

# EDITORIAL

By Paul C. Smith

## Lovell For City Attorney

The office of City Attorney is a very important office, to the citizens of this city. The City Charter makes the office an election one, primarily to give control to the people. Therefore city attorney does not serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, City Commissioner or the City Manager. These officials can only make requests-never demands on the city attorney. Therefore the city attorney alone is responsible for his actions.

We have questioned Mr. Gripenstrog's handling of several matters - the Lt. Bolden case - the Cosmo show cause hearings, his foot dragging on the investigation of the police use of dogs against minor black children-his failure to ask for or file show cause hearing against white owners of businesses located in West Las Vegas - where shootings, murders, and other illegal activities have occurred in his prosecution of Blacks, while serving as a deputy D.A. he in most cases asked for the MAXIMUM punishment.

Now it appears that because of the strong feeling within the Black Community against his position on the Bolden Case - He now asks that Bolden be promoted to Captain(not withstanding the fact) that he says- "I still think Bolden cheated."

Based upon our review of Gripenstrog performance - it is our honest opinion that we must have a new city attorney.

We endorse Carl Lovell as the best candidate for City Attorney. We feel that as Blacks - we are too intelligent to believe that Gripenstrog's last minute change of heart was not really a change of heart - but a move to try and pick up more Black Votes.

We cannot support a man who will not stand by his own convictions, we cannot trust a man who would RATHER switch than fight.

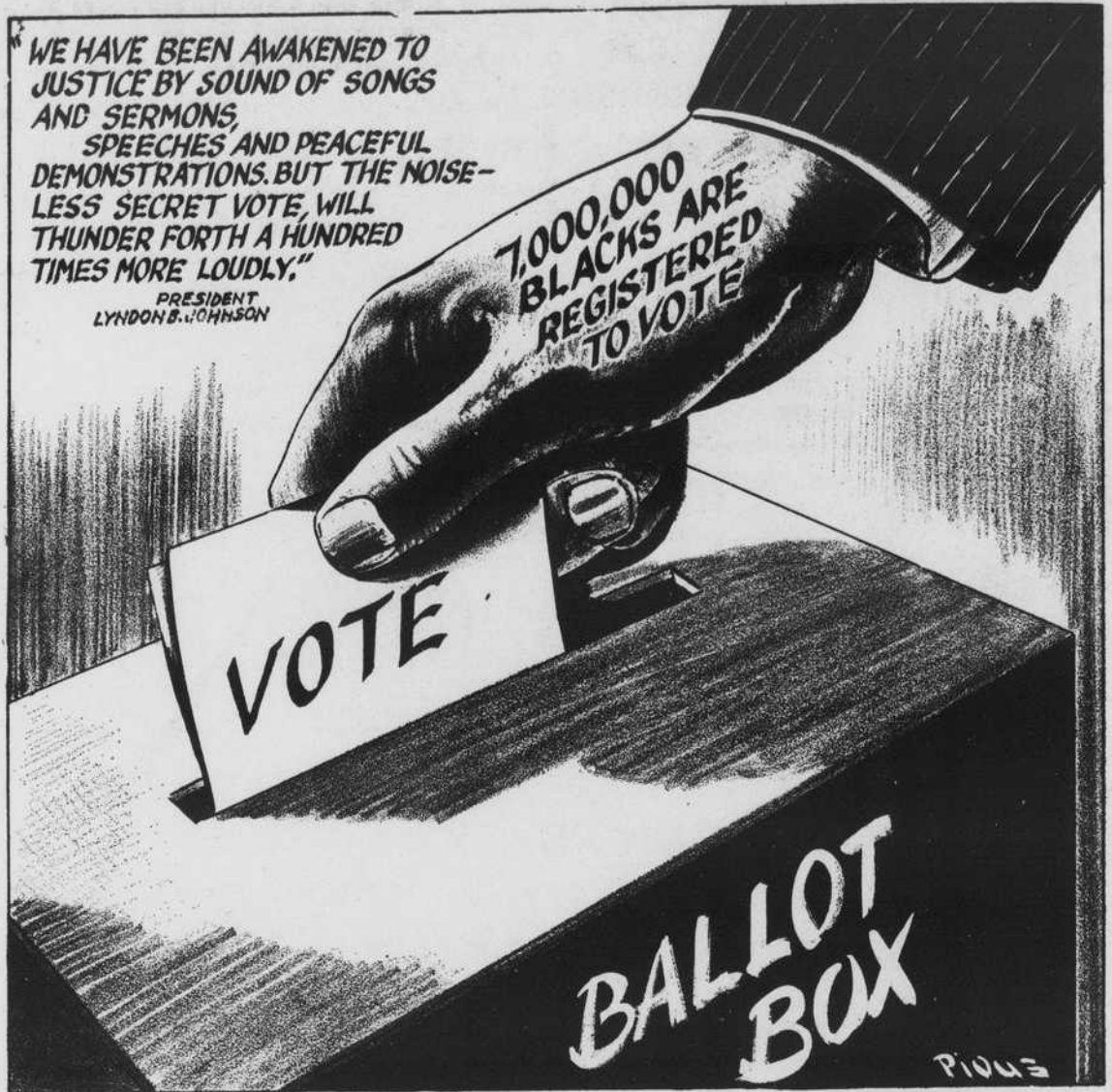
We urge our readers to give their votes to Carl Lovell for City Attorney.

