



ALFRED L. HENDERSON
Editor/Publisher



**WE SEE THE WORLD
THROUGH BLACK EYES**

EDITORIAL FOCUS

In his footsteps

The Democratic Party State Central Committee will have the task of choosing a democratic nominee for the U.S. Senate to run against Bob Packwood in November.

In this awesome task, the central committee must put aside partisan and regional differences and choose the individual who most nearly adheres to the Morse philosophy.

In selecting Wayne Morse as their candidate, the Democratic voters of Oregon endorsed his record in the United States Senate and his views on a wide range of issues. The Central Committee must follow this mandate of the people, for to appoint a successor whose views differ greatly would be an injustice to the Senator and a disservice to the people.

One of those frequently mentioned is Congresswoman Edith Green. Mrs. Green not only refused to endorse Senator Morse in his last three campaigns, but she opposed many of the programs for the poor and for minorities for which the Senator fought. Mrs. Green is not deserving of this position.

State Senator Jason Boe, who opposed Morse in the primary, is another contender. Since Morse defeated Boe by a comfortable margin, it would not seem that Boe is the choice of the people. We question Boe's recent conversion to liberalism and wonder why we didn't see him in Albina this spring.

This leaves State Senator Betty Roberts, who ran a good race for the democratic nomination for governor. Senator Roberts has a good voting record in the Oregon legislature and has demonstrated a concern about many of the social problems facing the nation. However, although Senator Roberts is one of those former Senators representing Albina, we have not noted her presence among us nor have we seen any concrete manifestations of her advocacy for us.

Our choice for the nomination is R.P. (Joe) Smith. Smith, though not as well known to the general public as the others, has often noted his deep regard for Senator Morse and his adherence to the Morse philosophy of government. He demonstrated his courage and his ability to stand on principle in his unpopular fight against the deposit of nerve gas in Umatilla while District Attorney of that county.

There will never be another Wayne Morse -- no one can fill his boots. But Joe Smith could most nearly follow in his footsteps.

A case of racism?

Much fuss has been raised over the grant received by the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee to provide emergency food and nutritional services.

Some individuals have expressed concern that they were not consulted first; others have demonstrated personal animosity toward PMSC director Cleveland Gilcrease; and still others indicated a disbelief that PMSC could handle the assignment.

We wonder how many of these individuals -- most of whom are representatives of private agencies involved in distributing food to the poor -- would object if PMSC did not have a Black director and a substantial number of Blacks on its staff. We hope it is not a revival of the Southeast vs. Albina rivalries and jealousies.

PMSC has demonstrated its ability to administer programs and its concern for the involvement of the poor and of minorities in programs designed to assist them. There is every reason to believe that PMSC can be successful in this effort -- unless a campaign is launched to sabotage the program.

Much more is at stake than the idiosyncrasies of individuals who serve neither their agencies nor the poor. The program brings the opportunity to build a state-wide organization that can serve not only as a vehicle of communication among the poor but a base for political power.

PMSC Board accepts

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 6) studying laws and guidelines and the operation of existing federal programs; and assisting the expansion of existing programs.

Gilcrease estimates that 85 to 90 percent of the \$200,000 will go for direct aid. He explained that once a distribution system is established, additional money will be available. The State of Washington received \$1.5 million, but has had a state-wide system with five distribution centers.

The announcement of the grant, which was made two weeks ago, and misinformation in one of the daily newspapers, brought concern on the part of many private agencies that a major portion of the grant would be spent for "data gathering".

PMSC Executive Director Cleveland Gilcrease, who had been out of town on agency business, met with representatives of Portland area private agencies Monday. Gilcrease assured those at the meeting that as little as possible would be spent for information gathering and for planning and asked their assistance. He explained that the program calls for a statewide distribution plan and that information is not readily available for all sections of the state. He estimated that much less than \$50,000 will be spent for this phase of the program, but reminded them that the plan submitted to OEO during this phase would determine

whether the \$200,000 grant would be forthcoming.

Replying to questions of why the agencies now involved in distribution of food to the poor were not consulted prior to the application for the grant, Gilcrease explained that he had been called to Seattle, informed that PMSC had been selected to administer the program, and was given less than 24 hours to submit a proposal and budget.

