

# LAS VEGAS Voice

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## BIAS IN BRITAIN

LONDON - (NPI)--An official of the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants has warned that Britain faces Watts-like riots within 10 years unless the country takes steps now to right racial wrongs.

Dermot de Trafford, speaking for the committee, charged that "fear of strangers has overcome the normal fair-mindedness of the people of this country."

The committee official called for stronger anti-bias legislation and hailed a report commissioned by his organization and the Race Relations board, a government body, charging that dark-skinned people are discriminated against in Britain.

THE REPORT was the first thorough survey of racial discrimination ever made in England, Scotland, and Wales. The study is likely to lead to strong new legislation.

The survey found that the country's "colored immigrants"--West Indian black people, Indians, and Pakistanis--face substantial discrimination in jobs, housing, and even car insurance. About two per cent of Britain's 54 million population is non-white.

Mark Bonham Carter, chairman, Race Relations board, said the "abiding impression which this report leaves on me is of a whole series of people passing the buck.

"The employer blames his employees, the real-estate agent his clients, the retailer his customers. Everyone behaves unjustly because of someone else."

The report noted that white and colored persons were sent to apply for jobs, housing, and other facilities in six areas. Although the applicants had similar qualifications, the colored persons usually were turned down or were asked to pay higher rents.

HUNGARIANS and Cypriotes were also sent out. They suffered little discrimination, thus showing that the discrimination was based on skin color, not antipathy to "foreigners."

Eleven of 20 companies approached for auto insurance turned down colored applicants or asked for higher premiums.

According to the report, two out of three advertised properties were visited by the test groups. Higher rents were asked at five.

As for employment, it was found that clerical jobs were virtually closed to non-whites. Employment agencies would refer colored clients only to a small group of employers.

IN MANY cases, discrimination was found to be hardly noticeable but real. Even the testers often didn't realize they were being discriminated against by persons who turned them away with a friendly answer or quoted a figure that was high for the service offered.

EDITORIAL COMMENT--Let us pray that it won't happen here--Las Vegas would be a ghost town overnight if any racial problems were taken to the streets. We must settle all our differences at the conference table, otherwise our community would face economic disaster.

## WE TOLD YOU SO!

ATLANTA - (NPI)--Gov. Lester G. Maddox is organizing a campaign among Dixie governors to fight federal school integration guidelines. "We've got to do something to protect our state, our schools, and our children from what we believe to be unconstitutional guidelines set up by big people behind shiny desks," he said, indicating that Alabama Gov. Lurleen B. Wallace and her husband George were involved in the plans.

## BETTER START VOTING-

### If They Are To Stay Happy And Safe



These beautiful, bright-eyed youngsters are members of the first grade classes of Jo Mackey Elementary School who attended Colonel Frank's Li'l Theater in Commercial Center Friday (April 28)...A special matinee was presented by Colonel Frank, Clyde and the Fakir for the little tykes whose excitement and joy at the wonder of it all is obviously a source of much gratification to the Colonel and their teachers shown with them here.

It is to be hoped that these youngsters will never be disillusioned by the knowledge that adoring adults failed them miserably by not exercising their right to vote in election after election; throwing away the greatest opportunity possible to insure a better and happier world for them and all successive generations.



## Blast White Press

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--The white press has been blasted by Floyd B. McKissick, national CORE director, for not reporting Negro events fairly.

McKissick charged that the only two kinds of statements a black man can make and expect that the white press will report: An attack on another black man or a threat of violence, "the verbal equivalent of a riot--Watts put into words."

The CORE leader, addressing the American Society of Newspaper Editors, said the punishment "for sounding rational and deadly earnest is a total blackout. And I use that word advisedly."

THE NEGRO is being rewarded by the public media, he said, "only if he turns on another Negro and uses his tongue as a switchblade or only if he sounds outlandish, extremist, or psychotic."

Last year, he added, he tried to give "responsible warnings" of where racial tensions might turn into open violence, but the warnings were "universally interpreted as a threat, as blackmail."

What would he prefer that the white press write about? "I'd like to see the newspapers say that black people don't have power. We are the only people in a capitalist society who don't have any capital."

McKissick invited the editors to walk into the slums and discover the bitterness, despair, and cynicism left over from dashed hopes.

## How We Voted Or Didn't

Tuesday's elections, throughout the nation, proved again that the voter is getting more and more imponderable. In two Mississippi towns, where Negro voters outnumbered whites, not one Negro candidate was elected. In Gary, Indiana, Richard G. Hatcher, a Negro attorney defeated 8 white mayoralty candidates including the incumbent and will represent the Democratic ticket in the city's general election.

Locally, James Chaney, defeated candidate for NLV City Council received more than 1100 votes. The Negro vote in North Las Vegas had been estimated at 1800.

In the city of Las Vegas, the majority of the Negro vote went to incumbents Mayor Gragson and Commissioners Reed Whipple and Ed Fountain.

## DANGEROUS?

### It Could Ruin Las Vegas

NEW YORK - (NPI)--Dr. Martin Luther King's warnings of summer violence in 10 cities have been called "dangerous" by Roy Wilkins, executive director. The danger, Wilkins said, lay in the possibility that "less disciplined persons" might interpret such warnings as encouragement to riot. But he added that Dr. King should not be blamed for any riots that may occur. At the same time, a Chicago minister, the Rev. Henry Mitchell, urged Dr. King to get out of town. Accusing the rights leader of stirring up hate, Rev. Mitchell opposed Dr. King's planned resumption of open occupancy marches in Chicago this summer.