

PSU hosts theater

The American College Regional Theater Festival with eight participating colleges and universities will be hosted by the Portland State Theater January 10-15.

Participants will be competing for the chance to go to Washington D.C. in May to perform at the national American College Theater Festival in the new John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The Northwest was represented last year by Whitman College.

The program for the January Festival will offer a wide range of plays all written or translated since World War II by Russian, French, English, Greek, German, Swiss and American playwrights.

Each play will be performed only once. There will be an 8:15 performance every evening January 10-15 as well as two matinees at 2:15 p.m. January 10-11.

The following student productions will be performed in Old Main's PSU Theater: the University of Puget Sound's "The Physicists" by Durren-matt; the University of Seattle's "He Who Gets Slapped" by Andreiev; Washington State University's "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" by Stoppard; Eastern Washington State College's "Electra" by Euripides; Olympic College's "Marat/Sade" by Weiss; Western Washington State College's "A Man for All Seasons" by Bolt; and PSU's "The Misanthrope" by Moliere.

The eighth entry, the University of Portland's "Citizen Tom Paine" by Foster will be performed in the Buckley Center Auditorium.



Participants in workshop for corrections workers rap about race relations.



HEW holds workshop

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education held a four-day seminar in Portland December 9th to December 12th. This is an annual educational program dealing in corrections, on how to get involved with minority groups. The meetings were held at Highland Community Center and Albina Youth Opportunity School.

Representatives from MacLaren's School for Boys, Hillcrest School for Girls and the Oregon Correctional Institute were involved, along with ex-inmates of these institutions. Interested members of the community were also present.

The ex-inmates from O.C.I. told how hard it was to adjust and to be accepted after their release. They also told of the many personal problems they found themselves up against and of the changes that they

Urban coalition elects board

Seven additional members have been elected to the Steering Committee of The National Urban Coalition, Chairman Sol M. Linowitz announced today. The Coalition, which was founded after the urban riots of 1967, brings together business, labor, racial and ethnic minorities, religious and other groups for joint action on urban concerns. The 86-member Steering Committee establishes policy for the organization, which has local affiliates in 38 cities.

Those elected, at a regular meeting of the Executive Committee in New York City, were:

Hilda Hidalgo, Chairman, Department of Urban Affairs, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.

Dr. John L.S. Holloman, Jr., Chairman, Health Manpower Advisory Board, New York City.

Barbara Mikulski, Member, City Council, Baltimore, Md. Antonia Pantoja, Executive Director, Puerto Rican Research and Resource Center, New York City.

Howard Stein, Chairman, Dreyfus Fund, New York City. Irene Tovar, Coordinator, San Fernando Valley State College, California.

Francisco Trilla, National Chairman, Puerto Rican Association for National Affairs, New York City.

At the same meeting, Chairman Linowitz announced that W.D. Eberle had resigned as Co-Chairman to devote more time to his new duties as Special Representative for Trade Negotiation for the United States. Remaining Co-chairmen are Andrew Heiskell, Chairman of the Board, Time, Inc., and Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., President of The National Urban League.

Urban League sets goal

Vernon Jordan, executive director of the National Urban League, declared that the central civil rights issue of the Seventies is the restructuring of America's economic and political power so that black people will have their share of the rewards, the responsibilities and the decision-making in every sector of society.

Jordan said black people in the Seventies will no longer be comforted by singing "ain't gonna let nobody turn us round" as they did in the Sixties "because when they see the new Supreme Court, they'll know we've been turned around."



VERNON JORDAN JR.

"Black people will no longer find the same inspiration in the words of the black woman walking in the Montgomery bus boycott who said, 'My feet are tired, but my soul is rested.'"

"The fact today is that not only are her feet tired, and her soul is not rested, but tested, because her spirit is broken and low."

He said the issue of the Sixties was the right to sit on the bus, but today the issue is where that bus is going and what it costs to get there.

The Urban League will institute a voter registration program among blacks in the North. He urged blacks not to be satisfied with the few blacks elected to public office. Although black people make up twelve per cent of the population, they hold only three tenths of one per cent of America's elected officials.

PCC transports handicapped

A new program at Portland Community College is opening the door to new careers for the physically handicapped.

Financed by a grant from the Oregon Board of Education, the PCC program provides transportation—a specially equipped bus with a power lift and truck for wheelchairs—career counseling, and the opportunity for anyone to enter the program of their choice.

