



We see the world
through Black eyes

Elect judges

Measure #1 would amend the Oregon Constitution to provide for the appointment by the Governor of judges of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals and the Tax Court.

The amendment would provide that after appointment, each judge would appear alone on a ballot, with the voters able to vote "yes" or "no" for a six year term. If the vote were "no", a new judge would be appointed.

This system sounds good, since few people know anything about the judges they vote for, but the danger in it lies in the formation of a commission to advise the Governor in appointments. This commission would include the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, three members of the Oregon Bar Association and three non-lawyers.

This bill would put the selection of judges in the hands of the Oregon Bar Association, an organization run largely by a small number of conservative lawyers, which has not been able to keep its own house in order.

Vote NO on Measure #1 and retain the right for citizens to select their judges.

No double tax

Measure #3 allows the citizens to vote on legislation passed by the Legislature last session. The measure was put on the ballot by a referendum petition sponsored by Representative Wally Priestley, to give the people a chance to accept the legislation or turn it down.

The Legislature doubled the automobile license tax and increased certain road use taxes. Previously owners paid \$20 for a two year automobile license. If this legislation is allowed to stand, the fee will be \$20 for one year.

Vote NO on Measure #3.

License denturists

Measure #5 regulates the practice of Denturism. Currently only licensed dentists can take impressions and fit dentures. Most dentists then have the dentures made at a dental lab and charge the customer between \$500 and \$800.

This measure would allow licensed dental technologists to fit dentures, make them and sell them directly to the patient at great savings. These technicians (called denturists) would be licensed and regulated by the state and could only see a patient who already had been certified free of mouth disease by a dentist.

Contrary to the advertising campaign of the opponents (mainly the dental association) this would not allow "untrained" people to work on the mouth. It would not lower the quality of the dentures. It would — by cutting out the profit currently made by the dentists — provide a savings to those who require dentures — mainly senior citizens.

Vote YES on Measure #5.

Senate 10 - Gardner

Jim Gardner is the Democratic Party candidate for Senate District 10. A graduate of Yale Law School, Gardner is a practicing attorney.



Gardner's main interests include revenue and taxation and the judicial system, and he hopes to serve on committees dealing with those issues. His areas of concern also include education, crime prevention, employment opportunities, neighborhoods.

Bright and energetic, and with experience in the law, politics and various community organizations, he has a feel for the needs of his district.

The *Observer* endorses Jim Gardner for Senate District 10.

House 18 - Cease



Jane Cease is running for House District 18, the position vacated by Lloyd Kinsey. A Democrat, Ms. Cease has a long record of community service — the type of service that will enable her to make decisions that will favorably effect the people of this district.

Ms. Cease has served on the Governor's Community Service Committee, the Citizen Task Force for City Budget Review, State and Regional Citizen Advisory Committee on Solid Waste Management, Multnomah County Mental Health Advisory Board, etc. She is committed to minority and women's rights, open government, better programs for the elderly and youth, housing, and health care.

Her election campaign has been one of discussing issues and providing information. She knows the district well.

Jane Cease is the best choice for House District 18.

Give Governor power

Measure #2 would require that the Governor's appointments to state office, including boards and commissions, be approved by the Senate.

This measure grew out of the dispute between Governor Bob Straub and Senate President Jason Boe when Straub appointed Ron Wyden to the nursing home regulatory board. Because of pressure from the nursing home industry, the Senate did not approve the appointment.

It is appropriate that the Governor have the freedom to make appointments without the interference of Senate politics and special interests. The Governor ultimately must take the responsibility of his appointments.

Vote NO on Measure #2.



The tone of leadership

Nick Barnett and Political Ideals

by Herb L. Cawthorne

I listened carefully, as he said, "The ideal politician has the ability to operate in two kinds of ways."

"First," he said, "there is the ability to represent the broad interest of those you are serving — taking all the various interests, then standing forthright in providing leadership and direction."

Completing his notion of the type of politician he'd like to be, Nick Barnett said, "The second aspect has to do with not getting caught up so much in the abstract and the technical that one becomes out of touch and out of tune with the smaller people who one must represent."

