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# Parents! If This Applies to You, Act Accordingly

CONTINUED COMMUNITY COOPERATION with the Clark County school district's semi-annual Federal Survey program has been urgently requested by Chester Sewell, president of the local board of education. Survey forms again will be distributed to school children throughout the county tomorrow, April 9.

Parents residing or employed on federal land or property are advised to ask their children for these forms as soon as they arrive home from school tomorrow. The cards should be filled out and signed immediately for return to school authorities.

"The importance of this project as a money-saver to all taxpayers cannot be overestimated," Sewell said, pointing out that each eligible card reduces local taxes by a minimum of \$109 and may be worth up to \$1,400 in federal reimbursement to the school district.

Noting that more than 98 per cent of Clark

County is in the public domain (federally owned or controlled) and therefore not subject to local property taxes, Sewell said:

"This situation has been recognized by the federal government through enactment of public laws which provide school districts with building, maintenance and operational funds to at least partially compensate for the loss of revenue from those living and/or working on federal property that can not be taxed at the local level."

THE MAGNITUDE OF THE RELIEF available to the local school district through this method of reimbursement was vividly demonstrated by the first survey of the current school year, held last October, according to Sewell. That survey showed that parents of 11,762 students, about 21.6 per cent of the total school enrollment, were employed or living on the public domain. The allocation of many thousands of dollars in federal funds to the county school

program will be based on those figures.

Sewell explained that all survey cards properly filled out and signed by parents and returned to school authorities are closely inspected by government auditors to determine the amount of relief due the school district. He emphasized that employment or residence on federal land or property is the basis for eligibility regardless of whether parents of school children derive income from federal employment or government projects.

At least two district elementary schools planned for opening in the fall are expected to receive substantial federal support. The most recently constructed local schools built with the help of federal funds were Paul Culley Elementary and Frank Garside Junior High. The government's contribution to both schools was \$1.6 million compared with \$526,000 by the school district.

# FAIR HOUSING NEXT

## VISTA Raps Self-Aid Set-up

# LAS VEGAS Voice 10¢

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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Thursday, April 8, 1965

### Rights Leaders Map Plans for 1967 Drive

AS NEVADA NEGROES this week savored the sweet taste of honey contained in a new state law that prohibits discrimination in public accommodations and employment, many leaders in the colored community here were eagerly looking forward to the next session of the State Legislature in 1967 and destruction of the last formidable barrier to equality under the law through passage of a "fair housing" act.

It didn't take long to launch the big drive toward the "promised land" of complete emancipation for Nevada's colored community after Gov. Grant Sawyer formally signed a bill last Monday that gave Nevada its first Civil Rights Law.

Gov. Sawyer's signature was barely dry on the historic document before important figures in the state civil rights movement and powerful political forces in Carson City got together in a strategy session that included a discussion of preliminary plans for the introduction of "fair-housing" legislation two years hence.

In signing the Close-Bunker bill into law, Gov. Sawyer sounded the keynote for the final push to round out effective legal protection for colored people in this state when he called the new law "one of the greatest legislative landmarks in the history of Nevada."

IN A PREVIOUS STATEMENT, the Governor left no doubt as to where he stood by saying:

"I know I speak for the people of Nevada in congratulating the legislature for its favorable action on A.B. 404, the 1965 Civil Rights Act.

"The legislature, through its leadership and sense of public responsibility, has decided upon a course of action that will guarantee equality to all our citizens in the areas of employment and public accommodations. Surely this is not an unreasonable guarantee. The right of every man to be treated with dignity and fairness is essential to the preservation of democracy.

"The vote in both houses of the legislature clearly demonstrates that civil rights is not a partisan matter in Nevada. We realize the responsibility of securing constitutionally-



CITY CAGE QUEENS--These young ladies are members of The Vegans team that swept to victory in the City Women's Basketball League during the past season with a 6-0 record. Seated (from left): Cecilia Dawson, Coach Etta Bass and Dorothy Williams. Standing (from left): Myrna Lowenthal, Josephine Tugwell, Maggie Jingles and Gloria McGiness. Not pictured are Joy Eden, Barbara Tyson and Patti Mueller. Team represented Louis Knowles Chevron Station.

guaranteed freedoms must be shared by all of us.

"This, to be sure, will not signal an immediate end to the isolated pockets of discrimination and bigotry in Nevada, but it will bring us closer to a common goal."

Prominent Las Vegans who traveled to Carson City last Monday to watch the Governor affix his signature to the new law included Robert Reid, Bob Bailey, Earle White, J. David Hoggard Sr. and Jr., Woodrow Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Fitzgerald, Charles Kellar, Rev. Marion Bennett, Rev. P. S. Walker, E. C. Lofton, Rev. J. L. Simmons, Rev. I. W. Wilson, Edna Perkins and Al Landsman among others.

### ADAIR CLAIMS LAW FLOUTED

A WAR ON POVERTY WORKER from Florida who has been on the local scene since Feb. 28, this week strongly recommended that the Operation Independence program in West Las Vegas be brought under more direct control of local people at the earliest opportunity.

In a letter to VOICE publisher Dr. Charles I. West, Robert Wells Adair said that federal funds allocated to the local program and now being used for salary payments to persons from outside the immediate area should go to local residents.

Adair, a Volunteer In Service To America (VISTA), is presently serving as director of the Operations Independence library at Balzar and Concord sts. He emphasized that his conclusions and recommendations were his own, and did not necessarily reflect the opinions of "my sponsor, my supervisor, or any other persons."

Speaking as a "taxpayer," Adair called for strict observance of a federal requirement that federally-financed programs such as Operation Independence be "developed, conducted, and administered with the maximum feasible participation of residents of the areas (affected) and members of the groups served; . . ."

Adair, who receives \$50 a month as a VISTA worker, claimed that although ostensible control of Operation Independence has lately been shifted from the Reno-based Nevada Tuberculosis and Health Association to the newly created Economic Opportunities Board for Clark County, there has been little actual change in administrative control.

He said that although the two most recent project proposals submitted to Washington stated that Operation Independence was to become an

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**Nevada Civil Rights Law  
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