

**VOICE READERS COMPRISE a \$30,000,000 MARKET**

# EDITORIAL

## Big Wind Blew and the Rain Came

"INTO EACH LIFE some rain must fall..."

And so it is with the VOICE, which has basked in the warm sunshine of public approbation (or so it would seem) during most of its comparatively short existence. At least, until last week, letters received from readers had been highly complimentary, even flattering. It was all most inspiring. Those who disapproved of our editorial policies or the content of our news stories didn't bother to tell us so in writing. But all that is ended now. Last week the rain came.

It came in the form of a somewhat puzzling letter from Mr. Charles L. Kellar, a resident of West Las Vegas. Mr. Kellar's letter follows:

"The Las Vegas VOICE, of which you are the editor, published on February 25th an article in which it alluded to an alleged quotation by me on page 11 thereof. In the first place the Las Vegas VOICE never requested nor received any quotation from me and I never made any such statement as was set out in your newspaper.

"Although this newspaper has in the past several months made publication of alleged quotations made by me, I have tried to disregard it, but I could not let this go unchallenged because it is so diametrically opposed to my philosophy. I don't know what the motive was in alluding such a quotation to me, but I do want to set the record straight and say that I did not make such an assertion. If you desire to print this letter, please set out that the statement I would have made if I had been quoted is the following:

"I have lived almost 55 years and during that period of time I have learned that compromises are often necessary. When compromises do not destroy one's principle, practicability often requires compromise. AB-384 does not mention housing, one of the most serious areas affecting Negro life and which accounts for most of the de facto segregation to which the Negro is subjected in Nevada, but would advance Negro life in the areas covered. Since housing is promised in a separate measure, passage of AB-384 would assist in integrating the Negro into life in Nevada on a more equal basis and to that extent is indicative of some progress."

"Your reply will be appreciated.

"Very truly yours,

(signed)

"Charles L. Kellar"

FOR THE INFORMATION of those who may not be familiar with the article to which Mr. Kellar refers, it dealt with local reaction to introduction of a so-called "compromise" civil rights bill (AB-384) in the State Assembly. The article mentioned, in part, that: "Several prominent civil rights leaders discussed AB-384 on a local TV panel show last Sunday conducted by the Rev. P. S. Walker..." and goes on to explain that Mr. Kellar was one of four panelists who participated.

After pointing out that each panelist expressed regret that certain desirable features

signed to "persuade" South Africa to relax its racial policies.

Warning that the effectiveness of its suggestions would depend upon universal support and application, the Brazilian-Bolivian report listed the following possible actions:

- 1) A total trade embargo.
- 2) An embargo on petroleum products.
- 3) An embargo on arms, ammunition, military vehicles and equipment.
- 4) An embargo on emigration of technicians and skilled workers to South Africa.
- 5) Political sanctions, such as withdrawal of diplomatic recognition.

Noting that a total blockade would be costly to some nations, the report suggested it might be necessary to share the cost. Some experts favored a partial blockade affecting vulnerable areas, such as the oil trade. Possible enforcement machinery under the United Nations also was discussed.

A trade embargo recommended by the United Nations General Assembly in 1963 apparently proved ineffective, largely due to resistance by Asians and Africans,

of a civil rights bill sponsored by the Las Vegas NAACP, which Mr. Kellar helped draft, had been omitted in AB-384, the article reported that the panelists "seemed agreed that the new measure (AB-384) 'is the best we can get at this time,' as (panelist M. William) Deutsch expressed it."

Mr. Kellar was then quoted as saying (on the TV panel show):

"I'm almost 55 and I've suffered so much in my lifetime that I'm just about ready to go along with anything that is an improvement. If we can get this bill passed, that will be progress. At least we're getting some cooperation from the whites. But it's only a beginning."

Now here is our reply to Mr. Kellar's letter:

First off, we must agree with Mr. Kellar that the VOICE "never requested... any quotation from me," but we most certainly did "receive" a quotation from Mr. Kellar. It came over the air waves loud and clear, and there wasn't any doubt about Mr. Kellar doing the talking, because there he was on the TV screen with his voice perfectly synchronized to the movement of his lips.

