

PORTLAND OBSERVER

MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR FULL AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT.

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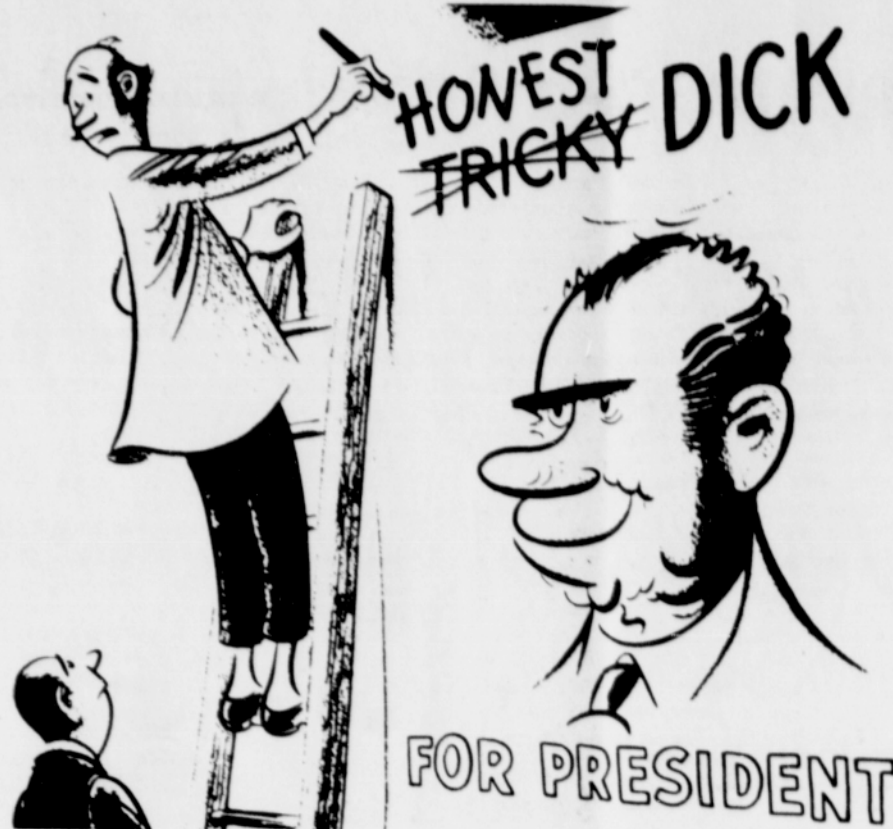
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the Portland Observer will be cheerfully corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Editor.



A change of image is needed not only on the National scene, but also in City and County Government. A man does not change and become better simply because he is elevated to a higher position.

As I See It A Bureau of Human Resources for Portland Part III



Lenwood G. Davis
By Lenwood G. Davis

In this writer's opinion the basic concept of a Bureau of Human Resources for the City of Portland is a valid one. And it will inevitably be established any way, whether the citizens want it or not. However, the present proposal that was submitted by Commissioner Goldschmidt does not need major surgery, revision or to be amended; it needs to be discarded and a new proposal be re-submitted. Before another proposal for a Human Resources is submitted there should be more citizen participation. There should be definite efforts made to assure the public that it is in Portland's best interest to get in tune with what is occurring nationally and that the Federal Government is moving toward Revenue Sharing.

The whole concept of Revenue Sharing was poorly explained in the original proposal. And this writer for one questions whether or not that was done purposefully. At any rate it should have been emphatically explained. Whether or not as Hill deWeese, candidate for mayor, stated recently that Goldschmidt's proposed Bureau of Human Resources was nothing more than a "naked power grab," so hastily conceived and shallowly pursued prior to announcement, that it could well become a political and social power base, manipulating great sums of money and massive numbers of people, is a matter of conjecture at this point. And I do not propose to go into that issue at this juncture.

As I see it the fundamental issues are not the disadvantaged against the advantaged; the haves against the have nots; the rich against the poor; black against white; or the government against the people. The issues are whether or not the people should have some input in the decision making and have some say-so over programs that affect their lives, and whether or not the City of Portland will take advantage of the Federal Revenue Sharing plan. These are the basic issues that must be decided, not the aforementioned superficial ones.

It must also be noted that each Agency has the right to accept or reject the proposal. Furthermore each of the Directors of the two major programs involved declared that they will support the decision of their Board of Directors whether they agree with it or

not. The Board of Directors MUST get the input of the people that they represent before making any final decisions.

