

Point of View

Editorial

'Big Stick' Gets Something Done

There's an old adage that says if you carry a "big stick" you'll get something done. That's just about the size of it when something pressing is needed.

Several years ago, the Westside community was badly in need of a cleanup. There were a number of old wrecked cars strewn everywhere, trash scattered in every nook and corner, dead trees hanging dangerously and fire-gutted buildings beckoning for real disaster --- a real unsightly mess.

Something had to be done. . . and fast.

A small group of ministers and concerned citizens called on city hall to file a complaint. The NAACP and other organizations pushed for support. They all wanted immediate action. . . to get the mess cleaned-up and for the city to do something about sidewalks and street light. Well, it wasn't long before the city started work in that direction.

To see the street cleaning crews out there daily was a sight to behold. The street excavation teams moved in. Things were happening. The unfortunate thing was that it did not last long. They moved out just about as fast as they moved in. The job was not complete. It appeared to be an attempt to appease.

Now the area is getting back to the old condition. There's still much work to be done, particularly the need for sidewalks and street lights.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

The success of North Las Vegas Fairshow is attributed to the excellent cooperation from the news media. It was all done with good taste and distinction. The publicity helped us go over the top in attendance as well as participation from businesses and residents.

Through your assistance, we have created an event that will surpass all others in Southern Nevada. Mark your calendar now... the 1981 airshow is scheduled for October 23-24-25.

We look forward to this continuing relationship throughout the year.

With our deepest appreciation.

Ralph Stratton,
President
Ellen Frehner, CCE
Executive Vice President
Claire Keefner, Publicity
Betty McCreless, Fairshow

Dear Editor:

My appreciation to you for your support for the North Las Vegas Fairshow.

I know that your pages are very full and many people ask for space.

The Fairshow was a success. Wish that the wind hadn't come up on Sunday, but those things will happen.

Again, thank you.

Claire Keefner
Publicity Chairman
N.L.V. Fairshow

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JORDAN

The morning after shock effects of the Reagan landslide are beginning to fade away, and a more realistic attitude is being taken by many people who fear the worst from a self-professed conservative Administration.

The Reagan campaign rhetoric — "let's get government off the backs of the people, etc." — led many to fear a wholesale dismantling of social programs and a rollback of civil rights measures come next January.

But there's a big difference between campaign rhetoric and the reality of governing a large, pluralistic nation in which the judiciary, the Congress and permanent civil servants all serve as brakes on even

THE REAGAN LANDSLIDE

By Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

the most ideologically-oriented president.

And there is considerable evidence that Mr. Reagan is more pragmatic than his reputation leads people to believe. It's not unusual for presidents to adopt a right-wing or left-wing rhetorical stance while actually running a middle of the road administration.

rights — even a conservative Supreme Court backed affirmative action in the WEBER and FULLILOVE cases.

And the coalitions that splintered during the Carter Administration because of competition for influence with a friendly president, will regroup and strengthen in the coming months. Such coalitions are

presidency.

In his August speech to the National Urban League, candidate Reagan came out strongly for urban revitalization, welfare for the truly needy, equal opportunity and "jobs, jobs, jobs." And he promised not to fight national problems "on the backs of the poor" — a clear pledge not to induce recession to fight inflation.

Now all of that may be filed under campaign rhetoric, but I suggest we take those words at their face value, continually remind Mr. Reagan of them, and keep up the pressure on him to live up to them.

About the only really new proposal to fight poverty that came up in the campaign was Mr. Reagan's plan for urban "enterprise zones" in poverty areas. Such zones would get federal and local incentives for job-creating business development.

Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. is President of the National Urban League.

Clearly, a Reagan presidency will have a strong tilt to the right, as did Nixon's. But all presidents move to the center after they are elected, and the hard realities of governing mean they are largely unable to touch the vital core interests of major interest groups.

The courts will continue to stand as bulwarks against erosion of black constitutional

always more united when defending basic interests.

Every president-elect enjoys a honeymoon period, especially when he comes to office in an electoral victory of such massive proportions. It makes sense to suspend judgment until Mr. Reagan announces his major appointments and the basic program he intends to carry out in the first months of his



CARL ROWAN

Sinners In The Name Of Morality

WASHINGTON — What crimes against man and God we see being committed these days in the name of morality.

It was just plain disgusting to watch the Rev. Jerry Falwell, the television evangelist, on "Meet The Press" last month trying to weasel away from a revelation that he broke one of God's commandments and lied about President Carter.

Speaking at a so-called "I Love America" rally in Alaska last March, Falwell told of an alleged breakfast conversation in which Carter had told him why he

kept "known practicing homosexuals" on the senior White House staff.

Falwell admitted on "Meet The Press" that no such conversation with President Carter ever took place, but he insisted that he had not lied to that audience in Alaska. He said he was just speaking in "parables."

Every angel in heaven must have winced at this self-styled dispenser of the gospel likened a malice-aforethought lie to a Biblical parable, and then, in almost the same breath, described his remarks as a "reckless

statement" for which he apologized to President Carter on network TV.

I learned years ago not to doze off or leave my wallet lying around in the presence of people who tell me that they are more moral than others. This bring-the-bucks preacher, who has the arrogance to call his group "Moral Majority," and to say that Vice President Walter Mondale is part of the "amoral minority," reinforced my skepticism when he uncovered a special streak of hypocrisy.

Falwell, who used phony quotes to try to make President Carter

look like a defender of homosexuals, was asked if he would call for the resignation of Rep. Robert E. Bauman (R-Md.), the ultra-conservative who recently was accused of soliciting sex from a 16 year old boy and who then made a tear-jerker public statement about how his troubles with alcohol combined with what Bauman calls his "homosexual tendencies" to get the congressman into trouble.

"Moral Majority" is alleged to be the brainchild of Bauman — still the Maryland chapter of See NAME Page 23