

# N B U F

# E O B

## Albert "Buzzy" Stone

There are those who preach to black America that all is well. There are those blacks themselves who feel that their personal good fortune is universal for black people. We are seeing this all perpetuate an aura of good times while the stark reality of all too many people borders upon desperation. The true facts are far worse than the false sense of well being that some seek to perpetuate.

Over the past year, while the white unemployment rate declined from 7.3% to 6.4%, the jobless rate among blacks remained close to 14% according to Labor Department statistics. Among black youths, the rate was 35.6%, compared to 17.3% for whites.

I cannot stress strongly enough that Labor Department statistics don't give the true unemployment picture. This is true because the Labor Department statistics only deal with those people who are still registered in pursuit of jobs. The statistics don't report at all, those who have dropped out of the job market out of despair or for other reasons. That means that thousands of people are not listed in those statistics who are without a job.

The statistics don't reflect those who are under-employed or employed parttime. They give a distorted picture that is better than the situation really is.

Reliable sources who are concerned with the true plight of the black unemployed reveal that black unemployment is closer to 20%. That means one of five blacks is unemployed. The same sources estimate that the unemployment of black youth is over 50%. Some communities are said to have a black unemployment rate of close to 80%.

This is shocking and shameful. Yet it is met by responses from white and corporate America and strangely by some blacks who have access to media projection with a reactionary attitude that blames blacks themselves for the deplorable employment situation.

Such people have interrupted their cries of how good it is to screams of how bad and how lazy blacks are.

The true facts are that from 1974 to 1976, the median income for black families, when adjusted for inflation, remained at \$9,242, while the white median income for whites rose slightly from \$15,478 to \$15,537. Whites with high school educations still receive more income than blacks with a college degree.

It is dangerous to continue to deal with the cumulative arithmetic of Labor Department statistics to the detriment of the human arithmetic of the full picture. We hear much talk about balancing the budget and controlling inflation. Those are real issues but not at the expense of the lives of so many black human beings.

We cannot excuse questionable behavior but we still must realize that much of the behavior that is criticized on the part of blacks, results from the frustration and desperation of the unemployed. The murder, the bloodshed, the mayhem, narcotics and other maladies that runs rampant in so many black communities, is in part but not totally, due to the dire employment situation.

Something must be done to solve this situation because we are again creating the type of powder keg that erupted in the mid-sixties. People ignored the warnings of the sixties. They are ignoring the warnings now.

A few weeks ago I advocated the passage of the Humphrey-Hawkins bill as a eulogy in memory of Senator Hubert Humphrey. I still advocate passage of that bill. The bills passage would be a beginning but would not begin to totally solve the problem.

America needs a new and visionary approach to the job situation. It must reflect the full human needs of the people. If not, it will not be enough whatever it is.

The Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County Health Services is offering a special Free Cervical Cancer Screening Clinic for women in Clark County. Any woman from age 16 up is eligible for this Free service regardless of income (those under 18 parental consent is required).

This special Free Cervical Cancer Screening Clinic will be held at the North Las Vegas Recreation Center, located at 1638 North Bruce Street, North Las Vegas on March 4, 1978 from 9-12 and 1-4 p.m.

The services which will be provided are:

1. Free paps smear
2. Free pelvic examination
3. Free breast examination
4. Notification of test results when requested.
5. If necessary, referrals will be made for appropriate follow-up.

For further information, please feel free to call 647-2171 or 649-7737.

Albert "Buzzy" Stone of Las Vegas has been recently named Information and Referral Agent for the Nevada Easter Seals Society's Las Vegas Treatment Center, according to Margee Gayle, State Executive Director.

Stone will be in charge of Easter Seals' Information and Referral Program, a public service provided free of charge to all residents and tourists through the Voluntary Action Center Network.

This service includes providing information about health, welfare, VA, social security, education and related problems to all who ask for it. Referral is done on a person's behalf to the proper agency and follow-up is done to insure the person's needs have been met. Those currently using the service include the handicapped, senior citizens, veterans, and the unemployed.

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, Stone has lived in Las Vegas since 1972. After being discharged from the U.S. Air Force he was a technician with the Mental Health Center. In addition to his current position at Easter Seals, Stone is completing his senior year as a psychology and communications major at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

## NAACP

The Las Vegas Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is requesting that Mayor Bill Briare and Mayor Pro Tem Ron Lurie, who serve on the selection committee, to give their support in the selection of a Black to replace Judge Robert "Moon" Mullen, by doing the following:

- (1) use their influence to see that a Black is placed on the selection committee, and
- (2) give their support to Black to replace Judge Robert "Moon" Mullen on the City Court bench.

Dr. James B. McMillan, the President of the local chapter of the NAACP, speaking for the chapter, states that it will only be fair for Las Vegas to maintain at least one Black person in a ranking position in City government where the impact of confronting Black people is more real than any other in the position of a City Judge.

Dr. McMillan concluded by saying that Las Vegas is presently engaged in a multi-million-dollar media campaign attempting to attract tourism for entertainment from around the United States and the world, and consequently, is being watched to see if the love that the City advertises for visitors will be equally as passionate for Blacks to be included in the representation of City government.

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