform and complete. The end result will benefit both sides involved by creating a nation that will be stronger because of its new-found unity and because of a sense of national pride freed from a troubled image.

"Perhaps an approach worthy of consideration would be to play upon each man's sense of patriotism. Where do we begin?"

During the general discussion that followed, Lt. Gov. Paul Laxalt said he did not feel there was a present need for implementary civil rights legislation on the state level. He said he was keeping an open mind on the subject and may change his opinion if he could be convinced by authentic documentation of civil rights violations in Nevada.

Chairman Bailey of the Nevada Equal Rights Commission retorted by calling attention to the fact that he had thoroughly investigated many fully documented cases of rights violations and had reported them to the state legislature. He suggested that if Laxalt was interested, he would find plenty of substantiating evidence if he took the time to review the commission's reports.



WINDSOR PARK -- Mrs. Daisy Hawkins exchanges greetings with salesman Ray Harris as she inspects progress on her new home in Windsor Park. Hawkins children (from left) are Donna, Patricia, Frank and Arietha. Almost all homes in original 476-house unit are sold but second unit is scheduled for development early in new year. Planned community will include school site, church and 21-acre shopping center. (See adv. this page)

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