

EDITORIAL/OPINION

For the record

For Black people a relevant education for their children is distinctly different from what is generally emphasized as important by spokesmen for the dominant population. Blacks are seriously concerned about the humanistic and social content of education and whether or not these are geared directly to preparing Black youth to struggle with the utmost determination and commitment for liberation. The dominant population interests are unwaveringly centered upon the natural sciences and technology. These are the major mechanisms they employ to the extreme in maintaining surveillance and constrictions over Blacks.

As the most oppressed population in America Blacks are the leading protagonists in the war to obliterate the Status Quo. There are noticeable diluted and diffused warpings of the Black intent by members of the school board and administration who lack the courage to face the challenges and confrontations which have been brought before them by an aggrieved and angry Black community. If there are no corrections and adjustments forthcoming the implications will be farreaching and can result in prolonged widespread discomfort. The planning and discussions centered around parental involvement and participation in staff selection and retention in those schools where Black children are enrolled the plurality have all the odious appearances of being time buying efforts. The Black United Front is justified in viewing these maneuvers as subtle devices to keep things the same.

Parent advisory committees as set forth by the Black United Front are to function specifically to ensure meaningful changes in the treatment and education of Black children. The demand is that power over the lives of Black children and the right to influence the kind of education they receive will not be just a promise but a guarantee.

It is redundant to mention that there is bitter dissatisfaction with the established system of education. There is a widespread commitment now to make sure that never again will the education of Black children be controlled by others. Others are going to contribute to this education but they are not going to dominate. The racist opposition is expected to meet blockades and create new difficulties but in spite of these there will be more positive activity from the Black population generating better ideas to make real the educational atmosphere that has been customarily denied Black children.

Black children are human and educable. Their plight in the public schools of this city is the result of being the targets and victims of unrestrained white racism. The Black parents of this era are no longer to be counted as willing to cooperate in those old line school board and administration techniques that have as their objective the destruction of Black people. The parental involvement program is just one of the many overdue developments in the re-tooling of a vicious, degenerate racist system of education. For Black people it is essential because it is one of the necessary steps that must be taken to remove oppression and abuse of Black children.

Letters to the Editor

The other side of the coin

Dear Editor:
Let's tell the other side of the so-called police brutality accusation. For two summers the residents east of Alberta Park between Killingsworth and Ainsworth on 22nd and 23rd and on NE Jarrett between 22nd and 23rd, have been harassed by 100% Black people, who have told home owners, "This is now a Black area and we are going to run you honkies and others out of the neighborhood." (I moved, not because of the threat, but because I needed a larger home if I would have stayed, I would have continued to confront all comers, for no one is going to run me away from my home, especially some inexperienced

Black youth). There is continuous dice games and selling of dope in the park. There has been several arrests for selling dope in the area. Children have found hypodermic needles in the park and on the street. There is daily litter on the street and on everyone's lawn. The resident's lawns have been trampled and have been threatened by the Blacks if they are asked not to walk or sit on the residents lawns.

Streets are blocked by cars whose drivers happen to stop to talk to passing acquaintances. These blacks are not there to use the park. They must be quite affluent, because em-

pty beer and pop containers are frequently left on the street and in the park.

I am proud of who I am. I disclaim any so called "brotherhood" to Blacks whose primary purpose is to destroy what many of us, white and Black have worked for to gain what little rights this society has to offer and let a few so call "brothers" negate all and lay down without a fight.

To all those who aspire to follow Malcom X. First listen to his records and read his books and speeches before you ruin all that he stood for in his name.

Walter F. Morris Jr

The other side of the park

Dear Editor:
In response to Commissioner Jordan's article last week regarding Alberta Park, I too am concerned about illegal activities taking place in and around the park and

harassment of neighbors. I have personally witnessed police harassment. I believe policing of the park could be done in less brutalizing manner. The police and park employees

should work together to solve the problems. Brutality only leads to resentment and more problems.

The Commissioner needs to take a long hard look at his police.

John B. Preston

Banzar not part of recall effort

Letter to the Editor:
This letter is to clarify my position on the present Portland school board issue. I am not part of the school board recall efforts. I have not and will not sign a recall petition.

