

PORTLAND OBSERVER

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Low-Income People Victimized Again! - Vote NO On Measure #5 -

Once again, the lower income people in Oregon have been singled out as easy tax targets.

Once again, those who can least afford it are asked to pay the bill for those who could afford it.

This time, the jab is more cynical and arrogant than ever - and it's called Measure #5 on the Oregon November Ballot. Measure #5 - remember it and vote against it.

What Measure #5 pretends to accomplish is to save Oregon intercollegiate sports. It even infers that Rose Bowl winners and big time PAC-10 success will be made possible if this sales tax measure passes.

None of these promises can be accomplished with this unfair and misguided excise sales tax bill on beer and cigarettes. What it will accomplish is higher profits for some retailers and wholesalers and an economic benefit for a handful of State System of Higher Education campus towns (Corvallis, Eugene, etc.)

Here are the facts:

Measure #5 would more than double the state tax on beer, jumping it from \$2.60 per barrel to \$5.70 per barrel - an increase of 120%! A companion increase on cigarettes of one-cent per pack would raise Oregonian cigarette smokers' tax to 28-cents per pack. The huge beer increase would make Oregon the highest taxed of all neighboring states and in the top third nationally.

This punitive tax - aimed squarely at one small segment of Oregonians - would raise about \$8.5-million to underwrite varsity, big league sports on the seven state campuses. But consumers would pay more than \$18-million per year in order to reach that tax goal - and the \$18-million-plus would come from big mark-ups in beer and cigarette retail prices.

Every statistical study proves that beer drinkers represent the middle and lower income segment of the population - working people - the usual targets when the rich want someone else to bankroll their fun and games.

Notice this: those who propose soaking the beer drinkers are not asking anything of martini drinkers, pipe & cigar smokers, or wine drinkers. Only the beer people will foot the bill for the entire state. Only one part of the Oregon population will be forced to pay for the Big Games - games they can't afford to attend.

Measure #5 is flying under false pretenses. It won't buy big winning teams. In the PAC-10 now, five schools receive state tax support for sports and five do not. In the past 30 years, the five teams with no tax support have been to the Rose Bowl 23 times; the five teams with tax support have gone only seven times.

And another thing: remember that this new tax money would not help student sports programs, intramural activities, or community colleges. The whole \$8.5 million would go to the Big Show sports - the varsity action - for the benefit of athletes who are mostly pre-professionals already on sports scholarships - and to the fans of the Big Game, who will not be asked to pay anything additional to support their enthusiasms.

It is amazing that a bill so ill-conceived, so lop-sided could ever have reached the ballot. And it wouldn't have, except for the huge amount of money its backers spent to hire professional initiative petition peddlers to come up with the required signatures.

This bill is unfair to all Oregonians because it punishes the few for the benefit of the many.

Measure #5 is punitive, regressive, discriminatory, unfair - and it won't accomplish what it promises! Vote NO ON MEASURE #5!

PORTLAND OBSERVER

OREGON'S AWARD WINNING BLACK NEWSPAPER

Cred Of The Black Press

The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from social and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color, or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

EDITORIAL / OPINION

Judge Alcee Hastings: A Man Of Principle



by Dr. Jamil Cheroove

Concerning: Justice For Judge Hastings? 8/27/88. When I was in Chicago last week—a fight was going on to resist the impeachment of a Black federal judge on the Miami district court. There is a national steering committee of lawyers and civil rights activists. The committee is raising money and the awareness of third world people for Judge Hastings, whose case is being reviewed by the Congressional House Committee of the Judiciary. They have initiated a lobbying campaign to talk about the real RACIST points of the case. Congress realizes the case is really shaky. It involves a constitutional issue. Double jeopardy is a very real issue here.

Judge Hastings, the first Black person ever appointed to the federal district bench in Florida, was acquitted in 1983 of conspiring to accept a \$150,000 bribe from an undercover FBI agent, a charge brought against him in 1981. Another attorney, William A. Borders, a friend of Hastings, was convicted and sentenced to five years in prison.

