



**WE SEE THE WORLD THROUGH BLACK EYES.**



**EDITORIAL FOCUS**

**Nixon should resign**

The only way out of the nation's current lack of confidence in the credibility and veracity of the President is for Mr. Nixon to resign. Nearly every day new issues arise and new evidence reveals itself that demonstrates corruption throughout the administration.

The "law and order" administration has been unable to keep honest leaders at the helm of the highest law enforcement agencies and one after another of his appointees has had to step down because of participation in various illegal activities or obstruction of justice. Nixon's closest friends and advisors and some of his former Cabinet heads are embroiled in the Watergate affair, its coverup, and various forms of selling government favors.

The public's reaction to the disappearance of the tapes, whatever the true reason might be, demonstrates a lack of faith in the President. The suspicion of many that the Near East Crisis was either manufactured or at least overdone to help the President get off the hook at home is another example. It is unlikely that any decision in any area that the President makes now would be accepted by the American people as an honest decision made in their interest.

The President has waited too long to be honest with the American people. There are grounds for impeachment: His approval of the "Houston" plan for political surveillance on American citizens; his bombing of Cambodia while denying it to Congress and the people; his complicity in the Ellsberg break-in; the attempted bribery of the presiding judge during the Ellsberg trial; the establishment of a secret police force -- the "plumbers"; and his use or attempted use of federal agencies to his own advantage.

It would be better for the people of the United States if their President resigned immediately. If he does not, Congress is shirking its responsibility if it does not instigate impeachment proceedings. Many of our Senators and Representatives do not want to go through the political risk of an impeachment -- they would rather play it safe. Some are uncertain about the qualifications of Gerald Ford or Carl Albert to serve as President. However, if they do not meet this responsibility they are guilty of accessory after the fact.

The real push must come from the voters, for only they can mobilize Congress and only they can influence President Nixon to resign.

**Another Point of View  
A Paralyzed Nation**

From the Atlanta Inquirer, October 27, 1973

Because America has a vice president, who resigned under what amounts to an admission of guilt and because it has a president who is suspect in all waves rippling after Watergate, our's is a country that is, for all practical purposes, leaderless. These critical times are almost unprecedented in the history of this Democracy as it rapidly approaches its 200th birthday.

Government of the people, as a result of Watergate and the waves of maladministration, is paralyzed -- and there can be no government of the people unless government governs itself and applies the laws to itself that it demands be adhered to by the people.

Which way, America?

After all the twists and turns of the past year, who knows?

Most of President Nixon's chosen top lieutenants are gone. Last weekend the issue of the Watergate tapes resulted in the sackings, voluntary or not, of Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson, his number two man William D. Ruckelshaus and special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox. The developments stunned the nation and provoked screams for impeachment of the President, who then pulled another stunner Tuesday when he, obviously noting the mounting waves of calls for impeachment, decided the tapes could be released to U.S. District Judge John Sirica, who at the time was pondering alternatives on what to do with the President.

The tapes, to many Americans now, are almost a secondary thing. They could have, by this time, been expertly edited.

President Nixon is going to depend largely on the will of the electorate. One must remember President Nixon won election to a second term with the greatest voter mandate this country has ever seen. He won 49 of 50 states. Massachusetts appears now to be the wisest state in the nation.

We think it is up to those who voted Nixon into office to now decide whether or not he should retain that office. About 24 percent of the people didn't agree he should be re-elected last November.

But again we ask, as we did last year, how could so great a majority be so wrong?

With so many people suffering for a better way of life and most everyone wishing for a country that is "together", government has an albatross around its neck, a python around its waist, an elephant in its mouth, concrete slabs around its feet and fog in its head.

Its arms, however, are still free and, knowing Americans who have faced "Waterloos" before, there is still strength to yank away all the barriers to truth, honesty and integrity.

While the walls of the White House shimmer and shake, perhaps Mr. Nixon, in his hours of trials, will realize a new compassion for those whose lives he has made difficult through legislative vetoes, careless insensitivity and inaction.

Through his political career he has survived other crises. He'll probably survive this one. But what about the rest of us?



"We've taken crime off the streets."

**To Be Equal**

by Vernon E. Jordan

All the glitter and ceremony of the White House announcement of Gerald Ford's appointment to the office of Vice Presidency cannot hide the deep shame the Agnew case has brought to Washington, nor can it obscure the serious questions it raises about current political morality and the system of justice in America.

