

The Publisher Speaks



Into the Voice office the other day came what I thought would be another typical bureaucrat. Bob Goodman has been with Governor O'Callaghan about five years. This is generally too long for anyone to be in the same position in government.

Goodman has been director of the department of economic development and tourism. This is an agency set up to promote and broaden the economic base in Nevada. There was initially great emphasis on the agency to help in rural Nevada where the small counties didn't have big, high-paid chambers of commerce to promote their virtues. There has, over the years, been some success in this area. The department takes some credit for the boom in mining in Lincoln County and the potato farms in Humboldt County.

This newspaper has been very outspoken and critical of the so-called four corners project. This is the program which now has an office in North Las Vegas and is being directed by Otis Harris and is under the direct sponsorship of Mr. Bob Goodman's office.

In effect, this newspaper has said - Put up or shut up.

Surprisingly, Mr. Goodman came to my office and told me he was putting up and I, in effect, should shut up and give him and the program a chance.

I admired Mr. Goodman's bluntness. I think we need more people in government who are willing to speak out for what they are doing. In effect, to be proud of their efforts and not to be vacillating jellyfish.

I still don't know if Goodman and Harris can get on the program to develop, economically, West Las Vegas. But I'm willing to give them a chance. We need more people in government with Goodman's dedication and energy. I hope he proves our earlier comments wrong.

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Just the FACTS

QUICK TEMPERS DURING SUMMER

Now that the hot weather is here, so is the restlessness, aggravation and "quick tempers" that seem to prevail in summer. Case in point: the number of recent shootings in our community.

Seems as though each week, the number of shootings increases. Is this the way to settle arguments or differences?

Let's stop and take a look at the situation for what it's worth. For starters, to shoot someone really doesn't settle or resolve anything. It compounds the problem. One person is injured or killed; the other person goes through the charges of being arrested, possibly jailed, court, etc. Now really, is it worth the time and charges to shoot someone? Shooting settles nothing.

Sure we all seem to be a little more irritable or edgy when it gets hot. When a situation gets "unbearable," why not walk away from it? To pursue a touchy situation leads to the inevitable: tempers flare and BANG!

Why a gun? If you know you are a quicktempered person, why even carry a gun? That's like asking for trouble. And how many innocent by-standers have been injured or killed by someone carelessly using a gun? Think, too, about the number of children killed by guns. More times than not the "Saturday night special" has caused more grief and unnecessary changes come "Sunday morning."

To look at the subject of shootings from another perspective. So often we hear, or are quick to shout "police brutality." What about "Black to Black brutality?" If shootings continue at their present rate, soon it won't be necessary to scream "police brutality," for there will be no one left to "brutalize... Think about it. Just the Facts

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

Exxon's Nuclear Threat

Exxon corporation may cause alarm with its proposed crush into a potentially chaotic field. This big oil entry into a potentially dangerous area should frighten even Congress into action. Exxon which has been a laggard in social responsibility, but a front runner in gasoline price hikes for the consumer is growing in a cancerous direction. Congress has not yet stopped the staid oil giant with an oil divestiture bill so its profits are going into controlling nuclear power.

Exxon corporation operates in the U.S. and in more than 100 other countries. Their activities include supplying nuclear fuel and development of uranium ore and coal. The company has coal reserves in the U.S. alone in excess of 8.4 billion tons.

The control of billions of tons of coal, over 4.7 billion barrels of crude oil and natural gas liquids, as well as, 26 billion cubic feet of natural gas apparently is not enough power for the Exxon corporation. Profits alone are enough to choke a horse. What more does Exxon want? The power to destroy life?

The Energy Research and Development Administration recently played dumb when a fourth site for possible reprocessing of nuclear fuel was approved, selling about 185 acres near Oak Ridge, Tennessee to Exxon Nuclear Co.

The Exxon corporation affiliate will at first use the acreage for storing spent fuel rods taken from nuclear power plants. Later, if the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not looking, Exxon will build a plant for reprocessing reusable uranium and plutonium.

These rods are highly dangerous as they are still radioactive. The irresponsibility revealed in Exxon's social responsibility toward women, minorities and consumers does not leave them to be trusted in the public's interest of life and death matters.

INSULT TO INJURY

The profit motive being pushed by Exxon corporation as its excuse for excess fuel charges is weak in the face of current daily gasoline price increases. The company not only took full advantage of the 1973 Arab price increases, but is enjoying jacking up the home heating price

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