

# Black Caucus defines election campaign issues

The Congressional Black Caucus has adopted comprehensive guidelines which it recommends Black voters use in evaluating Presidential candidates.

Following is a summary of the guidelines:

## I. Full Employment and Balanced Growth Implementation

Presidential candidates are asked to endorse strict implementation of the Humphrey-Hawkins Act which requires balanced economic growth to achieve maximum production, full employment and reasonable price stability. Candidates are asked to:

- offer alternatives to fiscal and monetary policy which induce credit crunches, raise interest rates, create shortages and promote inflation;
- oppose slashing programs that target growth in areas where inflationary shortages are most acute;
- support legislation that will meet the 1983 target of no more than 3 per cent adult and 4 per cent overall unemployment and a reduction of the high rate of unemployment of Blacks, Hispanics, young people and women.

## CETA

The guidelines call for funding of CETA at the level authorized by law and urge full utilization of Title VI provisions which set up public service employment programs when the unemployment rate reaches 4 per cent and call for better coordination with local educational programs.

## Housing

Support is asked for expansion of housing programs for low and moderate

income families and elderly to increase housing supplies and reduce inflation in housing prices. They ask for a commitment to a minimum of two million housing starts and 500,000 new subsidized units a year. Also endorsement of the Fair Housing Amendments Act which provides HUD with cease and desist powers in housing discrimination.

## Energy

The CBC asks that energy conservation not be brought about through high price of energy and that subsidies help low income persons, especially the elderly, pay utility bills. Oil price control is urged as well as support for legislation making the US government the sole importer of foreign oil. The CBC asks support of legislation requiring energy companies to divest interests in other industrial fields. It opposes the further development of nuclear energy and favors development of renewable energy sources through government subsidies.

## Health

Candidates are asked to make it a matter of highest priority that a national health plan be instituted that provides quality health care equally to all people regardless of their economic circumstances, paying particular concern to those who cannot afford to pay and who are discriminated against by medical institutions.

## Education

The guidelines ask that candidates support at least a threefold increase in

federal education funding and call for the continuation of categorical funding programs supplemented by block grants.

Endorsement of programs in career education, counseling and compensatory education is called for as well as the extension of quality early childhood education to every disadvantaged child in the country. The CBC asks that there be careful monitoring of the allocation and expenditure of Elementary and Secondary Education Act money.

The CBC guidelines call upon candidates to endorse the constitutional principles enumerated by the U.S. Supreme Court and federal law relative to school desegregation.

## Urban and Rural Development

The CBC guidelines ask that candidates support a comprehensive program of urban and rural development, and that greater participation by small and minority businesses be implemented in the government procurement system.

## Federal Budget Priorities

The CBC calls for support of a five percent real increase in the federal budget for domestic programs that provide assistance to low income persons and minorities. The rapidly increasing defense budget denies money to vital domestic programs that should be considered on the basis of their own merit. The guidelines call for a reduction in the military budget.

