

BRINGS UNPROPHESIED OPPORTUNITIES TO RACE

(Continued From First Page)

as a fellow human being and an American citizen."

The letter of a Florida Colored man to the Montgomery, Alabama, Advertiser, contains these paragraphs:

"Why should the South raise such objections to the jobless man seeking the manless job, especially when it has held that jobless man up to the ridicule of the world as trifling, shiftless and such a burden to the South?"

"Now that the opportunity has come to the Negro to relieve the South of some of its burden, and at the same time advance his own interest, a great hue and cry is started that it must not be allowed, and the usual and foolish method of repressive legislation is brought into play."

"The Macon Telegraph says of the Negro exodus: 'If we lose it, we go bankrupt.' Yet it is the same paper that only a few months ago was advocating the sending of 100,000 Negroes into Mexico to conquer the 'mongrel breed,' and at the same time rid the South of that many worthless Negroes. How different the song now. . . ."

"The world war is bringing many changes and a chance for the Negro to enter broader fields. With the 'tempting bait' of higher wages, shorter hours, better schools and better treatment, all the preachments of the so-called 'race leaders' will fall on deaf ears."

The most comprehensive expression of hope for the Negro raised by the direct and indirect efforts of the war appears in an article by Wilson Jefferson contributed to the N. Y. Evening Post. While the war lasts and in the following years of necessary reconstruction work in Europe, foreign workers will be kept over there. Consequently our source of unskilled labor supply must be the over-plentiful Negro labor of the South, according to Mr. Jefferson. The Southern wage has been low because Colored labor was plentiful. The migration will react on Southern conditions.

"In the South the poorer whites will be forced to do some of the harder tasks of the shop and field, and will be forced to do what they have never hitherto done: fit themselves for house work and other work calling for more or less personal service. And it will all work to the Negro's gain. The employer will not be able to get along without the help of both, and the white worker will not be willing to work for the Negro wage."

"Some of the trades in the South offer an example of white and Negro co-operation. In them Negro and white unions affiliate for their mutual protection. As a consequence, in the building trades, for example, the wage compares favorably with the scale in other parts of the country. Among unskilled workers there will be unions and affiliations of a similar nature, and a must higher wage scale will prevail as a result."

Nothing has hampered the Negro as a race more than the inability of its great body of workers to make a decent living, Mr. Jefferson insists. He believes most people do not realize how indifferent the average Southern employer has been to the needs of his workmen. "The laws give these men absolutely no protection. The bulk of them are as capable and live as clean lives as do a corresponding class among any people. They are as ambitious. Given a fair chance they will no doubt prove more efficient as all-around workers than any class of foreigners we might import." While the white South has been willing to feed and praise the Negroes

"as servants," says Mr. Jefferson, it has never been willing to pay them very much in wages.

"The one and two-room hut has grown out of this state of affairs. If as it often happened, the black man rebelled, he was always taunted with the more or less truthful assertion that the North and West did not want him and his "ways." What was not told him was that the black man's 'ways' were largely a result of the white man's ways. But more and more he is finding this out for himself. He is rapidly learning that forty dollars a month and regular habits are infinitely better than fifteen or twenty dollars a month and irregular habits. In short he is learning to be willing to cast off the loose methods of the South for 'Yankee' ways because of the difference it makes in his payroll and in his condition of living. . . ."

"To get a glimpse of the possibilities wrapped up in Negro labor one has only to investigate the more progressive of the manufacturing cities of the South. Birmingham, Ala., depends almost wholly upon the Negro for its unskilled and semi-skilled labor. Nashville, Atlanta, Memphis and Jacksonville do likewise. But in all of these towns, save in some instances in Birmingham, wages are too low, housing conditions are poor, and the advantages for recreation and pleasure exceedingly limited."

Furthermore, Mr. Jefferson argues that American employers can trust Negro employees.

"The Negro represents the sanest, safest group—too safe, we think, sometimes—in this country, and he has proved it on more than one occasion. He can be trusted. Many of the employer class have had their eyes opened with respect to much of our foreign-born labor. A great deal of it is much too keen (to use our American expression) for ordinary, everyday uses. Even with less effective results to begin with, the Negro in the end would prove more tractable and, what is more important, more genuinely interested in the advancement and prosperity of his employer."

