

PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland/Observer Thursday, Sept. 16, 1971

The Northwest's Best Weekly
A Black Owned Publication

Published every Thursday by Exie Publishing Company, 2301 N. Killingsworth Portland, Oregon 97217.
Subscription rates: 40 cents per month by carrier, \$4.00 per year; \$5.00 per year by mail in Tri-County area; \$5.25 per year elsewhere.
Phone 283-2486

ALFRED LEE HENDERSON, Publisher and Editor

Oregon's Black Political Look

Senator Edmund Muskie said that he does not believe that "at this point in history" he could be elected

President of the United States with a Black running mate, even though there

are Blacks who are eminently qualified. Muskie told a private meeting of Black leaders in Watts last week that he thinks it would be impossible to have a Black man as a Vice Presidential candidate and win.

Oregon is among the worst of the states in the nation for minority participation in government. No Blacks have ever served in the legislature or in other state office. The have never had an opportunity to make the laws at the state, county, or city level. What is even worse, the White Elected Officials betray their Oath of Office to uphold the constitutional rights of all citizens by refusing to appoint Blacks and members of other minority groups to positions of influence.

Have Senators Hatfield and Packwood appointed Blacks to their Washington or local staffs? What about Representatives Dellenback, Wyatt and Ulman? Mrs. Green's district contains the vast majority of the states' Black citizens. What is her record?

Governor McCall, who was one of the founders of the Urban League of Portland, has a dismal record both in inspiring and facilitating the rise of minority persons into the upper ranks of the state agencies, departments, and in the appointments of Blacks and minority persons to serve on many state commissions and boards.

Now that Governor McCall is in the state's highest position of power and influence, he above all should foster those ideals of equality and opportunity that he so ably espoused with the Urban League.

Secretary of State Clay Myers, an NAACP member, has insured that a Black not be elected to the State legislature by dividing Albina at Fremont in his new reapportionment plan. Mr. Nixon failed in his opportunity to give Blacks at least a minimal chance.

How many Blacks hold supervisory positions with the county or the city? What is the average income of Black Civil Servants as compared to their White co-workers? Why are the vast majority of the Blacks employed by the City of Portland and Multnomah County on menial jobs?

Neil Goldschmidt, whom most Black thought would be their "Messiah," has not lived up to many expectations. After his speaking so forcefully for the rights of Blacks and the poor and his excellent service at Legal Aid, many Blacks have expected more than he has produced. We know that he has made some valiant efforts on behalf of the proponents of some city planning and was not successful; so perhaps a junior city commissioner cannot do it alone. Maybe he needs more men of like thinking to join him on the City Council.

Well Mr. Ivancie, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. McCready and the rest of them, their records stand for and speak loud for themselves. Could it be that they are all in the same bag? We hope not. They are elected by and for the people and we hope they will not just do the things they deem politically expedient.

Since it is unlikely that a Black candidate could win an election in the "Planned Conservative Atmosphere of Oregon" especially in a race that is city or state wide. The appointment of

Blacks to policy making positions is the only way to insure that Black citizens be fairly represented and have a share in formulating the laws that govern their lives.

We ask that the state, county, and city officials of this state that was "created by free men -- the fairest and the best," free another segment of society. We expect you, our elected officials to free us from the political bondage you have held us in since the first white men settled in Oregon Country.

Young Voters Won't fit into Preconceived Mold

Now that the voting age has been lowered to 18 years, the guessing about the effect of this enlargement of the electorate begins to be widespread. Will the new young voters have any effect really on next year's elections? If so, what will be the effect?

Sign posts are few. In the states where persons under 21 have been permitted to vote in the past, in five out of the 50 states, the records show that a comparatively few in the under-21 age group have bothered to vote, and when they did, they tended to make the same choices as their parents.

The young political liberal activists are beginning to organize for next year's voting contests. So also are the young conservatives. The great majority of youngsters at this time are preoccupied with anything but politics, and that goes for most of their elders as well in spite of all the journalistic stirring of the political polls across the land.

There is a book about to be published that analyzes the picture of youthful voters not only in the United States but in 29 other countries where those under 21 have the privilege of voting. The authors are Dr. Joel Fisher, a political scientist formerly on the White House staff, and Bill Treadwell, now an assistant U.S. Attorney in New Jersey, who was a candidate for Congress when he was still in his twenties.

Fisher and Treadwell, in their book, take issue with the idea that youthful voters don't go to the polls. They found in France, West Germany and Great Britain that on occasion youthful voters do exercise their right of the ballot, at times with surprising strength.

Some analysts have predicted the youth vote will be liberal. Others with equal conviction have asserted that when the votes are tallied, conservative youth voters will be found to heavily outnumber the liberal voters expected from college campuses.