PMSOC recently prepared a document that refuted some of the allegations and alleged statements of facts stated in the original proposal for the Bureau. It would be wise if Goldschmidt included some of those recommendations in his new proposal.

I have observed Neil Goldschmidt over the past several months and have concluded that he is an extremely intelligent young man. Hence, how could such an intelligent politician make a major blunder? WHAT IS THE HIDDEN MOTIVE? WHAT IS THE HIDDEN AGENDA?

Oregon motorists are reminded that by state law studded tires are not permitted on the state's highway system after April 30.

Under changes in the law enacted during the last regular session of the legislature, studded tires are permitted in Oregon during the period November 1 of any year to April 30 of the following year.



Credibility Gap

Ron Hendren
IN WASHINGTON

"Borrowers are nearly always ill-spenders," observed John Ruskin before the turn of this century. "And it is with lent money that all evil is mainly done and all unjust war protracted."

In the current fiscal year the United States government will spend some \$23 billion above what it will take in. And in the same period millions of Americans will themselves go deeper into debt, spending highly inflated dollars for goods often of equally inflated value.

Perhaps no phenomenon has changed Americans' lives so drastically and in so short a time as the advent of easy credit. As late as 1956 Merriam-Webster defined credit as "Reliance on the truth... belief; faith." By 1963 the primary meaning had changed to read "time given for payment for goods or services..."

Only seven years elapsed between the publication of these two books. The striking difference between the definitions is some indication of the speed with which living on borrowed money became acceptable, even praiseworthy, in our country.

Today virtually anything from a trip to Spain to a trash masher can be financed. And although one well-known advertisement jingle begins "Never borrow money needlessly," Americans are nonetheless exhorted from every quarter and in countless suggestive ways to purchase goods and services they do not need and, what is more, cannot afford.

"All the modern inconveniences," Mark Twain called them. Twain might have told us that self-reliance and independence, eroded in part by the very technology which made

our country great, could not be restored with increased goods and services. But he died in 1910 when the flower of industrialization was only a bud. I wonder whether he would have believed that within sixty years millions of his fellow citizens and their government would literally have hocked their futures for a color television set... or a war in Indochina.

Moreover, by the time they are paid for, most of our appliances, automobiles and gold-plated bathroom fixtures - if they are working at all - will have lost their limited charm. And at 18 percent or more interest with three years to pay, it is little wonder.

Perhaps one day we will all fold, spindle and mutilate our computerized payment books, tear up our credit cards and stop indulging in deficit spending. If so, we might convince our government to do the same. It's funny how politicians are imitating their constituents these days.

That new car smell which anesthetizes momentarily the frustrations and anxieties of life soon wears off. The frustrations return, often before the imitation leather smell has disappeared and invariably before the last of the 36 sheets has been torn out of that deceptively thin payment book.

It was in the mid-1800's that Artemus Ward cynically observed, "Let us all be happy and live within our means, even if we have to borrow the money to do it with." The line isn't as funny as it used to be. To paraphrase Twain, we are individually and collectively fast rising from affluence to poverty. No nation ever successfully spent its way out of debt. Few men have, and at that not legally.

The Observer's official position is expressed only in its Publisher's Column (The Observation Post) and the Editor's Desk. Any other material throughout the paper is the opinion of the individual writer or submitter and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer.

The Editor's Desk



Freedom of the press?

There is no freedom of the press in the United States. There is no freedom of the press in Portland. There is not even the freedom for the black press to exist in Portland.

The black press, like other black businesses, is dependent on the white businessman for its existence. Without the income from advertising, a newspaper cannot meet its expenses, pay its staff, its printing costs, its rent and utilities, its mailing and delivery costs. And in a city like Portland, with little black business, the advertising must come from white owned and operated business and industry.

Aside from the businessmen who might be offended by news or editorial positions taken by the paper and therefore withhold their advertising, there are those who say they can obtain black trade without the black press, that black business with them; those who say they do not care if they have black trade; and those who do not want black trade. These are the businesses which, although they are quick to accept your dollar, are not willing to return it to the black community.

We believe there is a need for a black newspaper in Portland. One of the greatest needs of the black community is a vehicle for communication. We need a black perspective of the local news, and we need to receive news of black happenings around the country that are not reported, or are not objectively reported, in the white press.

