

EDITORIALS

'You're A Part Of The Solution, Or You're A Part Of The Problem'

THE VIEWS OF THE WRITER'S ARE NOT ALWAYS THOSE OF THE PAPER'S



The Point Is...

by Albert A. Campbell

First Choice

so very often this column has dwelled on political activities and many of the various ramifications so associated. It has been the intent of this writer to bring about an awareness to the Black community that will result in that which is either meaningful and constructive or both.

Because of the editorial policy of this newspaper as well as the commitment of this writer, this column is no different.

As we are all aware, this is another political year. In November, the VOTERS of this country will elect campaigning candidates to vacated offices from the court house to the White House...and every public office within its self carries with it a particular importance that effects the daily lives of all Americans (Blacks included). So how, many of us Blacks fail to recognize and/or acknowledge this fact of life. For this is truly a political country.

To explore that one thought a bit further, consider for just a second that almost everything you do in this country is somehow regulated or governed politically. "Everything", means exactly that.

The clothes you purchase for your baby, the food you select for your dining table, yes, and even the house in which you dwell are all governed or regulated at and by some level of government. Consequently, we cannot afford to idly sit back and not participate in the elective process, which in turn subjects us to the wishes and desires of a few.

From now until Stember's primaries, most of us will be included with request either written or oral, by candidates seeking help. Promises will be easily made, smiles and brag on the back will become the order-of-the-day.

Every candidate will describe the office he or she is seeking so flamboyantly, voters will become office fatigued.

WARNING—Don't allow yourself to lose the proper perspective of each office's importance, for every elective office is **IMPOR-TANT**.

If we fail to see the impact of the city, county and state governing bodies while being programmed to turn our attention to the national candidates, then we're guilty of ignoring while concerning ourselves with another.

So what are we to do? Where should we place our concern? Which offices should take precedence over the other?

Well let's take a short look at reality!

As individuals, certainly the local offices will have a more direct impact on our daily lives, so then, shouldn't we consider them first.

The city fathers should be number one. Number two, county commissioners. State House members (Representatives and Senators) will follow. Then we begin looking at the national offices.

We must not turn our attention to the impossible until we are able to accomplish the possible.

ALTHOUGH THE EDITORIALS WRITTEN IN THIS NEWSPAPER ARE NOT INTENDED TO BE THE ONLY ANSWERS TO THE PROBLEMS AND CONDITIONS EXPRESSED, SOME PERSONS MAY STILL DISAGREE WITH THESE THOUGHTS, BECAUSE OF THIS, THE NEWSPAPER EXTENDS AN INVITATION TO ANY RESPONSIBLE PERSON WHO WISHES TO REFUTE THESE EXPRESSIONS TO DO SO, AND FREE AND EQUAL SPACE WILL BE PROVIDED.

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ATTENTION MR. PRESIDENT



"WE CONCLUDE THAT IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION THE DOCTRINE OF 'SEPARATE BUT EQUAL' HAS NO PLACE. SEPARATE FACILITIES ARE INHERENTLY UNEQUAL" WITH THOSE WORDS ON MAY 7, 1954."

"ALL DELIBERATE SPEED FOR DESEGREGATION IS NO LONGER CONSTITUTIONALLY PERMISSIBLE...THE OBLIGATION OF EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS TO TERMINATE DUAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS AT ONCE" OCT. 29, 1969.

Commission On Civil Rights

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Discrimination in key labor unions is a major barrier to equal employment opportunity for American minorities and women, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights reported.

The Commission released a 291 page report, called "The Challenge Ahead: Equal Opportunity in Referral Unions," which said that despite the adoption of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and other measures, "There is no generally available, effective means of correcting discriminatory practices in referral unions."

Referral unions are in a special position to practice discrimination, the study explained, because they refer workers directly to employers, through hiring halls and other means, and select members and screen apprentices. Referral practices predominate in the building trades, with about 4 million union members, and are common in trucking, longshoring, printing, and other unions.

The report focused particularly on construction and trucking unions because pay in these unions is relatively high. ND BE—CAUSE "the long-range employment outlook is good and the capacity to absorb new workers is high."

Not only is discrimination continuing in these unions, The report found, but present programs, laws, and court decisions are doing little to prevent or remedy it.

While discrimination in referral unions is not as overt as it once was, it remains a significant cause of smaller pay checks for minorities and women, the Commission said.

Key new recommendation in "The Challenge Ahead" would require affirmative action programs on the part of construction unions connected with contractors holding Federal contracts. Contractors would be ineligible to bid on Federal contracts if their associated unions had not put forth a reasonable effort to meet goals and timetables for enrolling minority and female members.

"Contractors should be expected to hire in conformity with their affirmative action plans, without regard to union cooperation or conflict between such plans and obligations under collective-bargaining agreements," the Commission said.

At the same time, affirmative action requirements would be extended to a large number of Federal contractors.

THE BETTER WE KNOW US

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

population in general he said, "I could care less if you ever learn how to do the bump, you'd better bump your head against a book."

Carter feels that the King Center should demonstrate that it is assisting in students' education. "We should be able to show the administration," he said, "that we are using their money to aid students in getting a degree."

Carter also expressed some interesting ideas about students. He feels that Afro-American students on "white" university campuses, "tend to be apologetic." He said, "We are our own worst enemies, we don't believe in ourselves or our institutions — therefore we apologize."

