

# THE WEEKLY REVIEW

Published Weekly and "Devoted to the Interests of the Colored Citizenry of Nebraska."

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NUMBER TWO

## The Urban League Needed In Lincoln

By M. T. Woods.

The program of the National Urban League is wide and elastic and without a question of a doubt some phases of its program are both applicable and needed in Lincoln. It would be a matter of repetition to mention the entire program, however, it would be well to cite again those phases of the program that would best help to better the social and industrial conditions of Lincoln, with especial reference to the Negro.

Industrial problems are not of any consequence here as in comparison to what they are in large industrial centers where there is a large Negro population. However, they do exist. Many Negroes are not employed now who possibly could be according to a number of employers who have recently been interviewed. Many employers say that Negroes never apply to them, and there not being any centralized placement bureau from which qualified help can be selected and sent them, they do not care to risk the employment of Negroes alone to personal reference or the other means that unsatisfactory help has been sent them. This attitude particularly applies in cases of managers of stores that have been in the city a short time or those who have been here a longer time but do not have an extensive list of colored acquaintances. In brief an Urban League secretary could assist in bringing about the replacement of Negroes in positions that have been lost, helping them to retain jobs that they do have, and interceding for work wrongly thought closed to them.

Briefly from a social point of view there is but little doubt that a community center program would take care of the present and immediate future needs of the group. A community center would provide a place of wholesome recreational opportunities for both boys, girls and adults. It would afford a much needed meeting place for the ladies clubs. The health program could be elaborated on, with lectures and practical demonstrations being given at the community center. Other public meetings could be held in which civic pride would be stressed. This is a program, though briefly stated that deserves the immediate consideration and whole-hearted support of the best thinking men and women of Lincoln.

### Opportunities Created by a Race Newspaper

Many people do not foresee the advantages to the race made available by a Negro newspaper. Many unthinking persons conclude that such a public organ is merely a source of revenue for its private promoters. Such individuals because of their unwarranted pessimistic attitude fail to see the great beneficial public service that a race paper gives. The motive behind any newspaper's activities is not one of selfish pecuniary gain. There are many pursuits of profit that an individual or group of individuals could engage themselves in from which they could realize a greater personal enrichment than from the newspaper business. What then is an editor's purpose? To engage in such work he is surely endowed with an altruistic spirit. He is trying to make a way for those of his race and its posterity.

One of the primary effects of a race newspaper is to bring members of the race into a closer affinity with each other. It serves as a bond, a tie, and through its printed pages it creates a kindred feeling and is effective in realizing a closer contact between us, one with the other.

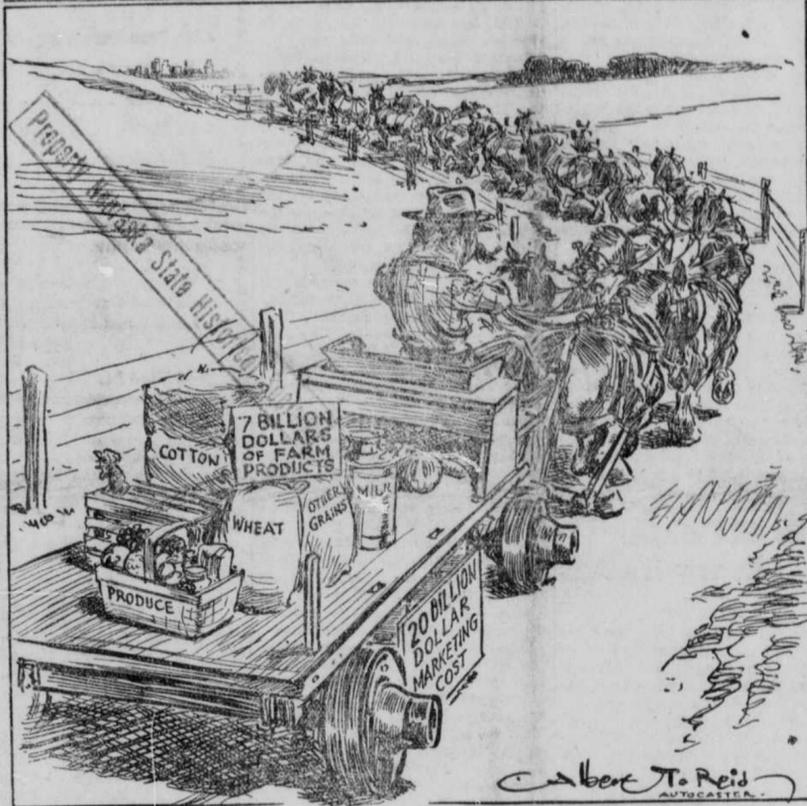
Let us look a little deeper into the effects of newspaper work in our race. Have you ever stopped to ponder over the possibility of employment for our youth being trained in the nation's great institutions of learning? What will they do when they have finished? It is an obvious fact that a very small percentage of them are successful in getting something to do from members of the other race. To aid in alleviating this embarrassing situation the newspaper comes to the front. It establishes avenues of employment, not only in the confines of its own undertakings, but also in creating the sentiment and public opinion because of which more and more avenues of employment will be constantly opened in other concerns. For instance, by proper approach the newspaper of the race has been instrumental in obtaining for us jobs in public service and public utility concerns. Statistics showing this to be a fact are astounding.

