

N. Y. Girl Is Awarded \$65,000 Damages

MANY NEW BOOKS BY AND ABOUT NEGROES ARE BEING PUBLISHED

From the early announcements of publishers there are gathered a number of distinguished volumes of verse, fiction, biography, drama and art by and about Negroes which will be published within the next few months. The number and quality of this output will doubtless serve to establish even more firmly the reputation of Negro artists and add to the esteem in which many of them are now held. The list given here does not claim to be all inclusive, but it does give an imposing number of books whose publication has definitely been announced.

On July 29th, Harper and Brothers, New York, will publish the second volume of verse by Countee Cullen, whose first book, "Color," has long been a best seller. Mr. Cullen's new book will bear the title "Copper Sun," which is taken from his own poem, "Heritage." He will also appear again on the Harper list on October 6th, when his anthology of verse by Negro poets, "Caroling Dusk," will be published. A third volume bearing Mr. Cullen's name and the Harper imprint will appear in December. This will be a deluxe edition of Mr. Cullen's well known "Ballad of a Brown Girl." Harper will publish simultaneously with the trade edition of "Copper Sun" a deluxe, autographed edition of 100 copies of this new book in verse.

In October the same firm will publish a first novel by Claude McKay, another noted Negro poet, who has been living abroad for a number of years. Mr. McKay's novel will be called "Home to Harlem" and is receiving much favorable advance comment as to its excellence. Mr. McKay is widely known for his volume of verse published in 1922, "Harlem Shadows." Perhaps his best known poem is his widely quoted "If We Must Die."

On August 19th Alfred A. Knopf will publish in that firm's famous Blue Jade Library, James Weldon Johnson's "The Autobiography of An Ex-Colored Man." First published anonymously in 1912 by a Boston firm which went out of business during the war, this novel by Mr. Johnson has long been out of print and eagerly sought after by collectors. Mr. Carl Van Vechten has done an introduction to the Knopf reprint. The Blue Jade Library is made up of distinguished books of lasting value which have attained the position of being semi-classics.

Also, in September, a book of particular interest and importance to colored readers will be brought out by the Viking Press. This is "Portraits in Color" by Mary White Ovington. Miss Ovington's book is made up of biological and critical essays on the lives and accomplishments of twenty colored men and women. The list includes Robert Russa Moton, George W. Carver, Scipio A. Jones, Ernest E. Just, W. E. B. Du Bois, James Weldon Johnson, Louis T. Wright, Roland Hayes, Paul Robeson, Walter White, Lucy Laney, Maggie L. Walker, Langston Hughes and several others as well known. This volume is certain to be widely read and discussed.

Drama will be adequately represented by "Plays of Negro Life," edited by Montgomery Gregory and Alain Locke, which Harper and Brothers will publish during the fall season. Practically every play about Negroes by white and colored authors will be included. The volume will contain between 25 and 30 plays, about one-third of them written by colored playwrights.

Knopf will publish on October 21 a book of interest made up of the Negro drawings of Miguel Covarrubias, the talented Mexican artist whose work has appeared mostly in Vanity Fair. Mr. Covarrubias' picturization of Negro types has done much to attract attention to the latent possibilities in the arts of Negroes.

Knopf publishes on October 6th "Stuffed Peacocks," by Emil Clark. This is a volume of short stories laid

in Virginia, some three or four of them dealing with Negro characters. Miss Clark is a member of one of the oldest families in Virginia and was editor of The Reviewer. She is one of the growing number of white people in and from the South who are deeply interested in the Negro and particularly his artistic development.

This same firm will publish next April a first novel of great beauty and distinction. The writer is Mrs. Nella Larsen Imes of New York and her novel will bear the title of "Quick Sand."

There are probably other books by Negro authors and about Negro life not yet announced, but the list given is an imposing one. It gives further indication that the position of the Negro in the artistic world is being more securely fixed by excellent work and that the fears of some that the interest in things Negro is a passing fad are largely unfounded. These books, along with others recently published, like James Weldon Johnson's notable "God's Trombones," E. C. L. Adams' "Congaree Sketches," and similar books of note, are significant and encouraging signs of progress. Rudolph Fisher, considered by many as the best writer of short stories of Negro life, is at work on a novel, and Langston Hughes is spending the summer in Memphis, New Orleans and other Southern cities gathering material for his next book. Walter White sails with Mrs. White and two children for France, where he will spend a year writing two books; and others as yet unknown are writing. The outlook is distinctly hopeful for a continuation of excellent writing by Negroes.

