

The Publisher Speaks



STRAIGHT TALK

For years there has been a continuing plea for Unity in the Las Vegas Black Community. The VOICE, too, wants unity among Blacks more than any other single thing. However, in our quest for unity, we often leave unsaid some factors and actions in the community which need to be spotlighted. It is re-grettable, but true, that while many work diligently for unity, others are taking advantage of the VOICE "STRAIGHT TALK" editorial which will appear as a weekly feature. We cannot sit idly by and watch an ambitious, selfish few hinder the development of the over-all Black community.

One of the lesser known works of the late great Black poet, Langston Hughes, was a book entitled "The Ways of White Folks". Aside from its literary value, the book is also a meritorious contribution for alerting Black folk to devious techniques utilized by their white bretheren in dealing with Blacks and the problems they present. In police jargon, it is termed "modus operandi".

Since the emergence of the Civil Rights movement, Whites have employed a very simple, but highly successful, ploy in diluting the effectiveness of Blacks in a community who pose a threat to the establishment. They simply label them "Black Leaders."

Early on, the establishment learned that, understandably, nothing can incur resentment from members of a given community so much as to have a leader selected for them. Leadership emerges - it can neither be assumed or conferred. There is no one among us who does not resent being told who his or her leaders are. Too often, in our resentment, we overlook the fact that many of the people so labeled were deliberately hailed as such in an effort to create resentment against them from the very people for whom they are working.

Unfortunately, this ploy has been eminently successful in the past. Any football coach can tell you when you find a play that is successful against the opposition, use it until the opposition finds a defense against it. Defending against the strategy of watering down influence of individuals in the Black community by hailing them as "leaders" is simple. All needs to be done is to recognize it for what it is intended and ignore the obvious offensive assault.

This ploy was used again last week. In
CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 COLUMN 1

**LAWYERS. ARTISTS
DOCTORS ARCHITECTS
DENTISTS BUSINESS
ENGINEERS SOCIAL WORKERS
TEACHERS ACCOUNTANTS**

WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO DO THE JOB. LETS MAKE A START NOW



AFTER YEARS OF HARD WORK AND STUDY-NOW RETURNING TO BUILD BETTER BLACK COMMUNITIES.

Just the FACTS

Election time is just around the corner! Remember, in order to vote you MUST be registered! If you don't register, you can't vote, and if you can't vote, you will really have NOTHING to gripe about if the men/women elected do not come up to your expectations.

You may register at the Las Vegas VOICE office, or call the Las Vegas VOICE Newspaper 648-2615 and I will make an appointment to come to your home to register you.

If you have a meeting, church or social, call me and I will make an effort to be there to register people who attend these functions.

The NAACP office also is available for you to register.

Remember, "if you DON'T register - You DON'T vote! If you have a candidate you think is better than others, don't complain if your man looses simply because you did not vote. Of course your vote is only ONE, but if 100 of you who are favoring a certain candidate can't vote because you are NOT registered - what happens? Your man has lost - probably even before election day, because his staunch backers failed to REGISTER!

I hope we hear from those of you who have NOT registered! Call us - or better yet, come on in & see us!

need a telephone call or letter from you urging that H.R. 11318 be favorably acted on right now.

These Senators are on the Senate Select Committee on Small Business membership. Unless they vote favorably for H.R. 11318 black Congressman Parren Mitchell's efforts to get more money for minority business enterprise will be lost in a legislative shuffle.

Congressman Parren Mitchell along with the rest of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus are responsible for a new form on money creation by MESBIC, revises SBA 8(a) set aside contracts including waiving bonding requirements, as well as, requiring small business participation by subcontracting in all federal contracts exceeding \$10,000.

The passage of H.R. 11318 by the Senate Select Committee on Small Business membership would mean money in minority business People's pockets around the country. Congressman Parren Mitchell has worked vigorously for black and/or minority business people in the past.

It was his original Minority Enterprise Act, H.R. 567 which startled the entire society by requiring a percentage of the federal procurement dollars be made available to minority businesses.

The Defense Department alone will account for \$125 billion in expenditures next year. Black America could boost itself up by its boot straps by sticking with that department and getting some substantial subcontracting jobs.

These billions of dollars will continue to bypass the black community if H.R. 11318 which is an amendment to the Small Business Act of 1958 is not approved first by the Senate Select Committee.

Congressman Mitchell is calling for help from the minority business community. The Senate Select Committee has already heard a mouthful from those who want to stop the money from going to the minority business community.

It's a case of bad-mouthing blacks without a sound from the black side. Don't stand for it, write anyone of the above mentioned Senators at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510 and ask him to vote in favor of H.R. 11318, it will help you get more business.

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

U. S. Senators Nelson of Wisconsin, McIntyre, Sam Nunn of Georgia, Hathaway, Floyd Haskell of Colorado, John Culver of Iowa, Lowell Weiker, Jr. of Connecticut, Dewey F. Bartlett of Oklahoma and Bob Packwood

LAS VEGAS VOICE

NEVADA'S BLACK COMMUNITY WEEKLY
"An Uninterrupted Publication Since 1963"

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICATED to the INTEREST and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE for BLACK CITIZENS of the STATE OF NEVADA

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EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION OFFICES
616 North "H" Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
Telephone 648-2615

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ * One year \$12.50

(Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permit pending at Las Vegas, Nevada.)