Fisher and Treadwell found that in Germany, in a recent election, the majority of youths apparently threw their weight toward "left-leaning" candidates. But in England, voting for the first time in national elections, the effect was quite different. The Conservative candidates, by and large, benefited from the new youth constituency.

Youths are by nature neither conservative nor liberal. You have to ask: What youth, when, and where do they vote and what are the issues? These authors are convinced youths will vote for the issues, not the party.

There have been forecasts that young people vote like their parents. This concept was advanced strongly for a period by certain specialists at the White House.

Fisher and Treadwell have found that when tested on specific issues, there is a wide difference between what the average youth believes and the oldsters believe on a range of critical issues. That difference extends to how seriously they take these issues in voting. This doesn't mean all youths will vote the same way on these topics, or on candidates -- but that a candidate's view on pollution, poverty or Vietnam may normally be more important to the average young voter than to the average oldster.

Another apparent myth

is that regardless of how many, or how few, of the youths vote, their number will be so small in the total electorate that they won't seriously effect congressional or national elections, especially since the youth vote may be divided.

As Fisher and Treadwell see it, each candidate is going to have to find out what the new young voter, in his own area, thinks. That thinking may vary radically among the factorys, the college, the slum, the farm and the suburbs.

Looking beyond 1972, the fact that the 18-year-old vote rule augurs many changes in politics, government and in education as well; for if high school seniors are going to take part in the electoral process, they need to know a great deal more than the standard civics textbooks tells them. We are in for a revolution of attitudes and issues that will test our political fabric in many new ways.

Black Candidates In Mississippi

Over 250 black candidates are running for political office in Mississippi's November elections. The black candidacies were made possible by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, under which black registration in the state leaped from less than 20,000 in 1964, to 275,000 in 1970. But the black candidacies are imperiled, black leaders and civil rights activists say, because the U.S. Department of Justice has been doing a less than enthusiastic job of enforcing the Voting Rights Act.

Blacks cite these three instances of Justice Department inaction: permitting counties to require voters to re-register without obtaining prior clearance, as is required by the act; failing to oppose the so-called "open primary law," which was clearly aimed at the gubernatorial campaign of the black candidate, Charles Evers; and failure to oppose redistricting laws, which discriminate against black candidates.

Man In Unusual Environment

Chester Moran walks where no man has trod before him this fall.

Moran, 38-year-old Portland educator, became the first male administrator at Monroe High School in that school's 62-year history.

Monroe, which began as a trade school for girls in 1909, was called Girls Polytechnic until January 1, 1968, when the Board of Education made a change of name to James Monroe High School effective.

Moran, who first joined the Portland District as an intern teacher at Washington High in 1962, will replace Mrs. Nancy Russell, who will be on a leave of absence. Monroe also will have a new principal, Dr. Eileen Shank, who replaces Miss Ruth Dowd. Miss Dowd retires in August after 16 years as Monroe's chief administrator. Moran will bring to the job at Monroe a great deal of experience that previous vice-principals have not had. For example, he served three years in the U.S. Army Infantry. Also, he has been at various times a laborer, cab driver, salesman and service station attendant.

Within the Portland District, Moran taught social studies at Marshall High, was a Neighborhood Youth Corps coordinator, and served as a curriculum associate at Jefferson High for the past two years. Moran was born in Wibaux, Montana, in 1933. He attended Ursuline Academy in Moscow, Idaho, and Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, before earning his bachelor's degree at Oregon State University in 1962.

In 1963, he was awarded a Master of Arts in Teaching degree by Reed College.

Moran and his wife, Margot, have been married since 1956. They have three children: a boy 12, a girl 10, and a girl 7. Moran has been active with the Oregon Historical Society, the Albina Neighborhood Service Center and the Albina Art Center.

Has Patience of Job

"I have the patience of Job," says Archibald Motley Jr.

He is not referring to his career as an artist, but no trait could serve this accomplished and dedicated painter better. Motley will be 80 on Oct. 7, a Chicagoan since he was 1 1/2 years old, living quietly in the same house for the last 65 years -- and still painting every day.

Warm, soft-spoken and thoughtful, Motley is a legend in his own lifetime. His work is known and respected by artist and art experts who generally have no idea that he continues to create more than 40 years after he made history with an exhibition at the New Gallery of New York that was the first by one of his race.

Portraits, street scenes, cabarets and especially the effects of lights at night interested Motley. They were in the show, and so were six voodoo paintings.

"I've never seen Africa, never been in Africa, but I researched four or five years and got a pretty good idea of what I was striking at," Motley explains.

