

A Legislative Agenda For 1989

This is a very important year for our organization, the A. Philip Randolph Institute. 1989 is the 100th Birthday Year of the Institute's namesake and founder, A. Philip Randolph, America's greatest Black labor leader and an outstanding civil rights leader as well.

Randolph believed that Blacks and the trade union movement are natural allies in the struggle for economic and social justice. To advance that struggle, he established the Institute--an organization of Black labor activists--to serve as a bridge between the Black community and organized labor.

This year we at the Institute feel especially called upon to pursue the Black-labor agenda for three reasons: first, because it is Randolph's centennial; second, because we need to make up for lost time, since during the past eight years the White House has opposed, with all-too-much success, most aspects of the Black-labor agenda; and third, because our hopes have been raised somewhat by the incoming President, who has promised a "kinder and gentler nation," has met with Black leaders, and has told his personnel recruiters that he wants to appoint significant numbers of minorities to posts in his Administration.

So as George Bush enters the White House, we will begin our year's work by presenting a Black-labor legislative agenda that we think deserves the support of the new President and the new, 101st Congress.

We urge the passage of four important health- and family-related bills that were derailed in the 100th Congress. One requires that all employers provide minimum health care benefits to their employees. Another guarantees working parents the right to unpaid, job-protected leave to deal with personal or family medical problems, including the birth of a child. A third piece of legislation provides funding for the development of child care centers, subsidizes child care for low-income working families, and sets standards of quality for child

care facilities and personnel. The fourth measure, known as the high-risk notification bill, establishes a program for identifying, notifying, and facilitating treatment for workers who have been exposed to hazardous substances in the workplace. In addition, we back a new bill being introduced for the first time in the 101st Congress that toughens the Occupational Safety and Health Act's workplace health and safety rules.

We also support a group of bills that protect workers' employment security and standard of living. These, too, were introduced but not passed in the last Congress, in some cases because of a Reagan veto or a filibuster. Passage of a minimum wage increase from its current \$3.35 level is an essential part of the fight to assure workers a decent wage. We also favor legislation to prevent construction firms from avoiding collective bargaining agreements by setting up non-union alter egos, a practice known as double-breasting. Finally, a textile and apparel trade bill would slow down the deluge of textile, apparel, and footwear imports made with exploited, low-wage labor.

Another worthy legislative measure left over from the 100th Congress is Hatch Act reform to restore the political rights of federal and postal employees, who are currently barred from engaging in political activity.

Fortunately, some of the important legislation in the civil rights area can be removed from the 1989 agenda because of the excellent work of the 100th Congress in attacking discrimination. The Civil Rights Restoration Act, passed over President Reagan's veto, overrode the Supreme Court's prohibition on federal funding of discrimination against minorities, women, the disabled, and the elderly. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 strengthened the enforcement mechanism of the Fair Housing Act. Still on the civil rights agenda, however, is voter registration reform, to make the right to vote more accessible, and legislation to

eliminate racial discrimination in the application of the death penalty.



LABOR'S BLACK GIANTS--A. Philip Randolph, former President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Finally, the Institute's agenda also includes opposition to legislation that has already been considered by Congress and which may resurface there this year. Among these undesirable proposals are constitutional amendments requiring a balanced budget and giving the President a line item veto, a bill for widespread mandatory drug testing of employees in the transportation industry, and a proposal that would weaken the collective bargaining guarantees for transit employees in the 1964 Urban Mass Transportation Act.

We at the Randolph Institute start the New Year with the optimistic expectation that the new Administration will be more favorably disposed toward a program for economic and social justice than the outgoing one. But the White House--and the Congress as well--can be sure that we and our allies will be watching them carefully to make sure that the Black-labor agenda moves forward in 1989.

It's Time For the 6th Annual World Services Carnival

Date: Friday & Saturday, Feb. 3rd & 4th. - Time: Friday, 6:00-8:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. - Place: The Salvation Army, Moore St. Community Center Gym, 5335 N. Williams Ave., Portland, OR 97217 - Cost: Tickets are 4 for \$1.00 if you buy them early. The night of the carnival they will be 3 for \$1.00 or 35 cents each.

Lewis & Clark College Celebrates Black History Month

BLACK TO THE FUTURE

February 1989

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>6 Obo Addy and Kukrudu A musical journey blending traditional Ghanaian and western sounds, including funk, reggae, and jazz fusion. 7 p.m., Agnes Flanagan Chapel</p>	<p>7 Sojourner Truth Theatre Company First of three performances designed to entertain and to improve communication between races. Under the direction of Nyewusi Askari and Ruby Reuben, the audience gets a historical review of black language and culture and a chance to participate in role reversals. 6:15 p.m., Agnes Flanagan Chapel</p>	<p>8 Miles of Smiles A multimedia presentation by Ellen Jacobs, portraying her mountain biking adventure through east-central Africa. 6:30 p.m., Council Chamber Sojourner Truth Theatre Company Part 2 of series designed to help people communicate with groups from different cultures. 8 p.m., Agnes Flanagan Chapel</p>	<p>9 Sojourner Truth Theatre Company Finale performance, examining what's unique about Black language and culture. 6 p.m., Evans Auditorium TimeSound Music to celebrate by--rhythm and blues, composed and performed by Blacks. 7:30 p.m., Agnes Flanagan Chapel</p>
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
<p>10 Black Future Leaders Day A workshop to help high school students select appropriate colleges. Find out from Lewis & Clark students what college is really like. Co-sponsored by the Admissions Office. Time and location TBA. Soul Food Dinner Authentic foods of the Black culture. Free to students on the meal plan. \$5 to others. Offered by Marriott Food Service. 4:45-6 p.m., Fields Dining Room Dance All-campus Black to the Future Dance features Master T as the DJ. Open to the public. \$2 general admission, \$1 with L&C ID. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Stamm</p>	<p>11 Black Alumni Reunion Weekend Cosponsored by the Lewis & Clark College Alumni Association Templeton College Center Alumni Welcome, 1 p.m., Thayer Black Heritage Trivia, 2:30 p.m., Thayer Open Forum on the Hill, 3:30 p.m., Council Chamber Reception, 6:30 p.m., Dubach Jazz Performance and Dance, 8 p.m., Stamm</p>	<p>Black People in White Minds Film revealing how white stereotypes of blacks originated and showing how to a more accurate fund of knowledge. 9:15 p.m., Council Chamber</p> <p>12 Black Alumni Reunion Weekend Gospel Extravaganza, 10 a.m., Chapel Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Dubach For more information about weekend events phone the Alumni Office, 293-2768. Black to the Future is sponsored by Lewis & Clark Students United for American Cultural Awareness (SUACA). For more information phone 244-6161.</p>	



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