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LAS VEGAS VOICE

Vol. 4, No. 53

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Thursday, December 22, 1966

VOICE Publisher Kin May Be Pa. Health Chief

Dr. Wilbur Strickland of Philadelphia, brother-in-law of VOICE publisher, Dr. Charles I. West, is reported to be the strongest contender for the Cabinet post of State Secretary of Health in Pennsylvania according to a front page story appearing in the December 10 issue of the Philadelphia Tribune.

IN A statement to the Tribune, Dr. Strickland said that he had received no official word on the possibility of the appointment that would make him the first Negro to hold the position, but added, "I am flattered and pleased to learn that I am being considered". Information that the 63-year-old Philadelphia doctor was a prime prospect for the appointment is said to have come from observers close to State House sources in Harrisburg.

Dr. Strickland, a specialist in internal medicine and a devoted advocate of preventive medicine, is former medical director of Philadelphia's Mercy-Douglass Hospital and Grand Medical Director of the IBPOE of the World. (Las Vegas' Dr. Charles I. West is IBOPE's Deputy Grand Medical Director).

The Philadelphia doctor has an imposing record of public service. During World War II, he interrupted a lucrative practice to volunteer for services overseas, and became the first Negro in United States history to command a base hospital. From 1943 to 1946, he was in charge of an army hospital in Burma in Southeast Asia.

IN 1955, Dr. Strickland became Pennsylvania's first Negro Athletic commission physician; a post he has held under three governors and in which he continues to serve as a fourth administration prepares to take over. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Philadelphia's Fellowship House and Wharton Settlement.

During his five years as Grand Medical Director of the Elks, Dr. Strickland has organized a mammoth program of alerting the public to the medical and diagnostic services which are available to them in their communities. It is his deep-seated conviction that many cases of cancer and other illnesses could be successfully treated if people took full advantage of free health services already established.

Dr. Strickland was born in Philadelphia on May 20, 1903; the son of the late Dr. George D. Strickland, who had graduated from Howard Medical School.

In 1928, the young Dr. Strickland married a sister of Dr. Charles West of Las Vegas, the former Charlotte West of Washington, D.C., the daughter of his anatomy professor at Howard where he also studied.

JOY OF THE SEASON AND BROTHERLY LOVE



CHRISTMAS CAME A LITTLE EARLY THIS YEAR for Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Trent. The personable young minister, who has won the admiration of all who meet him for his uncompromising and uncomplaining dogged efforts to complete the Church he is building in West Las Vegas, despite monumental obstacles which keep cropping up, said that his and his life-partner's hearts are filled with gratitude for the tremendous response to the Church Building Fund Dinner held recently at Bob Baskin's downtown Restaurant... Rev. Trent said that the Clark County Ministerial Association is to be commended for the full cooperation given to the occasion, and their recognition of his need as indicated by many of the City's outstanding Minister's pledged support in the future.

"In times like these", the young Reverend said, "when newspapers are full of stories of hatred and prejudice, we feel it is time to let people know that all is not lost--that there are some who believe in togetherness".

Integration Policy In Hands Of School Board

Three Advisory Committees who have been working with Clark County School District's Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James I. Mason on a mutually acceptable Integration and De-Segregation School Policy met again Monday night for a final review of the proposed Integration Policy and Plan of implementation. After a give and take discussion, primarily on a paragraph in the proposal that closed the door on busing of students as one of the steps to achieve integration, the group approved the Policy after the paragraph was deleted, and the Policy will

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"Rule Or Ruin" Tactics Endanger Community

By Alice Key

Visitors to the December 14 meeting of the Executive Board of Operation Independence were embarrassed witnesses to a shocking display of "Rule or Ruin" tactics exhibited by Board Chairman, Bob Trimble. Obviously miffed by the keen interest of the West Las Vegas Community in the evening's agenda, as evidenced by the large turn-out, Trimble, apparently resolved to be as discourteous, rude, unreasonable, and officiously objectionable as is humanly possible. If this was his intent, to give him credit, I must admit he was an unqualified success.

PRIMARY ITEM on the agenda was a report from a Board appointed committee to screen applicants for the positions of Director and Training Coordinator for the Manpower Project. It was the function of the Screening Committee to interview applicants for the position of Manpower Director, evaluate their qualifications and make recommendation to the Operation Independence Board based on the Committee's decision as to which applicant, in the Committee's opinion, was the most suitable. When the Committee's report was heard with the recommendation that a Maurice Morgan be employed for the position as he was the unanimous choice of the Committee, one of the members of the Screening Committee (and a member of Operation Independence Executive Board) challenged the report stating that the recom-

(See TRIMBLE, page 2)

125 Year Old Man Seeks Freedom - Wants Divorce

HATTISBURG, Miss. - (NPI)--Sylvester Magee says there is no reason why a man should live in Hattisburg and his wife in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Hence he is seeking a divorce.

SYLVESTER IS just 125 years of age, so he says, and so does the government which backs his claims. They say he was born in 1841 and arithmetic says that 1841 from 1966 leaves a balance of 125.

Sylvester and his wife were parted in 1953. He says she deserted him but not until after his and her child was born. His proof of his age has been so strong that the federal government has admitted him to a federal hospital. He served in the Civil War where he fought with the Union forces in the siege of Vicksburg.

Sylvester says it is not nice for a man to run around with other women while he has a wife. Hence, he filed for a divorce.