



We see the world
through Black eyes

DA gets caught

Here's our hard-hitting District Attorney convicted of drunken driving. You have to fill a little sorry for the man who gets caught doing what so many others do. But for good luck or the grace of God go many of our most outstanding citizens. A little nip, or one too many, then hit the road for home.

But before you feel too sorry for Haas, remember his hard words about others -- his crusade for bigger and better prisons, his campaign against community corrections, his pride in the number of ex-cons he has returned to jail. No compassion there. No, the DA has spear-headed his political career with talk of law and order and tough and sure punishment.

Even more surprising is the DA's attitude toward the police. He refused to take tests to determine his alcoholic content, telling the court that he was afraid the police "would falsify the results of the tests in order to justify the arrest." Does he know something we don't know?

Haas said he has learned a lesson through this experience. We hope this lesson includes a little more understanding for those who are on the other side of the law.

Discrimination?

Oregon's college presidents are getting on the bandwagon, fussing about their mandate to enforce affirmative action. This time it is a protest of all the federal red tape it takes to make them do the job.

According to Dr. MacVicar, President of OSU, "In an effort to establish some balance and integrity, we are now discriminating against men." Is it reasonable to assume that if the men had all the coaches and one is taken away and given to the women, this is discrimination against men?

President Amo DeBernardis of PCC goes a step further, "It's reverse discrimination, some of it. It's crazy."

The sad thing is that if these college presidents and

others had been fair in their treatment of minorities and women, they wouldn't have to worry about red tape or "reverse discrimination"

Why not put the blame where it really lies?

Jail reform needed

The Multnomah Bar Association will conduct a study project aimed at finding better ways to handle convicted prisoners in Multnomah County. Calling the present system "wasteful, both in terms of money and human lives," the project director said, "It fails either to reduce crime or to protect society. We know that more effective ways exist to handle prisoners..."

In 1975 a report issued by the Bar called living conditions at Rocky Butte jail "intolerable" and urged that the jail be replaced with a facility that would make it possible to more than warehouse prisoners.

A new jail will be built by 1981 to replace the present facility, which is in the path of a freeway. This will aid the overcrowding and some other problems but will not necessarily change the attitudes of the guards or the treatment of the men who are incarcerated.

Locking men up, degrading them and providing no type of counseling, rehabilitation or vocational programs cannot be the answer to removing them from the cycle of crime.

The new jail facility, as well as the new community corrections legislation, could provide an opportunity for more enlightened programs -- but will it?

This is what the Bar Association intends to look into. The legal profession is a good place to begin -- since attorneys know the prisoners and see how they fare in the criminal justice system. It will be interesting to see what happens to this project -- which talks about establishing a "model system" -- meets up with our District Attorney, who is dedicated to more and better jails.

Blacks deserve better leadership

by Herb L. Cawthorne

It will become increasingly difficult to ignore the Black community. As the Coalition for Positive Integration proceeds toward its objectives to study and recommend activities for desegregation, the fact that there are more individuals who can spread the word in diverse ways will help to insure that we are heard. In the past, by and large, we have not been heard by the Board of Education.

The adage says people get the leadership they deserve. Perhaps as we attempt to make the Board of Education and its administration more concerned about sentiments in the Black community, our political stock will go up and leaders will come forward who are worthy of the price Black people have had to pay to stride toward freedom in America. The leadership we deserve will not be the leadership we have now.

Excluding Wally Priestley, whose regular interruptions are usually on behalf of the ones whose voices are unheard by the Board, we have in Portland a Board of Education which for thirteen years has restructured, reasoned, and reclassified the schools in the Black community. They have done so with very little public discussion, as evidenced by the fact that until last summer's controversy very few

people were aware of the process which has been used to desegregate local schools. When the Coalition to study desegregation came about, only Mr. Priestley participated. Others have remained silent, privately wishing the Coalition well. But there have been others who have made efforts to slow down the progress of the community based Coalition.

