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Getting Smart

BY WALTER L. SMART
Executive Director
National Federation of Settlements
and Neighborhood Centers



This time of the year should be a time of joy, worship and remembrance of good things past, and hope for a better future. But for close to one-third of the entire Black American population, it will be one of rising costs with little or no hope for more than barest survival.

In a recent report by the Department of the Census, it was revealed that Black folk remain far behind whites in most socio-economic categories.

Here are just a few facts their report revealed:

- the median income of Black families is just over half that for white families,
- one-third of the entire Black population lives under poverty conditions \$4,275 for a family of four as compared to 1/10 of the white population.
- the number of poor Black families headed by women rose to one million as compared to 700,000 in 1968.
- on the average, Black unemployment reached 10% as compared to a 5% rate for whites.
- Black teenage unemployment rose to 33.5% in 1972 from 26.3% in 1967. One-third of all Black teenagers are unemployed.
- twenty-five percent of all Black families receive some form of public assistance as compared to 5% for whites.

These are just some of the despicable details which not

Expo beckons Blacks

It was a Black man who invented blood plasma. It was a Black who invented a machine that revolutionized the shoe industry.

The Black man, in fact, has made many contributions to the culture of the United States—and he has been doing it far longer than most European immigrants to the United States.

This, essentially, is the message that Black America will try to get across to the five million people expected to visit the Expo '74 World's Fair May 4 to November 3.

The plan is to set up an Afro-American pavilion.

Frank Russell of Tacoma, Washington, is director of the program. He said the project will cost about \$500,000, and support is expected from private and government sources.

By year's end, he said, \$85,000 had been contributed to the project and State Senator George T. Fleming, (D-Seattle) had initiated a strong effort in the legislature to raise \$200,000 in State funds—a move backed by Governor Dan Evans.

The rest of the support was expected to come from private sources—largely Black foundations and enterprises.

Recycling unit opens

The Portland Recycling Team, Inc. has opened a new center at 521 N.E. Russell. The Portland Recycling Team is an environmental and educational organization with two primary concerns: conserving natural resources and energy by encouraging re-use of existing materials, and providing a partial solution to the problem of solid waste disposal.

Speakers can be provided to organizations, schools, neighborhood groups, etc. on topics including recycling, conservation, the effort of United States' consumption

on the poor of the world, and how to begin recycling in your neighborhood.

Among the items which are usable are: bundled newspapers, corrugated cardboard, scrap paper, clean and unbroken glass, clean and flattened cans, and aluminum.

Plastic is **not** recyclable. For information about other products, call the Recycling Switchboard, 229-5555. Other centers for disposal are: 1207 S.W. Montgomery; 2209 S.E. Hawthorne; Huddleston Road on the Lewis and Clark College Campus.



the good Bread

What's Happening in the School

by Gladys McCoy

The final hurdle barring the way to full development of the Coliseum Site as a school district service center appears to have been cleared.

From now on, as far as the Board of Education is concerned, it will be full speed ahead.

Plans and progress have been at slow bell since appointment of the ad hoc committee several months ago to study the situation and make recommendations for the highest and best use of the land. The committee report concludes that the "highest and best use" would be for the school district to proceed with construction of its maintenance center as planned. The report also urges that one portion of the property already acquired by the district, part of that block fronting N.E. Broadway, be returned to public use. Earlier the Board of Education voluntarily had offered to reserve that section for private development since it was not needed for full development of the ser-

vice center complex. This was not property of concern with the School District Displaced Persons Association.

Action by the ad hoc committee confirms the judgement of the Board of Education in developing the plan and undertaking to acquire the property several years ago. In acquiring the property, the district has worked to make sure that the rights of individual property owners have not been violated and that adequate compensation has been provided.

It supported and worked with the Eliot Neighborhood Association and the Portland Development Commission and others in making sure that citizens whose homes were condemned or purchased through negotiation were provided adequate funds for moving and received a fair price for their homesteads.

The Board made clear that it felt it had a moral commitment to hold onto the land it had acquired through the right of eminent domain and not return it to private development.

District planners have been working on the development of the site for school service center purposes since 1959. Both the City Planning Commission and the City Council at various times since then concurred in and encouraged the development. Matter of fact, it was the City Planning Commission itself that suggested the site as a suitable location for the school district shops.

The committee report recognizes the long history of the school district effort to acquire the property and laments that the matter was brought forward for consideration at "this late date". Superintendent of Schools Robert W. Blanchard expressed the sentiments of all members of the Board of Education when he termed the ad hoc committee support for school district use of the land north of Memorial Coliseum as "welcome news."

"Although all of the land originally included for ac-

quisition was (originally) acquired by the school district to establish a central maintenance, distribution, administrative and service center, planning of multilevel space made it possible to accommodate the various departments without utilizing any of the properties fronting N.E. Broadway," Dr. Blanchard said.

"Because of this," he continued, "the Board of Education indicated last summer that the entire facility needs of the district could be handled on three blocks." This made it possible for the Board of Education to agree to relinquish the lots fronting on Broadway for private developments, such as a convention hotel.

This apparent action in the Coliseum Site drama will result in economies in excess of one million dollars a year to the taxpayers of this school district. The facility will enhance the area in which it is located. The ad hoc committee action clears the way for what must be regarded as significant de-



Happy New Year

Crowds will cheer and bells will toll. Our good wishes will go out to all . . . along with our gratitude.

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Plan now to conserve electricity wherever you can, whenever you can.

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In fact, a high percentage of PGE customers have already joined the Watt Watching conservation campaign. And their efforts, plus a near-record rainfall, have helped ease the critical power shortage a great deal.

However, the crisis is not over. Reservoirs are still about 7 billion kilowatt hours short. This means that energy conservation must continue to be a way of life for all of us . . . until production of electric energy catches up with demand with the completion of additional power plants.

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How right we are depends a great deal on you.

Add "Be an even better Watt Watcher" to your 1974 New Year's resolution list.

Here are some sensible ideas to help you save electricity . . .

- It's quite easy to cook an entire meal in the oven at one time. Try it! And remember to completely thaw frozen meats before cooking (saves 1/3 the cooking time).
- Don't open the refrigerator and freezer doors unnecessarily.
- It's most helpful to cut down on the use of hot water. Try to use less by taking short showers. And be sure that hot water faucets are turned off tightly when not being used. That drip, drip, drip consumes a large quantity of water. Having your water heater thermostats turned down to 140° or less will also help save.
- Turn your heating system's thermostat down to a low temperature, or completely off, during the night hours. This will result in savings in heat costs.
- Be sure the insulation in your ceilings, walls and floors is adequate. Ask PGE for a free insulation brochure. Check weatherstripping around all doors and windows.
- Turn off your television when not in use.
- Always turn off lights wherever possible.
- Make sure your dishwasher is full before using it.
- Use your clothes dryer wisely. Don't overload, but fully load. Always be sure to clean the lint filter after every load. You'll be surprised how much electricity this will save. Make sure the vent stays free of lint.

For a free booklet full of Watt Watcher tips to help you conserve energy year-around, visit any PGE office or write PGE Conservation Center, 621 S.W. Alder, Portland 97205.



Portland General Electric Company