



*We see the world
through Black eyes*

Albina best site for VA hospital

During the past ten years the federal government has made possible the acquisition of much of lower Albina for hospital use. Now the expansion plans of Emanuel Hospital have been halted due to a loss of anticipated funds and the land lies empty.

Many families were forced off their land and out of their homes, bringing them financial burden and insecurity. Some were glad to go, but others fought with every legal means available to them.

All was done in the name of health care.

Now the federal government is looking for a site for its new Veterans Hospital. Why not use the land wrenched away from the Black community for hospital use? Too often we have seen property taken from the poor and then turned into profit-making for others.

The government can keep faith with its commitment by locating its VA Hospital on the Emanuel site.

This is the logical site when access is considered. It is certainly much more convenient to nearly everyone than the medical school property, with freeway

access from all four directions.

The most frequently mentioned reason for favoring the Markham Hill site is the adjacent University of Oregon Medical School. The proximity would allow cooperation between the two facilities.

A few years ago, one of the most exciting proposals to come out of the Medical School was that of creating Medical School Clinics throughout the city so the students would have the opportunity to work in the community. This would have given students the chance to get out of the school setting and into the neighborhoods. This plan never came to fruition because funds were not available.

What better way to let the students come across town and meet the people than letting them practice at the newly built VA Hospital and at the Emanuel complex? The long-term patients might also benefit from getting out of the isolation on "the hill".

Freeway access, availability of mass transportation, easy access from Vancouver, parking availability -- all point to the Emanuel site.

And where will the uncommitted vote go?

Now that we have the results of the early primaries it is fitting to analyze the "uncommitted voter". The uncommitted voter is of importance both in the effect of the candidate selection process and as an indication of the mood of the voters.

The indecisiveness of the early exercise indicates that the primary election, grueling and costly for the serious candidates, does not count the uncommitted voters. Since some candidates do not run in every primary, the uncommitted could favor them or non-candidates. Or is the uncommitted voter dissatisfied with the party in the system?

Former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter emerges as the favorite in five of the six primaries. In the Iowa caucus he ran second to "uncommitted". In Mississippi he ran second to George Wallace, a candidate with no serious possibility of achieving the nomination. "Uncommitted" is still running last in total convention delegate votes, but is close behind Morris Udall.

Carter is still an unknown factor. His candidacy is unusual in that he consistently gets a high percentage of Black votes (ninety percent in North Carolina) but also gets a high percentage of the anti-Black vote. In North Carolina he polled 64 percent of the liberal and 51 percent of the conservative voters, and a high percentage of both urban and rural voters.

Our prediction of the eventual winner of the nomination is a man whose non-candidacy explains some of the uncommitted vote. Hubert Humphrey still claims he is not a candidate and will not risk defeat in the primaries. Humphrey hopes for a deadlock that will allow the party regulars to seek

him as their candidate.

In spite of his early wins, it is highly possible that Carter will not have the delegates necessary to clinch the nomination. Should Humphrey move in and take the victory, the major thrust will be to choose a vice president. True to tradition, Carter has stated he is not interested in the second spot. Carter called Humphrey a "looser" with whom he would not want to affiliate.

With the Republicans talking about a possible Black vice presidential candidate on their side, the question will come up in the Democrat's convention -- with Barbara Jordan and Tom Bradley likely choices. Humphrey or Carter should look to the west for a running mate.

President Ford is in trouble, having the distinction of being the first incumbent president to lose in his own party's primary. His earlier victories were weak. Reagan is stepping up his campaign but the next move is Rockefeller's. Should Ford continue to falter, Rockefeller will be the answer to those who believe Reagan to be too conservative. It would be interesting to see what the anti-Kissinger vote, which is hurting Ford, would do to a Rockefeller campaign.

Among the assets of the Democratic Party, as contrasted with the Republican, is a wealth of material -- people who by inclination, conviction and experience have built records of public service. Among these are several Blacks who have proved their worth.

A southerner for President? A Black vice president? A female vice president? What more could the slate-makers ask for?



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4-C Council

(Continued from page 1 col. 6)

Kay Sohl is 4-C's liaison with the provider agencies. "She has never contacted the Model Cities programs to set a meeting to discuss our problems", Mrs. Walker told the Observer. A staff person from the St. Vincent de Paul Child Development Center, located in the Model Cities area, indicated that 4-C had not offered supportive services. "Our relationship with 4-C has not been very good."

Mrs. Walker also questioned the make-up of the 4-C Board of Directors. "I question how many of the five parents are really parents with children in 4-C

centers." Recently the board appointed a Children's Services Division counselor, who was not a resident of Model Cities, to represent Model Cities parents. Mrs. Walker charged some board committees have more members of the Confederation of Provider Agencies than of the Board.

Allegations have been made that 4-C is using the old "divide and conquer" method by dealing directly with one program sponsor, bypassing the program's board and the other programs. "They are asking one organization to make decisions for the entire area and a number of different programs and sponsors", a source close to the 4-C staff alleged. "And this organization does not know what has gone on before, or that it is just being used."

Federal and state agencies will begin an investigation of 4-C's alleged discriminatory practices on approximately April 1st.

Emanuel

(Continued from p. 1 col. 4)

competent and conscientious worker. Charges of discrimination have been made against Emanuel Hospital for many years. The hospital has been a potent force in the community, drastically changing the neighborhood, Elliot and Boise schools, traffic patterns and the general atmosphere of the community. The development of Emanuel Hospital has brought mixed reactions in the community, and many residents are expressing hope that the current investigation will find some answers.



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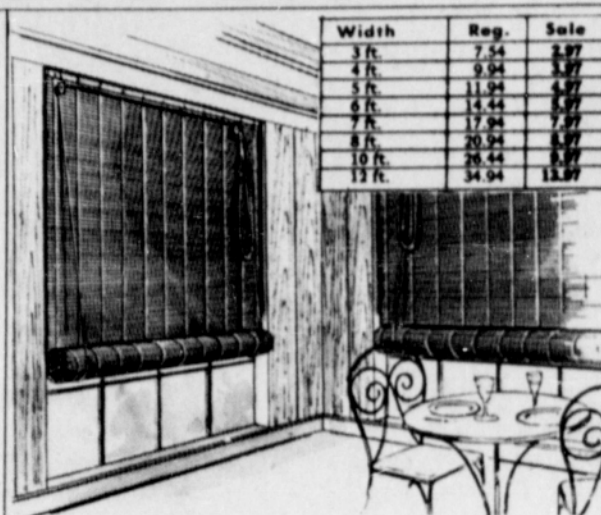
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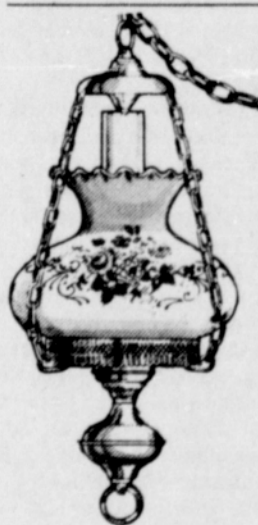


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