

National Insurance Association

The 58th Annual Convention of the National Insurance Association opened July 17, in the Aladdin Hotel. The meeting, which is scheduled to run through Thursday, July 20, will feature outstanding speakers and business sessions, all dealing with the insurance industry and doing business as a minority company. National Insurance Association is the trade association of Black-owned and managed insurance companies in America.

Opening the Convention with a stirring keynote address was George E. Johnson, president and founder of Johnson Products Company, Inc., which in less than twenty years has revolutionized the concept of Black beauty.

Johnson discussed in detail seven characteristics of Black businesses that have emerged in the past ten years. He went from there to a discussion centering about the fact that it's tougher to do business in America if you're Black.

Reminding the more than 300 NIAers who gathered this morning to hear him that "Free enterprise is not a two-way street," he made several observations about buying patterns and who buys from Black businesses.

Johnson's thesis vibrated strongly throughout his address and his message was clear -- "The principle of ethnicity is the key to our survival," he said. "We must go out of our way to support each other," he declared, and his audience agreed with him with loud and enthusiastic applause.

A native of Richton, Mississippi, Johnson is also chairman of Independence Bank of Chicago, the nation's largest minority bank; and a Director of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; Commonwealth Edison, the utility company for northern Illinois; and Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association, Inc.

A person who demonstrates his commitment to improving the quality of human life, his civic, charitable, and educational activities include Executive Board, Chicago Area Council of Boy Scouts of America; Governing Member, Chicago Orchestral Association; Board of Trustees, Chicago Sunday Evening Club; Board of Directors, Dearborn Park Corporation; Chicago United; Board of Directors and Business Advisory Committee, Chicago Urban League; and several other Chicago and national organizations.

National Insurance Association is the trade association of Black insurance companies in America. There are 36 companies operating in 30 states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands.

Robert List

Attorney General Robert List this week called for more tax dollars to be used on prevention of crime rather than rehabilitation.

"To me, the tax dollar can no longer be poured exclusively into a rat hole of rehabilitation," List told a national conference of educational security officers meeting in Reno. "We have gotten into a rut of trying to rehabilitate rather than prevent."

List said he quickly realized when he took office as attorney general almost eight years ago that by the time a person goes through the judicial process, "it is too late for rehabilitation to be successful."

List said he wants to see more money put into preventing a life of crime for children rather than trying to help them at the other end of the pipeline, which so often is too late.

"I am not advocating we throw out all rehabilitation programs," List said. "As a member of the state's Prison Board, I am aware of some fantastic success stories. However, I do believe we must recognize the success rate is low, and prevention is the key."

List said some of the judicial funds can be used expeditiously in steering young people toward the right path.

"But, to accomplish that, I firmly believe that we must first return to a basic concept -- that discipline and behaviour begins at home," List said.

"Studies of school vandalism show a direct relation to the rise of vandalism and the decline in discipline in the home," List told the security officers.

"Vandalism is a national dilemma," List said. "It no longer is a nuisance faced by school administrators, but a major burden on the public's tax dollar."

List said he would like to see those tax dollars in the educational systems to provide courses which will help youngsters prepare for adulthood.

"A course in how to balance a checkbook or how to figure interest rates, I believe, will stretch a lot further than trying to rehabilitate a hardened criminal," List said.

"But, the bottom line is that we have a responsibility to our community and our children to raise them with a high set of values," List said.

"We cannot stop crime. But, I do believe we can slow it down," List said.

From Our Readers

EDITORS NOTE: The Las Vegas Voice will publish your opinion on any subject - praise - complaints - questions - or answers. We do reserve the right to edit, and your letter must be signed with a valid address and phone number for verification prior to publication. We want your letters! At your written request your name can be withheld.

On approximately June 20, I gave notice that I was moving out of the apartment I lived in. My rent was paid thru July 15, and I said I would be moving out on that date.

My reason for moving out is that I have been broken into on three different occasions. When I moved in, 4-5 month ago, the door was broken, and the landlord promised to repair it within the next 3-4 days. Well - - - it took him 4 weeks to repair. Then it was kicked in again, and a window broken, and I was robbed. This was reported to the police. Within the next 2-3 weeks I was robbed a total of three times. People still could walk in and out at their leisure. The last entry was approximately three weeks ago (about the time I gave notice that I was moving), but the door and the window were not repaired until 2-3 days ago.

Now, my rent was paid thru July 15, 1978, and when I moved in I paid a \$55.00 Cleaning Deposit. When I told the landlord I was moving out when my rent was due, he told me I would have to pay another month's rent (to August 15, when I wished to leave July 15), and would have to pay another \$100.00 Cleaning Deposit. Who ever heard of paying a Cleaning Deposit TO MOVE OUT!!! Let alone another months rent!! This would be a total of \$155.00 Cleaning Deposit -- AND I cleaned the apartment my self!!

This landlord is only trying to make money. He charges \$250.00 to MOVE IN and another \$295.00 to MOVE OUT!! Just what is he thinking of?

Willie D. Harris
1809 Putnum

Dear Editor:

I am presently confined in prison without any contact from the "outside world." Since I have no one to correspond with I'm reaching out for new possible friends to correspond with.

I do not seek pity, but only your sincerest friendship and understanding. For to have a few friends while confined here would surely add a ray of sunshine to what has become a very dark and lonely situation.

Hopefully someone out there will read this letter and care enough to respond to it. I will answer all letters with complete sincerity.

Very Truly Yours,
Tony L. Hartson 148-166
P.O. Box 45699
Lucasville, Ohio 45699

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Note!

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