Balancing broad interests with a concern for the individual citizen is an understanding Nick Barnett wants to put to work. The active executive director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission is running a hard campaign for the Metropolitan Service District seat #12. There is no doubt in Nick Barnett's mind that he is "prepared to take this step."

"It's natural. It's right," he said. "The experiences I have had, the things I've read and discussed, my work with neighborhoods and human relations lead me to run now. I come into this race with a sound sense of political activism."

He will need every ounce of that activism, plus some serious help from his friends. He is facing the challenge of defeating Mike Burton whose name is familiar and whose

roots are dug deep into the soil of Democratic politics in Oregon. MSD seat #12 includes North Portland and much of Northwest Portland. It is big and populated with people who may never have heard the name, Nick Barnett.

"There are a set of things in which I believe," he said, explaining his motivation to run under such circumstances.

"It's not rhetoric, for example, when I talk about cultural pluralism," Barnett explained, "because I believe we can have a society in which diversity is not only respected but valued."

"It's not rhetoric," he said, "when I talk about Democratic process. I believe there can be a society in which, not just a remote elite rule things, but an individual can be influential and make effective change."

To promote the "things in which I believe," Barnett has officially entered the political electoral process. He faces a huge challenge. However, he brings to the fight the impressive resource of a sound and proven record.

He is well known in the community for his energy in reviving the Human Relations Commission. He initiated a good deal of the interest in the study of desegregation in Portland; he developed neighborhood mediation programs; and he defended his rights of women to equal opportunity in all affairs.

The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission has conduct-

ed housing audits, seeking to uncover discrimination; it has reviewed the city's compliance with equal employment regulations and recommended areas for improvement; it has been influential at the legislature, in the halls of city and county government, and around the local community — standing to be counted on many of the important issues of the day. Nick Barnett's leadership is tried and tested. Still, he faces an uphill battle.

He is waging a good effort. Win or lose the foundation is being set in place now, and the character he projects during this race will affect the tone of his leadership and the tone of future campaigns. For this reason, Barnett is working hard to help people understand what they are getting.

"People who support me are supporting the ideal of what I hope to represent," he said confidently, adding, "they are not buying me when they give me money, they're buying the ideals which they believe in and which I will represent."

The tone of his leadership and his campaign strikes a clear note which is pleasing to the ear. While making sure that everyone understands that he cannot be caught, he adds with emphasis:

"One thing they can all expect, however, whether they have given money or moral support or helped in the campaign, is that I would respond and respect that support by being accessible to them."

Namibia's future in doubt again

by N. Fungai Kumbula

Several weeks ago, a major breakthrough regarding Namibia was announced. On the one hand, the U.S., Britain, France, West Germany and Canada had persuaded the then Vorster government of South Africa to allow the holding of U.N. supervised elections in Namibia. At the same time also, the Front Line states of Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Angola had also prevailed on SWAPO, the Southwest African Peoples Organization, to accept the plan and contest the elections. SWAPO has been fighting a guerrilla war in Namibia to wrest control of the country from illegal South African occupation.

At the time the joint Western and African effort had seemed to be a tremendous success. Elections had been scheduled to be held before the end of this year so Namibia would enter the New Year as an independent, majority ruled nation. There were, however, still some unresolved questions about the status of Walvis Bay, the only deep sea harbor on the southwest coast of Africa. It is a part of Namibia but South Africa had wanted to slice it away and annex it to South Africa. Since virtually all of Namibia's trade passes through Walvis Bay, it would have meant that any government that was elected in Namibia would have to "behave" vis a vis South Africa or it could very easily be strangled economically.

Though that problem had never been fully resolved, both sides went

ahead with preparations for the elections. SWAPO had more or less suspended its guerrilla operations. The U.N. had sent in an advance team of specialists to make preparations for the registration of voters. A peace keeping force of some 7,500 had been picked in addition to some 1,000 civilian personnel. A budget had been approved and a Finnish general picked to lead the peace keeping force whose main task was to keep SWAPO and the South African troops apart. Within Namibia itself, intense campaigning was reported on the part of SWAPO, the moderate South African backed Democratic Turnhalle Alliance and a host of smaller parties.

