

# A DESPAIRING VOTE FOR CHANGE

By Bayard Rustin

The 1980 election has ended in a stunning repudiation of the Carter Administration and of the Democratic Congress. Voters have decisively cast their ballots against the status quo. Even blacks, who voted overwhelmingly for President Carter, did so

without summoning up a great deal of enthusiasm.

A great number of the true friends of the black community and of the labor movement — Sen. Birch Bayh, Sen. Gaylord Nelson, Sen. Warren Magnuson, and Sen. Frank Church — have fallen victim to what is a clear victory for



Rustin

conservatives and the radical new right.

The shift in control of the Senate to the Republicans means that reactionaries like Sen. Strom Thurmond, Sen. Orrin Hatch, and Sen. Jesse Helms will attain leadership posts when the Senate reconvenes next year. Working in conjunction with a conservative President such legislators will more than likely view the election results as a mandate to unleash an anti-union and anti-minority program. But their reading of the meaning of the election will, I submit, be completely inaccurate.

For voters threw Carter and a goodly number of Democrats out of office as a sign of displeasure with the state of the economy.

They opted for significant change. Four more years of the policies which led to 17 percent inflation and 7.5 percent unemployment were clearly unpalatable to the electorate. Change, a radical departure from past practice, was in the voters' view necessary. The only significant change that was offered, unfortunately, came from

the right.

Yet the conservative Republican gains will almost certainly be short-lived. For the policies which Ronald Reagan and his legislative cohorts offer will alienate those very workers who rebelled against a Carter program that was perceived to be in essence without direction and philosophical underpinning.

Workers will soon realize that the Reagan-Kemp-Roth program will further fuel inflation and lead to tax relief which primarily benefits the wealthy.

The task, then, is to revitalize a political coalition which is capable of putting forward candidates who will provide a clearly thought out alternative to the new conservative government.

In order to stage a comeback in the 1982 elections, a regeneration of ideas is necessary for the heirs to the traditions of FDR, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson. The New Deal programs were an important contribution to solving our nation's problems. But a mere hearkening to the past is not enough. What is needed is a courageous effort to develop constructive alternative programs for dealing with problems of unemployment, inflation, poverty and industrialization. Perhaps two years in opposition will revitalize the intellectual skills of the Democrats.

Such a revitalization is clearly on the agenda. For, if blacks, the labor movement, and liberals are capable of organizing a viable Democratic party structure and of developing a program devoted to industrial growth, full employment, and a strong defense, they will find their party on the offensive two years from now.

In the meanwhile blacks and all working people will have to struggle against the consequences of the regrettable but understandable choice the American people have made.

## Local News Roundup

Lee Walker, Chairman of the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County has announced that three seats to the Board have been opened.

"The seats opened," said Mr. Walker "are those of representatives of the poor in the geographical areas of West Las Vegas, Sunrise, E. Bonanza and Moapa Valley.

"The EOB of Clark County," added Walker, "is made up of a governing Board of Directors of 33 members. One third represents public officials, another third is occupied by officials or members of business, industry, labor, religious, private welfare, private education, significant minority groups, and other major private groups and interests in the community; and the other third are democratically elected among residents of the areas to be served by programs of the board."

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age and reside within the areas above. They may file at 2228 Comstock Drive through Nov. 14th, 1980 at 5 p.m.

Election will be held on December 9, 1980. For further information call the EOB at 647-2010.

\*\*\*

Clark County Community College will offer telecourses at Nellis Air Force Base and on Channel 5, KVVU TV 5, beginning in January 1981.

The telecourses are part of a continuing effort by the college to provide education to all adults in Clark County. Five videotaped courses will be available when the course begins.

Jerry Young, CCCC Dean of Educational Services explained, "The telecourse program at Nellis is designed to lead to an Associate of Arts Degree in general studies. It will provide educational opportunities to those who are unable to attend classes on a regular schedule."

Telecourses are formulated so that no classroom instruction is required. The courses on public television will

require that the student be restricted to a regular time schedule. However, telecourses offered at NAFB will enable the student to fit the courses into his own time schedule by checking out video tapes and viewing them on a television monitor.

\*\*\*

Rev. Carroll and the Greater Calvary Baptist Church wish to express their deepest appreciation to everyone who participated in the Talent Show last Sunday night, Nov. 9th. They thank you very much.

The following announcements of programs to be presented at the Greater Calvary Baptist Church are made by Rev. Mary Carroll.

Wednesday through Friday, November 12 thru 14, Rev. Ted Cuveston will be teaching a class the theme of which will be "Growing in Faith." Heb. 11:1. Rev. Carroll urges one and all to come and hear this great man of God.

Also, on Sunday, Nov. 16, there will be an Evangelist Program at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. Theme for the service will be Joel 2:28 — And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

For further information, please contact the Greater Calvary Baptist Church, 317 Madison Ave., Phone number 646-1559, or the pastor, Rev. Carroll, Phone number 648-4981.

\*\*\*

Marion Bennett Productions, Inc. (a non-profit corporation), announced today that they are presenting a Fashion Show and Disco Party at the Hacienda Hotel on November 30 in the Convention Room from 7:30 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Donation \$7.00 per person or \$10.00 per couple. An outfit of your choice will be given to the lucky ticket holder.

Loretta Holloway will be the guest vocalist, and there will be live music by Payne.

## TV REPAIR

All Makes & Models

### HI-VIEW PLAZA TV SERVICE

Prompt • Efficient • Courteous

Call Willie Harris, Owner

648-9783

2027 North "H" St.

## Poor Boys Auto Wrecking & Storage



AUTO WRECKING—SALVAGE & STORAGE SPECIALISTS

We Tow Abandoned Cars

### Discount Cards

Bearer Of Card To Receive 10% Discount On All Parts

WE ALSO BUILD RACE CARS

7 Days A Week 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Deane Fountain & John Harris, Owners

643-9010 or 643-9011

## Custom Upholstery

FINE QUALITY WORK BY

### CONSCIENTIOUS CRAFTSMAN

"WE'RE BUILDING A REPUTATION NOT RELYING UPON ONE" SPECIALIZING IN ORIGINAL RECOVERING FOR AUTOS - VANS - R.V.'S - TRUCKS & BOATS

JAMES-COUNCIL- OVER 18 YRS. EXPERIENCE PICK-UP & DELIVERY 649-4807

Council's Custom Upholstery

1210 E. LAKE MEAD BLVD.-NO. LAS VEGAS 89030

