

Boycott Radio Cab Company

Black Justice Committee demands FBI investigate police killings

The Black Justice Committee has called for a Federal investigation of the police slayings of Rickie Johnson, Charles Menefee, Kenny Allen, and Joe Hopkins and for a boycott of Radio Cab Company.

Baruti Artharee explained the boycott as a response to Radio Cabs complicity in the actions that led to the shooting of Rickie Johnson by Officer Kenneth Sanford.

A Radio Cab driver was called to N. Gantenbein to deliver Chinese food, and since the same driver had been robbed by juveniles on the previous night the dispatcher called the police. Artharee explained that usual company policy would have ended the matter then, but the dispatcher asked "Do you want to set them up" and arrangements were made for the cab driver, Mr.

Zamzow, to meet with police officers near the house. Officer Sanford dressed in the cab drivers clothing and driving his cab, went to the house, entered with weapon drawn and subsequently shot Johnson in the back of the head.

Gary Allen of the Black Justice Committee reported that many complaints have been made in the past few years that Radio Cab drivers are

disrespectful to Black patrons.

Although an inquest was held by the state, and the shooting was determined to have been "justified" many questions remain unanswered. Facts in the previous three shootings have not been fully explained and contradictory information has been released by police officials.

The Black Justice Committee asked that the community join it in demanding an FBI investigation of the four shootings - all of young Black men and within a six month period.

The Black Justice Committee, along with other community organizations, has met with the Police Bureau but spokesmen do not feel that talks with the Bureau will have much effect. "Obviously the Community Relations Unit is not functioning, or Rickie would not be dead," Allen said. Baruti pointed out that the burden is always on the Black community to attempt a reconciliation. Rather than

attempt to negotiate with The Portland police, the Black Justice Committee wants an investigation by FBI officials from outside the Portland area. "We don't have complete faith in the FBI either, but we are trying to use all of our legal recourses," George Allen said.

The aim of the boycott will be to remove the presence of Radio Cab from the community and to show an economic effect. Rosemary Allen said Radio Cab Company has shown no respect for the community in the past but that an economic loss might make them reconsider their attitudes.



PORTLAND OBSERVER

Vol. 5, No. 23 Portland, Oregon Thursday, April 17, 1975 10c per copy

Dr. Unthank receives Concordia Award



Dr. DeNorval Unthank

In honor of his forty-five years of service, DeNorval Unthank, M.D., will be the recipient of Concordia College's Annual Citizenship Award. The award will be presented to Dr. Unthank at the banquet of the Lutheran Education Society on Saturday, April 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Long time friend and former executive secretary of the Urban League, E. Shelton Hill, will present the award to Dr. Unthank. Keynote speaker for the evening is former Congressman John Dellenback, recent appointee of President Ford as Director of the Peace Corps. The title of his address is "Why Outward?"

The annual Citizenship Award is given to the individual from Oregon, who in the judgement of Concordia's Board of Control has contributed substantially to the enrichment of the community.

Concordia cites Dr. Unthank for: - His forty-five years of medical service to Northwest residents, recognized by his being chosen Oregon Doctor of the Year in 1958;

- Blazing the trail of equal opportunity for all men, including the Black minorities of which he is a member;

- Serving as an inviting example in persistence and patience to those who desire emancipation from society's unjust discriminatory practices;

- Arousing church and country to their responsibilities in eliminating racial prejudice and hatred.

- His many contributions in the establishment of needed charitable agencies within the Oregon community.

The L.E.S. banquet will climax a day long series of meetings of the Advisory Council. The meeting brings to campus thirty-six representatives from the entire Northwest, who advise Concordia on improving its total educational program.

Many prominent civic leaders and guests from the business and industrial community, along with close friends of Dr. Unthank will be in attendance.

The public is invited to attend the dinner, which will be held in the Physical Education Building, 6400 N.E. 27th Avenue, Portland. Tickets may be obtained by calling Concordia College at 284-1148. Proceeds from the dinner will be used for a scholarship fund under the auspices of the Lutheran Education Society.



