

# PORTLAND OBSERVER

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

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

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## The Editor's Desk

ALFRED LEE HENDERSON

# GOP policies: The Lord's will?

The United States has always used religion to justify its actions. Sometimes wrong -- sometimes right, but religion was a necessary tool.

During slavery, white slave masters thought themselves justified by using the Biblical phrase, "Slave, obey your master." Joe Louis, during World War II said, "God is on our side." Today we deem it necessary to have a Chaplain's Corp in the Armed Service to invoke patriotism. We want a clergy to pray during the opening of Congress, during city council meetings, etc.; however, at all times it is always the Lord's will that will justify anything we want.

In Miami Beach, at the beginning of the Republican Convention worship service, Reverend James A. McDonald, an AME preacher sang, "It Is Well, It Is Well With My Soul". His tenor voice stirred the hearer during the worship service. Not one of Nixon's Cabinet members, or any of the Republican delegates there had a quarrel with the hymn. In fact, it only led to justify our position in Vietnam. Somehow it made the Cabinet members forget about the evil of "separate but equal." It was well, and it was the Lord's will and the delegates were looking for self-satisfaction.

Senator John Tower of Texas (Worship leader) admonished the congregation that "it is not a time to wallow in guilt and self-recrimination." Secretary George Romney asked the Almighty for "an understanding of our personal accountability to Thee." Not a syllable was spoken to indicate that the Lord might be unhappy with administration policies.

It is here that Nixon proves to be an adroit politician, but fails accordingly by his own leadership standards; however, the presence of Dr. Trueblood, a Quaker Minister, was in itself a mark of President Nixon's success in making the war and the bombing acceptable to a Christian nation.

## It is well with the GOP

Is it well? I recall Nixon's words when he was nominated four years ago: "When the strongest nation in the world can be tied down for four years by a war with no end in sight; when the richest nation in the world can't manage its own economy; when the nation with the greatest tradition of the rule of law is plagued by unprecedented lawlessness; when the President of the United States cannot travel abroad or to any major city at home without fear of a lawless demonstration -- then it is time for new leadership in America."

The Lord's will -- Thus it seems that the war is the Lord's will and during that very moment while they praised God and worshipped in distinguishment, bombs were dropped on our brothers and sisters across the ocean. It was very much like the White Missionaries who went into Africa with the Bible in one hand, but when the Whites left, the African natives had the Bible and the missionaries had the land.

I guess it is well, with an attempt to curb the federal courts' authority to deal with all of the central issues of American life -- school desegregation and equal opportunity in education. Our return to the old code words for Jim Crowism, "separate but equal", is it well?

I cannot believe that it is the Lord's will that after three and a half years there has been only little change for the betterment of Black citizens. One might ask what are the changes? James Teston of the New York Times reported from Miami: "This war, the unemployment, the inflation and the lawlessness are still with us, and the National Guard is mobilized here right out of town, just in case."

For good will, the Reverend John McLaughlin, the White House cleric, gave a plea that in the coming campaign, "remember we are all brothers and sisters."

Then the Pharisee appeared and gave the real text which brings on the old subject "Thank Thee, Lord that I am not like other men."

Other men are minorities (Black) who want a piece of the pie for justice, equality, and better employment, housing and education. They want a chance to live out the true meaning of being "a Child of the King". Other men are those other people who insist on having Supreme Court Justices appointed who can render a fair decision for all ethnic groups. Other men, of course you have guessed it, Democrats who seem like "victims of indecision". Those Democrats whom the majority Blacks have supported to no avail. They, too, did only what was politically expedient. They, too, have plotted and schemed. They, too, have used blacks for their advantage. Their robes are not white -- they are stained and now they cry out and pray like the Publican: "Lord be merciful to me, a sinner."



**PRESIDENT NIXON SAYS, HE CONSIDERS IT WRONG TO BUS CHILDREN FROM THEIR HOMES, WHEN THEY COULD WALK TO A SCHOOL IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD.**

## The Nixon years-change without chaos Just turn back the clock

### WASHINGTON BRIEFS

Of the recently passed anti-busing legislation, Representative Parrin Mitchell (D-Md) said on the floor of Congress:

"My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of bigotry . . . there are blacks tonight, whom you've forced to say, we want no more of America because America lied to us."

