

# TYRONE LEVI ADDRESSES APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL

It is a pleasure for me to be here today to address such a distinguished assembly of experts in the field of apprenticeship training. This occasion is all the more significant because the Nevada State Apprenticeship Council has the legal responsibility to establish standards for all apprenticeship agreements in the State of Nevada!

I am here, today, to discuss what I feel to be a "Miserable failure" on the parts of both this council and the Federal Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training in the enforcement of equal employment laws concerning minorities.

Under the Department of Labor's non-discrimination regulations for registered apprenticeship programs (29CFR Part 30) the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training is required to review registered programs systematically for compliance. BAT may seek conciliation where it finds non-compliance and has the power to "deregister" duties under chapter 610 NRS with the power to suspend for one year the right of any employer, association or organization found guilty of discrimination because of race, color, creed or national origin. Determination of qualifications, the nature of tests and the interpretation of results remain the prerogatives of the Joint Apprenticeship Committees.

In almost all cases, apprenticeship sponsors have been able to satisfy non-discrimination requirements merely by formal declaration of intent to comply with 29 CFR 30. No penalties have been imposed on Joint Apprenticeship Committees for failing to comply with these requirements or make the reports which they require. I take a dim view of both BAT and State Enforcement!

Stan Jones, Secretary-Director of this Council and I recently exchanged information concerning the number of apprentices in Nevada which proved to be very interesting. My information came from the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Washington, D. C., which showed a statewide total of 359 apprentices

--with a racial breakdown of 13 Blacks, 12 Chicanos, 1 Indian and 2 Orientals. Stan sent me a list of apprentices in all crafts registered with the Nevada State Apprenticeship Council numbering 977! Although Stan had no racial breakdown, my experience would lead me to believe that the minority total did not increase significantly. The most important point, however, is the fact that this Council cannot begin to solve the problem, if it does not want to recognize that the absence of Blacks and other minorities in its registered programs is the problem.

I remember hearing this phrase some time ago, "Equal Opportunity ain't worth a damn without Equal Results," i.e., Blacks and other minorities being hired and counted so that we know what percentage of the total number of apprenticeship positions are filled with minorities.

I would like to see the BAT and Nevada State Apprenticeship Council assume the stature of "advocates for change" by adopting the following four specific, attainable goals for the calendar year 1971:

1. Having minority representation in every registered program;
2. Increasing existing minority representation;
3. Launching affirmative action programs in pilot areas and
4. Applying sanctions in specific instances where we have not achieved these goals.

In the area of minority selections, I would urge you to contact the local poverty programs, such as the Economic Opportunity Board both here and in Las Vegas. Other ways to "reach" minorities are through minority newspapers and "soul" radio stations. Then, there is always the State Employment Service and other local minority organizations such as the NAACP and the Race Relations Center. It would be encouraging to see members of this council and members of different Joint Apprenticeship Committees putting forth that little "extra" (See Levi, page 15)

## NAACP, from page 13

reason. I am presently the Chairman of the Legal Redress Committee of the NAACP. Of the three Presidential candidates, I have the most time in the NAACP, and I, at the present time, hold the most responsible position in the NAACP. I have been dedicated to the NAACP all of my life; I am not a "Johnny-come-lately," and I firmly believe in the future of the Black people in this state. We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go.

If I am elected, you won't hear a lot of talk, you will see a lot of action. May I have your vote for the Presidency of the NAACP on December 13, 1970?

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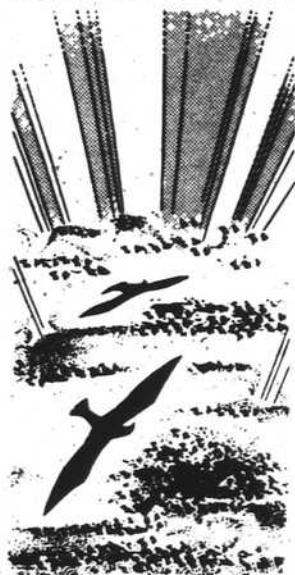
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