

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES

By Kathryn Bogle

Anytime is a good time for families to get together but the "good old summertime" offers a special ambience for the generations to enjoy each other. The miles shrink in travel importance when loved ones are at the destination.

The doors of the spacious home of Susie and Charles Patterson (he's a retired tax expert for the State of Oregon) have always stood open for the return to the rest of their adult twins, Dianne and Donald. Dianne is Mrs. Roman Jones Jr. of the Bay area. Dianne, educated in Portland, teaches in a Catholic elementary school in Concord, California. She brought her two teenage daughters to visit for a month with their grandparents, Patterson and with their grandparents, Jones.

Donald Anderson of Portland, and Dianne are twin brother and sister. Don and his wife, Alice, have three teenagers of their own and although their family is still growing, there is room at the Patterson table for all. Unflappable Susie just adds another leaf to the table and the other set of grandparents, Geneva and Roman Jones Sr., brings over extra turkey and some of Geneva's famous specialities, and the feast goes on.



Hostess Karen Deiz Bell and guest of honor Cheryl Brown Glass.

Cheryl Brown Glass (Mrs. Leland Glass) and Karen Deiz Bell (Mrs. Kenneth Bell) grew up together almost as sisters. Though Mrs. Glass now lives in Sacramento with her husband and two children, the two try to keep their friendship as strong as ever. This year the renewal started with a June-July cruise to the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean

seas, went on to New York City and Washington, D.C., and wound up in Portland. The two young women had a great time.

In Oregon, the Kenneth Bells entertained at a relaxed, informal, summer day brunch at their home in Oregon City with Mrs. Glass as honored guest.

Dr. Samuel Brown, her genial father, the popular Portland dentist, gladly took charge of Cheryl's two children, Monique and Uumoiya, while Cheryl and Karen visited old family friends in the East.

Among the twenty five or thirty brunch guests was an interesting traveler from Kingston, Jamaica. She was Judge Hazel D. Leslie, a distant relative of Stephen Tillman whose family she is visiting in Portland. The Tillman name is among those of old-time Portlanders who were here in the early 1900s.

Judge Leslie was studying law at London University in England when she met her second cousin Stephen, a sergeant then in the U. S. Air Force stationed in London at that time. After qualifying as a British

barrister-at-law, Hazel Leslie returned to Kingston to practice. Now, as Judge Leslie, she conducts the affairs of her district-type court in Kingston.

Judge Leslie and Judge Mercedes Deiz found much in common to discuss and the two made plans to follow up on the acquaintance.

After the brunch party, Carl Deiz took his wife, the judge, with him to Hawaii for a vacation.

Recently Geneva Jones was feted with flowers and food and compliments galore as she completed her allotted years as president of Women's Advertising Club of Portland. Geneva handed the gavel over to Shirley Constatine at a packed house luncheon meeting at the Multnomah Athletic Club. The annual installation is the 62nd in the club's long history.



Geneva Jones, retiring president of the Women's Advertising Club, receives roses from new president Shirley Constatine.

A picnic supper last Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses G. Plummer brought together seventeen of their descendants. Yul and Rod Plummer, sons of attorney Ulysses Plummer III of Oakland, have returned to their home after a two week visit with their several cousins and their paternal grandparents.

Mrs. O. J. Gates has returned from a trip which afforded her a chance to visit with her daughter Sylvia Gates Carlisle, a medical student at Brown University and also to delve into research files at the famed Schomburg Institute in New York City. In compilation of

recorded facts concerning the life and achievements of her father, J. G. McPherson, Mrs. Gates was led to the files of one of the oldest military bases in the country: the United State Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She found the historic base a veritable paradise; a researcher's rainbow complete with pot of gold.

Mrs. Maude Young has been appointed to the City County Council on Aging by Mayor Connie McCready.



Judges Hazel Leslie and Mercedes Diez compare notes.



MRS. AGNES BROWN

Mrs. Agnes Brown, of New York City, spent her vacation from her position with the Department of Public Welfare visiting in Portland with her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Caroline Brown and their daughter Serena. The whole family motored to Victoria and Vancouver, B.C., for an expanded holiday.

Dr. and Mrs. Webster Brown stayed close to home this summer, but they were in Salem to attend the final concert and recital closing the summer camp session of the Young Musicians and Artists. Their daughter, Linda Brown, a violin student of Chamber Music, enjoyed her participation in the camp program staged by Marylhurst College on the campus of Willamette University.



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bell, Dr. Samuel Brown and Cheryl Glass.



Stephen Tillman and Carl Deiz visit with Judge Hazel Leslie of Jamaica and Judge Mercedes Deiz.

