

PORTLAND



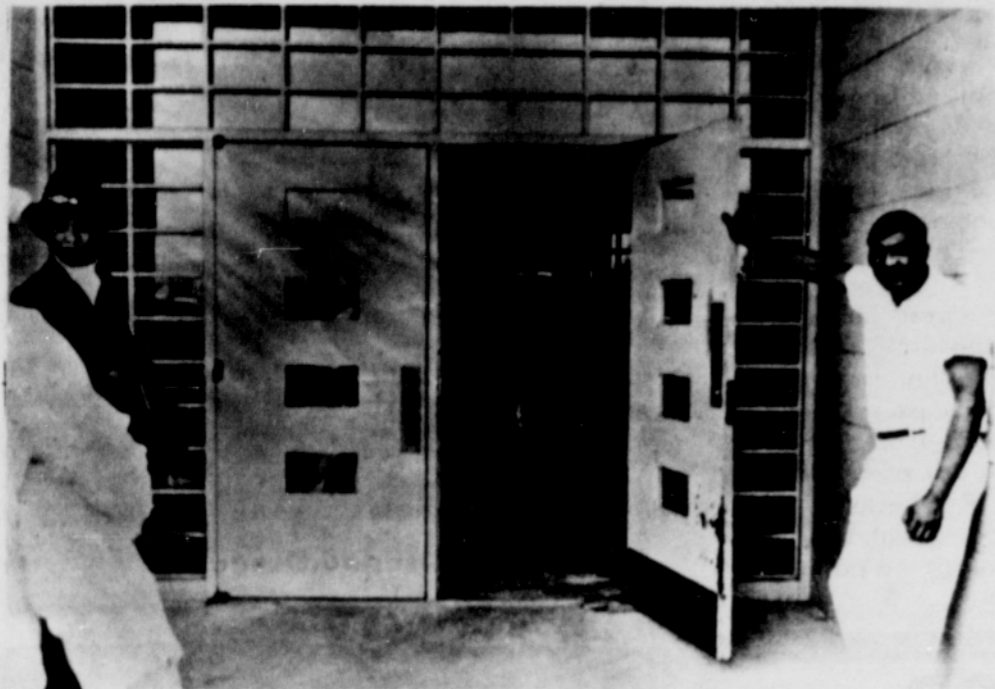
OBSERVER

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THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD THAT REALLY CARES ABOUT PEOPLE



The doors of the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla open to admit a group of young people from Portland who presented Black cultural programs for the prisoners.

Show goes to Washington Pen

by Rosemary Allen

Practices of true brotherhood or missions of goodwill are seldom practiced today without strings attached, or money involved. Well, approximately 39 young men and women traveled up to Walla Walla, Washington to perform at the Washington State Penitentiary, and no

strings or payment were involved. Well, that's not entirely true, the group, some students, some professional entertainers, all talented, did receive the payment of experiencing a feeling that does not happen too often in anybody's lifetime.

The first performance held in the prison was Saturday, April 14. It was performed under minimum security, in which prisoners are allowed free movement. This performance is hard to describe, it was more than just a visual experience. The performers showed enthusiasm (Please turn to pg. 4, col. 4)

Media director resigns

Joseph W. Bostic resigned from his position as director of MEDIA effective April 13th at the request of the MEDIA Board of Directors. Bostic was director of the program for six months.

MEDIA, which offers technical and managerial assistance to businesses in the Model Cities area, is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with funding going through the Model Cities Agency.

Bostic was asked to resign at a board meeting April 12, following staff complaints and dissatisfactions. A month earlier, following a vote of confidence by the board, Bostic had stated that if he did not have the full support of the staff and the board within 30 days, he would resign. At the April 12th meeting, he was informed that the board was requesting his resignation in the interest of the program. When confronted with numerous complaints, he stated that the complaints were in general petty or untrue and that he did not feel the need to discuss them; that if the board did not have the confidence in him, they should ask for his resignation.

Bostic told the *Observer* that he leaves with no bitterness. He feels very strongly that there is a need for MEDIA and that the project should be continued. He feels that he did a good job at MEDIA. When he came

to the program, there were only four employees, and they were unable to carry out the objectives of the program. He hired 8 new employees and attempted to create a team that could effectively evaluate and assist small businesses.

He reorganized office procedures and attempted to run the office in a professional way. He insisted on making the decisions as director and taking the responsibility.

Problems with the staff were varied. He found it necessary to terminate two secretaries who refused to take instructions. He hired employees with the understanding that after 90 days they would receive pay increases; then the budgets were cut and a wage freeze imposed. There was some feeling about his being hired when an employee and a board member had applied for the position.

Bostic believes he made two errors - he placed emphasis on organizing an effective program and building a favorable image for MEDIA in the community and in his zeal to get the program on its feet, he did not take time to sensitize himself to the personality needs of the staff. He did not "drink with the boys" and "take the ladies to lunch". And he did not build support among the staff based on friendship. He also did not take the time to

explore the political alliances of the staff and board members.

