



## Washington Hotline

by Congressman Ron Wyden

**Q.** Congressman Wyden, you are on record in support of a bill which would prohibit further development and deployment of nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union. Can you explain a little more about this bill and why you are supporting it?

**A.** Every other issue we debate—at the dinner table or in the Congress—pales when we confront the problem of nuclear proliferation. This year, the world community will spend more than \$600 billion preparing to kill ourselves. A big part of that preparation consists of the stockpiling of explosive devices—an effort which has already been so successful that we now have more explosive material on this planet than we have food.

Faced with these staggering statistics, it seems nothing short of amazing that we want to spend still more money on nuclear weapons. And yet many of our leaders do.

The bill I have cosponsored calls upon the U.S. and the Soviets to prohibit further production and deployment of nuclear weapons. It seems a small price to pay to ensure a safe future for ourselves—indeed,

for all mankind.

**Q.** This week you announced your intention to vote against raising the national debt ceiling unless certain conditions are met. What are those conditions?

**A.** I really have two major conditions. The first is that the Administration agree to budget compromises that will lower the federal deficit. The second is that the Administration give special consideration to reviving the economy of the Pacific Northwest.

Meeting the first condition means the Administration must agree to cut some of the sacred cows it has so far left virtually untouched. One of those is the bloated military budget. Another is the huge tax increase the Administration rammed through last year on the false promise it would deliver prosperity.

Meeting the second condition means the Administration must take such steps as:

- supporting a meaningful program to assist the battered housing and timber industries;
- backing off on its quest to impose disastrous waterway user fees—which are really nothing more

than a new tax, and a new tax that will cost us jobs, new investment and economic growth potential, and;

• supporting a special jobs training program—a program run in partnership between private business and government.

I do not believe the first condition is unreasonable when you consider the alternative: the continuation of huge billion-dollar deficits that destroy our chances for economic recovery.

And without the second condition, Oregon is in serious trouble. For Oregon, the great supply-side experiment has turned out to be deny-side economics. Oregonians are being denied jobs. They're being denied the chance to provide adequately for themselves and their families. They're being denied the opportunity to get ahead in business. And they're being denied the opportunity to realize the American dream of home ownership.

I, for one, have had enough of deny-side politics. Oregonians deserve a fair shake, and I intend to do everything in my power to see that we get it.

## NBL aids small business development

by Harris Levon McRae

Founded in 1900 by Dr. Booker T. Washington, 12 years before the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Business League (NBL) is the nation's oldest business organization.

"The average Portlander has not been aggressive enough when it comes to economic development. The Oregon chapter of the National Business League was brought here for that reason—to enhance economic development in N.E. Portland. It is the only business organization in Portland and in the state of Oregon geared toward Black businesses," said James Berry, coordinator of the Oregon Chapter of the NBL.

A national federation of associating corporations, individuals and business firms, the NBL's membership takes in a wide range of business enterprises, ranging from international trading concerns and high technology manufacturers, to small service establishments and single proprietorships.

"The Oregon chapter is a little different than the national organization in that it is made up of small businesses. Reaganomics have made it where small businesses will get the bulk of the unemployed," Berry said.

With a growing membership that now includes 127 chartered chapters throughout 37 states and the District of Columbia, the NBL has also developed a national network of association affiliates through the National Council for Policy Review (NCPRI). In addition the NBL chartered the Booker T. Washington Foundation, a foundation with a mandate to maximize economic development in Black and minority communities.

"We are currently working on a joint venture with the Alliance for Social Change to start a program to create small businesses. We will set up and help at least three businesses in a year. Our primary focus is on Black business but we support the entire community when it comes to economic development."

Booker T. Washington once said: "No people ever got upon its feet and obtained the respect and confidence of the world which did not lay its foundations in successful busi-

ness enterprise." Minority enterprise is vital not only to the sustained growth of our national economy, but to the ultimate survival of minorities period.

According to Berry members of the NBL feel that, "Since our founding in 1900, the goals and guiding purposes of the National

Business League have remained in touch with the fundamental tenets of American life. And there is nothing more fundamental to America than business."

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the National Business League or who needs information should call 283-4006.

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## Prostitution: The customer

Part VI

by Harris Levon McRae

"I don't like the idea of strange men coming through my neighborhood specifically for illegal sexual purposes. I have daughters of my own to look out for."

Who are these "strange men" that the concerned parent talked about? What kind of man buys sex from a woman on the streets?

The customers of a prostitute also known as a "trick" or "john" can be anyone. They are Black and white, old and young and come from all social, cultural and economic backgrounds. They are the reason prostitution exists—they demand and pay for it.

