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ALFRED LEE HENDERSON, Publisher and Editor



Time Getting Better?

Under the present "tight money" policy and all the austerity programs that it engenders, it is obvious that many people in the community are frightened because of the loss of their jobs. Those who are older think of 1930's and hope history does not repeat itself. "A chicken in every pot and a dollar in every pocket" will not remove the cancel that is spreading in our society.

Unemployment offices are flooded with applicants for unemployment insurance (compensation). Jobs are hard to find and it seems that the poor will almost have to get a foot in the door but only to find the door was closed.

By the same token there are people who appear to be safe and secure in their present position and they virtually have no fear of being either fired or laid off. But it seems strange that these people who constantly complain are the "one" who have good jobs and their families are fed regularly from those complaining jobs.

Have you ever thought that the jobs you hate so much today may be some one else's tomorrow and if you lose the job you have been complaining about, you really have no complaint coming because they indicated that they didn't want the job and made a great deal of fuss how they hated it.

It is well assumed by most

people that there will be some problems with any job, however, the crisis should not be with people who are gainfully employed can't we show some gratitude?

These are the times that try men's souls. Times are critical and it would appear from present signs that they could get worse before they get better. Therefore, it behooves those persons who are employed should realize the value of the job they currently hold and attempt to keep these jobs. If you must complain, let it be in helping others to get employment.

We are not suggesting that you become a slave to a job or even take insults while in performance of duty. We are simply suggesting that every person employed and wants to keep his or her job should do his or her very best to perform his duty to best of their ability. Duties should be so performed that there will be no doubts in the minds of their employers as to their loyalty.

People who are presently employed should be loyal to the job they now hold until they have a better position and that position has been firmly ensconced in that new position.

Those who complain about their job today will have nothing to complain about on tomorrow. Are you grateful or are you an ingrate?

Direction Before Election or After?

Our city and state elections are over and the people who have been elected to office are now official representatives and we must work with them and give them our support. Maybe your candidate didn't win but the winner in office is our own representative.

These persons who have been elected to office are now preparing to step into the shoes that have been placed before them. In many cases, the shoes will not fit and the problems will increase instead of decreasing. Elected officials will attempt to prove that he is better than the one he replaced or that he is the one to remain and then next election the fight starts all over again.

In order to get the most proverbial mileage out of the man or woman who speaks for us in high places, it must be high on our list of priorities to make sure that we know what the issue and address ourselves to those issues.

This means that we must be aware of the situation that affect us and make sure that our representatives know exactly what we want them to do.

Direction or Complain

In the past, we have elected people to fill a post and then we proceed to sit back on the stools of do nothing' and complain' about everything that goes wrong in government.

The Portland Observer believes that our elected representatives should follow orders that we set down for him (or her). Many politicians will attempt to really represent a cross-section of their consti-

tuency, however, this is impossible! Voters should let the representatives know what our wishes are. They cannot use ESP and know what we want them to do.

Maybe we have been so ill informed as to our rights in government that we took the word of any Monday morning street lawyer and this was the 'gospel'. But now there is a revolution, quote-unquote afoot and perhaps one of the few good things to come out of it is new kind of political awareness.

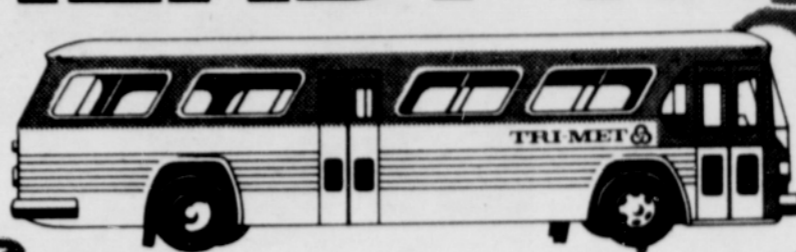
We must make sure that this awareness is used in the proper context and aimed in the proper direction. If we have this power and then fail to use it, then it is to no avail to have acquired it.

Past history has taught that proper amount of pressure placed in the right places, it will bring about the kind of legislative which is necessary for our well being. But if we do nothing, as we have done in the past, then we have no complaint at whatever treatment we receive.

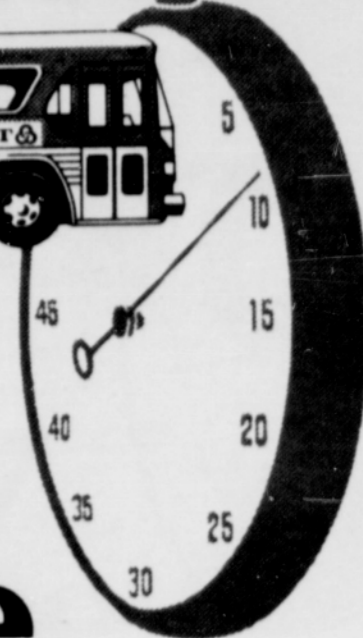
Persons in office were voted into office are, in effect, our servants and we have only to make sure that they know what we want instead of letting them introduce bills as they see fit.

Remember now is the time to remind our elected officials of the campaign promises they made. Let them know of your thinking! A letter, telegram, or visit to let them know what we want and places time in position of supporting and being supported by their real constituents.

READY-FARE



for Ready Service



DISCOVER

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"Your Bus System"



A Letter To Portland Observer



Gust Kanas, principal of Grant High School

I noted with considerable pleasure that a fine representative group of about 20 black parents attended the social get-together at the Grant High faculty-PTA dinner at the Town Hall on November 9. It was obvious that everyone enjoyed the "fun" evening but, most importantly, it signaled the fact that we are on the threshold of a true community involvement of all parents, black and white, in the educational welfare of all students at Grant High.

Recent efforts by the school administration, faculty members, and important parental and community participation in helping Grant to provide the best possible school climate for students. The recent reorganization of the school district has created some new challenges which must be met in order to meet the needs of all students, including those who may have felt "misplaced" or "compelled" to attend Grant.

Project Equality

You are invited to attend a press conference launching the Project Equality program in the Portland area on Thursday morning, November 19th, at 9:30 a.m. The location is to be the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Portland, 2828 E. Burnside. The Portland office is a component of Project Equality of the Northwest, with headquarters in Seattle, serving a five state area (Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, and Montana).

Participants in the press conference will include: Bishop Everett W. Palmer, United Methodist Church; the Rev. Bertram F. Griffin, Chancellor, Archdiocese of Portland; George Rankin, Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee; and Derek M. Mills, Executive Director of Project Equality of the Northwest.

Thus, the encouraging beginning on November 9 is being followed up with other planned activities. We need very much to inform all parents by every means available the facts about their high school and to encourage them to become an active part of their children's education.

In the weeks and months ahead, my staff and I will be looking forward to working with all groups students and parents, as we plan together to improve our school. Mrs. Shepherd, as the Community agent, is most happy to serve as the primary liaison person between home and school - I would urge parents to contact her anytime. I know she will be in touch with parents to help us do a better job with their youngsters.

As principal of this school, I intend to do all I can to encourage the kind of attitudes and participation by students and parents which will help us to provide the opportunities for learning and success that every child has a right to expect. To do this I not only welcome but need the active involvement of parents from all sections of the Grant community.

My thanks to the Portland Observer for recent news coverage regarding Grant. I hope you will continue to help us tell the Grant story that involves 2,500 very important citizens.

Sincerely,
Gust Kanas
Principal, Grant High School



A CLASSIFIED AD WILL BRING RESULTS WHEN PLACED IN THE PORTLAND OBSERVER