

EDITORIAL

By Paul C. Smith

Smoke Screen Hides Issues

The June general election campaign is getting into high gear.

If anything is different about this year's elections—we must admit—its the low appeal for the Black Vote.

In past years - candidates would advertise and solicit Black Voter Support by using the Voice. Measuring in terms of the amount of Advertising done this year - many of the candidates place from NO to SMALL sized advertising in the VOICE.

The lack of value placed upon Black Voters has never been greater. Issues of real importance have been pushed in the background.

All of the candidates are harping upon—Adult Book Stores—Adult Movies as the most important issue facing Clark County—knowing full well that voters are being asked to vote on the question. So it matters very little how the candidates stand. The voters will, by ballot, show how they feel about the right of Adults to go where and to see whatever type of books or movies they want.

However, that question is answered will be unfair. If a majority of the voters vote against allowing other Adults to decide for themselves what they want it is by no means a true measure of how the total population feels.

We feel that such measures take away individual freedom of choice.

Everyone wants to regulate his brothers morals. Everyone seems to forget that if enough people were against Adult Book Stores and Movies—all of those business's would fail because they were not making money—the law of supply and demand—should govern.

All citizens who seem to object to these stores would show their objection by not patronizing them and stop trying to present others from doing their thing. As we have stated before no one is forced to enter these stores.

Some of the pitches against the operators are—it will damage our children. In todays permissive society many children are exposed to sex in their own homes. We have not heard of any Minors being arrested for entering these stores.

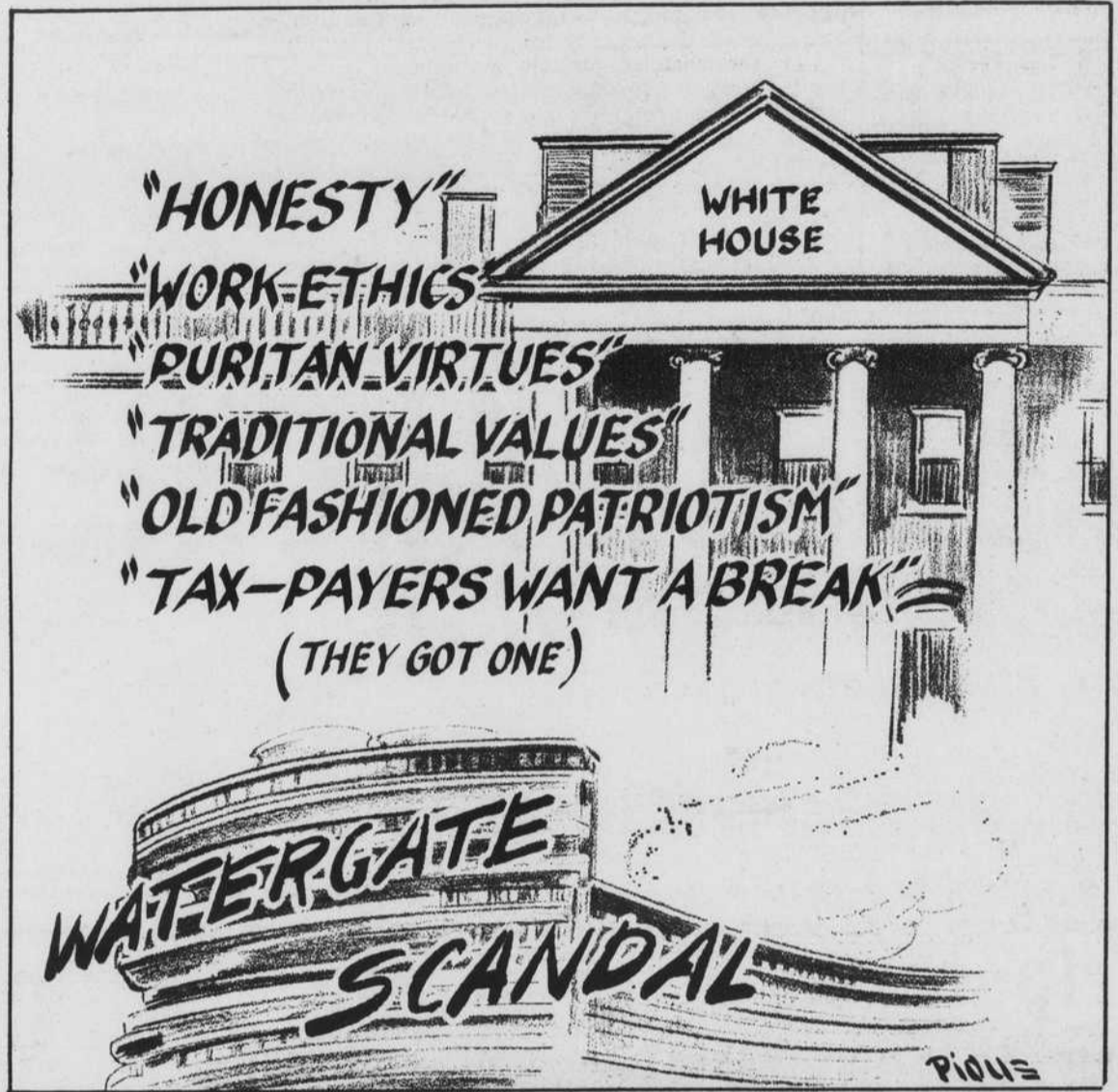
What we are really saying is - we are not our brothers god or parents. If you don't dig Adult fare no amount of stores can force you in.

