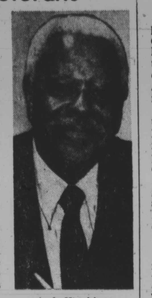
People in the News

Help veterans

Andy Hawkins, erect posture and orderly desk still reflect a 23-year military career from which he retired almost two decades ago. Now, the former Army master sergeant works for the U.S. Department of Labor, protecting the rights of veterans returning to the civilian labor force.



Andy Hawkins

As head of the department's regional office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights (OVRR) in Philadelphia, Hawkins helps enforce a law ensuring that men and women who serve in the military do not lose their jobs or other employment benefits because of such service.

Veterans have the basic right to be reinstated by their preservice employers with the same seniority, status and rates of pay they would have attained if they had not gone into the military.

In the case of reservists and National Guard members it is illegal for employers to fire or penalize them for taking part in basic training, weekend drills or summer encampments.

One of the OVRR's major responsibilities is to inform persons leaving military service and reservists of their rights under the reemployment law.

"Its important for those covered by this law to be aware of its provisions," Hawkins says, noting that the Labor Department investigates reemployment rights cases only in response to complaints from veterans, reservists or Guard members.

Elected vice president

The election of Bob Thomas as vice president of Hiram Walker Incorporated has been announced by Orval R. Crabbe, company president.

Bob Thomas

Thomas joined Hiram Walker in 1968 as a sales representative in Ohio. In 1976, he was named, market development manager, with headquarters at the company's head offices.

A native of Cleveland, Thomas is a life member of the NAACP. He is on the corporate fund-raising board of the United Negro College Fund, a board member of the National Caucus on Black Aged and a member of the Detroit Optimist Club.

As market development manager, Thomas is responsible for special market development activities throughout the United States, with one of his major responsibilities being the development of the world-famous Canadian Club.

Scholars analyze the state of black studies

Black studies, a phenomenon that grew out of the black liberation movement of the '60s and burst onto college campuses across America, faces a decline in public support.

Scholars from across the nation assembled at Howard University recently to analyze the past, present and future course of black studies.

"It's our view, generally, that black studies programs are basically expected to continue, but against accelerating resistance" said Dr. Russell Adams, chairman of Howard's department of Afro-American Studies, which sponsored a national conference focusing on a 15-year assessment of black studies.

This resistance is "fueled" by financial hard times facing academic institutions and a conservative, hostile environment in this country today, he explained.

Adams indicated during an interview that foes of black studies programs are still arguing about the nature and relevance of black studies.

Adams quickly pointed out, however, that colleges seem to have "no problem" accepting American studies, East Asian studies or German-Russian studies in their curricula. But Afro-American studies draw "culturally deep resistance," he emphasized.

Skill preparation in school is not enough for young black students, he indicated. They need to learn about black history and psychology as well as political, social and economic problems to develop social vision and insight.

Black studies grew out of the black awareness movement that created a thirst for knowledge about blacks. Such studies enable black Americans to analyze and develop a fundamental understanding of their condition, situation and purpose, noted Dr. Vincent Harding, who delivered the keynote address. Harding is professor of religion and social transformation at Iliff School of Theology in Denver.

Support for black studies began to wane, however, in the late '70s. Harding said that there has been a loss of momentum in the commitment to the black struggle, which, to a degree, has spilled over to black studies.

There has been a decline in the number of black studies programs. According to Dr. Joseph J. Russell, executive director of the National Council for Black Studies, there are about 525 programs today, down from approximately 800 in the early '70s. These programs range from academic courses that are taught in traditional disciplines, such as sociology, to autonomous departments, institutes or centers of black or Afro-American studies.

Of the autonomous departments, Russell estimates there are more than 200 today, a decline from about 300 or more in 1973 and 1974.

Dr. Gerlad A. McWorter, vice chairman of the National Council for Black Studies, wrote in a report that "On a national level, black studies is under attack by budget cuts, denial of tenure and promotion for its faculty, and lack of support academic counselors so students are not encouraged to take the courses."