Coming on top of the Watergate scandals and the continuing battle over the secret White House tapes, the Agnew case is a terrible blow to the country's self-confidence, and to the average citizen's faith in his leaders.

Black citizens can take no satisfaction from Mr. Agnew's removal from office. Although he was clearly one of the most unpopular national leaders in the view of Black communities, there is no joy in a situation in which our national leadership, which should be strong and just, is instead shaken by corruption and greed.

From the time Mr. Agnew justified his refusals to visit and campaign in Black neighborhoods by saying "once you've seen one slum you've seen them all", and continuing through his hard law and order stance and his position as a symbol of negativism on a national scale, the former Vice President has been a thorn in the side of people who hoped for politics of reconciliation instead of further divisiveness.

Now, according to a meticulously detailed bill of particulars compiled by the Justice Department, it seems that this champion of law and order was taking bribes not as Governor of Maryland, but while occupying the second highest office in the land, one breath away from the Presidency itself. In exchange for his resignation, the government decided not to press all of these charges, allowing him to plea-bargain his way out of jail by accepting one count of tax evasion, a felony that would put lesser mortals behind bars.

I can fully understand the government's position that it is better to allow Mr. Agnew to resign in humiliation rather than put the country through the long ordeal of a trial and the resultant verdict and sentencing. But very few Black Americans can readily accept the two-tier system of criminal justice this reflects.

High officials ought to be held to higher standards of behavior than the rest of us. Those who would lead must be worthy of that leadership. Opinion generally is that a public official on the take ought to have the book thrown at him, rather than get off with a light tap on the wrists. Most people feel that when government office becomes a license to steal, then the guilty ought to suffer the full penalties of the law, especially when they've hidden their own corruption behind a screen of charges of "permissiveness" and pleas to get tough with criminals.

Why, so many people are asking today, should a high official who has been on the take get off with a lesser sentence than some poor kid who took a joyride in someone else's automobile? How many thousands upon thousands of people are locked up in prison today whose crimes

are so much less than those of the former Vice President has been charged with? How many thousands upon thousands of people are today on parole or probation and are forced to inform correction officials of their every movement while the former Vice President was released on his own recognizance? And how many petty criminals are caged up for months just waiting until their trial comes up and what is their reaction to a betrayer of the public's trust getting off without ever seeing the inside of a jailhouse?

Just as the charges against Mr. Agnew corroded faith in the government, his light sentence has corroded faith in the system of criminal justice. I myself don't feel that anything would be served by locking the man up, but then justice is rarely served by locking anyone up, except perhaps the most retrograde and violent criminals. If anything good at all is to come out of this shameful story, it is for the country to learn to extend the leniency given Mr. Agnew to the faceless thousands of accused persons whose crimes were less than his and whose fate has been far, far worse.

Published every Thursday by Exie Publishing Company, 2201 North Killingsworth, Portland, Oregon 97217. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3137, Portland, Oregon 97208. Telephone: 283-2486.

Subscriptions: \$3.25 per year in the Tri-County area, \$6.00 per year outside Portland.

Second Class Postage Paid at Portland, Oregon

The **Portland Observer's** official position is expressed only in its Publisher's Column (We See The World Through Black Eyes). Any other material throughout the paper is the opinion of the individual writer or submitter and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the **Portland Observer**.



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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Nurses give TLC**

**Thanks**

Dear Editor:  
Thanks so much to you and your staff for never ending and tiring efforts, and may you continue to do so in Portland for the State of Oregon.

Congratulations on your Award of Merit for Productivity. We also wish to thank you for giving us the opportunity to take part in a movie, "Lost in the Stars". As the result of this, a movie star has consented to come to Portland for a benefit to help us build a better community through the arts and understanding.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Clara Peoples,  
Executive Director,  
Community Care

Dear Editor:  
In a day when nursing care seems to be depersonalized and health care fragmented, the need for specialized bedside nursing is becoming increasingly important. Although there is a need for the Intensive Care Unit, it is not the whole answer to urgent care nursing. Many patients complain of the lack of privacy, noise, and the activity that are part of these units. They are much happier and relaxed, and less apprehensive, when transferred to their room with a special nurse who offers T.L.C. and reassurance, plus the technical care required.

