

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

EDITORIAL

Childish Attacks Will Not Deter Us

(We reprint below our editorial of the last Thanksgiving issue. Recent action of the local NAACP President, Vice President and Charles L. Kellar were predicted a year ago. These three individuals almost set Nevada civil rights progress back a hundred years when they attempted to persuade the Nevada Legislators to carve out a "Jim Crow" voting district in our West Las Vegas community.

The VOICE once again, appeals to the residents of this community to take more active interest in local NAACP so as to remove it from the dangerous, as well as, inept leadership which threatens to wipe out many years of hard work.)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. West Las Vegas:

Certain persons in this community have attempted to discredit the editorial policy of this newspaper by childish attacks on its publisher. By trying to confuse issues, these persons apparently hope to arouse sympathy for themselves. Some of you probably have been misled to believe that the Las Vegas VOICE has condemned the actions of some members of our community for purportedly selfish reasons. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The VOICE was created to serve the best interests of the community and its individual citizens without fear or favor. It is humbly and sincerely dedicated to improving conditions in West Las Vegas and our files indicate that many of you feel that we are doing a good job in that direction. We are deeply grateful for your expressions of support.

In recent weeks, the VOICE has attempted to call attention to a festering sore that threatens to contaminate the entire community. The VOICE cannot shirk its public duty by remaining silent while persons with questionable motives conspire to take over our most cherished institutions.

It is our firm conviction that the best interests of the people as a whole are more important than the ambitions of any individual or any small group of persons with delusions of grandeur. We are irrevocably opposed to--and flatly reject--the "Fuhrer complex" no matter in what guise it may appear.

Our every effort is being directed toward keeping the affairs of our community in the hands of all its citizens through perpetuation of the constitutional right to freely select our own leaders. There is considerable evidence that some of our leaders have violated the trust placed in them by YOU through abject abdication of their responsibilities to all the people.

This is not the responsibility of the VOICE alone. It is equally--and finally--the responsibility of YOU, the citizens of this community.

The VOICE therefore appeals to YOU, the people, to choose wisely between two alternatives: (1) Remain indifferent to the inherent dangers in the present situation and thereby place your destiny in the hands of a clique; (2) Select from among yourselves the most capable and most dedicated persons to form your leadership structure and thereby regain control of your own destiny.

Many of you will be provided an opportunity to make such a choice on Dec. 13 when the local branch of the NAACP elects officers for the next two years. We hope your decision will return leadership to the membership.

Respectfully yours,
Charles I. West, M.D.

P.S.

What we are saying today is exactly what we have been saying for more than a year--ever since the VOICE was founded. In this regard, we call your attention to the following code, first published in the VOICE of Oct. 3, 1963, under the heading, "The Publisher's Ten Point Policy"--

- 1) The Las Vegas Voice shall be dedicated to perform an honest public service.
- 2) The Voice shall never fear to print "the truth."
- 3) The Voice will protect its readers from exploitation.

4) The Voice shall be dedicated to improving the image of both our city and our State.

5) The Voice will plan a reader education program designed to elevate the position of its readers in every facet of life.

6) The Voice will inform its readers of trends and changes in the political climate to encourage realistic use of the vote.

7) The Voice shall attempt to clear the atmosphere of the stench produced by the political prostitutes.

8) The Voice shall be guided only by facts, and by logic, never by coercion, nor by emotions, nor by sentiment.

9) The Voice shall offer its total facilities to the NAACP, as well as to other organizations, with established integrity, that are striving for equal rights for all citizens.

10) The Voice shall employ its total potential to guide our youth, and prepare them for tomorrow's leadership.

Shortly before we published the above code, the following statement appeared in these pages. It is still as true today as it was then.

"There is no split among the real leadership of the Negroes of this community. There is only a quest for power by a few Westside residents who are totally unprepared and unqualified for leadership. . . They are not capable of leadership and they resent those who are capable. . ."

And if you want additional proof that we are still on the same track we started out upon, please consider the following statements from an editorial of last winter and recall what happened in the recent electoral campaigns:

"Unless there is a great awakening in this community the 1964 election could well turn into the greatest auction sale of all time, for there are some who feel they can buy political power with your votes. . . To buy political power is immoral and it's time we opened our eyes to the corrupting immorality of vote-buying. . ."

We still believe all these things to be true. For myself, I ask little more than the chance to go fishing as often as possible. But I cannot enjoy this diversion while I feel that false prophets are leading my friends and neighbors astray. As soon as you, the people, awaken to this dangerous situation and take the necessary steps to correct it, I will love you all madly for permitting me to head for the lake with peace of mind, secure in the knowledge that the people of this community are again guiding their own destiny.

I intend to pursue this subject in future issues of the VOICE.

C.I.W.

"A GOOD THING to REMEMBER and a BETTER THING to DO IS to WORK with the CONSTRUCTION GANG and NOT the WRECKING CREW"

LAS VEGAS Voice

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AFRICA in Today's World

By CHARLES I. WEST, M.D.

IAN SMITH, APARTHEID-INSPIRED leader of Rhodesia, has attached the fuse to the "powderkeg" southern tip of Africa which could explode into a World War III.

When Prime Minister Smith made his unilateral declaration of independence from the United Kingdom, he established a solid line across southern Africa of political units which stand firmly opposed to the principle of "majority rule."

The political composition of this geographical area of intense racism consists of the Portuguese colonies of Angola on the Northwest and Mozambique on the Northeast. The southern tip is occupied by South Africa with Southwest Africa forming the Southwest boundary.

Rhodesia fills in the middle of the northern boundary -- ALL BORDERING NATIONS are under self-rule and are dedicated to a united effort aimed at giving independence to the indigent Africans who constitute a substantial majority.

It is inevitable that this entire tip of the dark continent will experience a blood-bath which is likely to draw the East and the West into the conflict leading to a FULL SCALE WAR between the two major ideologies of government--Communism vs Democracy.

WE ARE TEMPORARILY suspending the Africa column which will be reinitiated should our theory show evidence of evolving toward reality.

HEAVEN FORBID! We pray that our reasoning is in error.



President WILLIAM V.S. TUBMAN
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, the first free nation of Africa.