# Community united on ouster of Boise principal

A public meeting was held at Bethel AME Church on September 27, 1973. It was attended by Black residents of the Portland area and representatives of organizations concerned with quality education, intergroup relations and the welfare of Black citizens generally. At

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24, 1973 article which appeared in a white daily quoting David McCrea, principal of Boise Elementary School, was discussed at some length. Also discussed were public and non-public remarks generated by that article, along with Mr.

McCrea's letter of apology to Black citizens generally. It was also noted that, unfortunately, other principals in the Portland school system share the stereotype notions and lack of insight and understanding of the better principles intergroup relations evidenced by Mr. McCrea McCrea does not automatically guarantee his replacement will be an improvement. It was concluded, however, that:

1. Whereas the serious problems which apparently exist at Boise Elementary School whose students are

tion by a principal of a high degree of teaching and supervisory competence, empathy, insight and sophistication;

2. Whereas Mr. McCrea has admitted his failure as a principal to enforce the necessary discipline to make for a quality learning experience

at Boise Elementary School, and has through his press interview displayed a lack of sophistication and insight into the many lifestyles of Black families whose children he and his staff are supposed to teach and motivate;

3. Whereas Mr. McCrea was admittedly improviden-

tial in his choice of words in his press interview on such a sensitive school policy issue and has reflected adversely on District Administrative transfer program and the Black population in the Portland area, subverting school district policy and losing the personal credibility necessary to perform his job as principal in a school with a student population such as

Therefore, the Portland School District #1 should immediately take the necessary administrative action to remove Mr. McCrea from his position as principal of the Boise Elementary School and replace him with a person of pedagogical competence and supervisory skill, empathy, insight and sophistication about intergroup relations, school board policy and school-press relations to ef-

ciplinary and educational needs of the Boise students within the policy guidelines and expectations of the School Board and the greater community of which it is a

The preceeding statement was signed by representative organizations: The Urban League of Portland, the NAACP, Albina Ministerial Alliance, Albina Women's League, Albina Lion's Club. the Royal Esquire Club, and the Oregon Association of Colored Women's Clubs.

The meeting of concerned citizens was held to discuss the implications of statements made by McCrea to the press, in which he stated that Boise has an atmosphere not conducive to learning, that a white child cannot excel at Boise, and that general district standards of behavior do

different cultural expecta-

not apply to Boise because of

Concern was expressed over the mimeographed letter sent by McCrea to 1 organizations and school personnel and three newspapers. Some persons questioned why an apology of such serious nature would have not at least been signed personally (See page

General consensus was that although the problems Boise is experiencing are not new and were not created by McCrea, the principal has to set the tone and the standard of behavior for the children. The same educational process and the same opportunities should apply to Black students as to white. The philosophy of education of the school board and the possibility that McCrea was really expressing that philosophy was also questioned.

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Thursday, October 4, 1973 10c per copy

CHALMERS JONES

### Jones is Ombudsman

Governor Tom McCall re cently announced the appointment of Ombudsman Bob Oliver as his legal counsel and assistant for public safety, and the appointment of Chalmers Jones to succeed Oliver as ombudsman. Jones presently is administrator of the Special Programs Division of the Department of Human Resources.

Oliver succeeds Edward Branchfield, who was named by Attorney General Lee Johnson as assistant attorney general for the State Department of Higher Education. Branchfield, a former Court of Appeals judge, has been the governor's legal counsel since 1971, when Oliver was named ombudsman.

McCall said the changes will be effective in mid-October, after Branchfield has had time to complete several projects he has undertaken for the governor.

Oliver, 42, is a former chief deputy legislative counsel for the Oregon Legislature. He has served as a part time professor of law in Willamette College of law, and an instructor in political science for Willa-(Please turn to pg. 6, col. 5)

# ACA, UMW charge city with racism

Complaints have been filed with the federal government charging the City of Portland with racial discrimination. The Portland Development Commission and the Housing Authority of Portland were specifically named in a complaint filed with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development by the Albina Contractors Association and the United Minority Workers.