Representative Ronald Dellums, (D-Calif.) accused his fellow representatives as "selfish and self-centered politicians who lace the courage to assume the moral and political leadership of this country . . . who are following the paranoid, irrationality and racism of millions of people in this country." He said the problem is "the fear and trepidation of politicians walking willy-nilly through their congressional districts, shaking hands and opposing busing, but saying on the other side, 'I and liberal, but I cannot vote for this because if I do, they will send a real racist to congress.' Well, maybe they should send us a racist, and then we will know what we are dealing with."

Newsweek Magazine reported that Samuel C. Jackson, Asst. Secretary of Housing is the likely person to succeed G. Romney as Secretary. This would make Jackson the first black member of Nixon's cabinet. It is felt, however, that this appointment will not come until after the election for fear of alienating voters.

## It is Nixon's choice

Blacks cannot afford to belong to only one party. We must belong to both parties. Some must be Democrats and some must be Republicans. It would be terrible if we Blacks support Nixon's re-election in spite of what Julian Bond and Jesse Jackson say.

Vote according to your conscience, but the crux of the matter is that Richard M. Nixon will be the President for the next four years.

No, I do not agree on his "separate but equal" theory. Yes, it is a beautiful dream to do away with a quota system, but there is danger that no blacks will be hired. Yes, in the selection of judges to the Supreme Court, I must confess I, too, cannot understand Nixon's choice because these judges were against black people.

I am sure that all the blacks that support Nixon do not agree with all of his policies. I do not see those Blacks as traitors or opportunity seekers, but I do see that the Democrats and Republicans are content. The last thing in the world they want is confrontation with their consciences. "It is well with our soul" may be the question to ask of both parties.

Meanwhile, Richard M. Nixon has the opportunity to be a "bridge over troubled waters". He could really be a Moses and lead this nation and world to the "Promised Land".

# Letters to the Editor

## Governor admonished

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest your recent editorial "It's your move, Governor McCall" and I concur with your assessment of his record of appointing few minorities to policy making boards and commissions. Moreover, Governor McCall's near nil appointments of minorities are really insignificant when one considers the hundreds of appointments he has made in the past six years. It is about time that someone brought this inexcusable situation to public attention. I, for one, congratulate you on your keen observation of what is happening in State Government. Most Blacks in the state probably see Governor McCall as a "liberal" gov-

ernor. His record says something different.

It is about time that Blacks in the State of Oregon wake up and demand that we be represented on all policy making boards and commissions. You succinctly analyzed the problem when you declared "the Governor must now give serious consideration to filling every vacancy that occurs during his remaining two years in office with a minority person. Only in this way can past missions be corrected and minority people be placed in their rightful place in state government." If Governor McCall heeds your suggestion it could well be his legacy when he retires as governor.

Lenwood G. Davis

## Thanks

Dear Sir:

I want to thank you personally for your support and interest of the Reading Tree. People such as you make the seemingly impossible come to reality.

Sincerely yours,  
Lillian Hezog



# As I See It The Oregon Black Agenda

## Part IV

By Lenwood G. Davis

In the area of Health and Social Services the Oregon Black Agenda makes its position clear, namely, "in reverent memory of our noble ancestors in the home country, and in the tradition of our great Black leaders in this alien land, we, the Black Brothers and Sisters of Oregon, no longer accepting the menial, degraded status imposed on us, no longer accepting the inhumane value system, the corrupt and oppressive policies of a society dedicated to materialism, racism, and exploitation, begin now to establish the Black humane values, systems and principles that must guide the delivery of any health and social services of Black people."

The Black Agenda believes that the following principles must guide its efforts in the health and social welfare service delivery systems: (a) Black dignity must not be compromised by the service; (b) Service deliverers must evidence recognition of the Black living experience; (c) Services should tend always to support the basic Black family unit; (d) Any service delivered should be designed so that it is complementary with the Black Ethos; (e) No health or social service may be viewed as merely an end, but rather as a means toward achieving the full development of the total Black existence, as persons, as family, as community; (f) All health and social service systems must be accountable to the Black community.