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MISS GENEVA MABRAY

New York Public School Teacher Is Visiting Mother

Miss Geneva Mabray, who resided in Omaha with her mother, Mrs. Eliza Mabray, for many years during her vacations from Fiske University, is now living in New York City, where she is a teacher in the public schools in that part of Greater New York now called Brooklyn, where she has been employed for the past two years.

The school building in which Miss Mabray teaches contains 48 rooms, and the teaching staff consists of a principal, a vice principal and 44 teachers. Each room has an average of 44 pupils.

Teachers are appointed on a civil service basis, and it was through competitive examinations that Miss Mabray won her appointment. And each year the teachers take examinations and are thus kept progressive. It is the rule, also, for teachers to pursue special courses at some of the universities in New York. Miss Mabray has done special work at New York University and is planning to take some work at Columbia University next year.

Miss Mabray is a graduate of Fiske University and is an example of what it is possible for a prepared person to accomplish, even in the metropolis of the nation.

Mrs. Dan Desdunes is Miss Mabray's sister.

ENTERTAINS AT TEA

Mrs. A. D. James entertained at a very pleasant tea at her home, 4421 South Twenty-sixth street, on Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 6, in honor of her sister, Mrs. Thomas S. Riggs, formerly of Omaha, now residing in Chicago. Mrs. T. Slayter, of Atlanta, Ga., a cousin of Mrs. James, and Mrs. H. R. Roberts, formerly of Omaha, but now residing in Seattle, were also guests of honor. Seventy ladies attended. Mrs. James was assisted by Mesdames J. F. Smith and C. F. Smith and the Misses Ruth Adams and Elaine Smith.

EDITORIAL

Well, well, what a jolt! And we are wondering how many more jolts of various kinds our beloved city of Omaha, and her magnanimous citizens will be able to stand! Last year it was discovered that the expenditures of the school district so far exceeded the income that an enormous deficit, approximately three-quarters of a million, had arisen. So serious was the situation that immediate retrenchment was imperative. This retrenchment fell heavily upon the teachers, about 150 of them being laid off, within a short time of the reopening of school, giving those thrown out of employment no opportunity to seek positions elsewhere. This was undoubtedly a great injustice to the teachers, unavoidable perhaps, when the deficit was discovered, but for which some person or persons were responsible. We do not presume to fix responsibility, we simply state the fact. Somebody or some bodies had not guarded expenditures.

Six members of the Board of Education were elected on a platform of economy. The new board has undoubtedly conscientiously tackled its big task. It does not desire to cripple the schools and yet there is the problem confronting them, to make the garment fit the cloth. They have employed a school manager, who has the reputation of being a far-sighted, clear-headed business man, to carefully scrutinize expenditures to the end that every dollar may count. So far, so good.

Now comes another jolt, the rather startling report, in the light of last year's deficit, that—

1. Omaha schools cost more per pupil than in any other city except one, the exception being Des Moines, Iowa, of 24 comparable cities.
2. The average teaching load, i. e., the number of pupils per teacher in Omaha is lighter than in any but two of these 24 cities.

This is according to the finding of Dr. Walter Siders of Pocatello, Idaho, an educational expert and statistician, who was employed by the Omaha Teachers' Forum to make a scientific survey of the educational situation here.

The full report of the investigator has not yet been given to the public, but Edwin C. Miller, head of the budget committee, frankly admits that the figures submitted by Dr. Siders show these facts.

It seems that these findings are quite contrary to those expected. Indeed, one member of the Teachers' Forum, G. F. Knipprath, is quoted by the daily press as indignantly protesting that "the Omaha public has been given an imperfect picture of the situation, entirely misleading and misinforming." How does he know?

Was Dr. Siders employed to juggle figures or to get the facts? Those who employed him evidently believed that he had the ability to get the facts. Because the facts do not conform to some preconceived theory or plan and are a reflection upon rather than a glorification of some individual or individuals is not the fault of the investigator. It is admitted that the expenditures for the Omaha public school system have exceeded the income. What all citizens are interested in is an honest investigation of the situation in order that if mistakes have been made they can, as far as possible, be corrected. If there has been too great expansion, then there must be commensurate retraction. If in our civic zeal to outstrip other citizens in the same class in educational facilities we have exceeded our ability then there is no humiliation in admitting it. It may be a jolt to somebody's pride; but jolts are valuable in awakening people and communities and getting them out of ruts. Omaha needs the very best school system she can afford and she can afford an excellent one. But this does not mean foolish extravagance.