He also pointed out that "some students and faculty have become disinterested and passive. All of this is happening, but it is not happening everywhere..."

One of the conferees, Dr. James E. Turner, director of the Africana Studies and Research Center at Cornell University, said that black studies scholars were requested prior to the conference to ask their students: "Is Afro-American studies essential?" The response was that some students weren't sure, some seemed to view black studies as nonessential while still others responded that black studies programs are worthwhile.

Dr. Herbert L. West, Jr., assistant professor in the Howard department of Afro-American Studies, said that the majority of students at Howard thought black studies was essential.

McWorter, who is director of the Afro-American Studies and research program at the University of Illionis, believes that black studies must meet the "core values of the university" while serving the needs of blacks and society "through scholarship, academic excellence and social responsibility."

"There is great opportunity for progress, because black studies is so misunderstood, and underrated," he said. "The Key issue for black studies is how to channel energy so that there is maximum benefit for programmatic development."

GOP nominates Democrat in Ohio

COLUMBUS, OH (UPI) — Republicans nominated a black Democrat for state Senate president in order to gain control of next year's legislature — a move that has shaken the Ohio statehouse to its granite foundation.

The GOP, facing a 16-17 deficit for next session, commandeered a disenchanted Sen. M. Morris Jackson of Cleveland and offered to make him president if he would help them capture the majority. Jackson accepted.

It would have been no more electrifying, as one Akron reporter put it, had the president of Goodyear, joined B.F.Goodrich and helped them shoot the blimp out of the sky.

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The Republicans have not had a black senator in a dozen years. Moreover, Jackson is no ordinary, rank-and-file Democrat. He is a member of the Democratic National Committee.

If the deal holds until the new session convenes Jan. 3, Jackson will become the first black president of the Senate and one of the highest black elected officials in Ohio history, courtesy of the GOP.

Republicans, with control of the Senate committees, will have a foothold on blocking legislation emanating from the office of incoming Democratic Gov. Richard F. Celeste."

Democrats are screaming "foul" at this breach of the conventional rules on political etiquette.

For the unique maneuver seemingly has thwarted what looked like a Democratic sweep of all three branches of Ohio government at the Nov. 2 election.

"The expression of the will of the people is being thwarted by this very blatant grab of unconscionable desires," grumbled Senate Democratic leader Harry Meshel of Youngstown, the main victim of the coup.

Meshel had called a Democratic caucus immediately after the elections which put Democrats in a 17-16 majority. He got himself chosen Senate president. Or so he thought.

But Meshel forgot about Jackson, who was still smouldering from two years ago when Meshel dumped him from the Democratic leadership team.

Someone in the Republican ranks picked up on Jackson's disaffection and relayed an offer through an anonymous person Meshel now refers to as "deep creep."

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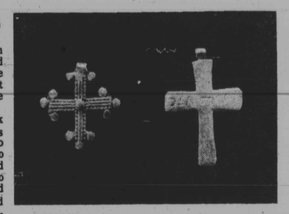
Jackson, a proud man who has served for 16 years in the senate, six of them as second-in-command, was ripe for the taking.

"We will be working very closely with Morris," said senate Republican leader Pau E. Gillmor of Port Clinton, who becomes president pro tempore under the "coalition" arrangement.

Jackson has been "on vacation" and unavailable for phone calls from Meshel, most reporters and anyone else.

But Cleveland's black Democratic leaders are known to be trying to persuade Jackson to return to the fold, and pressure may begin to mont from Ceulesta and return to the fold, and even national Democratic heavyweights.

Jackson is viewed as impervious to pressure, thus Meshel may have to resort to working on a handful of Republicans who were uncomfortable with the maneuver as a violation of the traditions of the senate.



ASTRONAUT'S CROSSES — When NASA astronaut Guion S. Bluford Jr. goes into space next July, he will be breaking new ground — becoming the first black American astronaut in space. Bluford, a deeply religious man, will be taking with him these two 17th century Ethiopian Christian crosses presented to him by the Florida A&M University during its recent homecoming events at which Bluford was a special guest and speaker.