Eugene Jackson, Business Manager of the Albina Contractors Association, said of the reference to PDC, "The Portland Development Commission has consistently and over a period of years ignored the employment needs of Black people. Although millions of dollars have been spent right here in Albina, little money has gone to minority contractors and employees. PDC can't even tell us whether the white contractors who are awarded their jobs have any minority employees."

PDC statistics show that about one third of the money spent by PDC for housing rehabilitation in the Albina area goes to minority contractors. Besides the home rehabilitation program, PDC is building parks, reconstructing streets and sidewalks, putting in street lighting, and doing additional neighborhood development

ACA has met with John Kenward, Executive Director of PDC, and members of his staff to discuss the allotment Although Kenward agreed to review the bidding system, which is working against minority contractors, and to include ACA in planning for changes, ACA has heard nothing further from PDC

The Housing Authority of Portland has the responsibility to see that contractors building low-income housing under its supervision meet the affirmative action requirements of HUD. Nathan Proby, Director of the United Minority Workers, charged that HAP is not meeting this responsibility. He has visited housing sites a number of times without finding minorities on the job. Although some builders, including Western Balboa (also the subject of a complaint), have agreed to hire minorites, work is proceeding and the

work force is still all white Under federal regulations all companies or agencies receiving federal funds must hire minorities in an equitable number and must support and encourage minority enterprise. The complaint charges that neither of those requirements have been met (Please turn to pg. 3, col. 4)

### Black trucker sues Hoffman

William Jones, Black dump truck owner-operator, filed a complaint with the federal government charging Hoffman Construction Company and John L. Jersey and Son with racial discrimination.

Jones applied to Hoffman Construction for work on the federal building that they are constructing for the General Services Administration. Hoffman Construction referred him to John L. Jersey and Son, the sub-contractor for excavation. Jersey refused to hire Jones, telling him that he was not needed, although others were hired after he applied; that his truck was too small, although smaller trucks were on the job; and that he had hired a Korean and did not have to hire another minority.

Jones told Russ Rogers, Equal Employment officer for GSA who came to Portland Monday to investigate the complaint, that Jersey repeatedly refused to hire him, with the full knowledge of Hoffman Construction Company. As the prime contractor, Hoffman has responsibility for the action of its sub-contractors.

Jones was employed by Hoffman Construction Company last spring on the site of the City of Portland's sewage disposal plant on Columbia Boulevard. He was paid \$14.00 and the other truck drivers received \$15.00. Jones raised his fee to \$15.00 and soon was laid off. He was told that he was not needed on the job, although other trucks that were hired after him stayed. His was also the only truck that could get into the site on its own power - the others having to be pulled in and out with

### **Court supports Black Coalition** Armed police were used to

The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the ruling of U.S. District Judge Gus B. Solomon in the suit of the Black Coalition vs. the Board of Education, Portland Public Schools. The suit. which was filed in 1970 following racial problems at Roosevelt High School, alleged that the School District denied students their constitutional rights by suspending and expelling them without the right to legal counsel, to the right to confront witnesses against them. and to present evidence in their own behalf. Judge Solomon decided in favor of the Black Coalition and three Black students, ordering the school district to change its disciplinary procedures.

The action followed incidents at Roosevelt High School when racial fighting erupted and members of the surrounding community threatened Black students walking to and from school.

Coalition called a boycott, temporarily removing Black students from Roosevelt High School and providing a "freedom school" for them.

The Court of Appeals found that "brief suspensions" could be justified in maintining an atmosphere conducive to learning. However, the court ruled that "the expulsion procedures were unconstitutional for failing to provide a hearing at which the student could be represented by counsel and, through counsel, present witnesses on his own behalf and cross-examine adverse witnesses.'

The Coalition also charged that disciplinary action was biased against Black students and that the absence of Blacks in administrative positions discriminated against Black students receiving equal protection on disciplinary matters. This por-

tion of the case has not been patrol the halls. The Black heard by the court. The case was presented by Legal Aid.

