

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Queen Robin Luryne Marks. It has happened! At last all of the young Black girls of Portland know that they can dream - and that maybe someday they, too, can be Queen. Robin has made that dream come true!

Robin is a beautiful young lady - accomplished and charming, whose presentation at the Queen selection was so outstanding that no other could have been chosen.

Robin is an athlete - a state champion - but Robin was not selected because she is a track star. She was chosen because she is a beautiful and intelligent young lady who is respected and admired by the students who selected her to represent their school and who will be an inspiration to those who follow.

And our congratulations to the Junior Queen - Ruth Elaine Bade.

Ash is dangerous to your health

Contrary to headlines in the daily papers, fallout from St. Helens is dangerous to the health. Scientist have found minute particles silica (a form of glass) that are small enough to become lodged in the lungs. They can cause cancer, emphysema, silicosis and other lung diseases. It's true that these diseases might not show up for years and might never be linked directly to the volcano.

But - they said asbestos, coal dust, and the chemicals dumped at Love Canal weren't dangerous. If in doubt - take a look at the grit in your car's air filter and think how that would look in your lungs.

The next eruption could bring much more ash over Portland. We could be inundated like Eastern Washington was last time. So, now is the time to get prepared, just in case. Buy face masks for everyone who must be outside and make preparations to keep children busy indoors. Have enough food and emergency supplies on hand for a few days to avoid unnecessary trips.

Any unnecessary exposure is foolish.

School Board responsibility

The Portland School Board is already being criticized for its Monday vote to oppose registration of young men for the draft. Critics say the draft is none of the Board's business.

The school district spends twelve long years - and more for many - teaching youngsters not only to read and write, but hopefully preparing them for further education, careers, or other choices. They also teach their young people that ours is a nation based on democratic ideals where conflicts are settled through law.

These children haven't been given loving care by their parents and academic skills by their teachers only to be sent off to war to fight over someone else's oil.

Why shouldn't the School Board oppose registration and the draft? Many of the young people will be forced to register while still in high school studying American government.

We commend Board members Wally Priestley, Herb Cawthorne, Steve Buel and Frank McNamara for taking this stand.

We also have to respect Bill Scott, who voted against the motion because he approves of the draft, more than the two board members - Joe Reike and Sarah Newhall - who said they oppose the draft but abstained from voting.

Right kind of principal

Portland school officials and many patrons are concerned about the Black United Front's demand for a Black principal at the new middle school - a middle school that was refused until the BUF and Black parents threatened a boycott. District officials say there was no Black available in the district - and that shows something about employment practices doesn't it?

Capable Black administrators are available all over the country. And don't forget - although the district likes to say there was no time to look for someone - they've known since last summer that there would be a new middle school!



Robert Mugabe: The first sixty days

By N. Fungai Kumbula

June 18 will mark the sixtieth day of Zimbabwe's independence and the Mugabe "Miracle" continues. More changes have been wrought in those sixty days than in sixty years of colonial misrule. That a change has finally come about is evident in the faces of the people both young and old. In private homes, the celebrations that started long before Independence Day, April 18, are still continuing. In the nightclubs, discos, dance halls and other such night spots, the hottest dance is still "Jongwe Shuffle." Jongwe (rooster) was Mugabe's party's election symbol.

The economic collapse, white white exodus, anarchy, Black on Black civil war, a South African invasion, mass executions, a white led coup "predicted" by Western "experts" have not only failed to materialize but are now totally out of the question.

The resettlement of the refugees who had fled to the neighboring countries is running well ahead of schedule. The "squatter camps" that had mushroomed around most of the major cities during the course of the war are fast disappearing as the "squatters" return home.

Almost 90% of the schools that had been closed and, in some cases bombed, have already reopened. 70% of the hospitals are back in service; the dip tanks are functioning again, the notorious "protected villages" (concentration camps) are being dismantled and 9,000 prisoners have been released from captivity. The Ministry of Personpower (Manpower), Planning and Development has just completed with the assistance of the UN, a survey of the country's needs in the areas of education, employment and training.

