

# "This and That..."

Friends to the Rescue!

It was just a week ago that I wrote of the possibility of obtaining my early freedom but already friends are rushing to my rescue.

The finest tribute that one man could pay another came in the form of a carbon copy of the letter James A. Jackson (U. S. Dept. of Com.), Washington, D. C. wrote in my behalf to the Michigan Parole and Pardon Commissioner, the Honorable W. Alfred Debo, Lansing, Michigan. Lack of space prevents quoting from Mr. Jackson's letter in this column but so that our editors can read his wonderful tribute I am sending a copy of same to each publication using any of my six weekly releases.

J. E. McCall, editor of the new Detroit Tribune, also writes another very interesting letter and includes this paragraph:

"I wish also to state that we have written a petition to the Commissioner of Pardons and Paroles, at Lansing, asking that he give you your freedom. Mr. Charles Digg, a member of the Parole Department, plans to visit Jackson soon, during which time he hopes to talk with you."

And from Minneapolis, Minnesota, comes a cheering word from one whom I thought had dropped out of

## GRAMP GRUNT



BY ATKINSON

my life some seventeen years ago: "I think it grand they are giving you a hearing and I do hope for your sake it will be favorable. You should be able to progress wonderfully, though of course, you know it will be slow work. Do not be over-ambitious and over-estimate your limitations, by that I mean, do be satisfied with a small income. Money isn't everything, first comes happiness and freedom."

Before I go any further I want to acknowledge a stack of communications and to ask the correspondents to accept this acknowledgement as their reply. Upton Sinclair, Los Angeles; Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho; and Little, Brown & Co., Boston; all book publishers. Young's Magazine; Negro World; and Radio Review & Television News; of New York; Bronzeman, Chicago; Broadcast, Houston; Union, Murfreesboro, Tenn. and the extra back copies from the Advocate, Portland, Oregon; all the latter being from magazines and news paper publishers. From commercial houses the following communications are acknowledged: Cook Rite Food Products Co.; Defender Laboratories; and the Noburn Product Co., all of New York; Aramed Co., of Providence, R. I.; Ashton Collier, Cincinnati; Ideal Rummage Sale Co., Chicago; Godefroy Mfg. of Detroit. From writers—G. James Fleming, Norfolk, Va.; Daniel Ryerson, Chicago; Rupert A. Griffith and his booklet "Cosmos in Scrambles", New York, and D. M. Buchanan, Knoxville, Tenn. And many releases from the following sources: W. C. Handy Music Co., Inc; Universal Pictures; National Urban League; International Labor Defense, and the National C. M. A. Stores, all of New York; Tom Mooney Congress, Chicago; and from Lansing, Michigan; bulletins from Frank D. Fitzgerald, secretary of state; automobile registration lists from the Beermann-Marshall, Inc; and the daily journals from the Michigan State Senate. So, that's that!

Current thanks: May Opportunity; Birth Control Review, and the Rosierian Digest; to the Detroit Tribune, and the Atlanta Daily World, for commencing to use this personal column, making twenty-three (in two months) to do so, the Detroit Tribune also for using "Digesting the News" (19th paper to do so), and my "Weekly Book Comment" (58th paper to do so). Special thanks to Anna Mae Colbert for her personal comment in

"Crums", a weekly feature in the Columbus Voice. After "digesting" an arm-load of the different SNS publications I can heartily endorse the change of name from "Southern" to Scott Newspaper Syndicate. That's all—no more room!

### JAMES A. ("BILLBOARD") JACKSON WRITES IN BEHALF OF MICHIGAN PRISONER.

U. S. Dept. of Commerce Official Writes a Personal Letter to Michigan's Parole Commissioner W. Alfred Debo

Asking Clemency for Clifford C. Mitchell

Washington, D. C., May 3rd—Writing a personal letter to Parole Commissioner W. Alfred Debo, Lansing, Michigan, James A. Jackson, says:

"This communication requesting favorable consideration of the case of Clifford C. Mitchell is an expression of a virtually nationwide interest in the accomplishments of that man within the past few years. His research work and journalistic contributions, conducted under handicapped circumstances, has arrested the attention of a number of people to whom he is totally unknown except through his work. That he has been able to achieve this attention is no mean accomplishment; and to have been perfectly candid and honest as to his personal situation while doing it, is a very obvious indication of worthy purpose.

