

Minority Business For Year 2000:

How About Sending Some Bills, Not Just Getting Them

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

For some, that is going to be a soul-wrenching effort but they had better get used to the idea. The reason for all the hullabaloo and furor over Affirmative Action and set-aside-contracts is that many people anticipate a social and economic disaster as corporate mergers and layoffs snowball and the 'public sector' suffers to the same degree.

So it is that the smartest or most fully-awake are reaching in their 'skills-bag' in a hurry, searching for some talent(s) they can bring to the marketplace with the idea of billing somebody for the service rendered or merchandise shipped. In the interim, many figure that the less competition for the remaining jobs, the better. Freeze on that 'Equal Opportunity stuff' - some of my best friends are black (women), but it looks like I may be hurting in a hell of a way!

A further incentive for a well-organized program for self-employment or entrepreneurship is skillfully presented by such realistic studies as the best-selling book by Jeremy

Rifkin, "The End Of Work" (G.P. Putnam's Sons). I have a brief review in my "Perspectives" column this week. There is much solid advice on preparing for the "melt-down".

Several readers recall that five-years ago I began a series on "self-employment which anticipated just such an economic situation as we have on hand: "There's No Place Like Home, The Electronic Home", and "When Is A Home Not A Home (when it's a business)". I emphasized quite early on that the "cottage industry", prevalent in the early stages of the 'Industrial Revolution', was returning -- that new electronic technology was placing production/income units right in the home (on-line computers).

During the same period, I detailed in depth how both personal experience and the literature revealed that most successful small business is launched by those who have gained the prerequisite skills and experience "On The Job". At the same time, I put it that, all else being equal, minorities and women would encour-

ter some obstacles and creative obstruction from banks and inventory-financing organizations when it came to entrepreneurship.

One progressive group in the community that has been looking at this problem has had a startling revelation. Driving all those lovey-dovey ads and institutional advertising on the availability of home loans is pressure from the top, inside the 'belt-way' in Washington, D.C.; As many as six federal agencies now have the tools to open up the real estate process and prevent "red-lining". But the people have to monitor the process to keep it honest (and the gatekeepers).

It is good to know that, finally, more members of the community are starting to read the out-of-town establishment press, the Congressional Record, the Wall Street Journal and even some 'trade journals' at the library. As I pointed out in my business and urban economic classes twenty years ago at Portland State University, "it is simply amazing what the master does not tell the field hands on his plantation (black or

white)". You must read or perish.

Of course, many other relevant issues have been addressed in the interim and we plan to update them for bringing to your attention in a topical context: Merchandising from the home and 'drop shipments' - gaining relevant education in an experience-based context, not in an 'ivory tower' context from people who never heard of a "bill of lading, demurrage, western price catalog, Standard Industrial Classification manual, Gales' Encyclopedia Of Associations, various directories of American manufacturers.

One reader says, "I took your classes in the early seventies, but in the intervening years I've expended all my energies and resources raising and educating two youngsters. They have just taken jobs in the 'public sector' and are as happy as if they had good sense. The lady is concerned that the establishment has hired them to advise people in a business and economic capacity, but cannot even understand that their jobs are temporary. More next week.

Free School Clothing Offered

On Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the Fellowship Church of God, 5131 N.E. 23rd Ave. and Sumner St., will celebrate the grand opening of their "Community Clothes Closet" with a "free" back-to-school" clothing giveaway.

Clothing is limited, so it will be given away on a first come, first serve basis.

The purpose of the clothing closet is to provide an ongoing resource to those in the community in need of emergency clothing or re-entering the workforce and in need of appropriate attire.

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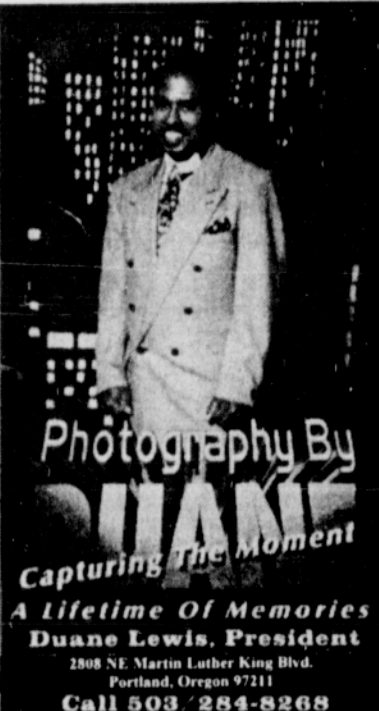
Mt. Angel Oktoberfest September 14 Through 17

Mt. Angel, Oregon. Every year, Mt. Angel's famous Oktoberfest brings over 350,000 people to town for the weekend of their lives. They are drawn to Mt. Angel, a tiny rural community 40 miles south of Portland, by its beautiful countryside, Bavarian charm -- and one of the greatest folk festivals in Northwest.

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Sun 9/3			
10:00 am	1 San Francisco	2 New Orleans	+9 1/2
10:00 am	3 Pittsburgh	4 Detroit	+5 1/2
10:00 am	5 New England	6 Cleveland	+3 1/2
10:00 am	7 Philadelphia	8 Tampa Bay	+7 1/2
10:00 am	9 Indianapolis	10 Cincinnati	+7 1/2
10:00 am	11 Green Bay	12 St. Louis	+7 1/2
10:00 am	13 Atlanta	14 Carolina	+9 1/2
10:00 am	15 Houston	16 Jacksonville	+3 1/2
1:00 pm	17 Miami	18 New York	+10 1/2
1:00 pm	19 Oakland	20 San Diego	+3 1/2
1:00 pm	21 Chicago	22 Minnesota	+2 1/2
1:00 pm	23 Seattle	24 Kansas City	+1/2
1:00 pm	25 Phoenix	26 Washington	+3 1/2
Sun 9/3	SPECIAL PLAY GAME		
5:00 pm	27 Denver	28 Buffalo	+8 1/2
	Total Points Scored by both teams during ENTIRE GAME		
	29 Over 44 1/2 30 Under 44 1/2		
Mon 9/4	SPECIAL PLAY GAME		
6:00 pm	31 Dallas	32 New Jersey	+6 1/2
	Total Points Scored by both teams during ENTIRE GAME		
	33 Over 38 1/2 34 Under 38 1/2		
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