



[Van F. White Papers.](#)

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3 Sections

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Fraser, Barros win mayoral races

5th Ward result means city will get first black alderman

Council

By Dennis Cassano
Staff Writer

The Minneapolis City Council will have its first black alderman in 1980.

That became a virtual certainty Tuesday as Van White won the Fifth Ward DFL nomination to run for alderman in the Nov. 6 general election. White and his opponents in the general election, Independent-Republican Terence Farrell and independent Earby L. Chatham Jr., are black.

In winning yesterday, White dispelled the political theory that two black candidates would so divide the Fifth Ward voters that a white candidate would walk away as the winner.

It also gave credence to another political theory — that the candidate with the DFL endorsement will win in the Fifth Ward.

White has the DFL endorsement for the aldermanic seat. But he was challenged in the primary election by another black candidate and active DFLer, Dorothy James, and by a white candidate, police officer Art Morris.

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In the primary election two years ago, incumbent DFLer Louis DeMars was challenged in the primary by two black candidates, Ron Edwards and Nel Hollie, but he did not have the party endorsement.

DeMars, who went on to win his fourth term in office, won about 46 percent of the approximately 2,700 votes cast in the 1977 primary election. DeMars, the council president, did not run for reelection this year.

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Staff Photo by Darlene Pfister

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White's campaigning caused a weight loss, political victory



Staff Photo by Darlene Pfister

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White's campaigning caused a weight loss, political victory

By Jim Parsons
Staff Writer

Van White was full of the usual political clichés Tuesday night.

"It's just great," he said, when asked how it felt to be the first black ever to be the odds-on favorite for election to the Minneapolis City Council.

In the heavily DFL Fifth Ward the DFL primary has always been THE race, although White will face an independent opponent and an independent-Republican opponent in the general election. Whatever happens in the general election, a black will represent the Fifth Ward on the

council: all three candidates are black.

"The support of the people — the grass roots people — is what did it for me," he said, coming up with political cliché No. 2.

And No. 3 was: "I want to represent all the people, not just blacks but all the people, especially those who didn't vote for me."

After dispensing with the clichés, White added a plug for one of the fringe benefits of campaigning.

"I've lost 50 pounds and that has really been good for me. I think ev-

eryone should do something to get in better shape. It's good for their health. Door-knocking is great for you."

Door-knocking was also great for White politically. All of the "smart money" in city hall said he didn't have a chance despite the fact that he had defeated Dorothy James for the DFL endorsement.

The smart money said James or Art Morris would win. James had the backing of most of the old-line party regulars. Morris, a Minneapolis policeman, was the only white person

White continued on page 4A

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Although there were about 1,000 more votes cast in yesterday's election than there were two years ago in the Fifth Ward, the increase cannot be attributed totally to the aldermanic contest because the voter turnout across the city was more than twice as high yesterday as it was in the primary election two years ago.

Both White and James as well as Morris said during the campaign that they hoped race would not be a factor in the election, but many political observers expressed the fear that the black vote would be so divided between White and James that Morris would win because of his race. The Fifth Ward has the largest black population in the city.

In reacting to his victory, White last night talked of his long involvement

Council continued on page 6A

White Continued from page 1A

in the race. The ward is predominantly white, although it has the city's heaviest concentration of black voters.

White surprised the experts because he had the strong backing of Don Fraser and his army of campaigners, he said.

"We had 20 or 25 Fraser supporters in the ward today knocking on doors and taking people to the polls," said Bea Underwood. She helped run White's campaign and was also a coordinator for Fraser's campaign in the Fifth Ward.

The support from the Fraser people and having his name on the official DFL sample ballot were undoubtedly instrumental in the victory of a man who had virtually no experience in party politics.

Until about a year ago White was not active in the DFL. But he has been active in virtually every community group on the North Side. He founded

and was chairman for many years of the Willard-Homewood Organization, a community improvement group and has been a member of numerous community groups including the Urban Coalition, Minneapolis Age and Opportunities Board, Phyllis Wheatley Community Center and the Northside YMCA.

Council

Continued from page 1A

in community affairs and the support he had from people in community organizations in the ward.

"It took a lot of hard work and the support of everybody, not just blacks," he said.

The white candidate, Morris, last night was the most outspoken critic of the theory that two black candidates would split the vote so a white candidate would win.

"I'm glad that finally got buried, and I hope it finally dies," Morris said. "That's unhealthy. It's never been true as far as I am concerned, and I hope it's dead now in this city."

Morris said, "I've got to believe the voters thought he was the most qualified candidate and could represent them the way they want to be represented."

"I'm not too happy, but that's what the people wanted and he's got my support 100 percent," Morris said.

But, he added, "I'll be back. I'll be back two years from now in the DFL primary, but next time I'll be running against an incumbent."

James said she has "not even thought about" running again in two years.

She said, "I always said there was no such thing as splitting the black vote. I knew there would be a black candidate" in the general election.

She credited White's victory to his campaign and to the fact that he carried the DFL endorsement and was running on the same ticket with DFL mayoral candidate Don Fraser, who defeated his principal opponent, Jim Rice, by a margin of nearly 3 to 1.

White, 35, resigned as a job placement interviewer for the state Department of Economic Security to campaign for office.

In the Fourth Ward, incumbent DFLer Alice Rainville defeated Harris (Kotchy) Herman in the DFL primary and Rick Harrison, who has the IR endorsement, defeated challengers David A. Miller and Dennis E. Wherley in the IR primary.

Rainville is seeking her third full term in office. Also on the general

election ballot will be independent Lloyd A. Van Hale.

First Ward DFLer Walter Dziedzic won reelection to a second full term yesterday by defeating Edward Borgen. Dziedzic is unopposed in the general election. He became an alderman in 1977 after winning a special election.

In the Second Ward, Joel Schintz, who has the IR endorsement, defeated challenger Loretta Novak for the IR nomination to run against incumbent DFLer Judy Corrao in November.

Incumbent Sixth Ward DFLer Jackie Slater defeated Brett Harold Smith yesterday and will run against former Sixth Ward alderman Jens Christensen for the second time in November. Christensen, a Republican for many years who ran against Slater in the DFL primary two years ago when she first ran for office, this year is running as an independent candidate.

In the Seventh Ward, James P. Lenfestey, who has the DFL endorsement, defeated challenger Willis G. Trueblood for the DFL nomination to run against incumbent IR Parker Trostel. She will be seeking her second term in the November election, which is expected to be close because the Seventh Ward is considered to be a DFL ward and Trostel won her election two years ago by less than 100 votes. The third person in the general election is Gay Survival Fund candidate Tom Burke.

In the Ninth Ward, DFL-endorsee Tony Scallon defeated Larry Anhalt yesterday. Scallon, a board member of the city Housing and Redevelopment Authority, will be on the November ballot with IR Darrell E. Mulroy and incumbent Zollie Green.

Green started his aldermanic career in 1971 as an independent but later joined the DFL caucus and won DFL endorsement in subsequent elections. But this year Scallon won the endorsement. Green decided that he would have a better chance of beating Scallon in the general election

than he would in the primary, so he filed for office as an independent and was not involved in yesterday's election.

In the 12th Ward, DFL-endorsed former city Comptroller-Treasurer Earl Arneson defeated frequent candidate John W. Ludewig, as expected. The real battle in the 12th Ward will come in November, with the major contestants considered to be Arneson and incumbent Dennis Schulstad. Also on the ballot will be independent Mark P. Koscielski.

Schulstad is an Independent-Republican and has his party's endorsement but campaigns for office as an independent. He is running for his third term.

Several wards had no primary elections yesterday but will have election contests in the city's general election Nov. 6.

Third Ward incumbent DFLer Patrick M. Daugherty will be opposed by Independent-Republican John Daugherty in his bid for a second term.

In the Eighth Ward, incumbent first-term DFLer Mark Kaplan is being challenged by independent Julie M. Kurtz.

One of the close aldermanic elections in November is expected in the 10th Ward, where first-term incumbent Independent-Republican Sally Howard is being challenged by DFLer Jack Kryst in a ward that is not dominated by either political party.

Independent-Republican caucus leader Walter Rockenstein, 11th Ward, will be opposed by DFLer Frank Altman in Rockenstein's bid for a fourth term.

In the 13th Ward, Independent-Republican Charlee Hoyt, now in her second term, is running against DFLer John (Bob) Lindahl.



Fifth Ward Alderman Van White (left) and his wife Javaneese were on hand for the party, along with Bob and Annette

McNamara of Duff's. White's ward includes part of Hennepin Avenue.

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MASON CITY, IOWA 50401

Thank you for suggest-

ing that your readers write a letter to a loved one to express their feelings of love and gratitude before it's too late.

Last Father's Day I wrote such a letter to my father. I put into words how important he was in my life and how much I appreciated all he had done for me.

He died three weeks ago, and will never see another Father's Day. I am so glad I didn't wait to write that letter.

Friends who attended my father's funeral commented on how calm I was. That letter was the reason. My father died knowing how much I loved him. There was nothing I left unsaid. I felt at peace with myself.

Thank you for that suggestion. I had no idea when I wrote that letter to my dad that it would help me through a very trying time. My mother will receive a similar letter this Mother's Day.
— At Peace in Minnesota

Abigail Van Buren is a columnist for Universal Press Syndicate. Letters should be addressed to Dear Abby in care of the Minneapolis Star and Tribune, 425 Portland Av. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488. For a personal reply, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Tell mother you love her before it's too late

Dear Ann: I saw myself in this old column of yours and am sure others will see themselves, too. Please reprint it. So many people need to read it.

— L.A., Calif.

Ann says: Here's the column with my thanks for sending it on. We all need to re-evaluate our priorities from time to time, and it's helpful to be reminded. Here it is:

Dear Ann: I had a marvelous mother who loved, sacrificed for and helped me in every way possible. All my years of growing up, through college and eventually marriage, my mother was at my side. When I needed help with my little ones she was there for me.

Today we buried that wonderful woman. Can you imagine how I felt when I returned from the services and found this poem in her desk drawer?



Ann Landers

The Time Is Now

If you are ever going to love me,
Love me now, while I can know
The sweet and tender feelings
Which from true affection flow.
Love me now
While I am living,
Do not wait until I'm gone
And then have it chiseled in marble,
Sweet words on ice cold stone.
If you have tender thoughts of me
Please tell me now.
If you wait until I am sleeping

Never to awaken,
There will be death between us
And I won't hear you then.
So, if you love me, even a little bit,
Let me know it while I am living
So I can treasure it.

Now she is gone and I am sick with guilt because I never told her what she meant to me. Worse yet, I didn't treat her as she deserved to be treated.

I found time for everyone and everything but I never made time for her. It would have been easy to drop in for a cup of tea and a hug, but my friends came first. Would any of them have done for me what my mother did? I know the answer.

When I called Mom on the phone I was always in a hurry. I feel ashamed when I think of the times I cut her off. I remember, too, the times I could have included her and didn't.

Our children loved Grandma from

the time they were babies. They often turned to her for counsel and comfort. She understood them. I realize now that I was too critical, too short-tempered, too stingy with praise. Grandma gave them unconditional love.

The world is filled with daughters like me. I hope they see themselves in this column and profit from it. It's too late for me and I am sick with regrets.

— Guilty and Heartbroken

Ann says: Here's your letter — on Mother's Day. I was deeply moved by it and am sure others will be, too. Bless you for writing.

Ann Landers is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. Letters should be addressed to Ann Landers in care of the Minneapolis Star and Tribune, 425 Portland Av. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488. For a personal reply, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Interest grows in sickle-cell anemia

Of late, there has been a growing interest in sickle-cell anemia, a disease which affects Negroes al-

most exclusively. Sickle-cell anemia is thought to have originated in West Africa, where, curiously, having the disease is an advantage since the malaria mosquitoes hate the peculiar blood and will not bite a person with it.

An estimated two million Negroes in America are carriers of the hereditary disease, meaning that they show no symptoms themselves but can pass it on in their genes to their children.

Some 45,000 to 75,000 Negroes have an active

form of sickle-cell anemia. It is essential that persons, before they have children, find out if they are carriers, because if both parents have the defective gene, one child in four born to them will have the disease.

In the blood of a victim of the disease, the red cells, which normally look like round coins, instead look like bananas or crescents, and tend to hook or clump together. They then become trapped in the tiny blood vessels or capillaries, and as a result small areas of tissue can die.

The person becomes anemic and can develop severe pain, leg ulcers, loss of vision and a lowered resistance to infection. Pneumonia is perhaps the most frequent cause of death in these people, but the sickle-cell patient is also in danger of a stroke, a heart attack, kidney damage or loss of a limb.

Recognition of sickle-cell anemia has become more easy recently, with the perfection of a simple, inexpensive and accurate detection test. This test was devised by Dr. Paul Wolf, of Stanford University, and Dr. Robert Albanidian, of Grand Rapids, Mich. It provides a fast method of locating those persons who need further attention.

As yet I have heard of no medicine that will change the sickle-cell blood to normal. In a crisis

the patient will require transfusions and will have extreme pain in the stomach, bones or back. The only way to prevent a strongly hereditary disease like sickle-cell anemia, if both parents carry the trait, is to avoid having children.

Dr. Walter C. Alvarez





Woman's View Lillian Warren Lazenberry

Despite the ugliness of politics we have come to realize that, in order to become recognized as having a voice in decision-making, one has to knock down opposition and win a way.

Van White and the much respected Dorothy James, Fifth Ward contenders for party endorsement, threw their hats in the ring and emerged as the top two contenders. After the ninth ballot, Van White emerged the endorsee. Both are good candidates, but what about the endorsee?

When I see the name "Van White" in print my mind travels back to everything I know about this most effective gentleman with whom I had the good fortune to work with and experience results. This is what is needed so much in North Minneapolis, as well as in other communities.

I first got to know Van White when his office was located out of the downtown office of the Minnesota Department of Employment Security (now called Economic Security), in the Pilot City project location. This 11-years pro, an employment service interviewer and job placement specialist, was responsible for placing a multiplicity of people: adults and youth, all races and kinds. Van had a knack with placing people which made him one of the most effective job placers in his community.

Van went beyond his job responsibility, heavily counseling his applicants and places. As he has said, "A lot of my work was geared toward youth employment and much of my effort was a success. There were failures, too, but now I can look around and see some of my successes. Some are professionals working for large companies and industries. I had to hound some to help make things turn out right for them even after they were placed. Many are still on those jobs and their families are doing well."

Van also gives credit to the "wonderful staff that worked with me at Pilot City." His job with that agency and also in downtown Minneapolis brought him in contact with the core needs, such as home, discipline, food, clothing and money. He could identify with some of these needs. He was born and raised on the northside which some refer as the "core city." His memories include Phyllis Wheatley Community Center and the streets of the near northside. He could relate to the southern immigrant since his parents were from the South. His father was from Arkansas; his mother from North Carolina. Both came here in 1918.

He married Javanese Ewing on the northside and the couple have two children; 21-year-old Perri and 19-year-old Javoni, and also a 1-year-old granddaughter, Katria. They were members of Border CME church until the merger with Hennepin Avenue Methodist some years ago. Van attended northside schools and graduated from Patrick Henry High. One barrier he helped employers move was in convincing some that one did not need a college degree to perform certain jobs. Some of his applicants had ability equivalent to a degree. He has several success stories of this kind.

Van White has always had lots of friends, both young and old, then and now. In fact, his parents sent him to Henry High because he had so many friends that socializing affected his ability to study at times. His ability to make friends continues to this day. He has the image, the affiliations and party connections that should win him strong, united and consolidated support that no other Black in the Fifth Ward has as yet experienced. Others were all good contenders for the seat but missed election by very small margins.

Van White has multi-racial support and that, with his past work and effort in his community, gives him much in his favor. No cloud could dim his image. "I ran a good clean election," he said. "When they try to allege some discrepancy, I say let's bring it all out in the open and deal with it. I don't want anything hidden in people's minds. I want everything honest, on the table and above board."

That's the only way I've ever known Van White to be. Space does not permit me to describe all the many things he has done and is doing for the community in which he lives and the community at large. His record is an open book, especially the work to rehabilitate the Willard-Homewood area. Van glows with pride to see new homes going up, homes being rehabilitated, middleclass families returning to or coming into that community. He does not take all the credit but insists it was the result of a lot of people working together that made it happen.

His participation on various boards I hear is staggering. He says his wife and family supported him in his community efforts. "I convinced my family that we won't have anything if we don't get out there and work." He isn't always gentle, but no one hates him for being firm and necessary. Most persons love him very much. His campaign for Fifth Ward alderman has created another monster of controversy, but nothing unusual in politics. "If a man can't stand up to criticism he doesn't deserve the job," says Mr. White.

He says he will try to unite the ward and set aside personalities so that the future of the community will prosper. Good luck and the very best, Mr. White. I hope your effort will not be one of defeat. And I especially hope it will not become listed as a case of defeat due to lack of unity.

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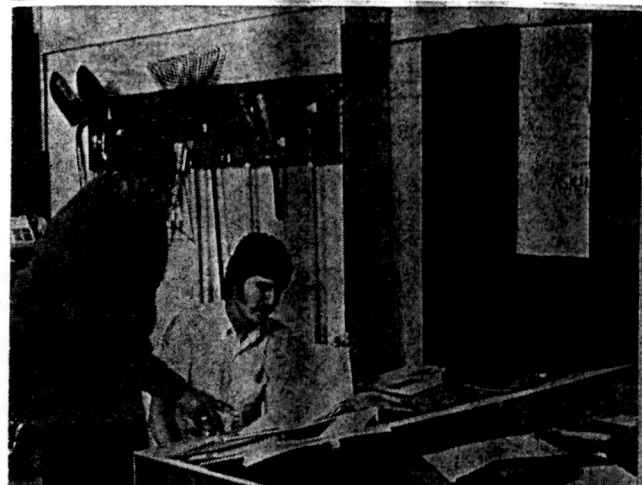
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1974 Neighborhood Award goes to WHO leader

Van White (center front) has the never-say-die type of leadership that won him the coveted 1974 Neighborhood Award presented annually by the Committee of Urban Environment. White is chairperson of the Willard Homewood Organization (WHO) and, under his leadership WHO has become one of the leading groups in the City of Minneapolis advocating rehabilitation of exist-

ing neighborhoods. Members of WHO are shown here with the award winner: Lee Ann Henphill and Juanita Miles (front row, left and right); second row, from the left, Elsie Park, Terrir Gude, Catch Christensen and Jim Mitchell; back row, from the left, Tom Supel, Dave Hanson, Richard Jefferson and George Nelsen.



Van White, 1718 Thomas Av. N., helps a member of the NABERHOOD Store to place a catalogue order. "The NABERHOOD Store, a non-profit, community controlled hardware facility now has a new supplier, which means that folks can get just about anything they need from us", explained Mr. White, who is on the Board of Directors of the store. The NABERHOOD Store is located at 2401 Golden Valley Road and is open 11-6, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday; 1-8, Wednesday; and 9-5, Saturday.

Twinn Cities Observer Sept. 4, 1974

5 Black representatives elected to Co. Lung Asso.

In naming its new board members this year, the Hennepin County Lung Association elected five Black representatives to their Board of Directors.

They were elected at the \$300,000 Christmas Seal organization's recent annual meeting and include:

Daniel W. Davis, Affirmative Action Coordinator, Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis.

Lorraine A. Hale, Director of Housing, Minneapolis Urban League.

Arthur C. Hill, Instructor in Social Science, Metropolitan Community College, Minneapolis.

Regina Reed, vice chairwoman

of the Minnesota Republican State Central Committee and Van F. White, Employment Services Interviewer, Minnesota Department of Manpower Services.

These people will serve for the next three years and then will become eligible to run for re-election.

Elected to head the American Lung Association of Hennepin County was Sister Anne Joachim (joe' ah kim), the first woman named in its 70 year history. She is a registered nurse with masters degree in education and a law degree, along with holding the positions of president and dean of Saint Mary's Junior College.

Observer Sept 25, 1974

North Branch YMCA dedicated Sept. 15



Al Freeman speaks to dedication guests



YMCA GENERAL BOARD Chairman Fremont Fletcher (center) receives North Community YMCA Building keys from architect Lorenzo Williams of Williams-O'Brien as officials look on (left to right): North Community Executive Director Al Freeman; Congressman William Frenzel; Fletcher; Williams; YMCA President John W. Kessler; West Broadway Business Association Executive Director Gene Elston.

The \$1 million North Community Branch YMCA, located on West Broadway at Knox Avenue North, is now officially open for service following formal dedication ceremonies.

Joining YMCA officials at the dedication were officials from area agencies, United Way, Hennepin County Health & Welfare Council, Minneapolis Public Schools, City of Minneapolis, and U.S. Congressman William Frenzel.

Some 300 persons attended the ceremonies which included formal ribbon cutting, presentation of the building's keys by architect Lorenzo Williams of Williams-O'Brien, speeches by YMCA and community officials, and tours of the new facility.

The North Community Branch is the first project resulting from the Metropolitan Minneapolis YMCA's \$15 million capital campaign. Five additional buildings will be

constructed in the metropolitan area.

The next building in the YMCA's development program is under construction at 74th and York Avenue South. It will be ready January 1, 1975. Following this building will be a new YMCA facility at 42nd and Winnetka Avenue North, New Hope, serving the northwest suburban communities.

Other facilities to follow include: West Suburban in the Ridgedale Shopping complex; Minnesota Valley at 98th and Abbott Avenue South; Northeast Suburban at 84th and University Northeast.

In addition to the new facilities, the YMCA will renovate and put additions on to some of its existing buildings and camping properties.

October 9th date
for Sickie Cell
Anemia proaram



YMCA ... VAN WHITE, Chairman of the Willard-Homewood Organization, was the principal speaker at North Community YMCA dedication ceremonies. The new Y is the first of several new facilities the YMCA will build in the area resulting from its \$15 million capital campaign.

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st half as he picks up yardage, ge-
for a 16-yard gain.

also hopped down
the sidelines for a 38-yard
touchdown.

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Northside YMCA goes to Brookdale

The YMCA of Metropol-
itan Minneapolis has open-
ed a new branch at 1711
West Broadway. The build-

ing features a 25 yard in-
door swimming pool, a gym-
nasium with running track,
an exercise and weight room,
sauna, whirlpool, multi-pur-
pose room, and a center
for senior citizens.

clude a trampoline demon-
stration, a craft display by
Arvesta Kelly, and a Bonsai
Art display by Donald Riley.
Hours will be Friday, Sep-
tember 20th, 7p.m. to 9p.m.,
Saturday, September 21st, 10
a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sun-
day, September 22nd, 1 p.m.
to 5 p.m.

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The North Community
Branch YMCA is designed
to serve all members of the
family. Some of the pro-
grams offered include: Pre-
School Gym and Learn to
Swim, Judo, Grade School
Learn to Swim, Gymnastics,
Scuba Diving, Adult Condi-
tioning, Youth Clubs, Infor-
mal Education, Recreational
Gym and Swim, Community
Sports League, and Parent
Child programs.

Members of the North
Community Branch staff will
be in the East Mall of
Brookdale Center, Septem-
ber 20th through September
22nd. Special programs in-

Hosting thos event will be:
Thomas Sachariason, Judy
Forare, Susan Henderson,
Mel Hoadlund, Clyston Hol-
man, Jr., Dorothy James,
Charles R. McKenzie, the
Rev. Richard Peirce, Donald
Riley, Doug Schuster, Joe
Sizer, Claudia Wallace, and
Van White, members of the
North Community Branch
YMCA Branch Program
Committee.

For further information
call the North Community
Branch YMCA at 588-9484.

Full line of college courses

ical and practical exper-
ments are also
analyze

such a understanding of the
inter-relationship of the cul-
ture that comprise Amer-
ican society, that they will
ve the perspective and col-
lative skills that will
the positive.

Job problems under study on northside

10:00 p.m. The theme for the meeting will be Employment vs. Employability.

The program will consist of a panel discussion by experts on the subject of employment. Panel members will include: John Brunier, Director of the Minneapolis Urban League L.E.A.P. program; Van White, State Employment Specialist at Pilot City Regional Center; Charles Nichols, vocational director, Minneapolis Public Schools; and Mrs. Annacele Johnson, Engineering Aid, Honeywell, Inc. Victor Propes, Director of the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, is the moderator.

On Monday evening, September 30, the new Northside Umbrella Community Organization will hold its first open meeting at North High School from 7:30 to

The Northside Umbrella Community Organization is a newly formed group of northside residents which

has been aided by staff from the Minneapolis Urban League to promote leadership in the community, to increase communication among residents, and to pool existing resources so that they can be utilized more effectively.

Members of the steering committee for the organization include John A. James, Chairman, 1700 Oliver Avenue North; the Reverend Clyston O. Holman, Jr., Minneapolis Council of Churches, 6524 Twelfth Avenue South; Mrs. Ann E. Darby, Minneapolis Urban League, 1121 Twelfth Avenue North; Mrs. Barbara Andrus, 1100 Upton Avenue North; Willie L. Parrott, 1403 14th Avenue North; Willie Parrott, 1630 Sheridan Avenue

North; the Reverend Emanuel Harrell, 800 Newton Avenue North; and Mrs. Nellie Stone Johnson, Minneapolis Urban League Board of Directors Liaison, 1239 Sheridan Avenue North.

Others on the committee are Mrs. Dorothy James, 1700 Oliver Avenue North; Mrs. Mattie Clark, 1407 Washburn Avenue North; Mrs. Vicky Jenkins, 4308 Irving Avenue North; Mrs. Jerusha Coles, 1509 Russell Avenue North; Mrs. Elizabeth Samuels, 2406 Golden Valley Road; Mrs. Grace James, 513 Logan Avenue North; Van White, 1718 Thomas Avenue North; Samuel Faulk, 1201 Twelfth Avenue North; and Randolph Staten.

(Continued on page 8)

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All four students will enter the University as freshmen this fall. An experimental attempt to encourage minority students to pursue careers in science and math, the scholarships will provide them with tuition, fees, room board and books for the first two years, and summer employment prior to their freshman and sophomore years. At the end of their sophomore years, they will be encouraged to enter a cooperative work-study program between the University and 3M.

Sept. 30 date for 1st open meeting

The Northside Umbrella Community Organization will hold its first open meeting at North High School from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. on Monday, September 30. The theme for the meeting will be "Employment versus Employability."

A panel discussion will be conducted by John Brunier, Director of Minneapolis Urban League L.E.A.P. program; Van White, State Employment Specialist at Pilot City Regional Center; Charles Nichols, Vocational Director, Minneapolis Public Schools; and Mrs. Annacele Johnson, Engineering Aid, Honeywell, Inc. Victor Propes, director of the Minneapolis Civil Rights Department, will serve as the moderator.

The newly formed Northside Umbrella Community Organization is composed of a group of northside residents, which has

been aided by staff members from the Minneapolis Urban League to promote leadership in the community, to increase communication among residents, and to pool existing resources so that they can be utilized more effectively.

The steering committee members for the organization include John A. James, chairman; Rev. Clyston O. Holman, Jr., Minneapolis Council of Churches; Mrs. Ann E. Darby, Minneapolis Urban League; Mrs. Barbara Andrus; Willie L. Parrott; Rev. Emanuel Harrell; Mrs. Nellie Stone Johnson, Minneapolis Urban League Board of Directors Liaison; Carla Lee; Jean Hall, recorder, Minneapolis Urban League; Mrs. Dorothy James; Mrs. Mattie Clark; Mrs. Vicky Jenkins; Mrs. Elizabeth Samuels, Samuel Faulk; Randolph Staten; and Van White.

program minority groups (i.e., Black House, Hispanic House and Indian House) shall continue to function with substantial funding for program operations.

In addition, the college will continue and increase its recruitment of minority faculty members for all departments.

President Robinson is currently preparing a five year funding proposal for the EEO Program, which he will present to the college Board of Trustees. A reply is expected from the board on or before Nov. 3, 1974.

A major premise within the agreement indicates that, "Although, no one's rights may be negotiated away, the college administration, and President Robinson — personally, urge all parts of the Macalester College community to accept this agreement and not to continue this controversy by taking any further action not a part of this agreement." It continues, "If there is the slightest indication of harassment of individual students involved in the occupation of 77 Macalester (either through administrative action or through irresponsible use of the college's judicial processes), President Robinson will within the scope of his

(Continued on Page 8)

Condition Of The Arts
 ... the condition of the arts in America has seldom been more precarious. The symphony Orchestras and opera companies that play to crowded halls are paradoxically, threatened with collapse. The only thing larger than the audiences are the deficits. Some of the nation's leading performing art centers are struggling to keep their doors open. Public libraries are losing their capability to satisfy the needs of people who at long last have discovered the value of a community institution concerned with the life of the mind.—Saturday REVIEW.

Minneapolis Spokesman

FORTY-FIRST YEAR, NO. 12

Phone: 827-4022

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1974

Umbrella Organization's First Open Meeting:

New Northside Group To Review Employment Problems September 30

On Monday evening, September 30, the new Northside Umbrella Community Organization will hold its first open meeting at North High School from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The theme for the meeting will be "Employment vs. Employability."

The program will consist of a panel discussion by experts on the subject of employment. Panel members will include: John Brunier, director of the Minneapolis Urban League L.E.A.P. program; Van White State Employment specialist at Pilot City Regional Center; Charles Nichols, Vocational director, Minneapolis Public Schools;

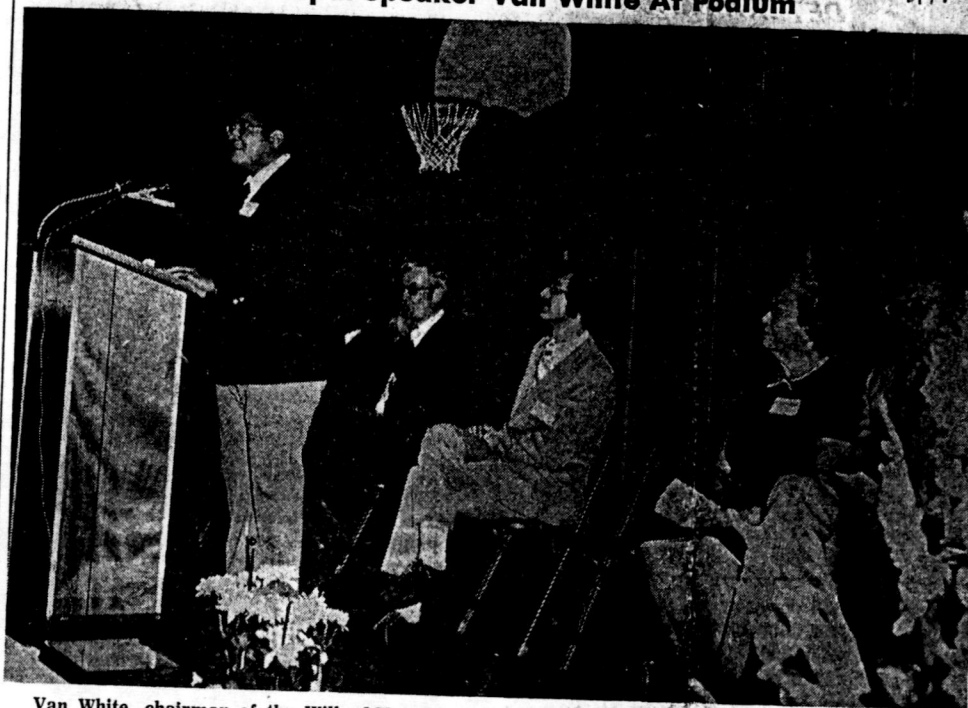
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Others on the committee are Mrs. Dorothy James 1700 Oliver Av. N.; Mrs. Mattie Clark, 1407 Washburn Av. N.; Mrs. Vicky Jenkins, 4308 Irving Av. N.; Mrs. Jerusha Coles 1509 Russell Av. N.; Mrs. Elizabeth Samuels, 2406 Golden Valley Road; Mrs. Grace James, 513 Logan Av. N.; Van White 1718 Thomas Av. N.; Samuel Faulk, 1201 12th Av. N.; and Ran-

JOHN A. JAMES
 Chairman Northside Umbrella
 Community Organization
 and Mrs. Annacole Johnson, En-
 gineering aid, Honeywell, Inc. Vic-

Principal Speaker Van White At Podium

1974



Van White, chairman of the Willard-Homewood Organization, was the principal speaker at formal dedication ceremonies of the North Community Branch YMCA. Mr. White a native of the Northside

praised the YMCA for providing the area with the handsome new building and facility at the cost of one million dollars.

