



Larry Baker #35021,
O.S.P. Correspondent

Behind the wall

Julius D. Snowden #38013,
Poetry Editor

Each Tuesday morning a Black woman sits in a room surrounded by 22 Black men and three white men, discussing how drugs played a large part in their incarceration inside the walls.

Rosalie Boothe has fought hard over the past couple of years to establish a drug class like this, not only for men in prisons and of her race, but for others who wish to participate.

Mrs. Boothe is the founder and director of the "House of Exodus", located at 1518 N.E. Killingsworth in Portland, a program that mainly deals with alcoholics and offers such services as "one to one counseling", anti-abuse monitoring, and referral. Mrs. Boothe quickly realized that drugs play a large part in the Black community, so she offers her services to a small group of Black men who will return to the community someday. The following articles are prisoners' feelings on what Mrs. Boothe has brought to them since the drug class started this year.

by Stephen Kennedy #38359

Coming into O.S.P. in March of '76, with a seven year sentence at O.S.P. I immediately started participating in their drug therapy classes on Tuesday, in which I am the longest attending member.

The majority of the people in the class are Black Brothers whose crimes are related to drugs and who have been comforted with drugs all their lives because of the kind of environment they grew up in, like myself. Now we are typically victims of this deadly drug that is called H, that had us unaware of ourselves, unresponsive to the world around us evoking memories of the past, anticipating the future, dwelling on what has gone before, and worrying about what is yet to come, and to completely block out our present situation. In coming in contact with this deadly drug it prevented us from responding spontaneously, to be able to acquire and hold a responsible job, to present ourselves as a responsible individual, and to be accepted as working, law abiding citizens. We fit life into some predetermined framework provided by our own.

My Black Brothers and I, in this drug therapy class, inside O.S.P., have mistrusted whatever natural responses to life we might once have had. Looking at this problem quite seriously, my Brothers and I and Rose Boothe, who works for the Mental Health Division, have devoted a lot of time in coming to O.S.P. and working with the Brothers and myself within the class, which is helping us considerably towards being an asset to our community, family, and society.

This is being written for the purpose of allowing interested parties of the Black community an intimate glimpse at the problem these Brothers and myself were experiencing as social beings in our Black community. However, we, as drug users, are now aware that only within our Black community we can fulfill our principles. All our qualities are then conceived as expressions of social interaction; and will indicate movement towards a high priority in society and will restrict the feelings of inferiority or inadequacies.

We drug users are striving to involve our members in the therapy class with activity in community services and other functions which will better prepare us to serve the Black communities from which we came in a positive and progressive fashion. In doing this, we also hope to show the public that with their help and support we can be productive individuals.

The mere fact that we are inmates here in O.S.P. puts us at an even greater disadvantage - because we are so often neglected, outcast, thought of as individuals capable of nothing more than committing crimes - men with little or



Inmates discuss drug problems with counselor, Rosalie Boothe.

no compassion for someone else, therefore we are seeking the Black community's support with the hope of eliminating such misconceptions. With your help, we are certain we can overcome many of the obstacles which now confront us, because men in this theoretic framework are perceived as indivisible social beings whose every action has a purpose.

We would like to say this to our Black Brothers and Sisters out in the world today, our Black skin is an undeniable bond, yet we seek to take that bond a little higher to unite the minds and hearts of our people.



by Thomas P. Anderson #38596

I started using drugs when I was thirteen and continued up to the present time. I was expelled from high school, so I went into the Army and was undesirably discharged a year later. I've had numerous jobs, but I was never able to hold one down for more than three or four months, so I stole to keep myself going. In the course of one of these robberies my partner and I killed a man and now I'm doing a life sentence for it.

I haven't been in this drug program too long, but I like what I see and hear, and it has helped me to understand people somewhat. I was never very friendly with people and I believe that this is changing. As myself and one other person are the only whites in my class it has been very interesting - all of a sudden I am a minority it's helped me to better understand Black people and their problems.

I think it is an excellent program and deserves the respect and support of everyone who cares about their fellow man.

by Edmond LaRoy Evans #37380

The participants in the drug program feel secure in their confidentiality and are therefore more self-assured and creative (there was perpetual apprehension of

intrusions from prison functionaries, which were alleviated the first day). The areas which we explored in our class were immensely vast because the guidelines and principles were founded on everyone's honesty and openness.