After thirteen years of cooperative partnership in desegregation, the Black community has become more resistant, thinking that the process ought to be reviewed before more changes are made. We did not protest in the streets. We called no names. We labored to complete position papers. We moved throughout the community for support. We asked, almost in unison, that desegregation be studied once again by the entire Portland community. The Board acts in ways which seem to belie their appreciation for the way in which the Black community has in the past demonstrated its support of public education.

Instead of enthusiastic support, we have found less than a cooperative attitude. Instead of the kind of backing that would assist the Coalition in moving to the meat of its work as fast as possible,

we have run into a duel policy.

If the Coalition accepts any funding from the Board of Education, which has already offered \$12,000 in space and supplies, there is a need to understand the Board's conditions. The assistance has not yet been accepted because the Board and its administration is responding to our inquiries so slowly. The process of research is made more difficult when the immediate support of the Board is not to be felt. Otherwise, responses on critical questions would be given immediately, and the channels for communication would always be open.

The Black community deserves better leadership from the Board of Education. We have carried the greatest burdens in nearly every aspect. We have carried it largely without complaint. Now that the Black community has decided it's time to take another look, it would seem that the Board of Education would be willing to participate with us as we did with them. The realization that so far this is exactly what has not happened is clear enough proof that we deserve better leadership among those whose decisions effect the prospects of a good Black future in America.

Text books called racist, sexist

Despite book publisher promises of change in recent years, elementary and secondary school texts are as biased against females and minorities as they were 10-20 years ago, two Oregon State University education professors have found.

Reporting their research in the October issue of "The Reading Teacher," Gwyneth E. Britton and Margaret C. Lumpkin say overall improvements are only in the one percent range.

White males continue to be the leading characters in the new reading, literature and social studies texts used throughout the nation, the study showed.

Females and minorities are assigned minor and restricted career roles in enough cases to justify continuation of charges that "our textbooks are sexist and racist and may be hazardous to our future," the two insist.

A study of 3,256 stories-chapters from books published from 1974 to 1976 showed that females were in major roles sixteen percent of the time. This is only two percent more than the books of a decade ago before publishers started

issuing guidelines designed to assure equality, it was noted.

Males were major characters in 61 percent of the stories, a one percent increase from studies of texts published between 1953 and 1970. Twenty three percent of the major character roles fell in an "other" category -- instances which showed boys-girls equally as major characters, neuter animals, entire races or inanimate objects.

Ethnic minority males were given major character roles twelve percent of the time (an increase of three percent). Minority females were shown as major characters four percent of the time, a two percent increase.

"The imbalance in career role assignments continues," Britton and Lumpkin say. "For example, the 1976 edition of one reading series, grades 1-6, shows 298 different character roles assigned to adults in the illustration or the text. Males of all races were shown in 249 different career roles or 84 percent, and females were depicted in 49 different career roles or 16 percent. Ethnic minority males were assigned to only 34

different career roles and females to 14."

Changes in the textbooks have been minimal, Britton and Lumpkin point out. "The new product appears to be teaching the same 'hidden curriculum' as preceding series."

School book sales in 1975 totaled almost two billion dollars, the two observed. "It appears as if resistance to change has been quite profitable from a financial point of view."

"What about the humanistic point of view?"

Parent and educator concern should be aroused, the two suggest, "by the realization that attitudes, values, images of people in our society are conveyed to our youngest citizenry via educational media which they are legally bound to read year after year."

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of press and speech to textbook publishers, Britton and Lumpkin note in their concluding paragraph. "Which amendment guarantees all of our children the freedom to read about themselves as equally worthy humans?"



Civil Rights Bureau

(Continued from page 1 column 6)

that officers can explain the procedures accurately to any citizen. This is to insure that citizen expectation, and actual complaint handling, coincide.

3. An internal code of investigative conduct should be devised. This is necessary to avoid procedural surprise. Such a code will also underline the serious professional responsibility which arises when allegations of police professional misconduct are made.

4. Discipline policy should be as definite as possible so that officers can be assured that any discipline taken against them is consistent for that kind of misconduct, and is not a result of a personality conflict or political pressure.