During last year's freshman orientation, Carter said he spoke with 125 black freshmen, out of which only 25 had applied to "black" colleges and universities. Most of the remaining 100 felt that "black" schools were inferior.

According to Carter, black students must be made to feel uncomfortable before they will be creative. "The source of creativity comes out of in-

security. When we become indulgent and complacent we lose our creativity," he said.

Carter pointed out that if we black students are going to cultivate our Afro-American heritage, then we must become aware of how we relate amongst ourselves, as well as to others and we must speak out on relevant issues. "A lot of students are scared to speak out because they are scared of what their peers might say. But if you need people to pat you on the back, you will be at their beck and call. If we are serious about developing black culture," he said, "we must be sensitive to what we are doing and how we are relating."

Carter offered this last bit of advice to Afro-American students, as black America's future leaders, "get experience, take advantage of the university," and "get as much in your minds as you can."

Rev. Carter, who is working on his Ph.D. in Philosophical Theology, is presently working on several King Center sponsored projects.

"Ideally the King Center will sponsor between four and eight events, which will be initiated

by the King Center and presented by the students," he said.

Carter's pet project is the production of a King center journal. Its purpose, he explained, "is to bring in the ideas of black leaders and feed it back to black students."

Rev. Carter seemed very excited about the first edition, which will feature a re-evaluation of the Civil Rights Movement, and will contain articles by such noted civil rights leaders as NAACP Executive Secretary, Roy Wilkins, and Congress of Racial Equality leader, Roy Innis. The first issue of the journal will also include a debate on busing, featuring the head of the Boston chapter of the NAACP, Tom Atkins and Paul Tierney.

A long-range project which he is currently working on is a "Commemorative Program to Civil Rights Workers and Leaders" to be held in April. The program will be held in honor of all those who worked in and led the civil rights movement.

The King Center is inviting celebrities, leaders, bishops and anybody who's anybody in the struggle to take part in this memorable event.



TO BE EQUAL

by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

Executive Director of the National Urban League

One of the best-kept secrets these days is that most larger cities, especially those with significant numbers of poor people and minorities are being shortchanged by federal government.

Many kinds of federal assistance are based on population and work force figures that the government itself admits are mistaken, so when it distributes revenue sharing funds or manpower monies, allocations are based on understated numbers. The result, less money to cities than they are entitled to by law.

The Census undercount is a prime example. The Census Bureau admits that it didn't count an estimated 5.3 million people in 1970. A disproportionate number of the missed were black, nearly two million or about eight percent of the total estimated black population.

Even though the Bureau admits to this undercount, revenue sharing formulas and other population-based federal pay-outs to states and local area follow the flawed official 1970 Census results.

The Bureau claims it can't refine the undercount to specific cities so we'll just have to do until the next Census. But in fact a fairly accurate set of state and local estimates can be made.

Using a formula developed by the National Urban League, it appears that over half a million people were not counted in California, just under half a million in New York and in the neighborhood of 300,000 in Texas, in Pennsylvania, and in Illinois. In New York City alone some 260,000 people weren't counted, and even that estimate is very conservative.

Translated into dollars states and cities should be getting but are not, this means that financially harassed New York State loses about \$15 million each year in revenue sharing allocations; California, about the same, and Illinois, \$7.5 million.

Another way localities lose money is found in the way the Bureau of Labor Statistics counts the unemployed. St. Louis charges that the Bureau's undercount of the jobless causes the City to lose up to \$4 million in manpower funds.

Some federal manpower funds are released when triggered by a

jobless rate of 6.5 percent or more for three months in a row. But the rate is diluted by applying to a wider area than just the central-city or even sections of the city. A CITY MAY HAVE AN EIGHT PERCENT JOBLESS RATE, BUT LOW UNEMPLOYMENT IN ITS SUBURBS DIPS THE AREA-wide rate to a point below the triggered figure for release of manpower funds.

Federal jobless statistics don't count many people who should be counted as unemployed. Discouraged workers—people who have given up hope of finding a job—are not counted. The formula includes all sorts of factors like "seasonal adjustment" that often make the figures look good by not counting people who are actually out of work.

It especially understates unemployment among marginal workers, low-paid workers, and minorities. Since these groups are concentrated in the inner-city, the entire urban economy is undermined through denial of manpower funds to which it would be entitled if the statistics were more realistic.

In the St. Louis case, the Bureau's procedures were condemned. Among other things, researchers found that the statistics were based on interviews with only 180 households, far below the numbers needed to give a representative picture of the City's economy.

All of this is more than an academic exercise, it involves resources desperately needed by many localities to provide municipal services and to employ the unemployed. Its bad enough that the government has so tight-fisted with the money and programs to aid the cities and the jobless, but there's no excuse for allowing admitted undercounts and inaccurate definitions of unemployment to rob state and city government of the money due them.

IT'S A LONG WAY TILL THE NEXT Census and full employment is not in sight. So immediate action should be taken to make interim adjustment is no sight, so immediate action should be taken to make interim adjustments to let the states and cities get the money that is theirs by right.

Things You Should Know

John H. ROCK...



FEB 2, 1865, TWO DAYS AFTER PASSAGE OF THE 13th AMENDMENT—ABOLITION OF SLAVERY—HE BECAME THE FIRST NEGRO LAWYER TO BE ADMITTED BEFORE THE U.S. SUPREME COURT / THAT ERA SAW MANY

COLORED CONVENTIONS FOR POLITICAL RIGHTS, A NATIONAL ONE, APRIL 5-7, 1876, IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE /