

A FACTUAL REPORT

LOCAL WAR ON POVERTY

LAS VEGAS

VOICE

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And Now The Truth **HEY, EVERYBODY !!!**

By Alice Key

It was in Christopher Morley's best selling novel, "Kitty Foyle" that one of the characters made the provocative observation that "The evening papers print what they do and get away with it because by afternoon the human mind is ruined anyhow".

As a classic example of the kind of reporting that probably served as a basis for this observation, and certainly stimulated recall of the observation from the deep recesses of my memory block, is the series of articles just concluded in the Las Vegas Review-Journal under the by-line of Colin McKinlay, R-J Associate Editor, entitled "How War on Poverty Affects You".

When the first of these articles appeared in the newspaper which repetitiously, through paid TV commercial plugs, advertises itself as the epitome of 'Responsible Journalism', warning gongs began reverberating through-out my highly sensitivised antenna that picks up danger signals whenever the well-being of my people is threatened. Purportedly, an in-depth, objective analysis of the War on Poverty in Clark County, the McKinlay Report soon justified my worse fears --it evidenced itself as another attack in the conspiracy to undermine the integrity and effectiveness of Operation Independence.

Because, along with the Vietnam War, obviously, the other political football in this election year will be President Johnson's War on Poverty, the VOICE will, in our series of articles on "How the War on Poverty Affects You", offer analysis of the program on the national level complete with all the social, economic and political ramifications, as well as bring to you a factual, validated report on what has occurred, to date, on the local level. Further, we will present to the VOICE readers an honest appraisal and evaluation of the programs currently underway and those being processed for consideration. It is also our hope that we may be able to clarify the motivation behind the unwarranted attacks on our local programs.

WHY IS OPERATION INDEPENDENCE UNDER FIRE?

That there is a stepped-up campaign to destroy Operation Independence is obvious, and that the Review-Journal is part and parcel of that campaign is equally obvious. The question is "Why?"

Remember that Operation Independence is a unique organization. It is probably the only such organization in the nation that serves not only as a community social action, but as a family service agency as well. It was organized and developed at the grass roots level by Negroes themselves. It is even more important to remember or to note, if you were not aware of the fact, that Operation Independence was conceived and organized before the War on Poverty Bill was passed--it was in 1962 that a group of West Las Vegas got together and formed the self-help program. The Economic Opportunity Act, legislative parent of the War on Poverty did not come until two years later. It was because of the initiative of the founders of Operation Independence to remove the stigma of dependency of West Las Vegas, that OI was recognized as an effective agency through which to funnel all OEO programs submitted for West Las Vegas by Washington's Office of Economic Opportunity when it came into being.

Do you find it more than passing strange that, after the implementation of the War on (See TRUTH, page 9)

Ray Charles Is In Town



YES, THAT'S WHAT THE EXCITEMENT IS ALL ABOUT--Mr. Soul, Ray Charles, himself, will appear (in person) tomorrow night (Friday), April 22 at the Nevada Southern University Gym in concert from 8:00 to 11:30 p.m. This event of the year is presented by the Confederate

Students of Southern Nevada. General Admission \$5.00--Students (only) \$3.00. DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T TELL YOU, and Don't let Saturday morning catch you crying because you goofed making the bit.

THEY CAME TO HEAR



Nevada's Equal Rights Commissioners (l-r) John Mendoza, George Rudiak, and Chairman Bob Bailey were glad to "hear it like it is". The Commission's Informational Conference held at Doolittle Center was a healthy and enlightening meeting for Commission members, according to Bailey. To hear how Westside residents felt was their reason for being there, Bailey added, and with wry humor, murmured "And we did".

MOVING ON UP

Heartiest Congratulations to Bill Russell, the Boston Celtics great Basketball Star, on his appointment as the Celtic's player-coach effective next season.

Russell, the highest paid player in pro basketball, is generally conceded to be the greatest all-round cage player in the game, and unquestionably is Basketball's most outstanding defensive ace.

The nearly 7 ft. 32 year old Russell, a former San Francisco All-American, and former Olympic star, has authored a book "Up To Glory" that, although just recently published, is already "moving on up" also to the best seller category.

Boston's former coach, Red Auerback, who led the fabulous Boston Celtic team to a seven straight NBA playoff crown, will remain with the team as General Manager.

ANDERSON RESIGNS

Bob Bailey, Chairman of the State of Nevada's Equal Rights for Citizens Commission, announced this week that the Commission has accepted the resignation of Jim Anderson, Commission Executive Secretary. Anderson gave formal notice of his resignation (effective im- (See RESIGNS, page 16)