

XMAS

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gang while being bused across town to school; pay hospital \$200." Another is "pitch pennies all day." Losers draw cards like: "working person's burden." Land on a box marked "illegitimate child" and you get play money welfare grants.

It is disgusting that the sufferings of the poor are so callously treated by people making fun of their

miseries for profit. The very idea of well-off people playing a game that reinforces racial stereotypes and derides the poorest of the poor is obscene, especially in this Christmas season.

And how ironic to give such a poisonous game as a gift to impressionable children, helping them to learn racism and contempt for those less well-off than their own families, many of whom once were dirt poor themselves less than a generation or two

ago.

One stupid board game wouldn't bother me; what gets me is the mentality behind it, a mentality of me-first, damn the poor, hate those who are different or poorer.

Poverty isn't a game for those who are poor. It is in the humblest homes that the true spirit of Christmas will reign this year, where people will share the little they have and take solace in the love and warmth of their families

and friends.

This Christmas let us all strive to rise above the petty race and class hatreds so prevalent in our society; let us dedicate ourselves to the lasting values of the Christmas tradition.

In this season of rebirth and fresh hopes, may we resolve to give fresh meaning to the spirit of brotherly love and joy to all mankind. In that spirit, may I wish you and your loved ones a happy and joyous holiday.

GRANT

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in federal grant funds per year for this program. Ordinarily, assessment districts are set up to finance such projects. Such was the case in 1954 when the first assessment project was set up in West Las Vegas to install paved streets, curbs and gutters in Old West Las Vegas. The property owners in Old West Las Vegas at that time had to pay for his project. Several attempts were made by the City of Las Vegas to establish assessment districts in West Las Vegas to install street lights and sidewalks in the area but failed because the property owners simply were unable to pay for such improvements, as was the case in many areas of the country during this period. So, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development was established to assist

these property owners who had fallen below the poverty level and could not afford such improvements.

Six years ago, the City of Las Vegas used Community Block Grant (HUD) funds to install paved streets, gutters, sidewalks and street lights throughout V e g a s Heights. The Department of Funds Coordination's latest publication "McWilliams Townsite, 1905-1980," which traces the social, political, education, cultural, as well as the economic history of Blacks in Southern Nevada, particularly West Las Vegas, is a must reading for every Black home in the area.

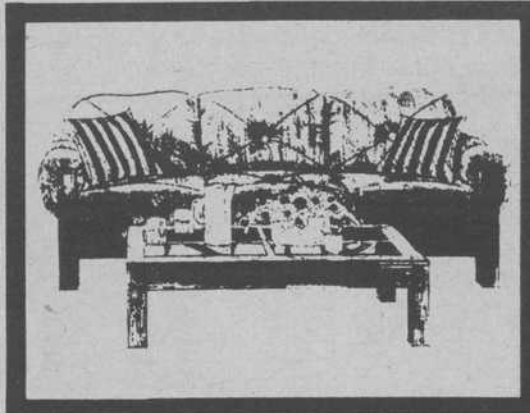
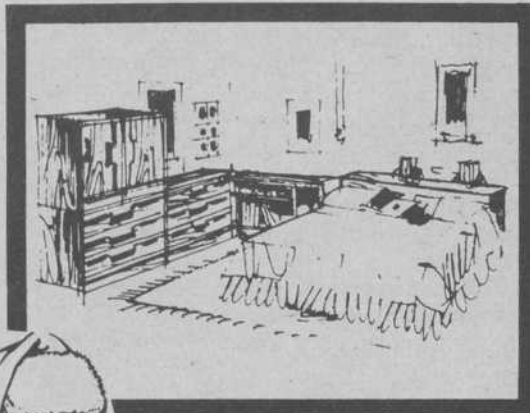
The booklet was compiled by area Blacks in their own spare time, and without compensation. The contributors point out very clearly some of the reasons West Las Vegas was without streets, sidewalks,

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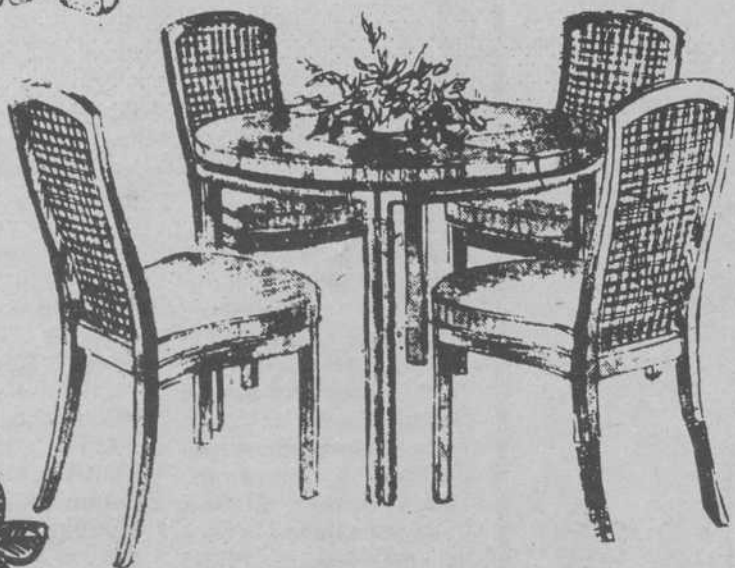


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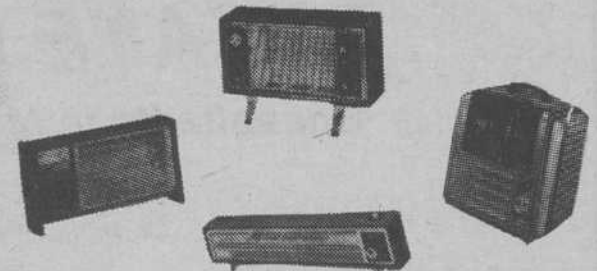
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