

from the CAPITOL

By GOV. GRANT SAWYER



THIS WEEK THE CITIZENS of many nations will pause to observe the joyous rite of Christmas. To most of us, it is an occasion of deep spiritual significance. It commemorates the birth of one whose wisdom and tolerance ennobled all mankind and thereby altered the course of civilization.

Traditionally, the Christmas season symbolizes the spirit of goodwill and understanding among peoples of all faiths. It is a time when the tapestry of family life is more closely woven, but it is also a time when the hand of friendship is extended to the stranger.

All of us are the proud inheritors of a strong and prosperous land. There is much for which we may be grateful on the eve of this 1965 Christmas observance. We are moving ever closer to our dream of a society in which poverty, hunger and despair do not exist, and in which all men enjoy true equality, in the eyes of their fellow men as well as in the eyes of the law.

THESE ARE GOALS which have not changed since the dawn of civilization. Our nation is commissioned by history to be either an observer of freedom's failure or the cause of its success.

Freedom does not come free. We must work, sacrifice and make investments of time, money, and even lives to preserve and strengthen it.

This is the reason why more than 165,000 young Americans will observe Christmas in the battle-torn jungles of Viet Nam, where death is a constant companion.

To these guardians of freedom the most precious Christmas gift will be the gift of life.

Such sacrifices enable us to dwell in a citadel of freedom, a society where horizons are without limit or restriction. It is entirely appropriate, therefore, that we remember them at a time when the world pauses for a most solemn observance and renews its commitment to the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.

ON BEHALF OF MY FAMILY and the employees of the state, I would like to extend a most cordial holiday greeting to all the citizens of Nevada.

"BOSS-MAN" Enjoys Reno Week-end

AS ARE ALL GOOD newspapermen, VOICE managing editor, John West, is interested in the total picture of the state of Nevada and, therefore, took off over the week-end for a fast look-see at the happenings in the northern area of the State.

House guest of Mr. and Mrs. Earl "Sugar Foot" Perkins, (The Voice Northern Distributor), the genial and handsome VOICE managing editor obviously was met and hosted by the right people for, according to his glowing account of the 48-hour trip, never did one young man meet so many lovely people and visit so many attractive spots in that brief period of time.

He had a delightful and interesting confab with Dick Ham (Assistant to the Governor), Mrs. Ham and their son and daughter. . . At the Squeeze In Restaurant, he made the acquaintance of Talmadge Tarr, the cook, along with Ernestine Clark, Juanita Cowan, and Von Sill Daniels . . . Dropped in to see Elnora of Elnora's Beauty Salon who told him that Elder Webb, Pastor of Church of God and Christ was in Las Vegas attending the funeral of Mrs. Andrew Jackson. . . He also had a chance to say "Hi" to the popular Litz Lindsay at Elnora's.

At the "jumping" S.P. Club, John ran into the Birches, and new buddies, Long, and Clarice . . . Visited Freddie, the bartender at the Corner Bar.

On a quieter note, he visited the homes of Joe and Ella Williams where he enjoyed a reunion with Jovanna, debutante daughter of Joe Williams, and the VOICE Society Editor, Eddy Kim. He also called at the homes of Mrs. Cordelia Tatum, Mrs. Edith Edwards and Mrs. Ruth Jones, the VOICE reporter for Northern Nevada, where he had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of young Mark Edward Jones, Ruth's son. At the home of Mrs. Tatum, John picked up a bit of social news that rightfully belongs to Eddy Kim--Mrs. Tatum's son Earl, was being married that day to Sherill Braxton with another son, Donald serving as best man.

John brought back a message to Bob Bailey from "Big City" (Bob knows who I am)--Said to tell Bob he is thinking about running up to Alaska for a spell.

All in all, managing editor, John, thinks that the folks "up north" are pretty special, and he especially remembers the kindness and courtesy of such people as Cecil Pearson of Top 10 Record Shop and Houston Pellow, the manager of the Sky Caps at Municipal Airport.

Teen-Age Shoplifting Of Increasing Concern

by Dorothy Johnson

COMMUNITIES FROM COAST-TO-COAST are battling a juvenile crime wave. Throughout the nation, 70 or 80 per cent of all shoplifters apprehended are under age 18.

We share the mutual consternation at these national statistics, but our gravest concern is with our own youth in West Las Vegas.

Parents who think their children would never shoplift had better re-consider.

Out of 1,123 boys and girls interviewed by Gilbert Youth Research, Inc., 494 admitted they had shoplifted.

Commonly, the individual reason given in these and other interviews is: "I did it for kicks."

Others, with practically every material advantage, gave distressed parents this cool reasoning. "I took it because I wanted it, and I knew you wouldn't buy it for me."

A juvenile "prank" can return to haunt the perpetrator years later. Three cases of stolen pop kept a boy out of Annapolis this fall.

As competition for jobs becomes keener, employers will become increasingly selective. A minor record can become a major obstacle.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

1. Know how much money your child has and how he spends it.
2. Know what your child brings into the house. If it isn't his, check on where it came from.
3. Know when, where, and why your child is going shopping.
4. Find out what your community is doing about meeting the problem--and lend your help.
5. Discuss the matter at home--emphasize the fact that shoplifting is stealing; a crime. Make your child aware that even if he is "only with" someone who is stealing, he, too, is implicated.
6. Tell your child if he sees another person shoplifting, he should inform the clerk. The store will take it from there.
7. If you discover your own child has shoplifted--ACT--accompany him with the merchandise back to the store.
8. Should your child be apprehended, cooperate with the store bringing the charge and, if necessary, with the Court.

Most parents react with a shocked "This happens to other people--not in our family."

TO HELP SOLVE our community problems of juvenile delinquency, parents must do more than provide children with a place to live. They must also teach them how to live.

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