

AN
145
P75

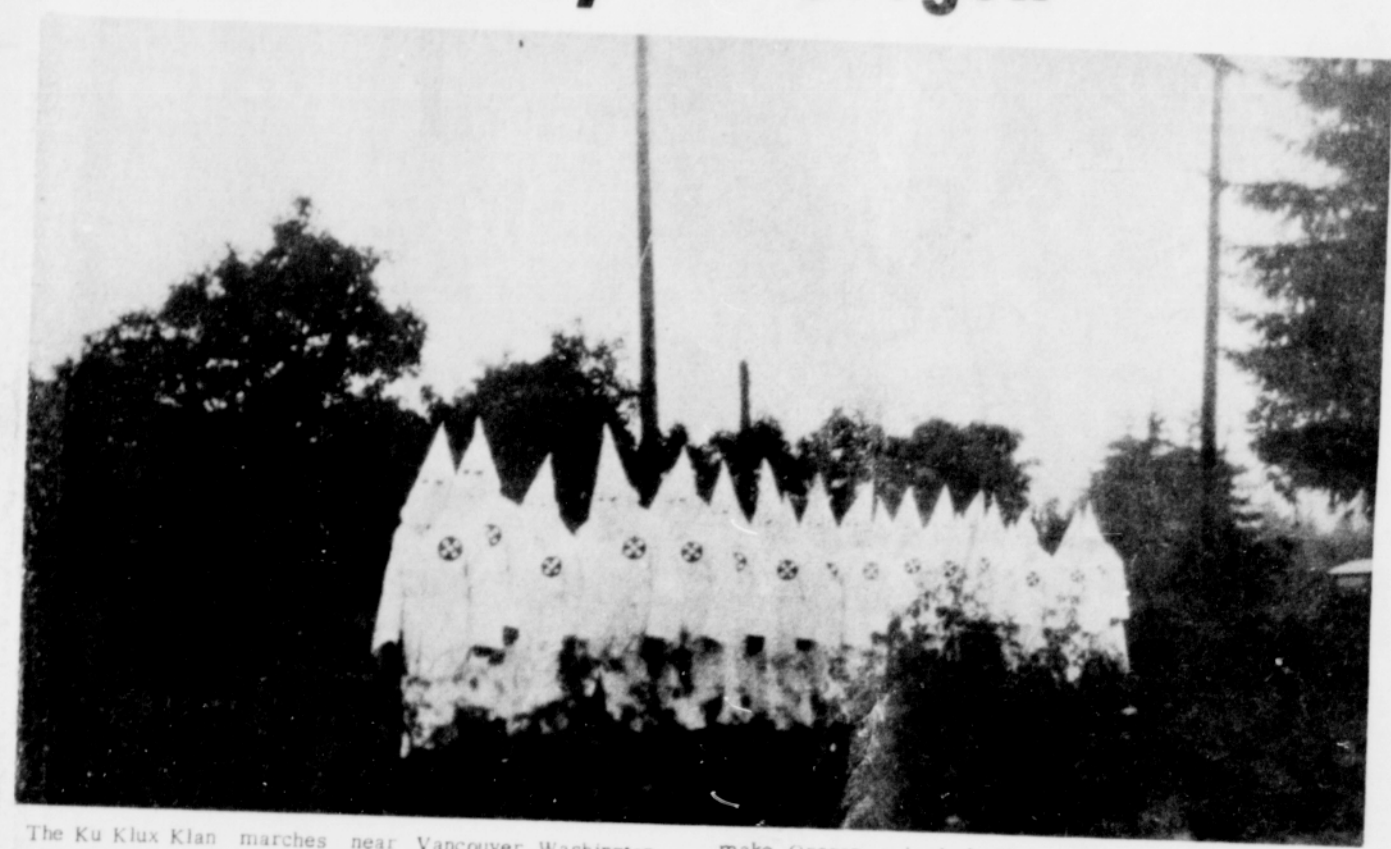
BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OREGON
PERMIT NO. 1266

PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume 2 No. 20 PORTLAND, OREGON AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER Thursday February 17, 1972 10¢ per copy
THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD THAT REALLY CARES ABOUT PEOPLE



