



Left, Miss Mary Hooker, contestant in the Miss Black Oregon Pageant, displays deep expression in her talent act. At right, Mrs. Rosalie Booth crowns Miss Hooker as the new Miss Black Oregon.

## Mary Hooker wins pageant

by Rosemary Allen

On Friday evening at the Memorial Coliseum, an audience of approximately 300 patiently suffered through 90 minutes of a quickly put together, patched-up Eighth Annual Miss Black Oregon Beauty Pageant. Internal problems within the planning committee a week prior to the pageant caused a complete turnover in the actual planning of the program.

However the three gentlemen who hosted the pageant with only a week's prior notice are definitely to be commended for their sincerity throughout the endeavor. Co-hosts Harold Johnson, Greg Smith and Charlie Davis displayed strong determination to create an atmosphere of charm and happiness to what many viewed as a dull farce.

The pageant featured an entertainment band called Zodiac and ventriloquist Gover and Joe. The four contestants, Beverly Hodges, Mary Hooker, Ruby Andrews and Patricia Thomas did very well under the circumstances.

Mary Hooker, who is now Miss Black Oregon 1973, undoubtedly won predominantly because of her talent act, which was the most creative of the four contestants. Her talent was a dramatic portrayal of two women, one who had lost her faith in God and the other stable in her faith that God answers all.

Miss Hooker, 18 years of age and a graduate of Jefferson High, exclaimed "It's wonderful. Being a lawyer is my greatest ambition and winning this pageant and getting to meet people is exactly what I wanted."

First runner-up was Ruby Andrews, who is also a graduate of Jefferson High School. Miss Andrews is 18 years old and plans to specialize in computer data and office machinery in college.

Delayed live television coverage was provided by KPTV Channel 12. It was televised to approximately 40,000 viewers at 10:30 that same evening after the pageant.

Many have expressed embarrassment that the pageant was ever televised. I feel the opposite. I am happy that now perhaps we who either went to the pageant or viewed it on television will perhaps take out a little time to help the current organizers plan a pageant of which we as a community can be proud.

## Mississippi elects Black mayors

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 3) office in Pace and 3 Black aldermen - representing a voting majority on the five-member boards - were elected in Jonestown, Shelby and Tehula.

"The election of this unprecedented number of Black candidates to key municipal offices in Mississippi is a genuine harbinger of things to come," declared Julian Bond, SEF Board Chairman and Georgia State Representative.

"Blacks are continuing their fight for full participation in our representative form of

government and it is indeed noteworthy to see that it is being won at the grass-roots level of municipal, county and state government where so many pertinent decisions governing our every-day lives are made. And it is here that our voices must be resoundingly heard," he added.

The Atlanta-based Southern Elections Fund was created to assist liberal and Black candidates in the eleven southern states to run for local office by providing them with financial assistance as

well as technical aid on the fundamentals and the intricacies of participating in the electoral process.

Since its inception in 1969, SEF has supported some 350 Black and white candidates for electoral office including most (approximately 75%) of the Black candidates for mayoral and aldermanic office in Mississippi.

"The decision to concentrate SEF activities - both grants-in-aid and on-the-spot technical assistance - in Mississippi during May and June of this year has been more than justified by the results," stated SEF Executive Director Yancey F. Martin.

"The face of the South is changing. And despite this election's loss by long-time civil rights advocate James Meredith in his native Mississippi, we find immense encouragement in the election of Chris McNair, father of one of the slain children in the 1963 Birmingham church bombing, to the Alabama State Legislature. He is the third Black to serve in that body since reconstruction and the first to win a Jefferson County Birmingham race," he added.

Despite the historic showing of Black victories in the Mississippi general elections, a Delta Ministry official, Rims Barber, cautioned, "We still have a tremendous void to fill when one considers that while there are 7 Black mayors, there are also 250 incorporated towns in Mississippi, of which some 30 are predominantly Black."

## Demos set hearings for charter change

The Democratic Charter Commission, which is charged with developing a charter for the National Democratic Party, will hold its conference for Oregon on July 14, 1973, at the Congress Hotel from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Persons who wish to testify should contact the Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee at 226-7106.

Among the questions the Charter Commission must consider are:

- 1) What changes, if any, should be made in the present structure of the Democratic National Committee?
- 2) Should any substantial change be made in the present relationship between state and national parties?
- 3) Is the Convention fulfilling its responsibilities with regard to the Party platform, policy, and internal business adequately?
- 4) When should the 1974 Conference on

Democratic Organization and Policy be held? How, within the restrictions of the mandate, should delegates to be chosen? 5) How satisfactory are relationships between the national and Congressional Parties? How effective are Democratic National Committee services to Congressional candidates? 6) What role should the DNC play in the party's Presidential campaign, both before and after the Convention? What ongoing preparations should the DNC be making for the presidential campaign? 7) How effective is the Party at raising its funds? 8) Should the Democratic Party make interim policy? 9) What does it mean to be a Democrat? Should the Party enroll members? Should Party members pay dues? 10) Are present provisions intended to secure the loyalty of National Committee members, delegates, etc., adequate?