In South Africa, meantime, John Vorster, who had initially accepted the Namibian plan, resigned as prime minister this past month. (Apparently, maintaining apartheid does take its toll.) He was replaced by a Pieter W. Botha, formerly the defense minister and one of the most dihard of Afrikaner reactionaries. If you can imagine someone more obnoxious than Vorster, then you have a rough idea of the new leader of the Afrikaners. He was one of the architects of the ill-fated South African invasion of Angola in an effort to prevent the victorious MPLA from coming to power. He is also a firm believer in the "scorched earth" policy. This advocates that, in the event of an imminent Black takeover (of South Africa), burn down everything and kill off as many of

them along with us as possible.

After his election, one of the first announcements to come from the South African government was that they were rejecting the Western plan and going along with their own elections to be supervised by South Africa. Ironically, they rejected the Western plan on the grounds that, the presence of those 7,500 U.N. peace keeping troops would intimidate people to vote for SWAPO since the U.N. has always recognized SWAPO as Namibia's sole legitimate liberation movement. So, instead, South Africa wants to supervise and conduct the elections. That way, they can make sure that no SWAPO candidate will win while at the same time giving the impression of carrying out "free and fair" elections.

Can you follow this kind of logic? When it's South African guns that are doing the supervising, then it's free and fair, but when it's a peace keeping force with personnel drawn from around the world, then it's intimidation!

As a result of these new complications, Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, accompanied by the foreign ministers of West Germany and Canada, have just returned from a trip to Pretoria where they talked to the Botha government in an effort to get them to accept the Western plan once again. How successful their mission was has yet to be revealed. But one thing has already become very clear: it's a long, winding and dangerous road to Namibia's day in the sun.

Through the Eyes of Mr. W.

by Harold C. Williams

Across the nation there is an ugly cloud that is hovering over the heads of Black politicians. There are many persons who are trying to discredit the involvement of Black officials in the political arena. Black people have to be aware of the trap that is being set; that of luring Black people into the circus of attacking Black public officials, because someone said it is the thing to do. We had better check out the persons who are throwing the bricks and their motives behind it.

The political arena is the heartbeat of our society because it affects every

phase of our lives. When Black public officials enter the political arena, they are in a position to have some control over the destiny of Black people. Many persons think it is not desirable that Black people control their own destiny, so therefore, there's a systematic, well coordinated effort to discredit Black public officials.

Some of us in Portland, Oregon have fallen into the trap of attacking our own Black officials. The questions must be asked, "Are the Black public officials doing enough?" and "Are the non-Black officials doing anything at all?"

The music around the conference table changes by the mere appearances of a Black official. As long as there are Black officials at the conference table and main arena, there is hope for the destiny of Black people, but if we as Black people join in the parade to destroy our own Black public officials, then we will cease to have a voice in the exclusive clubs of politics that affect our lives. When Black officials make mistakes, it is important to pull them to the side and get them back on the right track; never, never attack them in public for when Black people do that, we have benefitted the enemy.



ALFRED L. HENDERSON
Editor/Publisher

PORTLAND OBSERVER

Published every Thursday by Exie Publishing Company, 2201 North Killingsworth, Portland, Oregon 97217. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3137, Portland, Oregon 97208. Telephone: 283-2486.

Subscriptions: \$7.50 per year in the Tri-County area, \$8.00 per year outside Portland.

Second Class Postage Paid at Portland, Oregon

The *Portland Observer's* official position is expressed only in its Publisher's column (We See The World Through Black Eyes). Any other material throughout the paper is the opinion of the individual writer or submitter and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Portland Observer*.

National Advertising Representative
Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.
New York

1st Place
Community Service
ONPA 1973

1st Place
Best Ad Results
ONPA 1973

5th Place
Best Editorial
NPPA 1973

Honorable Mention
Herrick Editorial Award
NNA 1973

2nd Place
Best Editorial
3rd Place
Community Leadership
ONPA 1975

3rd Place
Community Leadership
ONPA 1978



Subscribe Today -- \$7.50 Tri County; \$8.00 Other

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ PORTLAND OBSERVER
P.O. Box 3137
Portland, OR. 97208
Zip _____

Buy one for a friend --

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____