

What A Life

True to form that most men in "Who's Who in America" are the oldest children in the family, it was obvious from the beginning that George Walter Jordan, born the oldest of three boys in 1905, was headed for big things. He couldn't miss with a grandmother and aunt to see him through elementary school in Hattisburg, Mississippi. For most young men at that time, an eighth grade education was a real achievement. But this was not sufficient for George. He soon found himself in Macon, Mississippi, the home of another aunt. By this time George didn't stand a chance of escaping from the education scene: his uncle, Uncle Richard, was the principal of the high school and his Aunt Sue, a teacher there. No one was easily satisfied, and when he graduated from high school, he sent him on to Rust College, a Methodist School in Holly Springs, Mississippi. It was a good thing he had enough assets strategically placed as this time he lived on campus in the home of another one (Aunt Minnie).

Because of his ability and determination, he finished his four-year program with a major in secondary education and a minor in music in three years, but he was not allowed to graduate ahead of his class, and he stayed a fourth year painting, a skill which his principal-uncle had taught him, and keeping things in good repair on campus. He had always kept himself well-occupied, and now was no exception. Along with his places of leadership in the Methodist Church as a Sunday School teacher, choir director, adult Christian leader in evening classes throughout the years, while he was at college, he also served as a Sunday School teacher of teenagers, headed his college group meetings at church, and held leadership at the Y.M.C.A.

After the glad tassel-moving day had arrived, he moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, and served one year as an assistant history teacher at Langston University, Langston, Oklahoma. At the close of the school term his college had recommended him as an assistant principal in a little town in Mississippi, where he tackled his next assignment. Following this he accepted a position as principal of Webster County Training School in Eupora, Mississippi, where he remained for eight years. Neither he nor his aunt nor the rest of the family, however, realized the import this position carried with it. Among his staff was a Martha B. Ashford Turner, preschool and kindergarten teacher who had taken the job without asking for much compensation, but who ended up with the principal's well, not only was it unheard of for principals to fraternize with the teachers, but marriage was taboo for lady teachers, and so, for quite a time the wedding was kept a secret. (If they are never quite sure which

anniversary they are celebrating, you now know why.) However, this past May 2nd marked their 32nd marriage anniversary.

By this time the war had come upon the scene, and news of good jobs and good pay in Portland reached Eupora and the Jordans responded to the call.

The family was full-fledged by this time with little Martin and Michael both becoming Oregonians, too.

The shipyard at Swan Island were ready with a job for George. In fact, he became so renowned as a painter that the paper wrote a special article about his ability to paint with both hands! At night he brought his musical talent to the fore when he played his sax with the "Walter Bridges Band" in many of the Black night clubs such as Fraternal Hall, Savoy, Deuces, and Dede Ranch.

Then came the Vanport Flood, and like Noah, all that they saved, were their family. Home possessions, and jobs were destroyed. But George's teaching instinct wasn't, and so, he applied for a position with the school district.

Black male instructors were at a premium at that time, and he found himself teaching as a substitute for School District #1. The second year he taught mornings at Oakley Green School and afternoons at Linton School. It was while engaged as a substitute he met Gertrude Ramage, principal at that time at George Elementary School, who liked his work so well that she recommended him as a regular teacher. Well, the only place for George Jordan was of course, George School. And since the two of them were obviously made for each other, he was content to remain there for these last sixteen years teaching eighth, seventh, and sixth grades under the leadership first of Miss Ramage during those principalship years and became a tenure teacher, then Mr. Allen Button, Mrs. Harriet Foreman, and presently Dr. Bertha Little.

In every way, George had made the most of his working years.

After obtaining his B.S. from Rust College he went on to receive his M.A. at Portland University and his elementary teaching certificate through Portland State College. During this time, also, he has raised two fine sons, Martin Luther Turner, with his wife Bonita, and daughters Christine Lei and Michelle Lynne live in Los Angeles where Martin is an internal revenue agent with the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Michael, who works as an administrative assistant at Washington High School, and his wife Shelley, have a child, Paul Renee Jordan. That preschool teacher wife, Martha Jordan, is a credit to the family, too, and has since its inception been Co-director of the Early Childhood Education Program in our city.

Lois Williams at 4-C



Mrs. Lois Williams is now administrative assistant to Mrs. Helen Gordon, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Area 4-C Council. Her primary responsibility is for the Model Cities Child Care program, funded to begin its second action year beginning June 1st to the tune of more than one million dollars.

When Mrs. Gordon is out of town, which is frequently these days, often seeking funds in Washington D.C. to expand child care facilities and programs in Multnomah, Clackamas and Williams is in charge of the 4-C TRI-COUNTY OPERATION.

The Model Cities Child Care program is designed to provide much more than "babysitting" for residents of the Model Cities area. It offers from its Point of Information and Referral, located at 714 1/2 NE Alberta St., information where parents may seek services so their children will be properly cared for.