"In order that you may appreciate my interest in the matter, perhaps it would be well that I provide some explanation as to myself. I am a one time resident of the city of Detroit and my sons were born there. I am also one of the older Negro newspaper men of the country, having engaged in such work at a time when there was very little opportunity for a Negro in that field; remuneration and chances of employment were both very limited. However, the situation with reference to Negro journalism has greatly improved since those days. It is evident from Mr. Mitchell's age that he too was affected by the circumstances of those pioneer days of the Colored Correspondent.

"For the past six years I have been a Business Specialist in charge of a section of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce having to do with the small business units of the country with a special interest in the Negro commercial elements. Department regulations forbid personal correspondence on Government letter heads, therefore this is a personal communication.

"It was because of my position that I came to know Mr. Mitchell's

work since one of the features of my office work is the reviewing of more than a hundred Negro publications each week. Then, too, he has from time to time written to me for information which my office makes available to the public. Being myself, a reasonable well known writer, with a public given nickname of "Billboard" Jackson; and being interested in one of the largest Negro owned press services, it was but natural that I should become interested in this seeming newcomer into prominence in the field.

"Without doubt, Mr. Mitchell has become one of the outstanding features of Negro journalism, nor has his usefulness been confined to that field. A large number of the foremost publishing houses of the country have accorded his work recognition. The consistency with which I am obliged to study the Negro press has kept me thoroughly informed as to the merit and the distribution of his work; and my own experiences enable me to recognize the merit of his several columns. I have no doubt of his ability to find a profitable place for himself in his chosen field; and I am satisfied that if Mr. Mitchell is released, that he has built up such sustaining contacts as to make it indeed difficult to stray from the highest standards of business and society. The assurance of a competency earned with his facile pen and his love for detailed research, removes temptation to steal or beg from being future possibilities with him. To continue Mr. Mitchell longer in prison, is in my opinion, wasting a useful service to humanity and withholding from Journalism a capable mind that, if free, would acquit itself creditably." (Signed) JAMES A. JACKSON.

### DOINGS AMONG THE AMATEURS

The first two games in our league, is history now. A record that we need not be ashamed of. I now relate some of those records.

1. A new deal as to our opening grounds were in evidence. Heretofore it has been Mundy beach or Riverview. This time on one of the city's three best diamonds, AkSarBen field with an admission charge of 25c we gave the Mundy association a record crowd which meant many shekels in the much used treasury.

2. A record was set as to our deportment, both among the players and especially among the fans, there was so much interest as to the general strength of each team; so much loyalty and self-respect shown that we are proud to say that we were 100% better than heretofore. When we consider that we have been almost isolated from residence sections for several years. How do people get what they want? By asking for it! And knowing how to handle it when they get

### Let us continue to be good sports.

#### Sunday's Game

The U. P. Boosters with their old time team strength again gave action, defeating Holmes Tailors 13-6. The Tailors started out to cut a frock for the Boosters. In the very first inning getting four runs off of Lowe. In fact they made it so hot for Johnnie that Richie had to send him to first base until things cooled off. The Boosters came-back in their half stronz to almost wreck the Tailors. It was experience and team work vs. inexperience and new men, Give C. C. a little time and he will be there. Both teams deserve high praise.

Harry Trustin Commissioner Harry Trustin found time to be with us on this occasion which meant so much to the efficiency of our hustling president. In the opening just before the second game, Mr. Trustin pitched the first ball to a youngster whom I did not know, perhaps his son. The little fellow hit too short but was safe at first on an error. And the Globe Trotters and Rex were off.

What A Game Kirksey a little unsettled in the first allowed 3 runs but settled down after that and pitched shut out ball while "Big Red" was cool and almost invincible. The Trotters began to trot in the 3rd getting 3 and no more until that memorable ninth when Wakefield and Gray walked Parker, doubled to left center putting the Trotters two ahead. But up pops the devil in the Cudahy's, halt.

Wilson hit to Wakefield. Wilson safe, an error on Freddie, Manley tripled to deep center, Clements walks, Love hit through 2nd, Manley scores, Fry hit to Woodruff, Clements takes 3rd when Woodruff drop easy out, Three on one out. Score tied, last half ninth, grandstand gone mad, Trotters in field full in for squeeze play. Arvin drops Texas leaguer over second. Boy! boy! boy! It's over, Rex 6; Trotters 5. So long. —C. A. S.