> The Black Coalition included the NAACP. Thomas R. Vickers, President; Albina Ministerial Alliance, Bishop W.L. McKinney, President; The Black Panther Party. Kent Ford, Director; Albina Citizens Council, L.R. Anderson, chairman; the Black Beret, William Granby, Director; the Roosevelt High School Black Parents, Dr. Samuel Brown, chairman; and the Urban League of Portland, Shelton Hill, Executive Director; and the Albina Citizens Together (Albina Citizens War on Poverty Committee), Edgar Mitchell, Chairman. Because of the constitutional restrictions. the Urban League withdrew from the Coalition when the suit was filed. Chairmen of the Coalition were Edgar Mitchell and Reverend Sam-

Dump truck rolls again

### Minority veterans seek jobs wounded in Vietnam,

Nathan Proby, Director of the United Minority Workers, appealed to the employers and governmental agencies of Oregon to eliminate racism in the consideration of minority veterans for employment. Proby explained that veterans are returning home with training and experience in the service, but are being told by employers that they are not "qualified" for employment.

Jerry Cox, who served with the United States Marine Corps, is qualified to operate seven different types

of heavy equipment, but was told by Operating Engineers Local 701 that he is not qualified to join the union. He was told that he needed 1000 hours of supervised work to join, but cannot find work because he is not a union member. Twelve complaints have been filed against Local 701 by minority workers.

Leonard Spland spent 31/2 years in the Air Force. He attended a construction training school in Corvallis, but has found only two days

Carl Bee, a veteran who

### months and has not found employment. These veterans and others

are asking why the skills they learned in the service do not qualify them for jobs at home; why they fought for their country and now are not even allowed to hold a good job. Phillip Robinson, Post Com-

has been home for five

mander of the Am Vets, is attempting to assist unemployed veterans find employment, housing, food for their families, and other emergency needs. He meets many young men who have learned trades in the service but who are not able to use these skills at home.

Proby asks the public, "If a man can fight for his country and come home and be unable to find a job, what is he fighting for?" He said the United Minority Workers will file injunctions to halt federal money for construction work until discrimination against minority veterans ceases. One example given was the Gordan H. Ball Construction Company, which is working on the Salem freeway. Out of 162 employees on this federallyfunded job, 3 are minorities. Millions of federal dollars are coming into Oregon for construction and few if any contractors are in compliance with federal regulations on

UMW received letters and telegrams of support in their effort from Senators Mark Hatfield and Robert Packwood, representative Wendell Wyatt, and Special Assistant to President Nixon, Stanley Scott.

minority employment.

## Dawson gets license

David Dawson, Black dump truck owner-driver, was awarded a dump truck license by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission Tuesday.

Oregon law requires that applicants for PUC licenses must prove a need for the additional truck. The effect of the law has been to perpetuate an all-white industry. The first Black trucker to obtain a license was William Jones, whose application this spring was opposed by white dump truckers. Dawson's application was also opposed by truck owners who charge that there is not enough work for existing license holders. It has been the practice of

Nathan Proby, Chairman

of the United Minority

Workers, announced the sign-

ing of an agreement with the

Todd Building Company

spelling out the minimum

minority man-hours for the

construction of the new Fed-

eral Building in Eugene. This

\$5 million dollar, two year

job will use 20% minority

man-hours during the time of

heaving activity with lesser

amounts in time of lesser

The agreement was made

after a series of conferences

involving Proby and Mary Jo

Ali of Portland, Patrick Me-

licensees to sell their licenses for as much as \$3,000 when they quit. Dawson demonstrated the

need for additional trucks by presenting witnesses who had experienced shortages of trucks available. The major thrust of his case, presented by Attorney John C. Barnett, was that the PUC, as a state regulatory agency, has the responsibility to insure that minorites are included in the industries it super-

The PUC license was awarded on the basis of need for the truck, and avoided the issue of affirmative

lendy and James Montoya of

the CISCO organization of

Monmouth, Ron Anderson of

Associated General Contrac-

tractors, Contractor Gordon

Todd and others from the

Proby expressed hope that

other contractors will make

similar agreements to include

substantial numbers of

Blacks. Native Americans and

Chicanos in their work forces.

