

THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE AND EQUALITY ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS NEW TO THE LINE

CITY EDITION
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 THE WEATHER
 Weather outlook for the period April 22 to April 27.
 Upper Mississippi Valley and Northern Great Plains, local showers beginning of week, except western portions northern plain followed by mostly fair; no marked extremes in temperature indicated.

LARGEST ACCREDITED NEGRO NEWSPAPER WEST OF CHICAGO AND NORTH OF KANSAS CITY

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OUR 13th YEAR—Number 4—

No. 5

Twelve Choirs Will Stage Sixth Annual Spring Musical At Tech

212 NEGROES DIE IN DANCE HALL FIRE 75 INJURED

FIVE SUSPECTS ARRESTED

Natchez, Miss. Special Release—Some 60 per cent of this town's 16,000 inhabitants are Negroes and there was scarcely a Negro home untouched by loss of relatives or friends in a fire that gutted the Rhythm Night Club.

Julius Wright, Negro, gave this description of the few deadly seconds just after he heard a girl cry "Look!"

"I looked but for a second, I didn't see anything. Then I saw the moss all aflame. Women began to scream. One man jumped up, pulled down the moss, and fell against a cardboard partition. He knocked it down and fell down with it. The flames fell all over him. I grabbed my wife and got out to the street."

A white eyewitness called the hall "the worst fire trap imaginable."

"When we finally got in, bodies were lying all over the floor," he said. "You could scarcely take a step without walking on one."

"Near the bar there was a pile of bodies five feet high. Many were very bloody, indicating desperate fighting."

DEAD LINE GARAGE FLOORS AND FUNERAL HOMES

All day thousands of Negroes tense and dry-eyed, crowded funeral parlors where the dead were laid in rows on garage floors for identification.

One by one, relatives of victims, the youngest of whom was 14, were admitted. They searched among the dead, screamed, shouted "That's him," or "There she is," or "That's my Johnny," and were led weeping away.

Mrs. Ruth Zercher of the Red Cross announced the expanded death list late today after it had stood at 212 for hours. She said also that 75 of the injured were being cared for by the Red Cross.

Six nurses were sent in from Greenville, Miss., and Washington Red Cross headquarters authorized the Natchez chapter to pay for funeral for victims whose families could not meet the expense.

INVESTIGATE FIREBUG RUMORS

Sheriff Hyde Jenkins said rumors that the blaze was a firebug's work had been investigated but all evidence so far pointed to an accidental origin. He added that some cases of minor looting from the bodies of the dead were being checked.

NLRB HITS EMPLOYER USE OF RELIGIOUS BIAS

Washington, April 25 (CNA)—Two favorite weapons of southern employes, religious prejudice and the company store, were assailed this week in an order by the National Labor Relations Board that three textile mills in Gaffney, South Carolina "cease dominating or interfering with" three employee clubs. The Board declared there had been "an active campaign to frustrate and destroy Textile Workers Union of America, CIO."

The board said that the mills fostered the clubs as rivals to the union. It also charged "physical violence directed against union members and assemblies," appeals to "religious sympathies," and the use of "economic force in the form of denial of credit at the company store as weapons against the union."

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH GETS NEW PASTOR

Rev. A. N. T. Chism, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Redlands, California, has accepted the pastorate of Salem Baptist Church, Omaha, announced Rev. C. C. Petties and W. E. Ford today. The new pastor is to take charge of church services Sunday, April 28. Public invited, they stated.

DEWEY 100 PERCENT FOR LYNCHING BILL

New York City—During his recent speaking tour in Nebraska and Missouri, Thomas E. Dewey, candidate for the Republican nomination for President, made at least two definite statements supporting a Federal anti-lynching measure. His position in this matter was made clear in a letter to the national NAACP last year, but the two statements in the West were even more pointed.

During an interview in Omaha when asked about the lynching measure he declared:

"I believe it should become a law. I am 100 per cent for it."

Asked the same question by a woman reporter in St. Louis, Mr. Dewey replied without hesitation:

"I am in favor of it, heartily in favor of it."

UPSET HOMES LAID TO FATHER DIVINE

Boston, April 26 (CNA)—Wrecked homes and abandoned children are casting shadows on the pearly gates of the kingdom of Father Divine, two white New York psychiatrists reported this week. The report followed less than 24 hours the suicide in New York of Floyd Schaefer, white WPA laborer whose wife deserted him, with their 10-year-old daughter, to go "to live with God."

Disclosing a study of a group of children whose parents had "neglected" them to become "angels" in the Divine kingdoms, Drs. Lauretta Bender and M. A. Spalding of New York's Bellevue Hospital, declared:

"The teachings of the movement include a denial of family ties and responsibility towards the family. We observe that when an individual accepts Father Divine's teachings, all of the family relationships of the home are broken, very often the home itself."