Social workers, nurses, nutritionists, homemakers and child development specialists are available to help meet special problems.

The three main parts of the 4-C child care program in Model Cities are: Family Day and Night Care, with services for children under three or children with special problems; Berean Child Care Center with three centers and Bethel Child Care Center; and Hughes Memorial Emergency Day Care Center located at the Multi-Service Center.

Several years ago, Mrs. Williams worked on her own, finding jobs for Blacks. In 1967, she was hired by the Oregon Bureau of Labor to direct a pilot program developing jobs for Black people. With a \$15,000 grant for a year's program she placed 407 minority people, ten of them in management positions.

Mrs. Williams then worked for Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company, first as a job interviewer and finally rising to the position of personnel consultant.

Youth producers

The American public, which for the purposes of this discussion will be considered in the light of its business activities, has become aware of a socio-economic problem of vast proportions and tragic implications. Too many young Americans are finding themselves out of step with the society in which they are being raised. They are out of step disadvantaged, alienated, unemployed or underemployed in an affluent society that has the potential of offering reasonable satisfaction to all of its members. Whatever the social factors that underline this problem may be, it has deep seated economic effects in the community that are of vital concern to businessmen.

In this brief presentation of the problem, with a suggestion for a solution, it will be impossible to deal with all of the factors that have contributed to its development. That would take volumes; many of which have already been written. In this presentation it will be necessary to deal in generalities each of which will have its exceptions. The generalities dealt with will be those usually accepted by observers in the field. Let us accept these generalities in this discussion for the purpose of the exceptions will be to quibble in the face of an overwhelming threat to the social stability that is necessary to the economic welfare of our community.

The National Alliance of Businessmen, a group, which by its performance, has demonstrated an awareness of the problem under discussion, has a slogan, "Talk Business to Businessmen." It is my intention, for the next few minutes, to discuss the problems of the young people in our society from the businessman's point of view. There will be those who feel that I am speaking from a psychological and or sociological point of view. This will be true because business, in the broadest sense, it is responsive to the psychological and sociological patterns of behavior found in the area in which it functions. I'm going to touch on the fields of psychology and sociology but I will be talking business to businessmen. I will be talking about the qualifications of potential employees, future markets that it is in the interest of businessmen to develop and costs, that if they must be paid, are a cost that ultimately falls upon the business community.

Businessmen are taxpayers, participating members of the community. Each, in his own way is interested in programs that he interprets as contributing to the general welfare. They are interested in healthy community, a stable society, in which their families can live and enjoy themselves and in which their children can have the training and experience that leads to responsible adulthood. They are interested in a healthy community, a stable society in which business can be carried on with a minimum of difficulties. Businessmen participate not only in planning for business development, but also in planning for the society that will tolerate that development. Businessmen are vitally interested in training, education and the social standards of behavior that affect

their future markets and future employees. Social and educational problems are business problems. Businessmen handle these problems, for the most part in a pragmatic manner as they face them each day. They seldom record their observations but successful businessmen remember and avoid the behavior that has not been successful. I believe that in these remarks I can call attention to an area of activity of great importance to our economy that businessmen have overlooked and, in overlooking it, have unknowingly made a major contribution to the unrest among our young people that disturbs so many of us today.

Businessmen, as taxpayers, have long supported a massive educational system in the United States. The original intent of this system was to teach reading, writing and arithmetic to the mass of the population. Lengthy educational programs were required for entry into only a few professions. It was a rare individual, not interested in a profession, who went on to attain a college degree which was certainly not required for entry into the trades and businesses of this day.

Kerry To Speak Portland State University

John Kerry is scheduled to arrive at Portland International Airport on United Flight 149 from Chicago at 3:05 p.m. Friday, June 11, 1971. I scheduled immediately after his arrival in the Airport's Press Conference Room, formerly known as the Quiet Lounge.

To speed up the beginning of the conference, we suggest that you plan to have your equipment set up prior to his arrival. The Conference Room will be opened about 2:45 p.m.

Spectacular fashion and Dance



PICTURED left to right are Mrs. Lois Eldridge in a bonded knit jumpsuit; Ron Knight, Portland Trailblazer and Geri Ward in a pant suit featuring the mid-length jacket. They are discussing final plans for Sunday's Spectacular of Fashion and Dance.

The NAACP announces the arrival of its International Spectacular of Fashion and Dance. This cosmopolitan event will take place on Sunday, June 13 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the exciting Airtel Motel, 6221 NE 82nd.

The event will have an international flavor featuring the best in contemporary fashions, including the modern looks for those who consider good looking threads to be a viable mode of personal expression. The event will also include the best music, and the appearance an participation of recognizable personalities.

The NAACP announces that among the male and female guest models will be members of the Portland Trailblazers, Portland's own fast moving professional basketball team. Several of the "Blazers" have been recognized since first coming to Portland for their flair in fashion as well as their basketball prowess.