The recall procedure should be used to safeguard the community from elected officials who abuse

their office with illegal actions or are unable to perform their duties. It should not be used to express policy differences.

If anything good can come of this emotional issue, it is that the 92% of registered voters who did not vote in the last school board election will realize the important responsibility they have to vote.

Carefully reviewing each candidate's philosophy and taking the time to vote next spring is the way to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the policies of the existing school board.

Sincerely,

Cindy Banzer

BUF pushes street name changes

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without winning like immature children regardless of the issue." Jackson feels that Portland is no exception.

The proposed name changes for Williams, Vancouver and Union Avenue were as follows: Mrs. Rosa Parks, Malcom X and Martin L. King, Jr., Avenue. The survey results of the city indicated that residents did not like the names which were selected by the Black community.

According to Jackson, "the name selection process was based on Black renowned personalities known both on the national and international level. In addition, the Front questions the opposition of the name selection. "Would such a point be raised out of fear due to the

powerful liberating force that these three people generated among Black people?"

Commissioner's Lindberg suggestion of how the Black community should proceed on street and name selection was equally questioned by Jackson. "It may have been well intended, but it shows the lack of sensitivity and respect for Black people, especially when it comes to their being actively involved in shaping their culture. We are displeased with such an attitude on Lindberg's part, because it implies Black people are incapable of doing anything correct."

When asked about the business opposition Jackson noted: "There would be no sense whatsoever to re-name a residential street with very

few businesses. Major thoroughfares in our community is of utmost importance, and it is a known fact, cities which have had name changes have not selected lightly travelled streets.

"Given the nature of this city, it appears as though everyone would be tickled pink if we selected some alley here in the Black community." When asked about Lindberg's support of the Black community, Jackson responded, "we are very disappointed that Lindberg came for our support prior to his election and got it, we came for his support, and he turns his back on us by using a survey, insulting our community and simply dismissing our request. Furthermore we will continue to pursue the name changes in the Black community."



WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?

by N. Fungai Kumbula

For the past five years this has been the most serious column of any paper in the Northwest. Few would argue this and so the columnist feels it is time for a change. After all, there is a crazy world out there.

There is a psychiatrist in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who was convicted of bilking \$13,285.00 from Medicaid. Dr. Alice Dean simply submitted fictitious claims and collected. Her sentence upon conviction made legal history: she was ordered to go and spend three years serving the needy children of southern India! However, being a convicted felon, India promptly indicated she would be denied entry into India.

In the Indianapolis courtroom of Judge Hazel Shripinsky, the good judge is dispensing justice.

Judge Shripinsky: Mr. Willoughby-Timkins, your record is really shocking: attempted theft, attempted burglary, attempted arson, attempted rape, attempted murder. What do you have to say for yourself?

Willoughby-Timkins: Well, Your Honor, one can't always be successful.

The erudite professor had had one too many and it was some pretty potent stuff to boot. Brought before the judge, he was still rather inebriated. With all due solemnity, the judge asked the professor, why he was lying in the "No Vagrants" area of the park.

The professor lurched to his feet and began:

"I was perambulating
Down the declivity
Of the marcadamized terraffin
When I suddenly lost
The centre of gravity
And found myself precipitated
In a glass of beer!"

The judge had no idea what the professor was talking and, since he hated to admit his ignorance, he simply dropped all charges against the good professor.

President Bernard Albert Bongo of the oil-rich African nation of Benin bought a \$3 million in West Los Angeles for his two daughters

who are enrolled at UCLA. The reason was so that when he comes to the U.S. to visit, he won't have to stay in a hotel! That, however, was only a drop in the bucket for the eccentric little Napoleon. A few years back when Benin hosted the OAU, he had a \$65 million revolving palace built for himself. A palace is ostentatious enough but a revolving palace!

Air Zaire has two large planes: a jumbo jet and a D-C 10. Some time ago Mobutu Sese Seko, dictator of Zaire, decided to take a trip to France. Now, get this: his entourage took the one jumbo jet and his wife and her own entourage took the DC 10 leaving the country without its only two large planes! What about the passengers? They just had to wait until the Mobutus decided to come back!

That was bad, yes, but early this year Mrs. Mobutu may have topped that. She took the jumbo jet, went to Paris and insisted on landing at Paris Orly Airport (landing fees there are prohibitively expensive).