"I'm in my early sixties and my wife is five years older. We've been married for thirty-five years and it has been a good marriage in all ways—but sometimes I need a change of pace sexually, something new—and young," one man said.

Prostitution promotes the cultural idea that men should have sexual services provided to them on any terms they choose as long as they pay for it.

"There is a need for sex without any long term commitment. I've been through two divorces and a couple of real heartbreaking affairs with women. I would much rather pay for it from some hooker than go

through the emotional trauma again," one sex customer related.

"I find Black women very attractive and it is near impossible for me to meet any in my circle of friends and in my line of work—so I pay for the pleasure," another customer added.

The law forbids buying sex from a prostitute, and many irate citizens ask why more of the sex customers are not arrested. The prostitutes, not the customers or pimps, are usually the ones arrested. Captain Tobin of the Drug and Vice Division of the Portland Police Department comments: "We are responding to citizens' requests for making some arrests of the johns. We use female officers as 'decoys' and it has been effective."

For the most part Captain Tobin finds the prostitution customer "usually out of his neighborhood. It is not uncommon to arrest the same prostitute twice in a night but for the john it's different. He just wants to get his fine paid and be on his way as fast as possible. Once busted he rarely comes back into the area."

"I have a feeling that many of these men are visiting from other places—away from home and seeking sex," adds Duane McNanny of the Multnomah County Juvenile Department.

Prostitution is very related to tra-

ditional dominance of men over women in our society. It is expressed in various ways including the feeling of some men that women are property, and the old "do as I say and not as I do" double standard for men and women.

"Women not involved in prostitution for the most part are against prostitution, while males generally tend to see it as a needed social outlet," Captain Tobin said.

"If there are men willing to pay for sex, there will be women willing to sell it," a Union Avenue prostitute stated.

Apparently this is true. The financial rewards of prostitution have led more than one woman to choose it as a profession.

"Me and my old man go around and around about this all the time. He doesn't like me out there hoing [whoring]. I tell him that he has a job to do every day and I've got mine, you know," one woman said.

"Some of these guys spend forty dollars for a girl for sex, they get a hotel room, plus fringes like drinks and food—I wonder where they get the money," Duane McNanny said.

Customers of prostitution get the money in various ways—expense accounts, robbery, hard work, allowances. Wherever this money comes from, it is these very dollars that make sure that prostitution is "here to stay."

## Uris seeks City Council seat

(Continued from page 1 column 5)

pany has the legal resources to resist for years.

The City must work with the large corporations to influence them to use local small businesses as suppliers and sub-contractors.

Banks should be asked to set aside a pool for loan capital for small businesses, many of which are viable but have cash flow problems.

**Housing:** There are three types of rental problems: dilapidated housing; retirement rentals where the owner lives in one unit and rents others; large rental companies.

When rental housing is not kept up to code the City should act as an agent to make it possible for tenants to purchase as cooperatives, using sweat equity as well as money. The property should be brought to fire code by the City.

Where owners are allowing buildings to become dilapidated and plan to turn them into condominiums, the City should act as an agent to allow renters to form a cooperative.

Portland does not have an overall

shortage of housing but it has a shortage of affordable rentals. There must be either subsidies to the poor or rent control, which is often a disincentive to maintenance, will become necessary.

The City should require some low-income units in every development, and should facilitate development of housing downtown.

**Police:** Uris supports the police auditing committee just adopted by City Council, but prefers a stronger board. The ideal would be for police to live where they work, and new recruits should be required to live in the city.

Most police work is social work and crisis intervention. The way the police handle a situation can determine if it is solved peacefully or becomes a major incident. They should have more training in human rights and culture.

Police enforcement should concentrate on violent crimes rather than spending undue time on petty criminals who are easy to apprehend.

**City Council:** Uris prefers that Council members be elected by district. Also, the out-of-date system of having commissioners administer bureaus should be ended. The Council should be legislative—make policy—and hire administrators to run the bureaus. The current system gives too much power to the Mayor, who can change bureau assignments at will, and causes commissioners to "trade" votes to protect their own bureaus.

**Schools:** Uris would like to see a City Commissioner take the responsibility to go to the business community and point out the need for a resolution of the conflict over Tubman. Although the Council is not responsible for schools, school problems have a direct effect on City government and business. As a Tubman parent he favored Adams as a site, but believes the community's desire for Eliot and the Board's earlier promise should be respected and that the Board's decision showed "arrogance and lack of understanding."

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