

LAS VEGAS Voice

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"PUDDIN' HEAD"



"TELL'N IT LIKE IT IS---AND

SOAP

PUTT'N IT WHERE IT'S AT"

FOOD FOR THE SOUL

There have been three apostles of love, and crusaders for peace in history who stood high above all the rest. All three of them died a death of violence at the hands of disciples of the devil. They were Jesus Christ, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King.

Baby, it takes a heap of hate for anyone to do harm to a person the likes of any of those three. But, you better believe me, baby, the world never fully appreciated any of them until they had given their mortal lives.

Christ had to be crucified for Christianity to grow in the hearts of men. Gandhi had to be assassinated for India to become free. And, Martin Luther King had to be killed for Black men to become free. Baby, people are all mixed up. They can't see the greatness in anyone while that person is alive. They poke fun at great men and blind themselves to his greatness for as long as he may live.

Christianity would never have become the world-wide religion that it is, if Jesus had died a natural death. India would certainly not have gained its freedom from the British Crown as quickly as it did, had Mahatma remained among the living. Our nation would not have any Open Housing Law if King had not been killed. Baby, it seems that you got to cash in your chips before people can see how well you played the game. You got to die before you can be somebody. It's a damn tall shame, but, that's the way it has always been.

The shot that destroyed Dr. King made the world stand still. That shot brought about a Presidential Proclamation that put our nation in mourning, and put all American flags at home, abroad, and on the ships at sea, at half staff. It postponed the opening of the professional baseball season, it stopped the world series of basketball, and ice hockey. It delayed peace talks to end a war. It stopped all gambling in Las Vegas for two hours. It postponed the Oscar Awards, and it brought the largest crowd of people that ever assembled in Atlanta, Georgia. It stopped a championship golf tournament in North Carolina, and, baby, that is really saying something.

We still got one more thing to look forward to. We got to hope that that assassin's bullet that killed our leader, will stop the hate that darkens the hearts of so many men around the world.

All men must work toward the dream of Martin Luther King. All men, white as well as black must be determined that this great citizen of the world shall not have died in vain. All men must love, and all hate must die. Let us all be brothers under the fatherhood of God. Keep the faith, baby, Martin Luther has started the ball rolling in the right direction. Let us keep it moving that way that he, our leader, would have demanded of us.

KINGS - A PAIR



PAIR OF KINGS--Newly-crowned World Boxing Assn. heavyweight champion Jimmy Ellis (right) and all-time-great former champ Joe Louis exchange "royal greetings" at Caesars Palace here following Ellis' victory over Jerry Quarry in Oakland, Calif., last Saturday. Ellis vacationed briefly at Caesars Palace before returning home to Louisville, Ky., where he will serve as grand marshal in Thursday's Kentucky Derby Festival parade.

Selection Of Flora Perfect Type Casting

Assemblyman Flora Dungan, representative from Clark County's 4th District, has been extended an invitation to participate in The Nevada Social Welfare Conference May 9-10 at the Pioneer Theatre Auditorium in Reno.

The two-day meet which will convene from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day has scheduled a provocatively titled panel - WHY - On Poverty and Civil Rights in Nevada to Those of You Who Live in Nevada and Care!

It is on this panel that Assemblyman Dungan has been requested to serve along with an ADC mother, Karl Harris, head of Health, Welfare, and Rehabilitation, and Eddie Scott, President of the Reno-Sparks branch of the NAACP.

To have requested Flora to make the trip from Las Vegas to serve on this particular panel is, in the opinion of the opinion-holders at the VOICE a brilliant stroke of type casting, and also, to quote from television's most innovative and popular comedy series "Laff-In"-- "VERY INTERESTING."

The Editor Regrets

Our participation in The Community Resources institutes' ninth annual seminar on "Community Decision Making For Rehabilitation And Social Services" held at the Arizona Inn in Tucson, Arizona, April 23-26 was a source of great pride and an experience we had eagerly looked forward to reporting.

Revelations at that confrontation had such a traumatic effect, it was agreed that perhaps the report should be postponed until next week.

Local Political Season In "Official" Kick-Off

West Las Vegas's official political season was kicked off Tuesday night when 45 community members met at the Kit Carson Elementary School in response to a written invitation for a gathering "to discuss matters pertaining to the progress of the Negro and his political aims". Signators of the request for attendance were Sarah Hughes, Sara Ann Knight, and Marjorie Elliott.

The VOICE reporter, arriving a half-hour late, missed the introductory, or explanatory segment of the meeting that may have taken place before the floor was given to Assemblyman Woodrow Wilson for a question and answer period of communication with constituents present. Rev. Donald Clark chaired the meeting obviously directed toward concluding with a vote of confidence in Assemblyman Woodrow Wilson. The vote came seconds after a motion of adjournment which was tabled for the order of business and the vote of confidence was properly made and seconded, but it was unclear as to its disposition as adjournment had arbitrarily begun.

Certainly, among those present, there were vociferous supporters of the Assemblyman whose major qualification, judging by their oratorical outbursts, is the fact of his being a Negro.

Short shrift was the lot of any who raised an objective question which might be construed as critical. There was much talk of race pride, togetherness, loyalty, etc., and of disavowal of white legislators and their Negro supporters. Particular venom was reserved for Assemblyman Flora Dungan with several oblique bars directed at the VOICE reporter present who, for the most part, was wondering what in the heck she was doing there. There was a point, when she almost raised the question of the recent incident when another Republican Assemblyman and a legal eagle for a large "Equal Opportunity Employer" firm made the statement that "another Negro newspaper just might be started in the community." A not unusual happening at election times -- her only query would have been was this "probable other Negro newspaper" going to be financed with "white Republican money?"

Meanwhile, the situation is shaping up to be "Very Interesting".

TIMELY - RECOMMENDED

By JOSEPH L. TURNER
NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

"PROTEST AND PREJUDICE: A STUDY OF BELIEFS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY"; Written by GARY T. MARX; Published by HARPER AND ROW; \$8.95; 250 pp.

A northern newspaper columnist reported being called by a white woman who complained during the television coverage of the riotous aftermath of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr's assassination that she couldn't understand why Negroes didn't follow the advice of their "responsible" leaders and stop the rampage.

Perhaps just as it is difficult for that "poor" white woman to understand, it is even more distressing for the Negro. Those "responsible" leaders only speak with forked-tongues.

They pretend to speak for the oppressed Negro, to represent him in government, and to fight for his rights. But what actually happens, in most cases, is they represent their own interests--politically, socially, and economically.

One of the greatest tragedies in being an oppressed minority is that of not being heard. The Negro in many, many different ways has for generations been complaining about and protesting the racism, hatred and suppression he

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