

Award To Local NAACP

The Las Vegas Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was recipient of the organization's treasured Noaberry Award as the most outstanding branch of Region I at the NAACP's Western Area Conference held in Tucson, Arizona the past week-end. Region I is comprised of the nine Western states including Hawaii and Alaska.

Ten adult delegates represented the Las Vegas Chapter at the Conference and the local Youth branch had an identical number of delegates.

Headed by President Attorney Charles L. Kellar, the delegation included George Gant, Willie and Joe Neal, James Shipp, Rev. Marion Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Cranford Crawford, Floyd Plymouth, and Mrs. Lula Vera White.

The local branch scored another triumph with the election of George Gant as Western Area treasurer. Only last month, at the NAACP Southern Conference (Southern California and Nevada branches), the Las Vegas chapter received the Conference's "Gold Certificate" for achievement.

At the Tucson meeting, Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, was keynote speaker of the Conference, and Gloster Current was principal speaker at the Youth Forum.

Local NAACP prexy Attorney Kellar served as consultant on the Conference panel dealing with the "President's Report on Crime."

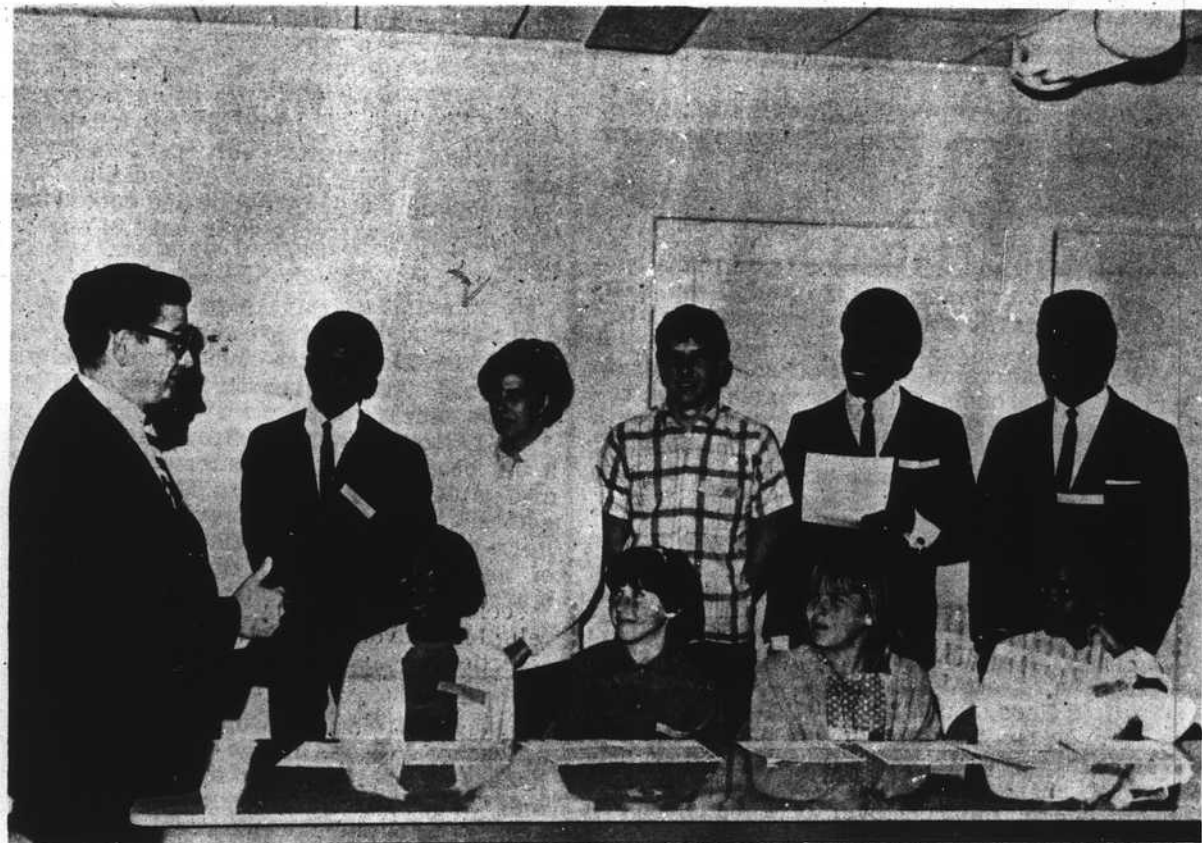
Off the agenda business dealt with at the Western Area Conference was that of the problem of employment discrimination in Las Vegas and proposals of "action" programs to combat the situation.

Agreed upon was immediate organization of representatives from all fifty branches of the Southern Area of Region I to lead a mass demonstration on a major "Strip" hotel. Tentative target date for the action was set as "around May 25."

Support NAACP Action

Support of the Las Vegas NAACP action for decertification of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers No. 357 from an unexpected source was disclosed this week when Attorney Charles L. Kellar announced that 15 members of the local have filed applications to decertify the union with the National Labor Relations Board before which the case is now pending in Los Angeles, California.

Combine Efforts For Better Race Relations



JUNIOR MEMBERS of the Las Vegas NAACP branch were guests of the Salvation Army Young People's League recently when the young people met to discuss racial problems in Las Vegas schools and communities and possible solutions to effect better race relations in and out of school.

