

Point of View

Editorial

Last year the Las Vegas chapter of the National Assault On Illiteracy Program, a nationwide community-building program of Community Motivators, was organized during an initial meeting held at the Heritage Hall, Nucleus Plaza.

A cross-section of community organizations was in attendance and the meeting was ably conducted by Dr. Calvin Rolark, newspaper publisher of Washington, D.C. and Chairman of the Black Media, Inc. Cooperative; *Winnie Palmer, National Chairperson of the THE ADVANCER, the AOIP Family and Community Reading Newspaper; and Carrie Haynes, National Vice Chairperson of Interorganizational Liaison Oversight.

There was wide participation, involvement and total commitment rendered by all who attended. It was a heart-warming meeting.

The work of AOIP is targeted to reach and assist every educationally-disadvantaged class of persons in America--young and old--whose lack of learning beyond the fourth grade level is due, in significant part, to egodiminution in the past or present.

The primary universe upon which AOIP deals in a compensatory, ego-strengthening way includes--but is not limited to--Black, Hispanics, Indians and other Americans similarly situated. AOIP's approach is helpful to all educationally-disadvantaged students.

This largely Black-focused approach is most revelent because Black Americans represent this kind of illiteracy predicament "in extremes" and the needs of other disadvantaged are included as well under this setting.

The role of AOIP among the educationally disadvantaged within public schools settings is totally supplemental in nature. A large part of the unique learning materials developed by the long-experienced and exceptionally-qualified educators and other professionals within AOIP is designed especially for Chapter I-type students. . .and this includes parents of those students in school who are educationally disadvantaged and need assistance.

Las Vegas is fortunate to have this opportunity of advancing this total program for those in need within the community.

Representatives of AOIP, community organizations and dedicated participating individuals are to hailed for their unselfish interests and participation in this worthwhile cause.

The community needs this great work. We see a great future for this endeavor. With full cooperation and support of all the citizens, the project will not fail.

(*Winnie Palmer, then the National chairperson, died several weeks ago. She was succeeded by co-chairpersons Earl Gray and Faye Bryant.)

"There is
nothing in the world
common to man,
that man
(Black People)
cannot do."

—Marcus Garvey

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Las Vegas:

Do you believe in hiring "Black" Americans in positions other than the stereotypical maids, janitors, gardeners, and the like? Or that lighter-skin Black Americans are the only Blacks that would like a chance at a better paying and higher status job? From what I have observed and experienced, it seems that the only minority you are willing to hire and promote are the lighter-skin ones.

It's disheartening to keep telling my family that I can't obtain a worthwhile job: To know that people who are in this country a few years are offered substantially better employment than I: To know that people with less education than I are offered meaningful employment — Only because my skin color is "Black." There are skilled, educated, honest, personable, hardworking, and deserving "Black" Americans out here — and I am one of them.

Las Vegas straighten-up and stop running loopholes around the Affirmative Action Program and the Equal Opportunity Law. Don't you have a conscience? Or are you doing to the "Blacks" as the other countries did to the Jews while they were being isolated and persecuted during the holocaust? — turning your backs to the problem and being glad that you are not amongst the persecuted. PLEASE, stop suppressing us. Give us a chance to live a prosperous life also. We are human too!

How long do I keep telling my five and 7-year-olds that "Mommy can't obtain a meaningful job." Not because I attend college and not because I have almost every office skill. But, "Because mommy's skin color is too 'Black'."

When will it all END?

Sincerely
Teresa McNeil Gregg

**Register
VOTE**

To Be Equal

SLAP SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA

By John E. Jacob

There are plenty of rivals for the title of the world's worst nation — sad places where tyrants oppress their people either through excess devotion to ideology or to pure greed for money and power.

But South Africa is the clear winner. It is different from all the others.

Nowhere on this globe are the elementary principles of decency, civilization and freedom more trampled upon than in the racist state of



John E. Jacob

South Africa. Nowhere else does a minority oppress a majority on racial grounds. Nowhere else is the majority denied citizenship. And no other country is in imminent danger of terrible racial warfare.

The Administration's policy of constructive engagement has given South Africa's rulers a blank check to continue their racist policies and to destabilize their region.

After years of constructive engagement we have nothing to show for it. Nelson Mandela is still behind bars. The government refuses to negotiate with the opposition and issues emergency

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.

decrees that throw even moderate leaders into jail.

Constructive engagement has failed. It is now time for constructive pressures.

This Administration has not hesitated to impose sanctions on Poland, when it oppressed its workers; on Nicaragua, when it threatened our interests in Central America, and on Libya, when it engaged in terrorism.

So it now should impose sanctions on South Africa, which the Secretary of State says is a moral, strategic, economic and political burden on the West.

The claim that sanctions are unworkable is not

government has the moral stature and the experience of a pluralistic multi-racial society to take the lead in bringing a peaceful solution to South Africa.

By failing to exercise its leadership it has left U.S. corporations swinging in the wind. Washington's failure to identify America with the aspirations of the black majority permanently endangers our economic interests in that country.

In effect, the Administration is forcing U.S. companies there to choose between voluntarily withdrawing from South Africa now or being expelled later.

John E. Jacob is President Of
The National Urban League

persuasive, since sanctions have worked in the past and can cripple a target nation's economy. Sanctions also register moral indignation and demonstrate support for the victims of oppression.

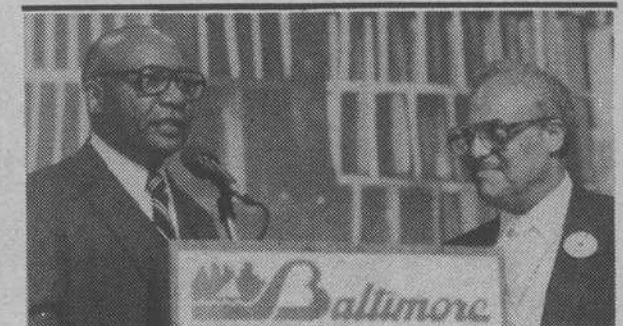
The British Commonwealth's Eminent Persons Group tried to negotiate but South Africa refused. They conclude that sanctions are the only alternative — that unless the West acts boldly to put maximum pressure on South Africa, that country could go down in the flames of a race war that leaves it in the hands of those hostile to our interests.

The states are high. Our

Time has run out on South Africa. U.S. corporations should now leave that nation and the U.S. government should align itself with the black struggle for freedom there.

If our nation is to remain true to its ideals, if it is to fulfill its world leadership responsibilities, if it is to live up to its traditions of liberty — it must change sides and support the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

We can no longer celebrate the symbols of our liberty — as we did at the centennial of the Statue of Liberty — while being neutral in the fight for the liberty of black South Africans.



BALTIMORE, Md. — The NAACP, America's oldest civil rights organization, recently received a \$50,000 pledge toward the cost of its new headquarters building in Baltimore, Md., from RJR Nabisco, Inc. Marshall B. Bass (left), senior vice president of RJR Nabisco, presented a \$25,000 payment on the pledge, as well as a \$30,000 contribution to NAACP's Special Contribution Fund, to Benjamin L. Hooks, executive director of the NAACP.