

Barnett eliminated

City Council field narrowed to three

The City Council pared its list of six nominees for the vacancy created by the appointment of Commissioner Connie McCreedy as Mayor to three men. The appointment will be made next Wednesday.

Nick Barnett, executive director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission; Doug Capps, former aide to Mayor Goldschmidt; and

firemen's union leader Ron Usher were defeated in early balloting. Finalists are Bill Stevenson, Representative Jim Chrest and Mike Lindberg.

Bill Stevenson served four years as State Labor Commissioner and eight years in the Oregon legislature. Stevenson told the Council that he is particularly interested in good housing,

safe neighborhoods and economic development. He considers many of the recent policies developed by the Council -- energy, housing, transportation -- to be successful and would look forward to consolidating gains.

Representative Jim Chrest cited his three terms as a legislator and years of grass roots involvement. His

concerns include housing, attracting new industry and keeping jobs that are here now, protecting neighborhoods, employment, citizen involvement.

Mike Lindberg has served as head of Public Works and as planning director for the City. His priorities are jobs, basic services, neighborhood stability.

Nick Barnett, who was eliminated in the first round of balloting, told the Council that although he has a special interest in the needs of those who do not have access to power, he has a broad spectrum of concerns including energy, transportation, land use and housing. Barnett and Stevenson were nominated by Commissioner Charles Jordan.



Nick Barnett

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Mrs. Edna Robertson was presented with the Greater Northeast Precinct Council annual award for Citizen Participation by Commissioner Charles Jordan and Robert Phillips. The award recognizes Mrs. Robertson's encouragement and facilitation of

citizen participation, her assistance in establishing the Council, her offering citizen's perspectives and concerns when they cannot be present, and her constant dedication to the Council and the public.

MHRC investigates suspensions

The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission presented the Portland School Board with an Analysis of Suspension and Enrollment patterns based on 1977-1978 suspension data.

Jim Sitzman, Commission chairman, advised that the District and MHRC work together to determine why there is not only a disproportionate number of Black students suspended, but suspension statistics vary greatly between schools. He commented that differences might be caused by economic or social factors, specific students' behavior, or by administrative practices. If racism in buildings is operating to increase numbers of Black children suspended, this needs to be known.

The study divides the District's schools into six groups by percentage of minority students, percentage of minority students who are administrative transfer students, and ratio of Black suspensions to white suspensions.

The study demonstrates that the extent of disproportionate rates of suspension between minority and white students is highly dependent on

practices at the individual schools.

Groups I and V are similar in their minority enrollment, yet the average suspension rate for minority students in Group I schools is 15.31 per cent, 3.68 times the white suspensions. In Group V schools there are virtually no suspensions.

Schools that use suspensions create conditions where minorities are affected disproportionately. The data suggests that "one cannot solely credit the disproportionate suspensions of minority and minority administrative transfer students to either individual student behavior or to an association between suspensions and the student's socioeconomic class background. If improper individual behavior on the part of minority and minority administrative transfer students was at fault, then one would find higher minority suspension rates (than white suspension rates) at all schools. Yet, 39 schools, some of which have appreciable minority and/or minority administrative transfer enrollments, do not find it necessary to suspend any students at all. Other schools suspend relatively equal portions of minority and white students. This would not occur if minority students, in general, exhibited behavior disproportionately deserving of suspension than that of their white counterparts in these schools.

"Nor can divergence in socioeconomic class background alone be simply utilized as an explanation for higher minority and minority administrative transfer suspension rates. If this were the case, you could not explain the Group V schools, which possess a high level of minority administrative transfers, yet suspend no minority students; nor could it be explained why, in the Group II schools, where all the minorities and white students are in-district, and therefore, it is highly likely that both white and minority students share a common socioeconomic class background, minorities are suspended at twice the rate of white students."

MHRC recommended that the District closely examine the 39 schools that do not use suspensions to determine what enables them to function without suspensions.

The district should also examine schools that use suspensions but do not have a disproportionate number of Black suspensions. These are: Sunnyside, Astor, Vestal, Creston, Portsmouth.

"The District should conduct a thorough investigation of those schools that have high percentage of minority suspensions." The incredibly high level of minority suspensions in some of these schools, (Please turn to page 9 col. 3)

Teacher rep questions value of Black History

Carrie Miller, director of the Portland Federation of Teachers, speaking for herself and not for her organization, attacked the School Board's recently passed policy on mandatory training of teachers in Black History.

The Board policy states that a course of instruction in Black History, ethnic history and problems of social class be designed and that it be mandatory for all teachers and administrators employed in schools involved in the desegregation/integration program next year. Ms. Miller objects to the mandatory nature of the policy.

"My objections to the resolution are two-fold arguing: 1) that in addressing the concerns of one segment of the community, it has violated the rights of another, those of district employees and; 2) that the proposal while providing the illusion of a means toward social change lacks sufficient substance to achieve that change."

"My initial response to #7 of the

Board's resolution is that it lays a blanket insult on every educator in this district. The course requirements, which appear to admit no exception, imply that everyone employed, both now and in the future, by this district is or will be equally ignorant of black history, of other ethnic histories and area, or will be, equally insensitive to the problems of social class. Clearly that is the conclusion to be drawn when the Board requires that all its educators run the same educational gauntlet without regard to individual experience, education or special qualifications.