## Black press

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 8)

symbol of political immorality, it is a minor second-story job when compared to the violent mugging of the promises made to poor people and to the aspirations they have nurtured. For while the public has been obsessed with Watergate, a Senate Committee reported that twelve million Americans are malnourished. While the majority press has covered page after page with Watergate revelations, it gave little notice to the housing freeze that affects hundreds of thousands of low-income people in need of subsidized housing. While the television cameras have been focused on the Watergate hearings, over four million people are walking the streets without jobs and hundreds of thousands of others have simply given up all hope of finding work.

Watergate then, came on the heels of a greater scandal that seems to be neglected by the majority media - the scandal of heartless budget cuts, vicious abandonment of important federal programs, and the shifting of money and power from the federal government, which has been the historic protector of minority rights, to the state and local governments who have historically been centers of discrimination and abuse. Watergate, in my eyes, is less of a scandal than the proposed federal budget which totals over \$268 billion, yet has no room for an OEO, for schools and hospitals, for manpower development and urban aid, or for other basic programs, that have been impounded, frozen, subjected to moratoria, phased out, dismantled and otherwise murdered.

These budget cuts, the dismantling of federal programs, and the institution of special revenue sharing will have their greatest impact on the Black poor, who already are forced to shoulder the burden of discrimination and want. The bright promises made in the form of civil rights legislation and federal anti-poverty programs have been whittled away and are now in danger of being withdrawn altogether. The budget and the government's domestic policies break faith with the Black poor, as they break faith with the cities and with the nation as a whole.

"But there's a little secret hidden here, a secret that has been effectively kept from the American people, many of whom perceive social spending and anti-poverty as being for Black people only. "And the secret is simply this: That while Black people are disproportionately poor, the majority of people who have benefited from the reforms of the '60s, the majority of people who will be hurt by the budget cuts, and the majority of those whose lives will be permanently damaged by the ending of federal social programs, are white people. "So I believe that in these crucial days when the fate of the social reforms of the '60s hangs in the balance, Black Americans must exhibit greater self-confidence and firmer conviction in our righteous cause, and we must demonstrate to white Americans that our cause is, in effect, their own, and we must be willing to cross racial lines to build the coalitions around issues of importance to both Blacks and whites. "It is crucial that the Black press take the lead, both in exposing the current scandals in federal withdrawal from domestic progress, and in explaining to your more than four million readers the strategies and issues confronting them. While the white majority press is more interested in Mr. Brezhnev's visit or in the Watergate story, the Black press has its unique role of keeping alive the issues of direct concern to Black Americans. "Civil rights in the '70s will be... an era of trench warfare, requiring knowledgeable technicians skillfully monitoring and exposing racism in the twilight zone of America's institutional policy-making processes. "The role of the Black press in this new era of struggle is crucial. You will bear the major burdens of the effort to educate the Black public to these new issues. "The issue in the '70s, as in the past, is survival, and Black people have survived despite our history of adversity and persecution. We have survived because we built strong, creative Black institutions - the church, the Black colleges, the civil rights movement, the countless self-help agencies, and, above all, a strong, free and proud press that fought for our rights. It is upon that basic institution of a free Black press that the hopes of millions of our Black brothers and sisters will rest in this crucial decade of the '70s."

## FOI holds benefit

On Sunday, July 1st, from 2 p.m. til 5 p.m., an educational benefit will be held on the Cascade campus of Portland Community College, 705 N. Killingsworth Street.

The worthy event is being presented by the Fruit of Islam (F.O.I.) of Muhammad's Temple No. 62. The program includes music by Brother Willie X and the Black Creators, a Karate demonstration by Brother Lt. Wilbert X and Company, Guest Speaker Minister John Muhammad of Muhammad's Temple No. 26 in San Francisco, California, and of course, dinner.

The donation of \$7.50 contributes to the establishment of a University of Islam in Portland, Oregon.

## Health center

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 8)

Nyung Etuk; Social Worker Miriam Gilmore; and receptionist Jo Ann Simington.

The idea for the community clinic originated in 1968 through Model Cities. The Health Working Committee within Model Cities was instrumental in bringing the clinic into being. The Medical Clinic is a pilot program and is funded \$154,636 for one year in which it will be evaluated for continuance.

The clinic, located at 4122 N.E. Union Avenue, is now open free of charge, to all Model City residents.

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## Notice

The Portland City Planning Commission Sign Review Committee will hold a public meeting on their work program for the Sign Study Proposal on July 6th, 9:00 a.m., Room 200, City Hall Annex, 424 SW Main Street.

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