have sought. It came about

through negotiations rather

than intimidation and speaks

well for all concerned," Proby

"This is the opening we

United Minority Workers.

prefers not to be named because of her fear of harass- tance that her 16 year old ment obtained a PDC grant grandson, who was sleeping for rehabilitation of her home She received a last fall. letter from the Portland De velopment Commission stating that she could choose a contractor. On the same day she received another letter stating that bids were being requested by three contractors - all white. When she called to ask that the work be done by a contractor of her choosing, she was told the contractor had already been selected. The contractor selected was not one of the three bidders, but was John Wilson, reported to be the brother of Ray Wilson, PDC Rehabilitation Super-

The lady was asked by her rehabilitation specialist to sign the contractor's check before the work was comhe was so loud in his insisunstairs, came down to see what was wrong.

The lady did sign the check when the work was completed, although she was dissatisfied with the work. She just wanted nothing more to do with PDC. Among her more serious complaints: The windows leak, causing the water to make streaks on the wallpaper; water runs into the basement from the front porch (neither the windows nor the porch leaked before the repairs); the new paint is pealing and falling off the house.

This homeowner, like many others, resents the attitude of the PDC staff - "It's a handout, so be satisfied with what you get!" -- and is sorry she ever became involved with the Portland Development Commission.

### Names in the News

James Griffin, former director of MEDIA, is working in Chicago as a financial advisor to Operation PUSH, founded by Reverend Jesse

Timothy Seidle is the first Black to be hired by the Oregon State Treasury Department. Seidle is a resident of Portland. State Treasurer James Reddin says Seidle is doing a good job for the Department.

Romona Welch, a member of the Chinook tribe, joined Clay Myer's staff as one of three front office secretaries. She is a graduate of James Monroe High School in Portland and has an Associate of Arts degree in Secretarial Technology from Brigham Young University.

E. Shelton Hill, Executive Director of Portland Urban League, will retire at the end of this year. Watch the Observer for other details.

Reverend Wendell Wallace, former pastor of Maranatha. is back in Oregon. He is speaking at churches in the Portland area.

Paulette Robinson was recently hired as a secretary by the Portland Council of Churches. She is a graduate of the University of Oregon with a degree in Business Administration. Her husband, Warren Robinson II, is employed at Waverly Childrens Home. He earned his Masters Degree in Education at the University of Oregon this summer.

Ed Westerdal is making an effort to get some Blacks in top positions at the Port of Portland.

Joseph Bostic is Vice President of V. Les Jackson Associates, a firm offering consulting on Public Relations. Business and Marketing. Bostic is director of the Port land offices. Additional offices are located in Detroit and New York.

### Black wins race

Mayor. Jackson has been Vice Mayor of Atlanta for four years. Jackson received 47 percent of the votes and Massell 19.7 percent, but according to the law, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a runoff between the top two finishers will decide the winner. If elected, Jackson will become Atlanta's first Black mayor.

Atlanta, Georgia Vice Jackson, 35, campaigned Mayor Maynard Jackson won on the issue of a rising crime the primary election and will rate and promised to make face incumbent Mayor Sam the city's streets safe. Jack-Massell later this month in son, an attorney, was a Ford his bid for the office of Foundation Scholar at the age of 14, and graduated from colllege at 18.

> Reverend Hosea Williams, 47, ran second to incumbent Alderman Wyche Fowler in the race for president of the city council. Williams was an aid to Martin Luther King, Jr., and is currently Executive Director of Metro Atlanta SCLC.



Wanda Wright, who started her airline career with United Air Lines ten years ago, has been appointed a sales representative at Portland, William L. Supak, manager of sales, announced.

She joined United at Chicago in March of 1963 as a reservations sales agent and later transferred to Denver re rvations. A native of Chicago, she graduated from Nathern Illinois University and holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. In addition to her territory in downtown Portland. she will cover east to The Dalles, and north to Yakima,

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