Seven-Up wants competitor's 'false' advertising stopped

ST. LOUIS — The Seven-Up Company is asking the National Advertising Division (NAD) of the Council of Better Business Bureaus to use its influence to halt the "false, misleading and deceptive" advertising associated with Pepsi-Free.

"Television commercials claim that Pepsi-Free is a 'caffeine-free cola,'" said Edward W. Frantel, president and chief executive officer of The Seven-Up Company. "This claim is false because regular Pepsi-Free is not free of the stimulant caffeine.

"In addition, newspaper advertisements, coupons and point-of- purchase materials also carry the deceptive advertising indicating that the product is caffeine-free," Frantel said. "Even the name of the product reinforces the false impression of no-caffeine. The product is not caffeine-free."

In its request to NAD, The Seven-Up Company cites a position taken by Taylor Quinn, associate director for compliance in the Food and Drug Administration's Bureau of Foods, in a May 24, 1982 letter to Bruce McDonald of the firm of Kirkland and Ellis. In the letter Quinn takes the position that "to label a product containing even a very small amount of caffeine as 'caffeine-free' is unacceptable and is not in the best interest of consumers,...

Seven-Up also cites numerous legal cases related to similar instances of deceptive advertising.

Seven-Up said that television commercials for Pepse-Free use the spoken word "free", no fewer than eight times. However, only one brief mention is made of the fact that the product is not actually caffeine-free, but instead is "99 percent caffeine-free."

In addition, the only message on the point-of-purchase materials which could correct the deceptive impression are the words "99 percent caffeine-free," and these are printed in type less than one- sixteenth of an inch high on the label.

Because it feels the advertising is misleading and deceptive, Seven-Up has requested that NAD take steps to investigate the commercials in question, as well as other advertising making similar claims and to use its influence to stop such advertising.

School fighting to stamp out racial slurs

By Ruth Youngblood

MANCHESTER, MA. (UPI) — School officials throught the "NAJHOA" on T - shirts, notebooks and lockers stood for a Rock 'n Roll club — until they acronym for "nigger and Jew haters of America."

Prejudice and hatred were supposed to be strangers in towns like "Manchester by the Sea," where the Atlantic provides picture postcard beauty and kids grow up in sheltered affluence.

Then in May, two distressed mothers informed the school their children had been subjected to anti-semitic name calling and other harassment for more than a year.

It jolted the affluent community. A "war on bigotry" resulted. Now, school officials say they are winning the battle.

"We were so naive it didn't even occur to us that prejudice could even be a problem here," said Richard Howland, school principal for 14 years.

Educators across the country have been writing administrators at Manchester Junior-Senior High School to find out how they are combating anti-semitism and racism.

Howland said the first frank discussions were between faculty members and students. Then punitive guidelines were established. An experimental course was begun.

Only a handful of eighth graders actually participated in the club. Howland said this was no consolation to the administrators and residents who had long regarded the school as the "jewel" of the community.

"We cannot escape from what happened here," he said. "We can only prove how much character we have by the way we respond."

A note in his mailbox saying "Jew lover" didn't thward Howland's resolve. His determination to neutralize prejudice won praise from the B'Nai B'Rith's Anti - Defamation League, parents of the hate club's victims and students.

"He could have walked away from the situation," said Martin Goldman, an assistant director of the league. "But he didn't and is exposing the students to a whole new educational attack on bigotry."

Marc Romano, president of the student council, said his initial reaction was the issue should be quickly buried to avoid tarnishing the school's image.

"In hindsight, I realize that the administration did the right thing. In fact, I can brag about the way the situation is being handled."

Howland, an infantryman in Germany at the end of World War II, said he was astonished to learn "most of the kids had no idea of what a swastika represented," although club members had drawn them on notebooks.

"Can you imagine forgetting the holocaust?"

World War II is studied even before junior high school. But Howland said "The history of barbarism had become academic" — so far removed from students' lives it had no real impact.

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That was when he decided upon the special course.

Timothy C. Averill, who will teach the class this spring, said the graphic example of Nazi Germany "illustrates what happens when individuals give up their responsibility for social action and allow power to become concentrated.

