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# **Discrimination** found Wards, Midas ordered to pay

Labor Commissioner Bill Stevenson has ordered Montgomery Ward and Midas Muffler Shops to make financial restitution for discrimina-

Montgomery Ward, Inc. was ordered to hire James Williams, to pay him \$2,000 for "humiliation, pain and mental anguish", and to compensate him for the difference in pay he now receives and what he would have been paid if he had been hired by the company. The penalties are expected to exceed \$20,000.

Williams had applied for a position in the appliance department of the Wards Jantzen Beach store. After revealing a medical history of heart ailment, Williams encountered difficulty in obtaining a medical examination from Ward's physician. When he was examined doctor said he was unable to perform the job. Although Williams' own heart specialist disagreed, the company failed to get another opinion and refused to hire him.

In 1976 the Labor Commissioner ruled in favor of Williams, but the

The National Conference of Black

Mayors has announced its concern

over President Cartaer's reprimand

of U.N. Ambassador Andrew

Young. In a statement released by

the Conference, the organization

states, "It is clear to us that

President Carter's reprimand of

defendants appealed to the Court of Appeals which reversed the decision. The state then appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court, which remanded the case back to the Labor Bureau. In the order dated August 1st. Stevenson found that Montgomery Ward had acted in bad faith andthat there was substantial evidence that the company had discriminated against Williams because of his physicial handicap.

Stevenson called this a landmark case. "It is a case of first impression -- the first of its kind to go through a public hearing, the Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court. I am confident today's order will be upheld and will breath life into the statutes governing the employment of handicapped persons."

Stevenson also ruled that Durward Gurusinghe, a native of Ceylon, had ben discriminated against by Midas Muffler Shops because of his national origin and ordered that he be payed \$1,910.

Gurusinghe filed a complaint against Midas Muffler Shops in 1972

**Black Mayors support Andy Young** 

claiming that he was fired primarily because of his "foreign accent". Gurusinghe had been hired and promoted to an office sales position, where he received a positive evaluation by the manager. When a representative from the national office visited the local franchise and secretely monitored Gurusinghe's phone sales technique, he judged his accent as potentially "offensive to the American public" so Gurusinghe was fired.

Gurusinghe, who came to the U.S. in 1970, had spoken English since kindergarten. His education included two years of law and journalism. His language was described as "grammatically precise . . . fluent . . . clearly understandable."

In announcing the ruling, Stevenson said, "This case marks the loosening of the log jam of cases -especially old cases -- that has been clogging the enforcement apparatas of the Labor Bureau for several years." A large number of old cases are expected to be concluded in the next few weeks.

### **OBSERVER** Volume 8 No. 32 Thursday, August 10, 1978 10c per cop **Millner declares for School Board** Dr. Darrell Millner, Associate Professor in the Portland State University Black Studies Center, has announced his intention to apply for the pending Portland School Board vacancy and to run for election to the

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position in April, 1979. A graduate of California State Polytechnic University, Millner received his MS and doctorate from the University of Oregon in Curriculum Development and Instruction - Disadvantaged Youth.

Millner has taught in the fields of History, Sociology, Black Studies and English at California State Polytechnic University, the Los Angeles County Human Relations Department, the University of Oregon, the University of Oregon Teacher Corps before coming to Portland State University. He also served as Temporary Chairman of the Black Studies program at California State Polytechnic University; was assistant director of the Teacher Corps - Corrections Office Education at the University of Oregon; was director of the Re-entry Program of the University of Oregon Teacher Corps (for youth returning from correctional institutions); and was a placement counselor for the Berkeley Youth Manpower Program. He also was Project Director of the Northeast Youth Service Center in Portland.

After joining the PSU faculty in 1974, Millner served as Chairman of the Recruitment and Selection Committee of the Black Studies Center; was a member of the Social Service Curriculum Review Committee; served as faculty advisor to the Black Cultural Affairs Board; was a member of the Planning and Organization Committee and the Curriculum Committee of the PSU School of Urban Affairs.

