



*Telling It  
As It Is  
by Jimmy Gay*

Hello There!! How goes the old battle?? I do hope you are in the pink this week. Now that April 15 has passed, and either you gave to the IRS or they came through for you. I'm wishing the latter. Well, we have a brand new month; Spring has sprung; the birds are singing; the bees are humming; the flowers are blooming; and this is the season that turns a young man's fancy to the thoughts of cupid. I do hope that I have a few readers who are still at that age (GRINNNN - LAUGH).

Well, last week I really cut you short, but if you only knew how busy yours truly was -- you would be in sympathy with me -- or maybe you would say, and I quote, "I got my own damn problems, to hell with yours." Well, anyway, we are back this week, and as I promised, I will try to bring to you a blow by blow, day by day, account of NAACP Week, and may I say a very successful NAACP Week. The week started off with a welcome undeluge that included President Dr. James McMillan; Mrs. Luberta Johnson, Life Membership Chairman for the branch; Mr. Jessie Scott, Director of Equal Rights Commission; Commissioner Roy Woofter; and yours truly, who met Mrs. Tera Pitman at high noon Monday, at McCarran Airport. The Commissioner was very gracious with his welcome to our visiting dignitary, and of course, the news media was on hand to get first hand information as to Mrs. Pitman's visit to our fair city. She obliged them by stating she had been sent to our city as an envoy for National Director, Dr. Benjamin Hooks. She also refused to go into details as to further plans for the week, but she did tell them, and I quote, "We are here to do what we have to do." We then traveled on by limousine to the Sahara Hotel where Mrs. Pitman resided for the next six days, and may I say, six beautiful days, thanks to the management of the Sahara Hotel for the wonderful hospitality shown our national representative.

The rest of Monday was taken up in being briefed by Dr. McMillan and other officers of the Association as to things that had occurred in the community over the past year. On Tuesday morning, a Press Conference was called, and would you believe that all of the local news media was present, and left with plenty of news to report. I personally feel that there is no one, but no one, who can handle the press better than Tera Pitman. She gave them the history of NAACP, the type they will never forget. She made it very clear that all of NAACP's marches, demonstrations, etc., had been peaceful and more effective than the radical, or violent ones, of other organizations. We have won more Civil Rights cases in Court, down through the years, than any other organization (barring none).

Then comes Wednesday, the night to put our Police Dept., and a few of our other local citizens on the hot seat. Bart Jacka, representing Sheriff Ralph Lamb, gave a very good account of himself with the many very sharp questions put to him by interested citizens. He did state that the lack of blacks in the Dept., was the fact that so few blacks filled out applications, but that the Metro Dept. invites qualified applicants of all races. Mr. Jacka also indicated to the black community that they had requested more police protection, and he stated, "You asked for it -- you are going to get it."

And then comes Thursday, the big night! The County Commissioners were there: Chairman Thalia Dondero; Commissioner Manny Cortez; and "Our Representative, Sam Bowler". Also in attendance was County Man-

ager, Richard Bunker, and his assistant, Bruce Spaulding. I have nothing but praise for the presentation by Chairman of the Commission, Dondero. I have never seen such sincerity as this grateful lady tried to show. I would have to say, the County Manager gave a good account of himself. Commissioner Cortez was honest, but disagreed with some of the remarks made by members and actually refused to go along with some requests. But the most amusing phase of the entire interviews, was the two Commissioners contradicting themselves on several occasions. This really upset the audience. Let's get together Commissioners -- something is going w-r-r-r-r-r-ong. All in all, this little get-together was very fruitful, and brought out a lot of answers we have been waiting to hear. It was agreed that a representative from the local branch will be invited in on all future Commission meetings, and will be given an opportunity to voice their grievances -- thanks to Commissioner Dondero.

Friday was a day of radio and TV appearances for Mrs. Pitman and Dr. McMillan. I would just like to personally thank all of the participating Radio and TV stations for their cooperation, especially Mrs. Evelyn Newman of KVOV. On Saturday, Mr. Scott took most of the day on Radio (KVOV) encouraging the local citizenry to attend Sunday's Membership Rally.

Well, since Sunday was the big -- and believe me BABY, it WAS a big one, it would take the entire column next week for a blow blow description from stem to stern. We are going to tell you who was there -- who was not there -- and who should have been there.

Last week alone, will show you just how strong we can be if we are together. Read the VOICE and keep informed. See you next week, same time, same place. THINK TOGETHERNESS in '78.

**Minority Banks**

Robert E. James, President of the National Bankers Association, trade group for minority banks, has called on Secretary of Commerce Jaunita M. Kreps to take new initiatives in support of the Minority Bank Deposit Program.

