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PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume XIV, Number 17
February 15, 1984
25¢ Per Copy

USPS 959-090-955
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Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Chairman of the National Black United Front, admonished Jackson

supporters to work for the completion of the American Revolution.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Jackson stirs "American dream"

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—Reverend Herbert Daughtry and Barry Commoner, steering committee members for the National Jesse Jackson for President Campaign, were not only greeted Monday night by a well organized Rainbow Coalition formed by Portland's Jesse Jackson for President Campaign, but also by nature's reflections of the sun's rays—a real rainbow. Daughtry said it was a sign from the heavens—a sign both he and commoner will take back to the national campaign and disseminate among other campaign chapters across the country.

Commoner, a 1980 presidential candidate on the Citizen Party ticket, told more than 500 people at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church that the single most important political issue in 1984 is to send Ronald Reagan back to the ranch for good.

"Jesse Jackson can do this because Jackson has reminded Americans that politics deals with what is right and what is wrong. The other democratic presidential candidates have nibbled away at Reagan's policies, but there was no open conflict until Jesse Jackson came along."

He said Reagan and his Administration operates on the premise

that the well-being of the country comes from making the rich richer.

"Jackson says the needs of the poor should determine government policy. No country can be considered great if the poor and the powerless are not cared for."

With the confidence of a college professor, Commoner said Reagan believes in using military force or the threat of military force on legitimate governments he may not believe in.

"Jackson said the way to deal with disagreements is to talk them out. Talking is better than fighting. Our government was not even willing to talk with Syria about releasing Lt. Robert Goodman. But a person from the Black experience—Jesse Jackson—did a better job than the President of the United States."

Commoner stated that Jackson has brought the Black experience to bear on American politics.

"Every Black knows many Americans believe Blacks are poor because they are racially inferior. What I've learned from Jesse Jackson is unless you confront the racism in society you are short-changing the political progress that can be made. The wonderful thing I find in Jesse Jackson's political appeal is whenever he talks about narrow interests like peace, en-

vironmentalists, women and Blacks, he always relates that self-interest to a broader one."

According to both Commoner and Rev. Daughtry, the most important issue Jackson is raising is that American corporations are not living up to their social responsibility.

Commoner said, "If a corporation builds a factory in a town that runs a trolley car up to the plant, or builds streets near the plant and the town gives tax advantages to that corporation, it has a duty to that community. It cannot say, 'We will leave when we can make more profits elsewhere.'"

Rev. Daughtry, Chairman of the National Black United Front, said Jackson told corporate America that they just can't pull up and leave a community. "If he was President, the mill towns here in Oregon would come alive again. Internationally, corporate America could no longer exploit countries the way they once did. Who has lifted up issues like these? Jesse Jackson."

Daughtry said the Rainbow Coalition will leave its colors on American politics and it will never be the same. "Our time has come. Whatever your background or nationality, this man called Jesse

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Job training goes private

The City of Portland will pass its employment and training responsibility to the "Private Industry Council" (PIC), an appointed board representing business, labor and social agencies concerned with employment, June 1st. This transfer is a result of the Job Training Partnership Act of August, 1982, which terminated the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA); removing the role of job training for the poor from government and placing it in private hands.

This transfer has caused concern across the country. One of the major issues is the current trend toward "customized training", or training individuals for specific jobs for specific employers. The employer defines the job requirements and the program trains the client for that job. The business community naturally favors this plan because they are able to obtain workers trained at public expense and often receive a financial bonus and tax credits as well. Many observers wonder whether these programs benefit the disadvantaged.

Customized programs tend to be short-term, for entry-level jobs that will soon be replaced by automation and emphasize specific skills for a specific job that cannot be transferred to other employment.

A second concern is that customized training programs tend to be directed at the people employers consider most trainable. This could mean that minorities and young people will not be served.

In a 1982 study of California's CETA program and its Worksite Education and Training Act (CWETA) program, which trained for specific jobs in the electronics industry, it was demonstrated that this concern is realistic. While 66 percent of the CETA trainees (selected by the state) were minorities, only 57 percent of the CWETA Trainees (selected by the employers) were minorities. Half of the CETA trainees were under 21 years of age, while only 25 percent of the CWETA trainees were under 21 years.

In Portland, the Regional Youth Employment Council, operated by private industry, operated a summer 1984 program with Multnomah-Washington CETA Consortium funds. Of the 70 youth, 14 percent were minorities (including 2 Blacks).

The City of Portland's Summer Youth Employment Program (also CETA funds) served 1509 youth, including 77 percent minorities; the Portland Mayor's Summer Youth Program served 708 with 57 percent minority; the City Park Bureau hired 40 youth, of which 20 percent were minorities.

The Portland Private Industry Council, Inc., is planning for its 1984-1986 program, and in all categories—adult, youth, dislocated workers, and older workers—the focus will be on placements, rather

than on basic training.

