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Racial charges hit 4-C Council

Lillie Walker, Director of the Albina Ministerial Alliance Model Cities Information and Referral, charged the 4-C Child Care Program with racial discrimination before a subcommittee of the Legislative Interim Committee on Human Resources.

She explained that 4-C was established with Model Cities money, which substantially paid for the tri-county program. Approximately \$1 million in Model Cities money went to 4-C, but when the Model Cities funds ended, 4-C support for the programs was withdrawn. Money was obtained from the City of Portland to provide temporary minimal support services. Twenty-seven percent of the children served by 4-C programs in the four county area are in Model Cities programs.

Although 4-C had an accumulated fund of an estimated \$900,000, most of which was Model Cities money or federal funds resulting from matching with Model Cities money and in-kind contributions from Model Cities area schools, 4-C chose to close its office in the Model Cities area. During this period that these 4-C employees, mainly Black, were being terminated, new white employees were hired for similar positions in the downtown office.

Only three Black professionals have been hired by 4-C for its downtown office in its five year history, and two of those were transferred from the Model Cities office. Neither lasted more than six months. 4-C receives most of its funds from federal and state sources, but little attention has been paid to affirmative action requirements.

After the hearing, Steve Lowen, director of District II 4-C, said he does not do hiring and often does not even know who is being considered until after they are hired. He said selection is done by committee.

Section 2.1.2 of 4-C personnel policy says the Executive Director shall approve or authorize hiring and will issue a letter of hire to all professional personnel.

Charges have been made that in recent hiring the employees are called "contractors" to avoid proper and legal personnel hiring practices. Lowen also denies hiring these individuals. Another stipulation of the personnel policy is that the Executive Director must approve contracts or authorize hiring prior to signing of contracts and that they will be supervised by the Executive Director.

The determining factor by common law whether a person is a contractor or employee is that employees are subject to the employer's will, both in services performed and in how they will be performed. Even if the employer allows the employee considerable freedom of

movement, it is an employer-employee relationship and not a contract relationship if the employer has the right to control the method and result of the services.

One of these committee-hired individuals announced that she was taking the position and quit her job before her personnel interview. This person also allegedly wrote the job description. Lowen declined to reveal who the selection committee members were.

Mrs. Walker points out that as 4-C employees assigned to Model Cities were being laid off and others were being hired to fill similar jobs downtown, her office often did not receive notice of vacancies until after the jobs were advertised in the papers or until others were hired.

The personnel policy, also denied by Lowen, says "Announcements should be sent to the executive director as soon as possible to allow adequate time for in-house applicants who may wish to apply before the position is made available to the general public."

When Steven Lowen, the new director, took charge of the District II 4-C (Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas and Columbia Counties) in January of 1975 the relationship between 4-C and the Model Cities provider agencies has deteriorated, according to Mrs. Walker. She accused the 4-C board and staff of delegating its decision making power to other organizations - the Confederation of Provider Agencies and the Multnomah County Children's Commission. The Confederation of Provider Agencies is controlled by from twelve to fourteen of the 56 participating provider agencies. "Model Cities directors don't have time to spend the twenty or so hours a week to be decision makers in this organization."

Recently one member of the Multnomah County Children's Commission allegedly screened 200 applications for a 4-C position, and this individual was not even a member of the 4-C Board or staff.

While the three existing family day care programs, one of which is in Model Cities, are faced with closure due to lack of administrative funds, 4-C has hired two persons in the downtown office at salaries of \$900 to explore the feasibility and need of establishing additional family day care programs. Family day care is the certification of family homes to care for young children and supervision of the care. There are funds to pay the day care mothers but there are no funds to pay the administrative costs of the programs. "They hired two people to go out and set up new programs. How can they organize new systems that also will have no support funds?", Mrs. Walker asked. Title 20, Part II says "states should be required to expand services with existing contractors before developing new ones." Lowen admits that the existing family day care programs will probably have to close on June 30th due to lack of funds.

Mrs. Walker said the Model Cities programs are not getting the administrative support that they should from the 4-C district office. They receive fiscal service, a limited amount of child development services, and little else. 4-C receives funds for administrative and supportive services.

The Information and Referral system in the downtown office was beefed-up as the Model Cities Office was phased out, yet during the past year only five to ten referrals were made to Model Cities programs by the central office.

Full time County Representatives provide services for programs in Clackamas County and in Washington County, but Multnomah County has no representative because a suitable person could not be found among over 200 applicants. Was it because Model Cities had requested a part-time representative or because a highly qualified Black social worker had applied for the position?

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Huston-Tillotson Choir tours

The Huston-Tillotson College Choir will make two appearances in Portland.

Huston-Tillotson derived its name through a 1953 merger of Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College, both of which were located in Austin. Huston-Tillotson College celebrates its one hundredth anniversary during this Bicentennial year. In observance of this milestone in the history of this outstanding Black college, the Concert Choir is on a tour of the western states.

