

# Painfully Slow Progress Made Against Racial Barriers in Schools

## Yamhill County Is Selected for HEW Study on Elderly

Eugene - Yamhill county has been selected by the federal department of health, education and welfare as the site of one of the most unusual experiments in the growing problem of care of the elderly.

Several senior citizens' centers will be installed in communities throughout the county to forward development of new and improved methods of providing health services outside hospitals, with particular emphasis on the needs of chronically ill and aged individuals.

Dr. Elton Kessel, Yamhill county health officer, will be project director. Other

agencies will assist with personnel or cooperation, including the Oregon state board of health, the Yamhill county court and the Yamhill county public welfare commission. Local service clubs have indicated they will assist.

Dr. Wesley G. Nicholson, chairman of the Oregon State Council on Aging, said his group has studied the Yamhill project and approves of it as a pilot project in a field uncharted.

**Objectives of Project**

The objectives are both physical and social in nature. At the centers, likely including a large converted residence inside McMinnville,

there will be installed restricted recreational facilities, but chief emphasis will be laid on a well-being clinic with screening tests, on chronic diseases such as diabetes, glaucoma, hypertension, cataracts, refractive errors, hearing loss, anemia and other ailments of older years.

A health educator will help in organizing the communities for a visiting nurse service, homemaker service, and the senior citizens' centers.

Other practical objectives of the centers will be to broaden the life interests of the elderly; to provide services that will help those in their homes to remain there and avoid institutional care, and prevent those in homes for the aged from having to transfer to nursing homes; to offer psychiatric advice, to lower the admission and the re-admission rate to the state hospitals where care is given the aged and senile; and to shorten the periods of hospitalization in hospitals.



**CONTESTANT** - Miss Linda Gibson, (pictured above) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Gibson, Sunnyvale rd., Central Point, is making her bid for queen of the Montague, Calif., annual Junior rodeo scheduled June 16 and 17. Miss Gibson, a junior at Crater High school, is a member of the West Side Hayburners, and West Side Beefy's 4-H clubs. She is shown with "Goldcup," a palomino owned by Whiteland Locke, Ashland. She will ride her own registered bay quarter horse, "Thuran," in the junior rodeo events. Mrs. Stanley Cooley of Montague is contest chairman. Other entrants in the queen contest are from Redding, Scotts Valley, Yreka, Montague, Calif., and Central Point. The queen is elected on popularity and sales of tickets. Rodeo contestants are all young people not over 18 years old and enter from various parts of California and Oregon. Announcement of winning contestant in the queen contest will be made June 16 at midnight during the Queen's ball in Montague. (Whiteland Locke photo)

**Editor's note:** Thursday was the eighth anniversary of the Supreme Court's historic school desegregation ruling. This dispatch reports how government officials view developments since then.

**By WILLIAM J. EATON**

Washington—Two government officials said today the Supreme Court's historic desegregation ruling eight years ago has led to significant but painfully slow progress toward abolition of racial barriers in the nation's public schools.

This was the appraisal given by Assistant Atty. Gen. Burke Marshall, head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, and Berl Bernhard, staff director of the federal Civil Rights Commission, in interviews with United Press International.

More than 1,900 school districts in 17 southern or border states still segregate Negro and white children. Three states—Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina—have not integrated a single classroom.

It is estimated that less than 250,000 Negro youngsters—or 7.6 per cent of Negro enrollment—are in racially mixed schools in these states.

The 1954 decision also has focused new attention on northern cities that frequently have all-Negro and all-white schools because their neighborhoods are segregated. This has led to demands for positive action to achieve integration.

The Supreme Court unanimously ruled eight years ago that "separate but equal" schools were inherently unequal in violation of constitutional guarantees. It ordered desegregation "with all deliberate speed."

to prevent any type of ugly racial incidents," he said.

"Many business leaders now seem willing to get together with city officials and Negro leaders to work out their differences."

The Civil Rights Commission's staff director also said it has led to recognition that segregation in schools is a national problem and not confined to the southern states.

A key case affecting northern cities was the suit against the New Rochelle, N.Y., school board.

The board was ordered to desegregate the city's schools after a federal judge found that its districts were, in effect, gerrymandered to preserve racial separation.

**Other Complaints**

Similar complaints about segregation by geography have arisen in New Jersey, Philadelphia and Chicago.

Public school systems in southern states have developed a variety of techniques to mitigate the impact of the 1954 ruling.

Some—such as pupil assignment, transfer rights and grade-a-year integration—have received federal court sanction in some states.

The Supreme Court ruling has been under fierce attack in the South by critics who contend the judges were taking over the role of lawmakers from Congress instead of staying in their own field.

Prince Edward county, Va., is the only area in the nation, however, where public schools remain shut in defiance of a desegregation order from a federal court.

About 1,700 Negro children in the county are not attending any formal school. Most white children are enrolled in a private institution. They pay their tuition with the aid of state grants that provide virtually all of the cost.

Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, who travelled to Roanoke, Va., recently, called the Prince Edward situation a "blight on Virginia and the

nation." The case is still before a federal court where Negroes are seeking relief from the present situation.

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**NIXES LIE TESTS**

Washington—UPI—A National Labor Relations Board trial examiner has ruled that an employer cannot use a lie detector test to ask his workers about union activities.

Examiner Arthur Leff ruled in a case involving 7-11 Food Stores in the Washington, D.C., area and Local 400 of the Retail Clerks International Association.

Greatest seasonal snowfall on record occurred in 1906-07 at Tamarack, Calif., was 884 inches.

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**New Steps Considered**

Marshall told UPI today that the government was considering new steps to get faster compliance with the high court's decision.

For one thing, he said, the Justice Department would file a test suit "pretty soon" to try and force integration of a southern school now receiving U.S. funds to alleviate the impact on the community of federal military or civilian employees in the area.

The aim would be to establish the federal government's right to sue for desegregation, "if necessary, of 3,600 such 'impacted' school districts which receive U.S. aid. They represent one-tenth of the nation's 35,000 school districts.

Marshall saw signs of progress, in the start of school desegregation in Memphis, Dallas, Atlanta and New Orleans during the current school term. In some cases, only a single grade or a few grades were integrated and the number of Negroes admitted was not a very high percentage.

"These are cities of great symbolic importance," Marshall said. "Their decisions affected the thinking of thousands of southerners who now realize change is inevitable and not too far away."

**Progress 'Very Slow'**

He said officials in other cities have a duty to make desegregation plans and start carrying them out without waiting for a federal court order in each case.

Bernhard, in a separate interview, said over-all progress was "very slow" on removing racial restrictions in schools since the landmark decision. "But there is a growing acceptance of the law's requirements and a growing desire

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**Creative Artists To Conduct Academy**

Eugene - Five distinguished creative artists in drama, poetry, design, music, and dance will be in residence on the University of Oregon campus this summer for the university's fourth annual Summer Academy of Contemporary Arts.

The 1962 artists, only four of whom have been announced, will include the internationally recognized architect-designer, R. Buckminster Fuller, designer of the famed "geodesic dome" construction; Merce Cunningham, a leading figure in the American contemporary dance; Kenneth Rexroth, San Francisco poet and influential figure in the California city's dynamic artistic atmosphere; and Cesar Bresgen, internationally known composer, conductor, and pianist from Austria.

The Summer Academy of Contemporary Arts, organized as a school within a school, brings each practicing artist to the campus for intensive two-week periods of work with students who want to study with and observe the outstanding professionals in the fields of contemporary arts.