We believe that all of the public is not aware that registered nurses are still available for all and any type of private specialized nursing care. Many people have been misinformed that this

service is unavailable, or that it is unnecessary, but this should be the patient's or the family's prerogative. We understand that frequently untrained and unlicensed personnel (sitters or practicals) are being called as special nurses for some of these cases at no small fee. The Private Duty Registered Nurses of the Oregon Nurses Association have been aware of this misrepresentation for some time, and have deeply regretted this situation. This explanation to the public is long overdue. In the years that have passed, the philosophy of nursing has undergone many changes, but our goal remains the same -- the patient is our first priority.

Elynor Mehling,  
Chairman, P.D.N.,  
Oregon Nurses Official  
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**PPS statistics**  
(Continued from pg. 1, col. 9)

**Fifth grade achievement is consistently lower than third grade achievement. Fourth graders range in achievement scores from 3.1 to 3.3. Humboldt is 88.3 percent Black.**

**Woodlawn**  
Grade 4 and 8 achievement test scores in reading and mathematics at Woodlawn are in the lower quarter of the city elementary schools. These scores are consistent with the school and the community socio-economic data which are mostly near the one-quarter level of the city elementary school. Except in math computation where scores rose for 3rd and 5th graders, there is no significant raise in achievement and lowering of achievement in most areas. Grade 4 students achieved from 3.2 to 3.6 grade level; grade 8 students achieved 5.4 to 6.9. Woodlawn students are 38.6 percent Black.

**Vernon**  
Grade 4 and grade 8 reading and mathematics achievement test scores at Vernon are in the lower quarter of the city elementary schools. This is consistent with expectation in terms of the school and the community socio-economic data for Vernon, which also fell in the lower quarter of the city schools. Past five-year student achievement test scores in grades 5 and 7 reading and mathematics indicate a decline. Grade 3 test scores have held constant. Fourth grade achievement scores range from 3.2 to 3.5; 8th grade scores from 6.0 to 6.9. The achievement standing has dropped over the past 5 years, except in 3rd grade math concepts, and math computation. The Vernon student body is 52.5 percent Black.

**Sabin**  
Grade 4 and grade 8 reading and grade 8 mathematics achievement test scores at Sabin are in the lower quarter of the city elementary schools. Grade 4 mathematics is at the 25% level. These scores are consistent with the school and the community socio-economic data, which are also in the lower quarter of the city schools. Since 1967 there has been a decline in reading achievement, in math concept, math problem solving and math computation. The only advance was in the three math areas for 3rd graders. Fourth graders achievement scores range from 3.2 to 3.9; 8th graders from 5.4 to 6.9. Sabin has 58.4 percent Black students.

**Irvington**  
Fourth grade student scores are at the upper range of the lower 25% of the district schools. The reading scores are slightly above average. "Community socio-economic data are variable with some factors in the lower quarter of the city schools and some in the middle." Achievement rating is substantially the same as in 1967-68 except math concepts for 5th grades, which has dropped. Irvington has 51.2 percent Black students.

**Eliot**  
No grade 4 current achievement scores are listed for Eliot since only grades K-3 attend. The school and the community socio-economic data for Eliot are at the low end of the lower quarter of the city elementary schools. The five-year achievement test scores in grade 3 reading and mathematics indicate a reversal to a rapidly declining trend from 1967 to 1970. The 1971-72 math scores have increased. The 1971-72 third grade class was the first class to have completed both the Headstart and Follow Through programs. Student turnover (mobility) is extremely high at Eliot. The ratio of pupils to certified teachers at Eliot is favorable. Since students in the Headstart and Follow Through programs at Eliot live within and outside of Eliot's boundaries, socio-economic data may not be representative of the entire group of students. The ethnic composition of the elementary school staffs are: Boise, 17.5% Black, compared to the student body's 90.6% Black; Humboldt, 23.3%, compared to 88.3%; Woodlawn is 9.9% compared to 38.6%; Vernon is 21.8%, compared to 52.5%; Sabin is 25.5%, compared to 58.4%; King is 30.9%, compared to 84.3%; Irvington is 41.4%, compared to 51.2%; Eliot is 14.6% compared to 59.1%.

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