"This class is aimed at illustrating just how important the individual is, and that there are certain kinds of activities that are so repugnant we must deal with them.

"What shocked me," Averill said, "was none of the students who knew about the hate club reported it."

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Teachers attended a seminar of fighting bigotry. They held a week of classes focusing on the roots of prejudice. Community members formed a "brotherhood" committee against racial and religious prejudice.

"I couldn't have asked for a better outcome to a terrible situation," said Mrs. Eve Cutter, the mother of two Jewish boys verbally harassed by club members.

Mike and David Cutter, among five Jewish pupils in the student body of 500, are new "completely comfortable" with their schoolmates, she said.

Mrs. Cutter feared her family would be the target of hate mail. Instead, they have been deluged with letters and phone calls expressing support.

There are only two blacks in the student body, one of whom said club members sometimes pretended he was their slave.

Since the situation was unprecedented, there were no school rules governing punishments for the club members — all 13 years old. Their parents were called in for conferences. Most took disciplinary action against their children. —

The Manchester student handbook now specifies punishments for students who become involved in threats and intimidation of an ethnic or racial nature. Offending students can be suspended or expelled for repeated offenses.

"The strongest pressure against the members came from their outraged peers," Howland said. They issued a statement condemning racial and religious prejudice and circulated petitions proclaiming the student body "abhorred" the prejudices club members promoted.

"Why did it happen here?" Howland said he still wonders. He suspects the hatreds and fears of adults played a considerable part in nurturing the club.

"A mother made a classic comment to me," Howland recalled.

"She said, 'we sit around the dinner table and act as though our children have no ears.'"

Church's first lady dies

PHILADELPHIA - Services were held for Mrs. Cleo, a church leader, educator and lecturer.

Mrs. Gayton, who was the wife of the Rev. M.L. Gayton, was 62. The Rev. Mr. Gayton is pastor of the Metroplitan Baptist Church, at 3500 Baring St., in West Philadelphia.

Mrs. Gayton was described as "a very gracious first lady of the church for 29 years." She touched the lives of many at home and abroad. She was always bubbling over with concern for others. As a result of her concern for the youth of the church and as Mother of the Youth of the Church, three generations have been richly inspired under her guidance.

As one of the members said, "At times, people with problems would come to her and she would always say, 'We can do all things through Him who strengthens us'"

Mrs. Gayton was known to many in the congregation simply as "Angel" or "Mother Gayton," the member said.

Mrs. Gayton was a life member of the Women's Department of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., and the Baptist Ministers' Wives. Over the years she was "builder" of mission groups. She was a speaker when the church participated in the Baptist World Alliance convention overseas.

Advocates: 'Street people' could use federal buildings

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Officials from big cities are asking for cities are asking for federal money to help care for the homeless this winter, but advocates for the "street people" say space to sleep in federal buildings would do just as well.

"This hearing room is a fine place to sleep," Mitch Snyder, head of an organization that helps the homeless in Washington, told a housing subcommittee of the House Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs.

He said later, "there are huge heated, lit, guarded lobbies with people outside all around,"

But members of Congress balked at the idea of making federal facilities throughout the nation available so churches and local governments could run them as shelters during the winter.

Snyder, of the Community for Creative Non-Violence, showed the committee a clear plastic container with what he said was the cremated remains of a man who froze to death in 1980 and said four people have died in Washington since cold weather began this month.

Snyder said later that if Congress does not make space available for the poor by Jan. 25, several hundred of the homeless "are just going to come in and sit in the rotunda" of the capitol.

Whatever the solutions, the witnesses agreed that there are more and more homeless in America today and estimated their numbers at anywhere from 225,000 to 3 million.

Salt Lake City Mayor Ted Wilson, speaking for the United States Conference of Mayors, testified that "public, charitable and religious organizations began reporting last winter they could no longer provide emergency assistance for anywhere near the number of people requesting aid" in his city.

New York City Council President Carol Bellamy said that despite increasing the size of city shelters, "many homeless people still live in the streets, parks and subways of New York."