Night life, indoors and outdoors, always with people walking, dancing, carousing, weaving rhythmic patterns through them. And always with a fat man in the crowd, symbol of happiness, often prominently placed.

"I was always interested in figures and light," says Motley, indicating the subtle transition of light and shadow in a night street scene with warm light streaming from shops and cooler light from street lamps.

Among the canvases in Motley's second floor studio is "Barbecue in a Garden," painted in 1960. It is a study in light, done in great detail. "Each individual is different," he said, "different in appearance and character."

The chief difference between his early paintings through 1948 and recent ones is that Motley's color has shifted to a higher key. The pictures that won him fame are dark, rich and luminous; since about 1960 his palette has been lighter and brighter, although the principal hues remain red, blue, green and brown.

"Stomp," a 1927 oil, has been selected for an exhibition of Illinois art to 1940 that will be circulated by the Illinois Arts Council, "Chicken Shack," a 1936 street scene painted under WPA auspices, is in the National Archives in Washington. In competition with the nation's leading artists, Motley was

selected to paint a Post Office mural, about six by five feet, oil on canvas, for Wood River, Ill., also in 1936. His arrival to study the site, he recalls, caused a stir in that city.

Motley was destined to be an artist since he first covered the margins of his school books with drawings. Born in New Orleans, he was 1 1/2 when his family moved to Chicago. His father was a railroad man, in charge of a buffet car on the Chicago-New York run of the Wolverine. "My father and A. Philip Randolph organized the first Negro railroad man's union sitting at that table," he said, pointing into his dining room.

His parents appreciated art, Motley remembers, although his father wanted him to be a doctor.

"Dad," I told him, "I'm too tender-hearted to be a doctor. I want to be an artist."

The family approved. Archibald became an artist and his brother Willard a distinguished novelist. Motley's son, Archie, is chief in the department of manuscripts at the Chicago Historical Society.

Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus, president of Armour Institute, tried to persuade Motley to take up engineering, and when Motley declined, offered to pay his tuition to the school of the Art Institute. But the young artist, seeking independence, earned his own way at the school, receiving a diploma in 1916.

Hanging in Motley's living room is a portrait of his grandmother that was shown at the Art Institute in the Chicago show of 1923. Painted on an old laundry bag from the Wolverine and in remarkably good condition, it is an impressive rendering of the dignity of old age.

In a statement published in J.J. Jackson's "Art of Today: Chicago, 1933," Motley said: "To me, subject matter plays a most important part in my art. It is my earnest desire and ambition to express the American Negro honestly and sincerely, neither to add nor detract, and to bring about a more sincere and brotherly feeling, a better understanding, between him and his white brethren. I sincerely believe Negro art is someday going to contribute to our culture, our civilization."

He is old-fashioned enough to prefer "colored" to "black," and modern enough to point out that "colored"

takes in many more people than are black.

"I paint to please myself," he says. "I have always painted for the sheer joy of painting."

He paints things he knows. "Getting Religion" shows a street revival meeting with onlookers that include his mother and brother outside the house the artist still lives in. "Tongues," or "Holy Rollers," done in 1929, has been exhibited widely by the American Federation of Arts. Look at it, he remarks, "You have a lot of fun going to one of those churches."

Safety Techniques Taught

Hundreds of construction personnel -- from crane operators to company presidents -- are learning the techniques of construction job safety under a speed-up instruction program of "training the trainers," developed under the Labor Department to implement the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

The program offers a free 40-hour course to concerned individuals and organizations. The courses were begun in January of 1971 under the Construction Safety Act, and have been expanded this year as a result of the enactment of the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act.

The program operates on the "multiplier principle" of training initial groups to train others, says George C. Oenother, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

The course is directed primarily toward the training of instructors who will in turn train first-line construction supervisors. The future instructors learn how to present both a 30-hour and a 10-hour course on construction safety and health for supervisors and middle managers.

The stress is on actual job situations and the recognition of hazards, rather than on academic training, as such. Classes originally were scheduled to be conducted in 25 cities, but demand has been so great that they have been extended to 35, and class size expanded from 25 to 35.

WATCH OUT FOR CHILDREN

The Traveller

KNIT SUIT. IT SOLVES ALL YOUR PRESSING PROBLEMS LIKE WRINKLES, COMFORT AND PRICE.

regular low price **\$85.**

Our double knit suit is of 100% polyester or polyester and wool blends. Soft and slightly stretchable. Sizes to fit most men.

Use Sears Easy Payment Plan.

SHOP AT SEARS AND SAVE Satisfaction Guaranteed or Your Money Back

Sears

Grand at Lloyd Blvd Phone 234-3311. Park Free

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