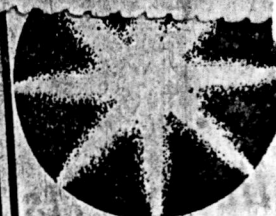
18



Minneapolis Star Photo by Roy Swan

DRAWING FOR HOUSES—Names of 21 persons were drawn from barrels at Mayor Albert Hofstede's office yesterday as final applicants for the first urban homesteading property were selected. From left above are Robert Whitlock, chairman of the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA); Lou DeMars, City Council President; Mayor Al Hofstede and Van

White, president of the Willard-Homewood organization. The final drawing for eligible applicants is scheduled for mid-January. The first home offered for a purchase price of \$1 is a 2-story colonial at 911 Sheridan Av. N. The selected applicant must agree to make about \$13,000 in required repairs.



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AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

With 50 local, national and international awards to its credit, the Courier offers a distinctive and contemporary outlook on the news.

VAN WHITE 7-17-77
800 WASHBURN AVE NO
MPLS, MN 55411

Search is on for new council candidate

By Wm. (Bill) Smith

The Black Unity and Futurism Movement calls for community support for one black candidate to be endorsed and elected Fifth Ward Alderperson. The group has been meeting quietly for months conducting a candidate search, developing criteria for selection,

and organizing the community for one black candidate who can win with broad support. The effort has been productive. The hard work has born fruit.

A candidates' forum will be held on July 23, 1977 at Phyllis Wheatley at 10 a.m. The objective of the forum will be to have the

candidates present themselves to the community after which there will be a straw vote election and endorsement of the one candidate.

Black Unity and Futurism Endorsement will represent a commitment of money, time, organizational support, and work for the can-

didate who the community gets behind.

The group has been in communication with eleven people whose names have been mentioned as candidates. That number has been narrowed to less than five.

Also, Black Unity and Futurism will continue to

spearhead the effort to keep the black community from becoming hopelessly divided and thereby assuring the election of a non-black.

Through the collective political wisdom of people like Van White, Vusi Zula, Bernadette Anderson, Liz Moore, Dr. Geri Carter, Earl Craig, Elder Alex-

ander, Nelwynn Hollie, Ron Edwards, Willie Sledge, Samuel Faulk, Bill Smith, Gladys Randle, T. Williams, and others, the movement is unanimous in the belief that:

(1) If there was ever going to be a black person elected to the city council it must be now (Suburbanites moving back into the

ward will change numerically the racial makeup of the northside greatly in the next two years).

(2) Several candidates will assure the election of non-black candidates.

(3) Every effort must be utilized to narrow the field and work for the elec-

tion of a community supported candidate and the election of Minneapolis' first black council person.

Every person, club, organization, and church is asked to join in this effort. Black Unity and Futurism has given this project its top priority and has moved into action.



director



Twin
Cities

Courier

TWELFTH YEAR NO. 8

MINNEAPOLIS

July 14, 1977

ST. PAUL

20 CENTS PER COPY

Black PhD is snubbed in day care hiring

By Earl Rogers

The Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association has been looking for a director to replace the current one who will be leaving on July 15. Dr. Geri Carter, a black child care expert, has been their consultant for several years.

She applied for the job

and director of the Sister's Therapy Group for adolescent girls on the near north side. She has also been active in organizing, planning and co-directing the recent Black Unity and Futurism Conferences.

Members of the black community in the situation

"Dr. Geri Carter (PhD), the only black applicant in a field of some 30 others, has been denied the position of executive director of the Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association,"

on the basis of her color. The GMDCA is an organization that black parents helped to bring into existence in the early 1960s to coordinate the child care services within the community. It

is presently the conduit for state and federal monies that come into Minneapolis for child care.

"Dr. Carter, whose creation (Continued on page 9)

on the m

from dental school, not work out

Yan White and George Nelsen are a resident team that has been with the WHO since its incorporation. Because of that, they are able to provide the Organization and the community with a continuity not found in many resident groups.

To many people, Van White is the Willard Homewood Organization. As a community resident discouraged by neighborhood deterioration, Van helped to organize the Willard Progressive Association (WPA), a predecessor of the WHO. When (in 1971) the WPA decided to join forces with Homewood residents to form the Willard Homewood Organization, he became the new group's first chairperson. Van has faithfully and judiciously executed the duties of the Chair ever since; and WHO owes much of its reputation as a diligent and thoughtful community group to his leadership.

Like Van, George Nelsen (in his words) knows where he has been every other Wednesday evening for the past six years. When the WHO was formed in 1971, George was there to encourage participants to focus their energies on housing; and he has kept the group on course ever since. It is George's philosophy that the most successful way to effect change is to define a limited area of interest and become an expert in that area. That philosophy is evident in his work with the WHO.

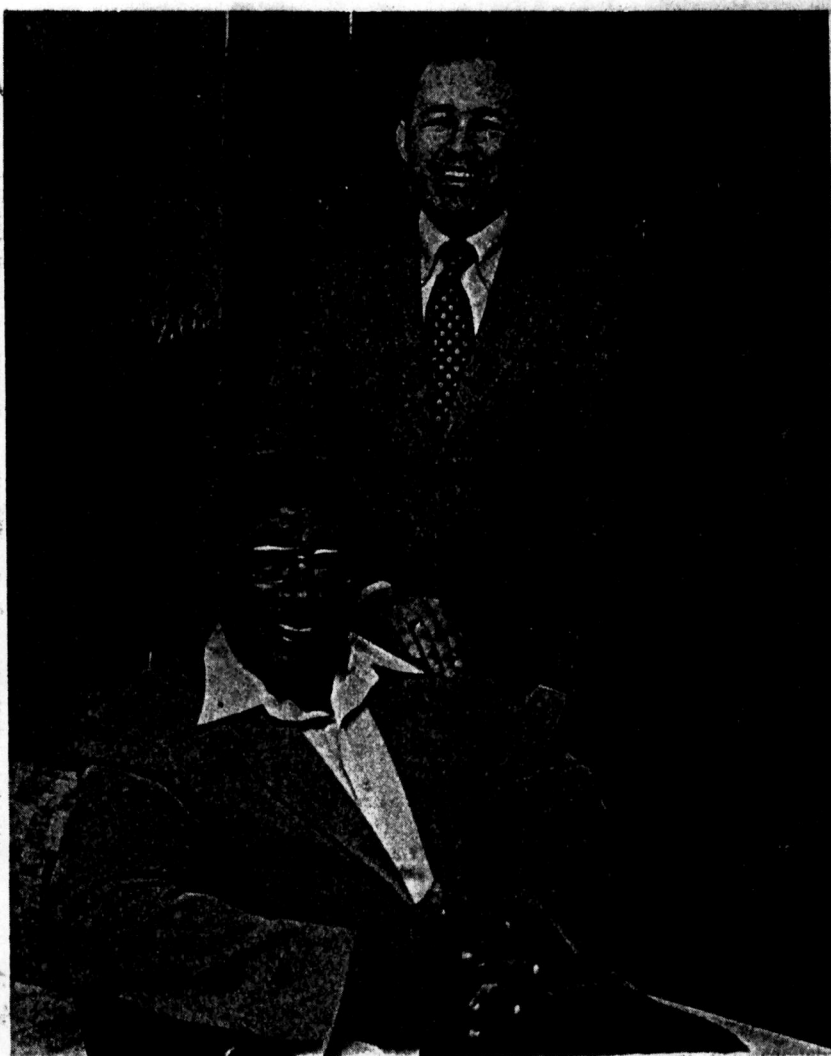
Between the two of them, Van and George have participated in virtually every activity of the Willard-Homewood Organization as it has grown over the years. After working to organize the WHO and to get grant and loan money into the community, Van participated on and became co-chair of the first City-Wide Citizens Advisory Committee, advising the City of Minneapolis on the spending of year 1 Community Development money. In addition to serving the WHO as its Treasurer for five years, George chaired both the Marketing Committee and the

Group Homes Task Force. The Marketing Committee was responsible for publication of the WHO's brochure and for the Parade of Homes in 1975 while the work of the Group Homes Task Force is discussed in another article in this issue.

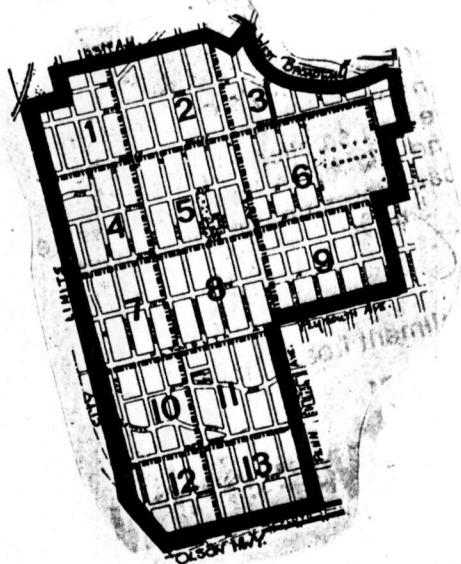
These two individuals continue to serve the WHO and the community in unique and very special ways. Van is now furthering community interests through his participation on the Board of Directors of National Neighbors, an organization of interracial community organizations. George, on the other hand, is devoting

his energy and talents to charting a course for the somewhat unsure future of the Willard Homewood Organization.

The WHO takes pride and comfort in the idea that, on any given meeting night, these two dedicated persons continue to provide the group with a historical perspective, a philosophy for the present and a challenge for the future. Everyone who knows them recognizes the futility of trying to describe or compute their contributions to the community; but there can be no doubt they have given new meaning to the word "dedication".



Van White (seated) and George Nelsen



Insight

Wednesday, April 5, 1978

Friday neighbors

Minneapolis Tribune



Ma and Pa
grocery store/
3B



Staff Photo by Donald Black

Van White, who witnessed the rise and fall of the North Side — and a new beginning — will step aside as leader of the Willard-Homewood Organization.

Van White will step aside for a while, now that the North Side is coming back

By Ruth Hammond
Staff Writer

The founder of the Willard-Homewood Organization, Van F. White, is stepping aside, he said this week — because "there are younger people who should take the helm."

White, 54, has been the community organization's chairman since 1971. During his lifetime, he has seen the Near North Side neighborhood go from well-to-do to run-down to a "socially, economically and racially mixed community" with pride in itself.

In the crowded days of his youth, White said, his dream was to own some land. Now he does. His 18-year-old, two-bedroom house at Washburn and 8th Aves. N. is on a large yard across the street from brushy lots that hint of space and wilderness.

"He's just a sweet man, a gentle man who loves the neighborhood and its people. He's low-key and still dynamic," said Vivian Nelsen, a neighbor. "He's a dreamer and, ever since Martin Luther King was killed, there haven't been many of those left."

In the late 1930s, White's family

moved into the Sumner Field Homes. He was 13 then, the oldest of five children. The family received Aid to Dependent Children, but his widowed mother and his grandmother worked secretly so the children would be well-fed.

White said that those two women taught him to face adversity, accept responsibility and strive to be good. Both are dead now, but he quoted them often this week as he sat in his paneled basement, smoking a pipe and musing about the past.

"The projects," he said, were home to an ethnic mixture, people who made do with what they had and shared with those who had less. At first, White said, he was "in utter awe of the newness" of the family's three-bedroom apartment. When the awe wore off, he knew that he needed more space, that human beings should not live so close together, unprotected from the sounds of each other's lives. In 1960, after he injured his back at work and had to return to "the projects" for 2½ years, he went to the basement and wept, he said.

In the projects, "there was always that desire to move," White said.

White keeps a bag of pinto beans — one of the commodities his family was given in 1960 — in the cupboard of his Washburn Av. house "so I'll never forget where I've been." He keeps a pair of shoes covered with concrete and asphalt in the trunk of his car "to remind myself what men — and women now — do to make a living. They work hard."

White, who is married and has two children, is an interviewer for the Minnesota Department of Employment Services.

Under White's leadership, "Willard-Homewood Organization became one of the first groups to seek renewal for their area," said Richard Jefferson, Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) commissioner. "Others had it inflicted on them."

If the HRA had had its way at first, a lot of Willard-Homewood's renovated homes might now be rubble. More people would live in the neighborhood and their "homes" would be apartment houses. "We didn't want wall to wall apartments," White said. "We'd already seen what happened on Blaisdell Av. (in south Minneapolis). That's terrible!"

So some people bought neglected homes for \$1 and fixed them, others waited until they could get low-interest home-repair loans to fix up what they had.

When the Nixon administration impounded housing rehabilitation money in 1973, White flew to Washington, D.C., with Robert Dronen, then HRA executive director in Minneapolis, to plead Willard-Homewood's cause. It was White's first plane trip. "I was flying and I was thinking, 'My God, Van White from the projects is going to Washington.' It was unbelievable to me." When he got to Washington, he stood on his hotel balcony, threw out his arms and cried jubilantly, "Mamma, look at your son!" His jubilation was warranted because the housing rehabilitation money eventually was freed.

In the past four years, almost three-fourths of the 2,300 houses and duplexes in the neighborhood have been renovated. Homes selling for \$16,000 or \$19,000 four years ago now sell for \$50,000 or more, White said.

"You can't walk around here now and Van White continued on page 2B

If you're looking for family fun...

Grow up fast in Edina

Today's pancake breakfast is in Edina, where people get old in a hurry. It's sponsored by the Y's Women of Southdale at the Southdale Branch



whom are in their 20s. "He's
it and a blessing to be
Nelson said.

lising projects at Lebanon
Church, 2014 E. 36th St.,
Bahr busy. He's been on a
team, sponsored by Henry
son Mortuary, for 27 years.
s aren't always as high as
to be, "so I was going to
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been a farmer and worked
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Ernie tended to details like
the leaves off the roof.
his wife, who died in 1968,
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wonderful always."

he has gotten some help
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Staff Photo by Regene Radniecki

Ernie Bahr posed in front of the apartment building he has taken care of for the past 25 years. The b

Van White

Continued from page 1B

say this is a crummy place," he said.

A new Willard-Homewood Organiza-
tion chairman will be elected Nov. 1.
"Heartwise, we'll miss him, but it's a
testimony to Van" that others will
carry on, said George Nelsen, the
only other person on the organiza-
tion's board since its beginning.

White remains active on the Citizens
Committee on Public Education and
on the national board of National
Neighbors, Inc., which promotes
multi-racial living.

"We can ill afford to have a city of
one race. Everyone has a right to
live where he wants to," White said.
"I'm not saying you should run to
each other's houses with your arms
open saying, 'I love you.' But, he
said, if a neighbor's house is on fire,
if there's trash in the streets or the
drinking water is bad, it's going to
affect the whole neighborhood.
Neighbors should fight for the com-
mon good, and then, if they want, go
back into their houses and dislike
each other," White said.

Van White? "He's almost a visionary.
How can I say this without sounding



Van White

too ethereal? He has a very real
picture of what can be done and the
vision to know how to put it togeth-
er." In his battle for improvement,
"he is courteous to a fault. He's nev-
er angry or vindictive. He is quietly
out doing things while all these other
clowns are out there screaming and
yelling," George Nelsen said.

Then

Indian Summer

The poets and philosophers
Summer, probably because
than inside writing about it
are too beautiful to try to

Reference books tell us that
unseasonably warm weather
central and eastern United
fortunate enough to get it.

The name originated in New
variety of reasons, depend-
One book says that the Indian
Summer. Another says that
settlers before winter set in
the term originated.

Indian Summer may occur
it doesn't occur at all. Its name
by hazy skies and light winds
days become, thanks to the

Have a good day.



5th Ward DFL backs White for alderman

By Linda Picone
Staff Writer

It took nine ballots to do it, but Minneapolis's Fifth Ward DFLers endorsed a candidate for the city council Saturday evening.

By doing so they created at least a good chance that the Fifth Ward will be represented by a black alderman for the first time.

Van White, 54, 800 Washburn Av. N., won the endorsement of the Fifth Ward DFLers. White, who works for the Minnesota Department of Economic Security, has been active in dozens of community organizations but has not run for public office before.

Although there were four candidates for endorsement yesterday, the battle for votes was, from the first ballot, between White and Dorothy James, 44, 1700 Oliver Av. N.

James, long active in the DFL Party and a district chairman, was supported by many party regulars, and that may have hurt her at the endorsing convention yesterday.

James, who is black, had planned to run for the city council seat in 1977, when Alderman Louis DeMars announced he would not run for reelection. DeMars changed his mind, however, and James withdrew from the race and supported him, although several black candidates

were running against him in the primary election.

Last fall James supported Rep. James Casserty for reelection to the Minnesota Legislature, although many blacks in the Fifth Ward supported a black man, Randy Staten. She said many delegates are still angry with her for not supporting Staten.

"Being a district chair of the DFL Party, I had to support the endorsed candidate," said James. "I'm a dedicated DFLer."

She admitted that some delegates seem to see her as a part of the DFL system, "but really, I'm no machine politician."

White's winning the endorsement in the heavily DFL ward gives him a good shot at the city council seat, but does not guarantee that he will become the first black to represent that ward. The black population of the ward is about 30 percent.

Art Morris, a Minneapolis policeman and the only white candidate at the convention yesterday, announced that he will run against the endorsed candidate, meaning that White will have to face him in a primary.

Morris, 44, 1708 Lyn Park Av. N., was dropped after the first ballot when he failed to get 10 percent of the vote. He got only 13 of 175 votes.

"I didn't have enough time to prepare," Morris said. "It's a very diver-

Van White, the eventual nominee, spoke during the Fifth Ward DFL convention Saturday.

sified ward and it's hard to get to everyone."

Earby Chatham, 37, 1901 Oliver Av. N., dropped out of the race after the second ballot and threw his support to White. Chatham said he thought he could have won an open primary, with no endorsed candidate.

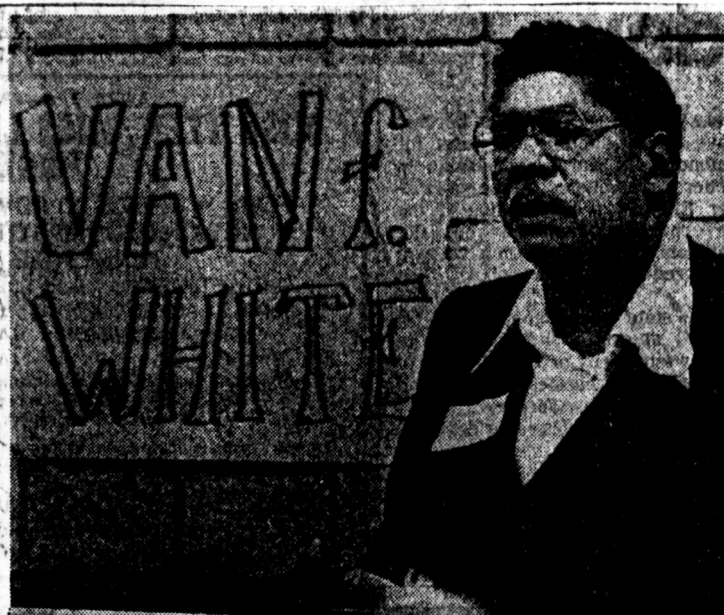
He said he gave his support to White rather than James because "this community has a right to be able to decide the kind of candidate it wants, with respect to the needs of the community." He said he saw James as "the (DFL) party people trying to pick our candidates again."

James was ahead of White only on the first ballot, with 70 votes to his

67. Although White was consistently ahead after that, votes fluctuated a bit between him and James. White got the required 60 percent for endorsement on the ninth ballot. About 160 votes were cast then, three for no endorsement, 59 for James and 98 for White.

The Fifth Ward took six hours and a lot of arguing to endorse a candidate but the Sixth Ward DFLers, who met yesterday morning, took less than two very quiet hours to do the same thing.

Mayor Albert Hofstede made a few remarks to the Sixth Ward convention and said, "Obviously you're here today to endorse Jackie Slater."



Staff Photo by Regene Radniecki

The convention did just that. Slater, the current alderman, was the only candidate nominated for endorsement. Of 134 votes cast, 20 were for no endorsement, two for write-in candidates and 112 were for Slater.

The toughest question Slater had to answer was from Earl Netwal, the former Sixth Ward alderman who Slater defeated in the DFL primary two years ago. Netwal said she should "state once and for all, are you pro-life or pro-choice? I know people here who think you're both."

Slater said, "I am pro-choice. My choice happens to be pro-life. That may be called equivocating. I don't think it is."

Netwal asked her to account for her vote a year ago that cut back a proposed \$21,000 appropriation to the Midwest Health Center for Women. It had asked for the money to provide birth control information for women who came to the clinic but were found not to be pregnant. Slater voted to give that program \$10,500 and to give the same amount to a University of Minnesota program to counsel pregnant high school girls.

Slater said, "I voted to try to get something for everybody."

Rio carnival begins

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, began its famous carnival Saturday with a lively ball on Sugar Loaf Mountain. The highlight of the carnival—as always—will be tonight's parade of "samba schools." These are clubs, thousands strong and mostly from poor neighborhoods, that compete for awards in samba lyrics, dancing, rhythm and costuming. Normal business will not resume until Wednesday afternoon.

Sunday

February 25, 1979

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Final

Section A/Part I

Volume CXII

Number 237

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Insight

Insight Communications Inc.

March 7, 1979

Volume 6, Number 4

A Minneapolis First?



Illustration by Nancy Christensen

Scallion gets 9th Ward green light

Van White wins 5th Ward DFL endorsement

By Al McFarlane

Fifth Ward DFLers again teeter on the brink of making political history in Minneapolis because they recently endorsed Van F. White for city council. White, 54, 800 Washburn Av. N., is the second Black ever to receive the coveted Democratic Farmer Labor organization endorsement. The first was Bill Smith, who unsuccessfully ran for city council 10 years ago.

White's endorsement came after six hours and nine ballots in the Fifth Ward endorsing convention held Saturday, February 24 at Ruth Hawkins YWCA, 1800 James Av. N.

The contestants, besides White, were Dorothy James, Earby Chatham, and Art Morris.

James, 43, 1700 Oliver Av. N., led the field on the first ballot. On succeeding ballots, however, White stayed within several votes of the 60% of votes needed for endorsement.

White is founder and past chairman of Willard Home-wood Organization. He is a lifelong Northside resident. He

works for the Minnesota Department of Economic Security.

Chatham withdrew from the contest after the second ballot, urging his supporters to vote for Van White. Chatham said after the convention that he would not reenter the race unless several other Black aldermanic hopefuls got into the race. He said he was sensitive to the need for the Northside and especially Black community to not dilute the community's potential to elect its first Black alderman, but, he added, if the field became crowded he too would rejoin the race.

Earby Chatham, who made impressive presentations to the delegates, has been away from ward politics for several years. Ward watchers label Chatham as the leading ward candidate for the 1981 election.

Chatham is an executive for IBM.

Art Morris, a policeman who lives in Lyn Park, was dropped from the race when he failed to get enough votes on the first ballot. He said he would run

against the endorsed candidate in the August primary election.

Dorothy James was considered the only real threat to Van White's endorsement effort.

She lay claim to the endorsement by virtue of her loyal support of DFL party programs and candidates in the Ward and in the district and state. She has been district chairperson in legislative district 56 A and she has been a precinct chairperson. She called on and received the support of other party regulars but their support was not enough to allay fears that she was too closely tied to the Northside "machine" and that a vote for her would be a vote for Lou DeMars in absentia.

Yet Van White's fate may lie in James' hands. Though she has said she would support the endorsed candidate, some of her supporters may be urging her to break with her own tradition of loyalty to the endorsed candidate because they fear Van White may not possess the political strength to effectively serve and deliver for the ward in the high stress city council chambers.

White's supporters obviously disagree with this assessment and hope nothing will lure James or any other Black candidate back into the race. Said Nellie Stone Johnson, a Northside political matriarch, "Van's honesty and his family man image make him strong."

Meanwhile, across town in the Southside-West Bank 9th Ward, community activist Tony Scallion upset incumbent Zollie Green by winning endorsement from that convention on the third of four scheduled ballots.

Scallion, a South St. Paul school teacher and progressive commissioner on Minneapolis' Housing and Redevelopment Authority, gained the support of the liberal Farmer Labor Association members when they withdrew their candidate, Richard Owens, and encouraged their supporters to back Scallion. Scallion caucused with FLA members after the second ballot, which left him five percentage points short of the required 60% of votes needed for endorsement. FLA's Owens

had 9% of the second ballot votes.

Incumbent Zollie Green was miffed at the FLA's actions because, he said, FLA earlier promised they would not endorse either candidate, and, because he was not asked to meet with the FLA caucus after the second ballot. Green later discounted the value of the endorsement calling many delegates one-issue activists. Their issue, Green said, is the downtown stadium, "and I have always and will always support the downtown domed stadium."

"Sour grapes," retorted Scallion in a phone interview. "Those delegates were ok until they didn't endorse Zollie."

Scallion also maintained his supporters were voicing approval of things he talked in his six position papers on issues ranging from citizen participation in government to housing redevelopment. Scallion insisted his supporters were not stadium-activists exclusively, as Green sought to portray them. Green's people, Scallion said, were one-issue voters. "Their issue is Zollie Green, no matter what he does."



Twin
Cities

Courier

THIRTEENTH YEAR NO. 52

Minneapolis

May 10, 1979

Can 5th Ward elect its first Black councilman?

By Ralph Crowder

The forthcoming elections in the Fifth Ward contest for the Minneapolis City Council represents a significant challenge for the Minneapolis Black community.

The political arena in this city has yet to produce a major Black elected official accountable to a Black constituency. This tradition has been partly sustained in the Fifth Ward by a proliferation of candidates eliminating one another; well established machine politics; and a fragmented Black community.

These factors still exist but they are not equivalent to a solid foundation for the continued elimination of Black representation. This is the challenge to Black residents of the Fifth Ward and, by extension, the entire Minneapolis Black community. The key to victory lies within the grasp of the Black community, and the machinery to dismantle the legacy of defeat can be assembled by a conscious and responsible constituency.

However, to open the door and cross the threshold to power, individual aspirations must be transformed into a collective campaign for Black representation.

The Fifth Ward has historically been a stronghold for the Democratic-Farmer Labor

Party. The DFL endorsement or a DFL primary election success has been a ticket to the aldermanic seat on the city council. In 1969 Bill Smith became the first Black candidate to receive the DFL endorsement. He eventually ran an aggressive but unsuccessful campaign.

It has taken 10 years for another Black candidate to duplicate the accomplishment of Bill Smith. On February 24, at the Fifth Ward endorsing convention, Van F. White became the second Black aldermanic candidate to acquire the DFL/Party endorsement. White, an employee of the Minnesota Department of Economic Security and long time community activist, endured six hours, nine ballots, and a variety of parliamentary factors to secure the endorsement. It is important to remember that endorsement, particularly for a Black candidate and in light of the Bill Smith campaign, does not ensure election. However, Van White's endorsement legitimizes his candidacy and, technically, the support of the DFL Party.

During the past month, all eliminated contestants for the DFL endorsement have announced their candidacy for the September primary. The additional candidates include Art Morris, a policeman; Earby Chatham, an IBM employee; and Dorothy James, long



Van White

time DFL activist. What are the motivations for this seemingly orchestrated appearance of additional candidates?

Art Morris and Earby Chatham were thoroughly defeated in the endorsement contest. Thus there is no viable constituency urging their participation in the primary. Dorothy James received support from some party regulars and the so-called "Northside DFL Machine." However, she was clearly not the choice of the DFL endorsement convention.

The decision of Dorothy James and Earby Chatham to continue as announced candidates is particularly unfortunate and somewhat confusing. James has a loyal history of supporting endorsed candidates in ward, district and state politics. According to local reports, Chatham has indicated his sensitivity "to the need for the Black community to not dilute the potential to elect its first Black alderman."

It is apparent that Dorothy James and Earby Chatham understand the consequences of their decision to pursue their personal aspirations. They represent a proliferation of

unnecessary Black candidates, which is the first component for continued elimination of Black representation.

The Fifth Ward Black community has suffered from fragmentation in previous elections. This situation is nothing new, for Black people are continually encouraged to view their problems and solutions from an individual, rather than collective, perspective. It is critical for the Black community to understand that ethnic solidarity is one requirement for the acquisition of political power. The dimensions of Black community disunity have manifested themselves among the leadership and the masses.

Serious Black political leadership has often been rendered ineffective due to "ego politics." Essentially, significant and seasoned participants in the political arena could make an impact upon this campaign if they can relegate their desires for personal acclaim to the collective needs of the Black community. Some segments of Black leadership seem possessed with a "kingmaker mentality" even though they control no political thrones.

Finally, there are those Black leaders who represent NO ONE but possibly the misconceptions of white politicians. This category of so-called Black leadership is illegitimate and will continue to stand in the path of community progress for the shallow rewards of a handshake, breakfast, dinner, or even a good cigar from his or her white political overseers.

The second dimension of Black community fragmentation can be attributed to the general public. Electoral politics is not a panacea for all the ills that confront Black people, but the political arena is one of the significant tools to address community problems. Apathy and "rugged individualism" have become contagious diseases in the Black community and a by-product of an unresponsive political machine.

However, "the key to slavery is to keep the Fifth Ward (Continued on page 5)

Fifth Ward...

(Continued from page 1)

enslaved from thinking about their condition or their future; focus their minds on false eyelashes, Cadillacs, dishwashers, and the latest hair softeners." The problems of crime unemployment, mis-education and inadequate housing will only be addressed when a community becomes collectively sensitized to its own destruction. The coordination of Black political leadership with a concerned Black constituency will not only elect a Black alderman, but also will alleviate serious community problems.

The role of established DFL machine politics must be examined. With the rhetoric of "openness," "broadening the base," "affirmative action," and so-called "increased minority participation," it has taken ten years for the DFL Party to endorse a Black aldermanic candidate. Some local political observers suggest that faction of the DFL Party or the Northside machine are dedicated to blocking the election of a responsible and independent Black candidate.

With the enormous costs of conducting an effective campaign, is it possible that the Northside machine has seduced unsuccessful endorsement candidates to re-enter the primary race? The credibility of machine politics has declined as community conditions deteriorate. Hence the Black community must demonstrate an independent stand and a critical examination of insensitive and

unresponsive machine politics.

The endorsement of Van White also places a challenge to the white constituents of the Fifth Ward. Many people, both Black and white, will contend that race is not an issue, but rather the qualifications of a candidate. This is a fine rhetorical position but unrealistic in the political arena.

In the last Fifth Ward aldermanic election, the white community voted in mass for an incumbent candidate who publicly declared his lack of interest for the seat, and his desire to seek employment elsewhere. In the words of a pioneer political activist, Nellie Stone Johnson, "Van's honesty and family-man image make him strong." But honesty and strength of character may not be sufficient to crack the racial barrier without a vision.

In many respects, the election of Van White could represent a "Reconstruction Era" for Northside politics. As Black politicians over 100 years ago dramatically changed the character of public service in the South, the election of a sensitive and responsive Black alderman could unify the entire Fifth Ward. In addition, the Black community, just as other ethnic groups in the ward, must provide elected leadership for the community.

It would be inappropriate to limit the significance of the struggle to elect a Black

Fifth Ward

(Continued on page 9)

Fifth Ward...

(Continued from page 5)

alderman to the Fifth Ward alone. The candidacy of Van White represents a test-tube examination of Black political strength and community interest throughout Black Minneapolis. The Black community lacks an elected advocate within municipal government and a voice to articulate concerns within the private chambers of city politics.

The power to make an impact on the political arena is within reach of the Black community. We must not fall victim to debating whether we cross the threshold with

our "right or left foot" while a community continues to suffer. In 1848, Frederick Douglass characterized the essence and significance of the political struggle.

"It is evident we must be our own representatives and advocates—not exclusively, but peculiarly—not distinct from, but in connection with, those who favor a better life.

"Remember that we are one; that our cause is one; and that we must help each other, if we would succeed."

Editorial

Candidates should unite behind Van White

Dorothy James and Earby Chatham should withdraw from the Fifth Ward DFL aldermanic race and throw their support to DFL and labor-endorsed candidate, Van White.

It's early in the political season for newspaper endorsements of political candidates, but the situation in the Fifth Ward is so critical, and offers so great an opportunity to the residents of the ward and of the city, that Insight is obliged to speak forcefully on the matter.

The question at hand is an old and recurring problem: Will strong Black candidates fail to strike an agreement to support the front-runner, and thereby split the ward's Black and progressive White vote? If James, Chatham and White fail to collaborate, they can claim responsibility for missing a great opportunity to make political history for the ward and for the city and its Black residents.

But if they show a modicum of political savvy, and unite with White's campaign, they will be demonstrating the long-awaited political sophistication that can accomplish the task of electing the city's first Black alderman.

The opportunity to elect a Black alderman from the Fifth Ward surfaced two years ago. Incumbent Lou DeMars announced he would not seek re-election to city council, then changed his mind and reentered the race. Five strong Black candidates entered the race and split the DFL and Black votes. DeMars won the pri-



Van White and Don Fraser

mary, and later, re-election. Nell Hollie, who was just votes shy of winning the DFL endorsement, and Ron Edwards, whose unwillingness to collaborate with Hollie prevented Hollie's endorsement, together received more votes in the primary than DeMars. The vote totals suggested that had Edwards thrown his support to Hollie, she would now be Fifth Ward alderman.

