

10th Largest School District Ordered To Desegregate

Mrs. Knox Chairwoman Of Mental Health Work

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Mrs. Dorothy C. Knox of New York City last Wednesday was appointed chairwoman of the Committee on Mental Health Services for the Disadvantaged of the National Association for Mental Health.

In 1968, the organization's Board of Directors adopted a position on the role of the Mental Health Association in relation to the disadvantaged, and stated:

"It is glaringly apparent that among the poor of our nation serious illness, including severe mental illness, goes largely unrecognized and untreated. This is true at a time when most of us enjoy the benefits of enormous advances in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of health problems. Mental illness is more prevalent among the poor because for them the usual pathways to detection and treatment are blocked by such things as overcrowding, unemployment, discrimination, hunger, and the other consequences of being poor."

The primary objective of Mrs. Knox's committee will be to identify methods to overcome

the gap that exists between the need and the provision of mental health services for the poor, and to assure that attention is given to those who need help the most.

Mrs. Knox, NAMH Secretary, is the first black woman to be elected an officer on the National level in the history of the organization. She has served on the National Board of the Mental Health Association since 1969, and just completed a term as Vice President of Program.

She is currently Director of Consultation and Education at the Lincoln Community Mental Health Center in New York City. From 1960 to 1970, she was administrator at the Bedford Mental Hygiene Clinic, a division of Brooklyn Psychiatric Centers, Inc. She has been consultant to the Bedford Stuyvesant Youth in Action Family Counseling Unit since 1967 and Chairwoman of the Central Brooklyn Coordinating Council, Inc., since 1965. She is also a lecturer for the New York University School of Social Work and the Institute of Child Mental Health.

Disgruntled Postal Patrons Write Senator

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Letters from disgruntled postal patrons have flowed into the office of Senator Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) at an accelerated pace since the Senator warned that if the Postal Service doesn't improve he may ask Congress to consider whether the government should once again take over mail service or turn it over to private industry.

"Every day I receive letters from irate postal patrons," Cranston said. "It's obvious that after more than two years, our quasi government-private Postal Service isn't working. The magnitude of the problem is revealed in many of the letters I receive."

"Therefore, I am releasing examples from some of the typical letters from California constituents so that the public can gain greater understanding of the problems."

The examples follow:
A man in Sylmar with an extended illness mailed sick-leave forms to his employer so that he could receive compensation while he was ill. The forms were lost in the mail. Against the advice of his doctor, he got out of his sick-bed and delivered a new set of forms personally.

The president of an engineering and supply company in Burbank complained that his firm lost a \$25,000 contract because their mailed bid arrived one day late though it had been mailed four days ahead of deadline.

A couple in Pleasanton were charged additional interest on their mortgage payment because their check to the bank was received past the due date even though they say they had mailed it in plenty of time.

An author in Sonoma lost valuable manuscripts in the mail.

A lady in El Cerrito says she is having trouble finding mail boxes and the few that are still scattered around town only have one pick-up per day.

A Modesto man with a son in the Marine Corps stationed in Europe says letters to his son arrive in a reasonable length of time. But the letters his son sends to him take 5-7 weeks to arrive.

A San Francisco realtor found that mail delivery to his office was so unreliable that he had to rent a post office box.

An Anaheim man left on an

18-day vacation at Los Angeles International Airport, 25 miles from his home, he mailed a card to a neighbor asking that something be checked at his home. It took the card 15 days to travel the 25 miles.

The mail of a Los Angeles man is consistently being delivered to the wrong address. He writes, "The Postal Service is now at the point where it is no longer a service but an aggravation."

The director of a laboratory in Mill Valley writes that her business is dependent entirely on the mail service for delivery of medical specimens. But the specimens are so often delayed that the stability of her business is being threatened.

A woman in Mission Vallejo is supposed to receive her pay check every Thursday. Frequently it arrives the following Monday.

A woman in Napa sent her son at Stanford a coffee can full of cookies. When it arrived the can was crushed flat.

In San Diego, a woman found that she has to glue down stamps to keep them from falling off envelopes.

A Santa Barbara woman sent a gallon of peach jam to her daughter in Washington state. The jam was in a plastic container and wrapped in two separate boxes, both lined with newspaper. Enroute the Postal Service managed to poke a hole clear through the parcel.

Miss Caton Named New Director

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Acting U.S. Commissioner of Education John R. Ottina has announced the appointment of Joan P. Caton, 33, as director of the Office of Student and Youth Affairs in HEW's Office of Education.