In the area of news and information dissemination, the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (formerly the "Rhodesia Broadcasting Corporation) controlling radio and television has experienced the most profound transformation in its entire history. Formerly a mere extension of the racist, propaganda laden, anti African radio, South

Africa, it has now begun to reflect more closely the views of Free Africa. Where before it only featured Blacks on their way to prison for "stealing something" or portrayed the "failure and folly" of Black ruled Africa, it now deals with almost daily the dazzling pace of Black advancement: Blacks taking charge of the ZBC, of the justice system, of various government departments, of the health, educational, cultural, recreational, economic and political systems.

Names also feature very prominently in the transformation of the Zimbabwean society. The first and most obvious change was that of the name of the country from "Rhodesia" named for the British pirate, Cecil Rhodes, who originally stole the country. Zimbabwe was the name of one of Africa's greatest empires that flourished throughout what is now Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia and parts of Malawi. This empire lasted from about 600 AD to 1890 when the area was colonized. Literally, Zimbabwe means a stone house - built as a royal residence for the Zimbabwean monarchs.

The capital "Salisbury" was named after a Lord Salisbury, one of Britain's leading advocates of colonialism: the fool actually believed Britain had a divine right to colonize the world! henceforth, the capital will be known as Harare, named after one of the African kings who lived right where "Salisbury" was built. "Victoria Falls" one of the most impressive falls in the whole world will revert to its original name Masi-oa-tunya, literally the "smoke that thunders." When the water falls over this 300 foot gorge on the Zambezi River, the spray rises hundreds of feet into the air: the sound it makes is like thunder and the spray looks like smoke: "the smoke that thunders." With typical British illogic, the falls had been renamed "Victoria Falls" after some obscure queen of England who had no connection whatsoever with Masi-oa-tunya.

Recently, President Canaan

Banana removed all the portraits of the colonial governors and that of Rhodes that still contaminated Zimbabwe's Government House. In their place he will hang pictures and portraits of Zimbabwe's real heroes: Kings Monomotapa, Harare, Mzilikazi, Lobengula, Changamire, Soshangana, Zwangendaba and others like that.

It has not been smooth sailing all the way for the Mugabe administration. There was an outbreak of wildcat strikes throughout the country with Africans demanding higher wages, better working conditions, the firing of their racist white bosses and other similar grievances. Most of the strikes were soon settled through negotiation as opposed to confrontation which would have been the case under all preceding regimes. Probably the most glaring blot on the new administration's so far sterling performance was the handling of a recent demonstration against police brutality. The police force is still led mostly by white holdovers from the Smith-Muzorewa regimes.

Several hundred women, some with babies strapped to their backs, had gathered in Harare to protest continued police brutality. Most of them wore dresses with the picture of Prime Minister Mugabe. When they started marching, the police just waded in and started beating them with batons and so, forcibly, dispersed them. So far I have not heard what action, if any, the government has taken.

The one thing Mugabe has done that stands above all else is give hope to what had become the most hopeless and dejected people in the world. Now everybody looks forward to a whole new future, a future full of promise, a future full of possibilities and a future filled with hope rather than fear. As Zimbabwe celebrates The First Sixty Days, there is, understandably, jubilation. It just so happens that on that very same day, June 18, one Fungai Kumbula will also be celebrating his birthday!

Happy celebration, Zimbabwe. Happy birthday Fungai!

Letters to the Editor

Volcano adds to Trojan danger

Dear Editor:

PGE has announced that it plans to re-open the Trojan nuclear plant and operate it normally July 1st. But the U.S. Geological Survey predicts that another major eruption of St. Helens is inevitable within weeks or months, possibly of lava and:

1. Even a light ashfall has fouled up machinery in the Portland area, from cars to automatic bank deposit chutes, and caused major industries like Tektronix, Intel and Floating Point Systems to shut down. Cooling systems and pumps are particularly susceptible to damage from ash.

2. The Trojan plant stands close to the confluence of the Columbia and the Cowlitz, which even without lava, has been threatening to flood.