She joined Wilson in urging that Congress approve a $500 million program to pay for food, shelter and heat this winter.

"The president cannot see the homeless from his mountain top in California, or his closet neighbor — the woman who lives at his front door in the White House — but Congress cannot be so blind," said Robert Hayes, counsel for the Coalition for the Homeless of New York City.

The woman he referred to is known only as "Mary." She sleeps and spends most of her time next to the gates of the White House.

Winter sees return of the soup kitchen

By David Dugas

Martha Dills of Seattle, WA, call them "the new poor" — people who manage to scrape by in good times but not now when 12 million Americans are out of work and the unemployment rate is at a 42-year high.

Ms. Dills, Seattle's director of emergency housing, says that as early as September some 2,500 peolpe were turned away from the city's nine shelters because of a 104 percent increase in appeals for help from two years ago.

With winter deepening, Ray Burns said the worst is yet to come, "You wait 'Til January," said Burns, night superintendent at Seattle's Emergency Housing Center. "Yeah, it's going to get worse. These people got no place to go."

Across the nation and especially in the North, cities and communities are witnessing scenes uncomfortably reminiscent of the 1930s Great Depression, an era most Americans know today mainly from books, movies and old Peter Arno cartoons of threadbare men peddling pencils on street corners.

"When the weather changes quickly, a person could literally freeze to death without shelter," La Gary Kyle said at a Salvation Army Shelter he runs in Sheridan, WY. "This year there has been about a 112 percent increase, just for the first eight months," said Kyle, whose 13-bed dorm is "generally full every night."

In Chicago, occupancy at the 105-year-old Pacific Garden Mission is up, administrator Richard Motis said, not only because of winter but "because of the economy."

The mission, south of the loop, is open 24 hours a day and looks after what Motis called "gentlemen of the street," plus women, children, servicemen, stranded travelers and families burned out of their homes.

Robert Bonesteel, a spokesman for Chicago's Salvation Army, said one of the organization's directors estimates "somewhere between 12,000 and 16,000 people in Chicago" have no permanent home. "That figure is absolutely staggering."

"As for people who are essentially homeless year-round, the hobo, the panhandler, those folks will show up at our facilities," Because of zoning codes, he said, "officially, we cannot house them.

Unofficially, if someone desperately needs a place to sleep, we find one for them."

Among major cities, New York may be the most visibly hard pressed this winter. About 437 million is expected to be spent to house the homeless in New York City this year. The city spent $8 million in 1978.

Four years ago the city provided beds for only 1,800 people during peak times. The figure for this winter is expected to be 5,300 — 93 percent more than a year ago.

A non-profit New York organization called the Coalition for the Homeless last year sued the city on behalf of the homeless. The result was a court-approved consent decree under which the city must shelter any homeless man who asks for it.

In addition, the state in recent years has freed mental patients, many of whom have landed on the street.

Lewis Hickson, president of Detroit's Coalition on Temporary Shelters (COTS), said, "a lot of inner city landlords are walking away from their buildings because they can't pay the utility bills. And the moment they do that, the places are stripped. They steal the toilets, radiators, everything. When landlords walk away, buildings are condemned, and peolpe thrown out in streets."

COTS now leases St. Peter's Rectory from the Catholic Church for $1 a year and is housing 50 homeless.

Massachusetts has weathered the recession better than most states. But there are moe than 4,000 homeless in Boston and the number of transients is increasing in cities across the bay state as winter approaches, says a spokesman for the state's human Services Agency, Kermit Morrissey. He expects the problem to worsen this winter.

A state legislator, Rep. Barbara Gray, is working to establish a toll-free, statewide number that could steer the homeless and hungry toward help.

"Every year our shelters for the homeless are forced to turn people away due to lack of space, and every winter people die," Ms. Gray said.

Maine's largest city, Portland, had drawn national attention for low unemployment. The city is enjoying good times with revival of the shipbuilding industry and growth of high technology and service industries.

