

PDC shuns duty -- Albina Contractors get action

Eugene Jackson, Executive Director of the Albina Contractors Association, stepped into the void and solved a citizen's problem that the governmental powers were unable or unwilling to handle. Mrs. Annie Whitlow told the *Observer* last week that she had received a \$3500 home rehabilitation grant through the Portland Development

Commission and that she was dissatisfied by the work that had been done by the contractor, Dwight Morris. All of Mrs. Whitlow's efforts to obtain help from those agencies designed to aid the citizens were in vain. She went to Portland Development Commission, to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment, the State Housing Board, and the Mayor's office. The Neighborhood Development Planning offices are an arm of the Portland Development Commission. Their responsibility is to assess the housing needs of the residents, counsel them as to improvements needed and funds available, super-

vised the allotment of work to contractors. When Mrs. Whitlow went to Ray Wilson, Rehabilitation Supervisor, for assistance in her dispute with the contractor, she reported that Mr. Wilson told her to complain as much as she wanted to because all complaints came back to him. She reported that he told her that there was no one above

him and that he makes all the decisions. Mr. Wilson refused to intercede with the contractor, but did tell Mrs. Whitlow that she should sign the check so the contractor could be paid. Mrs. Whitlow does not think Wilson offered her the assistance that he should have, but that his concern was to get rid of her.

Mrs. Whitlow's complaint to PDC resulted in a letter asking the contractor to make some minor changes. When Mrs. Whitlow complained to HUD, a staff member, George Duke, was sent out to see the house. Mrs. Whitlow said that after looking around Duke told her that he could not give her an opinion but would report to

area director Russell Dawson. Dwight Morris, the building contractor, said Duke told him he did a good job. On Friday, July 20, Ray Wilson and Wilson Smith of PDC went to Mrs. Whitlow's home with the contractor's check for her to sign. Mrs. Whitlow pointed out that the work was not satisfactory and named her complaints: unfinished work, protruding nails, loose molding, cracks under windows, etc. Wilson told her if she did not sign, the contractor would put a lien on the house. Smith, who refused to look at the work, said "it would be too bad for you to have to pay all those legal fees", according to Mrs. Whitlow.

On July 23, Eugene Jackson visited the Whitlow home and inspected the work. Jackson found the work to be substandard and Morris agreed to correct the defective work the following day. Jackson said Morris is a member of the Albina Contractors Association and that ACA is always eager to see that its members do quality work. He said Ray Wilson was derelict in his duties when he did not notify ACA about Mrs. Whitlow's complaint. The NDP office and the Albina Contractors Association, which is partially funded by Model Cities, should be working together to see that the residents receive the quality work as well as the most beneficial improvements to their property. Jackson also stated his belief that Wilson was derelict in his duties when he did not protect the interests of Mrs. Whitlow and especially when he threatened her with the possibility of the con-



Eugene Jackson

tractor taking legal action against her.

Contractor Dwight Morris made the repairs to Mrs. Whitlow's satisfaction and received authorization for his payment. Morris expressed to the *Observer* his regret that the job was not done satisfactorily the first time, saying that he had been overloaded with work at the time and that all of his other customers have been happy with his work.

To Mrs. Whitlow the highlight of the experience was that she found someone, Eugene Jackson, who was willing to take the time to

talk with her and to find a solution for her. He did what no elected official or government employee has done.

The Albina Contractors Association is an organization of 30 contractors, the majority of whom are Black, who work in the Albina area. They have joined together to seek more equitable allotment of work, training and mutual assistance. Jackson urges anyone who is not satisfied with the work done on their homes, and who thinks the contractor might be a member of ACA, to contact his office.

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Woman murdered in Albina Club



Portland Police investigate shooting incident at the Table Square in which 1 person was killed and seven injured.

One person was killed and six wounded in a shooting spree at the Table Square early Thursday morning. The assailant, Gregory Raines of Portland, assaulted the club's M.C. when he introduced the band, the "Black and White Affair". Raines demanded that the eight member band, which includes Black and white performers, be introduced as the "Black Affair". When refused, he struck the M.C. and left the club. He then returned moments later with a gun and began shooting. Entering the club he shot a white woman at a telephone, then began shooting into the crowd of 25 or 30 customers.