Seated, left to right, are Carolyn Glasco, Cheryl Carr, Diana Starrett, and Theresa Glasco. Standing, left to right, Mr. Jack Evans, Adult Leader for the Salvation Army Young People's League, and discussion leader; Jerald Shutes, Cheryl Wilcox, Daniel Starrett, Charles Banks, and Mr. Cranford Crawford, Junior NAACP group advisor.

NAACP Files Employment Discrimination Charges

A complaint of employment discrimination (under Nevada Civil Rights Act of 1965) was filed with the Commission on Equal Rights of Citizens, State of Nevada, by Attorney Charles L. Kellar on March 28, 1968.

Charges that discrimination is practiced because of race and color were made against the Culinary Workers Union Local 226, Teamsters Union Local 881, et al. Also named in the complaint are the Desert Inn, the Sahara, Thunderbird, Riviera, Sands, Tropicana, Dunes, Caesars Palace, Frontier, Flamingo, Stardust, and Mint hotels, and the Eldorado Club.

Verbatim report of charges against the unions and businesses named is as follows:

This is a general complaint on behalf of the Las Vegas Branch of the NAACP and the thousands of Negro workers who are deprived of equal opportunities in Southern Nevada and a request of the efforts of the NERC directed toward righting these wrongs: (1) There is not a single Negro employed in any capacity in a showroom in Southern Nevada. This includes the Fremont Hotel and every other theater showroom of which complainant knows. All the waiters, waitresses, and even busboys, are of other than Negro racial stock; (2) There is not a single dealer at the Fremont Hotel or any other on the Strip, Henderson or elsewhere in Southern Nevada with the exception of three smaller clubs; (3) There are no Negroes working at the front desks, hotel reservations or otherwise; (4) Almost all the Negroes employed are porters or maids. Any other kind of employment is just token; (5) There are no Negroes employed as barhops, carhops, doormen, security guards, or a dozen other better paying positions. This is all because of gross discrimination; (6) The Culinary Workers Union does nothing to improve this picture; (7) The Teamsters Union absolutely precludes it; (8) The hotels and the resort hotel association are engaged in sweetheart contracts with these unions to keep the status quo and they are perpetrators of these evils. Only governmental agencies are interested and design an announced policy to cure these situations which vigorously can prevent them and can change these conditions. This is a broad complaint of patterns of discrimination existing in those jobs in the hotel industry in which Negroes are, at the present time, under-utilized or not utilized at all.

AMONG THE STARS



with LEE IVORY

"Why do you always write about the 5th Dimension and Jerry Butler? Don't you know any other entertainers?" The letters may be phrased a bit differently, but they all add up to the same thing!

I hadn't realized it until I read file copies of columns submitted to publications across the country. But, it's true and I sincerely apologize.

Of course, I filed columns on other entertainers, but the number of times my typewriter pecked out the names of the 5th Dimension and "The Iceman" scared me to death. If columns are boring or repetitious, a writer has been known to typewrite his way into oblivion.

So, since I'm going to write about the 5th and the Butler guy one more time this month, I might as well tell you why I keep their names in the news.

First of all, they seem to make so much news. Secondly, they are the greatest people in the world of show business. Thirdly, Jerry Butler is the worst Monopoly player in the world! He never lands on Park Place or Boardwalk until I have jammed hotels on the property and, if you know anything about the game, he gets wiped out!!!

The 5th Dimension gave me a headache for a couple of days when they appeared in Chicago at the Civic Opera House along with the Lovin' Spoonful. We kinda had a party and I sorta heard them say something about working in Milwaukee the following Sunday.

So, I cut out of Chicago like on a Saturday planning to set up a cocktail party for Florence, Marilyn, Billy, Lamonte and Ron--but I forgot to ask them where they would be appearing in Milwaukee.

No problem, though, because I knew that Dave Novick of the Courier staff there would know where the group was to appear.

He didn't! And, ironically, no one else in Milwaukee knew anything about a gig for the 5th Dimension. I spent a very anxious day until I learned they were appearing at Carroll College in Waukesha.

The concert was a real groove (after the over-active sound man got himself together) and the 5th Dimension killed another rumor: They sing white music!

Before you even attempt to judge them, be sure to catch one of their sets. You've seen them on television, but they never seem to have enough time to groove the way that they do at concerts and night club engagements.

Yes, I kinda write about the people that I love... and Jerry Butler and the 5th Dimension head my list of favorite people.

See you Among the Stars ...

State & Federal Probe Of Negro Sheriff's Death

RICHMOND, Va. - (NPI)--State and federal investigators were looking into the suspicious death of James N. Bradby, 38, first black sheriff in Virginia since Reconstruction days.

J. Madison Macon, commonwealth attorney for Charles City County, where Bradby was found dead, said the death was apparently a suicide and the result of carbon monoxide poisoning. Macon said he believed the sheriff took his life because of "the misery he had seen since taking office."

Some state and federal investigators had second thoughts about Macon's story and wanted to know why Bradby's body was not found until several hours after he died.

A garden hose reportedly had been run from the exhaust pipe through the vent window on the driver's side, and the vent then had been sealed with tape. Police said the motor apparently had stopped running after the gasoline ran out.

No suicide notes were found, according to Macon.

Bradby had become sheriff Jan. 1, after defeating a white opponent in the 75 per cent Negro county.