Gilcrease expressed his pleasure at the board's acceptance of the project. "Part of my job is to expand programs and go after funds and I will continue to do that as long as I am director of PMSC," he said, in response to questions as to why the community agencies were not consulted before the grant application was made. "I understand protocol and will use it when there is time, but I would have been foolish not to have gone after this grant. It was up to the board whether they would accept it."

PMSC was selected by the Regional and National Offices of the Office of Economic Opportunity to administer the grant, based on PMSC's demonstrated abilities and administrative strength. An OEO spokesman told a meeting of CAP agencies in Salem that although this is the first CAP to receive a statewide grant, the agency had no hesitation in awarding the grant.

Drug money

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 6) ceive approximately \$1.45 for each prescription filled. Any person who purchased the drugs between 1954 and 1966 is eligible for this refund. Persons who lived in Oregon during 1954 and 1966 but who do not now are also eligible.

Attorney General Johnson urged that all eligible consumers file their claims, for much more is at stake than the money.

"Indeed the remedies being faced by the court in this case are of landmark significance to the whole development of antitrust and consumer law. The success or failure of this program will in all likelihood determine the ultimate fate of large consumer class actions in America.

"Presently consumer class actions are under scrutiny in

both Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court because of the assertion by critics that it is impossible to make an equitable distribution of damages resulting from wrongdoing to a broad class of consumers. Congress and the Supreme Court are awaiting the outcome of this case to determine whether such distribution is possible.

"This is the first case in the United States in which a court has made use of broad scale direct mail and mass media to inform and encourage consumers to exercise their right to damages. In all other large consumer class action cases, the courts have either denied damages to the class, or most of the class, and thus the wrongdoer was unjustly enriched or the damages reverted to the general treasury of the state.

The Legacy of Challenge

Continued from pg. 1, col. 9)

twelve months after they become actually free, and shall be reduced to slavery...."

The Florida Constitution provided the power to pass laws excluding free people of color from immigrating or from being discharged from any vessel in the ports of Florida.

Under the Kentucky Constitution, the General Assembly was authorized to "pass laws providing that any person of color emancipated and who either refused to leave the state or who returned "shall be guilty of felony, and punished by confinement in the Penitentiary thereof."

The Indiana Constitution forbade entry and voided contracts; Missouri forbade entry or residence. Daniel Webster reports that there was constant friction with South Carolina and the North regarding free Afro-Americans who worked as stewards and cooks on Northern ships but were jailed and held when Northern ships were in South Carolina ports; such freemen left jail to accompany their respective ships at the time of ship departure. These examples indicate the impact of slavery on free people of color. During the same period, white Americans had the right to move west with the benefit of acquiring new assets and potential under the Homestead Act.

The Douglass Narrative cites the limited material conditions of slaves in which men and women on the Lloyd farm received a monthly allowance of food consisting of eight pounds of pickled pork or its equivalent in fish, one bushel of Indian meal, one pint of salt. It further states the yearly clothing allowance for adults as two shirts, one pair of trousers for summer, a woolen pair of trousers and a wool jacket for winter, one pair of stockings and one pair of shoes of coarse description, and children under ten limited to two shirts a year and nothing else. Douglass reports one blanket to men and women and none to children.

The inequities of tax structure are evident from the following:

In Virginia, Blacks twelve and over were assessed taxes equal to that assessed on land of \$300. White males twenty-one and over were assessed taxes equal to that of land of \$200. Free Blacks were excluded from the state in 1856.

In North Carolina, Blacks over the age of twelve and under the age of fifty were subject to capitation tax. White males over the age of twenty-one and under the age of forty-five were subject to capitation tax. Free Blacks were subject to capitation tax.

From the above tax inequities, it is difficult to understand how slave people retained a reported 90% of the income which they produced. Consider the responsibility for fourteen additional years of taxes regarding North Carolina and nine more for Virginia.

Douglass describes the complete confiscation of his urban earnings as a slave "hired out". This encroachment deepened his determination to be free.

