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LAS VEGAS VOICE

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AFRICA in Today's World

By DR. CHARLES I. WEST

PORTUGAL'S STUBBORN ATTEMPTS to preserve "white-man rule" over its rich African colonies of Angola and Mozambique con-tinues to pose tough problems for the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity-and Portugal.

Liberation movements by native African elements in both colonies have been singularly unsuccessful thus far. While the British, French and Belgians have been steadily liquidating their African empires in accordance with United Nations resolutions and manifestos calling for "self-determination" in the government of colonial possessions, the Portuguese have doggedly resisted all overtures and efforts to have them abandon control of Angola and Mozambique.

Early this month, the rebel forces of Holden Roberto, self-styled president of the Angolan revolutionary government in exile, apparently were dealt a smashing defeat as they surged across the Angolan border from the Congo (Leopoldville). A few ragged bands of Roberto's followers are reported to be still lurking in the deep forests of northwestern Angola. But the south-west Africa colony is said to be generally "normal," with Angolans, black and white, busily tending their coffee crops and preparing for a bumper harvest.

Roberto, an Angolan of the border-straddling Bakongo tribe, first launched his "liberation campaign'' in March of 1961 with one of the most savage massacres in modern African history. Hundreds of Angolan farmers, their wives and children with them, were hacked to pieces, brutally mutilated or burned to death. Blacks and whites alike fell before Roberto's fanatical followers.

Portuguese retaliation was far from gentle as troops streamed down from Europe. They quickly turned northern Angola into an armed camp, laced with strong garrisons, landing strips and ruthless road patrols. Intermittent clashes have continued ever since, right up to this month, but it now appears that only a major military effort can dislodge the Portuguese. It is unlikely that any such major drive could be mounted in the Congo of Moise Tshombe.

The Organization of African Unity pledged support to Roberto as soon as it was founded in 1963. But the promised financial and military assistance failed to materialize on any significant scale according to Roberto.

The area around Carmona, which became headquarters for the Portuguese troops, white and black, has resumed its old coffee-plantation ways according to reliable reports. Weeds are rowing a foot high out of sandbags piled up at the airport. Tall elephant grass lines the roads out of town. Nobody seems to worry about the cover it affords terrorists. But Carmona will never be able to sink back into the old days of indifference to the outside world and the aspirations of the Angolans. Portuguese officials, who insist that Angola's 480.000 square miles are just as much Portuguese soil as Lisbon, now realize that eternal vigilance is the price they must pay for continued control of the colony. In the capital city of Luanda, construction reportedly trebled in 1964. The brick factory has been unable to meet the demand and new factories are going up. New copper ore deposits have been found in southern Angola, Krupp interests are putting \$40 million into the mining

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

Responsibility First Requisite for Authority

IN A RECENT MESSAGE to the senior class of Las Vegas High School, United States Sen. Howard W. Cannon of Nevada urged today's students to "at least consider politics as a part-time job, if not as a full-time vocation." Describing public service as a "rich and re-warding experience," the former Las Vegas city attorney told his teen-aged listeners that politics "needs your kind if it is to benefit our town, our state and our nation.'

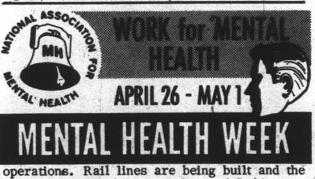
We assume that when the senator says that politics "needs your kind," he is referring to that vast majority in the whole body of American youth that represents progressive-moderation in thought and deed; that cherishes the best traditions of this nation but is not afraid to disavow and cast aside the bugaboos and prejudices that have hampered fulfillment of the American dream as set forth in the Constitution of the United States and such great American documents as Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the Declaration of Independence.

WE ARE CERTAIN that Sen. Cannon does not feel that politics "needs" those compara-tively few young people who are steeped in unreasoning bias and callous indifference to the legitimate aspirations of less fortunate fellow human beings. One such misinformed youth, obviously parroting the ill-considered opinion of thoughtless elders with whom he has associated, recently was quoted in the local press as saying, 'You can't legislate against bigotry.'