### Book Review

"A. B. C.'S OF GREAT NEGROES" by Charles C. Dawson (Dawson Publishers, 403 East 45th Street,

For some time I have been attracted by the drawings of Charles C. Dawson, in the Bronzeman magazines, the first magazine to use one of my short stories, about a year and a half ago, and quite naturally I felt honored in receiving an autographed copy of the illustrator's first book, the A. B. C.'s of Great Negroes.

In this little book Dawson has used his original hand-made linoleum engravings of a prominent Negro for every letter of the alphabet and includes a short (in my opinion—entirely too short) biography of each character. The book being printed from linoleum cuts is of necessity very limited, probably only a few thousand being printed in this first edition.

The twenty-six Negroes whom Dawson has chosen for subjects are: Robert S. Abbott; Mary McLeod Bethune; George W. Carver; Frederick Douglass; Eatevanico; Meta Warrick Fuller; Albert B. George; Roland Hayes; Khatnot; James Weldon Johnson;

Khufu; Toussaint L'Ouverture; Robert R. Moton; Nefert; Anthony Overton; Alexander S. Pushkin; J. W. Quinn; Kas Tafari; C. C. Spaulding; Henry O. Tanner; Usaphais; Wm. E. Varick; Booker T. Washington; Francois Xavier, Col. Charles Young, and Zaudita, one time Empress of Ethiopia.

A very interesting book is added to my permanent library of racial literature.

—Clifford C. Mitchell.

## NEW STUDY AIMS TO PERPETUATE LINCOLN LORE

Expanded Program Announced by Historical Foundation.

FORT WAYNE, IND.—The most comprehensive study of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln ever attempted has been announced here by the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation.

"The state in which Lincoln grew to manhood now becomes the scene of the most thorough study ever made of his life and already boasts the most complete collection of literature on the Emancipator as yet assembled," explained Arthur F. Hall, president of the Lincoln National Life Insurance company, which endowed the foundation.

"After four years of work under the direction of a distinguished Lincolnian scholar, Dr. Louis A. Warren, we have laid the necessary groundwork for an expanded program designed to perpetuate Lincoln lore and stimulate interest in his life."

Dr. Warren, who started his study of Lincoln's life while editor of the Larue County Herald at Lincoln's birthplace, Hodgenville, Ky., has organized the foundation into eight bureaus to conduct research, gather material for exhibits, mark sites of historical significance, compile all available information, conduct educational programs, publish books, pamphlets, and magazines, and to provide speakers for all occasions identified with Lincoln's career.

### DRINK

IDEAL Beverages POP GINGER ALE LIME RICKY "Be Sure—Drink IDEAL" IDEAL Bottling Co. 1808 N. 20th St. WE. 3043

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JOHN RUSKIN IS AMERICA'S GREATEST CIGAR VALUE AT 5c. Don't be misled by old time brands "marked down to 5c." JOHN RUSKIN always was and always will be America's Greatest Cigar Value at 5c. It is the only real 10c. quality cigar selling at 5c. JOHN RUSKIN has more than 60% choice Havana filler, giving it a taste and aroma all its own. Buy a few today and learn for yourself what real smoking enjoyment is. SAVE THE BARKS THEY ARE REDEEMABLE. John Ruskin BEST AND BIGGEST CIGAR VALUE. John Ruskin Cigar Mfg. Co., Mena, Newark, N. J.

HAVE YOU GOT NERVE? Use It—It Will Pay You—Stick With It All of our ads for the next twelve weeks will run under the above heading. Watch for them—they will be very interesting, and you will learn some interesting facts. Wonderful News! Great Surprises In Prices We have priced everything to sell. So BUY—it will create jobs. 1928-29 Whippet Parts 1930 Nash Special, Standard Parts 1931 Hudson Parts 1929 Dodge Standard 6 Parts Fastest "4" Dodge Parts 1930 AA Truck Parts 1928 Pontiac Parts 1930 Willys-Knight "70" B Parts 1930-31 Chrysler 70 Motor, Parts 1929-30 Chevrolet Parts Willys-Knight "66" Parts 1930—2-ton International truck chassis—will sell any part or entire truck. If It's Parts—We Have It! And We Are CERTAINLY Selling! 1,000 Cars Wanted—20,000 Batteries Wanted IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, COME AND SEE US! ARE WE BUYING? YOU BET! Gerber Auto Parts 16th and Pierce and JA 6300 Consolidated Auto Parts "Home of Kangaroo Court" 2501 Cuming AT 5656 Truck Department—4th and Pacific—Jackson 7070

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