Millner's scholarly works on education, Black Studies, and corrections have been published in UJIMA, Black Perspective, Western Journal of Black Studies, the Portland Observer, and "Blacks in Oregon, an Historical and Statistical



Dr. Darrell Millner has announced that he is a candidate for the pending vacancy on the Portland Public Schools Board of Education.

Report." He had two books published in 1977, by University Press of America, "Minority Teachers As Change Agents: A Case Study," and "Perspective On Black Studies."

Millners' community involvement began as soon as he arrived in Oregon. He served as a member of the Model Cities Education Committee from 1970 to 1974, helped develop an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment proposal for Highland Community Center, presented a series of film presentations/lectures

Currently Millner is a member of the Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund of Oregon; a member of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Black Studies; a Task Force member for the Oregon Black History Project (sponsored by Bethel AME Church); and a member of the Mayor's Committee on Social Impact of Planning and Development.

The vacancy for which Dr. Millner has applied will be created by the resignation of Gladys McCoy, who

#### Ambassador young was political, hypercritical, and a conspicious contrast to the President's public policy

of speaking out on behalf of the cause of human rights of political prisoners in other nations. Mr. Carter appears to have a bifurcated view of justice and the reality of political life in America for thousands upon thousands of Blacks, minorities, and poor persons insvolved in the struggle for dignity and human rights in America. Mr. Carter's reprimand of Andrew Yong relfects both a double standard and a disappointment to hundreds of thousands of Black voters and other individuals who have taken highly political and moral stands on issues as divergaent as the Vietnam War, racism, prison reform, political reform, abortion,

Watergate, civil rights and many

reprimand of Young to be "obvious acquiescence to the public criticism and censure of Mr. young by senior members of his administration."

"We, like Ambassador Young, believe that it cannot be gainsaid that there are political prisoners in American jails, this past November, the Noble Peace Prize awardee, Amnesty International, based in London, issued a list of some persons in American jails whom it considered to be political prisoners. Few -- if any -civil rights cases have stirred as much controversy as the Wilmington Ten case. Widely reported by the news media, the case has prompted congressional inquiries and petitions to the Governor of North Carolina; also, following an investigation earlier this year, the United States Justice Department recommended that consideration should be given to the pardoning of the defendants. The Mark Hampton murder in Chicago, the Black Panther trials, the Chicago Seven case and the contempt trial of some of the lawyers involved, the FBIs illegal efforts to discredit the civil rights movement, and the FBI's COINTEL PRO operation and the

political repressiona and political prisoners produced by the American criminal justice system. These examples do not include the thousands of Blacks and whites sent to jail for essentially political activity in support of unpopular causes. More importantly, all of these illustrations do not even begin to address the many Americans consigned to eternity by summary execution by American law enforcement officials without the benefit of judge, jury or appellate process. The Houston, Texas killing of Mexican-Americans suffices to bring the whole string of such actions to one's minda nd permits one to soberly reflect on this ultimate imprisonment."

### **Turner** sentenced

Fred Turner, 45, was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to ten years at Oregon State Penitentiary.

Following a family arguement, Turner had shot his wife Cynthia in the back of the head, killing her in-

for the Portland Youth Division and Case Management Program. He was an organizer of the Albina Voter **Registration and Education Commit-**

has served on the Board for the past eight years. The appointment will be made by the School Board on September 11th.

others." The National Conference of Black

legendary Angela Davis case are but Mayors considers the President's some fo the most recent examples of

stantly.

Turner was employed by a local meat packing company.

## **Africa Blacks reject Sullivan Principles**

#### by N. Fungai Kumbula

Around the country lately, there has been a lot of debate on the role of multi-national corporations in South Africa, accompanied by some very loud calls for divestiture of all stock holdings in American companies in that country. Most Africans contend that only by totally ostracising South Africa cutting off all economic ties, would the apartheid regime be compelled to abandon its racist policies. There has been worldwide condemnation of apartheid but nothing concrete has been done and the Africans maintain that as long as Western companies continue to invest in South Africa, any censures they pronounce are null and void.