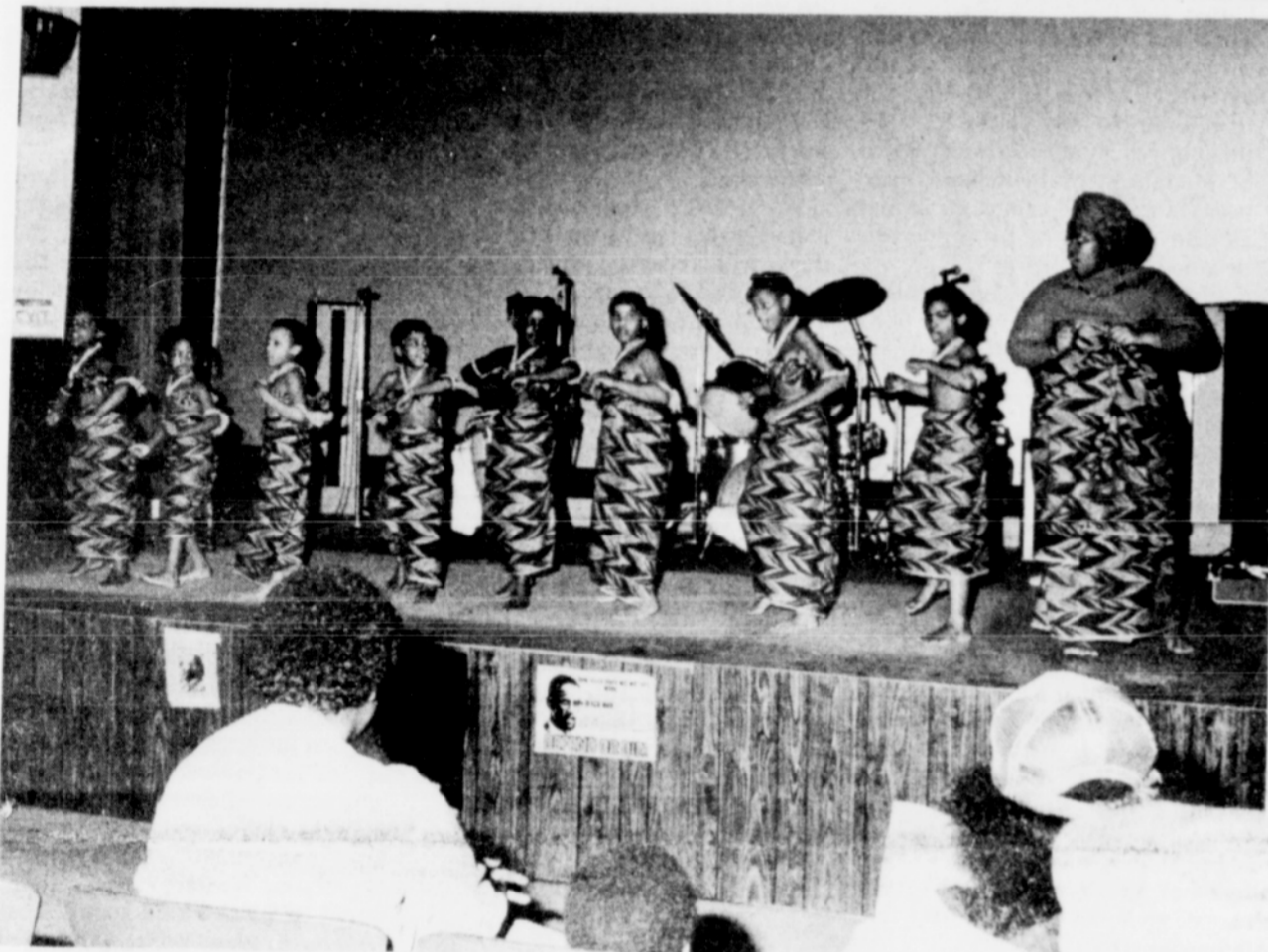
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# PORTLAND OBSERVER

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The Black Educational Center dance group performs songs and dances of Liberia during the Malcom X and King Day celebration.

Thursday Feb. 21, the Community Professionals (CPs) sponsored a program in remembrance of Martin Luther King and Malcom X at the Alberta Theater. The CPs are about providing a platform for events around issues and individuals relative to the Black experience.

The program included talks by Lanita Duke and Ron Herndon, readings from Malcom X and Langston Hughes by Paul Marshall, Tai Chi demonstration, songs and dances of Liberia by children of Black Education Center and music from a band made up of local musicians. The program was entertaining and educational and enjoyed by all who attended.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

## Johnson wins union internship

Gloria Johnson has been selected for an Internship sponsored by the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Communications Workers of America.

Applying at the suggestion of her union representative and without great hope of being the one chosen, Mrs. Johnson won the nation-wide competition.

An employee of Pacific Northwest Bell for eleven years, Mrs. Johnson is currently a yellow pages clerk. She is a shop steward and has held other union positions.

The purpose of the internship is to train in union organization and related areas. In an election year, she will have the opportunity to see politics in action as well as the inner workings of the union.

Mrs. Johnson will go to Washington, D.C. for a week's orientation, then will return the end of March. Her initial station will be Washington and New York, but she will also work in other cities. "I will travel a lot, and actually will be living in hotels -- out of a suitcase."

Although on leave from Pacific Northwest Bell, Mrs. Johnson has been assured a position with the union when one is available.

Her husband, Robert, will remain in Portland. "He is a strong believe in unions, and is happy that I have this opportunity to learn," Mrs. Johnson explained.



GLORIA JOHNSON

(Photo: Richard Brown)

## Minister visits prisoners

National Council of Churches President M. William Howard has made the second in a series of visits to political prisoners in the United States, this time seeing Puerto Ricans arrested in a demonstration against U.S. naval war exercises on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

The were arrested during an ecumenical service protesting U.S. naval bombing of Vieques, 70 per cent of which is owned by the Navy. Island residents have been fighting for several years to force the Navy to stop its test shelling, charging that it is destroying the island's fishing and land and endangering their lives.

