

# OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES  
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle



STAFF AND FRIENDS of Linda Roberts, director of the Dept. of Human Relations for the past seven years, gathered at Geneva's Lounge on Monday evening to bid her farewell. Robert's resignation, effective July 31, frees her to re-enter college at Portland State University. She wants, eventually, to earn a doctoral degree in Sociology, she said.

"I've really enjoyed the experience I've had as director," Roberts said. "It's been great to be paid for doing things I would have been glad to do as a volunteer. I am proud to have introduced the Mediation Project to the City—it involves persons of the community in the mediation process between neighbor and neighbor. When we first got it going about six years ago, it was funded by the federal government. Now it is funded by the City," she said with satisfaction.

Roberts was also commended for her work in developing fair housing guidelines for the City of Portland. Acting as chairman for the send-off by Roberts' staff was Dapo Sobomohin, Human Relations Specialist for the City.



Retiring MHRC director Linda Roberts receives a bouquet from her staff members. (l-r) Roberto Colon, Linda Roberts, John Blank and Dapo Sobomohin.

tion College in Canada, Eberhard-Karls University in Germany and received his Doctor of Philosophy cum laude from Leopold-Franz University in Austria. He came to Portland through the request of Alice Marcus, Portland's Chief Officer of Affirmative Action, on the recommendation of Bill Council, Training and Program Officer for the City, and others. For the City of Portland, Nichols conducted a two-day workshop to introduce to managers and supervisory personnel in the City's employ, a "new set of philosophical constructs" in cross-cultural efforts in program development. These could be useful, he said, in programs for education, management, commerce, health care delivery systems and even "political considerations."

Attending the workshops were about 100 representatives of city, county, state and federal agencies and offices. Portland Public Schools were represented by Dr. Ernest Hartzog, Assistant Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration by Curtis Kirkpatrick, Internal Revenue Service by Barbara Spencer and the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Dept. by Sam Lyon. Kay Toran of Governor Atiyeh's office was also present. The Portland Bureau of Police was represented by 26 of the command personnel, including lieutenants and captains. Arnold Biskar, a County Commissioner was present, as was attorney Sid Lezak.



(l-r) William Hilliard, Oregonian editor; Jennifer Stoner, journalist; and, Dr. Leslie Gunn at the reception honoring Dr. Edwin J. Nichols.

The workshop, as presented by Dr. Nichols, explored the philosophical "aspects of cultural difference," examining the Euro-American, the Afro-American, and the Asian-American axiology, their epistemology and their style of logic, all of which account for their behavior and thought processes. That our society is multi-cultural, racist, and sexist and we must learn to get along with others who are different from ourselves was the hypothesis.

Marcus, after viewing assessments of those in attendance, estimated that 90% found the workshop "excellent, helpful" and wished that the speaker might be retained for other sessions. Council reported the majority of positive and enthusiastic comments on Nichol's soft-spoken style as: "Terrific in effect; palatable; re-

ceivable; and, rank and file should hear."

THERE WAS REJOICING AT Bethel A.M.E. Church over the results of the fund-raising efforts of the churchwomen who, under the direction of Minnie Scott, chair of the third annual Zodiac Tea, brought in a net total of \$11,877 for the benefit of their church. The Leo sign group won in competition, but Sagittarius was the big money winner, according to Scott.

Culmination of the year's series of teas and fashion shows was celebrated at the end of July with the Sunday showing of the Zodiac Tea Tables at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion. Prize winning tables were Libra with a flower laden scales; Capricorn, with a goat covered with white flower petals, and Leo, represented by a golden lion resting on the table under bella palms.

It was a day, also, for giving of

flowers to faithful workers in the church. Over a score of ladies received a blossom, including Mrs. Matthew Watley, wife of Bethel's pastor. Gloria Wong, Alice Robinson, Pearlene White, and Jeanne Hartzog were also honored.

Cora Smith, program chair for the Zodiac Tea, presented a show of fur fashions from Schumaker Furs modeled by attractive amateur mannekins. While gowns were not scheduled for modeling, Scott received many compliments on her silver jacquard mid-calf afternoon dress with its loose panel rippling for back interest. Assisting with the program was Martha Jordan in a gorgeous pale gold dropped-waist dress embroidered with gold paillettes. The Inspirational Choir completed the day with their haunting vocal harmonies.



(l-r) Staci Russell, Benita Stoughton, Melinda Morgan and Ronae Walker model Schumaker furs. (Photo: Lonnie Bradley)

AT THE INVITATION of City Commissioner Charles Jordan, a number of Portlanders turned out for an informal summer evening reception to meet Dr. Edwin Nichols last Wednesday at the downtown Red Lion Motor Inn.

Dr. Nichols, Chief of the Staff College at the National Institute of Mental Health, has served in various positions at NIMH since 1969, including Chief of Center for Studies of Child and Family Mental Health, and Applied and Social Projects Review Branch. Dr. Nichols was educated at Assump-



(l-r) Dr. Edwin J. Nichols, guest of honor; Michael Benjamin, director North/Northeast Mental Health Center; Dr. Garfield DeBardelaben and Alice Marcus, chief affirmative action officer, City of Portland, at last Wednesday's reception.

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