

Profile of a President

By Stembile Matatu



CONNIE THOMPSON

Thompson KOMO co-anchor

Connie Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Thompson, has been promoted to co-anchor for television station KOMO in Seattle. Miss Thompson has been with the station since 1974.

Miss Thompson began her career while at KEX Radio, where she was employed while attending the University of Portland. During her last year she was a reporter in the KEX newsrooms, handling news writing, field work, production and on-air news. She produced daily ski reports, the KEX Commuter Traffic Watch. She also worked two summers at KATU-TV.

She joined the KOMO news staff in 1974 as Production Assistant and became a reporter - trainee in July of 1975. By the following spring she was a full-fledged general assignment reporter. As co-anchor of the late news program she will continue

to have primary responsibility for business and consumer reports.

Miss Thompson believes an important ingredient in reporting consumer news is to gain trust.

Her interest include art, music, hiking, camping, skiing. She is a member of the Business and Professional Club of Seattle, the NAACP and the Urban League.

She recommends that young people who think they might be interested in a career try it. Any job can lead to something better. "I didn't decide to go into communications," she adds. She worked as a secretary - receptionist at a radio station and while there developed an interest.

"I emphasize that the best way to learn anything is to work at it. You never know what you learn along the way will be useful."

At 44, it is not surprising that a Methodist minister, Rev. Canaan Banana is now the first true Black President of Zimbabwe. He is a simple, hard working man whose concern was not only to teach the word of God but also for the day to day welfare and human rights of the people he preached to.

His love for his country made him seek justice for his people. Ian Smith labled him a trouble-maker and his name went down in the regime's Enemies List. The Methodist church hierarchy found his politics hard to swallow and gave him the option of either resigning from politics or the ministry. Banana chose to resign from the ministry.

Short in stature, Rev. Banana's simplicity and ideas make his past well remembered by the youth. He was a very welcome visitor to the youth meetings where he came to confer with the young people. He was regarded as a friend and always very encouraging. He indeed remains a friend of the youth in Zimbabwe.

In the 70's, he was elected the ANC's (Muzorewa's party) vice president. He helped Muzorewa to success when, with his experience and popularity, the ANC led the rejection of the Alec Douglas Home proposals. This was an attempt at settling the Rhodesia deadlock in 1971 but the proposals were such that they would have left effective power in the hands of the whites for at least another 200 years. This success earned Banana a permanent spot on Smith's Enemies List and he was in and out of prison. At one point he was even forced into exile in the United States.



Lee Brown speaks here

Dr. Lee P. Brown, Commissioner of Public Safety in Atlanta, Georgia and former director of Public Safety for Multnomah County, will keynote the third annual "Dr. Lee P. Brown Awards Banquet" on Sunday, May 18th.

Robert Lamb, Director of the Justice Department's Community Relations Agency, Region X, will be the guest speaker.

Beltie Lou Overton, president of the sponsoring Albina Women's League Foundation, announced the awards:

Basic Education:

Dr. Harold Kliner, Rance Spruill, Lillian Herzog, Vernon Chapman and Edna H. Baskett.

Community Activist Education:

John Jackson, Herb Cawthorne, Charlotte Williams, Ron Herndon, Bernie Foster and Armando Laguardia.

Community Activist:

Father William Curtin, Gail Washington, James Loving, Ron Sykes and Gregory Gudger.

Commissioner of the Year:

Dan Mosee, Frank Ivancie, Charles Jordan, Gladys McCoy, and Mildred Schwabe.

City Supportive Services:

Nick Barnett, Al Jamison, Anna Street, Marcus Glenn, and Veronica Alberti.

State Supportive Services:

Calvin Henry, Lillie Walker, Kay Toran, Jackie Winters, Harold Williams, Hazel Hays, and Chalmers Jones.

Dr. Lee P. Brown Youth Award:

Maurice Kent, Bennie Choy, Deana Ford, Travis Campbell, Byron Walden, Mary Holden, Daryl Hill, Lonnie Wilson, Rita Redeau, Denise Lucas, and Karl Robeson.

The dinner will be held at the Bourbon Street, NE Grand and Weidler, at 7:30pm. Cocktails will be served at 6:30pm. Donation is \$12.00.

In the 70's Banana re-wrote the Lord's Prayer to reflect the goals of African nationalism: "Forgive us our docility and give us this day our gold..." urging militancy and the fight against white supremacy. At the Geneva Conference held in 1972, he brilliantly prophesied the failure of Muzorewa's political career -- for underneath, Muzorewa's skin he simply diagnosed there was no political spine. It was not surprising then when Rev. Banana's name was missing from the list of political prisoners Muzorewa ordered released.

Muzorewa called him a traitor, a bad influence and a threat to the peace. He was right, quite right because Rev. Banana would eventually have joined in the war against Muzorewa and his fortunately short-lived regime.

To millions of Zimbabweans, Rev. Banana is their man and was the correct choice for President. To his wife, the past decade has been one of hard struggle but it was all worth it.

He will, no doubt, use all his talent and experience to make the presidency more than just a ceremonial post. He may be short in stature but he is intelligent, talented and influential.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Stembile Matatu is a nursing student from Zimbabwe currently studying in London, England.



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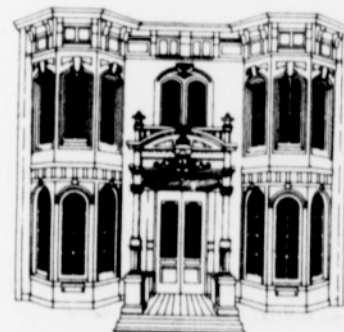
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If you have a problem that is not covered in this list, please call and ask whether we can help. Chances are, we can. If not, we can recommend someone else for you to call. One way or the other, we want to see you get the kind of professional legal counsel you're entitled to.

The best time to call us, or any attorney, is before you are embroiled in a legal problem. This is called preventative law and it makes a lot of sense.

Regardless, when you call us we will arrange for an initial consultation at your convenience. Cost: \$20. We probably can't solve anything in this meeting, but it is a chance for you to explain your particular problem and for us to give you some idea of what it'll take to reach a solution. If you want us to proceed, we'll give you an estimate of the fees you should plan on. In writing.



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