

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

# EDITORIAL

## School Board Deserves Commendation

WE EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS to the enlightened majority on the seven-member Clark County school board that has made it possible for the local school district to give some 350 underprivileged children in this area a better chance to enter school next fall on an equal footing with their more fortunate contemporaries.

Two weeks ago it looked like "Project Head Start," the nation-wide pre-school program for youngsters from sub-standard cultural environments, was dead in Clark County. At least for this summer. But that's all changed now, thanks to board members Chester Sewell and Walter McCall, who last week joined Dr. C. W. Woodbury and Dell Robinson to reverse the board's shocking disapproval of the program one week earlier.

As explained here last Thursday, the board's short-sighted action of May 27 came when board members Eloise Blue, Helen Cannon and George Wilkinson outvoted Dr. Woodbury and Robinson during the enforced absences of Chairman Sewell and McCall. With time a virtually important factor in properly launching the program this summer, Dr. Leland Newcomer, the superintendent of schools, and other supporters of the project figured they had a "dead horse" on their hands.

IN FACT, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the May 27 meeting, Dr. Newcomer and his top aide in setting up the program, Dr. Leslie Shuck, were forced to notify the 30-odd teachers and other staff members who had signed for the seven-week session starting June 28 that their services would not be needed.

"It was the only fair thing to do," Dr. Newcomer said. "Some of these people were counting on vacation employment to bolster their incomes and when it looked like the pre-school program here was dead, we had to give them a chance to make other arrangements."

However, Dr. Newcomer and Dr. Shuck failed to reckon with the determination of board members Sewell, Woodbury, Robinson and McCall to implement the program this summer with the help of \$53,131 in federal funds already allocated. (They knew the cost to the county would be practically nil.) So these gentlemen proceeded to override the Blue-Cannon-Wilkinson bloc at last week's special meeting, reinstated the program and instructed Dr. Newcomer to go through with the project even though the week's delay will make the program slightly more expensive and somewhat less effective than originally anticipated.

We are satisfied that any added expense now necessary to conduct the pre-school training program this summer is justified. And we are confident that Dr. Newcomer and Dr. Shuck will be able to reassemble a competent staff of teachers, aides, psychologists and social workers to get the job done.

MAY WE AGAIN POINT OUT that Dr. Newcomer will present several other student-aid programs, similar to "Project Head Start" in many respects, to the school board at tonight's regular meeting of that body. These programs are of especial importance to West Las Vegas

children. We suggest that as many parents as possible attend tonight's meeting, scheduled for 7:30 in the school district administrative offices at 2832 East Flamingo Rd. Dr. Newcomer and the more forward-looking members of the board are entitled to all the moral and, if necessary, vocal support they can command in their efforts to give all our Clark County children a first-class education.

As a matter of fact, it would be a good idea if all civic organizations in West Las Vegas appointed a committee of from five to ten members to attend ALL regular meetings of the school board on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

## "Boiler Room" Operators Invade Local Carpet Field

HERE'S A WORD OF WARNING to all you new (or prospective) home owners in West Las Vegas: Beware of "carpet-bagging" carpet salesmen operating out of "boiler rooms!"

We understand this ancient con game, once practiced with great skill by unscrupulous purveyors of phony stock, is now costing residents of this area plenty in cash and headaches. But there's one way the customer can always beat the slickers: "Before you Invest--Investigate!"

These "boiler room" operators bait the trap for unsuspecting carpet buyers with various time-tested methods. One is the newspaper ad that offers "complete, wall-to-wall" carpeting at a ridiculously low price, perhaps with one or more "bonus" articles thrown in as an additional "come-on." Since many of these "firms" have no showrooms, the tip-off could be an invitation to call a telephone number. The other end of the line may be an answering service or a cheaply furnished "boiler room"--probably without a carpet on the floor.

Another is the girl phone solicitor with the pleasant voice. She will call you from the "boiler room" with nothing more on the table in front of her than a scratch pad, a glass of water and a long "sucker list." It is her job to open your door to the fast-talking, high-pressure salesman. In some of these operations, 75 per cent of all customer-contacts are made by the girl in the "boiler room."