One of the chief reasons Edward's camp did not support Hollie was it felt

Edwards had contributed so much and so consistently to the welfare of the community, and of minorities and the poor, that he "deserved" the aldermanic post. When the endorsing convention leaned to favor Hollie, some observers expected Edwards to defer Hollie, thus handing her the DFL endorsement, and possibly the City Council election.

The circumstances are somewhat similar in the current Fifth Ward race.

White actually has the DFL endorse-

ment, however. But like two years ago, James' camp believes that since James has worked diligently and consistently for the DFL, James "deserves" to be elected.

Insight maintains that just as Edwards' inability to cooperate with Hollie resulted in a no-win situation two years ago, so will James' and Chatham's inability to cooperate with White may yield another no-win situation for the ward's progressive Blacks and Whites.

There is a win-win position.

Dorothy James and Earby Chatham should withdraw their candidacies and support the effort to elect Van White to City Council.

There is not a question of which candidate is better in this election. White, James, and Chatham are equally qualified and capable of handling the affairs of the ward and city at city council. Either would be an asset to the council.

But Van White is the most practical candidate because he does have DFL and labor endorsement.

Insight urges the candidates and the Fifth Ward voters to utilize this excellent opportunity to begin a new tradition in Minneapolis City Council politics. Insight urges James and Chatham to withdraw from the contest, and lend their support to the Van White campaign. And, Insight urges Fifth Ward voters to select White in the DFL primary, and elect him to City Council in the November general election.

Wednesday

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Tribune



Staff Photo by Darlene Pfister

Van White, left, victorious in the Fifth Ward DFL primary for alderman, was all smiles Tuesday night as were his wife, Javanese, and another primary winner, Donald Fraser. The three were at Fraser headquarters.

Minneapolis Spokesman

827-4022

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1980

827-4022

Van White Inaugurated As First Black Alderman



Minneapolis Mayor Donald F. Fraser, (hand-raised, glasses) receives the oath of office from City Clerk Lyall Schwarzkopf during Inauguration Day ceremonies last Wednesday at City Hall. In background, (l-r) are newly elected Alderman Van White (5th Ward); Alderman Jackie Slater (8th Ward) and Parker Trostel (7th Ward). Photo by Michael R. McElroy.



Van White and Family: (l-r) in White's City Council office. Perri, Javoni, Javanese and Van. - Photo by Michael R. McElroy.

By Terence Farrell

"People said they could see tears in my eyes, and I must admit I was fighting them back."

With those words Van White, Minneapolis' first Black Alderman, described

his feeling of "a very emotional day for me." Inauguration Day for the Minneapolis City Council, and the new mayor, Don Fraser.

The Inauguration Program was held Wednesday, January 2, 1980 at 9:30 a.m. in the City Hall Rotunda in front of the Father of Waters Statue. Master of Ceremonies was

Fraser's roommate when both attended law school at the University of Minnesota.

People, television cameras and reporters packed the rotunda, and peered down from the balconies of the floors above. After the singing of the National Anthem and the welcome and introduction of elected officials, the oath of office was administered to the alderman, to the comptroller-treasurer, Mary Des Roches, and to the Mayor all of whom sat on the upraised platform near the statue.

Recalling his feeling, White said, "I could look out into the crowd and see the faces of people who'd been with me all my life — my sisters, others. I thought of my mother and wished she could be there. I felt that she was with me." Van's mother died in 1970. He is 55 years old.

"When I saw those old friends," White continued in an interview Tuesday, "that's when the tears

came. It was just an emotional great day for me. I'm very proud."

As well he might be. White overcame serious challenges within the DFL party, and two opponents in the general election last November to become the first person of color to be elected to an aldermanic seat in the history of Minneapolis. Thirteen aldermen serve on the City Council and decide matters of the city's destiny ranging from street repair to downtown development. Together with the other aldermen and mayor, White will serve a two-year

term.

At the hour-and-a-half inauguration service, White was accompanied by his son Perri, 22, and daughter Javoni, 19, and by his wife Javanese.

"During the ceremony," White said, "I looked at my wife. Our eyes met, and I remembered the moment 24 years ago when we were married. It's been a hard road to this (aldermanic seat). It's like a dream." White oft has been quoted recalling his life as "a kid from the bricks," growing up poor in Minneapolis.

Continued to page 8

Continued from page 1

Van White

Northside projects.

President Jimmy Carter paid tribute to that background and to the string of White's accomplishments by telephoning him a few days before the inauguration to offer his personal congratulations.

"He called me at home," White recalled. "We talked for what seemed like a long, long time, but it was probably about 10 minutes. He said he had read about my accomplishments, and he congratulated me for my participation as a citizen and now as an elected official."

Looking forward to the next two years, White, puffing philosophically on his pipe outside the City Council Chambers, said his

most difficult task will be the "implementation of my concerns in the face of inflation. We'll either have a tremendous future or we're on the threshold of the return to the conditions of my childhood."

White said his major concerns remain those enumerated during his campaign: economic development, housing, crime prevention, youth opportunities, senior citizens, and education. He said the current use of the term "low and moderate income" is a misnomer, because a moderate-income person can't purchase "the type of house I would like him to be able to."

"Over the next two years," White said, "God-willing, this will change."

But he had a word of caution for those who expect him to work miracles. "Don't expect me to walk upon the water," White said. "Look to me to do my very best. Aid me in doing this. As a representative of my people, I will aid them best when they give me constructive advice. Remember, as a representative of Black people, I can't be down here alone. They, too, will have to be with me."

White stressed, however, that he is on the council to represent all the people of the 5th Ward, which includes North Minneapolis, part of Northeast and part of Southeast — and of the City.

"I am here to represent all the people and I will most certainly do that," White said. "I am Black and am proud of my ancestry, but I will look to all people. My door is open, my line is open to all my constituents. Representatives of all races, creeds and colors voted for me to get into this office. The young, and the old, and the handicapped must be represented also, because they too voted."

White said that one of his special interests will be to work closely with Mayor Don Fraser's Complete Count Committee, which is intended to work closely with members and organizations in the minority ethnic community to insure that the 1980 Census is accurate. This is important, White pointed out, because allocation of federal money is often dependent upon the census count. In the 1970 census, it is widely believed, Black people and other minorities were woefully undercounted. Application deadline for the committee was Wednesday, Jan. 9.

White had one last word of advice for the entire community: "For God's sake, get registered and vote."

White will chair the Health and Social Services Committee, and the Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee, as well as serve on the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, and the Energy and Environment Committee. His office number is 348-2205.

Plan gives West Broadway hope

By **ROBERT GUENTHER**
Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

It's like a dream come true for Van White, the first black to serve on the Minneapolis City Council.

West Broadway, a blighted retail strip on the city's Near North Side, is about to get an infusion of hope.

"West Broadway is going to rise like a phoenix from the ashes," said White, brimming with optimism and a broad smile.

The cause for White's enthusiasm is a plan, likely to win approval from the council today, to borrow \$15 million against the city's share of federal Community Development Block Grants for the next four years.

The money will be spent to buy 99 acres in deteriorated areas for high-priority economic development and housing projects, mainly on the city's economically anemic Near North Side. It will be repaid from a portion of the next four years' federal funds, which the federal government guarantees.

If it goes as planned, the economic implications are impressive: about 520 new housing units; a



White

million square feet of commercial and industrial space, and 1,000 construction jobs and 1,000 permanent new jobs.

The proposal is significant in two respects. First, it provides land for industrial and commercial development in a city where such sites are virtually non-existent. And it brings those industries to the North Side, where unemployment historically has been highest.

Secondly, aldermen from other parts of the city have put aside parochialism to support the plan.

Using the loan method, the city is expected to save \$5.1 million over what it would have cost to buy the same land on a piecemeal basis over four years. And the loan system gets those projects going much sooner.

"People on the North Side have been waiting for years for something to start happening there. It's been dormant for too long," White said.

On West Broadway at North Lyndale Avenue, a 15-acre neighborhood shopping center, including a Target or K mart store, is tantalizingly close to reality. Until now, the shopping center has been stalled because the city lacked the money to buy the land. In addition to the shopping center, the city will make land available for 30 to 40 new houses.

The other areas where land will be acquired under the proposal are:

- In the corridor of land acquired for the now-defunct Interstate Highway 335, the city plans to acquire 5.5 acres south of Plymouth Avenue for industrial development and 31.5 acres (28 acres of which would go for housing) in the St. Anthony West area.

- In the Grant renewal area on the Near North Side, the city will buy a 23.3-acre tract, the largest single tract of industrial land available in the city, from the highway department.

- In the North Washington Industrial Park along the Mississippi River, the city will buy 11.7 acres from the Burlington Northern Railroad.

- The city will attempt to buy vacant or under-utilized parcels, such as abandoned service stations, for housing and commercial projects. Franklin Avenue and 27th and Lake streets are likely targets for this.

There are other benefits to the proposal besides the jobs and tax base. For one, it would bail out two financially troubled tax-increment projects.

Next year, North Washington Industrial Park and the West Broadway tax increment district will dip into the red. In other words, taxes generated by new development in those two areas will not be sufficient to meet what the city owes.

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority borrowed money to buy land for commercial and industrial development, but development has lagged.

Without the loan program, city taxpayers would have to pay about \$1 million next year to meet debt payments for those two projects.

By dedicating \$7.6 million to acquire land in those two projects, the city hopes to generate enough development that the projects' cash flow problems will vanish.

Budget Director Jay Kiedrowski said, "There are tremendous budget implications for North Washington and West Broadway [if the loan proposal is not approved]."

Council President Alice Rainville, DFL-4th Ward, said: "Some of these projects are sucking air and need some help. Let's put aside parochialism. We're one city."

DFL Majority Leader Walter Dzierdzic is upset that the financially strongest element of the development package, the Interstate 335 housing land in his ward, will be subsidizing North Washington and West Broadway, projects outside his ward.

But Dzierdzic has agreed to go along the loan package, as have DFLers and Independent-Republicans whose wards will not benefit directly.

By itself, the Interstate 335 housing would repay the city's investment within five years.

Happy 15th Anniversary
and wishing you many
more successful years.



Van F. White, Alderman
Fifth Ward

Twin Cities Courier June 25, 1981



A fundraiser for White

Alderman Van White, Fifth Ward Alderman, was given a fundraiser to help defray expenses in this fall's election. A gourmet menu was planned and prepared by Ada and J.D. Rivers of 729 Queen Ave. N. Just to name a few items of food for this special occasion: broiled chicken livers, Swedish meatballs, Florentine whole salmon on glass, fluffed white rice, fried bread, potato salad, baked beans, sweet and sour chicken wings, bing cherry jello made with kosher wine, cottage cheese, relish tray with cherry tomatoes supreme.

White's friends came from far and near. The old and young came to show their appreciation for what they consider his representation.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hatcher had a specially framed plaque for White with words by President Theodore Roosevelt. Hatcher told

White he had earned this plaque for service to the community over many years.

White's wife, Javanese (Bunny) has played a tremendous role in his success. Two lovely children add in making the White's home a complete setting, serving God and all mankind.

It is good to see an alderman driving through alleys, visiting parks and playgrounds, making sure that his constituents are living in a good environment. He can often be seen chatting with the seniors at Sumner Olson. Very seldom can he be reached at home since he's attending two or three meetings almost every night.

Many thanks were given to all the hostesses, guests, and associates that helped to make this event very successful. Best wishes were expressed to Alderman White and family.

Twin Cities Courier June 25, 1981

Fundraiser Given In Honor Of Alderman Van White



Van White and some of his friends attended an old timers dinner at Phyllis Wheatley this fall.
Photo by Danny Davis

June 25, 1981

Alderman Van White, Fifth Ward, was given a fund-raiser to help defray expenses in this fall's election.

A gourmet menu was planned and prepared by Ada and J.D. River, of North Minneapolis. Just to name a few items of food for this special occasion: broiled chicken livers, Swedish meatballs, florentine whole salmon on glass, fluffed white rice, fried bread, potato salad, baked beans, sweet and sour chicken wings, bing cherry jello made with kosher wine, cottage cheese, and a relish tray with cherry tomatoes supreme.

Van's friends came from far and near. The old and young came to show their

appreciation for the outstanding representation Van is giving all the people.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hatcher had a specially framed plaque for Mr. White with words by President Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Hatcher told Van he had earned this plaque for service to the community over many years of dedicated service.

Every outstanding person has a wife or husband working many long hours beside them to achieve greatness. Alderman White's wife, Javanese (Bunny) has played a tremendous role in Van's success. Two lovely children add in making the White's home a complete setting, serving God and all

mankind. It is good to see our Alderman driving through alleys, visiting parks and playgrounds, making sure that his constituents are living in a good environment. Van can often be seen chatting with the seniors at Sumner Olson. Very seldom can Van be reached at home since he's attending two or three meetings almost every night.

Many thanks to all the hostesses, guests, and associates that helped to make this event successful.

Best wishes Alderman White and Family.

J.D. Rivers



Editorials

The man for the people wins top-notch support

WHEN FIFTH Ward voters went to the polls during the recent primary election in Minneapolis, they proved decisively that the incumbent alderman is their overwhelming choice to run for re-election to office this fall.

Van White outstripped two opposing contenders by a wide margin to win this vote of confidence from the people he serves. Obviously, his first term in the aldermanic seat has indicated his dedication to the ward as well as the total municipality.

Long before he became the first Black alderman in the history of the Minneapolis City Council, White was working diligently for community improvement and those causes in which he firmly believes. In so doing, he has continued to be a man for the people who need his efforts and benefit by his work in their behalf.

The fifth ward alderman neither segments his concerns nor limits his sights in striving to accomplish the best good for his entire constituency. For this characteristic he has been castigated, on occasion, but refuses to waver from his chosen path.

Also, on occasion, his low-key personality has been deceptive to persons who do not know the man under that gentle exterior. Those who come up against his inner strength soon learn that White is not a man to be swayed from the goals he believes must be attained. He does not seek praise for a job well done, nor does he "run scared" when censure descends upon him. In the face of any extremity, White maintains the courage of his convictions.

The Fifth Ward is fortunate to have White as its representative in the council. The ward is equally fortunate in going on record as experiencing a clean, issue-oriented primary campaign among all three contenders for the city office. Not only

those candidates launched the usual political fist-cuffs so common in many campaigns. Personality sniping was conspicuous by its absence and nary a low blow was struck by anyone.

This in itself indicates the Fifth Ward has a valuable source of likely candidates for any office in the future. Certainly the ward campaign was a refreshing departure on a political scene that can, at times, get downright nasty. No one in right mind has ever objected to honest differences of opinions, stated openly and without equivocation during any campaign. This was the hallmark of the pre-primary battle in the Fifth Ward from start to finish, thanks to the stature of the candidates in that race.

Without doubt, the two losing aspirants will be back to do battle another day, and that is as it should be. White is the first to welcome healthy competition of this type. Now that he has won the first round in the election fray, we feel confident he will emerge the final victor come November. **MJK**



Staff Photo by Tom Sweeney

A victorious Van White, center, shared a laugh with his wife, Javaneese, right, and others at his campaign headquarters Tuesday night.

Council Continued from page 1A

White said, jubilantly, that "I want to thank God and thank the people. I feel very good When a person is doing a good job . . . why change the wheel when the wheel isn't broken?"

Both wards are so heavily DFL in voter registration that victory in the primary is considered virtually to assure election in November.

Al Santo, the city's deputy election registrar, said the vote in the Third Ward was not close enough to warrant an automatic recount. State law provides for such recounts if the vote margin is 1 percent of votes cast in the ward, and Hilary's edge was more than 2 percent.

Officials said Hilary received only eight absentee ballots and, consequently, they would not be a significant factor in a recount. That means the only source of significant error in the vote totals would be mistakes in transcribing the totals from individual voting machines. Officials said chances of that are slim.

But Daugherty campaign workers said they were considering several challenges to the campaign and the count. They contended that Hilary's sample ballot put out last weekend looked like the official DFL sample ballot. The Hilary campaign people said their ballot contained a sufficient disclaimer.

The Third Ward campaign was characterized by rumor-mongering, destruction of lawn signs and charges of carpetbagging.

In the last days of the campaign the Star and Tribune endorsed Hilary, and Daugherty issued an angry letter to the residents of the ward that said, in part:

"The Star and Tribune told me in order to be considered for endorsement I would have to appear and be subject to a test before the editorial board. I did not betray the people of the Third Ward by appearing before the Star and Tribune board and beg for their endorsement.

Robert White, editor of the newspaper's editorial board, said, "We just wanted to hear his views on the issues. There was no test. We just wanted to hear what the thoughts were, the important issues, and why he should be elected."

In another city council race, Brian Coyle defeated challenger Tom Burke in the Sixth Ward DFL primary. Coyle had been predicting victory, but his margin over Burke, who was never able to develop a serious

issue in his campaign against Coyle, was not as large as might have been expected.

Both Coyle and Burke, who say they are gay, were seeking the seat being vacated by Jackie Slater. She is supporting Independent Tom Clarke in the general election.

Council President Alice Rainville and DFL Aldermen Walt Dziedzic and Kathy O'Brien had no opposition in the primary. Tony Scallon, DFL-Ninth Ward, had little serious challenge.

IR incumbent Charlee Hoyt had little opposition, and Barbara Carlson had none. Independent Alderman Dennis Schulstad's name will not appear on the ballot until November. The other four incumbents did not seek reelection.

In the Third Ward, Daugherty outspent Hilary by almost four-to-one. Campaign spending reports through the end of August show that the endorsed DFLer spent about \$14,400, compared with \$3,700 for the Hilary campaign.

Hilary lists \$745 in contributions of \$50 or more, including a personal donation of \$95 from Greg Finzell, the staff worker of the Hawthorne Community organization.

Daugherty received \$11,000 in contributions of \$50 or more, including \$1,000 from the city police officer's federation political fund and \$1,050 from the Minneapolis Building and Construction Trades Council political fund. His report also shows that \$1,112 was given to five north side politicians for research.

Rita Fassbinder, who was paid \$500 of the money, said she was paid for consulting work on "identifying the voters and finding how to get them to the polls."

In the Fifth Ward, White outspent Andrus \$13,590 to \$9,536.

Andrus and Hilary worked with the Neighborhood Priorities Coalition, a loose-knit group of neighborhood workers and nonprofit organizations that seeks to make neighborhood issues the top priority of the city council. Many of its members believe that local government is dominated by large developers and downtown interests.

(Staff writers Kate Parry, Christine Hudgins and Jim Parsons also contributed to this article.)



Staff Photo by Donald Black

Fifth Ward Alderman Van White talked with people lined up at a distribution point for cheese and but-

ter last weekend. Challenging him for the DFL endorsement is Barbara Andrus, photo at right.

Fifth Ward challenger presents more than token threat to White

By Jacqui Banaszynski
Staff Writer

Minneapolis Alderman Van White bristles when critics hint that he's not black enough.

"That's ridiculous," he says. "It's obvious I'm black. You can tell that from my color."

"I've done more for black people since I've been in this office than anyone before me. Just because I'm sitting here, blacks from all over the city, not just the Fifth Ward, call this office. And other people of color call me, too. They say there's finally someone who cares about them."

Then White, 58, slumps a little and sighs, regaining his usual patience.

"Nothing will really change until we start judging people on what they do, whether they're black, white, green or polka dot."

"But that's not going to happen in my lifetime," he says. "And it's probably not going to happen in yours."

After two terms representing his economically troubled and racially diverse north side ward, White is considered the most vulnerable of the city council members seeking reelection this year.

The first test of his strength will come Saturday, at the DFL endorsing convention at North Commons Community Center, 1801 James Av. N. Challenging White for the endorsement is black feminist Barbara Andrus, a manager with the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce who is new to elective politics.

White, the city's first black alderman, has faced opposition before from both blacks and whites.

But Andrus, 46, is offering far more

than a token threat. She has feminist support, including that of many of the ward's white liberals. She is garnering strength in the ward's university district, where state Rep. Phyllis Kahn is working on her behalf. And she has attracted much of the black support that used to be pledged to White, including that of state Rep. Randy Staten and of his wife, Marcia, a corporate lawyer and a powerful behind-the-scenes political force in north Minneapolis.

Andrus is on the attack, questioning White's leadership abilities and hoping to wrest the endorsement away from him to bolster her strength in the primary. The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party's stronghold in the Fifth Ward is considered so tight that the primary winner is all but guaranteed the council seat. Just days before the endorsing convention, many political observers say the contest still is too close to call and may result in a split convention.



Staff Photo by Marlin Levison

If Andrus fails to win the endorsement this weekend, she says she will not pursue her campaign into the primary. "I accept the rules. I would not do anything that's going to cause chaos and dissension in that ward."

However, White is leaving the door open to run in the primary if he does not win party endorsement.

"I am the incumbent and I do feel very strongly that the people recognize the fact that I've done a very good job since I've been here in office," he says, emphasizing "people."

Neither candidate is claiming race

as an issue.

"It's a political struggle, not a black struggle," says Lou DeMars, who preceded White and was city council president. "The Fifth Ward is a microcosm of American culture."

"You have the poorest blacks and the poorest whites. You have churches ranging from black Baptist to Lebanese Catholic to Ukrainian. There's a Finnish community there. There are more urban renewal districts there than anywhere in the city."

"It's a tough ward to represent as you're destined for failure as soon

Fifth continued on page 8B

Fifth

Continued from page 1B

you get elected."

But within the black community, which makes up about 30 percent of the ward's population, the debate rages over who will become one of the city's most visible blacks.

"It makes a difference who the black candidate is," says Ron Edwards, an outspoken black activist who is on the Urban League and the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission and who has pledged his support to White. "It'd be nice to say that wasn't so, but it is."

"The type of problems facing the city overall, and particularly the Fifth Ward, need strong leadership," says Andrus, a fast-talking Kentucky native who moved to north Minneapolis 13 years ago. "No, they need leadership, period. And we haven't had that."

Andrus's campaign dwells on her strengths. In her literature and in conversations she frequently uses such words as aggressive, assertive, attentive, active, productive, independent.

She says she's refined those strengths during 13 years of community activism. She ran the University of Minnesota Community Program in north Minneapolis, headed the Minneapolis Community Action Agency and started the Zion Group Home, a now defunct residential treatment facility for troubled black girls. She is on the state Sentencing Guidelines Commission.

"Negotiating is the key," she says. "I know when to advocate strongly. I know when to negotiate strong. I also know when to have a nice discussion over a cup of coffee."

She also criticizes what she says are White's weaknesses, sometimes directly and sometimes by extension. And she's not shy about claiming that he's not done enough for blacks.

"If there were an election today, I'd get 90 percent of the black vote," she says. "I say that with strong conviction. It's been important to have a black voice in city hall, but it needs to be a black voice that's backed up by a black commitment."

The Fifth Ward has been overlooked for too long, she says. The area deserves a better financial shake from the city. Commercial development along Plymouth Av. and in other vacant areas should be carefully planned to lure services, jobs and money. That planning should be mindful of the diverse rights and needs of the ward's numerous ethnic

groups. And the council member from that ward should not be afraid to speak out on behalf of blacks, she says.

"The needs of the black community are also the needs of the white community in the Fifth Ward," she says. "We don't expect a black representative to be neutral about those needs. We expect one who is very clear about the concerns of black people, is willing to address them and advocate for them, and yet work with the white community."

"And that does take guts."

White is a quiet man who was schooled in patience, perseverance and hard work in north Minneapolis. The education began early. He was 10 and the oldest of five children when his father died, leaving White with instructions to take care of the family.

He is more comfortable with the style of Martin Luther King than of Jesse Jackson, decries single-issue politics, has little use for histrionics.

"You always come out fighting," he says. "The question is how you fight. It doesn't make sense to take a bow and arrow and come out against a tank."

"Aggression . . . no," he says, shaking his head at the criticism that he's not an aggressive advocate for his people. "You do not sit on this council and browbeat and scream and holler. You advocate with reason, not with vociferous showboating. You sit, you talk, you keep the barriers down. You do not start out by raising a wall between you that you can't communicate past."

"You don't have to be one who crawls and you don't have to be submissive. You have to speak with conviction and let people know you believe what you say. The rest would be grandstanding. And I'm not a grandstander."

White, described by friends and foes as a gentleman, is loath to attack his opponent. He prefers to underline his own job performance, which he says is "98 percent."

"I don't come down here to be a TV star. I was raised with the work ethic

of doing a very good job. I have 25 years of civil service behind me (with the Minnesota Department of Economic Security) and my track record is good."

He says he proved himself a leader when he founded the Willard-Homewood Organization in 1971 and shepherded it through a major renovation of that blighted neighborhood.

And he says he has proved himself a "tenacious" worker on the city council. Since he took office in 1979, he says, the Fifth Ward has received millions in economic development, including the construction of a Target store, several housing projects, new schools and parks. He also has insisted that developers meet guidelines for hiring minorities and women, and that new businesses pledge to hire from the neighborhood.

"I've turned north Minneapolis all the way around," he says. "People are proud now. They talk about the progress going on. But it takes time. It took a long time for the neighborhood to get in the condition it was in and it will take a long time to bring it back. My goal is to make the Fifth Ward the ward of the future."

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Vol. 48 No. 34

827-4022

Minneapolis, Minnesota, Thursday, February 24, 1983

25 cents

Minneapolis Spokesman

Bar-B-Que Rib Dinner

The Men's Council of the Minnesota Chapter GM-WA, is having their annual Mid-Winter Bar-B-Que dinner on Saturday, February 26, 1983, at St. Peter's A.M.E. Church, 401 E. 41st Street, Minneapolis, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 823-8706.

Parents Cautioned To Choose Child Care Carefully

By Rafael Tilton

"We want to alert parents that they need to choose child care facilities very carefully and to look for quality," says Lyn Blum of Child Care Resource Center/Southside (CCRC/S, 823-5261).

"A baby who is in care for eight to nine hours a day is likely to spend 13,027 hours in care if

she/he began at six week of age and continued through kindergarten," says Jim Nicholie, CCRC/S director.

Nicholie believes so strongly in the importance of high quality infant and toddler care that his protest of the opening of a new center resulted in his arrest at the February 9, school board meeting at

Wilder School.

CCRC/S and several other child care agencies have questioned the Minneapolis Public Schools opening of a large child care center at Northrup School.

Nicholie has been director of CCRC/S's teacher training and advocacy for parents for the past five

years. His background includes an MA in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College, 12 years of teaching and administration, and experience in developing a competency based training plan for infant and toddler teachers.

"While Paul Boranian (director of the project) has

assured us that the program will be of the highest quality, specific issues that relate to quality, such as staff-child ratios, group sizes, center population, staff training, wages, and parent involvement in staff selection and policy setting, have not been adequately addressed," says Nicholie. "We do not feel that a reliance on minimum licensing requirements will produce a program of 'highest quality.'"

Continue to page 4

Hazardous Waste Site Report

By Alderman White

This is an update on the Waste Management Board's proposal to have "preferred areas" for the treatment of hazardous waste in Minneapolis.

I've been working with our Government Relations representative, Bill Barnhart, who is directly involved with the Waste Management Board in ex-



Van White

pressing the City's views and alternatives on the site areas.

The Board originally intended to reduce the number of site areas from 29 to 10, but has stopped at 16. The higher number still includes the three Minneapolis sites. The Board left these sites in because they are willing to work with Minneapolis to enact our proposal, which basically will allow our industrial zoning codes to determine the site areas. It appears that this may be an acceptable alternative.

There will be a public hearing: March 8, 1983, 1-5 p.m. Room 319, City Hall

and 7:30 p.m., Room 317, City Hall; so that the Waste Management Board can consider the City's alternative sites, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

Please Note! Theoretically, under the City's alternative, using the industrial zoning codes to determine site areas, these hazardous waste treatment facilities MAY be eligible any place in the City -- not just the 5th Ward, or the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wards, as before.

Sincerely,
Van F. White
Alderman, 5th Ward

Mpls. Chapter Of Jack & Jill Presented Annual Black History Program



The Minneapolis Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., presented its annual Black History Program, February 12, 1983, at the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center. The theme of the program "Get On Board The Minnesota Express," was carried out by each of the five children's groups. To set the stage, each family was given a railway car to creatively show their passageway to Minnesota. These cars were displayed connected together to show the cohesiveness in the Black experiences of America.

Beginning the program, awards were presented to Dr. Marvin Trammel and Mrs. Gloria Florenz for their community service. A memorial book award was

given to the Phyllis Wheatley Community Library in memory of Beverly Finney. Funds for all three awards were provided by George Finney and daughters.

Each of the five groups performed. The Love Bugs who are aged 2 to 5 years old invited everyone to get on board the express with a song, "Get on Board Little Children." They sat in a circle and listened to a story, "I am Freedoms Child," by Bill Martin.

The Electric Company, ages 6 to 8 years old, presented a choral reading of "Langston Hughes' Dreams." They also shared some of their own.

The Hot Fudge group, whose ages are 9 to 11 years old presented the "ABC's of African

Customs and Tribes." They wore African attire.

The Black Magic group ages 12 to 14 presented "Black Who's Who in Minnesota." They gave summaries of outstanding Minnesota leaders. The Teens presented "Jack and Jill School of the Arts" with several performing creative works of artists of Minnesota.

The program was closed with the singing of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," prayer, and a pot luck dinner of traditional Black and African foods.

The Black History Committee consisted of: Alberta Neal, chairperson; Brenda McDaniel; Katie Pearson, Sandra Rowell, Diane Smith, Macey Wheeler and Gloria Woods. Pictures page 5



Van White Gears Up For DFL Convention

by Sallie Stephenson

When the endorsing convention convenes March 26, incumbent Van White will face competition from Barbara Andrus, former Chairperson of the Minneapolis Community Action Agency.

Asked how it feels to run against a woman, the alderman shruggingly replies, "Everyone has a right to run."

Van White, who has been in his job as alderman for two consecutive terms, maintains that you have to be used to the hard schedule that this job demands. "You have to have a full commitment for what you do," he says. His working hours may stretch from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m., performing what he calls his "aldermatic" business, which many times includes a demanding weekend schedule.

With a long history of city and community development, Alderman White became fully involved in community work and organizations throughout the city long before taking on his duties as alderman for the 5th Ward. His past community service includes founder and past chairperson of the Willard-Homewood Organization; member of the Citizen Committee on Public Education, the Board of Directors of Phyllis Wheatley Community Center and Nation Neighbors Inc. Board of Directors; past co-chairperson of the Citizen Advisory Committee on Community Block Grant Funds, City of Minneapolis; past board member of the Hennepin County Pilot Health Center and past board member of the Metropolitan Cultural Arts, and a host of various other organizations.

Alderman White in 1975 was co-chair of the first city-wide advisory committee, which advised the City of Minneapolis on what to do with the first of \$17 million of Community Block grant funds.

In 1979, Van White was elected to his first term in office as alderman of the 5th Ward. Since that time, he says, "Throughout the 5th Ward, I've gotten a lot of things done!"

In 1980, the first Black to serve on the Minneapolis City Council, he helped win approval for a plan to procure one of the largest shares of 15 million dollars

Continued from Page 1

through the Community Block grant - a five-year loan - to develop the West Broadway area which created about 520 new housing units; a million square feet of commercial and industrial space and created construction jobs and other new jobs in the ward.

At a Northside Planning Committee meeting on January 14, Don Risk, Director of Marketing and Services Division at MCDA, made the statement, "I'm not saying this just because Van White is here, but this alderman has brought millions of dollars in construction and job opportunities into this ward."

In addition to the McKnight funding for the Plymouth and Lyndale housing and new factory construction underway in the Plymouth area, White has also participated in the much publicized one billion dollar housing, commercial and recreational development project proposed along the Mississippi River from Plymouth Ave. to Hennepin Ave. This plan, calling for low- and high-density housing, is the latest in a chain of developments for the river area.

"We'll be executing that project," White said, referring to the role of city officials along with the Glacial Park Company, Land and Real Estate Developers, a subsidiary of the Burlington Northern Railroad which owns the 100 acres of land that will be affected.

"I pray it moves fast and is successful," he said.

White said that he is proud of his record for supporting women in minorities in their participation in building development, which he said has increased since he's been in office.

Recognizing that jobs are important in these hard economic times, White says he expects jobs will open up at the new Target Store on West Broadway, where he was responsible for seeing that a high percent of all employees were hired from the surrounding community.

"This is the first time in the city of Minneapolis," White said, "that a company has focused its hiring commitment on a specific geographic area."

In 1980, along with Alderman Scalton, White set up a first source of agreement with Minneapolis Community Development Association (MCDA) so that after each development project was completed, the company responsible for the project would supply people in jobs wherever there was a need for them to be filled.