Unforeseen, the way is opening for the Negro to win a better place and hold it on industrial and economic grounds in this country. In Europe, too, the war has brought the blacks of British and French colonies to the front, not merely as fighters but "apt and tractable" industrial workers. From the shaking up of race relations the world over, Negroes, Mr. Jefferson thinks, may reasonably expect an open and avowed policy of help and uplift long waited for.

C. S. JOHNSON

18th and Izard Tel. Douglas 1702
ALL KINDS OF COAL and COKE
at POPULAR PRICES.
Best for the Money

Established 1890

C. J. CARLSON

Dealer in
Shoes and Gents' Furnishings
1514 No. 24th St. Omaha, Neb.

Tel. Red 1424

Will L. Hetherington

Violinist

Instructor at Bellevue College
Asst. of Henry Cox

Studio Patterson Bldg

We recommend the

State Furniture Co.

Corner 14th and Dodge Sts.
as the most reliable, accommodating and economical furniture store to buy from.

YOUR BOY'S SHOES

SHOULD BE BOUGHT OF US

Heavy orders before the raise makes it possible to sell you the fines \$2.50 and \$3.00 boys' shoes in Omaha.

M. S. ATKISSON'S

("HOME OF THE NETTLETON")

Buy Yours Here.

503 South 16th Street

Her Grand Building.

Fadden & Bittner

Men's Finer Furnishings

Only Store in Omaha Showing both
Stetson and Dunlap Hats.

511 South 16th Street

TRUNKS

THE BETTER KIND

Made from good clear lumber, covered with fibre; well bound on edges. Durable corners and braces where necessary. Sturdy locks and hinges, 2 trays nicely cloth lined.

Priced at \$10.00, \$12.00, \$13.50 and \$15.00.

Freling & Steinle

"Omaha's Best Baggage Builders"

1803 FARNAM STREET

C. H. MARQUARDT CASH MARKET

Retail Dealer in Fresh and Salt Meats, Poultry, Oysters, etc.
2003 Cuming St. Doug. 3834
Home Rendered Lard. We Smoke and Cure our own Hams and Bacon.

SMOKE Chancellor CIGAR

SMOKE

Te Be Ce

THE BEST 5c CIGAR

PATTON HOTEL AND CAFE

N. A. Patton, Proprietor
1014-1016-1018 South 11th St.
Telephone Douglas 4445
62 MODERN AND NEATLY
FURNISHED ROOMS

I TAKE PLEASURE

in thanking you for your patronage. I want your trade solely upon the merits of my goods. You will profit by trading here.

H. E. YOUNG

Webster 515 2114-16 N. 24th St.

J. A. Edholm E. W. Sherman

Standard Laundry
24th, Near Lake Street
Phone Webster 130

NEW HOME



"I'll get it for my wife"



NO OTHER LIKE IT.
NO OTHER AS GOOD.

Purchase the "NEW HOME" and you will have a life asset at the price you pay. The elimination of repair expense by superior workmanship and best quality of material insures life-long service at minimum cost. Insist on having the "NEW HOME".

WARRANTED FOR ALL TIME.

Known the world over for superior sewing qualities. Not sold under any other name.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO., ORANGE, MASS.

FOR SALE BY

HAYDEN BROTHERS, OMAHA

R. C. PRICE, The Barber



No superior and few equals.

My success as a barber is not due to knocking my fellow workmen or any other knight of the chair. The public reserves the right to differentiate between real barber work and a game of talk. My work stands alone on its merits. With the

A. P. SIMMONS, Prop.
ESS-TEE-DEE SHAVING
PARLOR.
1322 DODGE STREET

1879

1916

Arnold FLORISTS

1523 Douglas St. Douglas 132

MAC THE PRINTER

J. M. McGaffin.

Makes Good Things Out of Tync Paper and Ink. Don't worry, fret or hesitate about your PRINTING

Mac is always on the job. Call Doug, 2828. 108 So. 14th St.