

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

by LAWRENCE ALBERT

Bob Bailey, Executive Director of NEDCO, was attacked in the Las Vegas VOICE recently, along with other influential Blacks, for holding all of his functions on either the Strip or Downtown Las Vegas.

Otis Harris, a member of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitor's Authority, who was among the accused, rebutted the accusations, in the VOICE.

Bailey, however, went to a white newspaper, the Las Vegas SUN, to answer the remarks against him in the column of another Black man.

If Bailey is so interested in Blacks getting together (as he claims), why did he go to the white man for relief? I told Bailey in the column, in which I criticized him, that he would be given the opportunity to answer those criticisms in this paper. But, he didn't even respect this paper enough to call the editor and publisher, or to write a rebuttal, to be printed in it.

Bailey is a big advocate of Black unity, especially when he needs the support of the Black community. A few months ago, there was a power play in NEDCO, in which Bailey almost lost his position. He came crying to the very community that he had deserted, to help him keep his job.

Now, this publisher is not trying to malign the character of Mr. Bailey, but he does not practice what he preaches. He calls for Black unity, but he does not work at it or practice it.

He was major stock holder in the Golden West Shopping Center, but the headquarters of NEDCO, is downtown, in a substandard office. Not only that, but Mr. Bailey only seems to be for Black unity when it will serve his own selfish purpose. If he had been willing, to share the shopping center with the rest of the sockholders, the Black community would still have the Pan-Afro Auditorium, but by him being so selfish, that also was closed. Bailey has had more than his share of business opportunities in West Las Vegas. He had a real estate office in the Moulin Rouge Hotel, the Golden West Shopping Center, gaming licenses in the Pan-Afro Auditorium and the Mau Mau Room and the Sugar Hill, which is now in financial difficulty. But before he would let anyone share in any of these ventures, he walked away from the Black community.

This paper is not trying to destroy Mr. Bailey, but it feels that he is not using his vast talents for the betterment of the Black community. If he were really concerned about this community and respected it, he would not have run to a white paper to rebut unfavorable comments toward him in the only Black paper in Southern Nevada.

This disagreement between Mr. Bailey and this newspaper concerns primarily the Black community, and yet, he took them to the white man. I am glad that I had 35 cents, to buy this past Sunday's edition of the Las Vegas, SUN, a privilege some Blacks could not afford, so that I could read Mr. Bailey's rebuttal to remarks made about him in the VOICE.

Now, if Mr. Bailey cannot in the near future, convince this newspaper that he is really concerned about the Black community and is trying to help it, then the VOICE will have to campaign for a director of NEDCO, who can serve this needy area.

JUST THE FACTS

by Frewin D. Osteen

Welcome to the first of what I hope will be many interesting columns about places, events, and most importantly people that directly and indirectly affect the lives of Blacks around the world, the nation and particularly here in Nevada.

In the weeks to come, we hope to talk to persons like the Director of the Clark County Legal Aid Society, about the agency and how it affects Blacks.

Politicians in and out of office, and their duties, obligations and responsibilities to the people that elect them, and also how they have helped or hampered the Black community.

We'll talk to educators about the problems that Black students face from day to day, in our educational system; and about solutions if any.

TO THE ELDERLY, THE STREETS HAVE BECOME A JUNGLE



SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BICENTENNIAL

by William L. Patterson

We stand on the doorstep of a political event. Within a historically short space of time, little more than a year, the Bicentennial celebration of the birth of this nation will have come and gone. Millions of democratic minded people will participate in celebrating the political event that marked a turning point in world history, but not all for the same reason nor with the same perspectives.

Bourgeois historians, sociologists, political economists, teachers and preachers, propagandists and ideologists of every description will have a Roman holiday. They will heap excessive praises on the founding fathers consciously forgetting, if they ever knew, that as Thomas Jefferson noted in his first draft of the Declaration of Independence, the elimination of slavery was one of the tasks of that revolutionary period. It was not fulfilled.

They will laud the course of development proposed by those who rejected Jefferson's position. The ideological-psychological campaign of these propandists has already begun long before the

Hopefully we'll get some answers, as to what's gone wrong, with the system, in regard to Black students.

Also, we'll discuss the role of the Black parent, and how we can help our children get an education equal to, if not better than, whites in our community.

Black business and businessmen, in and out of West Las Vegas, also will be a topic of discussion in the months to come.

I'd also like to hear from you about topics, which are of interest to you, that also may be of interest to others.

Hopefully through this column, we'll learn more about our community, the people, agencies, and events that make it what is is. And, maybe show how we can make it a place, that we as Blacks, will be proud to call our own.

4th of July, 1976 because, confronted by an unprecedented series of social crisis for the solution of which capitalism has no scientific answer, they will have repeatedly asserted that this is "the best of all possible worlds."

But, those who speak for the military-industrial complex which dictates the present course of foreign and domestic affairs will make no pretense of presenting an acceptable explanation of why the curse of slavery was left to plague the new society, why was slavery not eliminated after the successful revolution? They will ignore the role played by Blacks in that struggle for freedom, except perhaps mentioning sentimentally and demagogically the death of Crispus Attucks. Nor will they treat scientifically with the ruling class' introduction of the mythology of white skin superiority. That thesis will be used in justification of the savage enslavement of millions of Black Africans. Slavery, many will acclaim, was ordained by the god of the enslavers. It was, they say, of benefit to those enslaved.

Trading in the bodies of men, women and youth stolen from Africa created the accumulation of much of the early capitalist wealth in England, the colonies and the United States. The distortion of reality and all social sciences followed. Historians as well as other scientists were seduced and prostituted.

Since the successful revolutionary struggle waged by the 13 British colonies, not a day has passed, as is revealed by the three volumes of A Documentary History of the Negro People in the

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