



For the children of Atlanta and for all children who are hungry, suffer and live in fear.

A prelude to 'After Hours'

Portland: A time when lights were red

by Ron Sykes

Most of us know Portland as one of the most livable cities in the U.S. That has not always been so. The Portland City Club said in a February 1958 report that local gambling and prostitution activities had been openly and notoriously carried on throughout the city for several years. During the administration of Mayors Joseph K. Carlson, Jr. (1933-1941) and Earl Riley (1941-1949), it was "business as usual," giving certain privileged persons - usually friends of the reigning administration - what they wanted. This practice led to cozy, often illegal, arrangements between

the Mayor's office and some of the City's most prominent businessmen. These "arrangements" led to attitudes of apathy and cynicism that were reflected in the operating policies of the Portland Police Department. The police tended to "look the other way" in matters related to vice, and at the same time making sure that each got his "cut" of the action.

The City was wide open. There were hookers of every color, size and shape; every game of chance one could imagine; lots of poor man's follies; one-arm bandits and poker players. There were eleven houses of prostitution; five horse

bookie joints; five baseball pools; eight bootleggers; all on the West side of Portland. Gambling action on the East side was confined largely to the area around Burnside and Grand, and in the North to St. Johns. It was widely known that the existence of these illegal activities condoned by the police and high authorities, corrupted the entire law enforcement process. Portland was the hub of all illegal activities. Safe burglars, stick-up men, dope peddlers, and other underworld figures flocked to Portland by the hundreds. To the police it produced approximately \$60,000 a month in protection payments and the City was widely recognized as having the

second highest rate of incidence of venereal disease in the nation.

Due to its notoriety, a movie, "Portland Expose," was made depicting the crime and vice in the City and how it was cleaned up. This cleaning up process was largely due to one strong woman, Dorothy McCullough Lee, who was elected to the office of Mayor in 1948. Dorothy McCullough Lee's main campaign promise was "to enforce the law." She immediately launched and a vendetta against organized crime. Her years in office were to prove trying.

A local newspaper gave her a luke-warm reception at best. Because of her independent nature

and determination to do what she felt to be right and not what was necessarily politically safe, the business community rejected her leadership. She could not be controlled as her predecessors had been. She was relentless in her pursuit to cleanse the City. There were complaints from all arenas; from slot machine operators; gambling joint owners, and red light madams to segments of the business community.

The Dorothy McCullough Lee regime cleaned up Portland, but in doing so created a monster. Whereas before prostitution and gamblers usually worked out of (Please turn to Page 7 Col 5)