Black people play a prominent part in the history of Oregon



The Ku Klux Klan marches near Vancouver, Washington. The Klan was strong in the early twenties, attempting to make Oregon a land of white protestants only. (Photo Courtesy of Oregon Historical Society)

When the Klan rode in Portland

In the early 1920's Oregon was one of the strongholds of the Ku Klux Klan, with the Klan wielding more power in Oregon than anywhere outside the South. Beginning in 1921 an anti-Catholic campaign was waged by several groups including the Masons. At the same time an attempt was made to drive all Orientals, especially the Japanese, from the state. The two forces, the anti-Catholic and the anti-Japanese, joined with the group attempting to abolish the private schools. Easily adapting to this social climate, the Klan subordinated its anti-Negro and anti-Jew Semitic appeals in Oregon and became strongly anti-Catholic and anti-Oriental. The Klan came into Oregon in the summer of 1921 and soon was organized in Portland, Salem, Hood River, Medford, Eugene, The Dalles, Roseburg, Pendleton, Condon and Tillamook. It was estimated the following spring that there were 5,000 members. There was little opposition to the Klan, with only two newspapers, the Capital Journal and the Medford Mail Tribune standing against it. The Klan was involved in scattered acts against blacks. Six men, (Please turn to p. 2 col 1)

Black culture events

The second half of Black Culture Month at Portland State University promises to be as much variety as the first. Sandra Ford, representative of the Welfare Rights Organization will talk about "The New Black Woman", Friday noon in the Ballroom. She will be followed by Ron Herndon, director of Portland's Black Education Center, who will speak on "Re-Education of the Black Community". Ira Williams, from the New York City Human Resources Administration will speak on Thursday on "Maximum Feasible Participation Revisited: Community Action in the 70's," at noon in the ballroom. Black prisoners from the Oregon State Penitentiary are scheduled to present poetry, music and speakers at 1:00 pm on February 18th. (Please turn to p. 7 col. 4)

George Washington City builder

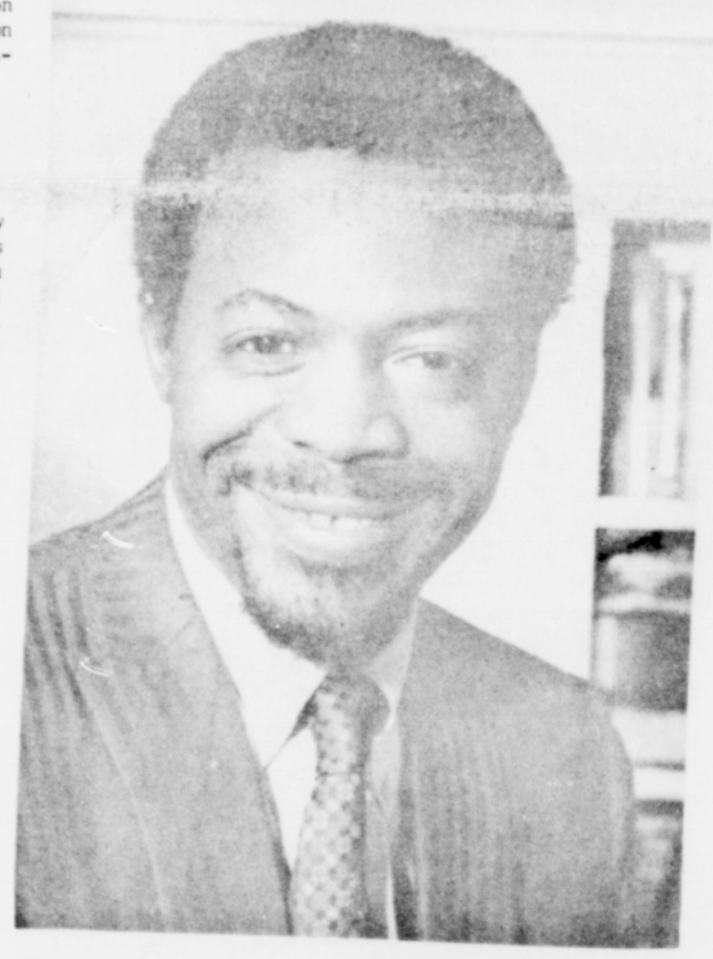
George Washington built the city of Centralia, Washington in 1853. He was one of the first American settlers north of the Columbia River. He made his fortune in farming and lumbering. He platted the city of Centralia and sold the lots to white settlers. Please see "Black Pioneers", page 2. (Photo courtesy of Oregon Historical Society)