ROBERT W. STRAUB GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
SALEM OREGON

April 7, 1975

STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR

The Green Fingers Project is a community planned and sponsored program in the Portland area that utilizes vacant urban spaces for community gardens. The harvests are utilized by needy neighborhood families.

For seven years, the Green Fingers project has relied solely upon voluntary efforts to sustain and expand this program of involving people in community commitment.

Local merchants and organizations have generously contributed seeds, fertilizer, bedding plants, and other materials to enable the Green Fingers Project to remain a successful community project.

The Green Fingers project is an outstanding example of dedicated volunteer action and utilization of urban resources.

Therefore, as Governor of the State of Oregon, I do hereby proclaim the week of April 21 to 25, 1975, as Green Fingers Project Week, and do urge all citizens of the State to take notice of the community services that this program has provided.

Bob Straub

Bob Straub
Governor of Oregon

Week honors Green Fingers

Governor Bob Straub has proclaimed April 21st to April 25th as "Green Fingers Project Week", in honor of the North Portland garden project organized by Mrs. Vivianne Barnett.

The Green Finger Project came into being in May of 1968 following a conversation among Mrs. Barnett and some friends about the need for people to be able to grow their own gardens and provide food for themselves rather than relying on government projects.

The first years State Highway Department provided land that had been cleared for the eventual building of the Fremont Bridge ramps. The land was cleared by the Oregon National Guard and seed, fertilizer and essential equipment were provided by local companies.

Each year the land is tilled, staked out into 20'x40' plots, and potential gardeners choose their sections. Seeds that are donated by Charles H. Tilly Seed Company are sowed and distributed and the growing season begins. Tomato, cabbage and pepper plants are provided by Yamadu farms. Anyone interested is invited to participate and by the end of the season many new friendships are established.

Fruit trees remaining from the time that the area was residential provide an abundant harvest. The gardens are now located on land

provided by Emanuel Hospital.

In the fall of each year a Harvest Festival is held, with all food coming from the gardens.

The Green Finger Project has become known nationally, having been mentioned in *Reader's Digest* and other national magazines, and in the Congressional Record by Senator Wayne Morse. A highlight in 1969 was the visit of Pat Nixon and her daughter Julie to the gardens.

Mrs. Barnett and the Green Fingers Project have received a number of awards for community service including those from the Women's Council of the Portland Board of Realtors, the Business and Professional Women, Albina Lions Club and the Downtown Kiwanis.

Mrs. Barnett spends much time with the project, from planning and seeking contributions to the hard labor cleaning and removing rocks and bricks from the plots before the till arrives. She enjoys the opportunity to see members of the community, particularly the senior citizens, able to grow and harvest their own vegetables. She has seen her idea picked up and put into practice by the Joseph Lane Elementary School in Southeast Portland and Clochanra and Portland Community Colleges and become the model for the newly founded gardens of the Portland Park Bureau.



Fred Flowers, Jr. has been elected president of the board of directors of the Urban League of Portland for the 1975-1976 term. (Please turn to page 4 column 4)

THIS WEEK

From behind the wall-on life inside the Oregon State Penitentiary by inmate Charles Williams.

Clark rescinds Edgefield closure

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners Don Clark announced this week that he is rescinding his order to close Edgefield Manor and requesting financing for the coming fiscal year.

In announcing this decision Clark explained that earlier policy of the Board was that Multnomah County would end its historic practice of operating facilities, as distinct from funding programs for the provision of health care. The new policy has been frequently referred to as "Mainstream Health Care," meaning that the poor and otherwise disadvantaged would be assisted by their County government in enjoying the same level and standard of care afforded to and by the more fortunate. That new policy reflects my fundamental belief in the role of government in the health care area.

"When I became Chairman I immediately undertook to bring the policy to reality. There were two phases to my program. One was to present to the Legislature a proposal for funding a Medicaid Demonstration grant. The other was my announcement on February 3rd that, as soon as it could practicably be done, Edgefield Manor would be closed and its patients transferred to private institutions."

