

Housing situation one of major tension points in rights dispute



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Now that television has arrived as a medium, we'd suggest mature approach

Television as a news medium came somewhat into its own during the weekend following President Kennedy's death.

The result has been plaudits from almost everyone, even including William Henry, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

At any rate, the events of the weekend following the President's death were brought home to the public through the television medium as such news has never been brought home before.

Our interest comes from being both an interested viewer and another and older medium in the news-gathering business.

Charles Collingwood of CBS pointed up one problem last year in Portland at a conference at Reed College.

Collingwood said: "It would be idle to pretend that the television camera does not make a difference.

Peace Corps recruiting again

The Peace Corps, one of the proudest achievements of the Kennedy years, opened its biggest recruiting campaign ever this week.

Anyone looking at raw statistics might wonder why the Peace Corps needs to hustle up more recruits.

The answer is that volunteers are beginning to come home after two-year tours of duty, that many of those who apply decide later not to enter training.

A House which otherwise has been hostile to foreign aid thinks the Peace Corps has done such a good job that its budget should be increased to \$102 million this fiscal year.

It does. People react to television. It has become such an important part of our lives that the visible presence of television coverage inevitably heightens the emotions of the participants.

The fact that the teevee camera does make a difference certainly justifies the stand of the American Bar Association excluding cameras and microphones in the courtroom.

When it comes to television cameras and even some newspaper cameras, especially those using flash, we are inclined to agree with members of the bar.

A small 35 mm camera, operated with natural light and no noise, is far enough to go.

As for teevee coverage of courts, about the only recommendation would have to be for a soundproofed production-type room off the side of the regular courtroom.

Trials should not be made into the bleacher-type entertainment which ensued at the televised coast to coast murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

House debate, even members who had voted against the Corps in the past testified to its success.

Quotable quotes

The boy is home, He's just got here. He's in good shape. — Jim Mahoney, a spokesman for Frank Sinatra Sr., after the singer's son was released by kidnapers.

My eyes were moist when he recounted what he went through. — Attorney Melvin Belli, after talking in private with his client, Jack Ruby, charged with the murder of President Kennedy's assassin.

In the past few weeks, millions of the world's people have worn a look of stunned despair. Certainly, nothing I could say would be a more eloquent tribute to John F. Kennedy than the grief on those faces.

This Congress is well on its way to doing more for education than any Congress since the land-grant college act was passed 100 years ago.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Many Negroes believe the only thing that should be attached to obtaining housing should be the purse string.

By Al Kueffner UPI Staff Writer

When a Negro goes house-hunting, he is headed for one of the major tension points of the civil rights dispute.

A railroad track... a river front... the end of the pavement. Those are the boundary lines in city after city between the white and Negro sections.

Most states report that Negroes live in their own neighborhoods "by custom."

"You might say that Negroes are just expanding the ghetto," reported a St. Louis Negro newspaper publisher.

In just about every state in the nation where there is a sizable Negro population, a move by Negroes toward or into

a white neighborhood produces an exodus of violence — sometimes both.

It is the same in Folcroft, Pa., Dayton, Ohio, Atlanta, Denver, San Francisco, New York or scores of other spots. It is fear of lowered property values. It is, for Negro and white, a stubborn battle for the biggest material investment most of them ever make: a home.

In Oklahoma City, Mrs. Leaten B. Hillis says some of the most tolerant whites are those who live in "safe" neighborhoods.

"When we went looking for a new home, they wouldn't take our present home in trade because the Negroes have been moving into this area," said Mrs. Hillis.

Mrs. Hillis, a 33-year-old housewife, said she sided with the Negro cause more than a year ago.

Last summer, the late President Kennedy issued an executive order forbidding discrimination in any building project that receives federal aid.

A 1961 Indiana law provides that any person who bars another from a public housing project "by reason of race, creed or color" is subject to a maximum penalty of 30 days imprisonment and a \$100 fine.

Many other ordinances, resolutions and rulings have been issued to forestall actual or de facto segregated housing, but few have resulted in great success.

Some of the strongest sentiment against Negroes moving into predominantly white residential areas has been in the non-South.

When Harold Amos, a Negro, started constructing a home in a white suburb of Buffalo, N.Y., anti-Negro slogans were scrawled on the partially completed dwelling.