## NAACP Ask For New Elementary Schools

At the School Board meeting on May 25, 1973, the NAACP requested that the West Las Vegas area be considered as a site for future elementary schools.

Mr. Canter laid the blame on the Supreme Court saying that the Swan Case prevented the building of schools in the center of a minority area. Mr. Taylor gave the reasons of economics for selecting sites for the building of schools. Neither argument is logical. The specific area referred to in the NAACP request was the area close to the Sierra Nevada Arms, an integrated neighborhood with 352 units. The School District already owns property in the area, but even if property had to be acquired, it would be cheaper than in eastern Las Vegas. We are not saying that schools should not be built all over the area, only that the West Las Vegas area should have fair consideration in the selection process. The bussing cost would be at a minimum in the area due to the integrated structure of the neighborhood. In other words, it would be economically feasible and seemingly in line with the Court's decision to integrate the schools.

Mrs. Cannon pointed out that the School District had attempted to build a junior high school in the west Las Vegas area some years ago, but was "threatened with a law suit by the residents". Time brings about a change, especially when it is instituted by the Supreme Court. The Court decision to desegregate the schools in 1968 painted a different picture. Not only are we no longer opposed



to the building of a junior high and/or high school in the west Las Vegas area, but we will work as hard to get one as we did to keep it out before. The area residents were previously concerned that a school in the area would not be kept up to par as to the quality of the schools in the White areas.

## VOTE YES ON I

The June 5, 1973 General Election is near and most important to the voters in North Las Vegas. In this election is the possibility of getting a Black candidate elected to the City Council. The election process in itself is significant to all of us as it provides the only opportunity for the majority of us to express our feelings of support or censorship for political representation. It is with this general idea in mind that I wrote this article. At long last the democratic ideal of closer, more direct and responsible government representation can become a reality in Clark County. The initial step was made with the reapportionment of the School Board of Trustees and the County Commissioners. The Fifty-seventh Session of the State Legislature, which just ended, failed to see the need for reapportioning the local city governments and gracefully placed the burden upon the voters for making this decision. Now, you must show that you want government to be responsive to you and accessible to your problems and needs.

QUESTION NO.1 will appear on both ballots for North Las Vegas and Las Vegas. Those of you who have received your sample ballot from North Las Vegas, see that the information on Question No. 1 covers some seven lengthy paragraphs which would tend to be too time consuming and confusing to read in a voting booth. However, the intent of the question is the same for North Las Vegas and Las Vegas, which has a shorter explanation. Briefly, Question No. 1 states that the mayors in both cities will run-at-large, while the North Las Vegas Councilmen and Las Vegas Commissioners will run from the ward or the district where he or she lives. Your YES VOTE for this question will help insure that we get our own ward or district and a Black repre-

sentative in the local government of both cities. This is the only means that can possibly guarantee that we will consistently have Black representation in government. In this way we can more readily exercise the true meaning of the concept of the "one man - one vote principle"; thereby, giving control of the actions of your representative to you and your vote.

We must do all we can to elect Black people to all elected bodies of our cities, county and state. The more Blacks we get involved in the decision making process the better chance we have of getting our community issues aired and eventually resolved.

VOTE YES FOR QUESTION NO. 1 - It means more direct participation and voice in government for our community. Remember: If you are not part of the action you don't enjoy the rewards.

Cranford Crawford  
Black Community Developer

# put your vote where your MOUTH is.

**LAS VEGAS Voice**

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