There are 800 people in the Portland area using wheelchairs; only 400 are active. This is due in part to facilities which have not been planned to accommodate wheelchairs. Portland Community College, Sylvania, has been designed so that a person using a wheelchair can move easily and independently to all areas of the education center. The program is not restricted to people in wheelchairs; any



handicapped person is encouraged to participate.

The purpose of the new project is to provide handicapped persons with the opportunity to change occupations, to find a career or new career, or to upgrade skills. Virginia Ruggles, assistant coordinator, transports handicapped persons to PCC's Sylvania center for tours and conferences with counselors and instructors. Over 100

different career programs are offered at PCC, and counselors can help a handicapped person to select a career suited to his interests and capabilities. Career exploration, including aptitude and interest tests, are provided. For more information about Careers and Transportation for the Physically Handicapped, contact Virginia Ruggles, Portland Community College, 244-6111.

—As I see it—

by David Nero

If you are Black this article will hardly be informative. You've heard it before and you may even agree by giving the writer a "Right On!" If you are white and liberal you may agree and sentimentalize. If you are white, a professional man with influence then notice now I am directing this to you. You too have heard it all before — Equal Employment Opportunity. You may in fact sincerely believe that great progress has been made in gaining employment for minorities. I could agree with you, but if I did would either of us hope to make that which is great better?

I believe that the policy makers have indeed done much to alleviate discrimination. But I know from experience that policies especially relative to race problems are slow to become practiced. I ask simply Mr. President or Vice President check your personnel managers to see if progress is being made and the extent of it. Is your policy being implemented?

It comes as no surprise to minorities in the Model Neighborhood that their rate of unemployment consistently rates twice as high as for whites. This holds true in times such as the present when the economy is soft as well as when there is so called full employment.

The problem remains that even with Equal Opportunity Employment laws few if any leaders in business ask why minorities are last hired and first fired. Usually the reasons given are based upon "lack of qualifications." But obviously the qualification factors while they exist need to be recognized as symptoms. The question should be why are there not an equal number of qualified Blacks, Chicanos, Native Americans or other minorities to the white population? It seems to me that the answer lies partly in the inequality of experience opportunities for minorities—social and educational. Since environment influences behavior to a great extent the conditions of substandard housing, diets and general living conditions is again obviously based upon earning power.

The vicious circle of poor means is self-perpetuating—no income, poor educational performance with resultant low achievement level, the end result is that the disadvantaged are not able to compete with those who had the good fortune of being reared in a family with financial stability.

But again, why? In speaking to those who decide upon personnel hiring policies, it is quite evident that racial prejudice is still a primary

motive for the inability of minorities to share the advantages of employment and all that brings to a family unit. That there is truth to the prejudice is manifest less openly today but I believe it is as firmly entrenched as ever before. Proof exists in the exercise of quotas for government contracts, reporting of minorities both as required by contract and in cases where it isn't required. These are the most obvious indications.

Who has the answer to the problem emerging from racism should step forward. We would hail him or her with as much tribute as the first man on the moon or would we?

I don't claim to have the answer to discrimination, nor do I mean to write of it here. I write with the remotest hope that someone who has it within his power to change personnel hiring policies will question the need for change. Does there exist a public official in the state or city who seriously would meet to discuss Equal Opportunity? Is there in upper management a man who would discuss with members of Portland's minorities their experiences, their hopes and may even listen to a solution?

Government can pump money forever into social programs but the best solution remains in the hands of private enterprise. Should private enterprise decide to continue to pay-off unemployment with poverty doles in all forms then the future for minorities will remain as it is — rather bleak.

On the contrary should private enterprise seek a solution to the problems of minorities in seeking to fulfill one of the American dream—benefits according to potential to produce then there can be social progress and equality.

It would seem feasible that private enterprise could work (with Federal dollars if needed) to make Equal Opportunity a reality. We are too often with government funded agencies training people where there are no jobs. Couldn't industry use the money more efficiently and guarantee a job after training?

Who would lose? Not industry. Their stock holders would see no change in profits. Not the politician whose constituency becomes employed. Not the people trained who could become "more and better qualified" by experience. Certainly not the country which teaches liberty and justice for all.

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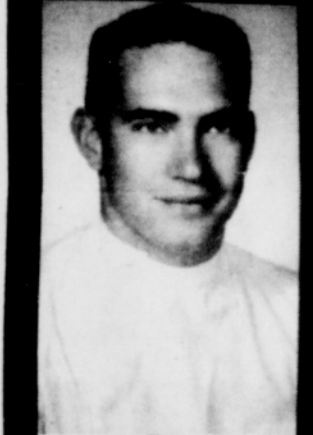
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