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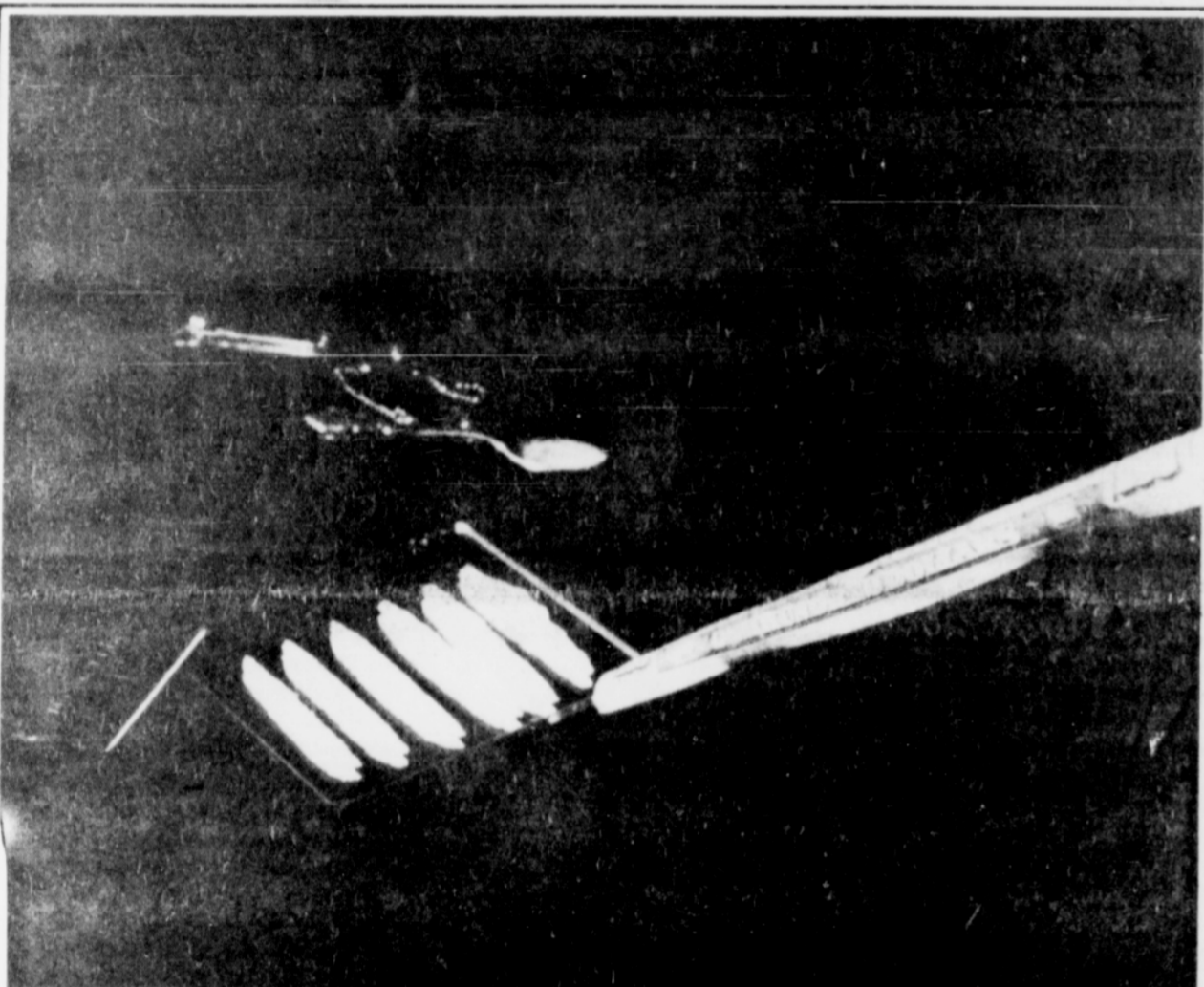


Photo: Richard J. Brown

A toot here, a toot there

Grassroot News N.W. - You can call it white girl, nose candy and blow, but Cocaine is Cocaine by no other name. From the Coca shrubries of Bolivia, the caviar of drugs is labbed down into a free-base pasta which is the sparkling, snortable, industrial cocaine hydrochloride. It's packed and routed by various ways to Miami, Los Angeles and Portland.

Snow has found its way up the nose of the rich and the poor. Crossing boundaries and capturing souls with a caliber of its own. "The supply has kept up with the demand," stated Mark Miller, Director of the University of Oregon Drug Information Center. "The stuff that's on the streets now is a lot less pure than a generation ago. Adulterates have increased and the effects derived are dose dependent."

To capitalize on coke, some of its users have indicated to Grassroot News how profitable it is to step on the drug to duplicate what was ordinarily purchased. "I take what I've bought for fifty dollars and step on it with Benita (milk sugar). You never know the difference and my blow ends up costing me nothing." When questioned about the strength of the cocaine after it has been stepped on, the response was, "Everybody seems to get high."

The half-an-hour high on Cocaine has been described as better than sex and in extreme cases, can take the place of sex. Nikki Johnson, from CODA (Comprehensive Options For Drug Abuse) provided a social insight. "People that develop a coke problem and routed here when the use of the drug ceases to be a casual fling and becomes a lifestyle. I'm

seeing an increase in its use and the younger users are going off into crime just to support this desire. The cycle of use is impulsive. Users avoid depression because coke's a neat drug. It makes you feel good, and we live in a drug culture. So taking drugs to feel better is not at all foreign. The only thing to remember is that what goes up, must come down."

