

RENO SPARKS NEWS

Civil Rights Dilemma

The Washoe Board of County Commissioners request the District Attorneys Office to render an opinion on the legality of the exclusive garbage contract Granted to the Independent Sanitation Company.

The Black Community has believed that the County was unfair in granting the exclusive Franchise, the NRS not withstanding.

It could be that the Section that States "Nothing in this section shall be Construed to prevent any individual, partnership, corporation or association from hauling his or its own garbage subject to the regulations of the board of the County Commissioners Promulgated under the provisions of this section, needs more clarification. Because an individual should have the right to hire anyone of his own choosing to perform a task for him.

This rule is limiting the business, if not thinking the business of Mr. Ellis R. Fells, who has been doing business in the area for sometime. Maybe Mr. Fells Company was not large enough to handle the business on an exclusive basis. Whether this was true or not is of Small Importance. But what is important is that it appears that an exclusive franchise is in the case is a restraint of Trade, that operates to the disadvantage of Mr. Fells, and that it does abridge his right to do business.

The legal question here is not one that we attempt to pass an opinion on. However, it does require some research to determine if the Civil Rights of Mr. Fells has been violated, on the Federal or Constitutional Level. We are seeking a legal opinion from the Justice Department on the matter.

We must light the path to freedom, by seeking the truth. We will not rest until we are sure that the law is not discriminatory.

RENOTABLES

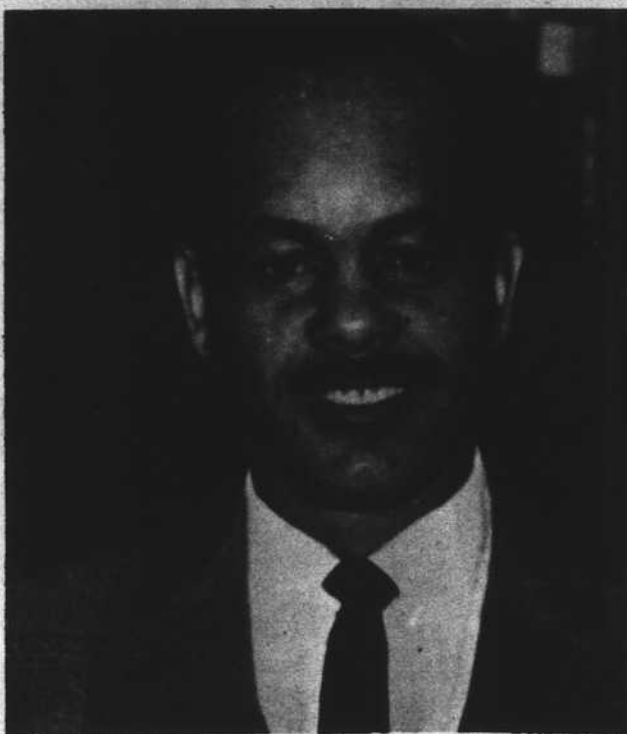
Among the local sports enthusiasts your Reno Las Vegas Voice Reporter spotted at the closed circuit telecast of the Muhammad Ali-Jimmy Ellis bout were Ernie Mullins, Director of the Pre-apprentice Training Program for Construction Opportunity Trust; Joe Williams, Reno's black Realtor and active NAACP member; and Ernie Marshall, newcomer to Reno who is broadcasting for KBET radio, as reported elsewhere in this issue.

Luther Mack, Jr., for the past two years equal employment opportunity coordinator with the Nevada State Highway Department, has moved to the Bay Area where he will work for the Small Business Administration. His assignment will include Nevada among the eight Western states he will serve, which will still bring him back to Reno and the other Nevada cities where he has been a familiar and frequent visitor.

Mrs. Vic (Shirley) Morton and four year old daughter Michelle have left the Reno scene to make their home in Redwood City, joining Vic who became Personnel Consultant at Diamond National in San Francisco last month. Shirley has been affiliated with Nevada Bell and has transferred to a P. T. and T. office near their new ranch style residence in Redwood City.

Mrs. Ulysses (Bertha) Woodard and Mrs. Alice Smith are regaling friends with accounts of the fun and activities enjoyed at the recent NAACP national convention. Much valuable information was also gleaned which the ladies intend to share with the Reno-Sparks Branch, Mrs. Woodard is current president of the branch, and Mrs. Smith holds the secretarial slot.

RETURN TO RENO



Ernie Marshall
By Lonnie Johnson

An old friend is back to town after an absence of more than fifteen years, and what a pleasant reunion we've had chatting about some of the old days here in Reno. I happened by "Perkins Hub," a local night spot, and there he was sitting a few stools away, my old buddy, Ernie Marshall.

I first met him back in the 40's when he was singing in an all-negro review at the old Blackbird Club on Commercial Row.

Well, he's back and I for one hope that he stays. Ernie has been hospitalized in San Francisco for the past two months, and decided to return to Reno, following his hospitalization.

Ernie has the only jazz show on radio in Reno. He conducts "The Ernie Marshall Show" on KBET radio every Saturday night, and Bob Stoddard, general manager of the station, apparently realizing Ernie's potential, has him doing a daily sports show Monday thru Friday, "Let's Talk Sports."

Marshall, a native of California is a former Radio and Television personality from Las Vegas. He was the first Negro to run for Mayor of North Las Vegas. He is a former columnist and photographer for the Las Vegas Voice, and was on the editorial staff of Panorama publications. Ernie was also the first Negro on the staff of any Nevada TV station as a newscaster for KORK-TV. He later became the first Negro radio news director in Nevada, when he worked for KTOO radio in Henderson.

Marshall has applied to several TV stations here in Reno, but has been turned away, because of "so-called no vacancies", however, according to him, KTVN-TV has offered him some encouragement. Due to his vast experience in radio and TV, it is expected that some station will hire him in the immediate future.

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Heavyweight Erni Shavers Announces Nevada Move

Erni Shavers, heavyweight pro fighter with a 30-2 win record top heavy with knockouts, plans to move to Las Vegas in the near future, he announced in a Reno meeting this week. Shavers is a Warren, Ohio native currently working out of Los Angeles. He has fought in numerous Nevada bouts, including several recent Lake Tahoe matches.

Moving to Nevada is a combination of interest in the people and places here and a desire to be a contender in the Nevada Championship battle. Reno sports promoter, Bud Traynor had prepared contacts for a meet with Larry (Irish Pat) Duncan, but Duncan failed to show for the signing. Duncan is a Carson resident and has indicated that he will fight Shavers if satisfactory terms can be worked out after his current Oregon fight.

New Helmet Law

Carson City---Nevada Motorcycle drivers are urged to start wearing their helmets now, and not wait until the new helmet law takes effect January 1.

Twenty-four persons were killed last year as a result of motorcycle accidents. So far in 1971, 14 persons have died, according to John McSweeney, Highway Safety Coordinator of the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles.

Two Clark County teenagers died as a result of a single motorcycle accident over the weekend. McSweeney said, "We're appalled at the number of fatalities as a direct result of complete disregard in utilizing good common sense on the roadway."

He also called on motorcycle drivers to have their headlight on during all hours of the day, saying the biggest complaint of the vehicle driver who collides with the motorcycle is "I just didn't see him." The percentage of injury is much higher driving a motorcycle than a vehicle, he added.

Nine of the 14 killed this year involved collisions with automobiles; one collided with a pick-up; and four either ran off the road or collided with a stationary object.

The persons killed were between 14 and 45 and the majority of those fatally injured were in the prime of their life.

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