The attendance in our class is excellent due to the fact that the guys know they have a place where they can express whatever they like, in a style that is most comfortable for them. Also I contribute part of the attendance to the fact that we have a beautiful, intelligent, and very versatile teacher (I use the word teacher simply because I cannot find a more descriptive word at present) who is seen and respected as an equal because of her great self-confidence and the impressive style in which she uses in approaching the group and individuals. The class is productive in helping us overcome disabilities. Such as speaking blocks, shyness and things of this nature, it helps us to fortify confidence, disregard facades, and

to widen perspectives, all of which strengthen and mature each individual character. The members of our class are bringing in others, who like themselves, are looking for something real - something tangible - and who want to express some of the things which they have for so long kept locked away.

I will shed some light on the diverse topics of the class (these are just a few): politics, criminal procedures, white and blue collar crimes, prison structure, administration and exploitation, rehabilitation and its meanings, theatrics (historics and pantomime), individuality and its traits, and re-entry into society.

The class is comfortable and open, it is something that I (and the rest of the class I'm sure) truly look forward to!



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Legal Notice

Notice of Pendency of Litigation and Proposed Settlement and Dismissal of Class Allegations of Employment Discrimination on the Basis of Race and National Origin in Violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Against INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL 701.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

UNITED MINORITY WORKERS, et al.,
Plaintiffs,

CIVIL NO. 74-395

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL
701,
Defendant.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTU-
NITY COMMISSION,
Plaintiffs

CIVIL NO. 76-577

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL
701; OREGON COLUMBIA CHAPTER,
ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRAC-
TORS OF AMERICA,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

If you are a member of a racial or ethnic minority, (a Black person or Spanish surnamed American) and tried to obtain employment in the operating engineers trade, your rights may be affected by this lawsuit and its proposed settlement, and you should read this notice carefully.

On May 12, 1974 a lawsuit alleging racial discrimination in union membership, training and work referral practices was filed by the United Minority Workers and certain named individuals (hereafter UMW) against the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 701 (hereafter Local 701) in the Federal Court in Portland, Oregon under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. On June 24, 1976 the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (hereafter EEOC) filed a similar lawsuit against Local 701 under Title VII and joined as an interested party the Oregon Columbia Chapter, Associated General Contractors of America (hereafter AGC). These two lawsuits were consolidated on April 4, 1977. The Defendants have denied the allegations of unlawful discrimination. The cases have not come to trial and the Court has made no findings or determinations which substantiate or refute any of the claims. The respective parties, with the assistance of the Court, in these cases have engaged in negotiations for the purposes of a settlement. The terms of a proposed consent decree have been agreed to by the EEOC, UMW, Local 701, AGC and provisionally by the Court.

The proposed consent decree provides certain benefits to a defined group of minority persons. These benefits are described below in the summary of the consent decree. If you wish to obtain the benefits, you must complete a claim form not later than June 1, 1978.

A summary of the terms of the proposed consent decree is set forth below. A copy of the complete proposed consent decree is available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the U.S. District Court, Room 604, Federal Courthouse, 620 S.W. Main Street, Portland, Oregon 97205, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

1.1 Dismissal of class action allegations. Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, the class action allegations of the UMW lawsuit will be dismissed and no class of persons will be certified.

1.2 Discrimination defined. The proposed consent decree defines as a minority group discriminatee an individual who:

a. is Black or a Spanish surnamed American.
b. is now or at one time was a bona fide resident within the geographical jurisdiction of Local 701 (Oregon and parts of Washington); and
c. registered for work referral at Local 701 or applied for operating engineers' work with a contractor within the geographical jurisdiction of Local 701 at a time between 4/29/70 and 1/1/77. Three types of benefits to a minority group discriminatee are contained in the proposed consent decree: priority referral status, training or back pay.

1.3 Priority referral status. A minority group discriminatee who applies shall be accorded referral status in Group I if he has 2,000 hours of work or training in recent

years in the operating engineers' trade. Group II referral status will be accorded other minority group discriminatees who have some of those hours, until they get 2,000 hours of work experience and training, at which time Group I status will be attained.