"The comedown is like hearing someone scraping their fingernails across the blackboard," a former user said. "That's why I quit; my moods got to be too much for my family and they were ready to ask me to leave."

The value of toot has risen, which accounts for the snowballing price. The fast money and and lots of it, has sent some people to see their maker a lot sooner than they had expected. And although the substance is illegal that has been no deterrent to its use. "The main motive for abuse of cocaine is money," says an officer from the vice squad. "In the Portland area, we have made arrests and it has turned out to be milk sugar. Because of the time and money it takes to get those few people at the top, law enforcement can't get close to the source. The convictions that are handed down really can't be followed up because Judges have no place to put them. When the people get sick of the crime that goes along with the drug, maybe then we can counteract the trade. Until then, we'll just keep chipping away."

Maybe the reason why people aren't up in arms is that all kinds of people blow cocaine. From the penthouses to the one bedroom

apartment, blow has become the special treat. The paraphernalia that accompanies its use is more exquisite than the mere spoon and mirror. You can buy Nasal Douche or Indispensable Dispensers and even Pseudo Caine.

The traditional way to get high is to snuff the stuff up your nose. Free basing is a process where you cook the coke down to its resin and under intense heat, you smoke it. Another process is to mainline the drug by injecting it into the vein or mixing it with herion to create a speedball.

The physical and psychological effects are the dialation of pupils, increased pulse rate and blood pressure, euphoria, insomnia, nausea and illusions. Mark Miller goes on to say, "There's a switching that occur when you're high, the increased heart rate leads to high blood pressure, which gives way to hypertension. The real problem is that when the drug is broken down into your system the real problem is that when the drug is broken down into your system the effects are strong."

The use of show is not physically addictive although a tolerance can develop. The effects on the lifestyle of people can alter the future of our community. We can ill-afford a generation of burned out users because they set the tempo for our future. Other than the money, the main purpose for use is the sensation. It feels good and so does suicide when life looks bad.

Certainly people who snort this dust aren't going to quit after reading this article. But we hope they will think twice about things going better with coke.

PSU Black Studies gets cuts

Dr. William Little, Director of Portland State University's Black Studies Center, has been notified that the department budget will be cut by approximately 20 percent due to cuts in the State's higher education budget.

"The \$25,000 cut in our budget is larger than we had expected and if it is adopted will seriously hurt our program," Dr. Little said. In order to meet the budget level, all part time and temporary teachers will have to be released. Only three full time instructors would be retained.

This would eliminate twelve of the approximately 60 courses offered, including Swahili, Introduction to Black Studies, Black History and African - American Political Thought - all of which are taught by non-tenured teachers.

The three assistant ships also will be terminated. These are usually filled by African students, allowing them the opportunity to continue their education while contributing to the program by teaching.

The Black Studies Department serves approximately 400 students

each term. About 40 percent are lower classmen, 50 percent are upper division and 5 percent are graduate students. Students can earn a Certificate of Black Studies while majoring in another field. Enrollment has increased each year.

"The cuts will not only hurt our current program but will jeopardize our holding the National Conference on Black Studies Conference in 1983," Little explained. "The cut backs indicate that there is not strong support for the program. (Please turn to Page 4 Col 3)

Discrimination in the work place

By Cleo Franklin

William E. Pollard who is the Director of the Civil Rights Department of the AFL-CIO addressed a group who attended a school "Discrimination on the Job," co-sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Labor College and the A. Philip Randolph Institute, on the three threats to our democracy: racism, sexism and extremism. Pollard called for positive change in the labor movement in our society. He stated that the "goals of the labor unions and the goals of minorities and women are similar." There is also a important need to get young people involved. Pollard doesn't believe that the majority of women and minorities realize the problems they face on the basis of race, sex, religion, and nation origin. "We must call on labor unions and public officials to help solve these problems. The habit of discrimination still exist."

