Employment Tests Do Not Measure Capability

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--A federal official has blamed the use of pre-employment tests for helping contribute to a soaring Negro unemployment rate.

JOHN WAGLEY, assistant to Ben Segal, chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity com-mission, said "Many such tests measure how much the Negro has absorbed white middle-class culture" more than they measure job capability.

Wagley also blamed "widespread tokenism, unnecessary." Requirement of a high school diploma, and unrealistic denial of employment because of arrest records for contributing to Negro joblessness. The movement of many businesses away from central cities to the suburbs was also mentioned as a contributing factor in unemployment among Negroes.

Citing "widespread tokenism" in industry hiring practices and in labor union apprenticeship programs, Wagley noted that some firms in 63-per-cent-Negro Washington, with 400 to 500 employees, have only 10 to 20 Negroes on their payrolls.

THE COMBINATION of unemployment and underemployment creates an "endless cycle of drudgery 'rewarded' by poverty in the ghetto, Wagley said. He noted that unemployment among non-whites is 7.8 per cent--higher than several months ago--while the white rate is 3.3 per

Meanwhile, equal job opportunity programs were announced by two companies -- one voluntarily and the other after a bit of federal armtwisting.

The National Cash Register Company disclosed an active program to make Negroes and other minority groups aware of the many job opportunities in its plants, laboratories, and 500 branch offices throughout the country. The Company is active in the nationwide voluntary Plans for Progress established by the Federal Government to promote equal job opportunities.

AT THE SAME time, the Federal Paper Board Company, a trucking company based in

Prexy Lauds Jew-Negro Rapport

CLEVELAND -- (NPI) -- "More Jews and Negroes are working together on common projects to meet common needs than at any time in our nation's history," the American Jewish Congress reported.

"They are approaching each other, often for the first time, as individuals rather than as stereotypes, working face to face and side by side toward the goal of full equality in a free society for all Americans," said Rabbi Arthur J. Levyland, of Cleveland, National AJ Congress President.

The Organization said mounting public con-cern over black power and the white backlash had obscured quiet but genuine progress toward Negro-Jewish cooperation and understanding.

Rabbi Levyland acknowledged the assistance given to Jewish causes by Negro leaders and

organizations. He noted that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bayard Rustin had spoken out "eloquently and vigorously" in protesting cul-tural and religious discrimination against the Jews of the Soviet Union.

The NAACP, he said, had filed a friendof-the-court brief to support American Jewish Congress charges of job discrimination by the Arabian American Oil Company against Jewish applicants.

Rabbi Levyland said he recognized that anti-Semitism exists among Negroes. But he added: "Far stronger than Negro resentment against Jews is Negro identification with the Jewish people: not only with the Jew as victim of anti-Semitism but with the Jew as triumphant against the corroding effect of a victimization.

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to three of its Negro local drivers in order of their seniority. One of the drivers, Philip M. Johnson, had complained to the commission that the company denied Negro drivers consideration for out-of-town driver assignments.

Meanwhile, the presidents of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) and the Communications Workers of America were cited in New York for their "outstanding contributions to equal opportunity" by the National Urban League.

Frederick R. Kappel, of AT&T, and Joseph Beirne, of the Communications Workers, received plaques honoring their fair employ-

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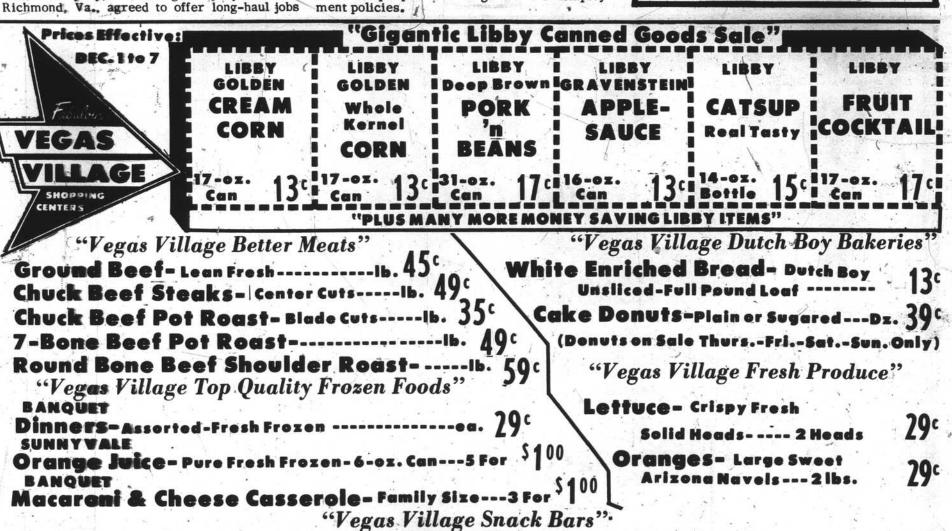
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