"The ting that was disastrous last summer was the number of families, people who would pack up all their belongings and just drive here, form Michigan, Texas, Kentucky, anyplace where unemployment is high," said Neva Cram of Ingraham Volunteers, one of State's largest private, non-profit groups helping the homeless.

The "new poor," compared with the usual street peolpe, present a special problem.

"A local person has some resources — they have friends, family — something to work with. A new person in town has nothing and needs everything and needs it from the public and private systems. And that is incredibly expensive," Ms. Cram said.

Maj. Charles Olsen, development department secretary for the Salvation Army's eastern territory, says reports from the 11 Northeast states agree that "on a national basis there's been a 25 to 40 percent increase in appeals for help — depending on location — over last year. They're attributing a lot of this to unemployment."

One phenomenon of the great recession is the return of the soup kitchen that was part of the Americans scene during the 1930s.

"Lewiston, Maine, they have a soup kitchen that opened just before Thanksgiving and they'll will keep it going as long as they can," Olsen said.

"Cleveland, our headquarters for nortbeast Ohio, says three soup kitchens are already open and another is opening the end of the month.

"I'd say this soup kitchen business is starting to crop up more and more where we have the facilities."

Lewis Hickson, of Detroit's COTS, also runs the Capuchin Community Soup Kitchen which in 1981 served 167,000 meals. Through November this year "We've served 202,716 people and We've provided takeout meals for an additional 500,000," Hickson said.

"A lot of people we know won't come into the soup kitchen for pride reasons. They've gone from a job to unemployment to being forced to come to us, and a lot of them won't do it."(UPI)

For tourists only

KINGSTON, Jamaica (UPI) — Beginning Dec. 15, tourists in Jamaica can use U.S. currency to pay hotel bills and most other expenses or purchases during their stay.

The new currency law is intended as a convenience for visitors since it virtually eliminates the necessity of converting U.S. dollars. Specifically covered are hotel bills — including restaurant and bar charges — car rental fees, in-bond purchases, purchases made in hotel shops, and applicable fees for tennis, golf, scuba, sailing and other sports and recreational facilities and sightseeing packages purchased through on-island tour operators.

UPI Photo

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council unanimously called on South Africa Dec. 7 to commute the death sentences of six black nationalist guerrillas to be hanged for alleged terrorist activities. It adopted by a vote of 15-0 a resolution spelling out the appeal and urging all nations and organizations "to use their influence and take urgent measures" to save the lives of the six men. Similar appeals to South Africa in the past had failed.

U.S. challenges affirmative action

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Carving out a new position on racial discrimination, the Reagan administration has taken the side of white police officers and firefighters in a key affirmative action case pending in the Supreme Court.

The administration joined Boston police officers and firefighters in challenging a court - ordered affirmative action program that allows blacks and Hispanics to keep their jobs while whites with more seniority are laid off.

Boston police and firefighters say the "last - hired, first - fired" principle should protect them, and are contesting an order that led to massive layoffs of whites during a city budget crunch.

A federal court, which found the city engaged in discriminatory employment policies, ordered Boston to maintain minority hiring percentages in its police and fire departments.

When faced with a budget - cutting referendum, the city laid off white officers with more seniority.

Although the government is not part of the case, it decided independently to declare its views on affirmative action in its "friend of the court" brief filed Dec. 17, the administration departed from its predecessors' support of affirmative action.

Attorney General William French Smith and his enforcer of civil rights, William Bradford Reynolds, have said they will not seek preferential hiring for blacks, women or other minorities in setting employment discrimination cases.

The Justice Department will only seek to rectify the damage done to the individual victims of discrimination.

Solicitor General Rex Lee extended the new principle to the Boston case when he told the justices lower courts overstepped their authority in shielding individuals who had not actually suffered discrimination from layoffs.

The law permits courts only to "slot" identifiable bias victims into their "rightful place" in a hiring scheme, Lee said.

In the Boston case, "innocent firefighters and police officers were required to sacrifice not only their seniority but also their jobs to persons who have never claimed to be victims of unlawful discrimination," he argued.

Lee said the lower court "brings into being a new class of victims, completely innocent of any wrongdoing, by depriving them of their rights under a valid seniority system."