1.4 Training. Each minority group discriminatee may choose to take training as an "experienced apprentice" and shall receive the regular apprenticeship training and education offered by the Heavy Equipment Operator Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) and, if complying with training and work requirements, shall receive also a supplemental training stipend as follows:

a. \$150 in cash, or in room, board and transportation costing \$150 per week for the initial four weeks of offsite related training.
b. An additional subsistence allowance of \$150 per week payable to a discriminatee who is the head of a household during the initial four weeks of offsite related training.
c. Supplemental unemployment compensation shall be payable in weekly amounts up to \$150 at times during the first six months after the apprentice successfully completes the initial offsite related training. However, the maximum total amount of such payments to any individual shall not exceed \$800.00.
d. The priority referral status benefit will also be available to persons taking training.

1.5 Back pay. Any minority group discriminatee who does not elect priority referral status or training may make a claim against a back pay fund of \$15,000 established by Local 701. This fund shall pay up to \$500 to each claimant for each proven good faith attempt to obtain work (as defined in the proposed consent decree) between April 1st and October 1st of any calendar year between 1970 and 1976, inclusive. No claimant shall receive more than \$1,000 for any calendar year or more than a total from the fund of \$2,000. If claims exceed the amount of the fund, there will be no disbursements from the fund until all claims have been proved or disproved. If proved claims exceed the amount of the fund, the fund will be distributed on a pro-rata basis.

1.6 Claim forms. Claim forms for priority referral status, training or back pay may be obtained by requesting a copy either in person or by written request addressed to: Carney, Probst, Levak & Cornelius, Attorneys at Law, 410 Riviera Plaza, 1618 S.W. First Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201, or: Gaylord & Thomas, Attorneys at Law, 1400 S.W. Montgomery, Portland, Oregon 97201. Claim forms must be completed and returned personally or by mailing and actually delivered not later than 5:00 p.m., June 1, 1978, addressed to: Gaylord & Thomas, Attorneys at Law, 1400 S.W. Montgomery, Portland, Oregon 97201. Failure to complete and return the claim form by that date will disqualify a claimant from further consideration for priority referral status, training or back pay under the proposed consent decree.

TIMETABLE AND COURT HEARING

2.1 The Court has provisionally approved the proposed consent decree described above, which would settle these lawsuits, subject to consideration of any showing made as to why the Court should not finally approve the settlement. A hearing to determine whether the Court should approve the proposed settlement will be held on May 22, 1978 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 717 of the U.S. Courthouse, 620 S.W. Main Street, Portland, Oregon 97205. If the consent decree is approved by the Court, all race discrimination claims of members of the alleged, but not certified class, will be finally settled and compromised.

Failure to participate under the terms of the proposed consent decree may terminate your individual right to bring an action against Local 701 or AGC for race discrimination for years prior to 1977, and you will not be entitled to share in the benefits of that settlement.

You need do nothing with regard to this notice unless you wish to obtain priority referral status, training or back pay as described above, or to appear at the hearing to object to the proposed settlement.

Any person who wishes to object to the terms of this settlement must appear at the hearing on May 22, 1978 to show cause why the settlement and consent decree should not be approved. However, no person will be heard and no papers or briefs submitted by any such person shall be considered, except by special permission of the Court, unless, on or before May 19, 1978, the person files with the Court a written notice of intention to appear and all papers and briefs which that person wants to submit.

This notice has been approved by counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants and by the Court.

DATED this 1st day of May, 1978.

/s/ Otto J. Skopil, Jr.
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

Additional claim forms are available at:
United Minority Workers
106 N.E. Morris Street
Portland, Oregon
(503) 288-6517

Urban League
5329 N.E. Union Street
Portland, Oregon (503) 288-0168

Oregon roads face ruin Measure 5 vote critical

Oregon roads—many of them old—are losing a disastrous battle against inflation, weather, pounding traffic, and lack of funds to keep them repaired and maintained.

Measure 5—YES can save roads

Passage of Measure 5 will accomplish two vitally important road-saving tasks:

1. Measure 5 DEMANDS that highway funds be used FIRST for repair and maintenance to reverse deterioration.

2. The modest 2c gas tax increase and the fair 12 percent weight-mile tax increase for trucks and buses will assure funds for vitally necessary repair and maintenance.

Highway experts warn that road deterioration is serious. If road-ruin is not reversed now, the cost to replace roads may be almost prohibitive within a few years. Already maintenance and operation costs are up 73% since 1970.

Our roads need HELP.

Vote Measure 5 YES

Paid for by Highway Improvement Committee, Warren A. McMinime, Chairman, 1000 Cascade Blvd., 520 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204, Phone 221-1470