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NEVADA'S BLACK COMMUNITY WEEKLY

POWERFUL POWER BILLS

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CLOTURE AND FOOD STAMPS

TWO CRUCIAL ISSUES FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION -- A move to stop the Ford Administration from crippling the food stamp program is gathering momentum in Congress. And in the Senate, the fight to change the rules to make it easier to stop a filibuster is moving toward

critical votes, sometime later this month. Both are important issues for the Leadership Conference. Here is background and a plan of action. We take the matters up in the order in which we expect things to happen. We do not, incidentally, expect the customary Lincoln's Birthday recess to have any impact on this legislation. Although the House will take a break the Senate has cancelled its holiday.

In the House of Representatives, firm and fast action is already being taken to stop the cost hike from going into effect. By a vote of 33-2, the House Agriculture Committee, reported out a bill (H.R. 1589) that would keep the present program and its cost unchanged through December 30, 1975. Since little difficulty is expected in getting the bill through the House, concentrate on the Senate. Wire your Senators and urge them to vote for legislation aimed at stopping the Administration from raising the price of food stamps to the poor.

Meanwhile, in the Senate, debate continues on the bipartisan resolution (S. Res. 4) that would modify Senate Rule XXII, so that a filibuster could be limited by a vote of three-fifths of those present and voting rather than the present two-thirds.

As anticipated Senator James Allen (D., Ala.) is conducting virtually a one-man filibuster against the resolution. Later this month an attempt will be made to cut him off. If a majority of the Senate, but less than two-thirds votes for cloture, supporters of the resolution led by Senators Walter Mondale (D., Minn.) and James Pearson (R., Kans.) will ask Vice President Rockefeller to rule that at the opening of a new Senate, a majority vote is enough to shut off debate.

CAN JOANNE LITTLE GET A FAIR TRIAL?



Just before dawn August 27, 1974, Miss Joanne Little, 20, slept peacefully in a small jail cell in Beaufort County, North Carolina. She had been in the same cell and on the same cot for the last three months.

She had on only a long nightgown. Suddenly she felt someone pulling at her covers. She did not attempt to move, because at first she thought she was dreaming. Then in the middle road between sleeping and awakening, she felt her rough gown moving slowly and jerkily up her thighs and over her hips. She then realized, she was not dreaming--someone was in bed with her.

But before she could gather her thoughts, her attacker had penned her to the cot, and put an ice pick to her throat. Her assailant began to satisfy his fit of passion, while she laid helplessly under his weight. She could only muster an occasional moan and low scream, because the man's weight was crushing her 5'3" frame.

Miss Little is black, in jail pending an appeal of her conviction on a charge of breaking and entering. Her white attacker, Clarence Alligood, 62, was the night jailer. He was also a farmer and former truck driver.

Alligood had seen Miss Little a lot over the past three months. The idea of having a small, defenseless, black woman at his mercy excited him. This excitement was further stirred this particular night because for the first time they were alone. The temptation overpowered him.

He opened the desk drawer, and took out an ice pick he always kept there. He started for Ms. Little's cell removing his shoes before he entered. Since he did not expect anyone to come to the jail, his only worry was that his black captive might awaken before he was ready to make his move.

Inside the cell, he removed his pants. After Alligood had let his passion, he realized he had made a mistake, for the strength had been spent from his old body. And as he struggled to rise from the cot he got careless, and Ms. Little wrest the ice-pick from his hand and plunged it 11 times into his chest before she fled from the jail.

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In response to "literally hundreds of complaints about the Nevada Power Company's high rates and billing procedures, Clark County Commissioner Aaron Williams today announced a sweeping list of actions he will soon take to help relieve the present and future burden on homeowners.

Williams, who on February 5th introduced a motion to delay granting the Nevada Power Company a renewal of its franchise to service Clark County, admitted that the Clark County Commission and other state and local offices are virtually powerless to control rate increases. By law, the Public Service Commission has the sole responsibility for regulating the utilities. He said, he had an in-depth meeting with two of the three appointed members who comprise the PSC to present complaints and petitions which had come to his attention.

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\$500 DONATION



PROGRESSIVE WOMEN'S CLUB---This club of West Las Vegas recently donated \$500 to the Community Ranch for Boys under development in Southern Nevada, by a group of private citizens. The club raised it's contribution through a dinner-dance.

The Ranch, which is trying to buy land in this area, will provide a home for boys between the ages of 12-16, regardless of race or religion. The Ranch will have a school, residential halls, athletics, dramatic and game clubs. Deborah Johnson, president of the club, signs the \$500 check, while standing from left to right, Annie Reilly, club secretary, and Lounell McDaniel, a member of the Community Ranch, look on.

VOTERS MEETING

BVAN, will hold their monthly meeting Sunday, February 16, 1975, in the NAACP office. Everyone is cordially invited to attend, member or not.

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