The Supreme Court agreed in November to review the Boston cases, which stem from successful bias complaints brought by blacks, Hispanics and the NAACP against recruiting policies and hiring examinations in Massachusetts.

A federal district court held in 1974 racial discrimination had led to the "virtual exclusion" of blacks and Hispanics, and ordered remedial actions that dramatically increased minority employment.

But the gains were threatened by a budget - cutting referendum that led to the layoffs of several hundred whites.

They since have been reinstated. But police and firemen's unions want to recoup lost salary and seniority rights for their members.

Oil blamed for Nigeria's economic woes

LAGOS, Nigeria (UPI) — Nigeria is shivering in the chill wind of world recession and learning to regret its over-reliance on oil, the commodity which fueled its economic boom.

"Oil has wrecked this country," one western economist said.

The current oil glut has exposed the weakness of the country's manufacturing sector, which contributes only 7 percent of the nation's wealth.

Agriculture, which accounts for 20 to 25 percent of the gross national product and was once the country's pride, has barely embarked on the so-called "green revolution" route intended to bring Nigeria to self-sufficiency.

Progress in rice cultivation has been encouraging, but the cocoa industry is now a shadow of its former self and groundnuts production — half of Nigeria's exports in the early 1960s — has been all but eliminated.

"Everybody wants a slice of the action from oil, or should I say everybody wants a slice of the cake without getting involved in any action," the Western economist said.

By most standards, Nigeria's oil revenues remain impressive. Western economists estimate that even with severely curtailed production, the country will earn $10 billion to $14 billion from oil in 1982. Oil accounts for some 96 percent of foreign exchange earnings.

But an inflation rate of more than 20 percent, an annual population growth of about 4 percent and the prospect of oil running out in 20 years make for a somber outlook.

President Shehu Shagari's government already has proposed an austerity budget for 983, based conservatively on oil production of one million barrels per day against an average of 1.3 million in 1982 and 2.06 million in 1980.

To protect foreign currency reserves, import controls have been introduced and the foreign travel allowance cut from $1,200 to $750.

Many of the ambitious capital development plans which have characterized Nigeria's rapid progress have been shelved.

"The recession has proved that Nigeria is not just a bottomless pit of Naira (the Nigerian currency)," said one Nigerian merchant banker, "it has been a blessing, and for the first time the concept of austerity has been driven home."

Nigeria's attempt to cope with the recession and the glut has placed it at odds with some of its partners in the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, whose ministers met in Vienna last weekend to discuss price and production levels.

Some OPEC members accuse Nigeria of illegally discounting its oil and exceeding its OPEC - mandated production quota in a bid to grab a larger share of the shrinking world market.

Nigeria, which has been assigned a production quota of 1.3 million barrels per day, is currently producing about 1.6 million.

Arab producers want Nigeria, Libya and Algeria to raise the price for their high-quality crude to make OPEC's base price of $34 a barrel more competitive in the world market.

Nigeria and the other African members officially charge $35.50 a barrel for their oil, but Nigeria and Libya have been selling their crude for less.

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A severe winter in the northern hemisphere and an upturn in Western economies could revive the Nigerian economy and provide the petrodollars to fire business again.

But Western economists warn that the structure of the oil business — particularly in the United States — is changing. many U.S. Refineries have altered to process heavier and cheaper oil and demand for the high-quality, medium-range Nigerian product may be dwindling.

"Since there is little likelihood of a price increase during 1983, Nigeria's income from oil exports may decline somewhat further in real terms next year," a U.S. oil expert predicted.

Nigeria is America's fourth largest supplier of crude.

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In the short term Nigeria cannot make up the loss in oil revenue by boosting manufactured exports because, in the words of one Western dipomat, "the country is making things that can be made cheaper elsewhere."

"The industrialization policy is wrong," he said. "All the raw materials have to be imported. Productivity is low everywhere and wages are comparatively high."

Smuggling also hurts Nigerian industry.

Battery manufacturers complain that supplies smuggled in undercut their own products. Smuggled luxury goods like radios, videos and televisions, attractively priced because of the Naira's high exchange rate, sell by the score in the teeming capital's thousands of market stalls.

