

# PORTLAND OBSERVER

**MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR FULL AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT.**

Portland/Observer Thursday, Oct. 21, 1971

**The Northwest's Best Weekly  
A Black Owned Publication**

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ALFRED LEE HENDERSON, Publisher/Editor

## the Editor's Desk Realtors claim not guilty but why Albina

The Realtors of Portland claim innocence in the housing discrimination against Sidney Wicks. But Albina did not just happen. It is the creation of the real estate industry which established boundaries for the black community and refused to sell or rent property to blacks outside those boundaries. The real estate industry, and the educational, political and economic institutions of Oregon, both private and public, have used every means necessary to isolate its black citizens.

Patterns of discrimination and hostility promoted and nurtured over the years do not disappear when their perpetrators decide they are no longer needed. Racism fostered in their minds of the public does not disappear that easily. It is not sufficient to say the discrimination against Wicks was by "bigoted individuals" - not when the industry long propagated the idea that black residence lowers property values and other racial myths.

Take a look at the record:  
Portland Oregonian - January 13, 1949 - Clarence Enders was expelled from the Portland Realty Board for sale to blacks south of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Portland Oregonian - May 5, 1953 - Almost unanimously dealers say property values are lowered by sales to blacks.

1957 - City Club Report - It is common knowledge that 90% or more real estate brokers will not sell a home to a Negro in a white neighborhood.

1962 - League of WOMEN Voters report - 50% of the realtors would prefer not to sell to blacks.

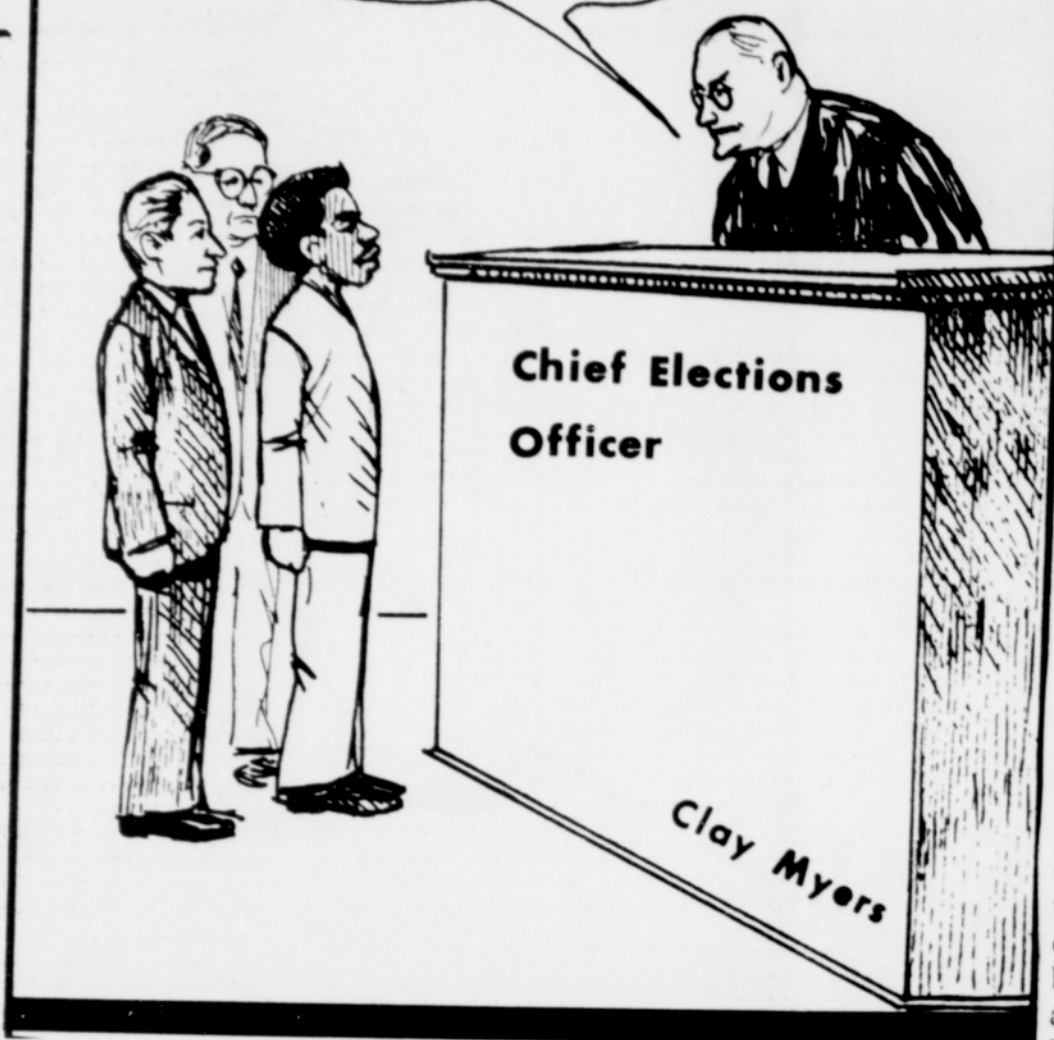
After the National Association of Real Estate Boards changed its code of Ethics to read "would not be instrumental in introducing into any neighborhood a character of occupancy who would be clearly detrimental", leaving out the words "members of any race or nationality", Portland eventually followed suit.

Now the Realtors of Portland have "long been known as believers in - and frequently as crusaders for - the property rights of all people."

We are willing to accept the idea that a man can change, and to give him another chance - but does he forever have to live with the fruits of his bigotry? The Realtors of Portland are men of means and influence. Let them now undo the damage they have done by re-educating the "bigoted individuals" they nurtured, and by assisting the economy of the ghetto they helped to create.