"I want to see people with jobs, especially for young people and people out of work who have families to support," he said.

Even though White spends a lot of his time attracting new businesses to the 5th

Ward and trying to create jobs for the residents, he also deals with city-wide issues and spends time resolving constituents' personal problems such as welfare, social security, food and shelter problems, and garbage, neighborhood disturbances, and snow removal complaints.

"Being a lifetime resident of the 5th Ward and Minneapolis, I have always been concerned," he said. "And long ago, I made a commitment to do what I could for those who come after me - my children, their children, and other people's children."

Insight

3/24/82

Earl Craig resigns from his position at Urban Coalition

Earl Craig, Jr., president of the Urban Coalition of Minneapolis, submitted his resignation from that office last week, to become effective June 30 "or such date after that as is convenient for you (Robert Hill, chairperson) and the board."

Craig said his resignation "in no case, should be later than Aug. 31, 1983."

In an interview with this newspaper Craig said he had been president of the Urban Coalition eight years, "and I am a little tired." He said it was increasingly difficult to get the public to recognize the needs of the poor and deprived.

Since July 1, 1975 Craig has been directing the work of the agency designed to bring goods, services and other supportive programs to persons at or below the poverty level. He said it was frustrating to fulfill these objectives during the present recession, but did not blame either the coalition nor any particular group. "It's just hard to make people understand that the needs of the poor, at a time like this, are more pressing than ever," he said.

Craig said he had been thinking of resigning for some time. "I have been very fortunate to work for the principles in which I believe so strongly," he said. "but now is the time to pursue other avenues of personal and professional development." He added that while he has no definite plans for the immediate future, he intends to do some writing and may consider returning to a teaching post.

The Coalition president came to Minneapolis in 1961 to enroll in the graduate school at the University of Minnesota where he earned his degree in Political Science. His teaching career included positions with the Afro-American Studies Department at the University of Minnesota and Macalester College. For several years he was politically active in DFL affairs, serving in many official capacities, including National DFL Committeeman. In 1968, he was a candidate for political office.

"I will continue to be interested in politics, but have no intention of becoming actively involved again," Craig said. In response to the rumor that



Earl Craig, Jr.

he may leave Minneapolis, Craig said such a move was not being contemplated at present "unless something develops elsewhere." He said Minneapolis was a good city in which to live. "I feel very good about the important role the Urban Coalition plays in this community, growing significantly in resources, respect and influence."

In his letter to Hill, the resigning president attributed this growth and influence to "an incredible staff, informed and supportive board, and encouragement and support of our corporate and foundation funders and constituent communities." He added that his departure "will not diminish the impact nor impede the growth of the Coalition."

Hill, who is president and chief executive officer of North Central Operations, Prudential Insurance Company, stated that "although I understand Earl's reasons for resigning, I regret his decision. His contributions have been tremendous: to the Urban Coalition and, more importantly, to the communities for which the Coalition was created. We will miss his leadership."

Hill also indicated that a Presidential Search/Selection Committee has been appointed and a personnel assessment firm will assist in the selection process. "The Coalition has been an effective instrument on behalf of its poor and minority constituents," Hill said. "We are committed to a continuation of that leadership. The Search Committee understands that as its charge."

Applications are not being accepted now. The committee will make the appropriate announcement.

Mayoral race hinges on racial issues

By Charles W. Breese

Race is becoming the pivotal factor in the Chicago general election.

Bernie Epton, a Jewish "Lake Shore Drive Liberal" who once supported Al

position, Harold Washington wants to put an end to the political patronage system and establish a merit system for hiring municipal employees.

Racism is the only factor which is

In tribute to King

The advent of April recalls that grim day in Memphis, Tennessee when an assassin's bullet ended the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the evening of April 4, 1968. The author of the following prose-poem pays tribute to King's memory.

A man with a dream

By Borkin Malachi

He had an idea and the ability to produce; he was the voice and words that I could not utter.

He was the peace that Jesus taught, and the freedom that only a slave could dream of.

His words were loud and clear, but kind and gentle; I don't know that he ever uttered an unkind word about anyone.

The man believed in peace, freedom, love and equality; he believed in God.

He did something about the things that bothered him; the things that bother me, oppression of Black people in America; poor whites and other ethnic groups.

Yes, he gave his all. He worked hard for the cause of justice. He was jailed and was beaten, kicked and spat upon, and I love him, because he did this for you and me and generations to come.

A man with the knowledge to live like a king, because of us he did not, yet for us it was that he lived, and also because of us he died.

If an idea should perish in a country of such great abundance, let it not starve to death; support it.

Peace and freedom are causes for which many people lived and died. What would you give for the cause of peace, or what does freedom mean to you, or are they just words to you?

V. WHITE JUL8X
800 WASHBURN AV. N.
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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I believe if someone is truly free, he or she would not want anyone in bondage or oppressed. If there is real peace in their house, they wouldn't want to see their neighbor's house in turmoil.

Yes, I remember the man with a dream; yes, I remember him every day, and I say, thank God for such a man as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Minneapolis, St. Paul

April 7, 1983

25¢ per copy

Van White will try for a third term

By Joel Maybury
Staff Writer

A collected Van White asserted this week that he intends to defend his Fifth Ward Alderman seat in Minneapolis.

Undaunted by challenger Barbara Andrus' success in wresting the Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) endorsement for the Fifth Ward Primary, Van White reiterated that he "has no intention of being controlled by anyone."

White's supporters are in large part responsible for his decision to run in the primary that is slated for September. "So many of my constituents and friends urged me to run." Similarly, the building trades assured him of their backing.

Referring to his record in office, the two-time alderman stated, "I'm quite certain that the people who were not in attendance at the DFL convention two weeks ago can attest to the real good job

I've done at the Council and in the Ward. You can see the changes.

"Some things were dormant before I was in office and are now taking off the ground," he said, citing the fact that women and minorities have been granted wider participation in the city's workforce.

By way of illustration, White talked about affirmative action inroads achieved in the construction industry.

And in response to his critics, he added, "It is strange that they are not recognizing the strong advances since I have been in office." Regardless, between now and the primary, Van White intends to work very hard in order to hoist himself above his challenger.



Van White

Young to be keynote speaker

Courier 4-21-83

Alderman cares and gets things done

In the last three and one-half years, Alderman Van White has been a people's person, caring for his constituents' needs, small and large. He has shown interest in developing business and industry with over \$27 million going into Northgate Industrial Park, with four new factories doing business. One factory, on Lyndale and Plymouth, is being built at this time. On the 25th of April, 1983, there will be a public meeting at North Commons at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a proposal from Northern Cablevision to develop a parcel of land located in Northgate Industrial Park. Many new homes are being built in our fifth ward with a low mortgage rate that Alderman White and others were able to get from a foundation to benefit low and moderate income families.

In the fifth ward - southeast, some constituents disfavored Alderman White's supporting the Boisclair Building site. I personally commend Alderman White for his decision in bringing jobs to the LEAP program by supporting the Boisclair building site. Other persons in the Southeast were upset with Alderman White because they could not build a desired structure in the Heritage Preservation commissioned site. The building of these structures was not in our Alderman's power to approve or disapprove. H.P.C. has full control for new construction on these sites. Alderman White has shown administrative ability in his State Employment positions, as well as leadership in the D.F.L. alderman's caucus. Alderman White was one of the first to see the need for community involvement in organizing the Willard-Homewood community input as the first chairman of W.H.O.

Alderman White showed interest in our 4-H garden at Wirth Park, visting and encouraging our youth to continue their self motivation in helping grow fresh vegetables for their family tables. The young people were delighted and proud to have Alderman White take time out from his busy schedule to visit their garden. White also attended the 4-H variety show at North Community School in 1983.

Alderman White was born and bred in the Fifth Ward knowing and caring for seniors, youth and all people's needs.

Alderman White spoke at a public hearing on the hazardous waste plant being planned in our neighborhood, to

express his concern for the health of all of us. My wife, Ada, Alderman White and myself, and one other, were the only persons of color to attend this very important hearing.

Ada and I support Van for reelection for a third term to lead our fifth ward in growth.

J.D. Rivers
Fifth Ward Chair 1973-83

Major film processor opens headquarters

Governor Rudy Perpich joined Minneapolis Mayor Don Fraser, Alderman and City Council President Alice Rainville and Alderman Van White in a "film cutting" marking the opening of the new corporate headquarters and processing laboratory of Slide Shooters, Inc., at Aldrich Square, 245 Aldrich Ave. N. Joining in, from left to right, are Don Fuller, president, and Paul Fuller, Slide Shooters, Inc.; Mrs. Perpich, Alice Rainville, Don Fraser, Jim Lushine, State of Minnesota Department of Energy Planning and Development, Governor

Perpich, Alderman White and Bob Fuller, chief operating officer of Slide Shooters, Inc. The new plant is one of the largest and most modern slide and filmstrip processing plants in the country, with a production capacity of more than 400,000 slides per day. Aldrich Square is the former Powers Warehouse Building, currently undergoing a \$1.5 million renovation as an office and studio center for a variety of audio-visual and advertising related companies.



crowding in state prison facilities.

Courier

June 9, 1983



Van White Visits Building Trades

Fifth Ward Alderman Van White addressed the Minneapolis Building Trades Council meeting and thanked them for their endorsement and support. Building Trades Business-Manager Don Early presented Van White with a check for his reelection campaign. White has the endorsement of both the Minneapolis Building Trades Council and the Minneapolis Central Labor Union Council.

Labor Review June 10, 1983

PAGE 22, SKYWAY NEWS, TUESDAY EDITION, JUNE 21, 1983



Charles Michael Wright (center) of the cast of "Master Harold...and the Boys" addressed a reception following the May 20 performance of the play at the Guthrie Theater with representatives of the 3M Afro-American Arts Society and the African American

Cultural Center of Minneapolis. Looking on were Ken Coleman (left) of the 3M Afro-American Arts Society; Minneapolis Alderman Van White and actors James Earl Jones and Delroy Lindo of the cast.

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8 Pages

State AFL-CIO Exec Board review 83 legislative session, plan for future endorsements

BRAINERD—Members of the State AFL-CIO Executive Labor Education Services (LES) presented a videotaped Board met at Brainerd, Minnesota Tuesday and Wednesday of the All Labor Rally For Jobs held in Duluth.

Labor Review 6/24/83



Labor attends Van White party

Minneapolis City Council President Alice Rainville and CLUC President Virgil Moline attended a fundraiser for 5th

Ward CLUC endorsed candidate Van White held at the IDS Center downtown.

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Alderman Van White

Fifty-nine year old White, a native Minneapolitan, has the distinction of being Minneapolis' first black alderman. Though he admits that his race enlarged the challenge of leadership somewhat, it hasn't been a burden. Fifth Ward citizens have stood behind White, both blacks and whites. Although some discontent with his leadership has signalled the emergence of two fall election opponents, White feels that "anyone has a right to run," and he is confident in his ability to compete and in his track record as a Council and Northside community member to date.

"Being a person of color, you work in a 'fish bowl,'" he related. "People watch you; you're subject to a city-wide wholistic constituency which can make the job difficult. But, all in all, it's been a very meaningful and viable position to be in when a wide range of people look to you for leadership."

White was no stranger to community work before his aldermanship. He has served on the board of directors and in a membership capacity in numerous Fifth Ward and city organizations, as well as in some state and national organizations. His founding of the Ward's Willard-Homewood Organization in the early 1970s, a neighborhood improvement association, is one of White's greatest contributions to the Ward.

White's skills at keeping lines of communication open between himself and various parts of the community — residents, business people, community groups and leaders, other local politicians and his Council colleagues — has resulted in the dearth of new and positive Northside developments.

"You can be as aggressive as you want, but down here in the Council, you're only 1/13th," White declared. "You need support."

"I know I've done a good job. I haven't usually been vociferous (although sometimes it's necessary), but I've done a good job and people see it and want it to continue. I just had a 200-strong fundraiser that demonstrated strong support. I've been out in the streets and found strong support there."

With several businesses lending employment support to many Northside residents, White can now put more time into getting some unemployed and undereducated Fifth Ward youth involved in developing their potential. Though he has not yet come up with a solidified plan to attack educational problems, White has been able to garner some 800 to one thousand summer jobs for Northside youth this year. With local elections coming up this autumn, White will probably have to put increasingly more time into rallying his forces re-election.

Today, that part of the predominantly residential Northside of downtown Minneapolis is beginning to show healthy signs of a thriving community. Not only has a roller rink been opened for neighborhood enjoyment, but the Northgate Industrial Park already has some five businesses operating in it, hiring a significant number of community residents. The Boardwalk Place three-complex town-house development gives the flat landscape a colorful flair. Further up the avenue, the Plymouth Shopping Center, a fledgling in 1979, holds its own next to a McDonalds' restaurant

franchise owned by a Northside resident.

Other signs of economic stability are noticed as one travels the section of Broadway paralleling Plymouth Avenue. A brand-new Target department store at Broadway and Lyndale avenues, two well-known fast-food chicken restaurants battling it out for customer attention with flashy colors and lights at Broadway and Girard, other restaurants, grocery stores, and a spate of several specialty shops abound along the boulevard.

Though not all of this business activity can be attributed to the presence of Van White on the City Council as Fifth Ward alderman, he and his

Though there are low-income housing projects, the Fifth Ward doesn't have the obvious signs of urban decay a Chicago or New York would have. There are also homes worth \$250,000 in the area. The problems existent in the Ward are primarily invisible ones like unemployment, educational deficiencies among some of its youth, housing, safety of the elderly, crime prevention and economic development.

"I'm a person who believes in sitting down and establishing meaningful dialogue summoning support from the Council," White said, explaining his tried-and-true methods of getting things done. "I always try to get seven votes (half of the Council membership) of support."

In the meantime, White continues to develop his community through his representation of the Fifth Ward on the City Council because he realizes that actions speak louder than words. ★ ★ ★



Van White dedicates building for handicapped

5th Ward Alderman Van White dedicated the recently completed housing development for handicapped families at 114-5th St. Southeast, one block North of the Labor Centre. The union built Holmes-Greenway apartments contains 50 housing units with specially built features for handicapped residents. This is the first such facility built in the 5th Ward.

Labor Review
Aug 12, 1983

Skyway News® Helps Cut a Ribbon

A festive open house marked the recent completion of a special housing project in Old St. Anthony. The six-story Holmes-Greenway apartments at Fifth Street and Central Avenue Southeast, near Garden Court, offers 50 units designed especially for handicapped people. Partners in the project are Diversified Equities and Minneapolis Community Development Agency.



Participating in the ribbon cutting for the project were Alderman Van White (left), Ed Bell, the architect for the project, Steve Wrbanich, the resident manager of Holmes-Greenway, and Jon Dickerson of Diversified Equities.



Making their new home official with a ribbon cutting ceremony and an opening party, residents and their guests celebrated in the party and game room on lobby level. The project is principally oriented to households with a physically handicapped member.



Guests attending the opening included Duane Hanson (left), tenant, Ron Frisbey, attendant, Stoney Steinolfson, Knutson Construction Co., and Don Rinderknecht, foreman for the project.



Van White-Ward 5

5th Ward incumbent Labor-endorsed candidate Van White has been endorsed by the CLUC because of his outstanding record of representing the people of his community and working for minority hiring and union construction.

Tuesday, Sept., 13th!

*labor review
Sept 9, 1983*

Minneapolis Star and Tribune

Established 1867

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Joel R. Kramer Executive Editor
Frank Wright Managing Editor/News
Tim J. McGuire Managing Editor/Features
Robert J. White Editorial Editor

16A.

Friday, September 9, 1983

The primaries

Sandra Hilary in the Minneapolis Third Ward

Tuesday is primary election day. Metropolitan area voters will make initial choices among candidates for city councils, school boards and a host of other offices. The Minneapolis focus is on races in two DFL-dominated wards, the third and the fifth. Incumbents are under strong challenge in both wards. Because these two DFL primaries are likely to determine who will be the wards' next aldermen, we offer some thoughts now on what results would best serve the city. Our preferences in other races will be published before the general election.

The Third Ward primary race is not a fight between DFL factions. Party leaders throughout the city — not just on the north side — support incumbent Alderman Patrick Daugherty, the endorsed candidate. But outside the DFL leadership has come a challenge to Daugherty from Third Ward residents who say the party and the incumbent take voters too much for granted. Their candidate, Sandra Hilary, says Daugherty has ignored ward needs and failed to provide adequate constituent service. She makes a good case. Hilary would make a better alderman for the reasons she cites and more.

Patrick Daugherty does not belong on the Minneapolis City Council. He seems little interested in most council actions, and often pays so little attention that other aldermen must coach him on how to vote. Even the north side DFL leaders now seem to realize that Daugherty is out of his league. Daugherty's city-hall colleagues report that party leaders have told him to look at his next term as his last. Apparently another candidate is being groomed to run in his place in 1985.

But Sandra Hilary and her supporters don't like being represented by a seat warmer while the party apparatus grooms a suitable replacement. They want, and deserve, an alderman of their choice now.

Hilary comes to the campaign with a litany of ward concerns: better constituent service; improved housing; cleaner, safer neighborhoods; opportunities for the unemployed. She has yet to acquire the citywide vision that an alderman needs. But that is often true of candidates who have not held office, and it is sometimes true even of experienced incumbents — Daugherty, for example. Hilary strikes us as bright and vigorous. She knows her ward well. She would help restore residents' confidence in city government. And she has the capacity to extend her political vision to broad urban issues that the city council must address.

The Third Ward needs the kind of representation Hilary would provide; Hilary needs Third Ward votes to provide it. Both needs can be met Tuesday in Third Ward polling booths.

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Barbara Andrus in the Fifth

Fifth Ward Alderman Van White and his DFL-endorsed challenger, Barbara Andrus, have many similar strengths. Both candidates have impressive records of community service and display great concern for the welfare of city residents. But those fine qualities are not all the city should hope for in its aldermen: Imagination and leadership are important as well. On both counts, we think Andrus would better serve the Fifth Ward and the city.

Van White's contributions to Minneapolis are considerable. As a lifelong community activist, White helped to revitalize and stabilize the north side neighborhood in which he has lived all his life. As the city's first and only black alderman, he has continued that effort and provided a new dimension to city council decision-making. White has strived to serve not just his ward, but all of Minneapolis. He has joined with his colleagues to promote citywide community development projects, sometimes weathering criticism from constituents who would have preferred that he take a narrower view.

In spite of those admirable accomplishments, White has not been an alderman to whom colleagues turn for leadership or innovation on city issues. And Andrus supporters argue that he has not done all that he might have to help the economically troubled and racially diverse ward. They have a point: White speaks feelingly about the problems

his constituents face, from crime to unemployment to inadequate housing. But when it comes time to talk about solutions, his game plan is long on goals and short on specifics.

That same criticism cannot be made of Barbara Andrus. Assertive, energetic and specific, she speaks knowledgeably of many city problems and advances ideas that would at least begin to develop solutions. She says she would attack the north side crime problem and improve police-community relations by setting up a special task force. She favors a master plan for building low-income housing. She expresses interest in working with city employers to encourage special jobs-and-training programs for the chronically unemployed. She favors more contact between aldermen and the city agencies set up to serve citizens. And she speaks forcefully about the role she would take on the city council: "The Fifth Ward alderman must show real concern, find out what people feel and do something about it."

That activist sentiment is likely what moved Fifth Ward DFLers to endorse Andrus. She has the credentials, the commitment and the ideas to serve her ward well. We think she also has the potential to gain the citywide perspective that has made Van White an asset to the council. If she does, she could easily become an even greater asset and a city council leader.

Minneapolis Star and Tribune

Established 1867

Roger Parkinson Publisher and President

Joel R. Kramer Executive Editor

Frank Wright Managing Editor/News

Tim J. McGuire Managing Editor/Features

Robert J. White Editorial Editor

Tuesday, November 1, 1983

Dziedzic, O'Brien, Rainville, White

The aldermanic races in Minneapolis wards one, two, four and five offer voters relatively easy choices next Tuesday. In each, the general-election contests match a relatively strong DFLer with essentially token opposition. The Third Ward aldermanic election has been postponed.

In the First Ward, incumbent Walter Dziedzic deserves reelection over Citizens Party challenger Kristina Grönquist. Dziedzic has represented his ward well for three terms. His experience on citywide issues will be needed on a 1984-85 city council that will have at least five new members.

Second Ward incumbent Kathy O'Brien also faces a Citizens Party challenger, Marshall Helmberger. Again, O'Brien's experience and affinity with her ward are valuable assets that the council will need during the next two years. Also, after just one term in office, she has gained remarkable respect from her colleagues, many of whom consider her a potential council leader. She deserves the chance to fulfill that potential.

Monday's supreme court decision means the Third Ward will not elect an alderman next Tuesday. The court upheld DFL-endorsed Alderman Patrick Daugherty's complaint that winning challenger



Sandra Hilary's sample ballot too closely resembled the DFL official ballot. The general election will be rescheduled after a new primary is held.

Council President Alice Rainville deserves reelection in the Fourth Ward over Independent-Republican challenger Thelma Knauke. Rainville has been an excellent though generally low-key council leader who has managed to subdue council factionalism and keep that disparate body pointed in a progressive, moderate direction. The city and the council need Rainville's continued leadership.

The Fifth Ward's Van White, having survived a strong DFL primary challenge, should now have little trouble in the general election defeating Independent-Republican Samuel Faulk and Janice Payne Dorlaie of the Black Political Party. White's standing in the ward, and his performance on the council, should be strengthened by his primary victory. He too has earned reelection.



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July 14, 1984

5 Sections

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Staff Photo by Charles Bjorgen

Minneapolis City Council Members Wait Dziedzic and Van White tried to speak with protesters, seated on the floor, who halted Friday's meeting at the council chambers.



Mary Emma Hixson

After a year of sound and fury, Minneapolis hasn't passed a law that would significantly curb the pornography business. Page 4A.



Fraser's veto kills anti-porn ordinance

By Dennis Cassano, Joe Kimball
and Martha S. Allen
Staff Writers

The Minneapolis City Council passed an ordinance Friday to make some forms of pornography a violation of women's civil rights.

Mayor Don Fraser promptly vetoed it.

The ordinance got 7 of 13 council votes, too few to override the veto.

Twenty-four chanting, singing supporters of the ordinance were arrested for halting the council meeting with a demonstration after the council passed a resolution intended to offer hope to the protesters was rejected as a betrayal.

After three hours of debate by the council and passage of three ordinances and a resolution on pornography, about 20 people, mostly women, moved to the center aisle and walked to the front of the council chambers.

Platoon police officers stopped them from walking through a gate to the desks of council members, but five crawled over or under a barrier and sat on the floor in front of the desks.

Council President Alice Rainville quickly adjourned the meeting and most of the council members followed her out of the council chambers as police officers quickly dragged the five from the room.

Other protesters sat on the floor in front of the barrier, singing and clapping their hands. Forty minutes later, Police Chief Tony Bouza announced, "Those who want to leave

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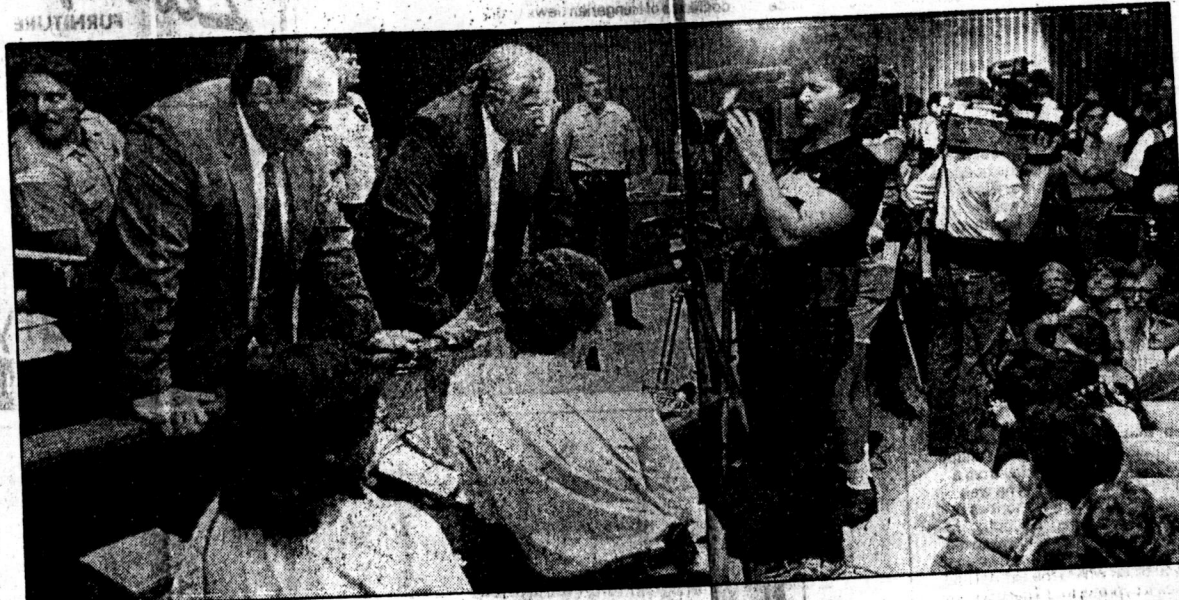
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Staff Photo by Charles Bjorgen

Minneapolis City Council Members Walt Dziedzic and Van White tried to speak with protesters, seated on the floor, who halted Friday's meeting at the council chambers.



Mary Emma Hixson

■ After a year of sound and fury, Minneapolis hasn't passed a law that would significantly curb the pornography business. **Page 4A.**

■ The city council passed and the mayor vetoed an ordinance prohibiting one party to a phone call from recording it without the other's knowledge. News organizations were among the strongest opponents of the proposal. **Page 11A.**



Staff Photo by Art Hager

Minneapolis police officers hauled antipornography protesters from the city council chambers. Twenty-four demonstrators were arrested during Friday's meeting.

Fraser's veto kills antiporn ordinance

By Dennis Cassano, Joe Kimball
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Council President Alice Rai quickly adjourned the meeting. Most of the council members followed her out of the council chambers as police officers dragged the five from the room.

Other protesters sat on the floor in front of the barrier, singing and clapping their hands. Forty minutes later, Police Chief Tony Bouillon announced, "Those who want to stay. Those who don't will be arrested."

He smiled as he went down and asked each person individually, "Are you staying or going?" He jerked his thumb over his shoulder in the signal a baseball umpire uses to call an out, to tell officers

Pornography continued on p

Valerie Harper, other celebrities back city pornography proposal

By Robert Whereatt
Staff Writer

More than a dozen television celebrities have sent telegrams to a Minneapolis City Council member endorsing a novel antipornography ordinance the council is considering.

The telegram effort was organized by Valerie Harper, the actress who starred in "Rhoda" and shared some limelight in the "Mary Tyler Moore Show," which was set in Minneapolis.

Van White, the council member whose committee heard testimony on the proposed ordinance last week, said Harper had telephoned him last week and volunteered to get telegrams of support sent to him. He said she had wanted to testify in behalf of the ordinance but "couldn't get away."

The ordinance, which has inspired unusually sharp debate for an anti-pornography measure, would define pornography as a violation of women's civil rights and permit women to sue "purveyors" of pornography for damages.

"Minneapolis has always been the first city to advance the cause of equality, particularly in the area of women's rights," Harper said. "Please continue to take that leadership role by amending the civil rights ordinance regarding pornography."

Harper said in a telephone interview that she talked to about five people



Valerie Harper

about the ordinance and they in turn called others urging support. Many of their telegrams are identical in wording.

"In our town, there's quite a bit of attention paid to censorship," Harper said. "The exciting thing about this is that it is not censorship."

The senders were Harriet Nelson of the old "Ozzie and Harriet Show," Mario Thomas, Diane Ladd ("Alice"), Brenda Vaccaro, Sandy Dennis, Shelley Winters, Pamela Bellwood ("Dynasty"), Nancy Kulp ("Beverly Hills Cop"), Jayne Meadows and Jocelyn Brando, an actress and sister of Marlon Brando.

Actors Charles Siebert ("Trapper John, M.D."), Bo Hopkins ("Dynasty") and Lou Wagner ("CHiPs") also sent telegrams. White said he expected to get more.

Council member Sally Howard, who supports the ordinance, said several of the senders are feminists who have been active in support of women's issues.

"The telegrams say to me that we aren't the only ones who are thinking about violence against women," said Howard.

Council member Jackie Slater, who opposes the ordinance, said the telegrams are "part of the orchestration that's going on to pass the ordinance before it's ready to be passed."

The full council is expected to vote on the proposal Dec. 30, White said. His committee approved it on a 5-0 vote last week.

British one-pound note may be headed for phase-out

London, England

The British one-pound note, the green bill that depicts a youthful Queen Elizabeth on one side and a somber Sir Isaac Newton on the other, could be headed for extinction.

The Guardian newspaper said Saturday that the Treasury will soon phase out Britain's basic unit of folding money because it deteriorates too quickly. It is likely to be replaced by more one-pound coins.

HOLIDAY

It's A Matter Of Survival



Hobart Mitchell, Jr.

This week I find myself trying to search for words in regard to my topic for discussion, which is D.F.L. politics on the north side and part of downtown Minneapolis.

I have disagreed with both Black law-makers from this area at times; however, I have also congratulated and praised both men at certain times in their careers. The two men that I am referring to are the Honorable Randolph Staten, state legislator from District 57B and the Honorable Van White, fifth ward alderman of Minneapolis.

I have followed the political careers of both men because of their importance to the advancement of the Black community both on a local basis, as in Alderman White's case, and on a state wide basis, as in Representative Staten's case.

It is my opinion that mistakes have been made by both men. Both men have the community buzzing in regard to supposedly a battle for power. It is said that both men have successfully embarrassed each other as far as their endorsement for re-election is concerned.

I am not going into who took the first swing at whom and why. I am not going into who is the most powerful political figure on the north side of Minneapolis. I am not going into who I feel will come out victorious if this battle between these two men

continues. I am not going to discuss or debate with anyone any of the above. What I am going to discuss with you is who is going to wind up the loser. The ones that will lose the most, my friends, will not be either one of the two political leaders. The one that will lose the most if this continues will be us.

The fear that ran through my mind when the Honorable Van White was running for re-election for his fifth ward aldermatic seat was—now that he had lost the D.F.L. endorsement, and he had announced that he was going to seek re-election anyway, were we facing the possibility of two Black candidates running against each other, canceling each other out and a non Black winning the seat that Blacks have spent more years than I care to count fighting for.

Fortunately, that did not come to pass and the two Black candidates fought it out in the primary with just token opposition. Consequently the Black community still has a Black Alderperson from the North-side to represent them in the Minneapolis City Council.

It is now possible that we might be faced with this same crisis again. This time we might not be as lucky or fortunate as we were before. This time we just might lose our only Black seat in the State Legislature. This time a non-Black just might be waiting in the wings to swoop down and capture district 57B seat.

The question that keeps running through my mind is—Can we afford to gamble on losing our voice in the State Legislature? It is my opinion that if we lose this seat because of some petty fighting amongst ourselves, then we just might not hear a Black voice in the State House of Representatives for many years.

What can be done? Both

men have slapped each other on the wrists and have embarrassed each other enough. When I say both men, I mean White and Staten. Now is the time to quit the feud. The debts have been paid. Now is the time to consider the fate of the beautiful community and its people that both of these men represent. We need both of these men in those precious seats. I might disagree with them at times, and I may make public those things that disturb me at times regarding their actions, but overall we need them, or what I hope that both of them represent.

It appears to me, that if DFLer Porter decides to enter the primary, he cannot win this time, and that is obvious. All Porter can do is knock our Black representative out of his seat and deliver a White one to district 57B.

In closing, I honestly wish that both Staten and White would sit down with people of their community, which is far larger than district 57B and the Fifth Ward. The time for togetherness is right now, not ten years from now. Why? It's A Matter Of All Of Our Survival.

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Staff Photo by Art Hager

Dignitaries pay last respects to viaduct

Council Members Van White, left, and Tony Scallon and Mayor Don Fraser, center, used crowbars Monday morning to pry at some of the steel beams of the Washington Av. viaduct. City officials had extended an open invitation to inspect the demolition that began Saturday.



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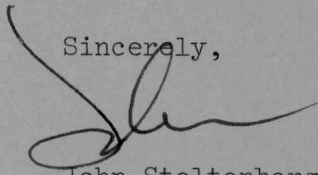
August 7, 1984

Van White
Room 307
City Hall
Minneapolis, Minn. 55415

Dear Van White:

Here's a copy of the September issue of ESSENCE with your Speak! article on page 186. It certainly became very timely, as the story of Vanessa Williams became known over the past few weeks. I believe our readers will read it with great interest, and I thank you again for your words. My warmest regards.

Sincerely,



John Stoltenberg

MEDIA REPORT

Strange karma at Essence, and a warning Voice.