Naturally, when she disembarked the plane, newspeople swarmed after her to see what was so urgent about her mission. She went into a Paris perfume shop, bought one bottle of perfume, returned to the airport and flew back to Zaire!

The war between Morocco and the Polisario Front over Morocco's claims to the Western Sahara had put the U.S. Department in a rather uncomfortable position. Nominally, the U.S. objected to Morocco's colonial claims and supported the Polisario's quest for self-rule for Western Sahara.

Under King Hassan II, however, Morocco has become one of America's most reliable puppets in Africa. To wage his nasty little war, Hassan needs American arms. For a while, the voices of reason within the Carter Administration had managed to block this sale of arms. Before too long, however, the "Hawks" came up with one of the most amazing pieces of "logic" in modern times to justify selling arms to Hassan. The "logic" went

something like this: If we sell arms to Morocco, Hassan will be more inclined to negotiate with the Polisario!

That's just like somebody who finds two people fighting in an alley and offers them guns so they will feel more inclined to talk instead of fighting!

Shortly after the elections in Zimbabwe, Abel Muzorewa was seen trying to hitch a ride back to Salisbury. It now comes out that after his humiliation at the polls, the South Africans who had bankrolled to the tune of almost \$30 million took back everything: the money; the cars, the helicopters, the telephones, everything.

They even took the car that he had given by the Methodist Church of which he is the bishop! Talk a bout losing one's back teeth!

For a long time to come, Julio will think twice before taking another trip. He lives in New York and had gone down to Puerto Rico to visit some compadres. Upon his return to New York, he was promptly arrested by IRS agents who insisted he was not an American but a Nicaraguan.

In spite of all his protests, he was deported to Nicaragua! In Nicaragua he was promptly arrested and shipped off to jail. He was in the country without any travel documents and they refused to believe his story that he had been deported to Nicaragua. He spent a week in the Nicaraguan jail while his relatives brought affidavit after affidavit to the INS to convince them that Julio was actually American. The INS relented in the end and Julio came back to New York.

Now Julio is suing the INS for false arrest, false deportation, mental anguish and a few other charges. Meantime, his uncle had died in Puerto Rico but, after all his misadventures, he could not bring himself to take another trip to Puerto Rico.

Finally, there was the ever serious political commentator who decided on a change of pace, but, that's another story.



Notes from City Hall

By Charles Jordan
Commissioner of Public Safety

The unanimous decision by the Portland Civil Service Board at its April 4th meeting which approved our proposed Affirmative Action Certification Plan was overturned recently by a Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge.

The plan, which was designed to assist in hiring qualified minorities and women to achieve affirmative action goals and objectives in the City, faced much opposition from the Portland Police Association who sought a permanent injunction against the Board. Their lawsuit contended that the Affirmative Action Certification Plan was unconstitutional, that it violated the City Charter by certifying persons for employment other than the top three applicants on the initial test and that it would result in a decline in the quality of Portland Police officers.

Judge Clifford Olsen, on Friday, August 8, 1980 ruled in favor of the Police Bureau. According to Olsen, it was not the soundness of the rule but the authority of the Board to adopt and implement it. "The Board cannot formulate legislative policy regarding certification of candidates for City service," he said. "Neither is the Board empowered to adjudicate the legality of the City's employment practices, at least in the absence of legislative mandates and legislatively determined criteria."


The rule was never implemented due to a temporary restraining order signed when the lawsuit was filed, but I am still hopeful. The rule is a good one and perhaps both, the Civil Service Board's authority to adopt such a policy as well as the constitutionality of the rule of three

should be reviewed by a higher court whose experience lends itself to affirmative action and the problems inherent in implementing quasi-government constitutional practices.

An August 19th meeting is scheduled with the Civil Service Board to seek approval to appeal Judge Olsen's decision to the Oregon Court of Appeals. A change is necessary if we are to accomplish or even come near the City's established goals and objectives.

The most significant steps along the road begin with only one. For those who dare to take such a step, to pioneer and pave the way for others to follow, we know that the loss of a few yards does not mean that we can't go the distance. We must not be inclined to give up.

Our gain is also the City's.



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