A tale of two cities

By Dr. Manning Marble

The 1970's gave birth to the illusion -- some would argue fact -- of growing Black economic achievement in America. *Time* magazine informed the country, for example, that the majority of Blacks were now defined as "middle class." *Black Enterprise* magazine touted the individual financial successes of black businessmen. As the unemployment and jobs skill programs initiated under the Great Society succumbed to the fiscal cutbacks of the Nixon-Ford-Carter administrations, the majority of white Americans became convinced that poverty was no longer a problem for Blacks. Racism had "declined in significance," according to one Black social scientist, as a critical factor in local and regional economic development vis a vis the Black community.

The reality of Black economic underdevelopment -- the paucity of real gains in the private enterprise system -- is illustrated across the country. Let's examine this reality in two cities with a growing economic base and a sizeable concentration of Blacks.

Austin is the capital of Texas, the center of tremendous growth in metropolitan and suburban Austin, achieved economic parity with whites?

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, there were 559 Black owned and operated businesses in Travis County last year. Only 15 percent, or 86 businesses, had any paid employees. The four largest categories for business in Austin were selected services (catering, beauty parlors, barber shops, etc.), retail stores, construction firms and transportation (taxi cabs, etc.). Most of these firms' gross annual receipts were under \$19,000. The selective services business averaged gross incomes of \$15,580. The transportation businesses averaged \$18,890. The 44 Black-owned construction firms, the most affluent of all black enterprises, averaged gross incomes of \$43,270 -- a figure that is less than one tenth the amount of a typical white-owned construction corporation.

The great majority of Black owned businesses in Travis County are of the mom-and-pop variety. Three-fourths of the Black-owned construction firms have no paid employees, and average gross receipts of \$11,390. 86 of the 115 Black-owned retail stores in greater Austin have no paid employees. These stores average gross receipts of only \$14,380.

The total number of workers employed by Black businesses in the county is 326. The average salary for these employees is under \$5000 per year -- \$4,950.92. This salary is

under the federal government's poverty limit. In short, with few exceptions, Black employers and employees remain outside the great expansion and explosion of wealth in the Sun Belt.

Tallahassee is the capital of Florida, the state that has experienced one of the greatest rates of capital development and urbanization since World War II. Although located in the northern panhandle of the state, and remaining geographically distinct from the rapid cosmopolitan and fiscally expansive character of Miami, Tampa Bay, West Palm Beach and Orlando, Tallahassee is an important political hub for the New South. What have been the prospects for Black business development in this city?

There were 222 Black-owned and operated firms in Tallahassee last year. The four largest included selected services (109), retail stores (48), construction (30), and real estate/insurance (11). Once again, most of these businesses had gross incomes below \$19,000. Selective services firms averaged gross annual receipts of \$20,810. Construction firms averaged gross receipts amounting to \$33,300. black transportation firms averaged \$25,400.

What emerges from the statistics is a two-tiered or split level within the Black economic order. For a handful of Black-owned -- and

white financed -- businesses, the economic system has produced some successes. This is particularly true for Blacks in the construction industry. Twenty one Black-owned construction firms in Tallahassee employed a total of 106 workers last year. These businesses' total gross receipts came to almost 3 million dollars, and averaged \$138,620.00 per business.

However, a critique beyond this apparent success reveals the reality of Black business poverty. The majority of black construction firms in Tallahassee employ not a single worker. These 27 Black businesses gross only \$22,330 per year. Their total fiscal percentage of the Black construction market is about 13.4 percent.

This pattern of limited Black success and predominant Black economic underdevelopment affects every sector of the economy. Over 70 percent of the Black-owned businesses in Tallahassee employ no workers. Black businesses without workers have gross receipts each year amounting to \$10,960 on average. Employees at Black-owned firms average an annual salary of \$6,137.93. Only 145 jobs are generated by Black-owned businesses in Tallahassee.

Any way you look at the figures, the stark facts of Black economic underdevelopment remain for both Austin and Tallahassee Blacks.



Pacific Power

Citizen of the Week



This week's Citizen of the Week is Mr. Henry Scott, President of Coast Janitorial Services.

Mr. Scott has been President of Coast Janitorial Services since its founding in 1957. He started the janitorial establishment because of his part-time employment as a janitor, and his interest in operating his own janitorial business.

Mr. Scott has been actively involved in the Black community and is currently director of the Portland Urban League and a branch of the American State Bank.

He is a native of Louisiana and resides in Portland with his wife Bernice. They have four children: Bernadette, Jerome, Robert and Douglass.

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