The choir will present a concert of varied types of religious music from the late Renaissance to contemporary selections, including Black spirituals and gospel selections. In commemoration of the nation's Bicentennial, the presentation will be highlighted by a rendition of "Ballad For Americans", a modern cantata based on the four hot spots in our national history: the Revolution, the growth of the nation, the Civil War and the Machine Age. The cantata is by John Latouche and Earl Robinson. Following the cantata will be the well loved "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The choir is under the direction of Cleon M. Waters, a native of Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Mr. Waters received a bachelors degree from Langston University and a Masters degree from Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma and did further studies at the University of Texas.

Huston-Tillotson College is jointly related to the United Methodist and United Church of Christ denominations. Tickets for both concerts are available from Mr. Ed Johns (282-8702) or from Reverend Edsel Goldson (288-5173 or 288-9833). Donation is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per couple. All proceeds go toward the College 1776 Campaign Fund.

The Monday, March 29th concert will be at Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver at 8:00 p.m. and the March 31st concert will be at the First Congregational Church, 1126 S.W. Park Avenue at 8:00 p.m.

Emanuel investigated

A fact finding committee has been appointed by Roger Larson, administrator of Emanuel Hospital, to investigate charges of racial discrimination made by members of the Black Workers Committee of Emanuel Hospital.

Members of the committee are: Reverend John Jackson, chairman; Reverend O. B. Williams; Ellis Casson; Dr. Walter Reynolds; Hazel G. Hays and Vern Summers.

Naomi Wrighten and Wilma Graham, who are acting as spokespersons for the Black Workers Committee, were given extended leaves of absence with pay to assist in the investigation, according to Larson. They also are barred from the hospital grounds.

The conflict came to a head when the workers called a meeting with Larson on March 1st and presented a list of eleven concerns dealing with racial discrimination in employment and in treatment of patients. They also presented five demands dealing with an investigation and establishment of guidelines.

After further meetings and expressing his opinion that the hospital's relationship with the community has improved, Larson appointed the committee to investigate the charges.

The employees have presented specific cases of discrimination and Dan McDermott of SEIU Local 49 has offered to provide supporting evidence.

Housekeeping workers have alleged that Red Top, the company that has contracted to manage the Housekeeping Department, has implemented a program to break the union and to force the workers into harder work and worse working conditions. They claim they are doing almost double the work required by Good Samaritan Hospital and the University of Oregon Medical School Hospitals. They say that not only their own health but hospital cleanliness is suffering. "On weekends we have 45 rooms, and sometimes one woman will have an entire floor to herself."

"When you are expected to do more than is physically possible in eight hours, you get discouraged and finally say, 'There's no way to do it, so why try?'" Since the allegations were made, Cleo Green, a Black woman who has been employed by Emanuel as a housekeeper for nine years, has been terminated, allegedly for not keeping her area clean. Persons who have known and worked with Mrs. Green have known her to be a (Please turn to p. 2 col. 6)



The above "White only" sign in downtown Portland was discovered by Congressman Bob Duncan, who notified the Mayor's office. The Mayor's office referred the matter to the Metropolitan Human Resource Commission.

Later in the day a call was received by Commissioner Charles Jordan, who went to the scene and saw that the sign was posted on a porno bookstore.

The Commissioner found the sign "more repulsive than shocking. The hate letters and phone calls I receive constantly remind me that there are sick people out there."

The business license for the pornographic bookstore, "Book A Rama" is issued to Davis Martinez. The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission is investigating the matter.



ROBERT GETCHELL

Robert Getchell heads YMCA

Ronald K. Getchell, Manager of the 67th and Gilsan Branch of the U.S. Bank, was elected President of the YMCA Board of Directors at the organization's 108th Annual Meeting at the Benson Hotel, according to William D. Stuber, Executive Director.

Getchell also serves on the Board of the International Consumer Credit Association, Tenth District, and maintains membership in the Hollywood Kiwanis, Mt. Hood Ski Patrol and Mountain Rescue and Safety Council of Oregon and the American Institute of Banking. He replaces C.H. Shattuck, Jr. as President of the YMCA Board. Shattuck was honored at the dinner.

Other new Board officers include John Russell, Vice President for the Health Education and Fitness Division; H.S.

(Ace) Harmer, Vice President for the Youth, Family and Camping Division; William Findlay, Vice President for Urban Services Division; Charles Kampmann, Vice President for Finance and Property; Howard Somers, Vice President for Development and Planning; and Thomas Tongue, Corporate Secretary.

Also elected to the Board of Directors were William Greahy, Joel McNulty, Dr. Clarence Carkner, Marlene Bayless, John Bryson, Paul Dixon, Alice Ann Morden, and Lisa Morrison.