But white Portland needs the black press also. If blacks continue to be isolated, if their views are hidden from the rest of society, if they are denied a method of communication with white America, America will cease to exist. In Portland there is still the opportunity for communication among blacks and whites. A black newspaper is one way of encouraging and facilitating this communication.

Yet a black newspaper will not be allowed to survive in Portland until the white business establishment decides to let it survive. It is for this reason that we say there is no freedom of the press in Portland.

REGISTER
by April 22nd
so YOU can Vote!

The Observation POST

Commitment lacking to Black students

The recent incidents at Jackson High School demonstrate once again the lack of commitment to its black students on the part of the school district.

The black students at Jackson, numbering about 40 out of 1,000 students, feel that they are the victims of differential treatment - that they are assumed wrong, that their witnesses are not heard, that the word of white students or teachers is taken over theirs, that their punishment is harsher, and that they do not receive proper counseling.

This is not surprising since the faculty has had little training in human relations and Black culture in the past, and none this year. There has been no contact between the faculty and the black community, no opportunity for the faculty to learn about the background and culture of its students. There have been no organized group discussions for the black students to air their grievances or for white students and faculty to discuss with the black students their feelings and expectations. It is not surprising that hostile feelings on the part of teachers, either suppressed or unknown, have surfaced as the result of interracial fighting in the school and the accusations and counteraccusations that follow. Such a minor incident as a fight between a black girl and a white girl has led to tension and hostility among the teachers as well as the student body.

Located in a middle-class white neighborhood, there has been no effort to involve the Jackson community with the black students or their families. Although there is concern for the black students among some members of the administration, the school's relationship with its own community is paramount.

But the plight of the black students at Jackson cannot be blamed entirely on a confused and perhaps misguided administration or on a few white teachers. The true responsibility lies with the school district. Mr. Roy Carlson, principal of Jackson, said he has attempted to increase the percentage of black students at Jackson by recruiting in the elementary schools, but has not received support from either the elementary schools or the administration.

Jackson High School is one of the best high schools in the Portland district. Black students attend Jackson because its academic system and philosophy provides the kind of education they desire. But as long as the school district continues only token busing, 544 students in all, black students will find themselves small minorities in large student bodies - desegregated, but isolated. As long as teachers and counselors, and the district itself, do not encourage black students to avail themselves of the best schools, this situation will continue. It will be unfortunate if our students cannot attend the best schools because of lack of concern and understanding on the part of the white school establishment.

During the period that our students must travel to the suburbs to receive the best possible education, we must let them know that the black adults are aware of their problems and appreciate their efforts. They need to know that the black community stands behind them and is ready to support them.

WASHINGTON BRIEFS

Representative William McCulloch (R-Ohio), the ranking Republican member on the House Judiciary Committee as co-sponsor of Nixon's anti-busing moratorium legislation, has changed his mind. He denounced Nixon's proposal as unconstitutional. McCulloch, long known as a civil rights advocate, declared, "It is with the deepest regret that I sit here today to listen to a spokesman for a Republican administration asking the Congress to prostitute the courts by obligating them to suspend the equal protection clause (of the constitution) so that Congress may debate the merits of further slowing down and perhaps even rolling back of desegregation in public schools."

U.S. District Judge Stephen J. Roth has ruled that the city's predominantly white suburbs must be included in any plan to achieve racial balance in Detroit schools.

Such a metropolitan school integration plan would involve massive cross-district busing and could be ordered implemented for the 1972-73 school year.

The ruling was made despite Nixon administration efforts to halt the proceedings.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a decision which may ultimately clear the records of thousands of dishonorably discharged servicemen, has ruled that a Supreme Court decision limiting court-martials to military offenses should be applied retroactively.

Letters to the Editor

Letter from a citizen

Mark Hatfield
The Senate
Washington D.C.

Honorable Mark Hatfield:

I'm not good at making speeches, but I just read this article (Editorial: "Separate but not equal", Portland Observer, March 23, 1972), and it expresses exactly what I'm feeling, so I thought if you read this you would understand, and perhaps, be able to do something about it.

We have always had "separate but equal" schools. Why can't you give the children a chance to learn and stop playing games?

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Mrs. Earl Winchester
2303 N.E., 37th
Portland, Oregon

Mrs. Earl Winchester
2303 N.E., 37th
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mrs. Winchester:

Thank you for your recent letter, accompanied by a medi-

atorial on the school busing question. Enclosed for your information is a statement of my position on this issue.