When a decision is reached, the complainant is informed of that decision in

writing. Jordan has met with complainants who contacted him directly, and has attempted to explain the procedures and the reason for the findings. "A person who believes he has witnessed police misconduct will not be satisfied if the investigation does not support his complaint, but we hope to be able to explain our actions and the reasons for our decision. The real facts may be quite different than what the person thinks he witnessed."

Police officers, also, have been apprehensive about charges in the Internal Affairs Division. "I have let them know that unnecessary roughness is one thing I will not tolerate." Jordan has met with officers of all levels in his "crash course" in the Bureau's activities and has at-

tempted to bring them into his planning.

The Commissioner believes that one of the major problems the Bureau faces is communication with the public. His answer to this is more public involvement in the police force.

"The Police Bureau is one of many agencies established to provide basic services and should not be regarded by either the police in the community as a uniquely privileged, special or separate agency." Jordan plans to increase the role of citizens in helping develop crime prevention programs and influencing police policy through precinct councils and budget advisory committees. Police personnel -- clerks, officers and other employees -- also will have a role in helping formulate new programs.

Letters to the Editor

New names for old ways

To the Editor:

One of the biggest changes in Oregon's Corrections Division in the last several years have been the substitution of new names for old names. The Warden has become the Superintendent, guards have become correctional officers, the solitary confinement cells have become the quiet cells.

The quiet cells, located in the Segregation and Isolation building, are the least quiet of any cells in the institution. There are six of them, from 110 to 115, and these six cells are in a separate cubicle on the first floor. The entire compartment is similar to an echo chamber. Scientific instruments placed in one cell could not only pick up the noise level of a man screaming in the next cell, but also could measure the concussion effects as the sound carries from wall to wall and cell to cell. The noise is amplified so much that even with all the doors to the chamber closed, a man screaming in one of those cells can be heard on the floor above -- at the opposite end of the building.

For centuries men have known that solitary confinement can drive a man insane. Men are still driven insane -- even if temporarily -- but they are no longer driven insane in solitary confinement; they are driven insane in the quiet cells.

In the name of security men are buried in the quiet cells for a week, two weeks, or longer, depending on the whims of the staff. It is done to further the "correctional goals" of the institution. (Such as the you-can-have-witnesses, you-cannot-have-witnesses correctional goals.) Correctional goals are painted to the public by the prison as rehabilitation. In reality, in the name of correctional goals, suppressive and dehumanizing methods of control are forced upon prisoners. The theory in practice is that since the criminal has committed a crime, any crime can be committed against him. But this is in practice only. In public relations announcements, what is happening behind these walls is rehabilitation.

Some men have been rehabilitated for decades. They were arrested, rehabilitated by teams of experts and returned to society in their rehabilitated (former condition) state. The pathetic fact -- the reality society will face someday -- is that most of them were returned to society in a much worse state than they left. Despite the manipulations of the statistics by the public relations of prisons, the majority of the people sent to prisons are repeaters. Some were mired in Oregon's "Corrections" as teenagers, some did a

few brief stops at city and county jails before being imprisoned, some came from other states and are "first-timers" in Oregon. Someone once said that only a third of released prisoners come back to O.S.P. That's probably correct. A lot of them go elsewhere. Gary Gilmore didn't come back.

Imprisonment has not worked throughout history according to some knowledgeable people. The "Corrections" division doesn't imprison, it corrects. And rehabilitates with "correctional" officers and so many hundreds of assorted supportive personnel.

One night hundreds of guards went to bed and awoke the next morning as "Correctional Officers." "There's a man in O.S.P. with a unique psychohistory: he lived in a fantasy world; one morning he awoke as a German General, another morning he awoke as a pirate; another morning he awoke as a French cavalier. Then one day he stepped off into reality. There's a difference between him and the 'corrections' division of Oregon -- he moved into reality, the corrections division is still locked in their fantasy world of "rehabilitation."

Sincerely,
Donald Danford

"A fine genius, in his own country, is like gold in the mine." Benjamin Franklin

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