

# from the CAPITOL

By GOV. GRANT SAWYER



THE SHAME of the Los Angeles riot has touched all sections of our country and has shocked the conscience of a nation. The senseless carnage is now history, but fear and suspicion has followed in its wake to infect many communities.

We have learned from Los Angeles that the seeds of discontent may lie near the surface in other communities, waiting to be nurtured by unthinking or designing men.

The atmosphere of apprehension created by hate and violence is made to order for fanatics who would seize the opportunity to spread inflammatory rumors and even create incidents that would spark trouble. Nevada will not be spared the efforts of these purveyors of hate.

Like other states, we have been exposed to rumors designed to create unrest and antagonism. In each case, the rumors spread in this state have been found to be false. And thus far, thankfully, there has been no evidence of any organized move to disturb the tranquility of Nevada through racial disturbances.

However, so long as there is a receptive audience, rumors will breed. The chief danger in Nevada, as elsewhere, is in the rumors themselves. However, I am confident the people of this state have the maturity and common sense to recognize the disastrous consequences inherent in such false rumors and the base motives of the persons who foster them.

Nevada can be proud of its achievements toward insuring equality for all citizens--achievements which WERE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISORDER THAT HAS OCCURRED IN OTHER PLACES. I am sure our progress, marked by understanding and cooperation among all concerned, will continue.

## (PULPIT, from page 12)

would not let him drink water gained at the risk of life, could well be an inspiration to us: "He would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto Jehovah."

Then there is the wealth of talents and abilities which have been entrusted to all of us. I suppose it is possible to consider our talents and abilities as ours alone, but it isn't Christian. I'm sure God endowed us with these gifts in order that we might use them for the glorification of His name and the furtherance of His Kingdom.

A noted preacher was talking with Roland Hayes, the great Negro tenor, who thrilled millions with his magnificent singing. The preacher asked Mr. Hayes how he felt about his gift for singing. The world-famous artist replied, "I feel that I am only a pipe for Omnipotence to sound through; that my voice belongs to God and has been given me only that I may use it for Him." What a wonderful way to describe the stewardship of our own talents and abilities!

ALL OF LIFE is a trust. All that we call ours--our homes, our country, our time, our talents--all have been loaned to us by a God who expects a return on the investment in the form of a better world.

The Church, with the Christ for which she stands, is a gift taken much too lightly. Many people realize that the Church has wielded an immense influence for good, guarding the moral values of the community, down through the years. But there never has been a time in her existence when the Church has not needed consecrated men and women willing to give to her the talents and time God has bestowed upon them.

Sunday School classes go untaught because teaching talents are hidden in the trash heap of less worthy devotions. Choirs go begging for voices that are spent in the world's din. Pulpits go unfilled because young men crush to earth the urge within them to become ambassadors for God. Church Schools are crowded and go along without needed equipment and space because man hours of labor answer a more lucrative call. David's spirit needs to capture our imaginations as we contemplate all that the Church has meant to us down through the years. We need to bring these lives of ours to God and pour them out as the fullest price we can pay as an offering far too small.

Our own gifts to God and the Church need not be great or finely wrought. But they should be the best we have to offer in a spirit of self-sacrifice, even if a gift is nothing more than a gourd of much-desired water.

"He could not drink thereof, but poured it out unto Jehovah."

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