"Given this conclusion, particularly as it affects future employees in the desegregation/integration program, the purpose of items 5a and 9 of this same document falls into question. Item 5a provides that minority representatives and other interested parties are to be consulted in the selection of desegregation/integration staff. Item 9 requires the appointment of a director of personnel who will seek

out 'qualified minority teachers,' and who will, if necessary, 'be prepared to hire special recruiters' for that purpose. Clearly, provisions 5a and 9 are intended to recruit into the cluster program teachers already presumed to be competent and sensitive in the areas prescribed in item 7; yet there is no provision to exclude them or others equally qualified from repetitive education."

Ms. Miller also questioned the Board's right to negotiate with the Black United Front on issues pertaining to teacher preparation without including teachers and their collective bargaining unit, the Portland Association of Teachers, in their discussions.

She also questioned the validity of the concept of requiring knowledge of Black History by teachers who teach Black children:

"Finally, I question the power of these required courses to advance, even minutely, the laudable goal of the Board and the Black United Front, that goal being not mere

desegregation, or the attainment of a racial mix, but of integration, the attainment of quality racial contact. While the certain means to achieve this goal is still shrouded in mystery, there are avenues which have been tried and proven ineffective. Courses in ethnic art, or literature or history do not change the human heart. Bayard Rustin, as far back as 1969 urged us not to be so deceived. Black demands for Black studies he warned were at best symbolic rather than social victories. At worst, lessons in Black history which focus on the oppression of one race over another actually impede social justice. Writing in *Harper's Magazine* he revealed, 'I also question both the efficiency and the social utility of an attack that impels the attacked to applaud and debase themselves. I am not certain whether or not self-flagellation can have beneficial effect on the sinner (I tend to doubt that it can), but I am absolutely certain it can never improve the lot of the unemployed and (Please turn to Page 2 Column 4)

Methadone 'treatment' constitutes genocide

by Don Fuller

Caught off guard by the now successful grass roots organization of the Black United Front, white supremacists and "liberal" white supremacists are using Afro-Saxons to take the offensive against the Black community. Fighting deep sleep in Portland's Black community, which had been induced by fear of white racism was difficult, but fighting a drug induced "nod" would be impossible. That is part of a long range white supremacy plan.

The Black United Front might not know what the CODA proposal to establish a neighborhood clinic in Albina represents, but the way in which CODA approached the Black community Monday night indicates that the BUF call for a boycott to improve our minds was a declaration of war.

The white supremacy response... Provide free dope "to put those niggers to sleep." CODA is a drug treatment program that provides regular amounts of methadone to addicts. Methadone is also addictive, some say worse than heroin. Abuse is a national disgrace.

This was because: (a) Too much

money is involved; (b) Too much Black power (independent of white control) is involved; (c) Too much white power (to oppress and exploit) is threatened.

Analyses

Who are the "liberal supremacist?" Those radical chic who had more successfully initiated any activity that resulted in making ex-slaves powerful. Those white socialists or white communists or white feminists or whatever. Left-of-center racists have always held out the carrot of hope and dependence, while the right-of-center racists applied the brutal whip. But all these white folks ride our backs and our movements to death, our death.

Those white "liberals" are pushing the dope pushers into the Black community with all the arrogance of your standard redneck, racist cracker.

Item: No preparation, in formation, no studies or any other material was made available by the imported (out-of-state) director of

the proposed federally-funded project. He appeared unable to document any of his assertions with hard data, and yet wanted approval that night, Monday, September 10, 1979. This proposed director of this proposed project does not live in the Black community, doesn't know the politics of the Black community and doesn't love his own people enough to try to protect us or live with us, much less respect us. It wouldn't be a surprise to find such people politically or otherwise in bed with our enemies, because they have demonstrated the mental illness Dr. Welsing speaks of: self hatred. They apparently want to be exploited, according to her theory, and in turn they exploit us as a people.

Item: Genocide is defined in the Genocide Convention, signed by one-half of the nation's in the world except the U.S.: any official act... including the administration of drugs, that would destroy a people.

Genocide means the destruction of a whole people. After viewing the film on methadone shown Monday there can be no doubt that the Black people have been moved by our ene-

mies, from the degeneration of physical enslavement in America to mental enslavement through drugs as a "target" population. Giving dope away to the Black community is an act of war that offers no money, and no mercy should be given to such enemies of Black people.

There are addicts in the Black community. They do need help. But the approach to treatment must be built on a drug-free counseling with a cultural basis. Just as the Native American uses the "sweat-lodge," we must use the values and culture unique to our people, our community and our families. Education and prevention are key to a cultural approach to drug treatment we demand to control as a people faced with genocide. This cannot be done in arrogance or without the respect and cooperation of the Black people of Albina.

These are the issues that were never presented by CODA. The director of that program must be able to meet cultural criteria and live here or be identified as a pusher of methadone and pimp for white supremacy.



In the FRONT DOOR, OUT THE BACK DOOR! Approximately 140 Black youngsters arrive at the front door of Beaumont Middle School each morning--part of the Portland School District's reorganization/desegregation effort. About 10 white students escape through the back door to attend Mt. Tabor School--with transportation provided by the District.