In the Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, the investigators told of intellectual and emotional confusion among offspring of parents who "have diverted their emotions toward Father Divine," and added:

"The parents interested in Father Divine not only neglect their children emotionally but also neglect their physical well-being."

A similar indictment was made against the cult recently by Judge Jacob Panken who denounced Father Divine's edict forbidding normal marital relations on the part of his followers. Panken accused Father Divine of advocating race suicide and of breaking up family life.

Schaefer committed suicide in his three-room apartment at 527 Throop Avenue, Brooklyn, leaving an unaddressed note explaining that his wife and daughter had been "converted" by Father Divine and had "gone to live with God."

CANADIAN STUDENT GIVES WAR VIEWS

Clemt DuMont, A 3, premedic from Rock Creek, B. C., Canada, believes the Allies were not caught napping when Germany invaded Denmark and Norway.

MASONICS BURN \$14,000 MORTGAGE—BUILDING FREE OF DEBT



Left to Right, Past Grand Master Walter L. Seals of Omaha; Branch Master N. Hyde of Des Moines, Dr. Sumner A. Furniss, Nathaniel L. Hunter and Ed. Fletcher. Photo Courtesy World-Herald

In nineteen thirty, members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Nebraska and Jurisdiction purchased the present building, 26th at Blondo streets, for fourteen thousand dollars. Monday they burned the mortgage of all outstanding debts, announced

DuMont, who considers himself just as far away from the Canadian army now as two months back believes the Allies may have baited Germany to fight in preferred territory.

BLACK EAGLE OF HARLEM HEADS FOR FINLAND TOO LATE

Several weeks too late, the American Negro aviator, "Colonel" Hubert Julian, self styled black eagle of New York's Harlem arrived in Bergen tonight enroute to fight for Finland.

An American ambulance unit, also intended for service with Finnish armies in the Russo-Finnish war, was on the same ship. The vessel had been long delayed in its voyage, officers of the unit said.

Both the black eagle, who was rated an "ace" when a member of Halle Selassie's tiny Ethiopian air force, and the members of the ambulance unit will proceed to Finland to aid in reconstruction work.

STROUD & BRYANT WIN PIANO HONORS; AT HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sylvester Stroud, South High School senior and Arthur Bryant, won the honors of superior in piano at the Nebraska High School Activities Association's Twelfth Annual Music Festival district number two, Fremont, Nebraska, April 10, 20, asserted Mrs. Flora Pinkston, music teacher today.

Winning superior privileges, Stroud and Bryant to enter the National Music Contest at Kansas City, Missouri, May 9, -10 and 11. The highest rating in this contest is high superior, says Mrs. Pinkston.

Contest judges were: Bernard F. Nevins, Lincoln, Neb., director of Instrumental music; David T. Lawson, of Topeka, Kansas, director of Music; Rosalind Cook, Ames, Iowa, music department, Iowa State College; Stanford Hulshizer, Des Moines, Iowa, Drake University School of Music; Herbert Schmidt, Lincoln, Nebraska, School of Music; James A. Melchor, Cedar Falls, Iowa orchestra and band director.

These boys demonstrated their "stuff" in this contest that any musician should have and must acquire to succeed, stated the teacher.

FLORA PINKSTON PRAISES STUDENTS CONTEST RENDITIONS

In Natchez, in New York, in Omaha, "Negro Parents" must realize their responsibility to our young people. These questions might flash in your mind as you consider our responsibility to youth: Do I owe youth anything? Didn't I have to make my own way in this world? Won't hardships make a man of him? What's the value of a college education? Isn't it the duty of the church, the school, and social agency to control youth's desire for pleasure? Don't I give my son or daughter a place to sleep and eat? Or I don't have children, why should I worry? And so forth and so on, we could continue with an endless list of questions which answered, one way or another, determine Negro youth's destiny on this earth and which have a bearing of this question of the responsibility of Negro youth. The Natchez disaster is closer to Omaha than we realize in a number of respects.

Our dance halls may be safe but our young people will be in danger of "fire" from other sources if we do not assume our full responsibility to them. We may not be in anguish because our children have perished from real fire but we will be in anguish equally as great if they suffer physical, mental, moral or economic disaster.

WILLIAMS PRAISES MC VAY. WELCOME 300 CHOIRSTERS

A. H. HARRIS' MOTHER BURIED AT CHILLICATHE MO.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Harris came home Tuesday from Chillicathe, Missouri, where Mr. Harris' mother, Mrs. Caroline Ellis, 78 was buried Sunday 2:30 o'clock.