Panel finds no merit in page sex charges

WASHINGTON (UPI) — House Ethics Committee Chairman Louis Stokes, D - OH has said an investigation determined that allegations of sexual misconduct involving pages and congressmen were "an out - and - out fabrication" by teenagers with overactive imaginations.

But Stokes said in a House floor speech that an investigation will continue into allegations of drug trafficking involving two House employees.

Stokes interrupted House consideration of a stopgap money bill to tell House members that special counsel Joseph Califano and the staff of the committee on standards of official conduct had found "no support whatsoever for the sensational allegations and charges."

Mugabe-Nkomo unity talks said under way in Zimbabwe

On the face of it, there are only bleak prospects for reconciliation between Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and rival Joshua Nkomo, the men whose followers brought Zimbabwe its freedom after decades of white rule.

A failure to reconcile the opposing factions could condemn the emerging black nation to years of chaos if not outright civil war. But a glimmer of hope remains.

Diplomatic sources familiar with political machinations if Zimbabwe report that unpublicised talks are under way between the Mugabe and Nkomo parties despite the rift that saw Nkomo evicted from Mugabe's cabinet in February.

The informal contacts dwell on merging the two respective political parties, but the biggest single hurdle is what to call a unified party.

Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union refuses to relinquish its name while Nkomo's Zimbabwe African Peoples Union insists there would have to be a new label.

Nkomo - Mugabe coalitions — both before Zimbabwe became independent in April 1980 and after — were strained. Deep emnity exists between their followers over ethnic and political differences. both sides have good reason to douse the rivalry.

Nkomo, whose popular support is limited to a tribal bloc representing 20 percent of the population, has no chance of ever ruling Zimbabwe but could still play a meaningful subordinate role.

Mugabe would risk triggering a new round of bloodletting out first uniting the two main parties.

The merger efforts now must survive the trial early next year of two men who were leaders in Nkomo's soviet-backed pre-independence army, Harsh sentences against both could make a merger impossible. The two were arrested in March for allegedly building arms caches, the incident that prompted Nkomo's ouster.(UPI).

Black enrollment up in white colleges in 1970s

ATLANTA — Business and management led all other fields in the number of college degrees awarded at all levels nationally and in the South during the 1970s.

Black enrollment in predominantly white southern colleges and universities increased 193 percent during the decade. Hispanic enrollment increased 32 percent from 1976 to 1980. Women now account for half of the enrollment in colleges and universities and receive half of all baccalaureate and master's degrees awarded.

These are some of the important facts included in two new reports from the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) on college enrollment and degrees awarded.

Nationally in 1980, blacks made up 11.7 percent of the population; Hispanics, 7.7 percent. Blacks represented 9.1 percent of studies enrolled in the nation's colleges and universities, Hispanics represented 4.9 percent.

In the SREB states, total enrollment grew 19 percent from 1978 to 1980, black enrollment increased 8 percent, Hispanic enrollment increased 32 percent. More than a third of the black college students and half of the Hispanic students were enrolled in public two - year colleges in 1980.

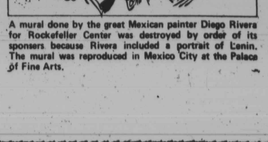
Part - time enrollment, which far exceeded full - time enrollment increases for each group, grew 21 percent from 1976 to 1980 in the South; part - time black and Hispanic enrollment increased 19 and 48 percent, respectively, the report said.

Tuskegee prexy on ACE board

Dr. Benjamin F. Payton, president of Tuskegee Institute, has been elected to the 40-member board of directors of the American Council on Education.

Payton will serve a three-year term. ACE represents 1,600 colleges, universities, and higher education associations.

Payton was elected to the ACE board during the council's 65th annual meeting in Minneapolis.



A mural done by the great Mexican painter Diego Rivera for Rockefeller Center was destroyed by order of its sponsors because Rivera included a portrait of Lenin. The mural was reproduced in Mexico City at the Palace of Fine Arts.