

Much to do is made of a young man's ascension into total and acceptable manhood. No less attention is being accorded the American Negro Press, meeting this week in Las Vegas. Having been associated with much of this birth and growth, we find it most encouraging, and to our liking to realize others, too, are accepting our seriousness and maturity. It is with great pride that we reprint the editorial thoughts implemented by the Review-Journal, one of our daily paper brothers and their acceptance we are constantly on our guard for the rights of the some ten million readers we (together) serve in our urban and rural areas and the dedication we are committed to from the days of John B. Russwurm, the first Negro editor, some 142 years ago.

With your kind indulgence, we reprint the thoughts of our neighbors, and hope you will better understand our purpose and our accepted position in this long and gallant struggle.

Rollo S. Vest
Managing Editor

STRIVING TO HELP ALL

"The Negro Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it awards every man, regardless of race, color or creed, his human and legal rights."

"Hating no man, fearing no man, the Negro press strives to help every man in the belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back."

Lofty guidelines for any newspaper--but these particular ideals comprise the credo of the black press in America today--the black press which is presently gathered in Las Vegas to research new ways and revise established methods of amplifying its voice.

Nearly 150 publishers, editors and public relation specialists from across the nation, representing approximately 200 Negro-oriented publications and numerous advertising and public relations firms, are meeting this week at the International Hotel.

"The purpose is to improve the quality and economic stability of each paper individually and to amplify the voice of the black press collectively, so as to demand a greater audience, thereby developing more impact upon the 10 million readers of black publications," said Dr. Charles I. West, publisher of the Las Vegas Voice and official host for the five-day convention.

During their stay in Las Vegas, the publishers will conduct workshops on civil rights, police-citizen relationships, methods of increasing circulation and revenue, new techniques in printing, and problems faced in advertising.

Representatives of local newspapers, television, advertising-related businesses and law-enforcement agencies will serve as panelists in the workshops.

The publishers will hear addresses by Gov. Paul Laxalt, former Gov. Grant Sawyer, Asst. Sec. of Labor Arthur Fletcher, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, national director of Operation Breadbasket, as well as many other local and national dignitaries.

After the week's meetings in Las Vegas, the convention will move to Honolulu, Hawaii on Friday for an additional four days of meetings.

We welcome these representatives of the black press to Las Vegas, and to this "Exchange of Ideas" convention. Believing ourselves members of the free press, obligated to truth and fact, we can only applaud the efforts of the black press toward reaching the goal of the Las Vegas convention.

Perhaps it was best said by John B. Russwurm, the first American Negro college graduate and the first American Negro editor, 142 years ago.

"We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken....In the spirit of candor and humility we intend to lay our case before the public, with the view to arrest the progress of prejudice, and to shield ourselves against the consequent evils. We wish to conciliate all and to irritate none, yet we must be firm and unwavering in our principles and persevering in our efforts."

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"ATTORNEY GENERAL MITCHELL BELIEVES THE BLACK PANTHERS ARE A MAJOR THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, AS DOES J. EDGAR HOOVER, AND JERRIS LEONARD, THE CHIEF OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, WHO HAS BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING ABOUT BOBBY SEALE 'THE PANTHERS ARE A BUNCH OF HOODLUMS, AND WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS GUY.'"

PETE HAMILL, N.Y. POST

WE WILL HAVE THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO INVESTIGATE AND ESTABLISH THE FACTS.

ATTORNEY GENERAL MITCHELL



SHRINKING IMAGE



LAS VEGAS Voice

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