Raines put the gun to the head of the singer for the band, but by this time the gun was empty. He jumped on the stage and began beating a woman trombonist and a man with the pistol. Tommy L. Williams, 25, the special policeman at the Table Square, was shot in the hip when he attempted to stop the shooting.

Identification of the murdered victim had not been revealed at press time, pending notification of next of kin. Those who were shot are: Patricia Newton, Linda Sepeda, Diana Schuyler, and Linda Pate. Robert Spear of Seattle, and an unidentified musician, were beaten with the gun. Ms. Newton and Ms. Sepeda are listed in serious condition. All of the injured persons except the special officer are Caucasian.

Witnesses considered the shooting to have been racially motivated since the shots were directed at whites. Most thought the assailant to be "psychotic", although some witnesses believed him to be associated with a militant group.



Deborah Warren

Deborah Warren flies

Miss Deborah Warren, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George Freeman, 865 NE Jarrett, has become a United Air Lines stewardess.

Following completion of her training at the company's stewardess school near Chicago, Illinois, she now flies aboard aircraft out of that city.

In becoming a stewardess she has entered a profession pioneered by United in May, 1930.

Miss Warren is a graduate of Washington High School and attended Northwestern Business College and Portland Community College prior to serving aloft. She also was chosen Miss Tan Portland in 1968.

Atlanta Branch defies NAACP

The Executive Committee of the Atlanta Branch, NAACP, voted to support Atlanta's Compromise school desegregation plan in spite of the threat that the Branch will be suspended by the NAACP national office.

The NAACP national board gave the Atlanta Branch until August 2nd to repeal its endorsement. The 43 member board was suspended by Roy Wilkins last March. The National Convention, meeting in Cleveland, endorsed the suspension and removed Atlanta president, Lonnie King from office.

The Atlanta Branch is also upset over the fact that it has received no official notice

of the August 2nd date. Because the only news has come to the Branch through the press, they decided not to formally answer the national office.

King and the board feel the Atlanta Compromise is the best plan for Atlanta since approximately 80 percent of Atlanta's school children are Black. The plan includes minimal busing, but provides that the Superintendent of Schools and at least 50 percent of policy making positions be filled by Blacks.

The National office of the NAACP pressed for the dispersal of more white students to eliminate the more

than 100 all-Black schools. The National office supports metro-wide desegregation — the combining of city school districts with surrounding suburban school districts.

King hinted at a court fight, telling the press "I'm sure this board will use whatever means are appropriate and legal to protect the integrity and status of the Atlanta Branch."

The New York Times stated that the National NAACP might abolish the Atlanta Branch by removing its charter if it does not conform. The report was denied by Vice-President Dr. Buell Gallagher.

PSU receives financial aid

Portland State University expects to receive \$1.3 million in federal funds for the 1973-74 financial aid program, according to Mrs. Diane Hulen, acting director of financial aids.

The funds, which represent an over-all increase of about \$13,000 from the 1972-73 allocation, include \$583,203

in college work-study funds, a decrease of almost \$50,000 from last year; \$326,445 in Educational Opportunity Grants, an increase of \$27,000 from last year; and \$451,551 in National Direct Loans, an increase of almost \$34,000 from last year.

Mrs. Hulen estimated 200 additional students would be

able to receive financial aid next year based on these three federal allocations, which provided financial aid for approximately 1,800 students during the 1972-73 school year. Well over a third of PSU's 13,600 students receive some form of financial aid from either federal, state or private funds.

For further information about financial aid, students should contact PSU's financial aid office.

Black legislator sees fruitful session

Bill McCoy, Oregon's first Black legislator, was pleased with the accomplishments of the Oregon legislature this term.

McCoy feels that the greatest accomplishment of the 1973 session was the development of a legislative body that addressed itself to people's problems, which is something new for Oregon. He praised House Speaker Richard Eymann for his innovations, including having a research component, continuing committees through the interim, providing adequate staff for committees, and providing an open atmosphere where the people of the state could be heard.

