

MAKING ALL the STOPS ALONG the WAY



ARRIVING from National Governor's Conference in Los Angeles, Governor Sawyer is met by comely "Sawyerites" (top photo right) and VOICE publisher, Dr. Charles I. West (center left photo). At press conference held at airport, Dr. West illustrates an apparent telling point to the Governor (center right photo). Day's end, after a grueling schedule, finds the Governor, relaxed, at the Elk's Hall where he was later lauded for one of the finest speeches ever delivered--Seated at speaker's table are Ralph Denton, George De Haye, and Dr. West (bottom photo left).

GOVERNOR SAWYER'S ELK'S HALL SPEECH

I am proud to again be back among friends who have led this march for many years in Nevada, and have joined eloquently in the national struggle.

WE HAVE marched from the shadows of a dark past toward the shining hope of a brighter tomorrow, this march has been difficult, uncertain, and often dangerous. But history shall surely record its glory.

For we marched in many ways, even when our band was small and our ranks thin and ragged...even when victory seemed a distant and unattainable goal.

There have been young marchers and old... Negro and white...rich and poor...but always marching with a common spirit--moved by a common hope--and striving for a common objective.

We marched and fought. There have been defeats, but many more victories. There have been many heroes, and some martyrs.

Yes, the road to freedom is stained with tears and the blood of many Americans--including men such as Medgar Evers--men already counted among authentic American heroes.

We have learned there is no single road to follow...no one program...no one slogan that will bring us to the end of our march.

OUR TRIUMPHS have been impressive and numerous. Our progress has been unmistakable. Yet these triumphs and this progress must be judged from the perspective of the man who has borne the burden of oppression and prejudice.

A generation ago, it may have been enough

for the Negro to ask for the right to enter a restaurant. But today, the Negro American asks: Is my life better? Are my children attending better schools? Do I hold a better job--or any job? Do I have a voice in the life of my city and my neighborhood? Am I a first-class citizen--a man among men, in my own eyes and in the eyes of my family?

Until a man can truthfully answer "yes" to these questions, we should not expect him to consider the battle won or the struggle ended. For what is left for such a man when the dust of the march has settled? Where today the slogans of a better world spring from his lips, tomorrow there may be nothing but the taste of ashes.

So, precisely at a time when the Civil Rights movement has achieved its most stirring victories, the revolution of rising expectations demands that we turn now to confront the work which remains.

IT IS ONE THING to cry "freedom now" on a picket line. But it is another to ACHIEVE true freedom in the squalid world of the ghetto--where generations of exploitation have produced problems which no man can overcome in a day, week, or year--where we see and feel the devastating impact of that tragic equation which has too often decreed that poor shall beget poor and ignorance shall beget misery.

It is one thing to demand the Federal Government to meet its growing responsibilities in Civil Rights. But it is another to generate in (See SAWYER, page 7)

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