Models from all over the world will be arriving at the Airtel on this occasion to bring the newest in fashion to Portland. Models from Holland, Thailand, Fuji Island, South Vietnam, and the United States will make this a cosmopolitan affair and a positive statement of the new international looks and outlook.

Chairman Lois Eldridge, and co-ordinator Geri Ward remind us that everyone in the community is invited to the entire event, fashion show and dance. A donation of \$2.50 will be received in advance ticket sales, and \$3.00 at the door. Committee members Ezel Stone and Robert Dillard forecast this to be an evening of interest to everyone in the community.

For further information contact: Lois Eldridge, Chm., 252-6566, or Geri Ward, Co-ordinator 281-5209.

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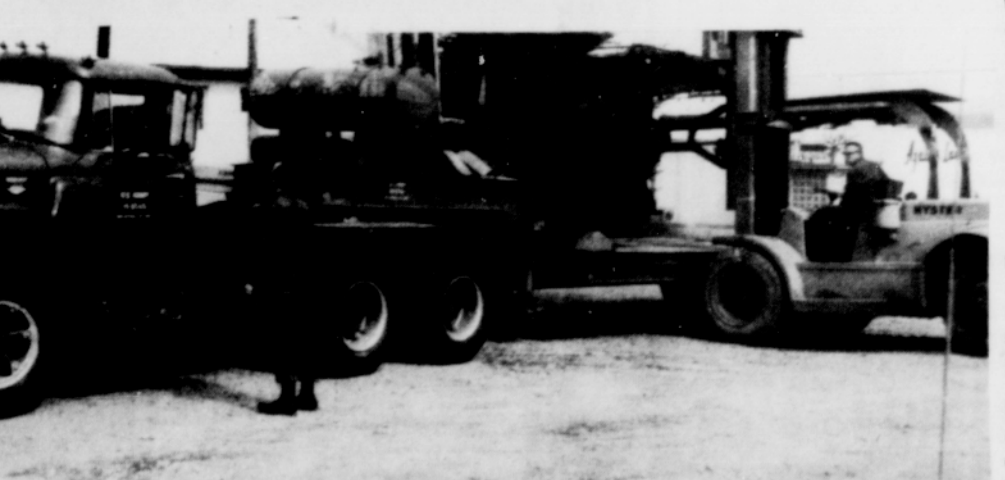
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Going to a new home

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the caucus feels it has been instrumental in changing an institution which has not given non-whites their due recognition in its ten year existence.

The caucus boasts of the fact that one of its members was elected President of the student body and two other members were elected as student representatives. They are also proud to announce that two other members, Teletha Benjamin, and Norm Monroe, will be graduating in June with Master of Social Work degrees.

Members of the caucus are: Phyllis Benton, Cynthia Thomas, Denny Wong, Teletha Benjamin, Maurice Salve, Tish Kirk, Cynthia Southwell, Morgan Dickerson, Shirley Hamilton, and Norm Monroe. John Longress and Hattie Gaskin act as advisors to the group. Although there are only ten members, they have been functioning in a capacity that will bring about effective social change.

Plans have already been set in motion for the fall of 1971, and the new recruitments for the caucus. The group wishes to acknowledge the help of former students of the school who felt the same frustrations and tried to respond to them.

In summing up the performance of the non-white caucus and thoughts of the future, their theme comes from an anonymous slave who said:
"I ain't what I wanta be
I ain't what I oughta be,
But, I sure ain't what I was!"



Arrived here in Portland By Tony Marshall

At last the long awaited moment has arrived! The Portland Observer has received its most valuable possession...The new press. The beautiful lady arrived at her new home this past Monday amid the cheers of the staff. A. Lee Henderson, publisher, was a very proud man as he rolled up his shirt sleeves to move the press into its new quarters.

The Portland Observer now has the distinction of being the only Black newspaper on the West Coast with its own printing facilities.

This is not a new story for the Observer. The paper was first a distant dream for Henderson, a dream which he worked hard to make a reality. The paper had a humble beginning, occupying a second story office on Alberta off of Seventh Avenue. At that time there were only three employ-

ees and the paper itself was a meager eight page tabloid half the size of a regular newspaper. This did not discourage Henderson, which they loved and they intended to see that need met. From the second story office to a storefront on Union Avenue. Now the paper was growing. It was still a tabloid publication, but it boasted of twelve or more pages. The staff had now grown to five. Still something was missing. Some progress was being made, but it was not enough. This little paper had met seemingly insurmountable odds and yet it survived. It had survived because it knew that there were greater things for it to accomplish. Plans were soon being made toward the day when the little paper would become a strong force in the Albina Community. When the opportunity presented itself, the paper was ready. The Observer being less than a year old, decided that now was the time to make its move. Negotiations with the Harbor Pilot, a newspaper in Brookings, Oregon, were over and the Portland Ob-

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