

BLACK DOCTORS IN FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

By John Henry Jones

Among other presentations were those of Dr. Clarence D. Hinton of Washington D. C., who discussed cancer of the nasal passages; Dr. James Anthony, also of Washington, who talked on treating cancer of the male organs; Dr. Watson A. Young of Inkster, Mich., who discussed cervical cancer; and Dr. Harold Perry of Detroit, who discussed various methods of X-ray treatment.

A National Cancer Institute exhibit, "The Search for New Anti-Cancer Drugs," showed how new agents derived from the jungles and oceans of Africa, Asia, and South America; from the research laboratories, universities, industries and from ancient folk remedies are tested for anti-tumor potential in rodents. Then they are studied for toxicity in monkeys and apes before trial in humans begins.

Present also was Dr. Robert S. Jason, Chairman of the NMA Judicial Council, former Dean of Howard's College of Medicine, and a Director-at-Large of the American Cancer Society.

Commenting on the dearth of black research scientists not only in cancer but generally, Dr. Jason laid blame on "stringent economic requirements both before and after school" and the past "lack of opportunities for affiliation with the big medical schools and their facilities." This situation, he said, was "easing somewhat," adding that "some of the young black doctors will make important contributions to cancer research."

The five-day meeting was a landmark in medical history, the NMA having been founded in Atlanta in 1895 during the Cotton States Exposition at a time when black physicians were not welcome in the American Medical Association.

This convention was addressed by AMA President Dr. Walter C. Bornemehr, who presented a plaque to Dr. Hill commemorating the occasion.

But perhaps Dr. Edward W. Reed of Memphis, Tenn., a member of the Mid-South Medical Council Executive Committee summed up the feeling of the young black doctors, concerning cancer and other research. He said: "With the coming of HEW and the pressure for equal education opportunities, a few cracks have been opened. We must go in and press relentlessly. The black physician who would provide better health care for his people and others must be competent, concerning and compassionate."



Dr. Robert S. Jason, of San Diego, California, Chairman of the Judicial Council of the National Medical Association and a Director-at-Large of the American Cancer Society.

NLV MOBILE LIBRARY

North Las Vegas Library has found a way to get more people to read. It sends a bright pink psychedelic truck, called "The Mind Expander," into the neighborhoods; that did away with library cards, overdues, fines and other rules.

And not only does the truck bring a wide selection of paperback books and magazines for all ages, but also music, storytelling, puppet shows and informal conversation all of which make this library on wheels extremely popular and fun to use.

R. O. Forson, Director of Library, Parks and Recreation, and Mrs. Thomasine Kleffen, Library Administrator began this special project of reaching out physically into the community this summer. "What we are trying to do is provide library service to all residents of our community and this is one way of reaching people who are not presently using the main library building," Mrs. Kleffen said. "The library is an integral part of our educational system," Mrs. Kleffen continued, "and has the responsibility to provide and make easily available the many resources and services to meet informational and recreational needs of each resident of our community."

The "Mind Expander" will begin its winter schedule this Saturday with stops at the following North Las Vegas locations: Tom Williams Park, 10 to 11; Herbert Park, 11 to 12; Aloha-Vegas Trailer Park, 1 to 2; Carey Park Arms Apartments, 2 to 3 and Tonopah Park, 3 to 4.

For further information: Mrs. Thomasine Kleffen, Telephone 642-8448

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