

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS OPPOSES BELL AS 'UNFIT' FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL POST; JOINS N.A.A.C.P. AGAINST CONFIRMATION

The American Jewish congress today (Friday, Jan. 14) opposed the nomination of Griffin B. Bell as Attorney General and urged that "the most comprehensive examination of his personal and professional history be undertaken before a vote is held."

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the Congress, said in telegrams to members of the Senate Judiciary Committee that his organization joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in voicing "grave doubts concerning Mr. Bell's fitness for the post."

"Should new information develop contrary to what the hearings have revealed thus far," Rabbi Hertzberg said, "we will of course reconsider our position."

In its message to the Senate Committee, the American Jewish Congress declared:

"At a time when the symbolic nature of the Attorney General's office has assumed ever-greater importance for the American people, the person designated for that position must be one whose past record and present attitudes justify both confidence and respect."

"Mr. Bell's support of the Supreme Court nomination of Judge Carswell, his role as architect of Governor Vandiver's massive resistance of desegregation, his membership in clubs that exclude Blacks and Jews, his decision supporting the Georgia Legislature's refusal to seat Julian Bond—these are, in our judgement, sufficient reasons to justify the fear and discomfort which many Americans feel toward his designation. Such a man cannot inspire confidence and respect."

Office Too Important to 'Take Me on Faith'

In his telegram, Rabbi Hertzberg said: "We do not for a moment question Mr. Bell's sincerity as he pledges fairness and justice for all should he be confirmed as Attorney General of the United States."

"But that office is too important to permit confirmation on the basis of promises and his pleas to 'take me on faith.'"

"The influence of an Attorney General goes far beyond what may be seen in his public acts. It includes advice to the President on critical public issues and on his appointment of Supreme Court, Circuit Court and District Court judges, United States attorneys and a host of other important policy-making positions."

"It includes supervision of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Prisons and the other parts of the Department of Justice. It includes the power to make decisions on what prosecutions to start, what appeals to take, what wiretaps to authorize and what investigations to launch."

"The only assurance that the public can have that these decisions will be made in a manner that complies with the spirit of constitutional guarantees of freedom and equality is in the character and known record of the person who holds the position of Attorney-General. On Mr. Bell's record, we can have no such assurance."

"We therefore oppose his designation as Attorney General of the United States."

The American Jewish Congress is a national human rights organization founded in 1916 by Louis Brandeis and Rabbi Stephen Wise. Its headquarters are in New York.

NO SWEAT!

In the quest for the body beautiful, billions of dollars are spent each year on diet books, low-cal foods, weight loss gadgets, fat farms and health spas. Yet the fact remains that Americans are getting fatter.

The facts and fiction of physical fitness are the subject of Sunday, January 23's CONSUMER SURVIVAL KIT program seen on TV 10 at 6 p.m.

If you're overweight, don't feel alone. Studies show approximately 75 million Americans are overweight. Of these, more than 42 million are trying to cut down and firm up.

Will steam baths sweat off excess pounds, does exercise increase your appetite and do you need a special diet to get rid of "cellulite"?

The answer to these and many other questions about physical fitness and health diets are some of the subjects covered in this week's program.

The Consumer Survival physical fitness kit available by mail will show you how to go about starting a sensible weight control and physical fitness program. It also includes brochures on health spas, eliminating fats in cooking, caloric chart and exercises for every age.

For your viewing convenience, this PBS program is repeated every Friday at 5:30 p.m.

EOB OFFERS HOME WEATHERIZATION SERVICE TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Home weatherization is a service presently available to low-income senior citizens through the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County. This service involves insulating of walls and ceilings, weather stripping around doors, caulking, mobil home banking and making minor repairs, such as repairing cracks in walls and replacing broken windows.

Any senior citizen meeting the Community Service Administration guidelines is eligible for the service. These guidelines are: \$3,500 annual income or below for one person in the family; \$4,625 annual income or below for two people in the family; and \$5,750 annual income or below for three people in the family.

Homes must be owned or being bought by the senior citizen or a member of his family. Improvements will not be made to rented property.

Priority is given to handicapped senior citizens and to seniors having a child under 12-years' old living in their home.

Senior citizens who feels they qualify for the service should request an application from EOB by calling 648-3280, Ext. 35 or 17. Applications are also available at the Downtown Senior Citizens Center, libraries, the EOB Senior Center, Nevada Power Company and Southwest Gas Company.

Applications will be reviewed by the Greater Las Vegas Council on Weatherization, chaired by Las Vegas City commissioner Ron Lurie.

The Council screens applicants and sets priorities on the chosen applicants. It has scheduled meetings for the first and third Thursdays of the month. The next meeting is Thursday, February 3rd, at the EOB Office.

The Weatherization Program is part of the Federal Energy Program and is an attempt to assist the low-income elderly who are often on a fixed income and hardest hit by energy costs.

HAPPINESS THROUGH HEALTH

BY: Otto McClure

Harvard Researcher Says Reducing Tension Will Help Combat Disease:

A Harvard public health researcher told his colleagues recently that their newest and probably most difficult challenge in reducing the incidence of disease in this country is finding better ways to help families combat stress.

Dr. Robert J. Haggerty of the Harvard School of Public Health told a meeting in Miami that "accidents and abuse have been shown to be two to three times as common in families with frequent moves, recent deaths, and evidence of social dysfunction, such as unmarried mothers, marital problems, and unemployment."

While this has been known to some degree for several decades now, studies documenting the phenomena are increasing. The subject has also become important in the discussion of enacting some national health insurance system, which critics say will be flooded by the "worried well"—people whose life circumstances, rather than disease, make them feel ill and cause them to seek medical care.

In his discussion of stress, Dr. Haggerty said that, 15 years ago, he found in a Boston study that streptococcal infections were found to be four times as frequent after stress as during more tranquil times, and he said he still sees the same trends.

However, he said, "The mechanism by which stress works to increase the susceptibility to disease is not clear." Even when stress is identified as causing the problem, he said, exactly what can be done is not clear, especially when unemployment, martial conflicts or trouble with the law are found to be the underlying cause of the problem.

Dr. Haggerty said that clinicians should help their patients through such crises by supporting existing community institution: religious groups, social clubs, adult education programs, parent groups and similar organizations.

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