McCoy served on the Ways and Means Committee and was a member of its sub-committee on resources. This committee reviewed the budgets and programs of Welfare, Children's Services, mental health, and the state institutions.

As a former welfare case-worker, McCoy was concerned about those persons who are dependent on welfare. He was one of those instrumental in raising welfare standards so recipients will get 92% of the minimum requirement rather than the 80% they have been receiving. The legislature also did away with the "relative responsibility" law that required persons to contribute to the support of close relations who receive welfare benefits.

Also passed in the area of human resources was SB 72, which is perhaps the most advanced child care legislation in the nation. The bill provides state funding for child care and stipulates that parents will be involved in planning.

McCoy was the co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Aging. This was the first legislative committee to address itself to the problems of aging and is a forerunner among legislatures in the nation. McCoy said of the committee work "Oregon has a large population of aged people and they deserve at-

tention to their needs."

The committee dealt with two areas of concern: transportation and alternatives to nursing home care. As a result of the committee's work, programs in five areas will provide transportation for the elderly. The areas are: Portland, Medford, Klamath Falls, Hood River and Ontario-Nyssa. Funds are provided by the state and city and county units.

McCoy was a member of the sub-committee on Environment. He considers the increased funding of the Division of Environmental Quality (Please turn to pg. 3, col. 6)

White crew greets Black namesake

The Navy has named a ship after Dorie Miller, a Black mess attendant who was on board the battleship West Virginia during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Miller ran to the bridge and moved his mortally wounded captain from the bridge, then using a machine gun, began firing at the enemy planes. He was killed when his ship was sunk during the invasion of Tarawa. Miller was presented the Navy Cross by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz for "extraordinary courage".

Miller's mother, Henrietta Miller of Waco, Texas, was present for the commis-

sion, as was a brother, Arthur.

The main speaker for the commissioning was Representative Barbara Jordan of Texas. The Black Congresswoman said the Navy was paying a long overdue debt to Miller.

"As we seek to correct inequities at home, we have contributed mightily to defending this nation and its founding principles from outside attack," she said.

"Black people are struggling to win full and equal rights as American citizens. Men and women like Dorie Miller have fought just as (Please turn to pg. 3, col. 5)



Striking farm workers find themselves surrounded by hired thugs who brought violence to the picket lines in the grape fields of Southern California. Cesar Chavez has led the movement to gain improved working conditions and employment benefits for farm workers.

Farmworkers Union calls boycott

The United Farmworkers Boycott Committee has called a Rally to support the United Farmworkers Union on Saturday, July 28th at noon at the Safeway Store on NE 11th and Broadway.

Millions of Americans boycotted grapes and head lettuce for several years so farm workers might organize their own union and gain union contracts. Those contracts are now expiring and unless the current trend changes all of the farm-worker's gains will be lost.

As contracts expire the growers have signed new contracts with the Teamsters

Union rather than with the United Farmworkers Union AFL-CIO which represents the farm workers. The workers are being given no choice in the matter.

The UFWU had made great gains in the contracts; not only for fair wages, but for sanitary working conditions, and pesticide control.

Although this is presented by the Teamsters as a jurisdictional fight between two unions, UFWU supporters say it is really a question of whether the farm workers will be allowed to choose their own union. In areas where the Teamsters hold

the contracts, the farm workers have not been treated as bona fide union members with the benefits and privileges the Teamsters Union guarantees to its other members.

Cesar Chavez has accused the Teamsters Union of racism. The majority of the farm workers in California are Chicano or Philippino, and in Florida and other parts of the South, are Black. According to the Los Angeles Times a high Teamster official said farm workers will not be able to take part in Teamster Union meetings (Please turn to pg. 3, col. 4)

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CISCO dedicates center

CISCO, the Chicano Indian Study of Oregon, will have its official dedication ceremonies Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28, 1973, beginning at 12:00 p.m. One of the primary events will be acknowledgements of those dedicated people involved in obtaining Adair Air Force Base with special acknowledgements to Senator Mark O. Hatfield, Senator Birch Bayh, and Congressman Wendell Wyatt.

The public is invited to attend the ceremonies and festivities which follow. Key-note speaker will be Russell Means of the American Indian Movement.