Established in August, 1969, the Office of Student and Youth Affairs acts both as advisor to the Commissioner and as a central advocacy unit which provides for participation by young people in programs administered by the Office of Education. It also coordinates contacts with student and youth organizations across the nation.

Miss Caton joined HEW in 1970 and has been serving as a special assistant for student affairs in the Office of the

Judge Tells Baltimore To Integrate

National Black News Service. BALTIMORE — The nation's 10th largest public school system in a Maryland suburb of metropolitan Washington, D. C., has been ordered to put a desegregation plan into effect by Jan. 29.

U. S. District Judge Frank A. Kaufman ordered the Prince George's County School Board to implement a plan affecting 188 of the county's 238 public schools.

The plan will require the busing of 12,000 additional students. The county already buses 48 percent of its pupils to schools spread over a 486 square mile area. The desegregation plan will raise the proportion bused to 56 percent. A total of 32,000 students will be transferred to other schools. Junior high school students and senior high school students, except for seniors scheduled to graduate in June, will be assigned on a countywide basis.

Elementary school pupils will be shifted within 11 geographical areas designated as "neighborhood sectors." The maximum amount of time any student will spend on a bus will be about 35 minutes and the mean time will be 14 minutes.

In ordering the mid-term implementation of the desegregation plan, Judge Kaufman was highly critical of the County School Board's obstructionist tactics since he ruled last July that the county's school system failed to meet constitutional requirements.

He said the board failed to direct the school system staff precise direction in drawing up a desegregation plan, forcing the judge to work out a plan in conferences with the staff.

"That factual and legal background and the facts reviewed in earlier opinions of this court compel the conclusion that regardless of the reason why, the Prince George's County School Board has disregarded the mandates of the highest court of our land," Judge Kaufman said.

"The record reflects that the school board's emphasis in July, in August, and again in December of 1972, has been to seek and to justify delay; rather than to find the most palatable ways in which to change an unconstitutional school system which defendants have had over 18 years to cure."

The class action suit against the county school board was by the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union March 29, 1972.

The school board has indicated that it will appeal Judge Kaufman's order at the current term of Fourth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va.



STUDENT NAMED COURT MAGISTRATE — Fayetteville State University student, James A. Carter, second from the right, has been named a Magistrate and has assumed his duties in the Cumberland County Clerk of Court Office. Carter was sworn in as Magistrate by Superior Court Judge E. Maurice Braswell along with Cecil Harkey, third from the right. With them are Chief District Court Judge Derb Carter, Tommy Griffin, Clerk of Court; and Chancellor Charles Lyons, Jr. Carter is the second Fayetteville State student to be named a Magistrate in the North Carolina court system. The first student was Keith L. Rose, a retired Lt. Colonel and a sociology major.

Black Manpower Official Helps Indians In Jobs

DALLAS — Two years ago, William B. Lyons was working in a predominantly black city neighborhood here. Today, he spends much of his time on an Indian reservation in northeastern Oklahoma.

"The scenery changes and the culture," he said, "but Indian, black or white, everyone wants pretty much the same things, a decent life for themselves and opportunity and hope for their children."

Lyons, as a manpower specialist with the U. S. Department of Labor regional office here, tries to help people achieve those personal goals. His work as a field representative takes him to the Osage Reservation, as well as Tulsa and other points in northeastern Oklahoma.

"I first ran up against a closed type of attitude, but that changed fast enough as soon as

they learned I just wanted to help them help themselves," Lyons said. Now the elected Tribal Council representing the approximately 10,000 Osages on the reservation, runs as Emergency Employment Program as well as a Mainstream and In-and-Out of School Neighborhood Youth Corps Programs.

Lyons came to the Labor Department from the Community Council of Greater Dallas. In that job, he helped set up the Crossroads Community Center, which serves a neighborhood of some 75,000 persons, 98 percent black in South Dallas.

"Ironically enough, almost none of our money was from labor, but rather from Housing and Urban Development and Health, Education and Welfare," Lyons said.

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SIX DEMOCRATIC WOMEN TO U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES — Washington — The Democrats will have six women in the House when the 93rd Congress convenes January 3, shown in the speaker's office January 2 are, LTR: Rep. Martha W. Griffiths, Mich.; Rep. Shirley Chisholm, N.Y.; Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman, N.Y.; Rep. Barbara Jordan, Tex.; Rep. Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Calif.; and Rep. Bella Abzug, N.Y. Holtzman; Jordan and Burke are all new. (UPI)