

ED. NOTE:

We have for the past few weeks received many letters from people, both within and outside the community. Most of these letters are political ploys attempting to promote the chances of some candidates over others.

We have not printed these letters and do not propose to do so in the future.

If our readers are aware of some wrongs that should be brought to the public's attention - bring us proof and we will investigate - if we find that statements or conditions exist that warrant exposure - we will follow through and make that exposure. WE WILL NOT be a party to any vendettas against anyone.

BLACK CONCERNS !!!

By Paul C. Smith

The arrest of a new Clark County School Teacher last month only pointed out how unjustly the system works against blacks.

Based upon the positive identification of the young man by the victims of a robbery that had occurred in their home the later part of July he was arrested and booked into County Jail on a felony charge of robbery. Altho the man told officers that he did not arrive in Las Vegas until August 12th or 13th and that he was at Purdue University teaching a class on the date his accusers placed him in their living room, where he was seen taking money from the Victims purse, the word of the two white persons took precedent over his word.

As a result of his arrest, he was, according to law, suspended from his teaching job at once.

As a result of his arrest, he was according to law, suspended from his teaching job pending an investigation of the charges.

The Clark County School District inquired into his claim - and discovered that he was in fact telling the truth. Fast action by the School District and the District Attorney, Roy Woofter disclosed that he was teaching a class in Purdue, 3000 miles away on that date.

The charges were dropped at once and the young man was restored to his teaching position.

The anguish, embarrassment and mental stress he was placed in cannot be measured.

We don't know what the victims said when they discovered that they had made a mistake - but they must have used the old expression "they all look alike."

EAPSULE COMMENTS

By Paul C. Smith

The Consent Decree meetings have been routine - with no figures from unions or hotels as to where they are standing in their obligation to meet the quotas set by the decree.

No one, at least during our last visit to the meeting complained about not having enough qualified blacks except in the waiter-waitress class.

One could assume that they are up to quota in all other classes. We have in past contacts at meetings related, how back almost 20 years when there were no black waiters available in Las Vegas - as part of a recruiting team - we brought 100 EXPERIENCED waiters and waitresses to Las Vegas. If the hotels are having problems in filling these spots, let them recruit capable employees from other cities. Not being able to fill quotas locally is not an excuse and should not be accepted by the courts.

All major corporations recruit - to fill their needs.

President Ford's Challenge

President Gerald R. Ford has a wonderful opportunity to set about the business of bringing the country together, to bind up its wounds, and heal its sickness. He is making a good start by meeting with the Congressional Black Caucus, Labor, and other organizations.

But his admission of inadequacies in the area of minority rights in his speech as Vice President before the Urban League Convention six weeks ago in San Francisco, reinforces our concern

PITCH IN ...IT'S YOUR PROBLEM TOO!

LEADERSHIP IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY!



that the new President have in-depth contact with the major organizations serving Black America.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association, the Black Press of America -- a leading spokesman for the black population of some 25 million -- is willing to meet with the new Chief Executive in an effort to broaden his acquaintance with the goals and needs of Black Americans. With member newspapers in nearly 100 cities of 38 states and the Virgin Islands, NNPA has a national perspective on the problems of blacks in every major community of our country.

Although Ford backed the Voting Rights Bill while he was in Congress, he opposed many other measures that our leadership holds dear. Perhaps his opposition grew out of a misunderstanding of the problems of Black America. Such misunderstanding is something neither he nor we can afford.

In this 111th year of the post-Lincoln Emancipation Proclamation, the Chief Executive of this country, must indeed be mindful of the grave responsibilities of alleviating the suffering of many Black Americans.

The Black Press of America stands ready to help in this task. We recommend to President Ford that as he assembles the team around him that he give serious consideration to the appointment of blacks to the following positions: a Cabinet officer, an assistant to the President, a counsel to the President, and an official in the placement bureau at the White House.

These kinds of appointments would be a first step in restoring confidence and faith to an important segment of this country. The day of political expediency is over. Our leaders must become giants in world history out of statesmanlike acts.

This is what history will record of Gerald Ford, assuming office at a truly momentous time. He now has the power to help fulfill the true American ideal and the American dream.

PROGRESS HAS NO ENDING BUT IT DOES HAVE A BEGINNING!

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