(Anyone who feels you cannot legislate against bigotry must necessarily feel that you cannot --and therefore should not--legislate against ava-rice, greed and sloth. If this be true, why should we pass laws to prohibit thievery in its various forms?)

We further assume that by "your kind," the senator does not mean those small segments of American youth who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner; who refuse to respect those in authority who deserve respect, be they parents, teachers or law enforcement officers.

BASING OUR CONCURRENCE with the senator's views on these assumptions, we most heartily agree with his auspiciously-timed plea to the younger generation. Now, as never before in history, this nation needs enlightened poli-tical leadership at every level of government. This need will increase as the complex problems of the social and industrial revolutions in which we are presently involved become more acute. So it is not too early for the responsible high school and college students of today to



Atlantic ports of Mocamedes and Lobito are being expanded to handle exports.

Meanwhile, directly east across Africa on

become actively interested in politics.

An intelligent approach to better government through wise political leadership is imperative if this nation is to endure, much less prosper. As Sen. Cannon points out, "life is governed at every turn by public officials in high and low positions, and when government fails, ignorance prevails, leading to domestic chaos and even international catastrophe. If public officials fail, the country fails."

Sen. Cannon told the local students they should avail themselves of the new opportunities in higher education open to them as a result of recent congressional action. He said more college facilities are being constructed, in-cluding greatly expanded libraries and scientific laboratories, than ever before. More housing is available, more scholarships and loans.

ADMITTING THAT ALL, or most, of these federally-supported school-aid programs are in some way controversial, eliciting unstinting. praise from some and charges of "federal control" by others, Sen. Cannon suggested that "somewhere between these two extremes lies the truth and the path of wisdom and moderation we seek to follow.'

Naturally, all of us wish to avoid federal control of education and the Congress must see that this never happens. But if this nation is to keep pace with its rivals for leadership in the Space Age--and meet the challenge of ideologies foreign to our traditions -- we must expand our educational base for higher learning and achievement. After that, it is up to the youth of America to take advantage of the facilities and opportunities provided.

Sen. Cannon concluded his remarks to the students by referring to an admonition attrib-uted to Thomas Jefferson: "If you expect a nation to be ignorant and free, you will expect what never was and never will be." No truer words were ever spoken. IT IS NO SECRET that after the extremists

of the far right failed to parlay their capture of the Republican party into subjugation of the nation at the polls last November, they decided the best way to attain political domination in the future was by "infiltrating" school systems and the public press. These tactics have been used successfully by extremists of the left and right in other countries.

It is just as important for American youth interest itself in preserving a moderate political climate, into which the conservative and liberal viewpoints may be blended, as it is to advance our technological and cultural knowledge. Proper employment of politics, the science or art of political government, is of no less importance to a balanced society than the development of other sciences and arts.

Our high school and college students of today most certainly should "at least consider politics as a part-time job, if not as a full-time voca-tion." Intelligent politicians and an intelligent electorate are necessary to prevent the sub-version of our school systems and informational media by opportunists of the extreme right or left.

History teaches us that extreme conservatism can stagnate and extreme liberalism debauch, whereas progressive-moderation and intelligence work hand-in-hand for the better-

the Indian Ocean, the Mozambique Liberation Front of Dr. Eduardo Mondlane also seems to be making little headway in its plans to impose black rule on Portugal's other wealthy African colony.

Dr. Mondlane, an intellectual and former United Nations official, proclaimed a "general armed insurrection in Mozambique," last October. Nothing much happened immediately, but since Jan. 1, Portuguese officials admit there have been more than 150 "incidents" on Mozambique soil. An "incident" could be an ambush of troops,

blowing up of installations, burning of an "un-cooperative" native village, kidnapping of un-rebellious chiefs and tribesmen or other acts of terrorism. (See AFRICA, page 13)

ment of mankind.

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