The conclusion of the "draft" document is that "participant preparation should be tailored to meet employers' needs. . . Programs should be diverse, meeting the diverse needs of Portland employers and participants."

"The program will re-emphasize the use of OJT's (On the Job Training) to meet the needs of the small and large employer," the draft says.

To facilitate service to the employer, the PIC proposes to contract with the Portland Development Commission (PDC) for marketing. "An opportunity exists to make job training an economic development tool, taking advantage of economic development programs which are already in place, producing jobs. . . Programs should be structured to leave flexibility to respond to special economic development/placement opportunities (e.g. Wacker)."

PDC will be contracted to deliver 375 placements in 1984-85 and 500 in 1985-1986 in "OJT, customized training, direct placement." The priorities of funding would be to meet the demands of customized training opportunities marketed by PDC and the PDC strategy is to use the job training money to expand business development.

Gary Tuck, board member representing the Portland Public

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Hotel re-hab gets underway

by Chuck Goodmacher

Construction began last Tuesday to refurbish another of inner-Northeast's vacant buildings. The old Lynview Hotel is being transformed into Urban Plaza. The ground-floor and basement of the 72-year-old building will house the relocated offices of the Urban League of Portland. Twenty-four \$175-\$200 a month rental apartments will occupy the top two floors.

Urban League President Freddie Petett joined Portland Development Commission officials last week in proclaiming the project a major landmark in the revitalization of the neighborhood's economy and livability. The building is located

across from Unthank Plaza and close to, recently renovated, Chuck's Market at the corner of North Williams Avenue and Russell Street.

The Urban League has obtained a long-term lease for the entire building from owner H. Philip Eder, and is negotiating a sub-lease for the apartments with the Area Agency on Aging. Eder obtained \$800,000 in rehabilitation financing through PDC's Investor Rehabilitation Loan Program (\$449,750), and a Federal Housing and Urban Development Section 312 rehabilitation loan (\$350,250).

The building will be completely renovated to provide new electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems.

A picturesque inner-courtyard will be restored for the enjoyment of the Urban League and building residents alike, said Don Silvey, general contractor for the project. The 700 square foot apartments will feature the original high ceilings. A new elevator will be installed to provide access for the handicapped and elderly throughout the entire building.

Project architect is the minority firm of Unthank Seder Poticha Architects of Eugene, the developer is Devcorp of Oregon, Inc., and general contractor is Silco Construction. Silco recently renovated the Biltmore and Butte Hotels of Burnside. Construction is scheduled for completion in mid-July.

A history of racism in education

"Looking at the history of Black people, we must recognize that their struggle for education has been one of the most outstanding struggles in the history of humankind," Angela Davis told a Lewis and Clark College audience Tuesday evening. Davis was keynote speaker for the Winter Forum Series: "Equality and Quality: Obtainable Goals of the U.S. Education System."

"Blacks fought for education as slaves, when learning to read was prohibited and was one of the few crimes which commanded execution, Davis said. When Frederick Douglass' slave master heard the slave child was learning to read he immediately forbade it, saying, 'Knowledge unfits a child to be a slave.'"

During the Radical Reconstruction following the Civil War, Blacks struggled for education and those elected to state legislatures provided free public education for the first time—bring education to lower class

whites, as well as, Blacks. This was the most progressive era of U.S. history.

Radical Reconstruction ended in 1877 and the years from that date through the 1920's brought a reversal of the earlier gains.

The 1896 Plessy vs. Ferguson ruling legalized segregation, Jim Crow laws were passed, Blacks were disenfranchised and lynchings and assaults became common occurrences.

That period was linked with the rise of capitalism, Davis explained, and the legacy of that period is the racism of today.

Racism has an economic basis, Davis said. "Racism began to emerge with slavery, as a means of justifying the brutal treatment of human beings and the slave trade was a big factor in the development of capitalism. Racism developed to the level of an ideology during the period of 1890 to 1930, the same period as the rise of monopoly

capitalism and imperialism. It was the means to manipulate the workers so they would not turn against their oppressors. . . white workers were experiencing the same hell, but they believed they were superior because they were white."

"The United States was expanding into Puerto Rico, Cuba, Hawaii, the Philippines, etc. This is the context in which racism emerged—and to eradicate racism, it is necessary to overturn the system of monopoly capitalism."

The United States is now in a period similar to that of 1890-1930, or as some have said, a period as dangerous as that in Germany in the 1930's, Davis said. "We have seen the erosion of so many victories won over the years. Reagan is responsible for attempting to take us back to the period of the 30's when there was no social security, no unemployment compensation, when lynchings were widespread."

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Angela Davis signs autographs for fans following her address at Lewis and Clark College

Winter Forum.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)