Clark explained that opposition to the closing of Edgefield Manor, the

county's home for the elderly, brought about negotiations to allow the home to be operated by a private nursing home operation, "Friendship Health Center." The plan called for the creation of a gerontology center. Due to tight scheduling this plan could not be implemented in time and rather than allow the confusion and uncertainty to continue to the determine of the patients, he decided to continue county operations of the home for another year.

Clark's plan to end the home brought immediate negative reaction from many persons who felt the people in the county had not been allowed to take part in the decision making.

Two of the leading critics were Senator Vern Cook and Representative Glenn Otto. They, along with other county residents, threatened a recall move against the Commissioners if democratic procedures were not followed in making the decision.

Of Clark's decision not to close Edgefield Manor, Senator Cook said, "Four good things have resulted from this confrontation. One, the people now know they have the power to bring an arbitrary and unresponsive public official to his knees and force him to turn tail and run."

"Two, attention has been focused upon the needs of the aged and disabled and movement towards a better and more progressive program

for them has begun.

"Three, the public in Multnomah county has become aware of the general mismanagement of Multnomah County's business by its elected public officials. A closer scrutiny of the 1975-76 fiscal year budget should result.

Multnomah County's government has been demonstrated. We must amend the charter to provide for a larger commission with broader representation and more responsive county commissioners. We must adopt a better method for selecting a chairman of the commission.

"Finally, I pledge that I will do everything within my power to bring about increases in welfare payments for care in Oregon's nursing homes for those patients unable to pay for that care themselves.



Andrew Groner (left) receives Post Office "Pride in Excellence" Award from Postmaster B.W. Luscher.

Groner earns "Pride in Excellence" award

Andrew Groner received the "Pride of Excellence" award for the Portland Post Office. Groner was selected from among non-supervisory personnel in the 150 post offices in the Portland metropolitan area.

The award is made each year to an employee who is exemplary in his duties, does well above average work

and is active in the community.

Groner has been employed by the Post Office since 1959. Currently he is at Federal Station. Groner has received many letters of commendation from pleased customers. Groner seldom asks for assistance on his route, which is a high volume route. He earned the Superior Perform-

mance Award in 1968 and has the Ten Year Safe Driving Award.

Groner is active in the Woodlawn P.T.A., the Parent Involvement Committee, is area captain for the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, is a deacon and sings in the gospel choir at Mt. Olive Baptist Church. He and his wife are foster parents.

Bomber "Tax swindle" protest theme

Persons who were part of the last minute rush to mail their income tax forms Tuesday might find pickets waiting for them at the Portland Post Office.

Members of the American Friends Service Committee protested the "war tax" at the post office and, earlier in the day, at the Internal Revenue Service office.

The protest was part of a nationwide "Tax Day" to protest the use of tax funds to build the controversial B-1 bomber system.

"The nation is crying to unmet human needs," said AFSC Executive Secretary Louis W. Schneider, "yet the Air Force and three of the country's largest corporations want us to spend \$50 billion of our tax money on a super swindle. The corporations are Boeing, Rockwell

International, and General Electric. The swindle is the B-1 bomber."

The B-1 is a manned nuclear bomber proposed as the replacement for the B-52. The proposed fleet of 244 B-1 bombers will cost the average wage earner \$602.41. "43 of the 50 states are spending more in taxes than they receive back in contracts and jobs. For every dollar Oregon has put into building the B-1 so far, only 12c has been returned to the state, and yet the corporations try to sell the B-1 as a boost to our economy," Elizabeth Gorman-Prunty spokesperson for the local AFSC said.

The Air Force says the B-1 cost over a 10 year period would be \$18.6 billion. But the AFSC's NARMIC (National Action Research on the Military/Industrial Complex) unit said

the cost is over \$50 billion because the Air Force figure doesn't include support systems which would be essential to maintenance and operation of the B-1.

Schneider said, "The money for one B-1, currently \$84 million, could fund 25 health centers, each treating 40,000 people annually. The United States is first in military power, but 18th in doctor-patient ratio."

While three prototypes of the controversial bomber have been built, a final decision rests with Congress next year on whether to go into full production. Several crucial, preliminary decisions will be made this year, including in the House and Senate Armed Services Committees and later in the appropriations committees of each house.