In the area of Health and Social Services the Black Agenda establishes the following list of specific issues for priority action:

1. Health Services (or the lack thereof) in the Black community.
  2. Drug abuse proliferation in the Black community.
  3. Position on prison systems and police practices.
  4. Guidelines on use of news media.
  5. Review child care and adoption regulations and practices.
  6. Review upcoming legislation on community development funds (HUD).
  7. Review the issues around the operation of day care centers.
  8. Develop a position on population control.
  9. Review the allocation of trust funds, UGN monies, and public monies.
  10. Familiarize ourselves with zoning and land use patterns and practices.
  11. Develop programs in recreation.
- The First Oregon Black Political Convention, of which the Oregon Black Agenda was an outgrowth, also adopted the following resolutions:
1. Resolution on Association of Minority Employees.
- BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon Black Political Convention goes on record as being supportive of the Association of Minority Employees in the Government of Oregon;
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oregon Black Political Convention will co-

sponsor a developmental third world workshop for Minority Employees in Government in Oregon this fall (1972) along with the designated representative bodies of our fellow brothers, the Native American (Indian) and the Mexican-American (Chicano).

2. Resolution on Hatch Act. BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon Black Caucus must focus its energies toward repealing the Hatch Act. This Act prohibits persons working for any federally-funded agency from participating in partisan politics and other political activities.



Lenwood Davis

Since so many of our people are involved with such agencies (Please turn to p. 3 col. 3)

## OUR AIM Is to Ease the Burden ...

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of experience



C Don Vann

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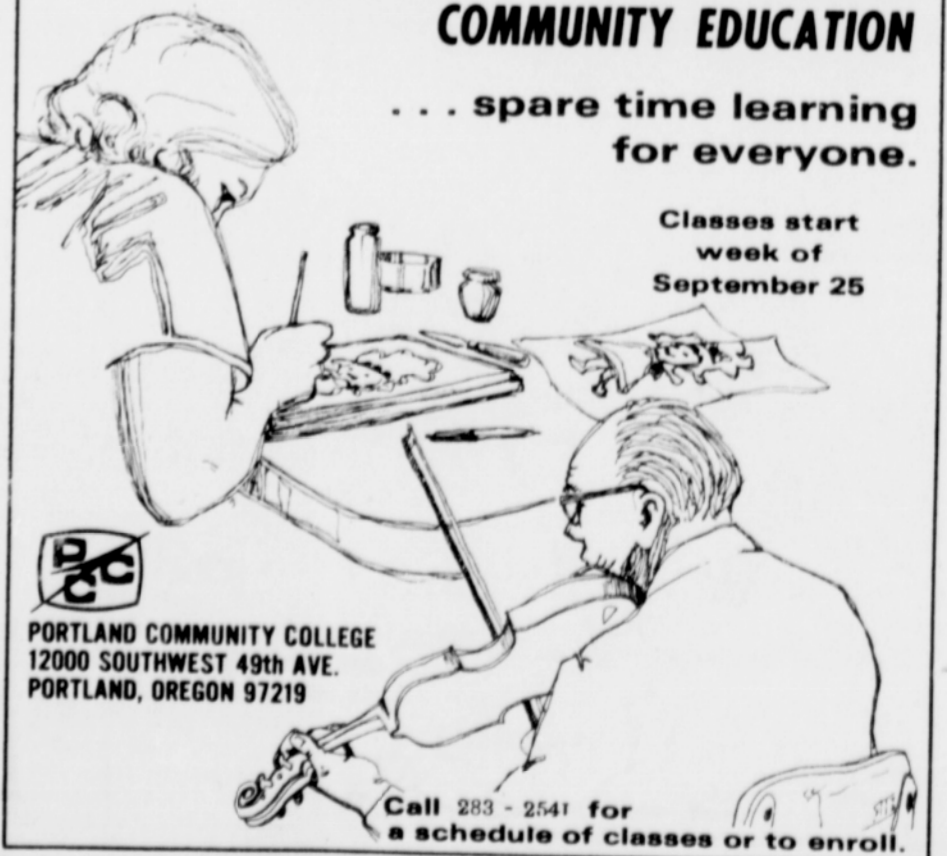
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