

Observer circulation manager dies

We regret to announce that Mrs. Helen Hendrix, Circulation Manager of the *Portland Observer* for fifteen years, died at her home Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Hendrix had been with the *Observer* since its inception in 1970.

She was a member of Bethel AME Church.



A King Day holiday?

See below



NBA All-Stars

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Lyron Cox, 7 years old, pitches the ball at the basket during a carnival held at the Salvation Army (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Black So. Africans pan Kennedy

UNITED NATIONS — A Black South African nationalist group Monday dismissed Sen. Edward Kennedy's recent South African visit as a "conscience-washing exercise" of little help to Black people there.

The Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania issued a statement at the United Nations charging that "the evils of apartheid... do not require to be examined but rather effective solutions worked out to totally eradicate this abhorrent system."

Azania is the Black African name for South Africa. Apartheid in South Africa's system of racial separation.

"The people of Azania are not concerned about Sen. Edward Kennedy's personal abhorrence of apartheid, precisely because he is a public figure in the United States and a legislator," said the statement from the PAC, which seeks the overthrow of the white minority government in South Africa.

The PAC said it needed instead a total end to all trade and other relations with South Africa.

"Anything short of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime constitutes, in our view, a conscience washing exercise," it said.

Aides to the Massachusetts Democrat said his visit to South Africa earlier this month, at the invitation of

Nobel Peace laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu, was to gather information firsthand about the country's apartheid policies.

Blacks frequently protested the senator's appearances with noisy demonstrations.

Bill introduced to make King birthday Oregon state holiday

State Representative Margaret Carter today announced the introduction of a bi-partisan House bill to establish a state holiday to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and black American clergyman. "We are honoring Dr. King, a black American who taught love, respect and brotherhood among all Americans regardless of race, religion, national origin or political affiliation. The bill also will bring Oregon's commemoration of Dr. King's birthday in line with recent national legislation signed by President Reagan," Carter said.

Thirty-one members of the 60-member House joined in sponsoring the legislation. Sponsors include representatives Agrons, Banzer, Bauman, Brogotti, Bunn, Burrows, Burton, Calouri, Campbell, Cease, Eachus, Gillis, Hanlon, J. Hill, L. Hill, Hoolley, Hosticka, Delna Jones, Kopetski, Kotulski, Mason, Miller, Peterson, Rijken, Roberts, Springer, Tarzian, Van Vliet, Whitty, and Young. Supporting groups include the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs, the Oregon rainbow Organizing Committee, and the Oregon Black republicans.

U of O law dean resigns in protest of hiring process

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W.—"It would be the worst form of hypocrisy for me to complain and criticize the practice in general while remaining silent when I see it happening at the school where I am Dean."

With these thoughts in action, Derrick Bell, Dean of the University of Oregon Law School, resigned February 7th because his faculty refused to hire an Asian-American woman who was the final candidate for a teaching position.

"I've been concerned that minorities who may not be perfect in qualifications are not being hired anymore," Bell said, adding that the candidate had more potential for the job than he had in 1969 when he was hired to teach at Harvard Law School.

"This was not a matter of overt discrimination. The majority of the faculty was ready to give me the go-ahead to offer this woman the job. It was the procedure that excluded her," Bell explained.

The procedure Bell objected to was the Law School's "substantial objection" rule. If a candidate meets with questions or protest, a job offer is withdrawn. In this case the faculty committee recommended 3-2 to hire the woman, but three faculty members raised "substantial objection" and other faculty members decided this appointment should not go forward.

"Collegiality was more important than hiring this candidate. I don't think this kind of thing would have

happened 10 years ago and I don't think it should have happened today. If I have any integrity at all, I had to submit my resignation to separate myself from the process," Bell added.

Ironically, the University of Oregon has an Affirmative Action policy that states when a qualified person of color is a finalist for a position, the

Clark called Bell's reasoning an honest difference of opinion. "I do not think it's fair to say the processes of the school are at fault. After all, we are the first State Law School in the country to hire a Black Dean."

Bell agreed with the premise that the federal government had retreated on its commitment to Affirmative Action. "But Affirmative Action did not start with the federal government. It started with an outcry from the community. The federal government and other institutions simply provided a vehicle that was more convenient for them than helpful for us. When we stopped, they stopped."

Bell will serve out the remaining term as Dean and plans to continue teaching at the school. "We are all motors of Affirmative Action. When the motor dies the vehicle stops. What will be required, regardless of what the federal government does or does not do, is for people who are concerned about fairness to remember that they are the motor. I feel that I am a part of this motor, too. I did what I thought I had to do."

Bell, 54, a former Harvard Law School professor, became dean at Oregon in 1981. He has also served as a deputy director of the Office of Civil Rights in the U.S. Dept. of Health, education and Welfare, and he is known for taking outspoken stands on busing, South Africa and other issues. Bell will serve as dean at the law school through June and then stay on as faculty member.



DERRICK BELL

job should be offered to him or her.

Former Dean Chapin Clark said a feeling of sadness blanketed the school because of Bell's resignation. "But I wish Dean Bell had discussed it with our school president. The school will evaluate this rule, but under this rule many minorities, including Bell, have been hired."

Ron McCarty's ethics questioned

by Robert Lothian

Another state legislator from Portland is being questioned about his ethics.

Ron McCarty, a Democratic representative from Northeast Portland, falsified information on unemployment compensation report forms, and owes the state \$387, according to a state hearings officer.

McCarty deliberately falsified dates and listed his wife's tax consulting business as a possible employer, according to the hearings officer. McCarty replied by saying he made a mistake about the dates and that his wife's business was as good as any other and there was nothing wrong with using it as a job contact.

The state hearings officer found McCarty to be "evasive and argumentative" and "not a credible witness." His use of Good News Tax Service, "owned or operated by himself or his wife is a sham," the officer continued, because McCarty would have known whether there was a job opening in conversations with his wife.

McCarty, a perpetual candidate who ran for officer (including Portland School Board) every two years until he won in November, is a state licensed tax consultant. He described the proceedings against him as a "kangaroo court."

McCarty is also being pursued by the Oregon Dept. of Revenue to make good on a wage claim filed against him by a former employee of a tavern McCarty once owned. The original amount of the claim was \$85 in 1972, but it has increased to \$600 because McCarty has refused to pay the claim, and says he won't.

The Dept. of Revenue could gar-

nishee McCarty's tax returns, but McCarty said he will make sure that his income tax refund is insufficient to pay the claim, although he acknowledged that his property tax refund might be garnished.

Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries staff that originally dealt with McCarty on the claim described him as "profane, abusive and hostile."

In another case, Representative Pat Gillis, a Portland Republican, was censured recently by the Oregon House of Representatives. Gillis admitted unauthorized use of a letterhead of the American Association of Retired Per-

sons during his campaign and misrepresenting his educational background in the Oregon Voter's Pamphlet. Gillis blamed the Democrats for his bad publicity.

His actions are now under investigation by a Marion County grand jury for possible election law violations, but so far no legal action has been taken against McCarty.

Apparently in response to the McCarty and Gillis cases, the Oregon Legislature is forming a Citizens Advisory Committee on Legislative Guidelines to review procedures for investigating campaign misconduct.



Serving suggestions. . .

Congressmen Ron Wyden (D) of Portland and Bob Smith (R) of Pendleton participated in a program that allowed them each to talk to folks in the other's district. Monday, Feb. 12, Wyden and Smith were pouring coffee and chatting with customers at Davlin's Cafe in North Portland. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)