

METROPOLITAN

Red Cross moves Northeast

The Red Cross is planning to build a new blood center and headquarters for the Oregon Trail Chapter in Northeast Portland. "This project has been deferred for nine months because of the economic climate," stated David Rawlinson, chairman of the board of directors, "but the needs of blood services makes it mandatory that we proceed."

The new American Red Cross building, consisting of laboratories, classrooms, offices, storage areas, conference rooms, and dining facilities, will be located in the Northeast corner of the Emanuel Hospital urban renewal area. The site consists of 4.5 acres and is directly accessible to the I-5 freeway. The location is also central to the 55,000 square mile area served by the Red Cross Pacific Northwest Regional Blood Services; to the metropolitan area's higher density population of blood donors; and to the five-county area served by the Oregon Trail Chapter of the Red Cross.

According to Rawlinson, "Our time-line calls for a Capital Fund raising effort during the first few months of 1983; the sale of our present property; and the sale of Industrial Development Revenue bonds in early summer, with construction on the building to begin in the fall of 1983." Construction should be completed in the fall of 1985.

Cost estimates to provide 11,850 square feet of new construction amount to \$12,781,000; including land costs, furnishings and equipment, and all fees and permits. \$517,493 was spent in 1981 to purchase the Emanuel property. The

Red Cross presently has on hand the sum of \$500,000 to be used for the project and it is expected that \$1,700,000 will be realized from the sale of the present property. The fund raising campaign is targeted at \$5.5 million, and the balance needed after the campaign will be secured from the sale of Industrial Development Bonds... \$4,563,700.

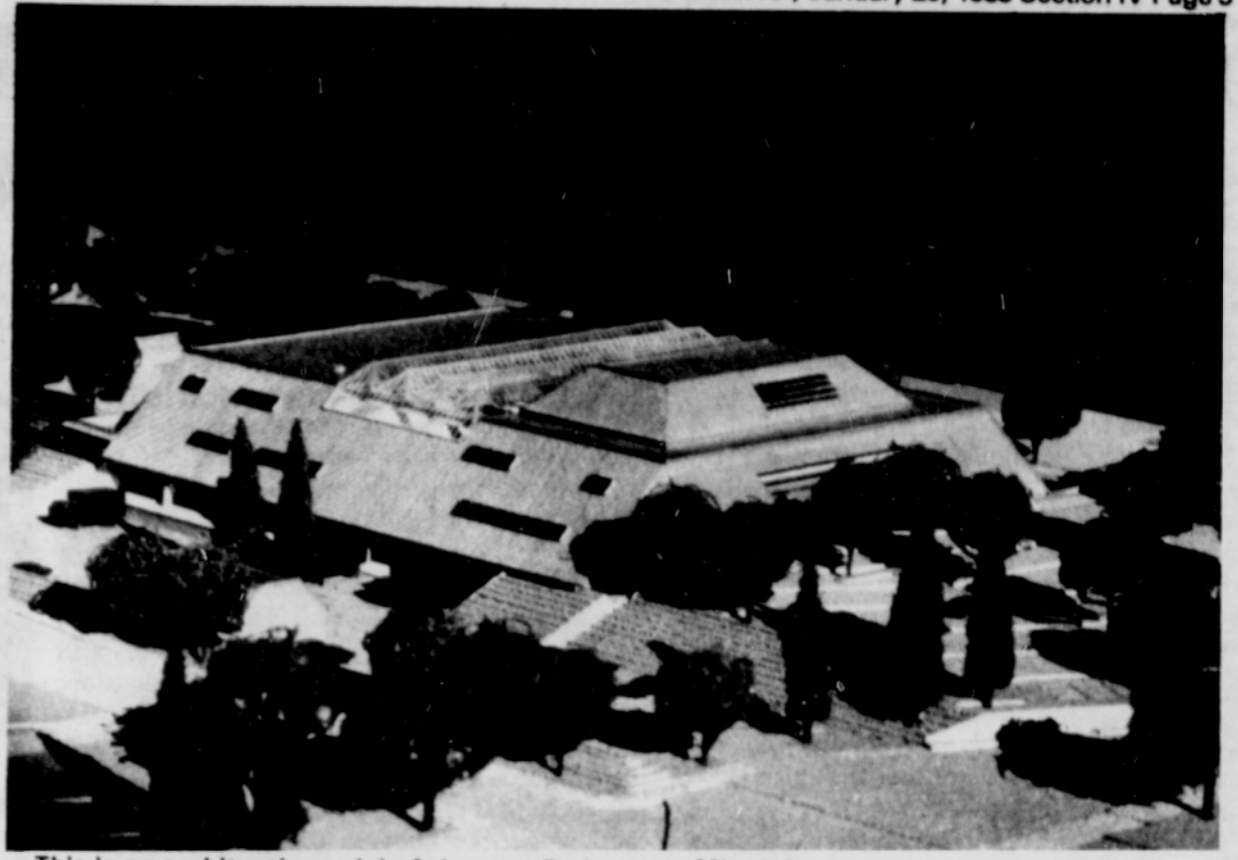
The planned new construction calls for a three-floor building containing 111,850 square feet. 84,751 square feet, or 76 percent, will be assigned for use by the Pacific Northwest Regional Blood Center. The remainder of the building, 27,099 square feet, will be utilized by the Oregon Trail Chapter.