OMAHA DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION WILL MEET AT ELWOOD, KAN.

The Omaha District Sunday School and Allen Christian Endeavor League will meet at Elwood, Kan., in Bethel A. M. E. church, the Rev. William Bell, pastor, on July 27-31. An interesting program, combining services, instruction and recreation, has been prepared to keep delegates and visitors busy during the entire session. There will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions. The convention sermon on the morning of the first day will be preached by the Rev. S. D. Rhone, B. D., pastor of Allen Chapel, South Omaha, and the annual sermon on the evening of the same day will be delivered by the Rev. John Grant, D. D., pastor of St. John's, Omaha. The convention sermon of the A. C. E. L. will be preached by the Rev. T. W. Kidd, D. D., pastor of Bethel A. M. E. church, on Friday morning. Among other speakers will be Prof. A. T. Walker of St. Joseph, Mo., Rev. M. C. Knight, Rev. J. E. Brewer, Miss Eva Johnson, Mrs. Shane of Wathena, Kan., Rev. J. W. Baker of Troy, Kan., Rev. W. S. Metcalfe of Omaha, and Rev. John Adams, D. D., presiding elder, Omaha.

one of the most harmonious and successful sessions in the history of the organization. Reports showed the order to be in excellent financial condition and steadily growing. Practically all of the grand officers were re-elected. Mr. Harrold was re-elected without opposition for the eighth successive time. Among other Omahans elected were Mrs. Lenora Gray, V. G. P.; C. C. Cutright, G. D. M., and Mrs. Bessie Kirby, Special Grand Secretary.

The Wilson Guards of Omaha won first prize in the competitive drill, and the Princess Guards, not to let the men outdo them, captured the first prize in their competitive drill. A large delegation was present from Omaha.

NEGRO INSTRUCTOR IS INITIATED INTO A PSYCHOLOGY FRAT

Lawrence, Kan.—William E Griffin, summer school student, and instructor in mathematics and psychology at Lincoln high school, Kansas City, Mo., was initiated into Beta Chi Sigma, national honorary psychology fraternity, Thursday, July 7th. Mr. Griffin, who has attended summer school here since 1925, working on his master's degree, was invited to join the fraternity—the invitation being extended "for profound study and research." Mr. Griffin's election is the second one among Negroes at Kansas University. Anthony Hill, a colored student of St. Joseph, Mo., was elected to the society this spring.

HAVE RETURNED FROM GRAND LODGE MEETING

A. M. Harrold, C. G. M. of the Knights and Daughters of Tabor, of Kansas and its jurisdiction, and other Omaha delegates, have returned from attending the grand lodge of the order at Leavenworth, Kan., said to be

GIRL GETS \$65,000 FOR THE LOSS OF LEG

New York—One of the largest sums ever awarded in a damage suit for personal injuries was granted a seven-year-old colored girl Thursday for injuries suffered when she was run down by an automobile.

The girl, Hilda Morris, received a verdict of \$65,000 in the supreme court, Queens, before Justice Mitchell May. The judgment was awarded against A. H. Hewes company, pottery makers of Brooklyn.



REV. WILLIAM F. BOTTIS, D. D.

Who celebrated the seventeenth anniversary of his pastorate at Zion Baptist Church, Omaha, last Sunday.

COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS HOLD STATE CONVENTION AT BEATRICE, NEBRASKA

The twenty-second annual convention of Colored Women's Clubs of Nebraska convened at Beatrice, June 28 and 29. The sessions were held at St. Paul's A. M. E. church.

The business of the convention was transacted in an able manner, the sessions being presided over with unusual executive ability by Mrs. Ada Holmes of Lincoln, State President.

The programs were interesting and consisted of music and addresses by some of the best talent in the state. Among the interesting number was an address on "Citizenship," given by Mrs. Earl Kleppinger. She touched on the value and importance of citizenship, race adjustment and prohibition and law enforcement in the United States.

The president's annual message was given, which was very good. She urged all women to live up to our motto: "Sowing for Others to Reap."

On Tuesday evening a reception was given for visiting delegates and friends at the home of Mrs. Robert Scott. Ices, cakes, candies and nuts were served by the club ladies.