It's a very intriguing September issue of Essence magazine that's going to be appearing on newsstands August 21. The cover girl is former Miss America Vanessa Williams (see PRB, July 30); inside is a six-page photo spread of what the cover lines of the magazine call "Miss America In Fresh New Looks For The Fall," as well as a 12-page advertising insert, paid for by the Gillette Co., entitled, "Beauty Tips for the Woman on the Go," exclusively featuring Williams. On page 2 of the Gillette booklet is a letter to readers from Williams which begins, "As Miss America, I've had an exciting and memorable year."

A special editor's note explains: "At the time this September issue went to press the week of July 16, Essence was unaware of the controversy that would surround Vanessa Williams. This issue was conceived as a tribute to Vanessa Williams's being the first Black woman to be crowned Miss America and planned months in advance to recognize that accomplishment."

Oh yes, there is an even more intriguing footnote. Every month, Essence allows readers editorial space on the last page of the magazine, in a section called "Speak!", to get whatever they want off their chests. In the September issue, a gentleman by the name of Van F. White writes on the topic of "Pornography and Pride." According to White, an original cosponsor of the Minneapolis civil rights pornography ordinance, "I see the pornography of today showing women in degrading positions, smiling as if to say, I haven't any intelligence; my body is all that there is..." And I see how pornography makes many men believe it."

*

Anyone wondering how Williams could have posed for the Penthouse photos in the first place should take a long hard look at the August 7 issue of NY weekly, The Village Voice. In a haunting piece entitled, "Model Behavior," writer Jan Hoffman reports:

"Though some NY photographers and models were indeed surprised by the explicitness of the Williams layout, they said newcomers (to the modelling field) are frequently vulnerable to nude and/or lewd photo sessions. More than ever before, the glutted model market employs and exploits sex as its common currency—a few, small overnight agencies have become fronts for call girls."

Hoffman quotes a 20-year-old model as follows: "I could see a young model doing what Vanessa did. Some photographer throws you an idea, it's a fantasy... I did a wet T-shirt shot. But now I want to go into acting, like she did, and I'm wondering... they were just tests, I didn't sign a release, but maybe

I should get back in touch with that photographer."

The Hoffman piece is filled with horror stories about abduction and molestation, and should serve as a warning to any young woman with illusions—or delusions—of grandeur.

—Christopher Policano

Speaking Out



Although most organizations make hiring mistakes, the group with the worst procedures for hiring p.r. professionals are p.r. agencies. Most don't have a professional personnel staff. When they use an outside firm to recruit for them, they rarely use them properly. The recruiting industry got a "black eye" years ago, primarily because many schlocky personnel agencies would take a job order and do no more than transfer resumes from their files to their clients'. Yet today, this is the same procedure many firms request. In many cases, it seems, neither the hiring company nor the recruiting firm wants to get involved.

Consider these factors for finding and keeping the right p.r. people:

- * The job's requirements
- * The skills and personality of the candidate
- * The candidate's compatibility to your staff
- * The nature of your organization.

Job descriptions critical

A job description is critical to finding and keeping good people. It should define clearly the responsibilities and staff relationships.

Indeed, development of the job description could prove useful for other reasons. It allows the supervisor to talk in depth with people connected with the position to learn their views of the job and whether what they think is expected of them corresponds to what management wants. In other words:

"Who is doing what, and who should be

The right stuff

Bill Cantor

doing it if at all?"

The second factor is the applicant's personality. What kind of person do you want? Do you want a star? Do you want a team player? The job description will outline the skills you need. Yet the candidate's personality, at least as much as his skills, will determine success or failure on the job.

Third, there remains the nature of your organization. Each has its own personality. It is critical in the hiring process to understand that style and how it affects the organization's corporate culture.

Basic skills

The basic skills sought can be identified rapidly. We at the Cantor Concern are more concerned with identifying, analyzing and interpreting the personality, and determining the sophistication, depth and energy level of the candidates we will submit to the client.

If an organization chooses to use an outside recruiting firm, search firm or personnel agency, I strongly suggest the organization shop and compare. This is not unlike the corporation that meets a number of p.r. agencies before making their choice.

The wrong hire is a very expensive mistake, whether you do the recruiting yourself or seek outside help. Whatever you do, take the time to understand the hiring process. You may end up with saving money, clients and, as a bonus, enhancing your company's reputation.

"Speaking Out" is a column addressing management issues prepared exclusively for PRB by the NY management consulting firm of Chester Burger & Co., Inc. Bill Cantor is president of The Cantor Concern, executive search consultants, a division of Chester Burger & Co.

* * * *

The worst of the physical blight that once covered Minneapolis's Near North Side has been erased, but has the infusion of tens of millions of dollars into the neighborhood really improved the conditions that spawned racial rioting in the late 1960s?

by Howard L. Shapiro

Stand on Plymouth Avenue today and look toward downtown. With its prime location and unobstructed view, this spot is the best place in the city to witness the spectacular growth of the Minneapolis skyline.

But turn in the other direction and it's a much different picture—an almost deserted avenue of vacant lots, a few apartment buildings, a closed bank, a barely patronized shopping center.

Welcome to the Near North Side.

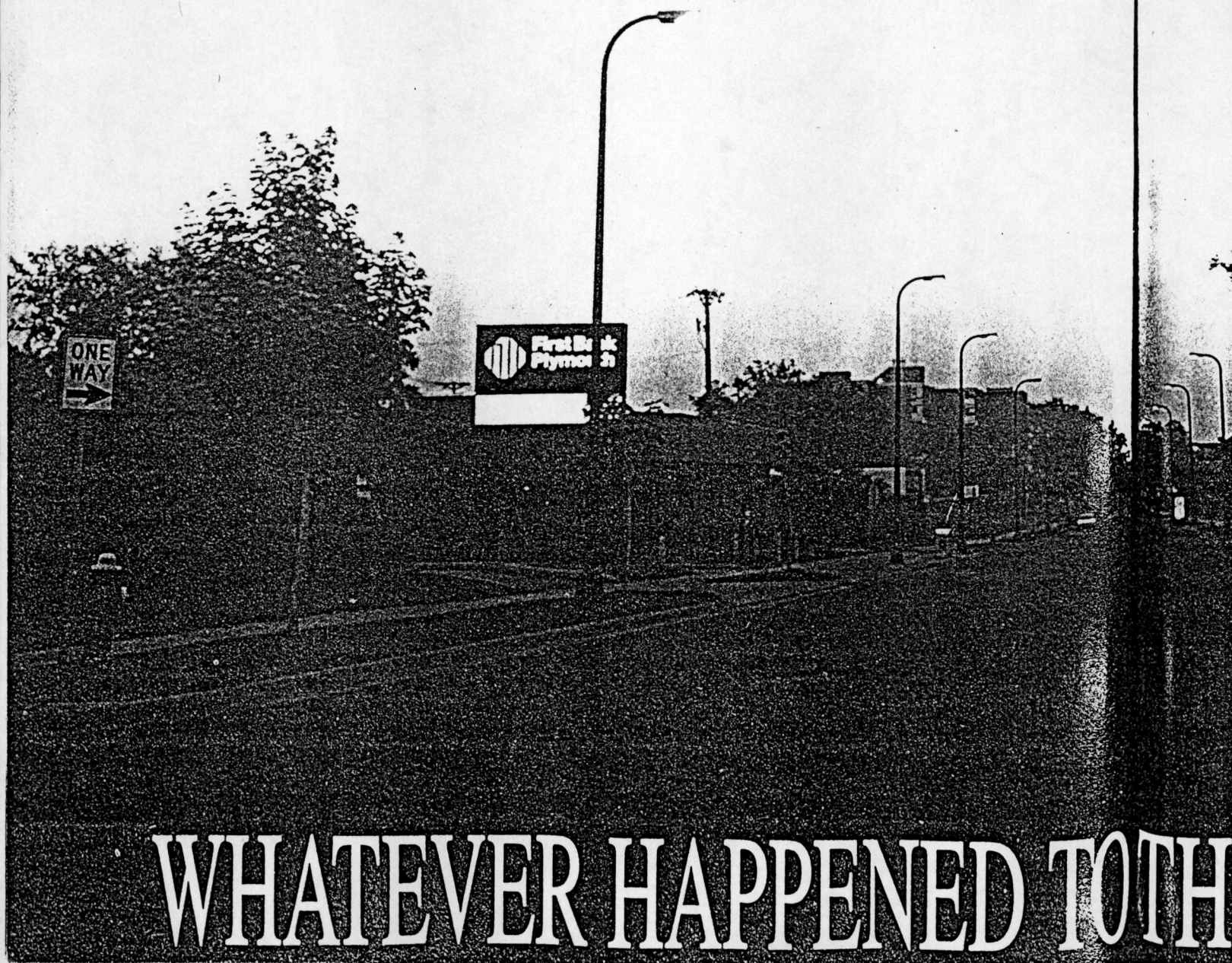
Nestled between Theodore Wirth Park on one side and Lyndale Avenue on the other, and running from Olson Memorial Highway almost to West Broadway Avenue, with Plymouth Avenue at its heart, it is a neighborhood only blocks

from the center of downtown. Yet its residents are miles away from participating in the city's surging economic and cultural vitality.

No other area symbolizes better what the Minneapolis Urban Coalition terms the "unseen city"—the world of poverty, joblessness, lack of education, racism and despair that rests unnoticed so near our city's gleaming buildings and liberal self-image.

In the years since blacks gutted stores along Plymouth Avenue in the racial riots of the late 1960s, tens of millions of dollars in government and private monies have been poured into this neighborhood for urban renewal, education, job training and other social services.

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The rehabilitation efforts have largely succeeded in what they set out to do. The worst of the physical blight has been erased by a new shopping center and by the rehabilitating or rebuilding of middle-class homes. The area is a model of racial harmony, with an almost equal number of blacks and whites. Many of these people are upwardly mobile professionals new to the neighborhood. They are attracted by new condominium developments such as the Boardwalk, which offers close access to downtown and reasonable prices.

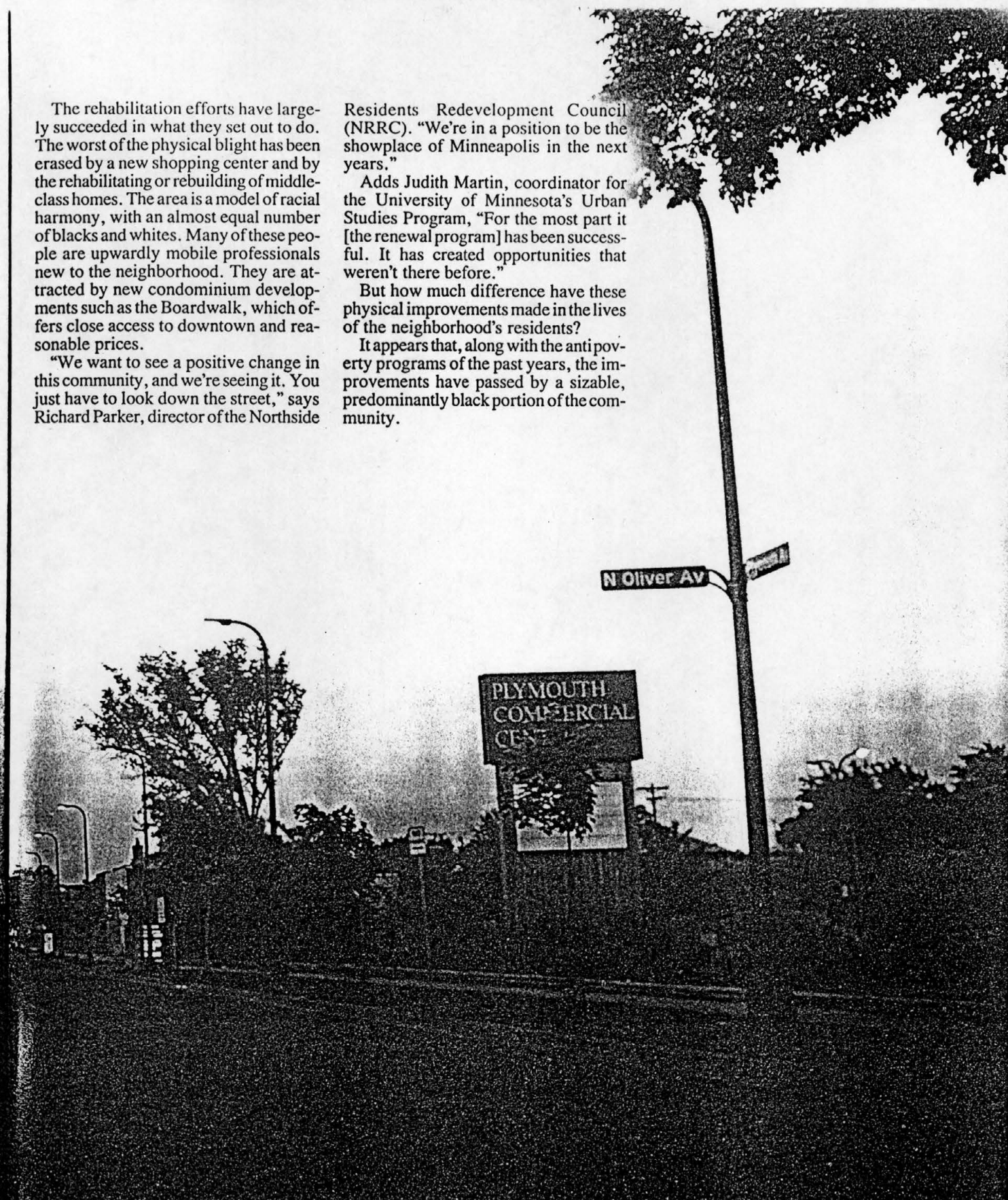
"We want to see a positive change in this community, and we're seeing it. You just have to look down the street," says Richard Parker, director of the Northside

Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC). "We're in a position to be the showplace of Minneapolis in the next years."

Adds Judith Martin, coordinator for the University of Minnesota's Urban Studies Program, "For the most part it [the renewal program] has been successful. It has created opportunities that weren't there before."

But how much difference have these physical improvements made in the lives of the neighborhood's residents?

It appears that, along with the anti-poverty programs of the past years, the improvements have passed by a sizable, predominantly black portion of the community.



TO THE NORTH SIDE'S DREAM?

“When people think of the North Side, they think of something negative. You pass Seventh Street and you lock your car doors. . . . [That negative image] has hurt potentially successful businesses here.”

Richard Parker
Northside Residents
Redevelopment Council

Northside Residents Redevelopment Council Executive Director Richard Parker and Project Coordinator Jackie Cherryhomes.



Peter Lindman

To these people, Plymouth Avenue is a symbol of a failed promise, of what could have been. The thoroughfare's struggle to regain the vitality it had when many of today's successful Jewish businessmen got their start there mirrors the struggle of the poor, black community to move from poverty to parity with the rest of white Minneapolis.

Today, 20 years after Lyndon Johnson inaugurated his Great Society poverty-and-rehabilitation programs, the quality of life for many residents of the Near North continues to decline relative to the rest of the city in income, employment and education. Drug and child abuse and hunger are endemic in some parts.

Says long-time community activist Syl Davis: "If people say Plymouth Avenue is improved, I'm surprised. It's only because now there are some buildings on it. But things haven't improved in terms of people's livelihoods. You still have the same poverty as before."

The 1980 census put Near North family median income at \$10,285—52 percent of the overall Minneapolis median. Thirty-seven percent of the Near North population had incomes at or below the poverty line when the census was taken in 1979, and almost half of all neighborhood children lived in these families. The unemployment rate stood 4.4 percentage points higher than that of the rest of the city, while the high-school drop-out rate, which presages future unemployment, approached 30 percent. Most of the people to whom these figures apply are black, although substantial numbers of poor whites and elderly live here too.

What is perhaps more worrisome is

that these statistics may underestimate the seriousness of the situation, as they were collected before the recession and before many federal antipoverty programs were cut back.

"Things are still going down," sums up Deborah Johnson, a young black mother of two who was a child during the riots.

There is a sense that for all the money spent and all the effort made, the results ought to have been greater by now. The reasons for coming up short are many. On the neighborhood level, they include divisiveness among community leaders and a severe image problem. On the city level, they include development plans that in practice ignored the needs of minority residents, and fraud and abuse in many affirmative-action programs.

Much of the blame lies not with the neighborhood or city, but with national economic and social policy. Too often poverty programs were designed to be Band-Aids, critics say, rather than legitimate solutions to long-term problems. Cutbacks in the worthwhile programs have disproportionately hurt the elderly, poor and minorities—the people who make up the bulk of the Near North.

Community residents and black leaders reiterate time and again that no real federal or local commitment exists to help the disadvantaged overcome their handicaps and to prosper.

Says Minneapolis Urban League President Ronald Edwards: "This community has through every possible institutional means tried to call attention to the fact we are being denied involvement in the economic and social mainstream of the city. People don't want to hear."

The riots of the late 1960s left Plymouth Avenue a no man's land, a silent reminder of a once-vibrant Jewish immigrant neighborhood. Deserted, burned-out kosher butcher shops, delicatessens and groceries lined the avenue. Homes stood abandoned, boarded up and ramshackle. Grass grew wild and uncut, and the streets were filled with rubbish. No more did neighborhood women chat at the markets and squabble over the best cut of meat. No more did families stroll the streets on fine summer nights as they once had, stopping for ice cream at one of the soda fountains. The riots had permeated the area with fear.

By comparison, the Near North fairly sparkles today. Many of the old clapboard and brick homes that were not torn down for urban renewal sport remodeled exteriors. Elsewhere, new suburban-style ramblers have sprung up, creating an interesting, if not necessarily pleasing, juxtaposition of old and new. Subsidized apartment houses and colorful condominiums stand where Plymouth groceries and tailor shops once did, and the Plymouth Avenue Shopping Center features brand-new fencing, a new billboard and a fresh coat of paint, all in warm brown and tan.

But this image of prosperity can best be compared to the set of an old Western: Open the doors to the saloon and you'll see only scaffolding. The Plymouth Avenue Shopping Center was half vacant early this summer; area churches, once synagogues, house insufficiently stocked soup kitchens. Within some of the public-housing projects, domestic abuse and neglect affects 50 percent of

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the residents. (Police statistics show that family abuse on the North Side as a whole is lower than that of the city of Minneapolis, however.) Children play in the new parks, but drug deals are made openly on the fringes and in nearby side streets.

As serious as these problems are, however, it may be the outside community's perception that hurts the area most in the long run.

"When people think of the North Side, they think of something negative. You pass Seventh Street and you lock your [car] doors," says Parker of the North-side Residents Redevelopment Council.

The roots of this perception go way back. The Near North has long been home to unwanted and discriminated-against minorities—first Jews and now blacks (see sidebar). The image was reinforced when blacks rioted for two successive summers, 1966 and 1967, storming the staid city for jobs and entrance into the political and economic mainstream. At no time have the majority of residents in this area been black, and only a fraction of those who were black rioted, but the view of the Near North as a dangerous, all-black neighborhood grew.

Combine this perception with the silent racism many blacks believe is still prevalent today, and the result is tension between Near North residents and city and corporate leaders. You have city officials who may not understand the need for affirmative action, and businesspeople who may allow past history to influence the location of new businesses and development priorities.

Parker says he fears that the effects of this negative image may become longer lasting and more real than any actual physical improvements: "It has hurt potentially successful businesses here," he says.

When First Bank Plymouth moved to new quarters in 1971 on Newton and Plymouth avenues (it had opened as a storefront facility in 1969), it was the first new structure on the avenue in 20 years. It was a symbol of corporate commitment to rebuild the inner city. Local minority groups were offered a say in its management, and its president, John Warder, was the first black president of a Twin Cities bank. Many prominent blacks and Northsiders sat on its board.

Warder oversaw the building of the Plymouth Avenue Shopping Center, and his bank provided much of the loan money for the center's new businesses. It was said at the time that Warder and First Bank "make it happen."

Residents saw this small bank as something more than a symbol of renewed corporate responsibility: For the first time it appeared that they individually and the community as a whole would benefit as

much as those who had for so long only taken from them. Jobs and new business opportunities seemed almost a reality.

Today the bank stands empty. It closed last March, and the shopping center is faltering. All agree it never really got off the ground. Warder now is First Bank System Metro Affiliates' vice president for urban affairs.

Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) officials concede that commercial development has been slower than they expected. The agency was responsible for implementing the area's urban-renewal program and continues to seek new development there.

"In spite of all our marketing efforts, our appropriately pricing land and pro-

"People here are going hungry. The North Side is like some African country."

Pastor Paul Arnopoulos
Disciples Ministry Church



The July 1967 burning of Silver's Food Market at 1711 Plymouth Av. was apparently caused by youths throwing Molotov cocktails through the windows.



Bi-monthly food giveaway by Disciples Ministry Church last spring.

Peter Lindman

Minneapolis Star and Tribune

“The business community has taken the commitment to social welfare to mean that blacks and others are trying to force themselves into positions for which they’re not qualified.”

Harry Davis
Cowles Media Co.



viding economic incentives, they [developers] are still paying attention to the economics of the neighborhood and specifically to the shopping center, and they see an entity that’s not flourishing,” says MCDA project coordinator Earl Pettiford.

In essence, the MCDA sees Plymouth Avenue as a sort of Catch 22: Because the avenue is not currently commercially viable, developers won’t consider it, and so it remains as it is. Furthermore, many at the MCDA believe the city’s demographics have changed so much that Plymouth Avenue cannot thrive as it once did. Rather, the West Broadway district two miles to the north has become the premier commercial node for the North Side.

“What can we really do about it?” asks MCDA project coordinator Mick Olson. “Is there room in the area for another large shopping center?”

But many Near Northsiders emphatically disagree with this rationale, citing other inhospitable or declining commercial districts that the city has made attractive to developers. They charge that the city has neglected the Near North in favor of whiter neighborhoods such as West Broadway, which has received city tax-increment financing (a form of subsidy, as urban renewal), to spur development.

“When you contrast the success of West Broadway with the lack of it on Plymouth, you tread very closely on the racial issue,” says Bob Porter, president of the Minneapolis North Local Development Corporation (MNLDC).

Possible city favoritism, however, is only one factor in this negative equation. Many residents now say that First Bank was never really committed to helping the area, that loans to local businesses were insufficient to allow them to ride out bad economic times and correct the avenue’s

image problems.

Still, residents are bitter about the bank’s closing. Says activist Davis, “Now people are even more hopeless and fearful. Promises that are made aren’t kept. It’s a cycle: You raise hope and take it away.”

Harry Davis, assistant vice president for real estate and properties at Cowles Media Co. and a First Bank Plymouth trustee from its founding to 1980, argues that it was finally making a profit when he left and that its assets were growing faster than anticipated. “I think it was wrong for First Bank System to close First Bank Plymouth. They assured the community that there would be a banking facility there,” he says.

First Bank System officials say the closing was a result of industry deregulation and consolidation and that the needs of Near North residents can be better met from their new West Broadway facility. “The physical symbol may be gone, but we still serve the area,” says Wendy Bollum, public-relations officer.

But what banking officials don’t seem to realize, say Davis and others, is how important such “physical” symbols are to this powerless community. Moreover, by directing residents out of the area to other facilities, the bank draws money away from businesses along Plymouth, thus hurting the avenue still more.

Many of the reasons for the lack of commercial success along Plymouth come from within the community itself. Some critics charge that The Way, a youth center next to the shopping plaza funded by the United Way and directed by activist Harry “Spike” Moss, encourages loitering, shoplifting and worse. Some residents say they are too frightened to shop there.

Perhaps even more debilitating, the many community groups serving the

neighborhood have never come together to formulate a comprehensive development plan, one that would aid the poor and encourage the continued growth of a middle class. Rather, leaders have played politics and engaged in bitter personal, often violent, disputes such as that between the NRRC’s Parker and The Way’s Moss, both of whom have accused the other of neglecting the needs of the community.

Explains MNLDC’s Porter: “It’s a question of the neighborhood organizing for its economic-development interests, and that has not been done before. Sometimes as a neighborhood, as a people, we prevent ourselves from moving in a positive direction because we get involved in personality conflicts.”

There are signs that this era of divisiveness may be ending. The Way is moving to a new location off the avenue. And recently the MNLDC made several exterior changes to the Plymouth Avenue Shopping Center in order to make it more attractive. It is currently developing a comprehensive proposal for the Gamble-Skogmo Foundation that will include new stores, a gas station (there are none along Plymouth’s entire 23 blocks) and perhaps plans for the vacant land between Humboldt and Thomas avenues.

Porter hopes that the foundation will help fund and manage the proposal much as Honeywell has done with south Minneapolis’s Phillips neighborhood. If this were to happen, Warder says, “you’d see a magnificent change.”

Yet even if MNLDC’s proposal were to succeed it would be insufficient by itself to turn around the neighborhood, because most of the jobs would be low-paying or part-time service positions. Instead, the community must develop permanent enterprises staffed by neighborhood residents to create an economic base, says Tom Dewar, a senior fellow at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs who is studying neighborhood development.

What is needed, he says, is to “increase production within the neighborhood rather than lubricate consumption.”

It appears that the neighborhood would be quite suitable for such a plan: It possesses much of the prime remaining vacant industrial land in the city. But here, too, what looks so promising has turned into a bitter mess.

City development officials will tell you that tens of millions in development dollars have gone into the North Side in the past three years to directly or indirectly help residents there: perhaps \$33 million for physical improvements, \$19 million to renovate public housing, an estimated \$30 million to minority contractors under affirmative action rules. These sums do not include



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the private monies and city tax subsidies used to build homes, nor new factories and retail establishments in the Northgate Industrial Park at the east end of Plymouth, nor the revamped West Broadway shopping district.

As another boon, Minneapolis now re-

quires construction firms to develop affirmative-action hiring plans before they can receive any contracts for city-subsidized developments.

Urban League president Edwards, formerly chairman of the city's Civil Rights Commission, jokingly says that with all

the money coming in, the Near North should have seen five or six new millionaires pop up by now.

But of course there are no millionaires on the Near North Side—just a lot of people hurting, and wondering why they have been excluded from many of the new developments and employment in their own neighborhood.

"They're fixing up the North Side for white folks, not for us," says one longtime resident.

She may be right: Most of the money and jobs here have gone to whites and outsiders. The Near North has new industries (an electronics firm, Minneapolis's cable-TV franchise, an optical company and an office-supply store, among others), new bus facilities and new stores nearby at West Broadway, but they may as well be in Japan for all they are employing area minority residents.

The reasons for this are as simple as racism and as old as greed. The city of Minneapolis has a history of stressing economic development at the expense of affirmative action and to this day still has not developed an effective way to link the two. Neither does it have an effective way to enforce existing affirmative-action rules, as a look into the hiring practices of some contractors working on the North Side has shown.

Moreover, newspaper and television investigations last spring revealed gross fraud and abuse in those programs that were supposed to direct construction monies to minority firms. It was demonstrated that many supposedly minority- or female-owned firms acted as fronts for white, male-owned firms.

Says Edwards: "The millions of dollars the city says has gone into this community have been nothing more than diarrhea passing through."

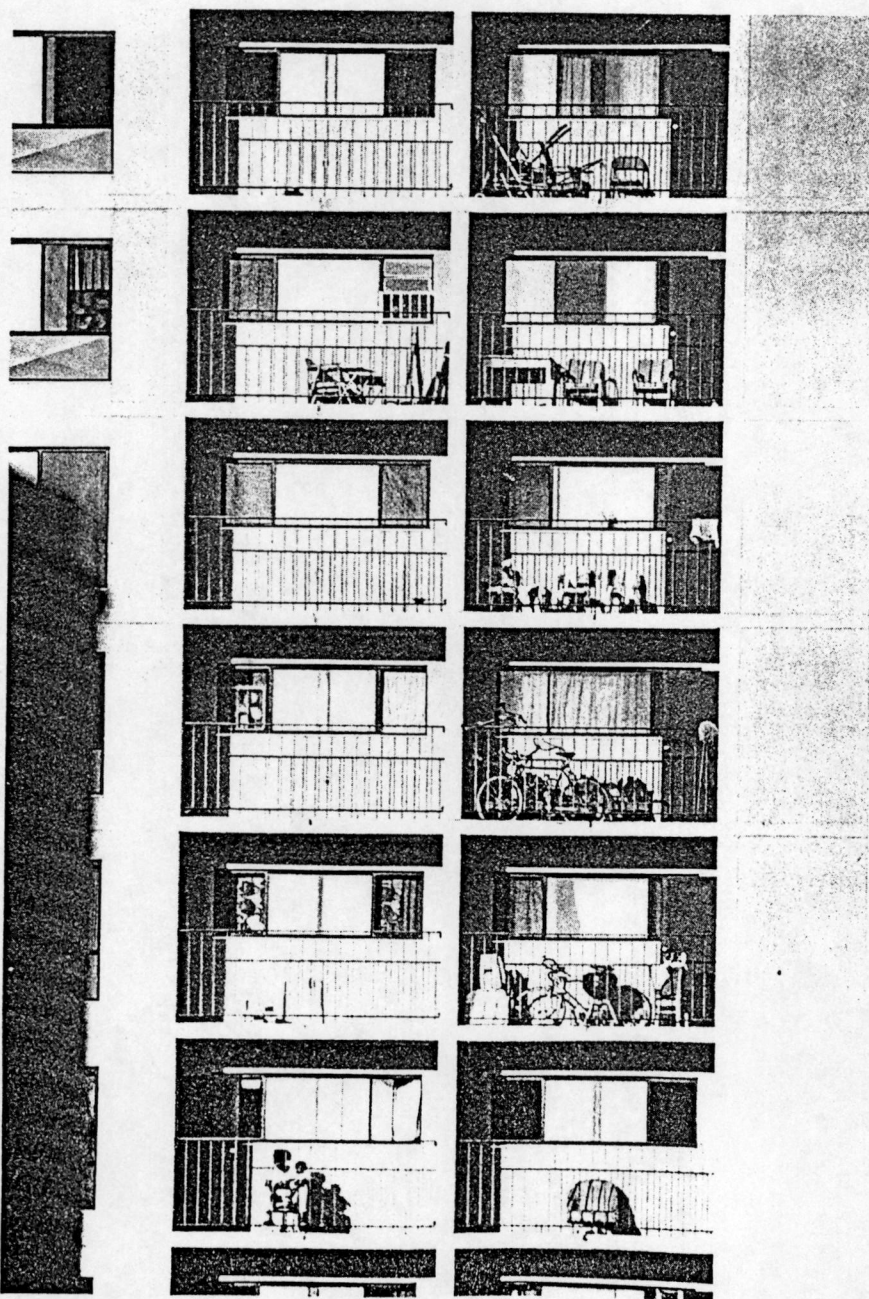
Minneapolis has always had the necessary affirmative-action laws on the books, but has often ignored them or bypassed them in order to lure major developments, charges Gleason Glover, executive director of the Urban League. He cites City Center as an example. The original contract superseded the city ordinance, he says, so the contractor was not required to adhere to affirmative-action contracting requirements.

"I believe the city operated on a 'We don't want to become another Newark' theory for the past 15 years. They just wanted to develop. Therefore they offered business the best deal possible without a lot of encumbrances," says Peter McLaughlin, executive director of the Minneapolis Community Business Employment Alliance (MCBEA).

Larry Blackwell, director of the city's Affirmative Action Management Office, is more direct: "You have some [City] Council members and some city officials

"The millions of dollars the city says have gone into this community have been nothing more than diarrhea passing through."

Ronald Edwards
Minneapolis Urban League



A high-rise just off Plymouth Avenue.

“What does this community get in exchange for some of the best light-industrial land left in Minneapolis? What does our youth get? We’re getting 122 jobs five years from now.”

**Vusumuzi Zulu
Glenwood-Lyndale
Community Center**

Vusumuzi Zulu, associate director of the Glenwood-Lyndale Community Center, with friends.



who just think affirmative action gets in the way.”

Even Fifth Ward council member Van F. White, who upon election in 1980 pressed for revisions in affirmative-action ordinances and new hiring programs, is unhappy with the city’s record: “No one was making any special effort,” he says.

Even with those revisions, Blackwell’s office has no real enforcement powers. The result is that the time lag between when a violation is pinpointed and when action is taken is so great that projects are frequently over before anything is done—and contractors are not barred from bidding on other city developments.

For example, upon visiting the building site for the Metropolitan Transit Commission’s new North Side facility in February 1983, Blackwell discovered that there were no minorities or women on the workforce. He reported this to the MTC, but, he says, nothing was done. The Urban League was eventually forced to go to the governor with Blackwell. Minorities ultimately were hired, he says, but “[compliance] was barely minimal. I said to them, ‘You’re on the North Side with all the high unemployment. You need to do something more.’”

As of July 1982, construction workers on projects receiving city subsidy are required to be 6 percent skilled minorities, 15 percent unskilled minorities and 4 percent women.