A few weeks ago, I testified at the Oregon Investment Council hearings which were held to decide what to do about the Oregon State Board of Higher Education stocks in companies doing business in South Africa. The OSBHE had earlier voted to divest but then the Attorney General had ruled that they did not have the legal authority to do that. Along with several other people, I urged the OIC to divest all such stocks forthwith. The OIC, which had been charged with the task of deciding what to do with the OSBHE investments, decided not to divest but that they would support the socalled Sullivan Principles, the same lame excuse that the corporate executives use every time they are called upon to divest.

A lot of us, Africans, feel that these Principles, named for Leon Sullivan, a Baptist minister who proposed them, are woefully inadequate. Essentially, they are affirmative action guidelines whereby U.S. companies in South Africa pledge to adhere to the same hiring, training and promoting practices

that they would have to observe if they were operating in this country. They would pledge to speed up the advancement of Blacks, desegregate all facilities, give equal pay for equal or comparable work and so forth.

Because of its racist policies, the South African government discourages all Black advancement, practices job discrimination and job reservation (which means that Blacks cannot be hired into executive and management positions), segregates all facilities, has a wage differential based on color (in some areas, whites' salaries are as much as 27 times those of Blacks') and does not recognize Black labor unions. Blacks are, of course, in the final analysis, regarded as nothing more than a vast pool of labor to be exploited for the benefit of the whites.

So, on the surface, it would appear that the Sullivan Principles are the godsend that South Africa's 18m. Blacks have been praying for. Are they dancing in the streets celebrating this great "victory"? The answer is an emphatic NO. The vast majority of the Blacks have denounced the Principles because, first

Analysis

and foremost, they are unforceable given the strictures of apartheid. And, secondly, their success depends on the goodwill of the same corporate managers whose main motivation has always been PROFIT.

The companies are in South Africa for one purpose and one purpose only, and that is to make money. And since when has business been too crazy about affirmative action? In this country, it is one thing because the government and the

courts make sure that companies do adhere to fair employment practices. In South Africa, the reverse is true. The government is out to exploit the people as much as possible -business never had it so good.

The call for an economic boycott of South Africa recognizes that apartheid is also an economic system. It has survived this long because of the money poured in by foreign investors. If the \$2 billion in U.S. investments were to be withdrawn, that would make a sizeable dent in the economy. This would mean any of several things. It could mean that the government would not have the money to carry out such useless tasks as enforcing pass laws, training and maintaining armies and police forces for the sole purpose of keeping 87% of its own people disenfranchised and thus keeping the privileged white minority in power and pursuing its diabolical Bantustan policy.

If the corporations withdraw, the government would have to tax the whites a lot more severely in order to maintain economic growth. Enforcement of the 300 odd apartheid edicts costs the government millions of dollars each year and I cannot see the voters continuing to support such a useless and unnecessary system. Another strong argument for corporate withdrawal contends that apartheid is as much an economic system as it is a political one and that when the crunch comes, the business sector would sooner opt for changes and concessions to the Black demands if that would help salvage some of their possessions.

Granted, the Principles would bring about some improvements, but how many people would benefit? And how many would they simultaneously condemn to a life of perpetual servitude? The statement has been signed by 55 companies (Please turn to Page 4 Column 1)



The demonstration was one event in the weeks series of

O for a thousand tongues to tell The dangers that we face! Toward nuclear war, oblivion, The foolish nations race.

With taxes used for bombs and guns Inflation grows each day. Munitions make the millionaires While taxes melt away.

When half our taxes go for war We're facing bankruptcy. From hunger here and everywhere All people must be free.

sary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Nagasaki. The bers of the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance. Responding demonstration was a dramatization of the dangers of to what it considers the failure of government to react to nuclear catastrophe occuring from the growing reliance on the dangers of nuclear plant operation, the Trojan Decomnuclear power plants and a protest against the arms build- missioning Alliance has set as its goal the closing of the PGE plant.

Similar anti-nuclear demonstrations have taken place anti-nuclear activities which included a four day non- throughout the nation and the world this week.

> We do not raise our youth to die On some far distant shore. Nor do we want mass suicide Brought on by nuclear war.

The only hope for this old world, Disarmament for all! Then peace will end the frantic race Ere tragedy befall.

**Howard Willits** 

Sung to the tune of - O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing.