

Point of View

A Sentinel Editorial

Are Blacks Invited To The Jaycees State Fair?

This is the provocative question asked in some circles of the black community and perhaps for a very good reason.

There's a statement often heard "if you don't hear or read about it in the black media, "they" don't want your business. The question now is whether it also applies to the upcoming Jaycees State Fair.

Thousands of dollars are being spent with the newspapers, radio stations and television stations promoting the Fair. What is clear is that not a single cent is spent to promote this popular event through

the black newspapers or radio station. Are blacks really invited to participate?

Who's responsible for this omission?

It's hard to believe that this organization, who is known to become fully involved in community work across the entire country; who has black members even in the local chapter and who constantly recognizes outstanding contributions made by young men, regardless of race, creed or color, would endorse any situation which would ignore the black community. We do not feel that this is fully

the problem.

What is clear to us is that the individuals responsible for the publicity and advertising of the Fair, have "played us cheap."

A close review of the advertising agency handling the Fair, also shows that they have a "track record" of not placing any advertising in the black media for the past couple of years.

ARE BLACKS REALLY INVITED TO THIS YEAR'S JAYCEES STATE FAIR?

Who Pays The Cost Of Curing Inflation?

by Vernon Jordan

Recently there have been calls from the most unlikely sources for imposing a wage-price freeze or mandatory controls on the economy.

Public opinion polls have consistently shown a majority of Americans

favor controls, and some liberal politicians have been talking about the need for controls for some time.

But the new calls for controls are coming from some of the most respected conservative bankers, businessmen and economists. Their con-

version is based on the perception that inflation has broken into the runaway stage, and on the feeling that some sort of shock-treatment is needed to halt the relentless escalation of wages and prices.

Just about everyone agrees controls won't do

the job alone. They are a temporary stop-gag that would allow the nation to put its economic house in order. Behind the protective barrier of temporary controls, steps would be taken to exercise monetary restraint, increase productivity, and reduce the dependence on imported oil.

Everyone has a pet theory of how inflation's back can be broken, but most often the recommendations point the finger at someone else who'll pay the price. Once you get away from the broad rhetoric about the dangers of inflation and into specific steps that should be taken, you enter the realm of politics, not economics.

And this is where power enters into the equation. When we examine the inflation remedies offered by those with power, it begins to look like the powerless — the poor and minorities — pay the price.

The most extreme prescriptions for halting inflation, for example, include such stringent proposals for budget cuts and credit cutbacks that the inevitable result is a recession — a very deep recession.

Even a bone-crushing

recession would only slice a few points off the inflation rate. But who would pay for it? Primarily, it would be millions of working people



Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

who would be laid off, millions of new entrants into the labor force who would not be able to find jobs, and minorities, still first fired and last hired. Struggling small business, including

Spiraling energy costs are a major ingredient in powering inflation. That leads to calls for a hefty gasoline tax to discourage consumption. Such a tax would penalize low income people while the affluent would be only moderately inconvenienced.

Gas rationing makes more sense and is more equitable, especially if ration coupons are transferable. That would allow low-income people to sell coupons in excess of their immediate needs, while putting a lid on imported OPEC oil.

But even some advocates of rationing would discriminate against the poor by making coupons available only to car-owners. Here again, inflation-control policies would tilt toward the af-

Vernon Jordan is president of the National Urban League.

minority-owned firms, fluent and against the poor.

The nation as a whole would be buying lower inflation on the backs of driving millions deeper into poverty, wiping out the minority economy, and sending some large cities into a major, perhaps permanent, DEPRESSION.

(See Vernon, page 17)

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