

METROPOLITAN



Reverend John Garlington and Ronnie Herndon join the march.



More than ninety organizations were represented.



Participants are inspired by speeches and the words of Martin Luther King.

West Coast actions

March for Jobs, Peace, Freedom

Oregon

Nearly 1,000 people marched from Salem City Hall to the State Capitol building in Salem, led by the Jazzmin Community Marching Band. A tape of Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech was played and the crowd sang, "We Shall Overcome."

Ronnie Herndon, co-chairman of the Black United Front, captured the audience with his fiery speech, urging those gathered to remember the suffering and sacrifices Black people had to endure in order to achieve even their basic civil rights.

Ada Sanchez of People's Test Ban said that as long as people of color in other parts of the world are expendable, people of color here are expendable. She linked the willingness to wage war against colored peoples abroad with the willingness to overlook struggles at home.

The Oregon march was officially sponsored by over 90 organizations. The rally was followed by music and entertainment.

San Francisco

Shouting "Bread, Peace, Black Power" and a myriad of other chants and songs, approximately 30,000 people marched from Golden Gate Park to San Francisco's civic center to participate in the West Coast "Jobs, Peace and Freedom" memorial march and rally.

The march, which stretched for blocks up and down San Francisco's hills, included Black, Latino, Asian, Filipino, and American Indian groups, communities, religious organizations; groups advocating solidarity with the people of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Puerto Rico; peace, anti-nuke, and disarmament groups; organizations representing women, the elderly, youth and gays; nearly every political party (except the Republicans); and a large contingent representing many labor unions, some carrying "On Strike" signs.

Speakers emphasized the need for broad coalitions to defeat Reagan-

ism and pointed to the relationship between racism, imperialism, militarism and unemployment and poverty. Virna Canson, Western Regional Director of the NAACP, admonishing the crowd to remember those whose sacrifices made the march possible — Martin Luther King, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Phillip Randolph, Malcolm X, W.E.B. DuBois and others — and said this is just the beginning of the next 20 years of struggle.

Other speakers included Geraldine Johnson, Chairperson of the Coalition of Black Trade Unions; John Henning, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Frieda Wolff, President of California Gray Panthers; Mario Obledo, President of the League of United Latin American Citizens; Felix Kury, an official representative of the FMLN/FDR in the U.S.; Delores Huerta, United Farm Workers; Bill Wapepah, International Indian Treaty Council.

Seattle

An estimated 10,000 to 12,000 marched in Seattle. Reverend Sam McKinney, co-chairman of the rally, brought the crowd to their feet with his cry — "Get Ronald Reagan out of the White House: Get him out; Get him out; Get him out!" Juana Mangoang read Frederick Douglass' speech which states the amount of oppression a people will tolerate is what they will have to suffer. Bernice Jones of the Washington State Employee's Union 1488, AFL-CIO, presented labor's "fight back."

The Washington "Coalition of Conscience" plans to continue its organizing with a voter registration campaign targeting Black and Chicano voters. Rev. McKinney predicted that in two years Seattle could have a Black or Hispanic mayor and that Washington could become the first state with a Black governor.



Warm sunshine and cool water made a pleasant day.

Kids join Black Dollar Days

Portland's NAACP Youth Council has joined the national NAACP "Black Dollar Days" campaign. Thaddeus Creecy, president, and Derrick Harris, treasurer, urge Black persons in Portland to use \$2 bills and Susan B. Anthony dollars when making purchases between September 1st and 5th. These should be purchased at American State Bank, Oregon's only Black-owned bank, Harris said.

Announcing the nationwide campaign, Executive Director Benjamin Hooks said, "It's as simple as going to the bank, yet it has the potential for helping provide jobs and business opportunities for Black folks around the country."

Once the business community sees the thousands of \$2 bills and Susan B. Anthony dollars that we put in their registers during those days, it will register with them — Black Americans have economic clout worth \$150 billion dollars. And we plan to put our dollars where they'll benefit us."

Portland was not one of the 23 cities with large Black populations selected for the campaign, but the local Youth Council decided to participate. "We will check with the stores and banks to see what impact we have," Creecy said. Any significant showing will demonstrate what impact Blacks could have with a selective buying campaign.



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