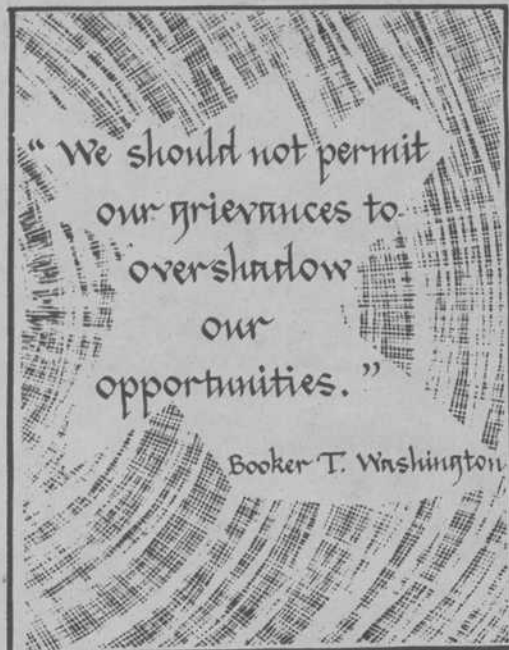


Point of View



Editorial 'Cove' Appearance Community Insult

The Cove Hotel building, located at Jackson and "D" Streets in West Las Vegas, stands as an imposing structure. It is the center of attention. It can be seen for miles around. It is the tallest building in the heart of the community.

The Cove Hotel building, in its present condition, is a pure insult to the black community. There are broken windows, battered window frames, chipped paint marks through the exterior, warped support beams, rusted bolts and the obvious need for paint throughout. It is pure evidence of neglect.

It appears certain that if such a building stood on the "Strip" or on Fremont Street, steps would have been taken a long time ago to have it "torn down" or improved. It could be labeled a "safety hazard."

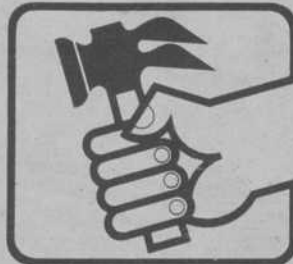
The landlords owe it to the community to give the Cove Hotel building a facelift... not later, but now!

There is no question, in earlier years, that the effort made by the landlords to provide space for Operation Life, at that time, was noteworthy. The space provided was a lifesaver. But goodwill does not necessarily end there.

Operation Life, since then, has been blessed with a new imposing structure at 600 W. Owens with services provided for the community beyond belief. We are proud of their progress. However, on the matter now of the COVE building we deserve better treatment and attention.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice welcomes expressions of all views from readers. Letters should be kept as brief as possible and are subject to condensation. They must include signature, valid mailing address and telephone number, if any. Pseudonyms and initials will not be used. Because of the volume of mail received, unpublished individual letters cannot be acknowledged. Send to: Letters to the Editor, The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice, 1201 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104.

The views expressed on these editorial pages are those of the artists and authors indicated. Only the one indicated as the Sentinel-Voice editorial represents this publication.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Thanks a million for delivering the Las Vegas Voice Sentinel to our Church each Sunday morning. I am encouraging my congregation to read the articles. Many of them deal with pertinent information related to needs in the black community. The articles seem to get better each week — discussing the problems and concerns of the School District, the NAACP, the progress in church work, and other things that will be a great benefit to parents and pastors if they would take time out to read the paper. It seems that our biggest challenge is inspiring people to read and to stay abreast of the latest information in many of these areas.

There are tremendous problems in the area of drugs, youth gangs, burglaries, and other crimes that need some special attention. I would like to see someone develop a weekly column on crime prevention. This paper could become the organ through which important information about crime prevention is disseminated to the total black community.

I have written a letter to Commissioner Pearson suggesting that this be done. He is making a tremendous effort to inform the community and educate parents in pointing out things they can do in their churches, and in their own homes, in an effort to reduce drug traffic and youth gangs in the community. If this is done, I feel that your paper will take a giant step in helping to alleviate some of our greatest problems. I have planned to mention to my congregation each Sunday key articles in the paper, and request that members take a copy home and read it.

You are rendering a valuable community service. Keep up the good work.

Pastor Claude H. Parson
Vegas View Church
Of God in Christ

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To Be Equal

By John E. Jacob

REDISCOVERING POVERTY

It may be out of fashion to say this, but America is going to have to rediscover poverty. It can't continue to avert its eyes from the sight of hungry children, homeless people, and impoverished



John E. Jacob

families.

The primary elements of a renewed war on poverty should focus on the young — children in poverty, teenagers, and young adults.

Children and young people make up the bulk of the black poor, and serious action to provide them opportunities can help save two generations of black Americans.

The 14 million poor children are the single largest group of poor people in America. Almost one out of every four children are poor. Half of all black children are poor.

What kind of leadership do we have that thinks their plight is none of the government's business? What kind of future will we have if a significant part of our population grows up with open scars of disadvantage in an affluent society? What kind of a country are we that we tolerate such a situation?

Back in 1976, the National Urban League called for a National Youth Employment program that included education, training and work components. If that plan had been adopted, many of today's unemployed young adults would have the skills to be productive in this economy.

But our plan was ignored. The disadvantaged teenagers

of 1976 are young men and women today. They're out of work and some of them are homeless. They grew up in poverty. They never got the schooling and training they needed. Today, some of them eat at soup kitchens and sleep in shelters.

We're wasting countless young people, many still in their prime productive years,

recovery. Those jobs are gone — probably for good. But the people remain. What will we do with them?

We can begin by making child poverty as illegal as other forms of child abuse. Congress should pass a national welfare level that allows poor families to maintain a minimum living standard so poor children

John E. Jacob is President Of
The National Urban League

and creating a bloc of Americans without a stake in our system.

Unless we act now, we will create a mass of people without hope — people unable to take part in a swiftly changing economy that has no room for the unskilled and untrained.

Our society's relentless destruction of young black men is the basic reason for the troubled state of the black family. Men without education can't get jobs. Men without jobs can't raise families.

Unless we deal with black unemployment and especially with black male unemployment, we only treat the symptoms of family disintegration, not the causes.

Just in the past five years, we've lost over two million manufacturing jobs. And we're still bleeding factory jobs — even in this economic

can eat and have roofs over their heads.

Second, America should adopt a voluntary National Service Program to give disadvantaged young people skills training, educational experiences and jobs.

Third, we should make a start toward a National Full Employment Program by creating training and work opportunities for unemployed young adults.

If we as a nation are willing to spend \$22,000 a year to keep a young person in prison, we can spend a fraction of that to help make disadvantaged young people a productive part of mainstream society.

Fighting poverty may be out of fashion today, but fashions change and this is the time to assert that it's time for a change in our nation's indifference to the erosion of its principles of fairness and equality.

CAUTION!!!

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice has been receiving reports on certain individuals who are misrepresenting themselves as employees of this newspaper. In particular there are persons who claim to be this newspaper's photographer, a reporter or a show reviewer and as such have sought to gain admission to major promotions, fights, shows, etc. Some have also been misguiding merchants claiming that the Sentinel-Voice is currently gathering material on black merchants for future publication. In this role they set up the merchant for unauthorized sales transactions, collections, etc.

We find it necessary to alert the community on these imposters. We solicit your help in identifying these persons. Call the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice at 383-4030. Such information will be reported promptly to the proper authorities for whatever action deemed proper.