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# Portland Challenger

## College Professor

REED college recently added a new professor to its teaching staff. Read of this new addition to one of the Northwest's top colleges on page four of this issue of the Portland Challenger.

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## PTC Employs Dillard, Rae

Portland's Traction company hired two non-white bus drivers recently, the first to be used by the company since it started operations in Portland.

The two new drivers, Robert Dillard and Orvoll Rae, are both now fully employed by the Traction company. Their employment followed routine practice runs with the public transportation firm. Dillard was used on the Bridge Transfer line and Rae on the Killingsworth.

### Dillard Combat Veteran

Dillard, 532 N. Fremont street, is married and a World War II combat veteran, serving with the 92nd division in Italy. He is a native of Paris, Tex., and came to Portland in 1945.

He attended barber's school at the Northwestern Barber college and worked at Shine's barber shop, as a waiter on the Union Pacific railroad and at the Portland Air Base barber shop before getting the job opportunity with the Traction company.

His wife works as a telephone operator for the Pacific Telephone company.

Rae is a native of Antlers, Okla. He came to Portland in 1942. He lives at 3222 N. Gantenbein avenue.

### Hill Sees Steele

The hiring of Dillard and Rae is the effect of efforts negotiated some time ago by E. Shelton Hill, industrial secretary of the Urban League of Portland. Hill first had conferences with Gordon E. Steele, president of the Portland Traction company. He later held discussions with Steele and Ralph Foss, superintendent of operations regarding non-white employees.

The Portland Traction company has always maintained that its hiring policy was non-discriminatory. Hill worked with the company for years in an attempt to clarify its hiring policy and followed the progress of all non-whites applying for jobs with the firm.

The hiring of Dillard and Rae culminated his conferences with Steele and Foss.

## Baptists to Hold General Confab

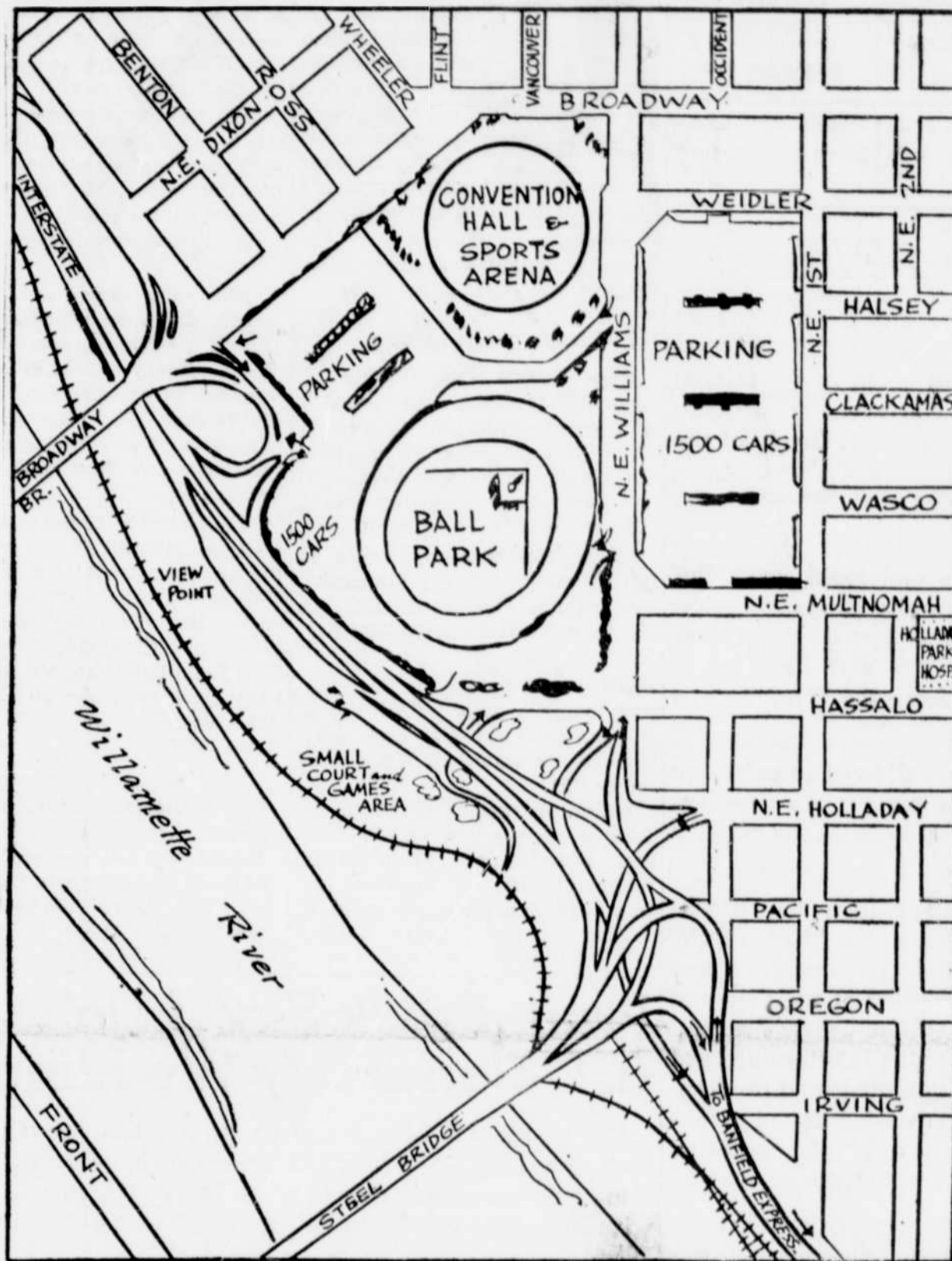
Mrs. F. R. Johns, Junior Women's president, will give her annual address Thursday night, July 30, at the opening session of the General Baptist convention for Oregon and vicinity at the Vancouver Avenue Baptist church.