Officers elected as follows:
President, Mrs. Ada Holmes, Lincoln; vice president, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Lincoln; secretary, Mrs. Rheiva Harold, Omaha; treasurer, Mrs. Daisy Gordon, Beatrice; chaplain, Mrs. Carrie Robinson, Beatrice; chairman of ways and means committee, Mrs. Jennie McGovern, Omaha; chairman child welfare and music, Mrs. Mayme Griffin, Lincoln; parliamentarian, Mr. Paul Moore, Lincoln. Trustees: O. J. Burckhardt, Lincoln; H. W. Botts, Lincoln; F. W. Botts, Omaha.

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ENTERTAINS IN HONOR OF BRIDAL COUPLE

Mrs. A. Hanger entertained at a largely attended reception at the home of her grand daughter, Mrs. Marion Hale, 2523 Ohio street, on Thursday evening, July 14, in honor of her son, Saybert, and his bride, who were married June 29 in St. Louis, Mo. One hundred friends responded to the invitation to meet and welcome to our city the bride and to wish her and the groom many happy years of happy married life. Mrs. Hanger was assisted by Mesdames Hale, Pegg and Lowry.

PROMISING YOUTH IS DROWNED AFTER RESCUING COUSIN

Lewis S. Smith, Seventeen-Year-Old Nephew of J. Frank Smith of Omaha, Gave His Life To Save Another

(Special to The Monitor)

Sea Cliff, L. I.—Gloom was thrown over this community Sunday afternoon by the tragic death by drowning of Lewis S. Smith, jr., aged 17, only son of Lewis W. Smith of 751 Marcy avenue, Brooklyn, and grandson of Mrs. Ursuline Smith, widow of the late W. H. Smith, who has maintained a summer residence here for nearly half a century. Lewis was drowned in Hempstead Harbor while assisting in the rescue of his cousin, Miss Mabel Smith, also of Brooklyn, who was bathing and in danger of drowning. Smith was in a row boat with another cousin, Dr. William Warrick, jr., son of Dr. William Warrick, when Miss Smith shouted for help.

Dr. Warrick and young Smith immediately plunged in to aid her, and Dr. Warrick succeeded in bringing her to shore. Smith had become exhausted by his efforts in assisting in the rescue and sank. His body was recovered a half hour later by Jack Rider, a local life guard. Smith is survived by a large number of relatives in New York and vicinity. An uncle, J. Frank Smith, resides at 3027 Manderson street, Omaha, Nebraska.

PASTOR OF GROVE M. E. CHURCH IS ILL

The Rev. T. V. Orville, pastor of Grove Methodist Episcopal church, Twenty-second and Seward streets, has been confined to his home by illness since Sunday. He is able to sit up and hopes to be able to be out Sunday. Sunday night Attorney H. J. Pinkett will deliver an address at Grove at 8 o'clock.

ENTERTAINS FOR VISITOR FROM LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Mrs. Leonard Owens, 2403 North Twenty-ninth street, entertained eighteen guests at her home, Thursday evening, July 14, complimentary to Mrs. Alice Howard of Los Angeles, Cal. Other out-of-town guests present were Mrs. C. A. Stewart and daughter, Evangeline, of Wilmington, N. C. A delightful luncheon was served and an excellent musical program rendered.

MRS. GEORGE ALLEN SUCCUMBS TO LONG ILLNESS

Mrs. Alice Allen, aged 66, wife of George T. Allen, died Friday night at the family residence, 3219 Franklin street, after a protracted illness. Mrs. Allen is survived by her husband, three sons, and several other relatives. The funeral was held on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Hulse & Riepen chapel. The Rev. John Albert Williams officiated. Interment was at Forest Lawn.

RESIDENTS OF OLD FOLKS HOME ARE GIVEN OUTING

The residents of the Colored Old Folks Home were given an outing and picnic July 12th through the kindness of Mr. Harry Leland. They were taken to Elmwood Park in an automobile loaned by Mrs. Harry Prazier, where a chicken dinner was served. The soft drinks, a case of Coco Cola, were donated by Mr. Dave Morrison.

WASHINGTON NOW HAS NEGRO LITTLE THEATRE

Washington, D. C.—There has been organized here during the past winter season The Krigwa, Negro Little Theatre. This is a direct outgrowth of the New York Krigwa, and has for its object the promotion of art and the giving of a sympathetic and correct portrayal of Negro life.