

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
by Kathryn Hall Bogle



Margaret Carter's Gospel Choir sings tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King.

THE CONCERT of "Joyful Sounds," Margaret Carter's gospel choir, was a tribute in song to the memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Every seat at the P.C.C. Cascade campus auditorium had been sold long before concert time, Saturday, 7:00 p.m., January 22.

A welcome foreword by James Van Dyke, executive dean at the Cascade center, yielded the podium to the Rev. William Hunter, Minister of the Piedmont Church of Christ, who acted as master of ceremonies. Interspersed through the song program were several mini-sermons as Hunter introduced the successive numbers.

The songs told the story of the faith of a people in bondage—their plight, their hopes, and their ultimate statement of faith expressed in the closing number, "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory."

The *a cappella* chorus opened with "Get All Excited" with Jerome Baldwin the soloist. "Without God I Could Do Nothing" moved the audience into an almost verbal confession of agreement. Theresa Riley and Jim Morrison were at the microphone for their lead roles for that one.

Josephine Jenkins, a pleasing contralto, sang, "I Don't Know about Tomorrow." Other featured voices were those of Jacob McKinney, Seona Baldwin and Jacqueline Williams. Margaret Carter, herself an inspired soprano, ignited the audience into a hand-clapping accompaniment for "Walk in Jerusalem." The three melodies of "Come By Here," written by Quincy Jones, made a soft humble plea by the chorus, edging the audience into a near-revival mood.

As a choir director Margaret Carter has few peers. Her own love and broad preparation in music, her love and understanding of people together bring a very special sensitivity merging singers and audiences into responsive harmony.

A full roster of the "Joyful Sounds" choir includes: Ann Taylor, Leon Neal, Margaret Neal, Patricia Baldwin, Patricia McKinney, Odessa Ware, Seona Baldwin, Thressa Riley, Jacqueline Williams, Josephine Jenkins, Fannie Morri-

son, Jacob McKinney, James Morrison, Harvey Fulwiley, Geroma Baldwin, Bill Hunter and Carter. Choir members are from Mallory Avenue Church of Christ and Piedmont Church of Christ.

FOLLOWING the "Joyful Sounds" concert refreshments were served by Friends of Joyful Sound. Richard Brown, photographer, and Philemon Reid, artist, gave prizes to three lucky people who drew lucky numbers. Belinda Warren won a pen and ink drawing by Reid; Pearl Gray won a photograph sitting for herself and Kym Burrayl won a pen and ink drawing by Reid of Dr. Martin Luther King.

THE NORTHWEST Regional Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People met in Portland on Saturday, Jan. 22, at the Cosmopolitan hotel. Hazel Hayes, newly elected president of the Portland branch of NAACP, welcomed the approximately 100 persons in attendance.

Heads of other branches present included: Lacey Stele, president of Seattle NAACP; Delores Goodman, Yakima, Wash. branch president; and Willie Polite, Eugene, NAACP president. Judge Charles Johnson, vice president of the Seattle branch and Lucious Hicks, immediate past president of Portland, were also in attendance.

Reports of vandalism, and reports of Ku Klux Klan activity in parts of the state of Washington were heard. Discussions of police and criminal justice on the local Portland scene included a criticism by Portland City Commissioner Charles Jordan of the "code of silence" among Portland policemen who are quite concerning police misconduct.

The speech that is widely quoted, however, is the speech that was made by Kay Toran, the affirmative-action officer in the office of Governor Victor Atiyeh in which Toran called attention to the report of the Heritage Foundation, and to the president of the United States.

Said Toran, "After twenty years of moving blacks forward in this country, through the protection of civil rights laws and affirmative ac-

tion, there are those who choose to turn back the hands of time with an unprecedented assault on civil rights legislation. Unfortunately, it is the president of the United States who leads the attack."

According to an Associated Press report, the Heritage Foundation called for the Reagan Administration to shift its top legal priority from crime control to civil rights and attack hundreds of existing affirmative action agreements. The goal was contained in "Agenda '83" the foundation's proffered blueprint for Reagan for the next two years that he will be in office.

The foundation declared that affirmative action imposes "an unjust burden" on students, workers and firms that "through no fault of their own, must now suffer," causing a "continuation of the bitterness that these policies set out to eliminate." The report called for a "new definition of discrimination" as the "top priority for legal policy."

"Civil rights progress," said Toran in review of the Heritage report, "faces a threat not dissimilar to the threat seen during the post-Reconstruction period after the Civil War."

Toran said later, "I think we are in serious trouble. I had to speak out. We still need to reduce racial inequities."

Hayes felt that Toran's remarks were well received by the members of the conference and that her statements were timely.

A good representation of the local branch ACT-SO membership of young people attended the regional meeting.

Hayes announced the first meeting of the new executive board of the Portland group, to be held at Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 29. Persons of the general membership are welcome to attend after calling Lorna Marple at 659-2524.

Public reviews language texts

Elementary language arts textbooks recommended for adoption by the Portland Public Schools textbook selection committees now are available for citizen review.

Materials may be examined in the Robert W. Blanchard Education Service Center professional library, 501 N. Dixon St., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Citizens wishing to review materials during evening hours should call Marsha Farrow, curriculum coordinator, at 249-2000. Citizen comment on the material is invited.

Citizen review of materials will continue until Feb. 10 when the Portland School Board will consider the committees' recommendations in a 7:30 p.m. meeting at the service center.

Materials adopted by the School Board will be in use from 1983 to 1990.

Textbooks and other instructional materials being considered for adoption in K-8 language arts include language, literature, spelling and handwriting.

Textbook evaluation committees, composed of teachers and administrators, have worked during a two-year period to develop criteria, evaluate materials and make recommendations. Professional consultants assisted the committees.

Street Beat

by Lanita Duke and Richard Brown

This week marked the tenth anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. The **Street Beat** team asked, "Should the Supreme Court overturn their decision that legalized abortion?"



Carolyn Franklin
Housewife

I'm against abortion. There are so many alternatives other than killing a child. That is what abortion is: murder.



Lynda Mays
Housewife

If abortion becomes illegal there will be too many children whose families can't afford to raise the children.



Grace Reising
Student

Abortion is the woman's right. Everyone should be able to decide what they want to do with their bodies.



Norma Godfrey
Data Processing Clerk

No. It's a woman's right. They should have some say-so over their bodies.



R.L. Enseeki
Teacher

I don't believe the Supreme Court has the jurisdiction to legislate on that question. They do not have the mandate on such a personal decision.



Dayle Chystal
Expectant Mother

No. People ought to have a right to decide what to do with their bodies. It's bad enough that some people out there want to take away what little rights we have left. In these times it's hard to raise children. Some people can't afford it.

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