Bostic does not believe he had the proper support and assistance from the board of directors. When he attempted to present programs to them, he was told to do as he thought best; then when controversy arose, the board was not familiar enough with the operations of the agency to make proper decisions. MEDIA is operated by an eight member policy board. The original members were appointed by the city and new members are appointed by the board. Three members are representatives of the Model Cities area. Current members are: Dr. Walter Reynolds and Willie Ransom, representing the Model Cities residents; Bob Rogers from the Model Cities Citizens Planning Board; Bill Hilliard, City Editor of the *Oregonian*; Dwight Haugen, Wedgewood Homes, Beaverton; John Mills, Vice President, U.S. National Bank of Oregon; and Louis Scherzer of Benjamin Franklin.

According to Bostic, the board meets once a month and this is the maximum participation of most of the members. Although most of the members are in finance or business, they do not have a clear understanding of MEDIA. They have never formulated goals, policies or a philosophy. Bostic considers most of the members to be interested but uninvolved. They have not (Please turn to pg. 8, col. 4)



MAYOR WARREN WIDENER

Urban League books Black Mayor

The Urban League of Portland will hold its 28th Annual Dinner Meeting on Wednesday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m., in the banquet room of the Sheraton Motor Inn.

Our speaker will be the Honorable Warren Widener, Mayor of Berkeley, California. He is the first Black mayor to be elected to a West Coast city. He is a graduate of the University of Berkeley and the University's Boalt Hall Law School. He served in the Air Force as Missile-Control Officer in the Strategic Air Command,

has been assistant to an Assemblyman and was a Councilman prior to his election as mayor. Mayor Widener is a very dynamic speaker. His subject will be "Moving - Which Way?"

All Urban League members and friends are invited to attend. Cost of the dinner will be \$6.00 per person. Tickets may be purchased from any Urban League Office, Board or Guild member or by mailing your check to the downtown office, 718 West Burnside.

ACLU takes riot case

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon will file a damage suit on behalf of the five young people arrested by FBI agents March 24 in Bend, Oregon.

Scott Burgwin, Benjamin Richmond, Carlo J. Sposito, Jr., Lillian Stevens and Melody Ann Whitley are plaintiffs in the suit, which asks for a jury trial and an award of \$25,000 damages for each of them plus court costs from the government agents who participated in their arrest and officials who ordered and approved it.

They were arrested as they were traveling in a rented truck from Portland to deliver food and clothing collected in Portland and Eugene for American Indians in South Dakota. They were charged March 26 in Portland with violation of the

federal Anti-Riot Act of 1968 by traveling "in interstate commerce with intent to promote, encourage, participate in and carry on a riot at Wounded Knee, South Dakota and with intent to aid and abet one or more persons in inciting and participating in and carrying on a riot at Wounded Knee." Charges were dismissed March 27 "in the best interests of justice" at the request of U.S. Attorney Sidney I. Lezak.

The ACLU contends that the Anti-Riot Act violates constitutional guarantees of the right to travel, freedom of expression under the First Amendment and due process of law under the Fifth Amendment. It argues also that plaintiffs were subjected to an unlawful search and seizure in violation of the Fourth Amendment.

The complaint alleges that

plaintiffs were arrested, searched and had their property seized without a warrant or reasonable grounds to believe that they were committing a felony.

ACLU attorneys also contend that FBI agents and officials violated an act of Congress passed in 1968 specifically to prevent law enforcement officials and others from intimidating and injuring civil rights workers in the South.

Named as defendants in the suit are Julius J. Mattson, Special Agent in Charge of the Portland office of the FBI; Edwin Bradbury, Phillip Miller, Sanley Renning, V. Allen Gogh, Richard F. Robert and John Does A through C, agents of the FBI; and John Does D through F, officers of the FBI or the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice who ordered and approved the acts of the other defendants.



Winner takes prize

Jim McNulty, manager of the Factory, 712 E. Burnside, presents a water bed to Rene McConaga. Mrs. McConaga was the lucky winner of the *Observer's* E-Z-Winner Contest. (Please see page 8)

Rights group meets

A city-wide meeting of the National Unemployed Welfare Rights Organization (NUWRO) will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, at St. Francis Grade School (S.E. 12th and Oak). Welfare recipients, workers, and all others interested in class-wide struggle are urged to attend this meeting of the one organization capable of resisting Phase III attacks on the working class.

NUWRO was founded on March 31 at a national conference on Philadelphia, attended by trade unionists and socialists as well as a core of organizers from the old National Welfare Rights

Organization (NWRO).

According to NUWRO, NWRO has become ineffective because of its affiliation with the White House at a time when nearly all of the social service agencies are being dismantled.

NUWRO believes the only way to resist what it calls a calculated assault on the working class is a solid alliance of the employed and the unemployed. A his-

"Only in this fashion can a positive program for expansion of jobs, with a resulting expansion of material reproduction have any chance of success."