The aforementioned TV panel show on which Mr. Kellar appeared was "covered" for the VOICE by an experienced reporter who took notes as the program progressed. When we received Mr. Kellar's letter challenging the veracity of the VOICE report, we immediately attempted to obtain a tape of the show. Much to our regret, we were informed by the TV station that presented the program that the show had not been taped or otherwise transcribed for future reference.

In the absence of a verbatim transcript of Mr. Kellar's remarks on the show and lacking acceptable evidence that his remarks were misquoted in the VOICE--and with all due respect for Mr. Kellar's denials--the VOICE finds it necessary to stand committed on its own report as published.

IT OCCURS TO US that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of VOICE readers heard Mr. Kellar's remarks on the Rev. Walker's TV show of February 21. Although we realize that it would be difficult for many who saw and heard the show to recall exactly what Mr. Kellar said on that occasion, we are persuaded to leave it up to those who listened in to decide for themselves if the VOICE did Mr. Kellar an injustice. To them we say, examine the two versions of Mr. Kellar's remarks printed on this page--the VOICE's and Mr. Kellar's own--and then judge for yourselves which comes closest to your recollection of what Mr. Kellar said.

Close examination of the two versions may point up the most puzzling aspect of Mr. Kellar's complaint, to wit: In what essential respect do the two versions differ? Where are the views attributed to Mr. Kellar in the VOICE quotation "diametrically opposed" to his "philosophy" as expressed in his own statement?

It would seem to us that Mr. Kellar's statement merely elaborates on the VOICE quotation, which most certainly was not represented to be a complete text of everything Mr. Kellar said on the TV program. If Mr. Kellar was miffed because we did not quote his views on the need for housing legislation, we hasten to point out that the VOICE article specifically noted that "EACH panelist expressed regret that certain

(See EDITORIAL, page 12)



## AFRICA in Today's World

By DR. CHARLES I. WEST

AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, self-serving opportunism by some Communist-leaning African nations continues to jeopardize the effectiveness of the boycott imposed upon the Republic of South Africa by the Organization of African Unity.

Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania last week all complained to the OAU that while they were sustaining severe economic losses through their support of the boycott, certain Communist-oriented countries were trading with South Africa to their great advantage.

Kenya was particularly bitter in its denunciation of OAU members "and others" who are succumbing to overtures by the white supremacy government in Pretoria, pointing out that Kenya may be suffering from the boycott worse than the intended target of the trade embargo.

As signs of dissension among OAU members increased, a committee of experts told the United Nations Security Council that economic sanctions such as a trade blockade might be effective in compelling South Africa to alter its obnoxious racial policies.

However, the committee, which adopted the report by 6 to 4, carefully qualified its conclusion by admitting it was impossible to estimate how effective economic pressures would prove or how long it would take to make them felt. The committee includes representatives from 10 of the 11 Security Council members.

Debate on South Africa's policy of apartheid or racial separation is expected to be resumed in the Security Council this month. The experts' findings are almost certain to arouse new controversy.

IRONICALLY, OAU insistence on a tough stand against South Africa, a demand which has been backed by the Soviet Union, has placed the United States and Britain in awkward positions. Both have joined in the attack on apartheid, but are reluctant to go along with all-out sanctions. Both have banned arms shipments to South Africa, but Britain remains South Africa's principal trading partner and the United States ranks second.

Although the United States and Britain were among the six nations voting to adopt the committee's conclusions, both claim they do not regard this as obligating them to specific action. They contend such action must be ordered by the Security Council.

France, the 11th Council member, declined to send a representative to the study group's 37 meetings, claiming the sanctions project amounted to interference in South Africa's internal affairs.

The committee's report, drafted by Brazil and Bolivia, was adopted after two other reports had been rejected. One of these was a tougher report drafted by the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia that contended a trade embargo and other punitive measures were completely practical.

ANOTHER REPORT, offered by Morocco and the Ivory Coast, had expressed confidence in a blockade. The Brazilian-Bolivian draft implied that a blockade might stiffen South African resistance.

Scandinavian countries had tried to steer the study toward a compromise between the "harsh" African demands and Western doubts about the feasibility of an embargo. The study grew out of a Council resolution last June de-

## LAS VEGAS Voice

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