

EDITORS REPLY

by LAWRENCE ALBERT

Otis Harris missed the point in his response to my criticisms appearing in the March 20th issue of this paper.

At the end of my March 20th editorial, I invited Harris, in his capacity as a member of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors' Authority, to respond to the remarks I made concerning his handling of the Black Athletes Hall of Fame Awards, which was held here.

Harris talked about everything in his response except the criticisms of this editor.

I did not criticize Harris because the luncheon of the Black Athletes Hall of Fame Awards was held at Caesars Palace. First, my beef with Harris is that he chose to have the cocktail party of that event at the Jockey Club on the Strip instead of at some establishment in West Las Vegas. Now, in Harris' response, he insinuated he had nothing to do with the location of the cocktail party. But I went to the Jockey Club to try to attend it and the gatekeeper said, I had to have the permission of Harris to get in.

That brings me to another point, Harris said black people could forget about having the Black Hall of Fame located in Las Vegas, because prominent blacks did not show any interest when he invited them to attend the awards, but Harris' committee invited very few of the intelligent and influential blacks of West Las Vegas. In fact, he did not even see fit to advertise the event in the only black paper in Southern Nevada, thus very few blacks even knew about the affair.

Finally Harris came out with the lame excuse that he had no control at all of where and when the event was to be held, however, earlier he said he made all the arrangements, a blatant contradiction.

As Harris was given an opportunity to answer my criticism on March 20, I extend the same invitation again for him to respond to these remarks.

NEW PATENT & TRADEMARKS DEPUTY



Lutrelle F. Parker becomes Deputy U. S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks in ceremonies at the Department of Commerce. Commerce Secretary Frederick B. Dent (left) administers the Oath of Office with Mrs. Parker holding the family bible. Sons Lutrelle F., Jr., (fourth from left) and wife Brenda and Raymond D. attends swearing in.

He was nominated for the position by President Gerald R. Ford on December 30, 1974 and

OPERATION LIFE FUNDED

The Operation Life, Inc., 400 W. Jackson St., has received a grant from the Max C. Fleischman Foundation to rehabilitate its buildings, according to Chairwoman Ruby Duncan.

Mrs. Duncan declined to comment on the size of the grant but said, "The renovation funds are our long awaited first step in becoming a self-sufficient organization."

We have always felt that poverty organizations should not be dependent upon others for financial support, and hope this will give us the opportunity to be

independent. We are currently seeking community support for this project--both in acquiring potential occupants and in supplying needed labor and materials to get the building in shape," Mrs. Duncan said.

The organization has also acquired two federal low-income houses to use as child care centers. Mrs. Duncan said, "These homes will accommodate up to 10 children each and will be a neighborhood service to parents who cannot afford adequate child care."

IRS REVIEWS TIPS

WASHINGTON -- The Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service today agreed with Nevada Senator Howard Cannon's contention that the agency's position on the dealers tips issue should be made clear and any conflict over the tax issue resolved as quickly as possible.

IRS Commissioner Donald C. Alexander told Cannon his agency is reviewing a February district court decision that a local dealer's tips were gifts and therefore not taxable.

Alexander said the review is being completed by the Tax Division of the Justice Department and the Chief Counsel's office of the IRS "to determine whether or not an appeal is appropriate."

"I agree with you that

the position of the Internal Revenue Service on this matter should be made clear and any difference of opinion at to the tax issue resolved as quickly as possible," Alexander told the senator in a response to Cannon's request for IRS action on the matter.

Cannon contacted Alexander earlier this month and urged the official to either appeal the ruling by a U.S. District Court judge in Las Vegas or take "some step which will help resolve the conflict at hand."

Cannon said "The tax status of thousands of Nevadans depend upon a binding decision on an important policy matter," and added "to do nothing is to engage in irresponsible government."

SBA DESASTER LOANS

The Small Business Administration has announced that it can now accept applications under the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program from those businesses located in the following counties: Clark, Elko, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln and White Pine. Those businesses which suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the

drought between March 24, 1974 and October 24, 1974 will be eligible to apply for this assistance. There will be no principal cancellation and the annual interest rate will be five percent (5%).

Further information is available from the Small Business Administration, 300 Las Vegas Blvd, South, or by Calling 385-6271.

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