One month after returning to the bench, two caucasoid southern judges initiated a 14-judge

committee probe into the case and recommended impeachment. The special investigation took three-and-one-half years to complete, utilized 151 FBI agents and cost \$1.5 million dollars.

Hastings and his supporters contend that impeachment would constitute "double jeopardy," trying him again on a case that he was found innocent of. I'm inclined to believe, this case shows you how far Institutional RACISM will go. He feels that he's legally and morally correct. Principle dictates that he preserve what he perceives as his integrity and fight this battle and win. I believe, Brother Hastings is being targeted be-

cause of his outspokenness on issues affecting the poor. In 1981, for example he stopped an effort by immigration officials to deport Haitians. The Commission on Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, headed by Rev. Ben Chavis, is also coming to Brother Hastings' aid. The UCC has made the judge's case a priority issue on its agenda because it believes: Brother Hastings was singled out; the case is a continuation of the attack on Black leadership; and a victory for Brother Hastings can be a positive shot in the arm for the ongoing struggle to clear Blacks of unwarranted attacks by the federal government. They can't afford for a Black man in

Amerika to stand up and tell the truth. Brother Hastings refuses to compromise. He could be out of it easily by making a deal. But that's not in his nature. I'm inclined to believe, although the Judiciary Committee is reviewing the case, the Congress is not likely to handle the case until after the 1988 elections for fear of a reprisal by Black voters if the decision against Brother Hastings is negative.

As quiet as it's kept, there is an ill wind blowing across Amerika and it smells a lot like fascism. But make no mistake about it, this fascism that shocked the world a half century ago, today's fascism may come to power through democratic channels with a friendly, popular, patriotic and irresistible appeal.

Because fascism is an ever evolving phenomenon, it does not necessarily have an exact or complete definition suitable for all oc-

casions. Fascist systems differ from each other in exact detail because the principles of fascism are randomly chosen to solve specific problems as they arise. One classical definition of fascism in power is the "open terroristic dictatorship of the most reactionary, most chauvinistic elements of finance capital. In foreign policy, fascism is jingoism in its most brutal form, fomenting bestial hatred of other nations."

Introducing A New Column: "The Other Side"



by Harold Williams

Northeast Portland is the heartbeat of the Portland Metropolitan area.

You can easily reach any place in the City of Portland within fifteen minutes—shopping centers, the airport, recreational facilities, the river and downtown Portland. So, it is natural that a lot

of attention is placed on N.E. Portland, better known in some circles as the Black Community.

In the past, a lot of negatives have been said and written about our community. Particularly about our youth. A very negative picture has been painted about our youth and it is important that we change the focus of that picture, for they are our future.

My weekly articles, "The Other Side" will try and cast a positive side on our youth and other areas of interest in our community. I will deal with the interests and concerns of Black men as they relate to our most precious asset—The Black women and the Black family.

"The Other Side" means just that - whatever is said about us—there is another side.

I look forward to telling the story of the other side. We are the heartbeat and the soul of the Portland Metropolitan area.

Peace and Love to you all until next week.

PORTLAND OBSERVER

"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"

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CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL



by Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

Jesse Jackson: Where Do We Go From Here?

I listened intently to the great oratory of the Rev. Jesse Jackson as he made his speech to the Democratic National Convention recently in Atlanta, Georgia. Inside of the hall of the Omni Convention Center the atmosphere was electrified with Jackson's speech and passion. Millions of people around the world sat on the edge of their chairs listening carefully to every phrase. This was the speech of the decade and it provided a challenge to the Democratic Party, to all African-Americans, and to millions of others who will be effected by the outcome of the upcoming presidential election.