Reformed 'Wino' aids fellows

by Rosemary Allen

Reverend Charles Hicks, ex-skid row dweller, and ex-wino, has been dry for 12 years. Reverend Hicks not only plans to stay dry, but he has begun a tiny organization in a small old house on the outskirts of town, to give other skid row residents a chance to do the same.

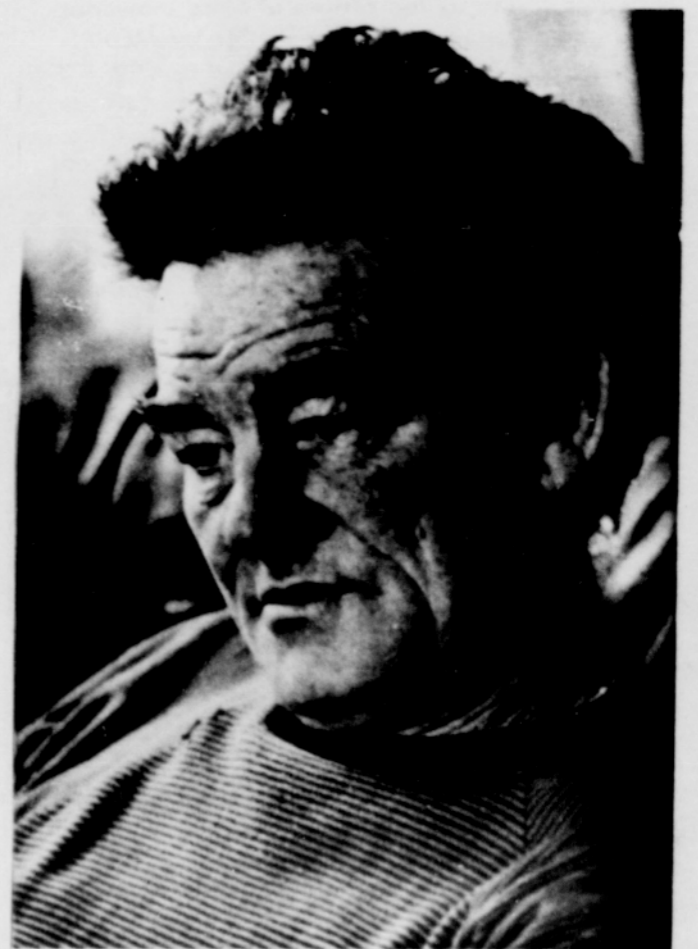
His upward plight began in a Rescue Mission in Arkansas; however Reverend Hicks' program takes on a different approach than most missionary missions and alcoholic rehabilitation centers operating today.

Reverend Hicks explained that the North Portland Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Inc., is supported strictly by public donations. They receive no federal or state monies. There are 10 rules, set down by Reverend Hicks, that must be abided by in order to remain a member of the Rehabilitation Center. None of the rules are outrageous, but all are needed to instill a sense of responsibility and purpose in a wino's life, especially those off skid row.

The small home is able to handle from 5 to 6 men at one time. A family-type environment is provided and just plain "tender loving care". The first three days the wino is usually very quiet, fighting an inward battle. Soon afterwards he starts to rap some.

Reverend Hicks tells them to "just put the drink down. It's not the last drink that hurts you, it's the first one." One important rule is to get the men clean, bathed and shaved so they can start feeling like people.

The North Portland Rehabilitation Center is not licensed and cannot give



CHARLES HICKS

medication. If medication is needed, the patient is taken to a hospital. Most of the men who come to the North Portland Rehabilitation Center come from the William Temple House of the Detox Center. At North Portland, there is no time limit on how long a man can stay. The longest period of residency by anyone has been 8 months. That that man is now "dry" and working in Tigard.

The center is affiliated with a Penecostal Church on 3837 N. Williams, which is pastored by Bishop Pickett.

However, no particular faith or belief is put on the men who come there; that has nothing to do with the rehabilitation program.

Mr. Hicks began this program with a dream, \$1.00 and faith. An article in the *Oregonian Journal* brought in donations of \$75 to \$100; but now the well is running dry. Donations of food, cash, furniture and appliances are badly needed. Also lawn-mowers can be put to good use by the men who come there. This is the season for yard work, but a lack of (Please turn to pg. 4, col. 3)

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Ghana dancers perform

OBOADE, a dance group from Ghana, will present a program of African dance, songs and drumming on April 21 at 8:00 p.m. in the Jefferson High School Auditorium.

The program features Mustapha Teggy Addy, a young master drummer from Accra.

The event is sponsored by the African Community of Portland and co-sponsored by the Portland Public School Area I, the Portland Park Bureau, Reed College and Portland State University.

The program is fast, yet marvellously relaxed, physically exhilarating, and sometimes funny. The roots of jazz are deep in their music.