A high-rise, high-rent apartment building now dominates the scene in Atlanta's "Buttermilk Bottom," formerly an area of dilapidated Negro shacks.

Two of the largest concentrations of Negroes in the world are in New York City and Chicago. In Chicago the Negro population has gained 65 per cent in the past 10 years.

Most of the Negroes in Chicago live in an area three by

housing available to Negroes in the nation has replaced the slums.

The most desirable Negro section in Jacksonville, N. C. is a new subdivision developed by a prominent white builder.

The negative side of Jacksonville's Negro housing is along lower Court and Kerr streets. This is the city's garbage and sewage disposal area.

When it comes to segregation versus integration, "lines of communication" between the races often make the difference in peace or tension.

"When it comes to housing, I don't think the Negro understands the way the white feels, and I don't think the whites are making any attempt to know how the Negro feels," says Mrs. Thomas Newman, a white housewife in Eminence, Ky.

Two of the largest concentrations of Negroes in the world are in New York City and Chicago.

Most of the Negroes in Chicago live in an area three by

nine miles, but fingers of Negro settlements are speaking to other sections. The median value of a Negro-owned home in the city is \$18,700, reflecting a boost of 82 per cent in a single decade.

The Windy City's Negro section also is a poorer section of town. This is the area where a 35-year-old Negro auto washer who migrated from Jackson, Miss., lives. He had hoped living would be better.

The Negro, who declined use of his name, stands daylong near a track and hops in front of a car to swab down the chrome. He has little education, and a wife and five children.

"We got to have more money and move living room," he says. "We're sitting on top of each other. I ask myself, why are our schools crowded? We got to live all penned in here. When somebody tries to move out, they got to move into white neighborhoods because there just ain't no place else to go here."

The problem worries white Americans as much as any phase of the Negro transition.

"I don't want to sacrifice the things I have gained to be considered a good Samaritan," said an insurance salesman in Oklahoma City.

"My husband and I have just bought a new home," said Mrs. Natalie Seiman, a Connecticut housewife. "I can't really say what my feelings would be if a neighbor sold to a Negro."

My Nickel's Worth

"When men differ in opinion, both sides ought equally to have the advantage of being heard by the public." — Benjamin Franklin.

Letter writer scores hatred from left

To the Editor: This is a plea for intellectual honesty and for fair play. Since the dastardly assassination of the President, there has been a campaign to shift the blame from the philosophy of the one responsible to the right-wing.

Let it be clearly stated that the man who pulled the trigger was a Communist, and that this is proof that the extreme left is the true immediate source of danger to our country.

For this reason it is my recommendation that if the legislature does not approve of submitting this to the people, the legislature should place this bill to a vote on final passage.

This is a question of great public importance and it should be passed upon by our supreme court at an early date so that the Boeing Company and all Oregon citizens and her legislators and public officials may know where they stand.

Very sincerely yours, Robert Y. Thornton, Attorney General Salem, Oregon, Dec. 9, 1963

Letter writer asks: Why dollar for tree?

Why? A dollar for a tree! We, of the old school walked, children by side, ax in hand, deep into the forest, our forest God gave us to enjoy, to find a tree, large or small, all for our own. It was free as the sun, the moon and stars, yes all our own.

The tree was set and trimmed and the children laughed with glee, because God gave us, all for free. Mother and Dad and a beautiful tree.

Florence Cultrass Olson, Bend, Oregon, Dec. 8, 1963

Thornton explains referral proposal

To the Editor: Permit me to reply to your recent editorial criticizing the

role played by this office in connection with the Boardman-Boeing contract at the recent special session of the Oregon legislature.

I suggested that the Boeing proposition be referred to the people not only because it represented a radical new departure from previous Oregon policy, namely, the expenditure of the people's money to subsidize private industry, but because I doubt public funds can be used to subsidize a private corporation without amending the Oregon Constitution.

As to my alternative suggestion that a test case be brought to test the constitutionality of the Boeing bill which has now been enacted into law, I quote directly from our formal opinion:

"It is our opinion that a grave question exists as to the House Bill No. 1014, now before you. But regardless of how this office may express an opinion, in final analysis this vital question cannot and will not be settled until the highest court of our state speaks on it.

"This is a question of great public importance and it should be passed upon by our supreme court at an early date so that the Boeing Company and all Oregon citizens and her legislators and public officials may know where they stand."

