

### The Publisher Speaks



Paul Price wrote a column in the Las Vegas Sun newspaper saying that Moon Mullen deserves no help in his time of peril. His statement applies to those of us who are helping put on the dinner and those who are buying tickets.

It is obvious that Mr. Price, who normally sides with the police, does not like Mr. Mullen because of the fact that Judge Mullen has, in the past, not always gone along with every whim of the police department. In fact, most of his troubles have stemmed from the fact that he has been unwilling to be dictated decisions by the Metro Police Department. The police have said they will get even with Moon Mullen. This is their way--through the pen of Paul Price.

It is important that West Las Vegas have a man that will protect them from the brutality and oppression of overzealous police officers. Judge Mullen has done this in the years he has been a judge. Unless we want to get rid of the only person who is willing to be fair in the face of police testimony--unless we are going to do away with the black man's only hope of relief against the police officers--then we must unite to support Judge Mullen on July 22 and buy a ticket to his dinner and testimonial. If we fail in this regard, then the police will be given a free reign in West Las Vegas to arrest and intimidate. This is something that can be helped by our allowing Judge Muller to have a fair defense in the charges now pending against him.

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## Just the FACTS

School is out for the summer. No more pencils, no more books . . . and now what? Many of our youths are taking to the streets, for lack of something better to do. It is said that "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." Are the so-called leaders of this community going to sit by and let the devil work overtime, destroying the minds and souls of our Youth?

It is a known fact, that there is an abundance of leadership and creative talent in the community. No longer can we sit back and expect others to do for us, when we are capable of doing for ourselves. Where are the leaders? Who will take the initiative?

The youth of today represent tomorrow's hopes and dreams: the future. Are we to sit back and let the future go up in smoke? Are we to let the blood of our youth flow needlessly on ghetto streets? Are we to let our youth shoot their future full of dope?

Responsible community leadership would answer the above questions with a resounding "NO." But what will be done to ease the problem?

Perhaps if our so-called community leaders and spokesmen would get together . . . that would be good for starters. Power struggles, personal gains and ego-tripping ser aside, it is possible that our leaders can develop some type of positive program(s) for our youth. Programs of value, of interest and good clean fun.

Now is the time. Look around - everywhere you see young people. Leaders, where are you? Hats off to those who step forward and say "Here am I." To the apathetic the community doesn't need you anyway . . . Just the Facts!

### BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

Business forecasts are all on the upbeat. The trend of economic indicators has chnged the perception of economists as favorably as rising demand has raised the spirits of businessmen. Few experts are expecting any sudden reversal. Gross national product, all the goods and services of the country, are expected to rise 12 percent during 1977.

Capital spending, heavy investment, will rise 15 percent. However, the unemployment rate, at about 7 percent after a dramatic drop of one percentage point in the past half year, is pegged to play in this area the rest of the year. Unfortunately, the projected growth rate of the economy will not be fast enough to make a big dent in unemployment, even by mid-1978. There is, however, bad news for Black Americans, and other minorities in spite of the jump in the number of jobs available in the country.

Large gains in employment are continuing. The expansion in jobs has been powered by growth in the goods-producing sector of the economy. In the seven months period since last October, manufacturing has provided 600,000 more jobs in metal fabricating, machinery electrical equipment and autos. Construction has added more than 250,000 workers. While federal employment is still shrinking, moderate hiring is going on at the state and local government levels.

Black American, Chicano and Puerto Ricans are not participating in this new economic progress of the country. While the over-all unemployment figures slipped below seven percent recently, Black men, women and tee-agers, as well as other minority groups unemployment figures are still in a slump.

The cop out by those who control the nation is to blame it on women and migrant wanderers. There is a ring of truth to these rumors. Of the 2.6 million new members of the labor force in the past year, 1.6 million, over 61 percent were adult women. Nobody knows how high women's participation will go.

It now stands at 48.2 percent compared with 79.6 percent for adult men. Women, especially white women will continue to come into the labor force at a higher rate than previously due to the current sociological changes occ- Continued on page 6, column 3

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