With such spectacular and unpredictable geological events going on, simple prudence is that Trojan should remain closed until there is a public inquiry into its safety - not behind closed doors and with the testimony of a handful of experts, but very openly and with vigorous public debate.

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But if prudence characterized this industry, the plant would have been shut down two years ago when it was discovered that part of the walls were not built to PGE's own earthquake specifications. Instead the plant has been allowed to continue operations without the repairs being made, while for the past year the N.W. has been rocked by an accelerating series of earthquakes.

Now, with an active volcano only 30 miles away from the plant, the industry continues its push for speed, and public officials and the press are silent on the matter. I hope that many people will join in speaking loud and clear against this speed and silence, and the folly of continuing to risk such enormous and long term consequences for immediate, short-term profit.

Sincerely,
Barbar La Morticella

Sincerely,
Mrs. C. Louis Harris

At last!
To the Editor:
Re: Our beautiful Black Rose Festival Queen (Congratulations).
ATTENTION: All Portland and the whole wide world. We finally got our beautiful Black Rose Festival Queen.
I have been praying all these years for a Black young lady to be Queen of the Festival.
We can now say, "Thank you Jesus." Yes, God is able.
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Notes from City Hall

By Charles Jordan
Commissioner of Public Safety



Remember that parking ticket you were going to pay?

You have one last chance! If you neglected to take care of your parking violation fine, you still have until the end of June 1980 to eliminate it and become a citizen in good standing.

Judge Phillip T. Abraham has announced the month of June as an amnesty period for vehicle owners with overdue parking tickets. During this month, overdue tickets may be paid at the original, undoubled rate regardless of when you received them. Normally, if not paid within 30 days, the bail amount doubles.

The amnesty is designed to give violators a chance to clear any and all tickets prior to a new, tough enforcement effort planned by the City of Portland and Multnomah County.

To dramatically increase the enforcement of parking laws and to follow through on those who ignore parking tickets as well as provide a more equitable use of the limited parking spaces available in the congested, downtown area, the City and County have negotiated to increase the number of vehicles which will be towed each month for out-

standing warrants.

The new policy becomes effective July 1, 1980 and has four components.

1. Through a cooperative agreement for increased towing by the City and County, it is expected that 40 or more vehicles will be impounded daily. Currently, there are approximately 86 vehicles towed a month by the Portland Police Department and the Bureau of Parking Operations.

2. A new bail schedule will be in effect increasing the amount from \$3.00 to \$4.00 for the following violations which accounts for over 85% of all citations issued.

2. A new bail schedule will be in effect increasing the amount from \$3.00 to \$4.00 for the following violations which accounts for over 85% of all citations issued; (A) Overtime parking (B) Parking outside of a parking space line and (C) Parking more than one foot from the curb. All other violations will remain at the present bail schedule.

3. The County is also investigating other possible enforcement policies. Among these are vehicle booting which consists of placing a metal clamp on the front wheel of a vehicle rendering it immobile until overdue parking violations have been paid and new legislation which will withhold the renewal of vehicle registrations until the owners pay all overdue tickets.

4. The Court has installed a new mini-computer to assist in these efforts. The computer will provide on-line cash receipts, financial audit trails, case tracking, case status reports and courtesy notices to vehicle owners who have impounded warrants issued to them. It will greatly assist in the new enforcement effort and in keeping track of new citations as they are filed with the Court.

Anyone who wishes to find out if their vehicle has any overdue parking tickets issued against it may call the District Court's Parking Tag Section at 248-3890. If the vehicle does have any overdue tickets issued against it, the citizen can come down to the Courthouse or mail in the appropriate payment and have the ticket cleared. The mailing address for the Parking Section is, District Court, P.O. Box 78, Portland, Oregon 97209.

I am alerting you with hope that you will act responsibly now. It is a serious matter, however, the decision is yours.

A PERSONAL MOMENT FOR THOSE WHO CARE

We all have fond memories in our minds. These memories were made from a day that started much as any other day. Most often that special day could have been nothing to remember if it hadn't been blessed with special love. Each new day has the possibility of becoming a special day. A love filled dawn increases the chances of adding another beautiful memory.

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