ANIP ceremony scheduled

A ceremony recognizing the completion of the Portland Development Commission's Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project will be held Sunday, February 20, 1972, at 3 p.m. at Boise School, 620 N. Fremont. The idea for the first neighborhood improvement program in the Northwest, conceived more than 12 years ago in a community development workshop and set in motion through the efforts of Albina citizens to improve their neighborhood, has become a reality. Neighborhood blight has been replaced by freshly painted and rehabilitated houses, a unique and functional park, new sidewalks, newly paved streets with dividers to slow traffic, and a variety of street trees. In 1959, John Kenward, executive director of the Portland Development Commission, spoke to an Urban League workshop on the future of the Albina neighborhood. Following the workshop the Albina Neighborhood Council became interested in starting an improvement program. They met with the Portland Development

PMSC seeks board members

The Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee EOA (Inc.) is seeking candidates from Northeast Portland to serve on the Board of Directors. The Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee administers funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity, Department of Labor and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Board of Directors consists of nine (9) Public Officials, or their representatives, nine (9) members from the Private Sector, such as agencies and private groups, and nine (9) members and their alternates who are Representatives of the Poor. The Representatives of the Poor are elected by the community in which they live. Northeast Portland has four (4) seats. The Election to fill those four (4) seats will be held on March 14, 1972 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Polling places are: The Albina Action Center 707 N.E. Knott



Attorney John Toran announced that he will be a candidate for the Democratic Party nomination to the Oregon House of Representatives.

Toran runs for the Legislature

A local Black attorney, John Toran, Jr., will focus his campaign on the rights of the consumer, the quality of our schools, the inequities in the present tax structure, and the problems of minority groups. The 1963 Northwestern Law School graduate is well known for recently filing a petition to oppose the Secretary of State's redistricting plan. Toran believes that the single member district concept is sound and should be supported, for it offers an opportunity to the people in the district to be represented by an identifiable and responsive person. District #16 is an area of many fine homes and neighborhoods. The District is threatened by mindless freeways and unsightly commercial enterprises. Many people in the District despair and feel powerless to stop the erosion of their neighborhoods. The people in District #16 need constructive and effective leadership in this area. Mr. Toran graduated from Academy High School in Pennsylvania. He served in the U. S. Navy from 1948 to 1952 and is a veteran of the Korean War. He graduated from the University of Oregon with a B.A. in History in 1959. He finished Northwestern Law School in Portland in 1963. Mr. Toran was recipient of the Oregon Education Association and B'nai B'rith Human Rights Award in 1971. His service to the community includes membership in the Portland Black Caucus, membership in the Self-Development Commission, and membership on the Board of Directors of the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee. He is former Deacon of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Mr. Toran's membership in professional organizations includes: the American Bar Association, the Multnomah County Bar Association, the Oregon State Bar Association, and the Association of Criminal Defense Counsel.



Heart Month in Oregon

Clay Meyers, Oregon Secretary of State, recognizes February as Heart Month with Shawn Meadows. Shawn is living proof that medical research in the heart field has been successful. At 2 years old she had a "pacemaker" inserted under the skin on her left side which stimulates and regulates her heart beat. Today, she is as active as any youngster with the only thing making her different from other children is the 2-by-3 bump on her left side. Without the pacemaker to control her heart beat, Shawn would not be able to lead a normal life. Development of the pacemaker is one advancement made to save lives of people with heart disease by the Oregon Heart Association. (See story on page 10)

Free Clinic for HOME BUYERS
Are you planning to buy or build a home and have a lot of questions? Get the answers at one of our free Wednesday evening clinics. Prominent builders and realtors will speak on home construction and home buying. Benj. Franklin officers will talk on financing, followed by a question-and-answer period. To register, call 224-3333.
Wednesdays—7:00-9:00 p.m.
Franklin Bldg., S.W. 5th at Stark
Benj. Franklin
FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSN.
Robert H. Hazen, Pres. • 18 Offices • Phone 224-3333
Home Office: Franklin Bldg., Portland, Oregon 97204

(Please turn to p. 6 col. 1)