

THE VOICE
A NEGRO WEEKLY

"Dedicated to the promotion of the cultural, social and spiritual life of a great people"

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Letter to the Editor:

To all who have become disturbed by the letter written by Mrs. X, don't let it bother you too much.

Apparently she hasn't had the benefits of a good education and she should be pitied more than worried about. I'm sure that there are many of us who would be glad to privately tutor her at no charge whatsoever. After all, every American, whatever the race, should have the benefits of a good democratic education.

Perhaps that is the reason she wrote—so someone would offer to give a free education to an ignorant "nobody."

Also, to the white businessman who couldn't afford to hire Negroes in his store, that is all right too. You see, one of these days, God is not going to have room for you nor others like you.

From a girl who's proud to have beautiful black skin.

Our Children

By Mrs. W. B. Davis



Some early delinquency causes: The oversolicitous parent stuffs and over-feeds the emotional life of the child, whereas the stern cold forbidding parent deprives the child of mental nourishment, leaving him hungry and resentful. There is plenty of room between these two extremes to give a fair degree of assurance of strength and stability to the emotional life of the child so that he will neither suffer from hunger pains nor be nauseated by over stimulation.

There is a lamentable ignorance and an inexcusable lack of interest on the part of many parents as to the resources available and utilized by the child to gratify his pleasure seeking tendencies. So long as children are trained and dominated by personalities inadequate because of intellectual defects or an unhealthy outlook on life, so long shall we have children with characters twisted and warped through suggestion, and imitation of these parents.

The environment which many a normal child has had the misfortune to inherit produces an unhealthy, antagonistic reaction on his part in effort to improve it. There is no reason why we should expect a normal child to

adapt himself to an abnormal environment. The impulse to rebel in such situations is an indication of stability. All too frequently it is the conduct which annoys and inconveniences parents that causes most concern and not the conduct representing fundamental handicaps to the child in later life.

Hyperactivity, mischievousness, and curiosity are more apt to bring the child into conflict with parental authority than submissiveness, self-centered-ness, and day dreaming, all of which indicate that the child is getting out of touch with reality. Very often inadequacy, inferiority, and delinquency are suggested to the child by the family and neighborhood gossip regarding his difficulty in getting along at home or in school. The parent who depends on threats and punishment to bring about the desired conduct on the part of the child is often making a great deal of work for the judge and the police court. When cheating the child is held in the same contempt as cheating the adult, children will have a higher regard for truth and honesty.

No greater affliction can be thrust upon the child than that of inheriting the type of parents who refuse to allow him to grow up.

Teen Age Chatter

by Marguerite Gill

Asst. Ruby Lee Harper
Asst. Loretta McWilliams



Something new has been added this weeks article is being written by Jon Roscoe, I hope it can at least approach the fine article that Margo Gill, Loretta McWilliams and Ruby Harper have been writing.

Well here goes—please bear with me.

I wish to compliment all of our sepia beauties that have been enchanting the Muny pool—some of the first I saw were Margo Gill, Betty Bowman, Lois Hatcher, Lopy and Vonna Finley, Betty, Nellie and Hazel Wilson. There are many others so lets come out to see them.

A friend of Billy Rutherford's has just blew in from Washington, D. C. His name is Carl Huff.

Charming is the niece of Mrs. Edwards. We are sorry that she couldn't linger here a little longer. Alene Jackson, I do hope you will be back soon.

Let's have more fine bike rides. What-a-you say?

An interesting youth meeting was held Sunday evening at Newman Methodist Church. I might suggest that a few more adults come out to keep a few more adults in line. So the discussion won't get out of hand.

Last but far from least we all extend all the luck and happiness in the future to every body's friend Bettye Tarpley and Calvin Rogers. By the way Cal put his atomic bat on 3 home runs in one game last week—an all time record.

Well thats all she wrote and the pencil broke.

Thanks a lot Sister-in-law.

This week as a special favor and also to see how boys write Chatter I have decided to turn the Column over to Fletcher Bell.

Person of the week last week: Bettye Tarpley.

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FREE ESTIMATES

Dark Merit

by Kathrynne Favors

The Free Negro During Slavery

The free Negroes did have some privileges during slavery. Often, however, the Negro did not have much chance when he went to court. They were allowed to bring suit against people and if they felt that they had been treated unjustice in court, they could appeal to a higher court. The free Negro had the right to have trial by jury. Carter G. Woodson says, "It must be remembered, however, that the Negro could not expect a fair trial; for, consistent with the unwritten primitive law of the white man dealing with the blacks, judgement preceded proof. In the case of ordinary misdemeanors the lot of the free Negroes was no better than that of the slave. Corporal punishment in these cases was administered to the Negroes without stint, whereas a white man guilty of the same offense would be required to pay a fine. In most cases of felony the punishment for a white man and a free Negro was the same in the beginning, but the reaction brought on certain distinctions."

Even though some of the laws forced the Negro to assume a lower status than the ordinary common laborer, the Negro had to pay his taxes also. Woodson says, "In Virginia, free Negroes were required to pay a poll tax of \$1.50 in 1813 and \$2.50 in 1815. In 1814 5,547 free Negroes paid \$8,322 in taxes, and in 1863 they paid \$13,065.22 in poll taxes. The Negroes in Baltimore paid \$500 in school taxes in 1860, although their children could not attend the city schools." (That was almost one hundred years ago and here in Lincoln, although over a thousand Negroes pay school taxes, no Negro teachers are hired in the school system. With the University of Nebraska right here in Lincoln, it is alarming that some of the fine youth of Lincoln who have lived here all their lives, and attended college here must enter school systems in other cities or states where the people are getting something for their tax money.)

Will the person who signed the letter "Equalizer" identify himself so that we can use the letter. Your name will not be published.

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