In 1857, one scholar used statistical data to make a comparison between fifteen slave states and sixteen free states regarding earnings, property value, bushels per acre, exports, imports, libraries, literacy, cultural services, etc. The conclusions reached were quite different from the report of the Northwest Magazine article. It will be interesting to read the evaluations of Afro-American scholars regarding the "climetric revolution" and the validity of said approach. Is there a fallacy in attempting to approach human condition on a quantitative and/or computer basis?

It is a credit that oral tradition, significant contributions, and the spirit of survival and continuity surmounted the many hardships of slavery. (Next: Part II: A Stake in Afro-American Heritage. The Portland Observer, August 1, 1974, First North American rights only. All other rights reserved by author.)

Black legislators

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 6) the Congressional Black Caucus.

Barbara Jordan represents Houston, Texas in the House. She was born in Houston in 1936 and graduated from Phillis Wheatley High School in 1952. She earned a BA in political science and history, graduating magna cum laude from Texas Southern University in 1959.

Mrs. Jordan was admitted to the Massachusetts and Texas Bars in 1959. She became administrative assistant to the County Judge of Harris County.

She was elected to the Texas Senate in 1967 and served until 1972, when she was elected to Congress. Mrs. Jordan is a member of Good Hope Baptist Church; the American, Texas and Houston Bar Associations; Texas Trial Lawyers Association; the NAACP, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority;

the Links; and is a board member of the National Urban League.

Conyers was one of the prime motivators of an article citing the President with the secret bombing of Cambodia and denying the act to Congress and the American people. The article was defeated.

The Black members of the committee voted for the three articles of impeachment that were passed: Obstructing justice in the Watergate affair; misusing federal agents and agencies; and refusing to comply with the committee's subpoenas.

Model Cities

(Continued from pg. 1, col. 6) surate with the Civil Service classification and seniority will begin at the time of original employment with Model Cities. Model Cities employees transferring to the city will take civil service examinations and training or assistance will be provided when necessary. Employees can appeal their classifications if they are not satisfied.

The City of Portland is asked to accept a role of advocacy for the Model Cities Programs, to seek funding for those that are not absorbed by the city. City, county and state agencies have been asked to fund projects, but the city will be asked to oversee this procedure and to act in behalf of the projects.

The Citizens' Planning Board and the staff will work closely with project directors to attempt to meet special needs that arise during the transition year and to assist to meet requirements for change in the funding source and process.

The plan passed by the Citizens' Planning Board will be submitted to the City Council, and if accepted, will provide policies and procedures for the final year of operation.