Blackwell’s office is currently investigating contractors who have worked on the Walman Optical, Rogers Cablesystems, Muscle Bound Bindery and Kwik-Sew buildings, all in or near the North-

gate Industrial Park, for failing to consistently meet hiring specifications. The MCDA is investigating contractors of still another North Side building, Miller/Davis Office Supplies, for the same reason.

Some of the contractors cited deny the charges or say it is difficult to find qualified minorities and women.

“It’s been a struggle to consistently hire skilled and unskilled minorities and women on jobs,” says Tom O’Connell, president of Benson-Orth Contractors, which worked on Muscle Bound Bindery, Miller/Davis and others.

But training-program directors scoff at this excuse. Qualified minorities and women construction workers are going begging, says Mary Reed, director of the Labor Education Advancement Program (LEAP), which seeks to place minorities and women in the building trades.

“They haven’t been accepted,” she says. “They’re still considered ‘something we have to do.’”

Blackwell says at least three North Side minorities—all qualified ironworkers—called him to say they couldn’t get jobs at the MTC site.

The city now requires any company receiving city assistance to hire Minneapolis residents for all vacancies in predetermined entry-level jobs. Called “First Source,” the program is intended to help economically disadvantaged city residents, although actually any unemployed resident may qualify, says Jack Kryst, manager of job development for the MCDA. Yet here too the city has acted slowly, and its efforts may be insufficient. There was a two-year lag from the

time the City Council first passed the resolution, sponsored by Van White, to when the MCDA took over the program and made it feasible. Blackwell terms this “foot dragging” by city employment and training officials—consistent with city inaction on other fronts, he says.

First Source should provide North Side residents at least 122 jobs in the Northgate Park within the next five years, says Don Risk, director of marketing and business service for the MCDA. But community leaders consider this an insult: “It’s just a piece of paper,” says the Urban League’s Glover. “Where are the jobs?”

Says Glenwood-Lyndale Community Center associate director Vusumuzi Zulu: “What does this community get in exchange for some of the best light-industrial land left in Minneapolis? What does our youth get? We’re getting 122 jobs five years from now.”

Perhaps the most bitterness has concerned the city’s Women and Minority Business Enterprise program, designed to allow minority and women contractors a piece of the construction pie. Media investigations revealed that the program is, riddled with fraud, and that many minority and women contractors are merely fronts and themselves do not hire women and minorities. Many of those firms have operated on the North Side. For example, Kathy’s Kranes, cited as a front in a *Minneapolis Star and Tribune* article and by the WCCO-TV I-Team, held a contract at the same MTC facility whose contractor Blackwell had cited for failure to comply with hiring guidelines.

Of the \$33 million that is said to have gone to minority and women firms since

1982. Blackwell says "a substantial amount" went to pass-throughs.

To be fair, not all North Side businesses are guilty of noncompliance. MCDA assistant project manager Mable Spaulding says that Target implemented a special affirmative-action plan—stricter than the one required by the city—for the construction of its West Broadway facility, and that the company has hired many disadvantaged community residents for a variety of positions since the store opened. But for the most part, the long-term city neglect of affirmative action and businesses' outright violation of ordinances have directly hurt the Near North.

"It allowed poverty to continue. It allowed unemployment to stay high. It increased frustration. People saw all the opportunities around them and couldn't get in on them," Blackwell says.

The actions of the federal government have hurt the Near North as well. One need only look at the effects that Reaganomics and a severe re-

cession have had on women, children and minorities. An October 1983 report shows that the number of people below the poverty line had grown from about 12 to 15 percent of the nation's population during the past four years.

An informal MPLS.ST.PAUL survey of Near North Side churches and social-service agencies last spring revealed an increased demand for food shelves, soup kitchens, housing assistance, heating subsidies and job training. All these groups reported that they had neither the funding nor the personnel to meet the demand.

The Disciples Ministry Church, 1000 Oliver Av. N., provides bimonthly food assistance. On a blustery April weekend, church volunteers ran out of groceries—more than 1,000 bags—before they ran out of clients. Nearly all those we interviewed said that they received some form of government assistance and that it had been cut or eliminated.

The Ministry soup kitchen feeds more than 2,700 families per month. Says pas-

tor Paul Arnopoulos: "People here are going hungry. The North Side is like some African country."

It is not clear that many government-assistance programs on the North Side were doing any long-term good, even if they were meeting short-term needs. It is an old story, but often, critics say, government programs were simply "Band-Aids" or "fire alarms" and weren't really designed to make the disadvantaged into functioning, self-sufficient members of society. They cite federal job-training programs as examples.

MCBEA's McLaughlin says that CETA trained the poor for low-skilled, low-paying, often obsolete jobs. Many of the jobs were in the nonprofit sector, so that employers couldn't keep workers on once their government subsidies expired.

It is only now that the Job Training Partnership Act, the federal program that replaced CETA last year, mandates that job placement be in the private sector. There are 13,000 qualified applicants in Minneapolis for 1,400 slots, says Donna Harris, director of the Minneapolis Employment and Training Programs. And the local program will exhaust its current funding in the next six months, although it's officially in action through May of next year.

The failure of federal programs may be old news today, but in such a poor community as the Near North, it has created a hopelessness that, combined with the negative image, has kept the community from prospering.

The inability of many blacks to find and hold jobs, says Charles McKenzie, director of the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, goes beyond the failed government programs to the disintegration of the black family—the large numbers of one-parent homes, the prevalence of child and spouse abuse, the lack of role models and the lack of emphasis on schooling. Fifty percent of the families at the Glenwood-Lyndale Housing Project suffer from some sort of neglect or family abuse, according to Shirley Kelley, a parenting specialist at the local community center. Ninety percent of all families at the projects are headed by single mothers.

Phyllis Wheatley Community Center has studied neighborhood children and discovered, not surprisingly, a low level of self-esteem. "I know many mothers who say, 'My kids won't amount to anything,'" McKenzie says. Many of these parents are themselves dropouts and don't have the educational skills to help their children with schoolwork.

McKenzie says he believes that it is too easy to put the fault for all this solely at the feet of white society. Rather, he says,

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Three Who Made a Difference

It was called the "establishment" then, the press-corporate-political power structure that ran the country in the 1960s. It was lily white and all male. The same was true—perhaps more so—in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Like Twin Cities in general, this elite prided itself on its enlightened attitudes. It refused to believe that the liberal reputation the city had acquired since Hubert Humphrey's stewardship was only skin deep, and thought that Minneapolis would avoid the racial upheavals of other, less fortunate—and more heavily black—cities. This faction, too, had failed to understand the depths of black anger and alienation, and it was shocked when blacks rioted along Plymouth Avenue in 1966 and 1967.

Soon after the riots, this power elite moved with alacrity to accommodate black economic and social demands, embodied in a set of "14 Points," and, more importantly, to bring blacks into the power structure itself. Business leaders, clergy, civil-rights leaders and media executives formed the Urban Coalition to recommend solutions. They adopted affirmative-action programs, established minority internships and moved for strengthened civil-rights agencies.

Most of these changes came from the men at the top, men who had emerged chastened and changed by what they had seen, and who had developed a commitment to equal rights.

Today, with the possible exception of the political arena, the power structure in Minneapolis and St. Paul remains predominantly white; black representation is not proportionate to the percentage of blacks here, small as it may be. Some black leaders claim the corporate and press giants are ignoring the black community once again. The commitment to reform, if it was ever real, is gone now, they say.

What follows is a look at three of those leaders—and at the press, big business and city hall generally—to see how reform began and perhaps to understand how things got off track.

Stephen Keating: Honeywell and the Development of a Corporate Conscience

Stephen Keating, then president and later chief executive officer of Honeywell, is the first to admit that neither he nor anyone in the business community recognized the degree of anger and frustration in the black community in the late 1960s.

"We were thrust into something that was smoldering. Relatively few of us appreciated the depth of the problem, the emotions involved. It went off like a skyrocket," he recalls.

Keating doesn't necessarily attribute business's neglect to overt racism. Rather, he believes that businesspeople, too often concerned first

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a culture has evolved which is not conducive to success—either in the schools or on the job. "Some will say the system let them down, that they're victims. Some will be bogged down forever. We should be concerned with their children," he says.

Bob Lynch, principal of North Community High School, estimates that 300 of the school's 1,400 students are two to three years behind the norm in reading, writing and arithmetic. A disproportionate number of the slow learners are black. "By the time they get to high school, they say, 'Forget it.' They can't deal with it ego-wise or concept-wise. So they drop out," he explains. The drop-out rate here is close to 30 percent. Lynch has three intervention specialists in math, reading and writing to help these prob-

lem students.

Recently, a variety of local groups have organized to take up the slack. Phyllis Wheatley, Glenwood-Lyndale and Pilot City offer tutoring and parenting programs, self-esteem classes, child- and spouse-abuse workshops, among others, all in an attempt to create an atmosphere for success.

"It all goes back to getting at the family," McKenzie says.

In addition, the Minneapolis school system now tests kindergartners and holds back any children exhibiting educational difficulties. North and other high schools have employment programs linking job possibilities to high-school attendance. North currently has 48 such jobs.

In a May 1966 article, *Minneapolis Tribune* civil-rights reporter Dick Cunningham wrote: "The story of the North Side and of all American cities in the 1960s is the story of the struggle to preserve or restore urban residential areas." Add to that the struggle to attain econom-

ic parity, and it is easy to see that the struggle still continues 20 years later.

There have been some signs of improvement. There is a wafting of hope down Plymouth Avenue. But the Near North Side remains a neighborhood on the brink, struggling with severe economic and image problems, problems compounded by the difficulties of the black community as a whole in its efforts for economic and social success.

There is much that can be done to help. Perhaps the greatest step forward would be to effectively link city economic development to neighborhood development and affirmative-action requirements, area leaders say. A new sense of corporate responsibility is called for as well: Corporations cannot profit from a community without being required to put something back in.

"What's required is not to say, 'When you're done doing business as usual, do you have any grants and leftovers for us?'" says the Humphrey Institute's Dewar.

THREE PROFILES

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with the bottom line and second with their families, failed to look beyond into the wider concerns of the community.

In his case, Keating says he had never been exposed to blacks or their concerns, having grown up in the small town of Graceville, Minn. To him, blacks may as well have been invisible. So the riots came as quite a shock. "For

me it was in some ways a miserable awakening, but also a great awakening," he says.

Soon afterwards, Keating was asked to head up the newly formed Urban Coalition.

He says he was generally pleased with the speed with which the business community acted once it realized the problem. The coalition devoted itself to recommending improvements in education, housing and employment. Many of the agencies that grew out of those recommendations are still around today.

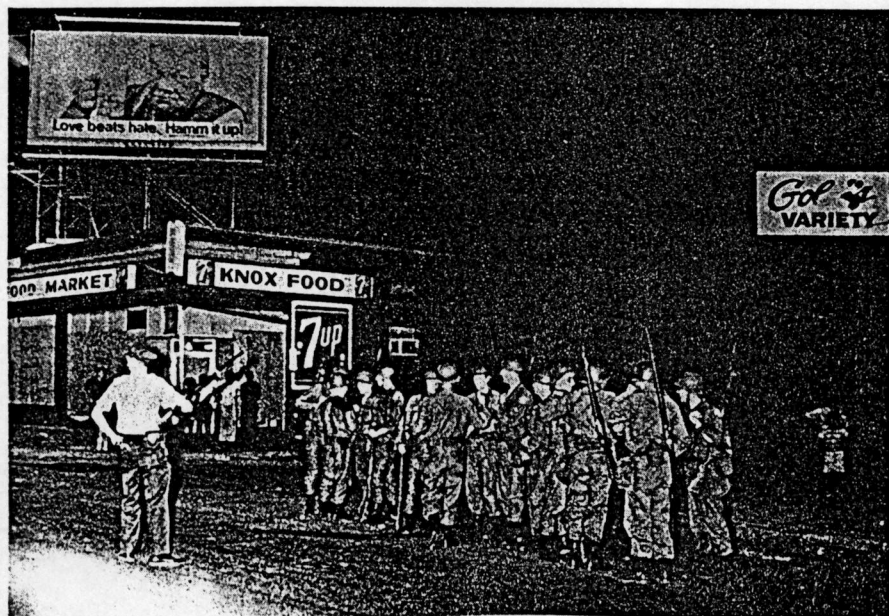
"Minorities wanted a way into the establishment. We were prepared to do that," says Keating, now chairman of Toro Company's executive committee.

Within his own domain, he infused Honeywell with a new sense of corporate responsibility. As a result of his directives and initiatives, the company established a vendor program to purchase goods and services from minority businesses. Honeywell has continued its commitment: It offers minority scholarships, contributes to area vocational-training programs and helps fund a neighborhood-development group.

Yet inside, progress has been much slower. Only 2.6 percent of Honeywell officials, managers and supervisors are black (5.8 percent for all minorities). Company officials acknowledge that this figure is too low, but say that the lack of qualified minorities makes improvement difficult.

"We're a technically oriented company. We have a lot of technical degrees. The minority populations in those fields are not high," says Fosten A. Boyle, vice president for human resources.

The picture is not much different across corporate Minneapolis-St. Paul, and that rankles many black leaders. "Business and industry are afraid to make the same kind of commitment to human resources as they do to the arts or the Twins," says Urban League Executive Director Gleason Glover. It takes a real commitment from the top to ensure that a company becomes socially responsible and changes its hiring and promotion practices, he says.



Gov. Harold LeVander mobilized the Minnesota National Guard in July 1967 to check incidents of violence on the North Side.

Minneapolis Star and Tribune

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Perhaps, too, President Reagan is correct in saying that too much money is spent on ineffectual social programs. But the very success of government action in reducing poverty over the past 20 years argues for a scalpel rather than an ax to trim away waste. Besides, the record shows that government is needed to ensure that business will do its share to hire the disadvantaged and minorities.

And, of course, the community must provide for itself, as with the MNLDC's commercial-development plan.

There is, then, no simple solution to the problems on the Near North Side. Plymouth Avenue won't turn into a bustling thoroughfare overnight. And that is perhaps the final lesson: Still more time is needed to repair a blighted avenue and improve blighted lives. □

Howard L. Shapiro, whose father, mother and both sets of grandparents lived on the North Side, has written for us most recently on wildlife in the suburbs and the area's most desirable neighborhoods.

Without that commitment, underlings tend to hire people like themselves, and the inequities are perpetuated.

"The philosophies of the major corporations changed with their CEOs," says Harry Davis, vice president for real estate and properties at Cowles Media Co. "The CEOs of the 1960s are no longer there. The new people lack the same type of commitment." Rather than taking direct action, companies now emphasize foundations and corporate giving.

In fact, he says, many of the era's reforms are now being used against blacks. "There is still an underlying dislike in the business community for the attitude of affirmative action. They've taken the commitment to social welfare and turned it around. They now take it to mean that blacks and others are trying to force themselves into positions for which they're not qualified," Davis says.

Many companies find it more socially acceptable to hire white women, fulfilling their responsibility to hire the disadvantaged, yet retaining an all-white corporate structure.

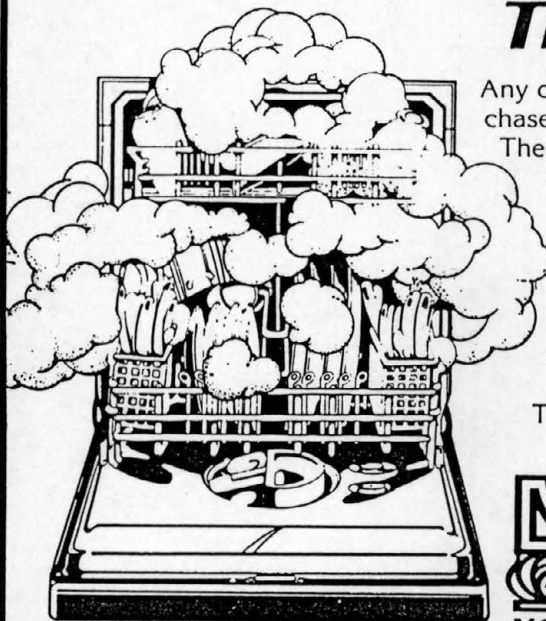
"This is the day of the white female," Glover says. "Once she gets a power position, she doesn't live up to her old claim that racism and sexism are the same. She doesn't bring along her black counterpart."

All told, blacks generally find they can still go no higher than middle management. Davis uses himself as an example. "Talk to any CEO. They'll all say they know me. They'll all say they respect me. You can even do that here

▷

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[at Cowles Media], but I'm still just an assistant vice president," he says. He joined the newspaper in 1973 as assistant publisher and has held his current position for five years.

Honeywell is making some attempt to redress the problem. Under the direction of current chairman and chief executive officer Edson Spencer, the company recently introduced a grading system designed to raise the number of

minorities in upper-level positions. Managers are evaluated on how well they perform in spotting, developing and retaining "targeted" minorities. A negative evaluation could affect future bonus or salary considerations.

Dick Cunningham:
How the Press Missed the Story
The press, the pulse takers of the na-

tion, were as shocked and surprised by the North Side riots as any other group, says Dick Cunningham, the *Minneapolis Tribune's* civil-rights reporter in the mid-1960s.

Although press coverage here and all over the North was better than in the South, where blacks and black issues hardly ever appeared in newspapers, Cunningham believes it was patronizing before the riots.

A North Side History

Back in the early 1920s when former *New York Times* associate editor Harrison Salisbury and his family lived on the North Side—along with many other solid Anglo-Saxon families—people thought the area was turning into a slum. More and more immigrant Jews were settling there.

Salisbury writes in his memoirs: "It is true that in these years the small Victorian enclave in which I was born did change, did start its downhill progress into a slum. That was the meaning of the arrival of the Jews, poor Jews, the newest wave of immigration, who came to Minneapolis. . . . The old Victorian houses were hacked and cut into 'light housekeeping apartments,' rooming houses and the like, and many of the solid bourgeois owners fled to the newer developments near Lake of the Isles, Lake Calhoun and beyond."

These newly arrived Jews concentrated themselves around Sixth Avenue (today Olson Memorial Highway), the poorest, most run-down part of the Near North. Gradually, they moved up to the area surrounding Plymouth Avenue.

By the 1930s Plymouth Avenue was Minneapolis's equivalent of New York's Hester Street: the heart of the Minneapolis Jewish community. Strolling the bustling streets, you could hear Yiddish spoken as often as English. And the English was heavily accented, for most of the inhabitants were first- or second-generation Americans.

They set up shop all up and down the avenue. Women would buy their meats from Greenstein and Sons or Fidelman Kosher Meat Market. Boys would hang out at Bank's Pool Hall or at the Emanuel Cohen Center. Boys and girls would meet one another at Abe's or Malcoff's delicatessens. Everybody went to the Homewood Theatre, located on Newton and Plymouth avenues. Synagogues dotted the neighborhood.

Wealthier Jews lived in the Homewood section, around Plymouth Avenue between Penn and Xerxes avenues.

Poor Jews lived on Penn and beyond in the other direction, in an area filled with apartments and duplexes.

Theodore Desnick and his wife, Celia, remember that time well. Now retired and living in St. Louis Park, Desnick and his brother Joe owned Desnick Brothers Drug Company on the southwest corner of Plymouth and Penn avenues for 34 years.

"It was a beautiful, tranquil area," he recalls. "You could walk the streets alone at night and not be afraid."

Often strollers would stop at the drugstore for a soda or an ice cream cone or just to chat.

"You knew people or knew of them," Celia Desnick says. "There was an intimate, familiar feeling there—a camaraderie."

Meanwhile, blacks had begun to concentrate along Sixth Avenue, and soon the area between Sixth and Plymouth avenues grew into a stable mix of Jews and blacks. Like the Jews, blacks had been restricted by racism to living in just a few areas of the city. Poorer blacks lived in this area, while those who worked on the railroad or in the post office (the best that college-educated blacks could aspire to at the time) lived farther south.

Blacks too had their "spots," prime among them the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center. It was not simply a gathering place, however. In those days of Jim Crow it housed visiting black entertainers and sports figures, such as Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson and All-American guard Horace Bell, who were not allowed accommodations in downtown hotels.

Housing was poor and ramshackle. In 1937, Sumner Field, the state's first public housing project, was built. It was the first of many government urban-renewal and housing projects that would, by 1984, give the area one of the city's highest concentrations of low-income housing—and a reputation as a ghetto.

Many of the city's prominent blacks

—Minneapolis Public School Superintendent Richard Green and Fifth Ward council member Van White among them—spent their teens at Sumner Field. White, one of five children, still recalls moving there in 1939 with his mother and grandmother:

"People were proud," he says of the project's residents. "It was well kept. Flowers grew." And, echoing the feelings of the North Side's Jewish residents, he adds, "There was a camaraderie."

Hotels and housing were segregated in the Minneapolis of the 1930s. But the schools and playing fields were not. Many Jewish and black residents can recall playing together, going to school together. Friendships were formed that have lasted until today.

"It was one extended family when it came to Jews and blacks," one longtime resident remembers. "Your father was my father—not afraid to give me a whack if I'd done something wrong—and my father was yours."

"We and they had a lot in common" in those Depression years, he adds. "We were all poor."

Students went first to Sumner or Lincoln junior highs and then on to North High. Academic standards were high, and many prominent Twin Citians are products of North High, among them Minnesota Vikings owner Max Winter, *Skyway News* publisher Sam Kaufman, WCCO radio personality Howard Vinken, the late businessman Robert Short and Hennepin County District Court Judge Allen Oleisky.

The years after World War II brought great changes to the North Side. Young Jews, faced with growing families and lessening anti-Semitic housing restrictions, began to move out to the newly developed suburbs of St. Louis Park and Golden Valley.

At the same time, a generation of black veterans returned home to the same discrimination. With great bitterness, they realized "they had fought to keep the country free and they weren't free in their own communities," says Harry Davis, now an assistant vice

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"It reflected a perception of the black community that was beneficent," he says. "It was a surprise to find that right here in River City there were angry, alienated blacks," he says.

Cunningham was more clued in to the impending explosion because he had covered the civil-rights movement in the South and had recently written a series of articles on the racial tensions on the North Side, a series some be-

lieved helped precipitate the riots that followed.

Generally, he and other reporters had access to black leaders because they were perceived as sympathetic to the cause. That all changed as black militancy grew. Reporters came to be regarded as part of the oppressive white power structure.

"In Watts, I and virtually every white reporter were struck out," recalls Cun-

ningham, who now teaches an ethics of journalism course at New York University. "This was a whole different ball game. White reporters were not looked on as useful, helpful or sympathetic. We were definitely part of the establishment. That made us realize that newspaper people were out of touch with and had covered inadequately the black community."

Like the business establishment, the

president for real estate and properties at Cowles Media Co., publisher of the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*.

This bitterness festered, and it was the children of these veterans who were to take part in the racial riots 20 years later.

By the mid-1950s, Jews and other whites were moving out of the North Side in ever-growing numbers. Blacks, many recently arrived from the South, joined others displaced by the latest urban-renewal and highway projects, and began to move north to the Plymouth Avenue area.

Real-estate brokers played on the worries of white residents who feared they would be stranded in an all-black ghetto, engaging in a practice called "block busting." They'd first sell one house on a block to a black family, then buy the others at a lower price as whites sought to move. Soon the trickle of whites became an exodus.

"Before you knew it, blacks began to stream in," Theodore Desnick says. "If one or two blacks moved in, the whites pulled out like mad. It was just a matter of time."

The area was in transition and aging. The housing stock began to decline and crime began to grow, both precipitating even further decline.

By the mid-1960s, only the "stalwarts," the synagogues and the Jewish-owned stores remained to testify to a once-vibrant community, says Rabbi Kassel Abelson, rabbi to the Beth El synagogue since 1960.

He says the "turning point," when the area hit a rapid decline, came in the early 1960s when a gang of students blackmailed and roughed up a group of Jewish schoolchildren at Lincoln Junior High School. At the same time, he says, parents received intimations from teachers that academic excellence was no longer a priority because the area's schools' population—and thus its needs—had changed.

"From spring until fall," Abelson recalls, "dozens of young couples moved out with their kids"—and the neighborhood schools acquired a poor reputation.

The first major racial disturbance broke out in the summer of 1966. It was small by the standards of a Watts or Detroit: About 35 youths torched and vandalized stores along Plymouth Avenue. But, small as it was, this was all it took to set off shock waves throughout a city that had always considered itself so liberal and progressive.

"It took on a 'We're not going to ask or wait any longer, but we're going to get our rights now—and if we can't get them, we'll destroy' attitude," says Davis, who was instrumental in arranging negotiations between the rioters and the mayor.

Things calmed for a while. A few major corporations opened up jobs for unemployed North Side black youths. Even before this, an urban-renewal project for the area had been proposed, and the Mobilization of Economic Resources (MOER) project, chaired by Davis, had begun to fund job programs and social-service agencies.

Perhaps it was a case of too little too late or perhaps, as Davis ruefully admits, it was a question of a younger generation no longer satisfied with the slow pace of reform its parents had lived with.

In any case, Plymouth Avenue, by then a symbol of black anger and despair, remained dry tinder, waiting for another spark of frustration to set it off.

It didn't take long. More serious disturbances flamed the following July, igniting further rioting in Detroit, New York, Newark, Cincinnati, Toledo and Phoenix. It was the long, hot summer of America's discontent, and Minneapolis too was feeling the heat.

Blacks looted and torched stores up and down Plymouth Avenue those two days. Gov. Harold LeVander called out the National Guard at the request of Mayor Arthur Naftalin. But before things cooled, Plymouth Avenue stood a boarded-up, smoldering mess, and many of the remaining white residents and merchants fled—for good.

The riots and resulting community meetings acquired an anti-Semitic hue. Some protesters railed against "Zionist-imperialist" shopkeepers who cheat-

ed black children. Jewish merchants angrily denied these charges, but the harm was done. A spike was driven between two formerly close communities. Abelson says relations between the two have never been the same since.

"It was ridiculous. It was the Jews and blacks who had lived together for so long who suffered," Davis says.

Desnick was burned out of business in 1969. He says he remembers the day as if it were yesterday. "It was Sunday, Dec. 7. I had just sat down to watch Ed Sullivan and I got a phone call: 'They're burning the store.'"

And that was the end of 34 years of business. Desnick retired soon thereafter, physically and emotionally worn out from the long years of tension.

No matter the justification for the riots, blacks had succeeded in making their demands for economic and social equality a national and city priority. A list of 14 points was drawn up, demanding black entrance into the city's social, economic and civic life. The Urban Coalition, a group representing 70 businesses, was founded in an attempt to bring blacks into the mainstream. A *Minneapolis Tribune* editorial captures the mood of the time:

"White Minneapolis no longer should be content with steady—but slow—progress. It must speed up the human rights timetable... not because of the riots, but because it is right."

It was at this time that plans for the Near North Side Urban Renewal Project were finalized: new schools, a new shopping district with minority-owned stores, housing rehabilitation, a Control Data plant. It was the largest ever urban-rehabilitation project in the state and was expected to cost \$30 million, plus an unspecified amount of loan and grant money. Approved by HUD in mid-1968, it was meant to turn Plymouth Avenue into a place of hope and renewal for Minneapolis blacks.

Today, 16 years later, much of the promised development is in place, though the quality of life for a significant number of area residents—black and white—continues to decline.

—H.L.S.



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press undertook to reform itself—to improve its coverage and to bring more blacks in as reporters.

The *Star and Tribune* organized sensitivity-awareness seminars (now defunct) for reporters; the Minneapolis and St. Paul papers actively recruit minorities for their internship programs.

Today, the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune* has one permanent reporter assigned to cover all of the city's minority communities; the *St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press* has none. For the most part, the two papers generally rely on the papers' staffs to produce relevant stories, editorial officials of both say. They insist that coverage is better than ever.

"I think we're doing the best we've ever done at it," says the *Star and Tribune's* deputy managing editor Mike Finney. "We try to bring some perspective to these things and try to get beyond episodic coverage."

"I don't think we could be surprised like we were in the late '60s," says *Pioneer Press-Dispatch* vice president/editor John Finnegan.

Black leaders openly scoff at this assertion.

Glover calls Twin Cities press coverage of the black community "piss poor. They think we say the same old thing. They aren't willing to admit the same old conditions exist. So they just get another voice, create a new leader," he says.

Black leaders also complain about what they feel is a small percentage of minority reporters and editors on the staffs of the major papers: 3.8 percent at the *Star and Tribune* and 6.4 percent at the *Pioneer Press-Dispatch*. Newspaper spokesmen cite several reasons for these numbers and say it may even be a sort of symbol of success: Many qualified minorities move up to larger, more prestigious papers once they have received their training here, they say.

Art Naftalin:

The Struggle for Reform at City Hall
By the mid-1960s Minneapolis had acquired a reputation as a liberal city, primarily due to the efforts of Hubert Humphrey. It was Mayor Humphrey who had precipitated a Dixie walkout of the 1948 Democratic Convention with his stinging civil-rights speech. On a local level, he moved to open the city's hotels and restaurants to blacks, and he established a Mayor's Council of Human Relations.

To a large extent this image of the city was just a façade, says former Mayor Arthur Naftalin. "We considered ourselves historically to be tolerant. Ever

since Humphrey we thought we had made great strides. In retrospect, it was an illusion. Our black community was hidden."

Naftalin was Humphrey's secretary between 1945 and 1947 (a position equivalent to that of deputy mayor) and helped launch the human-relations council. By the time Naftalin stewarded the city in 1961, the council had become essentially a paper tiger, with no public funding and a staff of volunteers. The city had no black City Council members and virtually no black policemen or firefighters.

By the mid-1960s, the racial temperature was rising. Naftalin says he recognized this and understood that further reforms were necessary. But it was difficult to interest the rest of the city's political establishment in his efforts.

For example, he pushed for the establishment of a civil-rights commission, originally designed to review black allegations of police brutality, but he ran into stiff opposition from a City Council protective of the police.

"When I was mayor, they were still living in the Stone Age," he says of the City Council. "They were resistant, reflecting the law-and-order feelings of the community." He eventually won the battle, only to have his appointment of black activist Ronald Edwards to the commission vetoed twice before final approval.

Naftalin was intensely criticized for his unwillingness to allow the police to use indiscriminate violence and make mass arrests to halt the looting and burning after the first riots in 1966. Instead, he preferred to rely on respected black leaders such as Harry Davis to negotiate with rioters, because he says he knew the riots reflected deep frustrations, and he wanted to work to solve those problems.

The mayor badgered and criticized the business community to get it to commit itself to reform. He was instrumental in establishing the Urban Coalition. "We had all been shaken up," he says. "We thought we had better get on the stick and do something. It was America's establishment saying, 'We'd better get together.'"

Naftalin gets generally high marks from blacks for his efforts.

Today blacks and other minorities have largely succeeded in penetrating the city's political power structure. Two of the City Council members are black (Fifth Ward council member Van White and Eighth Ward council member Sharon Sayles Belton); Minneapolis Public School Superintendent Richard Green is also black (he once lived in the North Side's Sumner Field Housing Project).

Yet blacks are still scarce in the upper echelons of those who run city hall on a day-to-day basis, making up 3.4 percent of city hall's officers and administrators, and 3.3 percent of its "professionals"—managers and planners among them.

Echoing Glover's criticism of business, Larry Blackwell, director of the city's Affirmative Action Management Office, believes that these low numbers are mostly a result of a lack of commitment from the top, especially by the mayors preceding current Mayor Donald Fraser.

"There has never been any accountability, any reason for people to promote minorities. . . . If somebody at the top said, 'You're gonna do this,' you can bet it would happen. . . . It has reverted back to the old boys' club," Blackwell says.

"Affirmative action was not on people's minds," White says. "Since I've been in office, there's been a drastic change," he says, citing strengthened city contracting ordinances as one example.

Still, top city employees have never been evaluated for their affirmative-action performance, though this may finally change. Mayor Fraser called for a review in his last State of the City address.

But the proposal may not have much punch to it: "We're not setting this up so that you have to hire x percent or you'll be demoted or fired," says Barbara Raymond, management development specialist for the City of Minneapolis, who drafted the proposal. When the mayor and City Council evaluate city departments, affirmative action "will be one of a number of factors determining how much [budgeting] support particular department heads will get."

The city also recently adopted an expanded certification program, meaning that department heads can reach down on eligibility lists past the top three candidates in order to hire minorities.

Thus the efforts continue. "If I were black, I'd say progress wasn't being made fast enough. But from a practical standpoint we're making reasonable progress," Keating says.

Many blacks disagree with him. They call for more effective hiring mechanisms, more accountability on the part of those doing the hiring and, again, more commitment from the top.

"It's easy to say things haven't changed. That is because we haven't reached the power and influence where we can make the growth continue," Davis says. "If there's no change at the top, our situation will improve only very slowly."

