

# The Publisher Speaks



Guest editorial by Arnold Fryer

Recently a group of American tourists from a Chicago sect calling themselves the "Black Hebrews" were expelled from Israel after only a few days in that country. Israeli authorities claimed to have evidence that this group of 25 men, women, and children intended to settle illegally in the country by joining a community of more than 400 other Black American settlers from the same sect living illegally in the town of Dimona.

Reacting to the expulsion, spokesmen from Black American groups claiming Jewish ancestry or identity levelled charges of racism against the State of Israel which they said practices "rigid discrimination against Jews who are not of European background."

Like many other persons familiar with both the Black and Israeli communities, I have sought to understand how things have come to this sorry pass between two people who have every reason to respect each other, most particularly their historically shared burden of human injustice. I have searched the memory of my experience as a Black person who is not Jewish but who lived illegally for three years and six months among the Israelis as I sought to escape from racism elsewhere.

Of course times have changed considerably since 1967, when I arrived penniless in Israel, but it is hard to accept that an entire people would have changed so much. I stress entire people because in Israel, much more than in other countries, the views and wishes of the majority are directly reflected in the actions of the government, perhaps because of the close knit nature of the society. Fully 60 percent of the Israeli population comes from foreign countries (the other 40 percent being born in Israel or the immediate vicinity), nearly all having come to escape one form of oppression or another. And since it is an important consideration these days, it must be noted that roughly 80 percent are non-White.

My arrival in Israel 10 years ago coincided with a sharp increase in tension between Israel and her Arab neighbors in early 1967. As I walked the distance between the Jordanian and Israeli border ports, I was only too conscious of the possibility that as a Black person, penniless, without a visa, carrying a tattered passport due to expire in six months, and seeking permission to enter as a tourist from a hostile neighboring state, I might expect even the most reasonable person to be justified in questioning my motives.

Much to my surprise, no one looked at me with suspicion, and without fuss I was given

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BLACKS' DESTINY IN OWN HANDS....



# GHETTOS

## BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

The U. S. Department of Labor's new Occupational Outlook Handbook for job seekers is like spring to a young lover. The employment prospects through 1985 are excellent for those who would be educated now or later.

While such lesser skilled jobs as waiter and waitress should be plentiful, enrolling in nursing school will be an even faster way to become employed over the next few years.

Professions such as physicians and police officers offer an exciting and challenging careers for anyone interested in a quick pay off. The opportunity for fast salary increases is greatest with these two due to the emphasis in society on health and law enforcement.

Unfortunately, the press is not going to be an area to put forward your greatest effort for employment. Newspaper reporter positions are projected for slow growth as are school teachers of kindergarten, elementary, secondary, college and university. Truck drivers for long hauls are not much better off than their classroom instructors, but truck drivers for short hauls are great job opportunities for those individuals with good driving records. Retail store clerks jobs are likely to be stable in numbers, but available because of constant turnovers.

The one constantly coming area to watch is computers. The need for programmers will be the greatest demand in the field, while the key punch operator will be fading out of style.

Speaking of style, because our society is changing its eating habits, cooks and chefs are also much more in demand. America is eating out.

To get there they will need an auto and a mechanic to keep it going. Job opportunities for automobile mechanics are projected to be plentiful.

However, the profit oriented people will get educated in engineering or administration. America has become a more service oriented society. The country is seeking operating engineers for construction, mass transit and

other projects.

Administrators will advise America in such areas as health service and energy. Emergency medical technician positions which takes only high school and some special preparatory college courses is one of the job opportunities anyone can jump on.

## Just the FACTS

It sure is nice that Block Grants have put street lights in on Washington Ave., and contemplates putting in a stop light at the intersection of Lake Mead and Highland, but there is one other intersection that is in need of street lights even more than the Lake Mead/Highland intersection. That is the intersection at Lake Mead and "H" Streets.

The intersection of Lake Mead and "H" is even more dangerous than the one on Lake Mead and Highland. More people ignore the stop signs, or fail to give the right of way, or try to beat another person across the intersection. Stop lights would prevent most of the inconsiderate people driving down either "H" or Lake Mead.

On the other hand, the next most dangerous intersection is at Lake Mead and "D" Street.

This reporter feels that the intersections of "H" and Lake Mead, and "D" and Lake Mead should be considered for the erection of stop lights in addition to the lights contemplated for Lake Mead and Highland.

Washington Ave. was indeed in need of street lights, but there are several other streets in West Las Vegas that are just as in need of street lights as Washington.

Granted, West Las Vegas is improving in appearance. The lot on the corner of "E" and Jackson has been leveled off and black-topped for a parking lot. The corner of "F" and Jackson, across from the New Town Tavern, should be the next lot to be cleared (of the burned out house), and made into a parking lot, or some other worthwhile building.

Let us all get behind the movement and help beautify our Westside. If we all let it be known that we are interested in our Community, then our Community will become a better place to live.

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