The Red Cross headquarters in Portland serves a 32-county area in Oregon and Southwest Washington, collecting, processing, and distributing blood for patients in 76 hospitals. In addition to Blood Services, the Corbett Avenue location is headquarters for the Oregon Trail Chapter which administers: Service to Military Families and Veterans; Disaster Services; Safety Services; including Water Safety, First Aid and CPR; Nursing and Health Services; Youth Services; and Community Volunteer Services. These Chapter services are provided in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Columbia, and Yamhill Counties through funds from United Way (blood services operating costs are supported primarily through a processing fee charged to hospitals).

Twenty years ago, 61,330 units of blood were collected and almost all of it was used as "whole blood." In

1981-82, 123,498 units of blood were collected, and from that blood, 300,099 blood components were produced and made available to patients with a wide variety of illnesses and conditions... from burn, surgery, and trauma victims, to cancer patients whose immune systems have been undermined by chemotherapy.

Of necessity, much of what we talk about relative to this project will deal with "wood, brick, and mortar. However, it must be remembered that this is not what the program is about. When the construction of this new facility is achieved, the essential functions of blood for the entire region will be guaranteed for the foreseeable future," said Rawlinson.



This is an architect's model of the new Red Cross building to be built in the Emanuel Hospital area of North Portland.

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Community, court seek answers

Racism has long been a disputed factor in the juvenile court system. Although Ron Herndon of the Black United Front and Hal Ogburn, administrator of the Multnomah County Juvenile Court agree there is presently a discrimination in the juvenile court, they disagree as to what constitutes racism and its scope.

As a result of a recent study of the Multnomah County Juvenile Court, Ogburn told Metropolitan Youth Express reporters during an interview that he has called a meeting with Ron Herndon, Avel Mayfield and other community leaders for Thursday, January 27 to "begin to better understand what the needs of minority youth are and to work on specific plans for the future."

According to the Court Monitor's Project, conducted by the National Council of Jewish Women, in which volunteers observed 6 months of fact-finding, preliminary, and dispositional hearings, a disproportionately high number of minority youth were involved in the juvenile justice system and also received harsher punishments for similar offenses than white youth even when both groups had the same amount of prior convictions. It stated that roughly three times as many minority youth were in court as would have been expected from their population in Multnomah County. Although recent census figures show 87 percent of the children in Multnomah County are white, and only 13 percent are minorities, almost half of the children committed to MacLaren and Hillcrest, the state's training schools, are minority.

Although Ogburn questioned the accuracy of the study's findings, he admits "there are problems."

Ogburn defines racism as a "lack of awareness of cultural differences." Herndon feels that the problem is "institutional," rather than individual, and stems from the fact that "whites expect minorities to fail." Both felt that by training juvenile court staff to understand the problems that minority youth face, such as a rate of unemploy-

ment twice that as for white youth, inferior education, and harsher treatment in schools, juvenile court intake workers and counselors would be better able to understand what minority youth need when making recommendations to judges.

When asked if educating his staff would change the way the juvenile justice system treated minorities, Ogburn replied, "That's an important part of it, but not all of it. The Juvenile Justice system isn't to blame. We are in an important position to be able to do something about it, but the problems in the school, the problems in unemployment, we didn't create that. There are not enough counselors trained to work with minority youth at service centers or probation facilities; thus they are sent to state training schools."

When questioned about specific recommendations to lessen discrimination in the Juvenile Court system, Herndon replied, "You need to get more black people involved in the system from top to bottom. The institutions in the black community which work with young black people should be utilized more, the Northeast Youth Service Center, for example. People who have worked successfully with young blacks should be brought in to study the system and make proposals for action! We have a serious problem in Portland. We don't necessarily need people with titles and degrees, but someone who knows what they are talking about when they discuss young black people in trouble. We need to further humanize the Juvenile Justice system."


Some of the National Council of Jewish Women's recommendations were that all Multnomah County juvenile court professionals should develop procedures to guard against discrimination, examine their attitudes, and better prepare for hearings.

The meeting to develop an action plan to put the court monitor's recommendations into effect will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Juvenile Court.

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Humboldt parents meet

Humboldt School CAC/PTA meetings will be held in the school library, 4915 N. Gantenbein on the first Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is February 2nd at 7:30 p.m.



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