Presidential politics in the United States is more than a question of primary elections and a national convention. It is in addition, a question of clarifying the political vision and future of the nation. This is important to the entire global community because of the role the United States continues to play in world affairs, particularly in the affairs of the Third World. Will there be a greater degree of justice and peace in the world as a result of the November elections in the United States? Or will the poor and oppressed masses of the world's population continue to have their destinies determined by a conservative, right-wing Republican administration? Jackson's challenge to the Democratic Party set the stage for these and other questions to be answered.

Jesse Jackson's call for the Democratic Party to find a "common ground" and a new political commitment to transform the United States into a nation that stands for justice and freedom for all of the people of the world, was

a laudible challenge. The problem is whether or not Michael Dukakis and the leadership of the Democratic Party will be responsive to Jackson's invitation. Jackson stated "Tonight there is a sense of celebration because we have moved, fundamentally, from racial battlegrounds by law, to economic common ground, with the challenge to move to moral higher ground." After witnessing the audience burst into applause in response to Jackson's plea, I wondered if the euphoria of that moment will later translate into a real new direction by the Democratic Party.

Now that the dust has settled in the aftermath of the Democratic National Convention, millions of African-Americans, Latino-Americans, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, and progressive white Americans are looking for specific marching orders. Among the Rainbow Coalition, it is a given that there is very little if any sentiment of support for George Bush to be the next president. Yet, it will be a gross overstatement for anyone to conclude that millions of African-Americans and others will automatically support Michael Dukakis.

The truth is Jesse Jackson still has the support of the millions of voters who cast their votes for him. While there is a general appreciation for the role that Jackson played at the convention, there is still in the minds of many a feeling of disgust and dismay at the way Jackson was finally treated. Where do we go from here? We must go to the polls in record numbers if not just to vote for Dukakis, but just as importantly to vote against George Bush and to vote against the devastating legacy of the Reagan years.

Perspectives

Do It Or Perish



by Professor McKinley Burt

In one sense I was delighted—that in Monday's Oregonian (Black Males, page 2) William Raspberry is quoted in paraphrase of what I have been saying for years: "WE DON'T TALK TO OUR CHILDREN ABOUT OWNING BUSINESSES ... Only about getting a job." For the past few months many of my articles have emphasized just this point.

I was 'not' delighted when, in retrospect, I thought of the years I spent at the university teaching an Urban Economics Class, using successful enterprises as models—firms of my own or of others. In addition to text material, students were taught to set-up functioning businesses as real-time exercises in entrepreneurship. Certainly, many of my students 'went South', where a number are doing quite well in their own enterprise. But, today, I am very disappointed in the level of response from either 'I-want-to-do-it' types, or from urban agencies which should be involving experienced-based elements rather than textbook theorists who never operated even a lemonade stand. Track records are needed.

Last week's article detailed a business in which I serviced

auto dealers, loggers, farmers, supermarkets and others. You will note that most of my models are businesses with an immediate CASH FLOW, an an easily perceived NEED. These are two timeless success modes, applicable any place and at any time. In illustration let me describe a very early on personal service I developed immediately after World War II.

Long before H&R Block came up with their multiple-site operation, my innovation was going strong on N. Williams Avenue ... in 1946. I had established an Accounting and Income Tax Office whose first client was the Neighborhood Grocery. The operating mode was that of a trained group of 'Tax Interviewers' who, following up on telephone responses to ads, fanned out over the city, equipped with forms to collect relevant information and W-2 forms. These commission-paid agents brought this 'package' to the Williams Avenue headquarters for processing. The finished tax forms were returned to the clients within 48 hours.

In nearby Vanport City, soon to be destroyed by flood, branch offices were set up for immediate service. PACIFIC BUSINESS SERVICE did very well until a flood destroyed the city and until many larger firms adopted my techniques. I would again point out that this type of low-capital, quick cashflow enterprise is successfully launched almost every week by local whites and Asians and in a number of different fields.

Another consideration—for our social sector oriented Middle Class—their positions are just as AT-RISK as those of the 'Underclass' in this era of fast TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE. Next week, 'a technology innovation in Los Angeles'.