In other business, the membership voted to change the legal title of the corporation to "The Young Men's Christian Association of Columbia - Willamette" and to grant a vote to all members sixteen years of age and older.

Flu epidemic called unavoidable

Public health officials in the United States have concluded that some sort of influenza pandemic is unavoidable by the fall of this year based on their studies of the swine flu variety that killed a soldier at Fort Dix, New Jersey, three weeks ago. These officials have confirmed that the new strain is so dissimilar to existing viruses that practically no one is immune or resistant to it. Although it has been determined that the Fort Dix strain is at least as contagious as most other flu varieties, it has not yet been confirmed if the new virus possesses the killer virulence of the 1918 strain which it closely resembles.

That strain caused a pandemic which left twenty million dead in 1918-1919.

The recent sharp rise in death rates from the Victoria flu pandemic in New York and Baction is a first approximation of the effects of accumulated deterioration of living standards in the form of cuts in municipal services, nursing home care, decrease in the value of social security payments, frozen wages, etc. In the past year, cuts in New York City's municipal

services came to \$600 million. As the result of this winters Victoria flu, the city's death rate has increased by twenty percent, with most of the flu and flu related deaths among the elderly.

An epidemiologist from the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, who has been monitoring the new flu strain has confirmed the need for government investment in purchase of vaccine for free distribution as an immediate priority. "The data we have now strongly indicates that the swine flu will be next year's pandemic. Very likely, we won't get any more information on its virulence until it breaks out widely in September or October, and by then it will be too late to begin large-scale vaccine production. That has to begin now," he concluded, "and the pharmaceutical companies will only do it if they have government guarantees of purchase."

Since it was first discovered a month ago at Fort Dix, evidence of the swine flu has now been found in over 250 men in the camps, with a thirty percent infectivity rate in the platoons of the four

original cases.

Epidemiologists investigating the Fort Dix outbreak insist that the disease must have originated outside Fort Dix and was discovered there only because of U.S. Army testing. According to a spokesman for Walter Reed Hospital, now investigating the cases at Fort Dix, "There's no question that the new swine flu is transmissible from human to human. As for whether it exists outside Fort Dix, you bet it does. By now it must be seeded to dozens of other bases, to say nothing of the population at large. The only reason it was picked up first by the military was because we test more frequently for it."

A worried epidemiologist at the U.S. Public Health Service explained that a sample testing of the population should be done to get an accurate reading of the present outbreak of flu, "but our federal funding is limited and shrinking, so all we can do is wait for samples to be sent to us from doctors. As you would expect from such a system, we end up with a spotty and inaccurate picture. It's the same with plague, encephalites, and many

other diseases."

The Advisory Committee on Vaccinations for the U.S. Public Health Service met on March 10th to review the latest data concerning the swine flu and to make a recommendation on vaccine production. After hearing the evidence, the committee decided to adjourn without making a recommendation and to reconvene in a few weeks. A leading spokesman for the Public Health Service confided after the meeting that the general opinion was that the vaccine will be recommended. "There's no way we can take a chance on this one. The evidence we have in no way eliminates the possibility that we are dealing with a 1918 type organism."

The effects of the current "Victoria flu" epidemic confirm that the world-wide depression has taken its toll. As the working population is starved and overworked, resistance to disease drops. Deaths from Victoria flu have risen nearly seventy percent in the United States and Great Britain in the past week. In Britain, 1,300 dead in seven

Schools honor Bicentennial

The Portland Public Schools will present a "Bicentennial Bash" on April 2nd at the Memorial Coliseum. Nearly 3,600 elementary and high school students will participate in music, dancing, drills and drama.

"In This Our Land: Portland School's Gift to the City" is the theme for the program, which is under the direction of the school district Bicentennial Commission. A. Verne Wilson, longtime music supervisor and Evaluation's Specialist, heads the production.

Featured on the program will be a

2,200 voice elementary school chorus and a 700 student high school chorus. There will also be 80 in the All-City Alumni Orchestra, 510 in drama, dance and drill groups, 56 in color guard groups, 60 in rhythm band, 46 in bell-ringing groups.

Each school will have its own booth in the Exhibit Hall, each with its own Bicentennial theme.

Only 7,000 seats will be available for the show, with tickets available through the schools at a cost of \$1. An unlimited number of citizens can view the booths and displays in the Exhibit Hall at no cost.

December there were twenty million dead world-wide; one half million in the United States.

Only an immediate move to the production of vaccine and an improvement in the standard of living will stop another epidemic of like proportions.

Note

Having found the City of Portland out of compliance in a recent Equal Opportunity review, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will hold a meeting with city and state officials, the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, and selected members of the Black community.

The group will review the city's 1975-1976 HUD application, see what the city did with the funds, and question adherence to the laws and HUD regulations.