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Washington Merry-go-round

Top American business leaders reported to be enthusiastic about new President

WASHINGTON — It's been well publicized that President Johnson had two sessions last week with American business leaders and American labor leaders. Exactly what happened at the two closed door meetings has not been publicized.

Most unique development was the private support which business leaders gave Johnson. Many came away just as enthusiastic as the labor leaders, who were considered in Johnson's corner in the first place.

Johnson gave a short talk to the Business Advisory Council, which includes the top brass of the business world, then sat down in the Cabinet room to chat with them individually.

In the group was Sidney Weinberg, head of Goldman, Sachs and the man who raised \$3,000,000 to finance the big radio-TV political punch of Eisenhower's 1952 campaign.

Also present was Henry Ford II, head of the far flung automobile empire who was a strong Eisenhower - Nixon supporter. His former associate, Ernie Breech, who has guided the destinies of both Ford and General Motors and is now chairman of Trans World Airlines, was also present.

All expressed their appreciation of the new President. But the man who seemed most appreciative was Crawford Greenwalt, head of the giant Du Pont Company. The Du Pont family is one of the heaviest contributors to the Republican Party, usually tosses about \$200,000 into the GOP kitty at every election.

But Greenwalt confided to friends at the White House that the nation was "fortunate" to have a man as well qualified as Johnson standing in the wings ready to take over.

Meany is persistent

Johnson's meeting with labor leaders was held one hour earlier, and the President kidded his Secretary of Commerce, Luther Hodges, who sat in on the labor session that he had got here "a little too early" for the business conference.

Other Cabinet members who attended both meetings were Secretary of Defense McNamara, Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon, Secretary of the Interior Udall, Secretary of Agriculture Freeman and Secretary of Labor Wirtz.

At the meeting with labor leaders, Johnson did more listening than talking, as AFL-CIO President George Meany outlined his worries over unemploy-

ment and automation. This incidentally was Meany's second session with Johnson since the death of President Kennedy. Johnson had phoned Meany after receiving a sympathetic telegram, had told him he was going to need his support.

"You'll get it," blurted the brusque labor leader. Later he sought an appointment with Johnson and asked Secretary Wirtz to make it.

Wirtz, knowing the tremendous pressures on the new President tried to save his chief, advised Meany to wait. But Meany went over his head direct to the White House, and was advised to meet Johnson at his Spring Valley home, before breakfast and drive with him to the White House.

En route through the early morning traffic, he promised money and manpower for Johnson's re-election, but expressed the hope that the vice presidential running - mate might be sympathetic to labor.

At the meeting with the top AFL-CIO brass two days later, Meany began the session by saying:

"Mr. President, our first thoughts the other day, after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, were for you and the great problems you face as his successor. We are here today to tell you that we are behind you 100 per cent. We are citizens first and union members second."

Johnson replied that he was deeply grateful. He recalled that Kennedy had always received "warm-hearted support" from labor. "I need your help even more," he added humbly. "President Kennedy had more talents than I have for this job."

The President suggested that the labor leaders and six cabinet members at the meeting bow their heads in prayer for

"the great man we have lost." Everyone stood for a moment in silent meditation.

When Johnson asked for labor's support on civil rights and employment problems, Meany pledged full AFL-CIO cooperation. He went on to talk of his great worries over automation, quoted Sen. Jennings Randolph, D-W. Va., that the U.S. was losing about 4 million jobs a year as a result of automation.

"When you add this to the rapid growth of employables, you can appreciate the gravity of the situation," said Meany. "It requires 25,000 new jobs a week just to take care of the young people, who are flooding the employment field due to the population explosion."

"Despite what the newspapers say, I am not against automation. I do not believe in breaking labor-saving machinery with sledge hammers, but it is about time that the government, labor, business and the consumer got together in a united, national effort to stop the dangerous rise of joblessness."

Barbs A play closed on Broadway after just one week. Why do producers take a chance when they haven't a show?

Some women feel that a crying need is a new winter coat and that may be how they get it.

The most unpopular feminine touch for dad is when Christmas shopping starts.

We hope there's full steam ahead in the homes where Santa comes through the radiator.

Answer to Previous Puzzle, Editors, ACROSS, DOWN, 1 Insane, 2 Compass point, 3 Finch, 4 End, 5 Skunked, 6 Flaced apart

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