Pollard described a picture he saw of two buzzards sitting on a roost. One said to the other, "patience my a__!" referring to an Oregon Journal article of August 1, 1981. When it was reported that the Portland Police Department asked the citizens of N.E. Portland for patience, Mr. Williams responded to the article to say, "patience my A__!"

Pollard characterized his remarks as not asking for preferential treatment for any minority group but he

said to the majority that "all minority groups have paid their dues. No one rides free." A continuation of discrimination in any form is a prostitution of human resources. "When racism, sexism and extremism are permitted to exist in this society, it weakens the foundation of this society. Racism, sexism and extremism have plagued our society and our nation from the beginning and still exist to this date. Racism and extremism reared its ugly heads against the American Indian and still exist today."

"Black people have suffered from racism, sexism and extremism from day one in this country. Black people are the only group of people that didn't come to this country on their own volition. The result was protest and the protest still continues today."

Pollard stated that "there are many negatives but despite the many differences among us, positive change has taken place." We have not reached a point where all people based on race, sex, religion, age, handicap, or national origin are treated equal, but we are moving in that direction. He called on those affected groups with common problems and solutions to recognize their commonality and develop positive lines of communication.

Women have experienced discrimination based on sex from the day the pilgrims landed. Women, like Blacks, have had to fight for the right to vote for decades but Blacks,

unlike women, still have to fight for the right to vote today. The Reagan Administration is demurring on extension of the Voting Rights Act. Extremism has always been a part of American life. Blacks have probably suffered more than any other group in that regard particularly at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan.

Pollard said, "The three greatest challenges ever confronting our democracy are racism, sexism and extremism." Therefore, minorities, women and other groups with common concerns should develop a coalition. He went on to say that "three must be our magic number and a three prong attack should be launched through active involvement, education and coalitions."

NOTICE

The Urban League will hold community congresses to allow the communities to assess their needs and plan self-help programs. The King Neighborhood Community Congress will be held at King Community Park, adjacent to King School, on August 8th from 10:00 a.m., to 6:00 p.m. Among the speakers are Ron Herndon and County Commissioner Gordon Shadburn. There will be a pop-off dance contest, arts, crafts, prizes.

The Boise Congress will be held on August 15th at Unthank Park.

Refugees: A focus

PART II

By Nyewusi Askari

(Writer's Note: This is the second installment of "Refugees: A focus." This week's focus is on the Hmong and Mien people of SE Asia)

The Hmong refugees are said to have originated in China and began to migrate into Southeast Asia 150 years ago. Once there, they established a preference for small villages in the mountains where they lived peacefully with their Vietnamese, Lao, Thai and Burmese neighbors until the 1890s, when French control was established over much of Indochina. The presence of the French

shattered the social organization of the Hmong. The most devastating was the implementation of a colonial tax system based on population, which forced Hmong families to pay a fixed amount regardless of their wealth. Many Hmong could not pay, and when village chiefs refused to collect the tax, the French-Lao authorities sent guerrillas and militiamen into the mountains to intimidate Hmong residents. In response, the Hmong ordered an attack on the intruders, and the French immediately ordered a cease-fire.

Between 1919 and 1921, the Hmong in North Vietnam rose up in a similar, but much bloodier

revolt against the tax system. Between 1921 and 1941, there were no major incidents, although during this period, the Hmong were still politically controlled by the Lao and French.

Between 1955 and 1975, Hmong life was severely disrupted by war. Thousands of families were forced to abandon their homes; leaving possessions, livestock and traditional life behind. Some aspects of that life was as follows:

- Agriculture: Slash and Burn - The term refers to the practice by the Hmong of clearing fields by cutting down the existent vegetation, then burning it to clear (Please turn to Page 10 Col 1)