

REV. ABERNATHY:

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REV. ABERNATHY: 'Time to get moving!'

"Let's get the vote," shouted Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, president emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, to a gathering of enthusiastic supporters and onlookers Tuesday morning at the opening of the voters registration drive meeting held at the Elks Lodge Hall at the Golden West Shopping Center.

"If we can get the vote... we will have economic power, we can acquire economic power because we will elect a Mayor, a City Councilman, a County Councilman," Abernathy continued. "We will elect people at the State Legislature and a Governor that is concerned about the welfare of all the people, and you will have a better home, a better job and more money."

Rev. Abernathy arrived in Las Vegas early Tuesday morning

following his talk with students at Clark College, Atlanta, Ga. His talk there also related to the need for political and economic power. His visit to Las Vegas was made through the efforts of Rev. Albert Dunn, Rev. Ted Culverston, State Senator Joe Neal and others.

He told the conferees that, at the moment, he was torn between making the trip to Las Vegas or to Ritesville, Georgia. There's strife developing in that small Georgia community over the murder of an 8-year-old boy and a current battle over economic power and existence. Priority was given to the Las Vegas trip because of the mounting pressures arising for the need to get an adequate number of individuals registered in the Black community to achieve their overall goal. He has delayed the Georgia trip until a later date.

Abernathy's trip was scheduled for three days, Tuesday through Thursday, with a breakfast each morning at the Elks Lodge Hall and with the nightly meetings held at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Victory Baptist Church and the Pilgrim Baptist Church. Emphasis in these meetings was made on voter education and registration.

Laying the groundwork for the registration drive, Rev. Abernathy clarified the purpose of his visit, "I have not come for a picnic and I didn't come from a picnic. I came from the battlefield and I came here to tell the giants and the pharoahs, like Moses told them a long time ago, to let my people go. I'm depending on you to gain political power in this community," he told the crowd at the Elks Lodge Hall.

Abernathy, who came

to Las Vegas three weeks ago in a fund-raising project for Rev. Albert Dunn's need for adequate bail relating to sentencing in a federal prison for counterfeiting conspiracy, mentioned that he would continue to work in Dunn's behalf.

To paraphrase his comments on the ability of women, Abernathy made reference to the breakfast meal served Tuesday morning. "I've eaten this morning a good solid meal. The lady who helped prepare this meal is qualified to be Mayor of Las Vegas and would put flavor in Las Vegas like she would put seasoning in the sausage.

"I want us to gain political power. I want us to register every non-registered voter here in

Las Vegas. And then once we get that right to vote, Let's vote out of power old stale male chauvinistic politicians who are not concerned about the rights of all the people," he explained.

"Let us share this political power with Blacks, with poor people, with minorities and, above

all, with females. The women are the smartest and have the greatest lasting power. I haven't seen a man yet who could give birth to a child," Abernathy lamented.

Rev. Abernathy returned to Atlanta, Ga. immediately following the Las Vegas visit to resume his scheduled speaking tour and the needed trip to Ritesville, Georgia.

THE SENTINEL'S inaugural cover photo of Dr. Ralph Abernathy as he whips up fire and brimstone from a Las Vegas pulpit, is by freelance photographer LINDA PLATSHON.

"To photograph Dr. Abernathy was a moving experience," Ms. Platshon said. "He has charisma."

Welcome To The Sentinel!

TO OUR READERS

This is the first issue of the LAS VEGAS SENTINEL and the publishers and staff invite you to participate in a new and enhanced dimension of cooperation with your community newspaper. Our goal is to bring you a paper of quality, integrity and accuracy -- a paper of which you will be proud, on which you can depend and with which you will want to become involved.

Our name, the SENTINEL, and our logo denote our purpose. We are striving to perceive and report to you what is real and to serve as an ever vigilant guard that will be alertly watchful, especially to help avoid danger to our community. In the center of our logo crouches our young black "sentinel", alert and strong, holding his horn and his drum. His is an all-embracing and responsible task - to know what is happening in our community and that which concerns all of us, and then to send the message loudly, clearly and without bias, for "the truth shall set us free". When need arises, it is his task to signal the alert of impending danger, for "if we are forewarned, we are forearmed". Also, the calling together of ALL the people for the purpose of presenting a UNIFIED front in times of trouble is his task, for "in our unity lies our strength"

However, the young sentinel's success does not and cannot rest with him alone. He may send the strongest, clearest message and the most urgent alert, but if they fall on deaf ears, his efforts are to no avail. He may call all of the various groups together, but if the groups do not understand the wisdom of unity or cannot set aside individual selfish desires to work for the common good of all, then his vigilance, his guarding and his warnings are for naught.

The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL dedicates its existence to the building of an ever improving and thriving community. May our community and the LAS VEGAS SENTINEL have a never ending dependence upon each other!

Betty Brown, Editor

Real Estate is a people business
Here is one of the people at Toler Realty

Residential Income & Land Commercial

Toler Realty
Kathy Fox Gay

Kathy Fox Gay, a native Las Vegas, attended Las Vegas High School and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Her hobbies include reading, horticulture and interior design. Kathy has been a member of the Toler Realty Staff for 4 years and specializes in Residential sales and vacant land.



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