—H.L.S.

1984

Letters-To-The-Editor

Article on North Minneapolis was displeasing

To The Editor: I was deeply displeased with the article, "Whatever Happened to the Northside's Dream?", by Robert Shapiro, in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine September issue.

It never ceases to boggle my mind and infuriate my heart that articles written about the northside area or its residents permeate "only" despair and hopelessness.

Northside residents are not stuck in a time-warped gazing up in the heavens or standing on Plymouth Avenue looking downtown lamenting about being left out or crying "woe is me." Many people are working hard to help those residents who are "caught" by several factors; i.e., social promotion - welfare - class alienation and unemployment.

Drug abuse and child abuse are a national disgrace in this country - to single out the northside area and to ignore the statistics that family abuse as a whole is lower in the northside than the rest of the city is unconscionable. I might add - drug deals are not only made openly in northside parks, they are also made in other parks and any street in Minneapolis. Also, people are not going hungry just in the northside area - they are going hungry all over this city and country.

Many, many years, blocks of industrial land stood vacant on the northside;

vacant industrial land provides zero employment. The community, through economic development of Northgate Industrial Park and West Broadway, has received jobs. The First Source Program will provide an additional 122 jobs over five years.

From 1970-1980, millions of dollars were spent downtown - affirmative action was not an issue then - there weren't any marches - few, if any, protests, and certainly no articles that scolded the City of Minneapolis for not actively pursuing affirmative action. Affirmative action is citywide and didn't just crop up out of the air after 1980. Affirmative action, after 1980, is certainly on the minds of city officials today, and the city is acting more affirmatively, but there is still room for improvement.

I agree with Charles McKenzie as far as self esteem and the single-parent-households situation among Blacks. "It all goes back to getting at the family." That phenomenon is best addressed by Black men and women.

I think it is negative articles, that keep projecting a negative picture of the northside and the residents who inhabit community prosperity and create an illusion of hopelessness. I would hope that the next time an article is written about the northside, the writer would at least examine the positive as well as the negative. There may be surprises for everyone.

Van F. White,
5th Ward Council Member

Editor

Council
2-28-85

ber and turned to phantom and stereotyped statements concerning north and southside Black communities.

It really incenses me that Mike Kasuba had the audacity to make a feeble attempt to define the concerns of the Black community--north or southside. The phantom verbiage that the southside community worries about mortgage payments and education, and then to imply that the northside community worries about welfare payments and unemployment, is so idiotic it defies an intelligent response.

Black communities are often divided by geographical barriers but still maintain common goals and aspirations. Many people who live on the southside now once lived on the northside, and vice versa. I have lived on the northside my entire life--by choice--and represent the northside on the Minneapolis City Council. The northside community has many residents that scale the upper middle and lower income ladder.

In addition, identifying Blacks as "middle class" is to suggest that a set of values adopted by the majority race have been embraced by Blacks. I will contend that that may not be true. Blacks and people of color don't necessarily adopt those values. Middle income might be a better term.

In closing, I'll say this!! The northside community is a fine place to live--not because we have to live there--because we choose to live there. In addition, the northside community is sick and tired of the negative images that the media sells the rest of the city--it's really time to report the many positive aspects of our community.

Van F. White
Council Member, 5th Ward

Propoganda

To The Editor: I was appalled when I read the article--propaganda is a better term--by Mike Kasuba, "City Middle Class Blacks Speak Up At Polls." (Minneapolis Star and Tribune)

I am perplexed as to how the article started out heralding the successful endorsement of the 8th Ward Council Mem-

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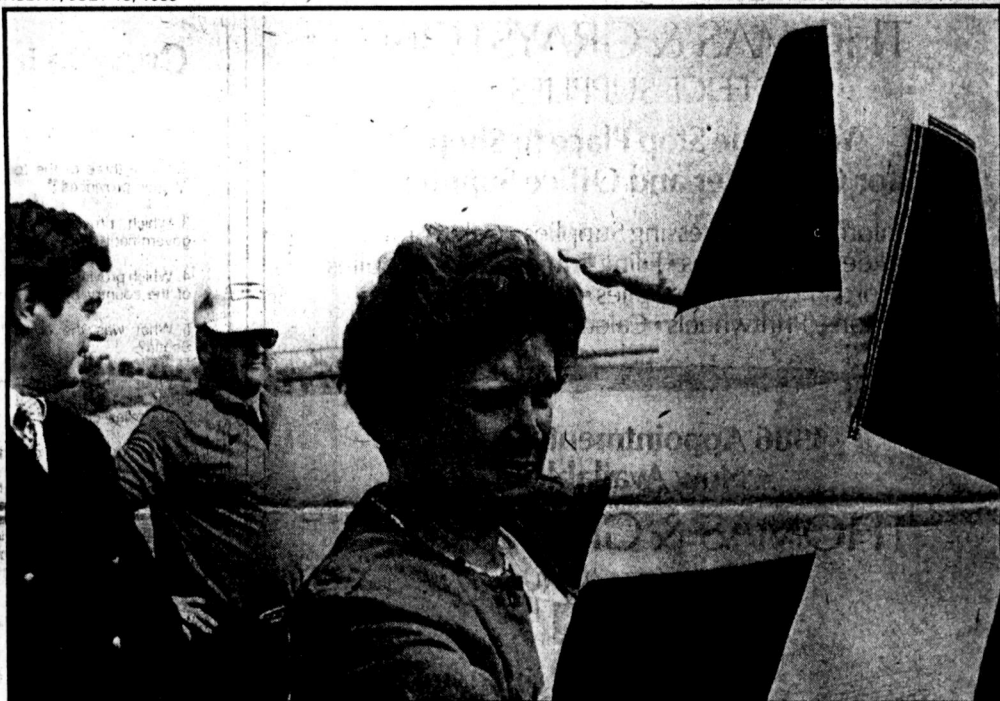


BIG WHEELS On Broadway

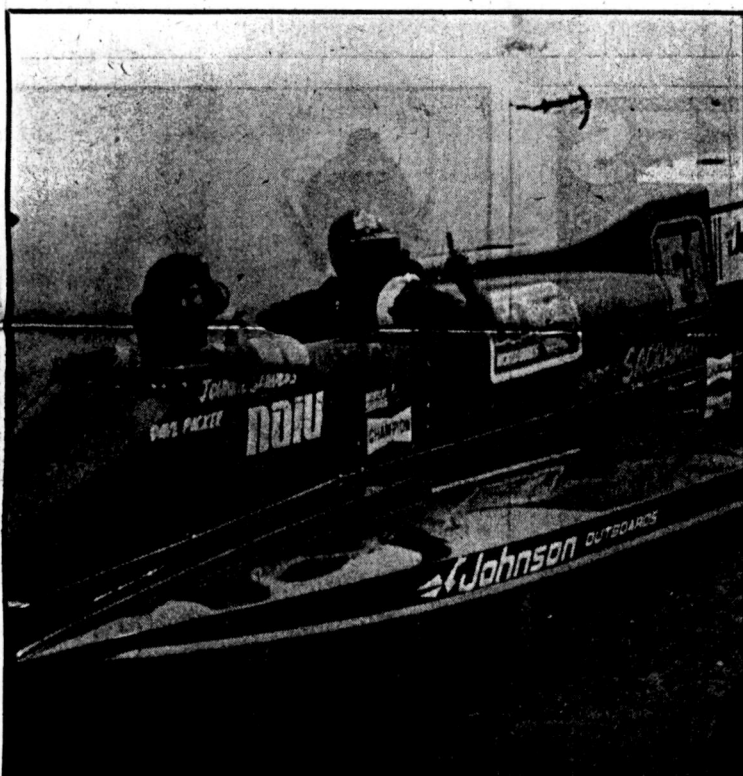
Left to Right cutting ribbon: Don Fraser, Mayor; Dick Shaller, President Big Wheel/Rossi; Van White, Council Ward 5; Sam Sivanich, 6th District Commissioner; Sandra Hilary, Council Ward 3; 2nd Row left to right (clear face shots only) Frank Soffe, Vice President Administration Big Wheel/Rossi; Randy Lane, West Broadway Business Associate; Steve Shaller, Vice President Big Wheel/Rossi; Gene Szymanski, Hennepin County Board of Commissioners Administrative Asst; Andy Cawkins, Hawthorne Area Community Council.

Skyway News Goes to a Race Preview

The Minneapolis Aquatennial Association recently hosted a preview of the Champion Spark Plug Grand Prix powerboat races, to be held July 27 and 28. Alice Rainville, Minneapolis City Council president, exchanged a Canadian flag and a racing flag with St. Paul City Council President Vic Tedesco, along with an invitation for St. Paul to join its sister city in the 1985 Aquatennial festival.



Alice Rainville eagerly awaited the arrival of Vic Tedesco, who was raced down river in a Formula One tunnel boat to receive Rainville's invitation for St. Paul to participate in the 1985 Aquatennial.



Vic Tedesco, president of the St. Paul City Council, prepares for his ride down the

Mississippi River in a demonstration Formula One tunnel boat.



Guests were welcomed to the Grand Prix Preview by Barry Carls, corporate manager of special projects for Outboard Marine Corp.



More than flags were exchanged between Alice Rainville and Vic Tedesco at the preview.



Van White, Minneapolis City Council member, shared the fun of the Grand Prix

Preview with Alice Rainville. The site for the Grand Prix boat races is in White's ward.



Tim Fisher of WUSA-TV took his camera along for a demonstration ride.

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14A

Tuesday, October 29, 1985

For City Council: An incumbents' cakewalk

Because of charter changes approved two years ago, the 1985 Minneapolis elections offered the possibility that bright new candidates would be attracted to run for the City Council. For the first time in a decade, the top two primary vote-getters ran in the general election, instead of the winners from each party; and for the first time ever, four-year terms, rather than two, were at stake.

But the status quo prevailed. The city's anemic Independent-Republican Party failed to field strong candidates in most wards. With only one council member retiring, the advantages of incumbency combined with the poor IR showing to make the 1985 elections an incumbents' cakewalk.

In the First Ward, DFLer Walt Dziedzic should be elected to a sixth term. George Belair, a retired businessman running as an independent, has less to offer. Dziedzic, self-described as the "only alderman who makes house calls," came up the hard way and takes a hard-nosed — though sometimes narrow-minded — approach to crime and welfare.

In the Second, DFLer Kathy O'Brien is a clear choice over Hazel Van Evera, a last-minute candidate from the new Women's Party. O'Brien is the council's liberal visionary; she shares Mayor Don Fraser's willingness to consider new roles and new ways of carrying out those roles for the city. In two terms, she has proven to be a natural leader.

For reasons we gave in an editorial Monday, DFL incumbent Sandra Hilary appears a better choice for the Third Ward than DFL challenger Joe Biernat.

The Fourth Ward's Alice Rainville, first elected in 1975, has no opponent. Her race may come after the election, when she faces a likely challenge for the council presidency from O'Brien. Rainville is a down-to-earth brake on Fraser's plans for enlargement of city responsibilities and a strong voice for residential property-tax payers.

The Fifth Ward has a rare IR-endorsed candidate in Rashad Hasan, but seasoned DFLer Van White deserves election to a fourth term. White's social-service record and personal rise from childhood poverty make him a valuable leader and example. His concern for the poor does not prevent him from criticizing the failings of the social-service system and demanding that city residents take responsibility for helping themselves.

DFLer Brian Coyle should be elected to a second term over Women's Party candidate Barbara Daughter in the Sixth Ward. Coyle outgrew his parochialism and has become an advocate for

downtown economic growth as well as neighborhood development.

In the Seventh Ward, Independent Barbara Carlson is running unopposed for her third term. Occasionally flamboyant, Carlson wins high marks for tirelessly filling the role of watchdog over a DFL-dominated council. She is fiscally conservative, prodevelopment and attentive to the needs of her constituents. She deserves special praise for resisting last year's controversial proposal to censor pornography.

The Eighth Ward has an equally able council member. DFLer Sharon Sayles Belton displays a sophisticated grasp of citywide issues, and she has spent much of her first term pursuing an aggressive cleanup and development program for a troubled part of her ward. Her IR opponent, Estelle Farmer, complains generally about flaws in the delivery of city services. But Sayles Belton has done well and deserves to do well in a second term.

The Ninth Ward has another lopsided race. Incumbent DFLer Tony Scallon is the council's most vigorous cheerleader for development; he can claim credit for much of the downtown development boom. Those assets prompt criticism from "new Democrat" challenger Joan Gallik, who argues that Scallon has slighted neighborhood needs. But Scallon knows that citywide development, properly managed, is a lifeline for neighborhoods.

Tenth Ward DFLer Joan Niemiec has spent much of her initial term focusing on the concerns of her constituents. Opponent Clifford Greene, running on a proenvironment platform, offers no substantive criticism of her performance. Without a real contest, voters should return the incumbent to office.

In the 11th Ward, DFL Council Member Steve Cramer is unopposed. One of the council's most widely admired members, he has worked hard to help improve the employment and housing outlook for the city's poor. Cramer is sensible on development, was a voice of reason in the pornography debate and is a key player in the fight against airplane noise.

Dennis Schulstad, the 12th Ward's Independent incumbent, offers another needed check to the DFL majority. He is strong on constituent service, knowledgeable about tax and budget issues and critical of proposals to use city money for social programs. He is opposed by unendorsed DFLer Richard Anderson, whose low-profile campaign should prompt voters to reelect Schulstad.

As we argued yesterday, 13th Ward DFL candidate Carol Knute Johnson has qualifications superior to those of Independent-Republican Pat Elofson.

Council Member candidates speak out

Businesses try, struggle and fail on the Northside at an alarming rate. A healthy community needs vital businesses. List three things you would do to promote and revitalize business activity in the following area:

Third Ward—West Broadway

Fourth Ward—Camden Business District

Fifth Ward—Plymouth Avenue

Third Ward

Sandra Hilary

Incumbent

Most of us remember when West Broadway was a bustling commercial avenue, that provided all of the shopping needs for the community. One met friends and neighbors on Friday nights, while going to the bank, to Brix, to Woolworths, to the Factory Outlet, to Merwins, to Kiddie Korner, to Leib's; the list is endless. I believe that Broadway can be the vibrant and prosperous avenue of our memory.

In the past two years, there have been some very exciting developments on Broadway; a new white Castle (with the most elaborate landscaping on Broadway), a new Wendy's, a new Zantigo, a new Super-America, a new Broadway Car Wash, a new Big Wheel, the Mobil station on Lyndale reopened with local ownership, the remodeling of the Martin

station into a new Amoco, and last, but not least, the first non-profit development corporation north of Broadway. The Farview Development Corporation has received monies from the state to spur and encourage planning and development on Broadway in conjunction with the West Broadway Business Association. I take pride in all of this activity, but there is a lot more work to do.

First and foremost, we must keep Broadway clean and uncluttered. New trash containers have been placed at strategic locations, and more are on the way. The street is being swept with greater frequency. The parking lots have been cleaned up. Paint and Fix grants are being distributed through NEDF funds. Individual businesses must keep their windows and sidewalks clean. There is an

unnecessary and distasteful proliferation of signs that actually deter business according to a planning department study.

Second, there are simply too many junk and used furniture stores on Broadway. The customer on Broadway deserves the best. I believe these stores look down on their customers and the Northside, by proffering tasteless and shoddy goods, at premium prices.

Third, we need to encourage all businesses to look as inviting as possible. New paint, caring for the boulevard trees, planting flowers wherever possible, will greatly enhance the avenue, and the pockets of those who do the work. A hardware store owner in the Penn and Lowry area says that every dollar in improvement enhances his volume by more than the costs of improvement several times.

Fourth Ward

Alice Rainville

Incumbent

Healthy communities need vital businesses, and vice versa. Most of the customers and clients of the Camden area businesses come from the Camden neighborhood. So the first thing to do to promote and revitalize business activity in the Camden area—or any other area of the North side—is to continue to work towards healthy, safe and desirable neighborhoods.

Second, I will continue to work towards keeping the city share of the property tax dollar stable. If the city can do this, we can keep an important cost of doing business down.

Third, I will urge officials at the State and Federal level to be more mindful of how cuts in aid, and changes in tax policies affect the local business community. When the city suffers a reduction in aid—as it did in the last legislative session—we are forced to cut back on services and projects that have an impact on the economic well-being of neighborhood business centers. The city must continue to do its part in informing and educating our elected state representatives so that public policy can be implemented to assist our neighborhood business and commercial centers.

Fifth Ward

Van White

Incumbent

Some of the vacant land on Plymouth Avenue now houses new development.

I was gravely concerned about our Plymouth Avenue Shopping Center. Businesses within the Shopping Center, the few there are, were treading water.

I was able to secure \$60 thousand for beautification of the Center and \$35 thousand for

security purposes.

As of October 11, \$150 thousand has been approved for the Center for rehabilitation and refinancing purposes and, for the first time, the Center has an owner-operator.

I believe it's crucial to use every tool available to help businesses that exist in the community now to ensure their vitality and then begin to look forward to promoting new businesses.

Rashad Hasan

As council member of the Fifth Ward I will be firmly committed to doing everything I can in achieving economic development in the Fifth Ward.

I would establish a new basis of relations with main line businesses and major corporations in mixing components of investments and aid in an effort to foster stable growth in developing a mall-type climate along Plymouth Avenue from Penn Avenue to Lyndale.

The mall/avenue concept would be enclosed and have convenient patrolled parking areas.

Not only would this create many jobs for residents, but would be of service to commuters to the downtown Minneapolis area.

I propose to make the Plymouth Avenue Mall an extension of downtown Minneapolis. The mall would blend in with the avenue atmosphere, would be lined on both sides with shade trees, shrubbery, potted plants and grassy breezeways.

The jobs, professional training, and dignity this beautiful strip would add to the Fifth Ward would create a generation of pride to the people in this community.

Joe Biernat

The American business population is very fluid. Each year, the number of new businesses that start and the number that fail are almost equal. On the national level, the average life of a business is between seven and eight years. The statistics in North Minneapolis would probably reveal a much shorter life span, especially in recent years.

In recent years, city officials have provided enormous tax incentives for development in the downtown area, including Riverplace. Those who profit from this type of development have been some of the largest contributors to city council incumbents. Some of these council members vote for

these projects without considering their impact on other business areas in the city.

City officials claim that these downtown developments create economic activity and new jobs. However, these officials fail to consider that these new businesses, in many cases, compete with other established businesses and may cause business failure, and may lead to a loss of jobs in other areas. At the same time new development often creates menial jobs—not meaningful jobs.

The West Broadway area is an example of this. Established small businesses are moving out and are being replaced with fast food chains. Part-time jobs are being cre-

ated while full time jobs are being eliminated.

Established businesses are failing for two reasons. First, they cannot compete with these new developments because of the disparity in tax incentives. Small businesses in the older developments should receive similar incentives. Secondly, a business cannot prosper without customers. Small businesses get their customers from the neighboring area. To solve the business problem, we must first address the housing problem. We need to rid our neighborhoods of blight while increasing sound, affordable housing for our families.

REMEMBER TO VOTE TUESDAY,

NOVEMBER 5th

For information on registration and polling places, call the Minneapolis Voters' Registration Bureau at 348-2070 or the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis at 333-6319.

MINNESOTA



Staff Photo by Duane Braley

Judge Diana Murphy administered the oath of office to Minneapolis City Council members.

Old order given new life as members of city councils take oaths of office

Minneapolis and St. Paul city councils began the new year Thursday with swearing-in ceremonies. There were some new faces among the familiar ones, but, for the most part, the old order prevailed.

In Minneapolis, 30 minutes after swearing-in ceremonies council members had their first meeting and designated officers. Alice Rainville, Fourth Ward, was reelected council president; Tony Scallon, Ninth Ward, was reelected vice president, and Kathy O'Brien, Second Ward, remained head of the Ways and Means Committee. All are DFLers. The 13-member council has 11 DFLers and two independents.

Carol Johnson, DFL-13th Ward, is the only newcomer and preserves the female majority on the council. Said Rainville, "This is quite a change from when I took office 11 years ago. (Then) I was the only woman alderman."

In St. Paul, Janice Rettman, 37, was welcomed as the council's newest member. She succeeds Hugo Masanz as the Fifth Ward representative on the seven-member council.

Victor Tedasco, Seventh Ward, was elected president for the third straight term, and James Scheibel, Second Ward, replaced Masanz as vice president.

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Feb 5th
1988



Barbara Flanagan

Downtown businesswomen who are fed up with fighting off aggressive panhandlers during the noon hour have found a champion in City Council Member Van White.

Next Friday, when his new antibegging amendment comes up before the Minneapolis City Council, it will be White and dozens of angry businesswomen against those who believe that it abuses the constitutional rights of the beggars. The amendment is patterned after an ordinance in Seattle.

White decided to do something after many women complained about the men. Women employed by MCP Inc., 600 1st Av. N., were so mad that they kept careful records of the daylight harassment. Every week during the summer and fall they sent copies of the "safety incident reports" to city officials and the police.

The reports showed that the male panhandlers not only were asking for money. The men, most of them young, also attempted to touch or grab women, gesture and talk obscenely to them and sometimes expose themselves. When some of the braver women talked back, the men threw bottles at them or chased them to their cars. All of the incidents happened during the day.

MCP, which publishes several magazines and newspapers including the **Twin Cities Reader**, continues to keep records. President Mark William Hopp sent a letter to White this week endorsing his efforts and commending him for his diligence in

After I wrote about the MCP effort, I heard from other women employees downtown with similar stories about the unruly panhandlers. As one woman pointed out, the beggars do approach men, but the favorite target of abuse is a woman between the ages of 18 and 45. "They are truly male chauvinist pigs," she said.

Another woman said that when she was panhandled on N. 6th St. by a young man who looked unusually well fed, she told him he ought to go on a diet. He threw a comb at her.

Police who came to speak to MCP employees said there wasn't much that they could do about the problem under the present city ordinance and suggested that women carry Mace when they go out to lunch.

Two of the letters I received after reporting on the incidents last fall came from women who accused me of being uncaring toward less fortunate human beings. One of the women opposing White's ordinance pointed out this week that it will "hurt people who have no other means of support."

The amendment, which also is being opposed by the **Minnesota Civil Liberties Union (MCLU)**, reads: "No person in any public or private place shall use offensive, obscene or abusive language to grab, follow, or engage in conduct which reasonably tends to arouse alarm or anger in others, or walk, stand, sit, lie or place an object in such a manner as to block passage by another person, or vehicle, or to require another person or a driver of a vehicle to take evasive action to avoid contact." It carries a sentence of up to 90 days in jail, a \$700 fine or both. Acts authorized as an exercise of one's constitutional rights to freedom of speech and assembly and acts allowed by permit under the parade or block-event ordinances wouldn't be restricted under the amendment.

When it is voted on next Friday at the City Council meeting, White will also have the support of the **Downtown Council of Minneapolis** and the **Downtown Hospitality Council**. Both are organizations of downtown businesses.

His most enthusiastic support, however, will come from women who work downtown. All we want is the chance to go to lunch without being scared off the public sidewalks by men who apparently do not work. That's reasonable, isn't it?

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Timberlake Golden Anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. I.C. Timberlake were honored at a golden anniversary celebration held at the Holsey C.M.E. Church, 1229 Logan Ave. N., Saturday and Sunday, July 16-17, 1988. The weekend celebration was organized by their daughter Dr. Gwendolyn Timberlake.

The program began at 10:30 a.m. following a "Howdy" half-hour for family and friends. Topics of discussion on the program were: Meaning of Family: the need, continuation, and extended families; Social issues: the addicted relative, education in changing times; and Financial Unity and Health.

The open discussion was lively and the participants were well-informed. There was a lunch break at 12:30 p.m. The luncheon and evening banquet were catered by Mrs. Lynda Baker.



L/R: Mrs. Javanese White, Miss Kapria White, Dr. Gwendolyn Timberlake, Mrs. Nonie Timberlake, Rev. I.C. Timberlake, and Alderman Van White.

During the afternoon "Do it Yourself" tours of the Twin Cities were conducted by the youth of Holsey C.M.E. for the out-of-town guests.

The banquet began at 7:00 p.m. A feature of the evening program was: "A short walk across 50 years with the Timberlakes." Irmond Cecil Timberlake and Nonie Pope were

married in Marshall, Texas, 1938.

Among the out-of-town guests were: Mrs. Virdell Johnson, Fort Worth, TX; Mrs. May D. Wilson, Tucson, AZ; Mrs. Elizabeth Bircher, San Jose, CA; Mrs. Bertha William, Fort Worth, TX; sisters of Mrs. Timberlake, and Mr. Cuney Johnson, Fort Worth, TX, brother-in-law.

Also, Mrs. Esther Billups, Carson, CA and Ms. Judy Pope, Los Angeles, CA, nieces of Mrs. Timberlake. Relatives of Rev. Timberlake: Mrs. Freddie Colby, Kansas City, MO, 1st Cousin; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wallace, Fort Worth, TX; Mrs. Vivian Andok, Houston, TX; Mrs. Leonie Edwards, Miami, FL, cousins. Also, Mr. Fred Douglas of Minneapolis, 1st cousin.

Sunday church services, followed by a potluck dinner and a mini parade throughout the weekend celebration to a close.

During the parade Mr. and Mrs. Timberlake were driven in a horse-drawn carriage from Logan Ave. along Plymouth Ave. River Parkway.

One hundred and people joined in celebration.

St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch Tues Sept 13, 1988

Mill saved

Panel votes 5-1 to acquire 1878 Minneapolis mill

By David Shaffer
Staff Writer

After two idle decades, the flour mill that gave birth to General Mills soon may become the property of the city of Minneapolis.

A Minneapolis City Council committee voted 5-1 Monday in favor of acquiring the Washburn "A" Mill complex. The council will vote Friday on the \$3.1 million proposal.

"This is absolutely essential to what we want to do on the riverfront," said Tony Scallon, chairman of the Community Development Committee, which recommended the purchase. "This is a landmark mill. This must be saved."

City officials are hoping that Industry Square Development Corp. of Minneapolis can obtain financing for a proposed renovation and conversion to office space, apartments and shops.

Industry Square proposed a \$50 million restoration of the Washburn complex and an adjacent mill last year, but has been unable to obtain a partner or acquire the land.

City ownership of the mill is expected to help make that deal easier. If Industry Square can find private financing, the mill would be sold or transferred to the development company as part of a subsidy package.

The "A" Mill was built in 1878 after an explosion ripped through an earlier mill on the site near the upper St. Anthony Falls lock and dam on the Mississippi River. Four other buildings later were built around the mill.

The complex has a place in Minneapolis' history because the mill was one of the largest and most advanced in its day. A utility building constructed in 1914 housed the first Betty Crocker test kitchens.

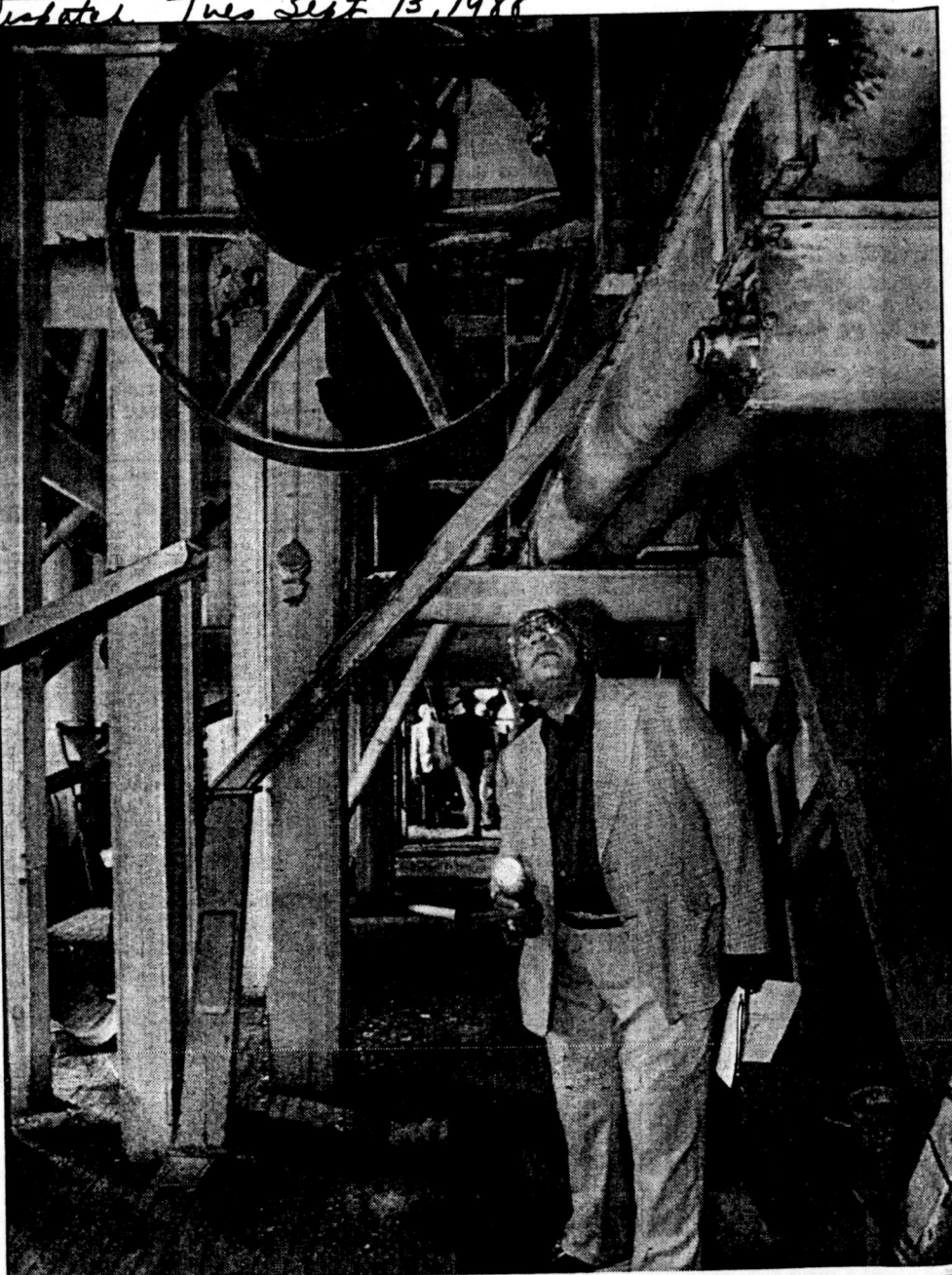
But Betty Crocker would be appalled at the condition of the buildings today. Although much of the old machinery remains intact, the building's interior is in a state of disrepair and covered with grime and dust.

City officials toured the building Monday, but the soot didn't scare them away. Scallon said the Crown Roller Mill two blocks away was gutted by fire before it was rebuilt as an office building last year.

General Mills stopped making flour in the mill in 1965, although the company still operates a nearby grain elevator. The complex has been used mainly for storage in recent years, although the Gold Medal Flour sign still sits atop the building.

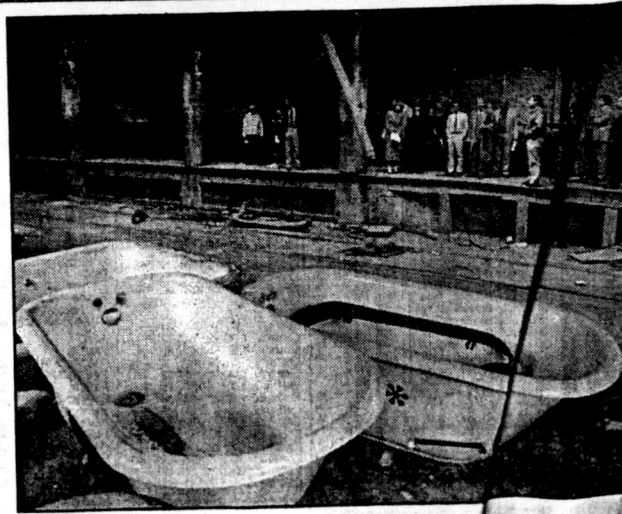
Industry Square originally proposed a five-phase reconstruction that would have taken 10 years to complete. It is not clear how fast the scaled-back project would be built.

Five historic buildings near the Washburn mill already have been converted to new uses, including the Whitney Hotel and the Mill Place office buildings.



Staff photos by Richard Marshall

Minneapolis 5th Ward council member Van White, above, inspects the old milling works at the Washburn "A" Mill. Minneapolis city officials toured the building on Monday and took note of everything — including the old-fashioned bathtubs, right, stored by a plumbing company that leases space in the mill.



Reprint Star Tribune Wed Sept 21, 1988

2 Waseca jail fugitives apprehended; Minneapolis council member helps

By Ted Jones
Staff Writer

Two prisoners who escaped from the Waseca County jail in Waseca, Minn., after assaulting a deputy with a fork last weekend were apprehended Tuesday. One of them surrendered to authorities with the help of a Minneapolis City Council member.

