Work Experience And Training (Title 又) (Second Of A Series On Local Poverty Programs)

Pig-headed bigots who parrot the cruelly rather than after the damage is done. libelous propaganda that those who subsist on a meager bounty supplied by relief and welfare programs "are shiftless, lazy parasites, content to let others take care of them, who don't want to work' are either going to have to eat crow or stand exposed as helpless victims of their own ignorance, bias, prejudice, and the corrosion of self-abasement by unacknowledged

The War on Poverty is being waged on many fronts. One of the areas of combat is centered around the family of the poor. It is designed to take previously unemployable heads of families and funnel them into the labor market through a comprehensive program that includes work experience, training and education.

The initial skirmish is won in this arena. According to the Office of Economic Opportunity, "the Mayors and Governors, who once thought poverty programs were encroaching on their territory, are now among the top backers of OEO." They have come to agreement with the architects of the poverty program that "giving a poor man a welfare check only forestalls his poverty--but training him with a skill will help destroy his joblessness and eliminate his poverty. AND it will help lighten the drain on community wealth needed to support him on

WORK EXPERIENCE and Training Programs are provided under Title V of the Economic Opportunity Act for persons who need an opportunity for constructive work experience and other training so they can support and care for themselves and their families. This OEO-funded program is administered by the Welfare Administration of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

To finance the program, money grants are made to state public welfare agencies for projects which are developed and operated at the community level. They provide work experience with public institutions or with private employers, on-the-job-instruction, vocational courses, literacy training, instruction in good work habits, health services and counseling.

The State of Nevada has three WT Programs operating as a Demonstration Project -- in Clark County, Washoe County, and the Ft. McKermitt Indian Reservation. Eligibility for the program is based on an individual's economic need and his ability to benefit from work experience and training opportunities that can be made available to him. Participants in the program come from families receiving, or eligible to receive, welfare assistance--State, Federal, or County. New arrivals to the area are also eligible for the programs as long as they can give assurance they will remain in the community long enough to benefit from their opportunity to receive work experience and training.

PARTICIPANTS IN the program are given opportunity to learn, develop new skills or improve existing ones, and train for specific jobs on the job and the family is provided for during

the tenure of his training period.

The Nevada State Welfare Division, not only utilizes Title V to develop and strengthen Nevada's regular public assistance programs, but it is, hopefully, demonstrating that it is good practice to help a family before it breaks under tensions produced by poverty and unemployment

This is an important factor to those working with the program in Nevada because the state has not yet implemented a 1962 Federal Public Welfare Amendment which extended ADC (Adult with Dependent Children) to families with dependent children who are in need due to unemployment of a parent. Here, to be eligible for ADC, the family must be broken--one parent must be dead, absent, or incapacitated.

For example: in Nevada, if you are a father and are out of work or too sick to work for a few months, your children cannot receive State Aid (ADC) while you are at home. Your family must be broken--either you or your wife must be dead, absent or unable to ever work again.

Locally, Joe Braswell, Project Supervisor, Work Training Unit, and Betty Tully, Supervising Technician, like all whose responsibility the administration of the project is, in the state, are hopeful that Title V (five) program will successfully demonstrate to State of Nevada and its lawmakers that it is a good thing to help a family before it breaks up because of poverty and unemployment.

FUNDS ALLOTTED to the operation of Title V will pay for food, clothing, and rentfor a man and his family while he learns to read or write, or obtains his high school diploma. The program gives opportunity for him to learn a trade, or even the simple courage to stay on a job until the boss has a chance to see how good he really

The Title V program helps older needy people find a place where their years of experience can evolve into a resource for making an independent living.

In Clark County, there are almost twice as many Negroes receiving help from Title V as all other races. An average of one person each month receives a high school diploma through the efforts and support of this program. An average of one person each working day is finding permanent employment because of Title V

training right here in Las Vegas.

At this time, locally, the training program covers a wide field. There are people in training in such diverse areas as Data Processing, Computer Programming, Business Schools (of all kinds) at Nevada Southern University, in Licensed Practical Nursing, Registered Nursing Training, Employment Securities (unemployment offices), in the Nevada State Welfare Dept., X-ray Laboratories, Civil Defense, Warehousing, and Airconditioning.

OTHERS ARE receiving training as Police Cadets, Firemen, Upholsterers, Sales Clerks, Cash Register Operators, Roofers, Blue Print Machine Operators, and Cooks. Some are training in Small Appliance Repair, Body and Fender Work, Automotive Repair, and Clerical and Stenographic skills.

Presently from 80 to 100 participants in the program are enrolled in educational classes of their choice.

To prove the need to hold the family together by helping the head of the family to support his family, and to help older persons keep their pride through self-support, is a most desirable objective for any community.

That is the objective of the Work Experience and Training Program of Title V.

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SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

By CHARLES J. LIVINGSTON NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

BIG BREAKTHROUGH

Sometime ago, I made the observation that, for Charley Sifford, the hard-hitting Los Angeles Negro professional, golfing has been a case of being "Always the Best Man, Never the Groom." However, I'll have to change that now, as the doggedly determined, 44-year-old campaigner has finally scored a major breakthrough.

Charley Sifford, "the man with the big tee shot" and the tremendous potential virtually everyone along the golf trail talks about, is now wedded to bigtime golf.

This column--with its recasting of Sifford in the winning groom's role--was inspired by Charley's tremendous victory in the recently concluded 16th annual Hartford Open Golf tourn-

ament formerly the Hartford Insurance Open. SIFFORD SHOT a sizzling final round of 64 that included a classic, 40-yard chip shot from high grass on the par five, 497-yard 14th hole, to surge from behind to win the tournament and pocket the \$20,000 first prize money and receive a gleaming trophy. He'll defend the title next

In his four rounds of tournament play, Sifford shot rounds of 69-70-69-64 for a total of 272 strokes. And anyone who knows the mechanics of golfing will tell you that's no mean

Prior to the Hartford Open, Sifford had not won a Professional Golfers Association (PGA) tournament in 14 years. His previous major victory came in the San Diego Open, in another

burst of classy golfing.

But it is also fair to point out that during those 14 years—he was in the "always placing." (among the money winners)," never winning, bridegroom role--Sifford was having a rough time financially and competitively.

THE MAN has had his woes since overcom-(See SIFFORD, page 4)

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