

Rose City Initiates Safety Program

Rose City Cab Company, the only Black owned Black operated cab has initiated a safety program, which not only involves the company and their drivers but also the customers.

Mr. Frank Millner, president of the company says theirs is the only program of its kind in the city of Portland.

The cabs undergo regular inspections inside and out for neatness and cleanliness. The drivers are checked for neatness of attire all with an eye to safety. When a customer enters the cab he is pleasantly reminded to buckle up for safety sake, and for his own.

Mr. Booker T. Parnell who is Safety Operation Officer, for the company is the initiator of this program.

The idea came about, Mr. Millner says, because the cab company was unable to get insurance in the State of Oregon, because of the location of the business. He also pointed out a fact which is well known to all who reside in the Albina Area. That the insurance rates for people who live in this area are too high for economical operation of the company.

Mr. Millner has stated that to make the program of interest to all employees, each employee will receive a savings bond as recognition for having served a certain length of time with the company passing all inspections and having an accident free record. He also figures the savings incurred by having an accident free record or a minimal record of accidents, can eventually be passed on to the customer.



L. T. JOHNSON, driver for Rose City Cab Company received a "Safety Savings Bond" from Booker T. Parnell as Driver of the Month award.

Split opinion of court anticipated

Close observers of the U.S. Supreme Court and some of the participants in the three school desegregation cases now before the court anticipate a split decision. If the justices disagree on the final opinion, it would be the Supreme Court's first split ruling on a school case since the original BROWN decision in 1954. The complexity of the three cases involving busing in Athens, Ga., Charlotte, N.C., and Mobile, Ala., and the possible impact on DE FACTO segregation in the North are expected to require considerable time in preparing the decision.

Estimates of a decision date range from December through next spring. However, pressure for a quick decision has been created by other school cases in lower courts, where judges have withheld final action pending the higher court's ruling in these three cases.

Lawyers on both sides of the three cases say they want a quick decision. Legal sources stress the difficulty of second-guessing the court. They believe, however, the court may give the lower federal courts

and school boards the option of using busing, without requiring it in all instances.

(See the complete story next week)

On-the-ground tour seeks out facts in Cairo

The four-day conference (Oct. 27-30) of the National Association of Intergroup Relations Officers (NAIRO) began quietly enough in Tulsa, Okla. LaDonna Harris, part Comanche Indian and wife of Oklahoma Sen. Fred Harris, praised the convention theme of "Self Determination: Red, Brown and Black." The outgoing president of NAIRO, Ed Howden, said the aim of the conference was to examine the problems of Indians, Chicanos, blacks and Puerto Ricans "as they seek to enter the American mainstream."

Subsequent speakers disagree. "Why jump aboard a sinking ship," one Indian asked. "We don't want to enter the mainstream." Of several minority spokesman taking issue with Howden, the sharpest criticism came from Armando Mendoza, a counsellor at the University of Washington. "It is not going to work," he declared. "You will never assimilate. You never will assimilate La Raza." Mendoza also told the organization of mostly black and white human relations officials that "I think your organization stinks. I feel deeply that you are a bunch of phonies." The next day, the Chicanos walked out, calling the goals and concepts of NAIRO irrelevant.

A lot of the talk at the conference focused on coalitions among minority groups. Jack Agueros, a Puerto Rican and executive director of Mobilization for Youth in New York City, declared that the assumption that minority coalitions are inevitable and will exist on every issue is irrational and can cause even greater problems. Agueros caused a furor, especially among blacks, when he said that at times he sees blacks and whites as simple "yankee racists." He later clarified his position and said that he believes in coalitions but they need to be specific--about a particular project, goal or issue. This gradually became the consensus among the conference participants. The protest speeches and the caucuses of the Indians and Chicanos followed the pattern established a few years ago by some blacks raising their objections at meetings around the country on civil rights, religion and education.

Cairo charges questioned

Rep. John B. Conyers (D-Mich.) may embark on a fact-finding tour early next year in racially tense Cairo, Ill. An aide to the Detroit congressman said a probe is necessary "to find the truth." Racial tensions flared again the weekend of Oct. 24 and police charged that black militants opened fire on police headquarters. "Reports I receive are that blacks attacked the police station there for no apparent reason," Conyers' aide said. "That doesn't sound right." Cairo's black militants joined with black students at Southern Illinois University on Oct. 24-25 at a Black Survival Conference and formed the National Black United Front (Race Relations Reporter, No. 18: Oct. 16). The Front, with headquarters in Cairo, will organize chapters across the country. Subsequent meetings will be held to devise means or protecting black communities from outside terrorists.

Philly celebration hits racial snag

Racial conflict has interfered with the planning in Philadelphia on the 200th anniversary celebration of the American Revolution. Many black board members of Philadelphia's 1976 Bicentennial Corporation walked out of the meeting at which a \$1 billion master plan was approved. The corporation chairman, Henderson Supplee Jr., set up a special reconciliation session. Of the 116 board members, 22 are black, one is Puerto Rican and none come from Philadelphia's Chinese or Japanese communities.

Supplee's administrative assistant, Spencer Jones, promised a more multi-national type of directors. Objections were that the organization was out of touch with the poor, especially

poor blacks; the massive plan for exposition sites and community revampment would cause mass displacement in a densely populated, lack inner-city area; and a freedom celebration is irrelevant to black people. As one black said, "We don't have any reason to have a bicentennial. The black man is still not free."

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Questions and Answers

Q.-What features appear on the United Nation Flag?

A.-The flag features the official N.N. emblem, a map of the world flanked by two olive branches. The olive branches

signify the U.N. purpose of promoting world peace.

Q.-What is the world's highest capital city?

A.-La Paz, Bolivia 12,795 feet above sea level.



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