Stanley Riley, 25, of St. Paul, gave himself up to Minneapolis police officers about 2:30 a.m. yesterday in Minneapolis after calling City Council Member Van White and asking for his help.

White, who represents the Fifth Ward, said he was asleep when Riley called his home early Tuesday morning and requested his help in surrendering.

"He didn't want to make a mistake," White said yesterday. "He spoke of his fear of being hurt if he tried to give himself up alone — that they'd pull guns on him."

White said Riley asked him to make initial contact with the police, call a local television station to have news cameras at the scene and then witness the surrender. Riley surrendered in the hall of a fourplex on the Near North Side, White said.

"There was no screaming or hollering, everything went smoothly except that the news cameras arrived too late to record the surrender," he said.

In an interview yesterday White said he was surprised to be called but pleased that Riley felt he could be trusted.

"He is such a young man," he said, "I hope the rest of his life goes better than it did (early Tuesday morning)."

Riley, along with Gary Branchaud, 26, of St. Paul, escaped from the Waseca County jail shortly after 10 p.m. Sunday after Riley held a fork to the throat of a deputy, according to Sheriff Edward Kubat.

Authorities said Riley forced the jailer to help them escape through a window. The jailer was not injured.

Authorities said Branchaud was taken into custody about 9 a.m. Tuesday after a stake-out at a residence in St. Paul. Inspector Mike Postle of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department said officers had been watching

Escape continued on page 4B

Escape Continued from page 3B

the residence because it was the home of an acquaintance of Branchaud's. He was taken into custody without incident, Postle said.

Officials said Riley and Branchaud were sent to Waseca County to alleviate crowding at the Hennepin County jail. Riley was being held on a charge of aggravated robbery, and Branchaud was facing a theft charge.

The State Patrol confirmed yesterday that Riley was picked up Monday by a patrol officer and taken to a con-

venience store in north Minneapolis after his stolen getaway motorcycle ran out of gas on Hwy. 12.

"The (unidentified) officer stopped to assist a stranded motorist," said Lt. Gary Pepper of the State Patrol.

Authorities said that the officer tried to check the motorcycle's license plate, but that the State Patrol computers were not working then. Ten minutes later, after he dropped Riley off, the officer received the information that the motorcycle was stolen.

the students moved out of the shack towns, said their parents were

2 council members criticize editorial

Two Minneapolis City Council members reacted angrily Friday to an editorial in the Star Tribune that said that six council members should leave office.

Council members Walt Dziedzic, DFL-First Ward, and Van White, DFL-Fifth Ward, spoke from the council floor just before the conclusion of the regularly scheduled council meeting. They criticized the editorial board as an elitist group.

White, a black from north Minneapolis, said the editorial board "reminds me of the masters of the plantation. Don't rise up against the masters of the plantation. . . ."

The editorial in Wednesday's paper said White "seems to have lost his energy and vitality. White shows up at City Hall and draws his pay," the editorial continued. "Elective public office must engage more of a person's soul."

"Yeah, I'm hot because this is the kind of stuff I've been up against all my life, running up against these kinds of people who want to tell me what to do, when to do it, and if I don't do it they want to punish me with their poison pens or any other way," White said.

Waving his appointment book in the air, White said he would match his

schedule against anybody's on the council, in the mayor's office and on the paper's editorial board.

Dziedzic said the editorial did a disservice to the whole city. "How can you say, 'Hey, we have a great city here, but the problem is half of you (on the 13-member council) should leave?'" Dziedzic said.

Dziedzic said that when he went to the paper's offices Thursday to talk to Jim Boyd, the person who wrote the editorial, he expected only to meet with Boyd. Instead, he was brought into a meeting with five editorial board members, he said.

"I said, 'I think I'm a big enough person to sit here and take all five of you on,'" he said.

The editorial said "Dziedzic can be politically cunning and knows how to cater to powerful special interests such as the city employee unions, he is generally unimaginative, shortsighted and vindictive. Dziedzic's contributions to the city are minimal. He should retire or be retired."

The editorial also urged the departures of Council President Alice Rainville, DFL-Fourth Ward; Barbara Carlson, independent-Seventh Ward; Joan Niemiec, DFL-10th Ward, and Dennis Schulstad, Independent-Republican-12th Ward.

Star Tribune

Jan 14, 1985

Saturday/January 21/1989

Close the health-insurance gap

Minnesotans, the prospect of even alarming. Linger in the limbo of no health insurance, some to seek treatment for the strep infections that plague every family. boasts first-rate health care, easing could not be optional. The legislative solution deserves support.

Minnesotans who lack any kind of health insurance is hard to nail down; most number at 400,000 or more. As many as 100,000 could afford to pay their health care. The rest are sustained by low-paying jobs that don't provide health insurance. Earners beyond Medicaid's income limits are helped by a patchwork of limited Medicaid coverage to youngsters in near-poverty. Lack of adequate health coverage sends families back onto welfare.

Introduced Wednesday by Rep. Paul F. Peterson, would replace the patchwork of health insurance with a single health insurance plan. Minnesota would require every Minnesotan to have some form of health coverage by 1995. A novel rule could send the more redemptive for coverage and help for helping the rest.

plan, Minnesotans who can't or

won't buy private insurance would be assigned to a state-run health program and charged premiums on a sliding-fee scale. A new state commission would arrange for basic health care through insurance companies and HMOs. The \$150 million program would be financed by a payroll tax on businesses and individuals. Businesses that offer insurance plans would get a break on the tax; businesses that tried to unload previously covered employees on the state would be penalized.

The product of years of research and brainstorming, Ogren's is the first concrete legislative proposal for bridging the health-insurance gap. As such, it will serve as the target for a battery of hard questions: If Minnesota becomes the Midwest's sole outpost of universal health insurance, will the indigent masses immigrate? As patients realize that the new plan offers fewer frills than Medicaid, will pressure develop to expand its coverage? How can such a plan be shoehorned into a tight state budget? Is a regressive payroll tax the best way to pay for it? And is rescuing the uninsured really a state duty?

Only the last question can be answered quickly. Minnesota has long felt a moral duty to meet the basic needs of less-privileged citizens; health care is such a need. A program to fill it should be carefully targeted and as economical as possible. Ogren's bill includes the raw material for designing such a program.

Rosenmeier, legislative giant

In the Minnesota Senate for 30 years, in the 1960s, Gordon Rosenmeier was a giant in respect. He was regarded with awe and with fear. The spectacle of Rosenmeier, an ill-prepared or hostile witness could turn both the witness and the jury to jelly.

His intellect, his biting tongue and his sense of humor, Rosenmeier was a dominating figure in the legislature and one of its greatest. Even at his death this week — 18 years after he was finally defeated for reelection — his state and local government is still

were broad-ranging.

He caucused with the Republican-leaning Conservatives but his views on many issues were liberal and his alliances bipartisan. He deserves much of the credit for ground-breaking legislation establishing the Metropolitan Council, the regional sewer system, the Pollution Control Agency and the State Planning Agency. Yet he was above all a champion of state legislative authority — scorning both gubernatorial and federal intrusion.

Rosenmeier's reelection defeat in 1970, along with that of another veteran power in the Senate, Donald Wright, marked the end of an era in state government. It was probably time for the new leaders and the more open legislative process that would follow. Even so, Rosenmeier was a lawmaking giant. His like will not soon be seen in the

THE ACCESSORY



Letters from readers

A sleazy editorial

Your Jan. 11 editorial calling for the resignation of various Minneapolis City Council members is somewhat amusing, yet sad, given your newspaper's recent sordid past. Let's remind ourselves that the city approved a location for the newspaper's new printing plant in close proximity to the riverfront and in total contradiction to the aesthetics and reasonable zoning requirements of recreational and residential development in the area — a choice piece of real estate. This was the city's big mistake, but I assume the decision was weighted in large measure by your insistence, lobbying and leverage as the press and your longstanding position as the newspaper of Minneapolis.

So, how do you reward Minneapolis and its citizens for this extraordinary approval of your inappropriate plant location? First, you drop Minneapolis from the name of your publication. And now, you have the audacity to ask for the resignation of the very council members who supported you in your relocation. Pretty sleazy. — Anne Lowe, Minneapolis

Alice Rainville, as one of the few woman presidents of a major city's council, has made Minneapolis a city concerned about neighborhoods while providing a revitalized downtown.

Barbara Carlson and Dennis Schulstad provide a strong, intelligent minority voice to a City Hall dominated by "the other party." Both are always there to challenge the majority on excessive or wasteful spending.

Van White, against great odds, has maintained a voice for his ward, a majority of whose residents are African American, and a voice against a powerful white downtown business establishment led by the powerful Cowles/Star Tribune enterprises.

Yes, you're right: "No incumbent automatically deserves reelection. Each must earn it." But don't you dare pretend to have the right to dismiss with strokes of your pen those whom you don't agree with. As a resident and voter in Minneapolis, I will make my own personal decision as to whether my representative has "earned" reelection. — Fred L. Gates, Minneapolis

Myths about hunting

Gary Shade's Jan. 7 Counterpoint about hunting implied that modern

Per-diem increase

Like many Minnesotans I am often frustrated by the glacial pace of the state Legislature. The enactment of a bill takes months of hearings, committee meetings, floor debate and conference committee wrangling.

Thus I was surprised to learn that barely a week into the 1989 session the lawmakers had acted on an issue, circumventing normal procedures in this matter, so that passage by the rules committee was sufficient for enactment.

Such speed must have been on an issue of great importance to Minnesotans and to the legislators. Was it crime? The environment? Education? The University of Minnesota? Economic development? None of the above. It was a juicy increase in the per-diem expenses of legislators.

That the legislators would increase their compensation is irresponsible; that they (like their brethren in the U.S. Congress) would do it in such a hasty, furtive and irregular manner makes them beneath contempt. — George M. Woytanowitz, Minneapolis

Rudy and the boys at the Capitol in St. Paul are going to get fat. Who can eat \$48 in food per day? And where else can you work 120 hours a

what he wanted to accomplish. concentrate on a few key pieces of vision, his interests and influence

would follow. Even so, Rosenmeier was a lawmaking giant. His like will not soon be seen in the Legislature again.

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LDF's director- ompelling evi- is ready to get of attending to

many of the race-relations issues that have not been addressed during the past eight years."

Elaine Jones, Chambers' deputy, agrees. It is her view that the apparent white impatience with black demands is the result of the failure of white leadership. An earlier surge of black progress occurred when the American leadership included the likes of John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Earl Warren, she said. The absence of such leadership today, in her view, accounts for the disparity between the willingness of Americans to move forward in terms of racial progress and the failure of America to do it.

It is an interesting interpretation, but is it correct? Perhaps the most striking finding of the survey is the tremendous gulf between the black and white views of the extent of racial discrimination. Most whites believe (and most blacks disagree) that blacks already receive roughly equal pay for equal work, are treated fairly by the criminal-justice system, and that the next administration should do more than the Reagan administration to help disadvantaged blacks.

If there is ground for optimism in the survey, it is in the response of whites to specific proposals for alleviating the plight of the black underclass. Ninety percent of the whites surveyed would favor the creation of youth camps where underclass youth could learn basic skills; and similarly large proportions would support special school programs for underclass children, expanded drug rehabilita-

tion programs and increased incentives for businesses to attract underclass employees.

It is undoubtedly true that even well-educated blacks are denied equal treatment when it comes to hiring and promotion, particularly at the top levels. But it is also true that the most pressing problems facing blacks are in those communities where drug abuse, school-leaving, drug-related crime and joblessness threaten to create a permanent underclass.

The willingness of whites to address that entrenched problem may suggest a useful direction for national policy. It will, as the LDF's Jones noted, take a different kind of leadership from the national administration. But it will also require a new kind of leadership from blacks.

Suppose the black leadership could bring itself to soft-pedal those issues on which the black-white disagreement is greatest and devote its major effort to rescuing the black underclass. The survey suggests — and I believe — that white America would join in the effort. With the help of the national government, we just might find a way to help those who are most in need of help.

It would be very good for black Americans, whose tenuous progress is threatened by the growth of the underclass. And it would be good for America, whose economic survival depends on our ability to transform members of the underclass into productive workers.

in your relocation. Pretty sleazy. — Anne Lowe, Minneapolis.

So you want some council members to resign. Let's see. Your list includes the first woman council president (Alice Rainville) and the city's first black council member (Van White). Maybe someone from your good old boy network would be more to your liking? — Paul Renner, Minneapolis.

As a homeowner in the Fourth Ward, I appreciate the experience and knowledge Alice Rainville brings to the City Council, as well as to the residents of the Fourth Ward. Rainville's tenure with the City Council is precisely what gives her the edge in bargaining and negotiating for the city. It is erroneous to presume that solely because of a person's longevity they cannot bring new and innovative ideas to their position. — The- rese N. Van Blarcom, Minneapolis.

Your editorial is outrageous and offensive to the voters of Minneapolis. It belittles and besmirches the integrity of many outstanding, hard-working, intelligent public servants and clearly tags your editorial board as arrogant elitists. Kathy O'Brien is, indeed, a dedicated, intelligent, hard-working person of integrity. But so are the other members of the Minneapolis City Council whose abilities you chose to besmirch and denigrate. You failed to report that:

Joan Niemiec puts in long hours on the executive committee and is an effective, honest, fair and impartial chair of the License Committee. She is one of the most effective champions of the neighborhoods.

Walt Dziedzic provided an imaginative and long-sighted proposal to bolster law enforcement in Minneapolis. His effective leadership as president of the Minneapolis Community Development Agency has brought about a grand renewal of downtown, and on the Ways and Means Committee he goes to bat for the "little guy."

Gary Shade's Jan. 7 Counterpoint about hunting implied that modern-day hunting is somehow in tune with nature and enhances ecological balance. This is patently untrue.

Hunting of animals dramatically decreases the competition for food, space and mates. This in turn encourages an unnatural rate of growth in hunted species. Studies have shown that hunted deer herds, for example, can produce two to three times as many fawns as nonhunted herd. Ironically, deer populations are the largest in states where hunting is most prevalent. The myth of hunting being a necessity to prevent overpopulation of game animals is simply that — a myth — when in truth, hunting fosters unnatural population growth.

Additionally, hunting has a degrading effect on the gene pool of hunted species. Unlike natural predators, which attack the weakest and sickest animals, human predators typically attack the prime animals. The effect of this is to leave inferior animals free to breed with each other, thereby weakening the gene pool by amplifying defects over the course of time.

Further, there is no connection whatsoever between the survival hunting practiced by earlier generations of Native American tribes, and the "sport" hunting of today, which practice is fueled by wildlife management policies radically geared toward increasing the number of targets available to hunters. This is a waste of the financial resources available for wildlife and conservation efforts and a rip-off of the majority of taxpayers who are not hunters.

I vehemently insist that Shade's son does not need to learn to hunt in order to appreciate the beauty of nature and wildlife, a fact of which the 90 percent of us who don't hunt are very much aware. — Deborah J. Cox, Minnetonka.

eat \$48 in food per day? And where else can you work 139 days a year, draw \$30,000 to \$35,000 in wages plus \$48 per day to eat, plus \$400 per month for rent, plus gas mileage? Did Minnesota Democrats and Republicans alike elect these rip-off artists? — M. Weihs, Spring Lake Park.

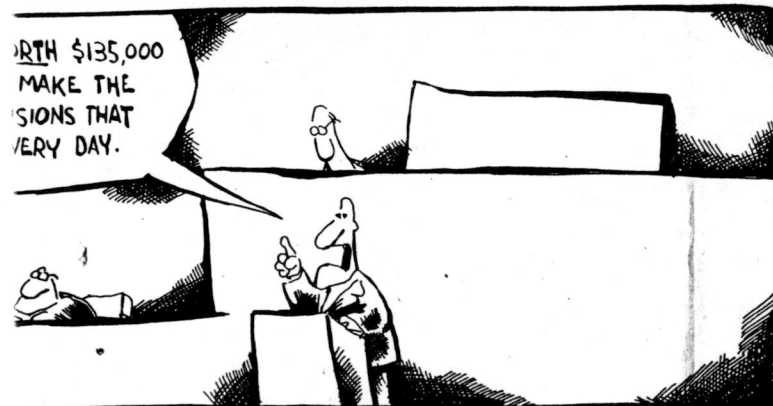
Parking bans

Any sensible person can see that forcing residents to walk a half a mile or more to park poses more of a health threat in the form of frostbite, ice slip accidents or street crime than any problem that parking on two sides of a plowed street could cause. The Minneapolis City Council, whose members probably have garages or driveways, should immediately repeal parking bans except during snow emergencies in high-density residential areas of the city. — Michael Olenick, Minneapolis.

Small school districts

The schools in Minneapolis and St. Paul lead the state in absenteeism, yet the legislative auditor's report is being read by some legislators as a condemnation of small schools — where absenteeism is virtually nonexistent — as the reason for a decline in statewide academic standards.

A more judicious reading of the facts would be that if scholastic attainment in Minnesota schools has declined over the past decade, it is because of the decline in the test scores of students in the inner-city schools where much more money is needed to get classes down to small enough sizes so that students can get some individual help and assistance. It should not, however, mean that the way to get that money is to close the small schools which continue to do well. — Gerald W. Brekke, St. Peter, Minn., emeritus professor of education, Gustavus Adolphus College.



Southeast

A Minneapolis community newspaper

DECEMBER 1989 FREE



Jackie Cherryhomes (right) and her mother Pat Parker savor victory Nov. 7 when Cherryhomes defeated 10-year incumbent Van White for the

Fifth Ward City Council seat. Cherryhomes got 70 percent of the vote in the four Fifth Ward precincts in Southeast.

City Council races in Southeast: Campbell, Cherryhomes win big

Southeast will have two new representatives on the Minneapolis City Council come Jan. 1, 1990.

Joan Campbell, who lives in the Como neighborhood, will be the first Southeast resident in 12 years to be on the council when she becomes Second Ward Council Member.

Jackie Cherryhomes, who defeated 10-year incumbent Van White in the Fifth Ward race, can be expected to be more responsive to Southeast concerns than her predecessor. Her victory margin came from the four Fifth Ward precincts in Southeast.

First Ward incumbent Walter Dziedzic, who represents one Southeast precinct just north of Como Ave., won handily.

Fifth Ward

Cherryhomes outpolled White by 231 votes, 2,474 to 2,243. She won 10 of 19 Fifth Ward precincts including all four Southeast precincts where she got 784 votes to 332 for White, a margin of 452 votes.

In the Northside precincts White got 1,911 votes to 1,690 for Cherryhomes, a margin of 221 votes.

The best precincts for Cherryhomes were all in Southeast.

The 15th Precinct, where Mayor Don Fraser lives, gave 80 percent of its vote to Cherryhomes. Fraser, who had endorsed White in all previous races, endorsed Cherryhomes this time.

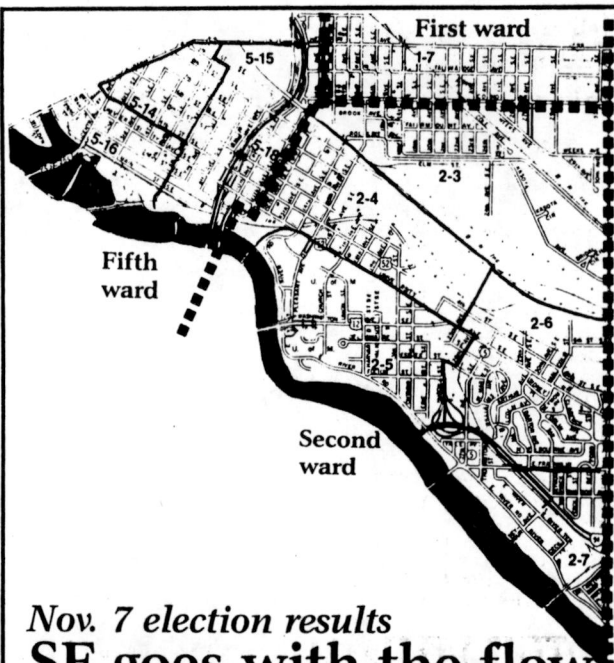
The 14th Precinct, which includes Holmes Greenway apartments for the handicapped, voted

74 percent for Cherryhomes. In his campaigning White often said construction of the Greenway apartments was one of his proudest achievements.

The 16th Precinct, which includes Riverplace and two labor-sponsored senior residences, gave 64 percent of its votes to Cherryhomes. Through the years, seniors and labor had been staunch White supporters. White has faithfully voted city subsidies to build Riverplace.

The 18th Precinct, a two-block wide strip of the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood, gave 58 percent of its vote to Cherryhomes.

"I won this election because I have the best team there's ever been in politics," Cherryhomes said the night of her election. "This to page four



Nov. 7 election results SE goes with the flow

All the candidates and issues that won in the Nov. 7 municipal election also won in the Southeast precincts, generally by similar margins.

Don Fraser won re-election as mayor with 79 percent of the vote. In Southeast, where he lives, Fraser got 85 percent. In his own precinct in the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood he got 88 percent and in Prospect Park he got 92 percent.

His opponent, Jens Peterson, also lives in Southeast, but only in the precinct north of Como Ave. did he do better than in the city as a whole.

Voting in the park board, school board and library board races was very close to citywide returns, except that Naomi Loper, a Marcy-Holmes resident who led the citywide voting for park board commissioner at large, did significantly better in Southeast.

In an uncontested race for two seats on the Board of Estimate and Taxation, Jo Matson, a Prospect Park resident, led the field.

Fraser's charter amendment to expand the power of the mayor was favored by 64 percent of Minneapolis voters. Seventy-four percent of Southeast voters supported the mayor on the amendment.

In the Fifth Ward city council race 70 percent of the voters in the four Southeast precincts favored Jackie Cherryhomes, the challenger and winner, while voters in the 15 Northside precincts gave 53 percent of their votes to 10-year incumbent Van White who lost with 47 percent of the vote overall.

Citywide voter turnout was 26 percent. In Southeast it was 20 percent.

Precinct by precinct totals are on page 4.

Finding a SE Open School site: When will the school board act?

Groups around Southeast are doing what they can to help the Minneapolis school board fulfill its March 1989 commitment to erect a new building in Southeast to house the Marcy Open School Program now sharing space with the Tuttle Contemporary Program at 18th and Talmadge Aves. in the Como neighborhood.

The Southeast Schools Coalition has reaffirmed its preference for a site adjacent to Holmes Park at Fourth St. and Fourth Ave. SE.

The Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association, which has been studying possible sites in its own neighborhood, has voted to support the efforts of the coalition.

Two Marcy parents and Southeast residents, Karyn Katzung and Bruce Jacobsen have been appointed to the Citywide School Facilities Committee.

Marcy parents and staff are brainstorming ideas about what a new

school should be like.

The Marcy parents group has sent letters of congratulations and information to new school board members.

A study group has researched the cost of acquiring land adjacent to Holmes Park.

The Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association has established a school committee to work with the coalition to implement the board's commitment.

"We are doing everything we can think of," says Gar Hargens, chair of the Southeast Schools Coalition, "but the school board does nothing."

The facilities committee is looking only at the AT&T site (in south Minneapolis), not the Holmes site," laments Hargens.

The coalition has invited school superintendent Ferrara to its Dec. 11 meeting to "find what are the steps to implement the school board's commitment for an Open School in Southeast," says Hargens.

Judy Farmer, a Prospect Park resident and member of the school board, says the coalition has done well to get a commitment from the board, find a site the community agrees on and get the board to budget \$800,000 for site acquisition.

The problem she says is that the school board has no money to build with and must soon decide if it will go to the citizens of Minneapolis to ask for \$60 million of bonds to pay for deferred maintenance and new construction.

Meanwhile, Gene Coffey, director of facilities and plant planning for the school board, has added to the Dec. 7 agenda of the school facilities committee a presentation from the Marcy site selection committee about Holmes Park and the adjacent land to be built a new school.

"It's a step," Katzung.



Successful Southeast soccer

The Van Cleve soccer team, with its trophy from the city-wide tournament, is part of the successful Southeast soccer program. Shown here are (top) Michael Gahlon, Tocken Karato, Geoffrey Anderson, and (bottom) Mark Wexler, Matan Tsur and Patrick Cross. Not shown is Michael Rottshaefer. For details on the winter practice sessions now underway turn to page 6.

Southeast Publications

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ELECTIONS

from page one
wasn't just my effort. We're a team."

Cherryhomes won what people from both campaigns said was a "nasty" race. There were racial undertones because White is black and Cherryhomes is white in a ward with a large, though not majority, black population.

"Race has never been an issue in this race," said Cherryhomes. "I was surprised and disappointed that things got as ugly and personal as they did."

White's campaign manager Ed Parker said race was the focus of their campaign. "The real issue of this race was not to get Van White

re-elected. It was to keep a black in the seat," Parker said.

Second Ward

Campbell won all 13 precincts of the Second Ward handily with a total vote of 2,304 to 991 for her opponent Gary Hanson, also a resident of the Como neighborhood.

After trailing badly in the primary election, Hanson had hoped to make up ground with a good showing in the Fifth Precinct which is dominated by student voters. However, Campbell got 56 percent of a very light turnout there.

The Sixth Precinct, in Prospect Park, gave Campbell the most

votes. The Seventh Precinct, also in Prospect Park, had the highest percentage vote for Campbell at 77.

The last Southeast resident to serve on the City Council was Tom Johnson, now Hennepin County Attorney, who lived in the Como neighborhood during his four year tenure from 1974 to 1978.

First Ward

Walter Dziedzic got 65 percent of the vote in winning all 10 precincts of the First Ward including the Seventh which is in Southeast north of Como Avenue where he garnered 55 percent of the votes. Gerry Machowicz was his opponent.

Candidate	Election precinct													Summary		
	First 7	Second Ward 3 4 5 6 7					Fifth Ward 14 15 16 18				Total Vote in SE	Percent of SE Vote	Percent of Total Vote			
REGISTERED	1954	1243	1677	1548	1334	1223	1382	1578	964	721	13,624	2,721	19.9%	26.2%		
VOTER TURNOUT	396	324	104	73	422	268	353	348	302	131	2,222	395	84.9%	79.0%		
MAYOR OF MINNEAPOLIS																
Don Fraser	299	249	77	59	387	240	298	297	233	83	2,222	395	15.1%	20.6%		
Jens Peterson	84	64	16	10	25	20	42	40	56	38	169	169	54.6%	64.8%		
FIRST WARD CITY COUNCIL MEMBER																
Walter Dziedzic	203	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	203	203	54.6%	64.8%		
Gerry Machowicz	169	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	169	169	40.4%	34.7%		
SECOND WARD CITY COUNCIL MEMBER																
Joan Campbell	---	195	58	40	301	201	---	---	---	---	795	795	68.6%	69.6%		
Gary Hanson	---	121	41	31	111	61	---	---	---	---	365	365	31.4%	29.9%		
FIFTH WARD CITY COUNCIL MEMBER																
Jackie Cherryhomes	---	---	---	---	---	---	257	272	172	83	784	784	70.3%	52.3%		
Van White	---	---	---	---	---	---	89	72	125	46	332	332	29.7%	47.4%		
MINNEAPOLIS SCHOOL BOARD (three elected)																
Len Biernat	204	167	49	28	247	141	164	146	158	48	1,352	1,352	49.7%	48.6%		
David Tilsen	191	160	51	33	269	171	129	134	149	48	1,335	1,335	49.1%	47.3%		
Carol Ann White	185	137	41	22	133	92	163	155	139	53	1,120	1,120	41.2%	43.5%		
Babington-Johnson	148	110	27	21	228	133	102	132	92	26	1,019	1,019	37.4%	36.5%		
Rosemary Christensen	116	82	27	22	193	64	94	93	74	34	709	709	26.1%	29.0%		
Rick Johnson	84	82	29	17	46	36	85	48	75	41	543	543	20.0%	28.3%		
CHARTER AMENDMENT 114 increasing the Mayor's power																
Yes	235	194	57	51	335	173	233	255	191	70	1,794	1,794	74.0%	60.4%		
No	141	97	32	17	67	42	76	55	65	38	630	630	26.0%	39.6%		
CHARTER AMENDMENT 115 increasing the power of the City Council																
No	251	197	62	39	281	145	211	175	168	51	1,580	1,580	67.8%	64.7%		
Yes	110	85	26	29	101	57	81	121	77	55	750	750	32.2%	35.3%		
CHARTER AMENDMENT 116 ending referendums for large capital expenditures																
No	290	228	71	57	292	160	249	249	187	88	1,871	1,871	78.8%	79.8%		
Yes	71	59	20	12	95	48	49	63	66	20	503	503	21.2%	20.2%		



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Groom Them For the Future

Van F. White has the gregarious air of a politician (which he is) and the look of an ex-football lineman who kept himself in decent shape. When I met him a couple of years ago, this first black member of the Minneapolis city council had a similarly massive young man in tow.

It wouldn't have been easy to forget this imposing pair of black guys—such obvious standouts in that mostly white gathering—even if we'd spent our short time together making small talk.

But what sticks in my mind is something he said. I had asked about the young man, assuming that it was White's son.

No relation at all, he told me, but a protégé. "I'm grooming my replacement. It's something we need to think about doing."

White, defeated for reelection a year ago, after 10 years on the city council, explained that he had had to learn his politics through trial and error. "I made a lot of mistakes along the way, but I learned. This young man won't have to learn the hard way like I did. I take him around with me wherever I go: to citizens meetings, to political rallies, to downtown affairs like this. I'm giving him the chance to learn politics without having to repeat the mistakes I made. It should be a lot easier for him than it was for me."

I don't know whether the young man, a college student at the time, ever developed an interest in elective office. But I like White's notion that those of us who have achieved some success ought to think about grooming our replacements.

Young blacks, particularly those whose families have not been able to ease their paths to professional success, often have to overcome not just racism but also self-doubt. Even the ambitious ones may find themselves making so many false steps, headed down so many blind alleys, that they give up.

The 66-year-old White is determined to save at least a few Twin Cities blacks the discouragement of needless failure. What he has in mind goes beyond the usual notion of role models and mentors. He's talking of nuts-and-bolts training and attitude development that successful parents often provide for their sons and daughters.

A lifelong Democrat, he has even shared interns with white Republican colleagues "so they can learn politics from both sides of the aisle."

White, whose interns have included high school seniors and college students, says his goal is to teach not just the specifics of politics but the values that produce success.

"I'm trying to instill the ethic of work, commitment, respect," he told me. "I'm trying to motivate them, to help them understand that nothing happens overnight, that you have to keep reaching. I tell them that they have to think about contributing to the general welfare, that they can't just do for themselves only. And I always try to pick one as my special protégé. I don't know whether this young man will go into politics; that's not important. The important thing is that the skills he's learning from me will stand him in good stead whatever career he decides to pursue."

"I keep stressing that you have to keep reaching. It doesn't take any effort to be on the bottom, which is why it's so crowded down there. Keep reaching, I tell them. Even if you don't fully grasp what you reach for, you are likely to come so close that it doesn't matter."

It's wonderful advice. So many of us think we've done our duty when we do our jobs well. We show up at the career-day activities, allow ourselves to be touted as role models: as proof that black people can succeed.

But the disabling doubt that infects so many of our youngsters has nothing to do with whether black people can succeed. They see black success every day, no matter how much—or how accurately—we complain that the media supply an overabundance of negative images. They don't doubt that blacks can succeed. They doubt that *they* can succeed. We need to find ways to convince them that they can.

One way to do that is to work at grooming our own replacements: spotting likely youngsters, cultivating their ambition and, yes, picking that special one as our prospective replacement.

As a matter of fact, it might be a good idea to choose several prospects who evince an interest in our profession: say, an elementary school youngster, a high schooler and a college student. Nor is it necessary that professional and protégé be of the same race or gender, though White is convinced that successful blacks have a special obligation to their own troubled group.

"I don't think what I'm doing is anything all that special," he insists. "I didn't get where I am by myself. I'm just trying to hand on what others have given to me."

MARTIN OLAV SABO
5th District, Minnesota

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September 21, 1990

Van F. White
800 Washburn Avenue North
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411

Dear Van:

Congratulations on William Raspberry's column which appeared in the Washington Post yesterday; you must have been pleased to see your work with young people described so generously. You deserve the kudos.

You can be proud of the many contributions you have made to the youth of the City through your tenure on the City Council and beyond. Through your efforts to make it easier for young black men and women to enter careers of public service, you prepare leaders of the next century to cope with the vital issues which face our racially and culturally pluralistic society into the next century.

I've enclosed a copy clipped from the paper out here, though I'm sure you've seen it reproduced in the Pioneer Press.

Again, Van, congratulations on your superb work with black youth.

Sincerely,

Martin Olav Sabo
Member of Congress

MOS:cpm