... in time of need

CALDWELLS
COLONIAL
MORTUARY-CREMATORIUM

N. E. 14th at Sandy
and Burnside
232-4111

WANTED

Day Care Mothers

To provide child care in your home

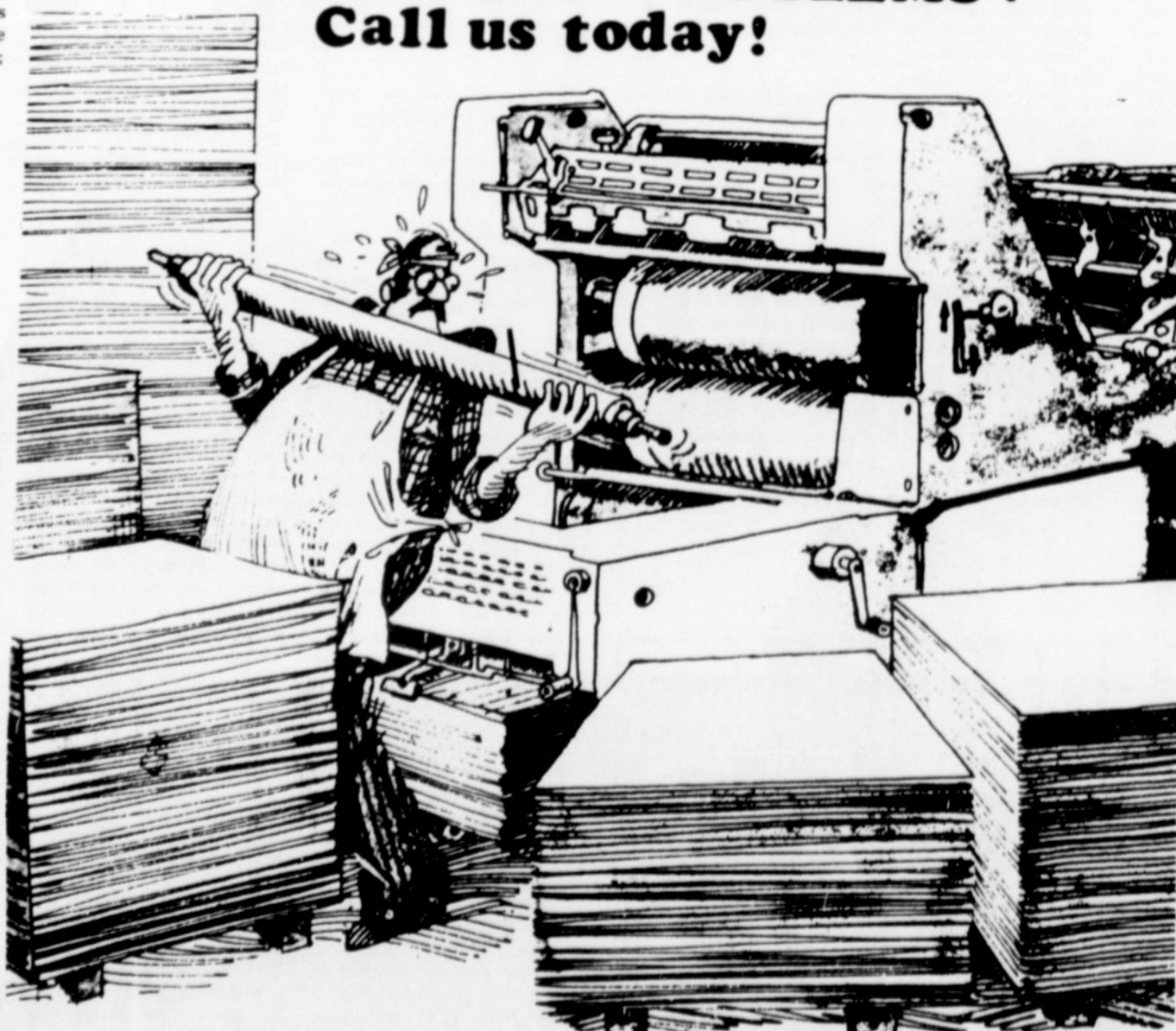
Ages Infancy thru 12 yrs.
Day - Swing - Graveyard

Contact: AMA Family Day/Night Program
1425 N.E. Dekum 289-8821

Beatrice Johnson
TRAMMELL

RAISED IN BRUNSWICK, GA., AND EDUCATED IN TURKEY -- SHE BECAME EQUALLY FAMOUS AS A PIONEER IN SOCIAL WORK, AS WELL AS IN NURSING / AS A GRADUATE FOR HER LOCAL DEPT. OF HEALTH, IN 1936, SHE HELPED DR. WINCHESTER PERFECT A CURE FOR MALARIA / MARRIED TO GUY R. TRAMMELL IN 1937, SHE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TWO NURSE-MIDWIVES TO BE TRAINED & USED UNDER THE ROSENWALD FUND /

PRINTING PROBLEMS? Call us today!



**Commercial printing - Lithography
Typesetting - Web Press**

EXIE Publishing, Inc.

283-2487

MEMBER
Oregon
Newspaper
Publishers
Association

MEMBER
**NATIONAL
NEWSPAPER**
Association - Founded 1885



Published every Thursday by Exie Publishing Company,
2241 North Killingsworth, Portland, Oregon 97217. Mailing
address: P.O. Box 3137, Portland, Oregon 97208. Telephone:
283-2486.

Subscriptions: \$5.25 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.

K SHOP
IENOW'S
FOR
BRANDS you know
VARIETIES you like
SIZES you want

The Friendliest
Stores in Town
Since 1908

MEMBER OF UNITED GROCERS