

Negro Family To Remain Despite Flaming Cross

County police are still investigating the Sunday morning cross-burning on the lawn of a Portland Negro family. The cross was burned on the front lawn of Charles Gragg, 11261 NE Knott street, in the Parkrose Heights district.

Earlier, several neighbors had attempted to get Gragg to move elsewhere after it was learned that he was a Negro. The Graggs have lived in the community for three weeks.

Sunday morning Gragg's wife, Joyce, was awakened by a noise. She paid little attention to the noise and only became aroused when a rock was tossed upon the front porch. From the bedroom

she and Gragg could see the cross burning on the lawn. Gragg took his family to his mother's home and notified the Portland branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League of Portland.

Many Letters Received
Gragg said he has received about 100 letters, all in favor of him staying in the neighborhood. One of the letters came from Washington, D. C. "I am determined to stay," said Gragg. "This is a challenge."

Nearby residents told police investigating the burned cross that they did not hear of the cross-burning and none could offer a

clue to the officers.

Many Parkrose citizens and neighbors have come forward in behalf of the Graggs. They have expressed a welcome to them, and regret that a few people seem to be fearful of having the Graggs for neighbors.

The NAACP notified the FBI and they too are carrying on an investigation of the burning cross. Sheriff Terry Schrank feels confident that the guilty party or parties will be apprehended and is making every effort to protect the Graggs.

Oregon's Attorney General, Robert Y. Thornton, has also been notified and is watching the situation.

Students Elect Negro President at Jefferson

A surprised but happy 17-year-old Jefferson high school junior, Lewis Montague, was elected president of his school's student body for the 1953 fall semester. His election marked the second time in the history of Portland public schools that a Negro has been so honored by his school companions.

In 1951 Caley Cook was elected student body president of

Jefferson. Cook is now attending Lewis and Clark college and is a standout on the Pioneer football and track teams. He was president of the freshman class at Lewis and Clark.

Native of Dallas

Montague came to Portland in 1947 from Dallas, Texas. He lives with his mother, Mrs. Erie Montague, at 2831 N Borthwick avenue.

It was not Louie's idea to run for the president's post. In fact the current student body president, Hans Neville, had begun circulation of petitions for the new president a day before Montague knew he was going to run.

A member of Cheops, Jefferson service club, and a basketball letterman, Jefferson's new president plans to enter college following graduation. He is still undecided as to a major field, but leans toward radio engineering or dentistry. University of Portland may be his future school.

Proud of Office

Very popular among his fellow students, Montague had this to say of his election: "It was a big surprise when I won the election, but I consider it an honor and a privilege to be elected to such an important office."

"I will try at all times to do what is expected of me and what is best for the all-around welfare of the school," said Montague.

He keeps himself busy after school hours listening to music and attending the Wednesday night Y-teen sessions at the Williams avenue Y.

Montague placed first in the student body elections among a field of four. Other candidates running were Eddie Graves, Al Owen and Wayne Sherwood.



LEWIS MONTAGUE
Students elect him chief.

Realtors, Boards Should Educate, Says Bill Berry

McMINNVILLE, May 19 (Special)—Edwin C. Berry, executive secretary of the Urban League of Portland, called up on the realty boards of Oregon cities—particular Portland—and the Oregon state real estate commissioner, to establish a state-wide educational program which would dispel the myth of property value depreciation due to the presence of non-white residents in a speech at the annual banquet of Pi Gamma Mu, social science honorary, at Linfield college, Tuesday night.

Berry suggested a three-point program for the state commissioner of real estate. If carried out vigorously, said Berry, such a program would make it impossible for a repeat performance of the fiery cross-burning which occurred on the lawn of Charles Gragg in Portland. Gragg a Portland-born Negro, recently purchased a modest home in the Portland Parkrose Heights district.

Myth a Disgrace

Berry said he called upon the realty boards of the state and the real estate commissioner's office because he said these organizations are basically responsible for the creation and perpetuation of the myth of property values.

Berry said the myth is causing disgraceful and reprehensible behavior in the state. "It is disturbing our peace, understanding and tranquility. Therefore, the groups which are responsible for circulating misinformation have the duty to correct it if they are operating in the public interest," said Berry.