James, who also is president of Carver State Bank in Savannah, GA, met with Secretary Kreps recently during a Department of Commerce one-day conference with 40 minority businesspersons.

James informed Secretary Kreps that the Carter Administration has supported the Minority Bank Deposit program with average daily deposits of \$105 million in 1977. In comparison, James said, in 1976 the same federal agencies supported the program with average deposits of \$104 million.

The absence of improved support is of concern to the NBA, James said, since President Jimmy Carter, in a meeting with minority bankers in April 1977, promised greater support from his administration.

In addition, said James, an overriding impediment to the progress of minority banks is the need for capital funds to support growth and expansion. "The Department of Commerce," he continued, "as another new initiative, should give careful consideration to the possibility of direct capital infusions for minority banks."

James called for new initiatives on the part of the Department of Commerce such as encouragement of major corporations in the U.S. to support the Minority Bank Deposit Program, as Secretary Blumenthal had, by using minority banks for a portion of their total bank deposits.

The NBA was founded fifty years ago as a trade association to promote the interests of minority banks and bankers. It now represents a membership consisting of most of the 89 minority banks across the nation and many minority bankers affiliated with majority banks.

**HUGHES**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4 COLUMN 3 losing their hotel jobs. This is old hat and the question arises as to why we have not had suits by the NAACP before now. I am as Black as any Black and I want justice and equality for Blacks, but protest marches that get Blacks hurt or killed, won't make jobs. Every Black who marches will be photographed, identified and consequently, black balled and unable to get a job. Blacks should not allow themselves to be run out of town because they are unable to work and survive.

Self-analysis is the greatest and most productive analysis yet devised. We are 12 to 19 percent of the local population and we need and should have representation, but I submit that our plan for getting it is wrong and needs self-analysis, hard work and dedication. Great unity has been shown by Blacks in this matter, but we seem to need great direction to bring fruitful results. Let the courts decide. That is where we have fared best and it is our greatest weapon, short of the ballot.

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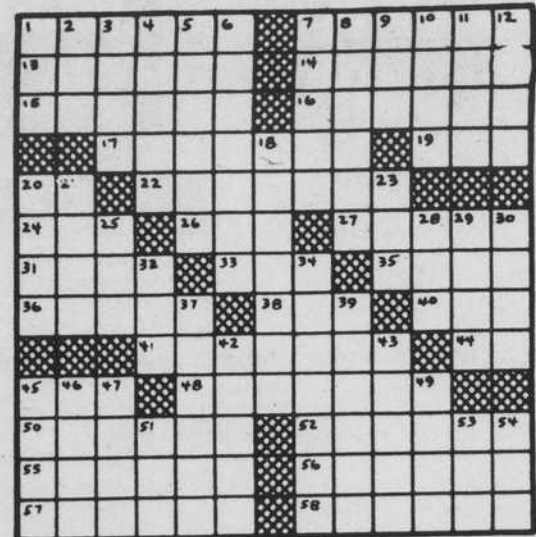
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CHARLES BARBER

**Crossword  
Puzzle**



- |                         |                        |                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>           | 48. Ridiculer          | 25. Stroke lightly |
| 1. Searched into        | 50. Retaliate          | 28. Paddle         |
| 7. Minister to          | 52. Best               | 29. Leg joint      |
| 13. Venerate            | 55. Old dance          | 30. Body cover     |
| 14. Thunderer           | 56. Speedier           | 32. Twitch         |
| 15. Musical dramas      | 57. Mixes              | 34. Import duties  |
| 16. Whole               | 58. Icy                | 37. Peddled        |
| 17. Gives up            | <b>DOWN</b>            | 39. Like a ray     |
| 19. Female hog          | 1. For                 | 42. Intersects     |
| 20. Because             | 2. Corded fabric       | 43. Perception     |
| 22. Tract of land       | 3. Above               | 45. Little sheep   |
| 24. Cut off             | 4. Kind of cap         | 46. Wicked         |
| 26. Look at             | 5. Expunges            | 47. Sand hill      |
| 27. Gazes               | 6. Coveter             | 49. Network        |
| 31. Farm animal         | 7. Place of combat     | 51. Sister         |
| 33. Rodent              | 8. Throat tissue       | 53. Put            |
| 35. Armored vehicle     | 9. Make lace           | 54. Attempt        |
| 36. Garret              | 10. Goddess of discord |                    |
| 38. Sailor: slang       | 11. Roman emperor      |                    |
| 40. Portuguese money    | 12. Pulled             |                    |
| 41. Photography devices | 18. Larger             |                    |
| 44. Printer's measure   | 20. Seaweed.           |                    |
| 45. Guided              | 21. Smoke particles    |                    |
|                         | 23. Negative           |                    |

**ANSWERS!  
ON PAGE  
16**