What all candidates should be high on would better government, less corruption, and less taxes—almost any other issue is moot.

We as Blacks should judge—by what is best for us and our children in terms of parks—clean better lighted streets within our community we need to support those candidates who solicit our support and who promise to better our condition. Any candidate who places little or no value on our vote will care even less about our need. If they don't try to come into our homes and ask for our vote—by soliciting our support—They won't allow us to come to them with our problems.

We would be foolish to give unasked OUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION - OUR VOTE!

"LAW AND ORDER"...?



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Black people in West Las Vegas should be made aware of the fact that the recent Afro-Unity Festival was a success due to the effort of the black community and should realize that this event will be bigger and better every year.

A few contributions were made from white-owned establishments; however, if we would have depended solely on FANTASTIC contributions from these businesses, we would have had no festival. It should be pointed out that although our black dollars support many white businesses, this is not the case, especially where, for example, the mortuaries are concerned. Thousands of dollars are reaped from our community, but when we asked for contributions a very small amount of money was received from on mortuary and no contribution

from its competitor. This is only one type of response we got from the city of Las Vegas.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, why not take an extra minute to check out a mortuary owned by a brother located here in Vegas? Why not be a bit more skeptical about generously supporting these racist institutions when they don't believe in supporting you and your community? This is the time for all of us to wake up and support each other because, surely, no one else will! When are we going to stop being super slaves for the master and stop pouring our hard earned dollars in his lily-white plantation. Let's stop turning back the clock 100 years (Let me qualify myself): this is not an advertisement for the black-owned mortuary but I am simply exposing the truth.

A FESTIVAL SUPPORTER

CAPSULE COMMENTS

STRANGE BIDS

It was very strange indeed that four different persons submitted identical bids on each of the four parcels declared surplus by the Clark County School District. Although the parcels were small something seemed amidst when bids were same amount of money and carried same deposit. These parcels were surplus of the Ruby Thomas Elementary School site. (not exactly in a slum area.) It appears as if some people got their heads or whatever together.

W.T. Grant company has been accused by several West Las Vegas citizens as not standing behind the warranty given with their appliances.

The Consumer Affairs Departments and other agencies who receive complaints have sizeable numbers of complaints against GRANTS.

An investigation is underway to determine the validity of some complaints.

We must give praise to our Senators Bible and Cannon for voting for Closure - on the Voter Registration Act. Truly a victory for those of us who advocate simplifying registration procedures - for all.

REMEMBERING MEDGAR EVERS

By Bayard Rustin

Medgar Evers was a quiet, unassuming man who avoided the glare of publicity. Yet his character was unforgettable. Fearless without bravado, he was devoted to organizing blacks in a forbidding hate-impelled state that systematically snuffed out any potential of black leadership. When he died by an assassin's bullet ten years ago this June 12, Evers and a handful of home-grown activists had already set in motion a movement that was to have a transforming influence on the political landscape of the South and particularly, Mississippi.

Evers succeeded because his faith was firmly rooted in principle. Although having experienced from birth the ugliness of race hatred and having witnessed mindless, officially-sanctioned brutality, Evers pressed ahead, nourished by a belief in integration, civil rights, the ultimate importance of the vote, and the moral as well as the strategic necessity of non-violence.

As Mississippi Field Secretary for the Naacp, (See Evers, page 17)

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