Then again, your first contact with the "boiler room" gang may be through direct solicitation at your own front door. The guy or gal from the "boiler room" will be mighty persuasive. And they may even have some good-looking "samples" to show you.

Now it's true that legitimate carpet dealers also make attractive offers in newspaper ads and some use telephone and door-to-door solicitors. But just to be on the safe side, be sure you check everything carefully before you sign any papers or plunk down any of your hard-earned cash. The best way to check is through the Better Business Bureau. The local office is at 318 East Charleston Blvd. and the number to call is 382-7268. These people have a list of reputable carpet concerns with whom you can safely deal.

(Incidentally, if you are in the market for any type of floor coverings and you're undecided where to take your business, we recommend advertisers in the VOICE. And you don't have to check our advertisers. We've already checked them for you!)



## AFRICA in Today's World

By ROSCOE DRUMMOND  
(In the Christian Science Monitor)

NAIROBI, Kenya—The most explosive situation in all Africa arises from the white-minority domination of eight African nations in which the overwhelmingly black majorities are denied an effective part in governing their own countries.

The tension is growing, not lessening. Nothing on the horizon suggests that either side of this ominous confrontation is prepared to yield enough to make a tolerable compromise.

If this conflict remains unrelieved and unresolved, it could well draw into its vortex the interests of all the great powers. If battles are to be fought and if blood is going to run—and this cannot be ruled out—it would indeed be a "shot heard round the world."

Here is where the most acute and the most dangerous confrontation of races is in the making:

	Whites	Pct.	Non-whites
Angola	172,500	(3.7)	4,657,920
Mozambique	65,800	(1.1)	5,698,550
Rhodesia	200,000	(4.8)	4,000,000
Basutoland	1,900	(0.3)	638,750
Swaziland	5,900	(2.6)	231,100
Bechuanaland	250	(0.07)	320,400
S. W. Africa	73,460	(16.1)	452,540
So. Africa	3,088,500	(24.1)	12,914,300

Few Americans, I suspect, sense the dimensions and the gravity of this problem. What should most alert the American people is the danger and capacity of the Communist world to enflame this confrontation beyond the limit of containing it. The process of igniting this painful racial injustice is going on in many places in Africa today.

For the Chinese and Soviet Communists the choice is easy: Back to the hilt, regardless of the consequences, the legitimate demand of the African nations for a one-man one-vote rule in all the eight African nations at once, nations where it is denied by the white minority or by the white colonial ruler as in Portuguese-ruled Mozambique and Angola.

For the United States the choice is not so simple. We support the right of the Africans to achieve national independence and government by the con-

sent of the governed, but we don't want to see interracial bloodshed. We would hope to see the white-minority rulers yield greater political rights to the black majority in a peaceful and evolutionary transition.

Whether the influence of the West can turn potential revolution into evolution is very uncertain. If it can't then it is doubtful that the African nations will turn aside the eager willingness of Peking and Moscow to intervene with what results no one can foresee.

As an African official said to me, if one friend refuses help to another, but a third party (meaning China or Russia or both) comes along with aid, it would be only human to be more favorably disposed to the third party than to the friend who has let us down.

The lacerated relations between Tanzania and Portuguese-controlled Mozambique show how near the confrontation is to open conflict.

President Julius Nyerere puts it this way: "Africa, like Europe, Asia, and America, has the right to freedom. We certainly do not wish to threaten Portugal. We wish to live in peace and friendship with her as with all other countries in the world. But we can do this only if Africa's right to be Africa is soon going to be respected."

Nyerere, whose feelings on this issue have the widest and most passionate African support, is clearly seeking to impress upon world opinion that, unless outside diplomatic pressure is successfully exerted on Portugal and the Republic of South Africa, then the last chance of a peaceful solution may soon disappear.

Africans are simply not going to accept an inferior status as either inevitable or long enduring. This means that the great wave of African nationalism and independence will not stop at the present battle line.



# HONOR the FLAG

## FLAG DAY JUNE 14

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