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Feb. 25th

Brotherhood True Expression of Americanism

"To Bind Up The Nation's Wounds . . ." — Lincoln



Courtesy: Lou Grant
Oakland Tribune, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD WEEK, sponsored annually by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, is now being observed throughout the country. In calling upon all Americans to "renew their religious commitments and rededicate their lives to our democratic heritage of freedom and equality for all," NCCJ president Lewis Webster Jones points out that "both brotherhood and democracy are continuing practices—they only have validity when carried on throughout every week of every year." Noting that the theme for this year's Brotherhood Week is "Brotherhood—Democracy at Work", Mr. Jones directs attention to the fact: "Americans are faced in greater or lesser degree with the problem of diversity; people of different racial, religious and cultural backgrounds who must learn to live together in peace and justice." Toward this end, he suggests the use of the following "yardstick" composed by Harold W. Ruopp to determine

WHAT IS AN AMERICAN?

AN AMERICAN is one who believes in the right of men and women of whatever creed, class, color or ancestry, to live as human beings with the dignity becoming the children of God.

AN AMERICAN is one who believes in the right to be free; free not only from crushing coercions and dictatorships and regimentation, but free for that way of life where men may think and speak as they choose and worship God as they see fit.

AN AMERICAN is one who believes in the right to vote, the right to work, the right to learn, the right to live, and—what is equally important—in the right to be different; for he knows that if we ever lose the right to be different we lose the right to be free.

AN AMERICAN is one who believes in democracy, not only for himself but for all his fellow-Americans. By democracy he means not simply the rule of the majority

but the rights of minorities; and those minorities have rights, not because they are minorities, but because they are human beings.

AN AMERICAN is one who believes in the responsibility of privilege. What he asks for himself, he is willing to grant to others; what he demands from others, he is willing to give himself. His creed is not alone, "Live and let live," but "Live and help live."

AN AMERICAN is one who acts from faith in others, not fear of others; from understanding, not prejudice; from good will, not hatred. To bigotry he gives no sanction; to intolerance no support.

The only question THE TRUE AMERICAN ever asks is not, Are you a Protestant or Catholic, Gentile or Jew, white or colored, but, Are you an American? If you are, then give me your hand, for I am an American too.

Compromise Rights Bill OK'd

LAS VEGAS

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VOICE

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LAS VEGAS LEADERS OFFER "RELUCTANT" AB-384 APPROVAL

A NEW, STRONGER state civil rights bill, incorporating certain recommendations of the State Equal Rights Commission headed by Las Vegas businessman Bob Bailey and details contained in a bill drafted by Las Vegas attorney Earle White for several civil rights groups, is expected to reach the floor of the State Assembly within a few days.

Passage of the proposed act, labeled AB-384, is virtually assured according to expert observers in Carson City, although some opposition to certain provisions is expected to develop in Assembly and Senate debate.

The new measure was introduced in the Assembly last week by Las Vegas Democrats Mel Close Jr., chairman of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, and Majority Leader Vernon Bunker. It is designed as a compromise between an administration-backed bill, AB-159, previously introduced by a bi-partisan coalition that included Close and Bunker, and the White bill sponsored by the Las Vegas NAACP in collaboration with the Southern Nevada Human Relations commission and other civil rights groups throughout the state.

Reaction to the new bill among civil rights leaders in Southern Nevada was generally favorable, although several were quick to note that it falls considerably short of the proposals contained in the White bill. Most of those backing a still stronger bill seemed reconciled to the fact that AB-384 appeared to be as far as the present Legislature would go in enacting civil rights legislation of any kind.

Bailey, whose commission had been severely criticized in some quarters for endorsing AB-159 "with reservations," apparently considered general, if reluctant, acceptance of AB-384 as a vindication of his commission's stand regarding AB-159.

"I AM HAPPY to see that some of those who



FIRST HAND REPORT—John P. West (left), newly appointed General Manager of Las Vegas VOICE (see story this page), and Mrs. Eileen Brookman, prominent local clubwoman and civil rights worker, discuss national scene with U.S. Sen. Alan Bible during recent press conference at Las Vegas Press Club. Sen. Bible said he was "gratified by growing signs of widespread compliance with national Civil Rights Act of 1964," for which he voted.

wanted to go for broke with a bill that had little or no chance of passage have finally faced the facts of political life," Bailey said. "No, one is more concerned with getting the strongest possible civil rights law enacted than myself. But we must curb our emotions, face reality and get something on the books that will serve as the nucleus for a more satisfactory law in the future."

Although AB-384, like AB-159, does not mention private housing, it was indicated that a separate bill aimed at prohibiting discrimination in this area is now being framed along the lines of a New York State law and will be introduced in Carson City within 20 days. The

(See NEW BILL, page 11)

John West Appointed Top VOICE Executive

JOHN P. WEST, 25, a graduate of the University of Colorado and recently discharged veteran of three years service in the United States Army, has been named to supervise business operations of the Las Vegas VOICE in the capacity of general manager.

Mr. West's appointment, effective immediately, was announced by his father, Dr. Charles I. West, owner and publisher of the VOICE. The new newspaper executive, a bachelor, resides with his parents at their home in Bonanza Village.

A native of Los Angeles, Mr. West attended schools in Easthampton, Mass., Washington, D. C. and Los Angeles before entering newly established Rancho High here for the final years of his secondary education.

At Williston Junior School in Easthampton, a school his father had previously attended, young West was an honor student and captained both the football and basketball teams. At Rancho High, he was vice president of the student body and captain of the football team, earning recognition as all-Nevada quarterback in his senior year.

Following his graduation from the University of Colorado, where he earned his Bachelor or Arts degree in psychology (he has since completed several hours toward a master's degree) and was a member of Phi Sigma Delta Fraternity, Mr. West took his basic army training at Ft. Ord, Calif.

After serving as a clinical psychologist at Ft. Carson, Colorado, for about a year and a half, he was transferred to Okinawa, where he was the only U.S. Army psychologist at that Pacific base for some 16 months. Upon his honorable discharge from the service, he was presented with a letter of commendation and appreciation from his commanding officer, Col. Clark B. Williams, for his outstanding work as a counsellor to the U.S. armed forces on Okinawa.