Mrs. Ellis suffered with asthma several years. She died April 18, 11:30 o'clock stated Mr. Harris.

Surviving are three sons, Leon Bruce, Detroit, Michigan; Willie Bruce, Kansas City, Mo.; and A. H. Harris, Omaha; two daughters Miss Marian Brme, Detroit and Mrs. Ethel and seventeen grandchildren.

YOUTH, LABOR, CIVIC GROUPS BACK THIRD NATL. NEGRO CONGRESS

Washington, April 25 (CNA)—Third National Negro Congress, to be held here April 26 through April 28 promises to be a rich cross section of Negro life in America according to indications gained from a study of the 100 or more organizations which already have notified the Congress national office here of the elections of delegates. Registrations already have been received from organizations in far off California and New Mexico. Congress officials said. Other states heard from include Arkansas, Alabama, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Massachusetts.

Youth and college groups registered include the Garver Society of the City College of New York, Beta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Southern Negro Youth Congress, the Council of Young Southerners, and the 4-H clubs of North Carolina.

Church groups include, the Mt. Olive Baptist Association of New Mexico, the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance and the Religion of Labor Foundation.

Labor groups delegates are the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union (A.F. of L.) United Mine Workers of America, State County and Municipal Workers, United Agricultural and Cannery Workers and locals of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

More than 2,000 delegates from every section of the country and from every type of organization are expected to take part in the Congress sessions.

JIM CROW TERROR BARED IN CCC CAMP

Seattle, April 25 (CNA)—Reports of intolerable conditions in a Jim Crow CCC camp at Yucca Creek in Northern California were brought to light by the Washington Jew-Dealer, organ of the Washington Commonweath Federation, following an interview with a quartet of boys from Seattle who quit the camp after losing a strike to better conditions.

In violation of regulation standards, 270 Negro youths at the camp are forced to work seven days a week, subsist on a diet of beans and cabbage while a system of arbitrary fines is imposed against those who protest, it was reported.

PHILA. BAPTIST BACK ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Philadelphia, April 25—(Maude White for CNA) Baptist Churches of this city and vicinity recently observed a special "peace and anti-lynch" day.

The action was taken following the unanimous adoption by the Baptist Ministerial Conference of a resolution urging all churches to send resolutions to Senators Guffey and Davis requesting them to vote against a filibuster on the anti-lynching bill.

Resolution in the Conference was introduced by the Rev. Marshall Shepherd, pastor of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church and former Democratic state legislator. The Rev. C. David Foster is president of the Conference.

Urban Moods

BY RAYMOND R. BROWN

"A drop of ink may make a million think."—Byron

"200 Negroes lose their lives through a fire in a Natchez, Mississippi, dance hall. Many more of the 700 packed in this small dance place were injured. Most of them young people 15 to 17 years of age," came blasting from the radio this morning.

Negro Americans, what a horrible price for pleasure! Every week throughout America, our young people seek pleasure under just such conditions. When I heard this statement, I wondered how many were accompanied by parents or were properly chaperoned. I wonder how many of those parents knew where their children had gone that evening or had paid any attention to the fact that the hall was a fire trap with only one door for an exit. I wondered if we think enough about how our children are growing up.

THINK OF CHILD BEFORE BIRTH

(1) To prevent physical disaster besetting Negro youth we should begin thinking about that even before they are born so that they might be given the best possible healthy bodies with which to begin life free from disease and physical handicaps. This means we must keep our own in that condition to assure them of this opportunity.

(2) We must study the matter of child care, proper food and diet, and health habits of children. This does not require a college education. The government has provided adult education and parent education classes just for this purpose. If necessary, we could organize parent clubs ourselves to study for better childhood.

PARENTS MUST KNOW DUTY TO YOUTH

In Natchez, in New York, in Omaha, "Negro Parents" must realize their responsibility to our young people. These questions might flash in your mind as you consider our responsibility to youth: Do I owe youth anything? Didn't I have to make my own way in this world? Won't hardships make a man of him? What's the value of a college education? Isn't it the duty of the church, the school, and social agency to control youth's desire for pleasure? Don't I give my son or daughter a place to sleep and eat? Or I don't have children, why should I worry? And so forth and so on, we could continue with an endless list of questions which answered, one way or another, determine Negro youth's destiny on this earth and which have a bearing of this question of the responsibility of Negro youth. The Natchez disaster is closer to Omaha than we realize in a number of respects.

(3) We have responsibility to our youth's physical well being by providing them with the proper clothing and seeing to it that they learn the laws of cleanliness and form habits of neatness.

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(5) The last phase of physical disaster which is so important to youth of high school age is a proper understanding of sex education. This is a black mark on American parenthood because it has been a subject hushed by tam-

(Continued on page 2)