I do not agree that this Senate-passed amendment is "playing games." We in the Senate were faced with much more serious amendments; a filibuster was in progress; and it appeared that unless the liberal Senators (Republican and Democrat) could come up with an amendment of their own of moderate tone, the anti-court, anti-busing amendments would pass.

This is the reality of the situation. It is one which constantly confronts the Senate, and a person is thus faced with the situation of voting for the lesser of two evils or seeing vitally needed legislation defeated. I do not favor anti-court, anti-busing amendments. I am against the attempt to amend our Constitution with mischievous amendments which will set back the cause of integration in schools. The goal of equal, quality education for all children is one we should pursue,

and I think of busing as one tool which can be used to achieve an integrated, quality education. I regret the furor and emotionalism surrounding this issue. After all, over 55% of Oregon's children are bused each day to their schools. There is nothing inherently wrong with busing, but it is not the panacea for achieving racial integration of the schools. We need to do much more. There will have to be a good-will effort on the part of Oregonians (particularly in Portland) to support integration plans which can be supported with federal money. Dr. Robert Blanchard has such a plan. I wish the Portland community would get behind him for federal money which will become available under the \$1-1/2 billion Emergency School Act.

Sincerely,
Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For years farm workers have been kept outside the protection of the law. When we organized and sought negotiations with our employers they coldly ignored us. When we went on strike we were harassed, beaten and jailed; and workers, even poorer than ourselves, were brought in to take our jobs. In the Delano Grape Strike we learned a way to struggle and win. We went on strike and then to support the strike hundreds of farm workers and their families traveled to strange cities to tell their cause to the American people. It was not easy but thousands of friends helped us. Through hard work and many sacrifices farm workers made the Grape Boycott into a most beautiful and powerful non-violent force for justice.

Now, after we have found a way to struggle non-violently and to make progress for ourselves and our children, the Republican Party is attempting to take away the boycott. Peter Nash, President Nixon's appointee as General Counsel

of the NLRB, has gone into federal court to get an injunction against the farm workers' boycott. This is grossly unfair:

1. For thirty-seven years growers have tried to keep farm workers from organizing by excluding them from the NLRB; now that farm workers are building a union, the Republicans want to make use of the punitive provisions of the NLRA to destroy our union.

2. All previous NLRB decisions have made it clear that farm workers cannot be restricted by a law (the NLRA) that does not cover or protect them.

3. Federal funds are being used to attack farm workers when the NLRB has no authority under the law to use the money in this way.

The Republicans have decided that the punitive provisions of the NLRA (e.g., the ban on secondary boycotts) should apply to the farm workers' union even though the protections of the NLRA do not apply to farm workers. This position is so unfair that it is hard to imagine how reason-

able men could take such a course. But the Republican Party has apparently decided to make a direct political attack on the farm workers' movement. Farm workers cannot take this lying down. The boycott is breath and life for our union. We must fight back.

We are again taking our cause to the American people. We ask you to judge our struggle, to test our commitment to non-violence, and to consider the gross injustice of this Republican move against farm workers. We ask all our friends to communicate with Senator Robert J. Dole, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, 310 First St. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. Urge him to stop this illegal attack by the Republican-dominated NLRB. We need your help urgently.

Viva la Causa,
Cesar E. Chavez

Farm workers ask help

Appreciation

Dear Rev. Henderson:

Appreciated the obituary notice of Rev. E.J. Jackson. I was the first person to greet the Jackson's after they arrived in Portland. We have had a wonderful friendship through the years.

Also I wish to commend you on the personal testimony of Mary Ruth Hooker. She appears to be a lovely young lady.

I enjoy the Observer. Sincerely,
Evelyn M. Collins
Christian Community Center
128 N.E., Russell
Portland, Oregon 97212

Dear Editor:

We wish to express our sincere thanks to the editor of the Observer for the space given us for the obituary of the late Pastor Edgar L. Jackson.

We would also like to thank our many friends, members and organizations who have shared their love and concern for us in our bereavement, and

for the beautiful flowers, cards, telegrams, gifts and other services given during the Pastor's illness and passing.

Words cannot express our deepest appreciation to each of you. Sincerely,
Patricia Jackson
and family

The Observer welcomes comments from its readers