## Can He Provide Justice?

I've given you 15% of the vote in three districts instead of 50% of the vote in one district. No, I don't think I have any Blacks on my staff either.



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:  
We at the George Carter Loaves and Fishes Center are very happy and appreciative of the fine pictures you have been publishing in your newspaper each week of our Senior Citizens in the Model Cities area. We are so grateful to you and your staff.

As you know, the Carter Center is the only center of Loaves & Fishes in the Model Cities. The churches of this area furnish the volunteers and financial aid. The meals are served three days a week on Mon., Thurs. and Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m. with the hot meal served at noon on a "pay what you can basis."

We will be looking forward to you joining us again for our fine food, fun and fellowship.

This is the only center that has an interracial setting located at 116 N.E. Schuyler. This is one of a series of poems written by one of our Senior Citizen friends. She shared this poem with us and would like to share it with all.

### HI DOLLS AND GUYS

Since nutrition is the talk of the town  
We'll show you what the Carter Center is putting down.

It's your homework #2 as you can see  
You can practice at home without me.

To have a good digestion I'll tell you how  
We'll take a lesson from Bessie the Cow.

Just take a small forkful and chew and chew  
Then do it again til your whole meal is through

No, don't drink your liquid and wash it all down  
Your tummy won't like that, it makes tummy frown.

For each forkful is loaded with calories galore  
Be sure you taste each one before you take more.

When we eat very slowly and chew it up fine  
Our food will be peaceful in your tummy and mine.

Now, do all your homework and don't go astray  
So we'll have a big birthday on Thanksgiving Day.

written by Mrs. Elizabeth N. Smith

The George Carter Loaves & Fishes Center extends their congratulations to the Portland Observer on its anniversary. May God continue to bless you and your staff and may you grow and have many more fruitful years.

Sincerely yours,  
Liz Sheppard  
Program Organizer

The Ford Foundation gave \$50,000 to Clark College and Bethune-Cookman College; a U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare grant of \$81,000 went to Rush College in Mississippi. Action Life Insurance Company gave \$10,000 to Mahoney Medical College and a \$3,000 scholarship to Morgan State College. Ford Motor Company gave \$20,000 to Tennessee State University.

## No Moderates Need Apply



Blacks Liberals and other Minorities don't apply.



## The Observation Post

During the last few months black business development has barely survived one of its most difficult periods. Within the past several months several black banks have all but closed and many small black-owned businesses have failed.

Blacks make up approximately 11% of the total population of the United States and about 4% of that of Portland. But blacks have only one-tenth of one percent of the nation's millionaires (114), stockbrokers (25), mortgage bankers (16), new car dealers (24), but 30% of its poor and 18% of its unemployed. No business can hope for great success when 30% of its potential customers are living in poverty. Yet this is the market in which black business operated. When the white economy reached these proportions in the late 1920's they called it a "panic".

Black business is also faced with institutional racism. Custom and tradition define the avenues open to blacks and effectively bar them from commercial enterprise. The schools attended by our future businessmen and employees are so inadequate that blacks who are not kept from employment and business by discrimination are kept out because of an inferior education received in ghetto schools. Black businessmen find credit hard to get and more expensive. Insurance rates are higher than those paid by whites in the same trade because of the areas in which they operate. These costs amount to a "black surtax".

Since unemployment, underemployment and high costs prevent blacks from gaining the economic power to support their own businesses, the alternative is for black businesses to receive a fair share of white business - this includes goods and services from government and private corporations. White America has a vested interest in the economic plight of blacks - the nation cannot survive the growing discontent and tension. Yet white America has never relinquished anything to blacks unless it was proved to be to her financial profit. Most black businesses must cater to the black trade, a market that is depressed by poverty and unemployment. Blacks buy outside the area from white business, but few black businesses can draw on the white trade.

Blacks must learn to discriminate. Do not buy where you cannot work; do not buy from companies who will not buy services and products from black businesses; do not buy from companies who don't advertise in the black media; do not buy where your money is not returned to your community through the support of its organizations and programs.

When white business learns to appreciate black customers and black business, then we can work together to build an improved economy for all people.

## Observer's Intercom

### NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Haile Selassie visited Shanghai after signing a Sino-Ethiopian agreement on technical cooperation in Peking. The agreement includes an \$80 million interest free loan to aid Ethiopia's agriculture.

Mrs. Constance E. Newman is the new head of VISTA and other anti-poverty programs administered by a new citizen's group, ACTION. Mrs. Newman grew up in Tuskegee, Alabama and attended Tuskegee High School.

Gilbert Osogsky, author of "Harlem, the Making of a Ghetto" was appointed professor of American History at Cornell University.

The International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters will move its international headquarters from New York to Denver, Colorado. C.L. Dellums from California was re-elected president. He has been president since A. Philip Randolph retired three years ago.

The Northwest Minority Coalition is a black prisoners organization founded upon correcting the multiple evils which exist within Washington State Penal institutions. For information write to Michael Thomas Sr. 2757 E. Yesler Way, Seattle, Wn. 98122.

Black brewery workers in Newark, N.J. are boycotting Budweiser and Michelob beers. Newark is 75% black and Puerto Rican, but these populations hold only 7% of the jobs.

Barbara Joran, who was the first black ever elected to the state legislature in Texas, is running for Congress. She may receive support of organized labor since she worked hard for a state minimum wage law.

Alaskan Eskimos claim 76,000 square miles of the North Slope area of Alaska, including 413,000 acres leased by the State of Alaska to oil companies.

They have filed suit in a Federal Court in Washington, D.C. seeking to invalidate the states claim to the property.

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