Invisible Walls Erected

Berry pointed out that segregation would be a great evil if it applied only to shelter. "But the implications of residential segregation go far beyond this. For once it is achieved, we find all activities within the segregated area also segregated, e.g. churches, schools, recreational activities and business.

"What is even worse, we have erected walls which keep Americans separated one from the other, and have arbitrarily affixed the badge of inferiority upon a group—non whites—by virtue of race."

Portland Challenger

Volume 2, Number 2 Portland, Oregon, Wednesday, May 20, 1953 PRICE 10 CENTS

First Negro D.C. Opens Business

Oregon's only licensed and registered Negro chiropractor, Dr. Robert T. Irving, has opened his office at 212 N. Broadway. A native of Miami, Fla., Dr. Irving's office is open to the public between the hours of 1 and 5 p.m. and 6 and 9 p.m.

Dr. Irving did his premedical work at Kentucky State college and received his D. C. degree upon graduation from Western States College of Chiropractic and Naturopathy here in Portland. He is currently engaged in post graduate work in naturopathy at that school.

In Portland Five Years

A resident of Portland for five years, Dr. Irving is the first Negro to pass the Oregon State Board. He is married and is the father of one son.

Dr. Irving describes chiropractic as a system of treatment based on the premise that the nerve system controls all other systems and all physiological functions of the human body; that interference with the nerve control of these systems impairs their function and induces disease by rendering the body less resistant to infection or other exciting causes.

System of Adjusting

Chiropractors adjust the structure of the body, especially those of the spinal column, to restore the normal nerve function, thus giving the body's protective and restorative power an opportunity to function normally, according to Dr. Irving.

Dr. Irving further defines chiropractic as a system of adjusting with the hand or hands the ar-



DR. ROBERT T. IRVING
Chiropractor opens office.

tulations of the bony frame work of the human body, and the employment and practice of physio-therapy, electrotherapy, hydrotherapy and minor surgery. It includes the uses of antiseptics, local anesthetics, and foods for the diagnosis, cure treatment and mitigation or prevention of diseases or abnormalities of man.

Dr. Irving planned and did all the work on his office.

UL Schedules Joint Meeting

A joint meeting of the Portland and Seattle branches of the Urban League is scheduled for May 22 and 23 in Seattle, according to John Holley, neighborhood secretary of the Portland branch. Holley is slated to make the trip from Portland, to be accompanied by the league's executive secretary, Edwin C. Berry, and its industrial secretary, E. Shelton Hill.

There is a probability that Mark A. Smith and William Van Meter of the Oregon Labor commission will make the conference. Fair Employment Practice staffers for the state of Washington may also make the confab.

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Youths Attend NAACP Confab

Several youth delegates from Portland attended a youth conference on civil rights May 1 at Camp Asilomar, California. The delegation, which was from the Youth Council of the NAACP, left April 30 with Mrs. De Norval Unthank, and arrived Friday morning for the opening of the conference.

Oregon's youth representatives were: Grover Campbell, Samuel Whitney Jr., Joan P. Johnson, Berna Deane Plummer, Thomas and James Unthank and Willie Kent.

The age group ranged from high school to college. The conference offered speakers as well as workshops in which to carry on discussions.

Thurgood Marshall Speaks

The three main speakers were: Thurgood Marshall, head of legal council of NAACP; Hubert T. Delaney, from New York; and Bishop Show from Baltimore. The topics were all centered around civil rights. The conference housed 300 people out of which 94 were youth.

Other representatives from Oregon were Otto Rutherford, president of Portland's NAACP, and Ulysses G. Plummer, who attended the regional lawyers conference. Phil Burton, Seattle attorney, also attended the conference.

The conference lasted three days and the representatives returned to Portland the following Tuesday morning.

High School Girl Airs Disc Show

Miss Irene Porter, a junior at Girls Polytechnic high school, can currently be heard over radio station KBPS with her own disc jockey program. Miss Porter is on the air every Wednesday from 5 to 5:30 p.m.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Porter, she is a student of ballet and a member of her high school's drill team which is seen in all of the major parades in Portland.

Boys! 'It's a Hit' — Cash Prizes For You — See Page 4

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