"These people have felt compelled to make their voices heard on an issue which is clearly of great political significance," Howard said after his visit. "I think the length of their sentences indicates that the authorities regard them as political persons, in that under normal circumstances participation in a demonstration would get someone a suspended or minimal sentence."

"While certainly there is a criminal law which they are guilty of having violated, it is really the context of the demonstration which projects them as political prisoners."

"The fact that so many different groups in Puerto Rico have joined together in protest against the military maneuvers at Vieques is indicative of the broad groundswell of support on this issue. I think it should be a suggestion to the US government to rethink its policy about using Vieques in this way."



A familiar face to youngsters crossing Alberta Street going to Humboldt School is Robert L. Hill. Mr. Hill's concern for the kids does not stop at the crosswalk, he's very upset about the poor quality of education they are getting and feels they shouldn't be dragged all over the city. If they started busing those teachers around they would come up with a plan to educate these kids pretty fast.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

## Doctor warns of Klan danger

Dr. Rosalind Cropper, a Black Southern doctor whose practice was the target of Ku Klux Klan violence, told a Linfield College audience that the KKK remains a very real threat.

Dr. Cropper, whose story was featured in Ebony Magazine, was the main speaker during the College's Black History Week.

Ebony Magazine first learned of Dr. Cropper after the Associated Press picked up her story from a local newspaper. The Ku Klux Klan had burned Dr. Cropper's house and loosened the brakes on her car, causing her to plunge 20 feet.

"The last thing was three o'clock in the morning when they held a rally in my yard. I decided to leave town at that point," she said.

The KKK perceived her as a threat to the power structure, she said.

"The four white doctors there had been there a long time. This was my first year there and I had twice as many patients a day as they did, forty to fifty. I was really overworked," Dr. Cropper said. "I was a threat to the whole status quo of their power system."

Dr. Cropper said the condition of civil rights for Blacks in the South today is unchanged from previous years. Blacks are gaining more prestige, therefore being able to demand more as far as their plight is concerned, she said. But, she believes, overall there has been little change.

"It's the South with a smile on its face," Dr. Cropper said.

Dr. Cropper, whose lecture was titled, "Where Do We Go From Here?" said to best further the cause of civil rights, each individual

must rid themselves of racism, and learn to deal with people as one person to another.

"You can't deal with me as Black versus white," Dr. Cropper said.

"You have to deal man to man. Once a man has proven himself, it speaks for itself. Racism will not disappear within the next five generations. It has to be outbred."

Dr. Cropper warns that the KKK and similar forces are not limited merely to the South.

"Any time you have a (perceived) threat to the power in force, you are going to get an equal and opposite reaction, be it the Ku Klux Klan or another force," she said.

Dr. Cropper, 27, now resides in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where she practices medicine. She often lectures at colleges and universities, usually once or twice a month.

## NAACP holds energy workshop

Energy--How much will we need? From what sources will it come? Where will we get it? How safe will it be? What are the implications of energy policies on the Black community?

These questions, among others, will be topics of discussion at the Portland Branch NAACP Energy Symposium, to be held at the Matt Dishman Memorial Center, 77 N.E. Knott Street, March 1, 1980, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

The conference will feature an opening plenary session in the morning and concurrent afternoon workshops featuring government officials and representatives of private industry knowledgeable of our nation's energy concerns.

Discussion topics for the four workshops includes "Supply and Demand," "Alternative and Conservation," "Employment and Education," and "Local, State, and Regional Policies and Legislation." The conference is free to the public; lunch will not be provided.

According to President Lucious Hicks IV, the conference is intended to present a basic informational package on energy to the Black community, to assist Black Portlanders in understanding the implications of the world-wide concern with energy.

Keynote speaker at the conference brown bag luncheon will be Clarke R. Watson, chairperson of the American Association of Blacks in

Energy. Watson is also President of Westland Companies of Denver, Colorado.

Jackie Winters, Ombudsman for the State of Oregon, will moderate the opening plenary session from 10:15 a.m. until 12 noon.

In addition, the afternoon workshop moderators include: Lynn Frank, director of the Oregon Department of Energy for "Energy Supply and Demand;" Roy Bracken of Golden Colorado's Solar Energy Research Institute for "Alternatives and Conservation;" Lila Joiner, Regional Director of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers, for "Employment and Education," and Governorial Assistant Pat Amedeo for "Local, State and Regional Policy and Legislation."