Rev. A. A. Newton of New Hope Baptist church, Vancouver, Wn., will deliver the evening sermon. A business meeting at 7 precedes Mrs. Johns' address and Rev. Mr. Newton's sermon.

In the concluding session Friday, July 31, Mrs. Minnie Jordan, Senior Women's president, will give her annual message and the Rev. Mr. Harvey of Macedonia Baptist church will deliver the sermon. The business meeting is slated to get underway at 7 p.m.

Rev. O. B. Williams is pastor of the host church, located at N. Fargo and Vancouver avenue.

## District Proposed for Recreation Site



This is area, between the Steel and Broadway bridges on the east side, proposed by City Commission Nathan A. Boody as an alternate city sports and convention center.

## Social Worker, Businessman, Minister Give Opinions On Boody Plan for Redevelopment of Williams Area

BY RICHARD BOGLE  
Challenger Staff Writer

Reactions of Portlanders living in the section of the city that was recently suggested for the proposed site of a civic center and a baseball park was, generally speaking, one of waiting for further developments before forming iron-clad opinions.

Charles B. Maxey, a barber on Weidler street, thought the idea was a good one, principally because there isn't too much business in the area and the business that is there can be obtained more cheaply.

Maxey, like many others, feels that it would, however, work a hardship on him for he doubts if he could get out of his investment what he has put into it.

### "Just a Suggestion"

Thomas Johnson, long-time businessman in the designated area, said, "It's just a suggestion and if taken up, it would take years to complete."

A home owner, who wished to remain anonymous, stated that she would like to get out of the neighborhood and that she would also like to realize some profit from the deal. She doubts, however, if she would get what her property is worth.

Rev. Jesse L. Boyd, pastor of Bethel AME church located on Larrabee avenue and McMillen

street, said he would like to give it more study and thought before he voiced a definite opinion. He did feel, however, that the location was a good one for such a site due to its proximity to the center of town.

Edwin C. Berry, executive secretary of the Urban League of Portland, said it was too early to have an opinion because he

## Same Name, New Address

The Portland Challenger is now located at 4617 N. Williams avenue.

Although the publishers are kept busy on other jobs in order to finance a newspaper with standards acceptable to a majority of the people, an effort will be made to keep the business and news offices open as often as possible during the week.

News items, large or small, are very much welcomed and every effort will be made to find space for them in the Challenger's news columns.

Editorial comments are just as eagerly sought for as news items. The Challenger is for its readers and only through readers' comments can we best judge our worthiness to the community.—The Editors.

doesn't know what would be involved. He said now everything is in a problematical stage.

### Recreation Center Needed

Berry called it a matter "we all have to watch very carefully" and advised groups that are interested in race relations and civic betterment to stay on top of the proposal from the start.

He thought the idea would be a good one if there was some type of relocation program included for finding integrated housing with affordable rents.

Concluding, he said, "It wouldn't hurt the district and the city to have a recreation center."

## Isaac Alford Gets Athletic Club Post

Isaac E. Alford, 6204 N. E. 8th avenue, was recently named as assistant manager of the Columbia Athletic club.

Alford will supervise the banquet staff and contract the banquets to be held at the club. He will have complete charge of elevator operators, waiters, janitors and operation of the banquet hall.

Prior to his appointment as assistant manager, Alford was superintendent of banquets and maitre de.

Alford has been with the Columbia club for four years.

## State Adopts Equality Bill

Oregon became the 22nd state to put into effect a civil rights bill when the equal rights measure passed by the 1953 Oregon legislature became law and active July 21.

The bill was protested by a group called the "Civil Freedom Committee" and a referendum petition filed by John F. Reynolds, attorney of the organization, managed to scrape up only two per cent of the necessary 23,375 signatures needed to hold the law in abeyance until the 1954 state elections.

### Race Bias No Basis

Oregon's civil rights law makes it illegal for public eating, lodging and amusement places to discriminate against any person because of religion or race. The bill provides for civil damages up to \$500.

The "Civil Freedom Committee" suffered two setbacks when the state supreme court ruled that the petition title had to be rewritten and that employees would be unable to solicit signatures while working.

The title change was contested by the Oregon Committee for Equal Rights, a state-wide organization instrumental in the introduction of the bill.

### Education Helped Bill

In 1950, Portland's city council unanimously passed a similar civil rights ordinance which was later turned down by the people.

Civil rights proponents attributed the failure to low propaganda tactics by the opponents of the measure and attribute much of the success of the new bill to the education brought about by the publicity given the defeated city ordinance.

## Last Rites Held For D. Williams

Funeral services were held recently for Dudley Williams who died here July 1. The services were conducted by the Billy Webb Lodge No. 1050, IBPOE of W in the Zeller Funeral chapel.

Interment was at Columbian cemetery.

Born in Fairmount, N. C., October 10, 1914, Mr. Williams was the husband of Olga Williams. He lived at 1468 N. Wheeler street and worked on construction jobs as an air tool operator.

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