In this modern day and time, all of us are anxious to know of the welfare, accomplishments and activities of each other. We all know that an attempt to glean these facts from white newspapers is vain. So as a source of information, the Negro newspaper satisfies this desire on the part of the Negro public.

This brief statement will perhaps serve as an eye-opener as to what prospects lie in the future for a successful promotion of the Review, the Negro newspaper of the people of Lincoln.

## Something Wrong Here

By Albert T. Reid



## We Thank You

The publishers and cooperating staff of the Review are taking this opportunity of expressing our thanks and appreciation to the far-seeing business men of Lincoln who so graciously contributed their support in our initial effort to give Lincoln its best weekly journal. We feel the same appreciation for those who made possible this current issue and trust and earnestly solicit your future patronage. We will continue to endeavor to merit participation in your advertisement budget as the years drift by.

The Review offers its advertising patrons the exclusive coverage of a well organized group of liberal spenders. For this group this publication is the sole source of local news. The colored people of Lincoln earn and spend three and a half million (\$3,500,000) dollars annually. This sum of money is not negligible to the well organized business men of this city. By regular use of the Review the smallest merchant might increase his business twofold through the medium of this people.

Editorially we are sponsoring reforms that will help Lincoln. We feel that by assisting Negroes we are helping to better the conditions of the city in general. We are continually trying to help ourselves even in the face of the most adverse conditions of modern history. This is largely possible because of the low percentage of illiteracy among our people.

It is the policy of this paper to at all times furnish accurate information to our citizenry, hence we invite perusal of our columns and ask suggestions for our advancement.

Again we thank you for your initial encouragement and assistance, and repeat our request for your future cooperation.

## End the Delay

Action for protecting the lives of those who travel the east O street highway should not be longer delayed. The O street crossing, in fact, all the crossings over the Rock Island should be of the under-pass type. The tracks should be elevated from a point near Holdrege street to the southern limits of the city.

The Missouri Pacific could easily put some of the R. F. C. funds into a safe crossing on the O St. road. Eastbound traffic must now make a safety stop.

Several of the progressive business men of Lincoln should block the plan for the hap-hazard repair of the O St. viaduct. This structure should be rebuilt and the time is now while R. F. C. funds can be secured and labor is demanding employment.

Since the Review, and any Negro newspaper for that matter, is a paper of and for the race, its success depends upon the support given it by the Negro populace. The greatest efficiency in any promoter will be futile in satisfying the public's need for a newspaper unless there is a cooperation with the management, the good will and material assistance of the patrons.

## Merchandise Bill In the Legislature

A bill to forbid the selling of merchandise by the public utilities will be introduced in the legislature in a short time. In Lincoln the matter will be in an issue in the spring campaign, it being claimed that the local public utilities franchise does not include merchandising and that present conditions are maintained solely through influence of the city officials.

## My Business In Life

My business in life is not to get ahead of the other men, but rather to get ahead of myself. To break my own record, to outstrip my yesterday by today. To do my work with more force and finer finish than ever before. That is, I believe, the true idea of real Service. To get ahead of myself.

My business in life is not to let well enough alone, but rather to force myself into the maelstrom of human endeavor. To do my allotted task in such a way that its glaring success will hold the attention of my ambition, and be a spur to greater and nobler service each recurring day.

My business in life is not to envy those who lie down in green pastures, beside the brook of plenty, but rather to teach myself that through the field of enterprise in which I now labor, there is a pathway winding onward and upward, which will lead me to the attainment of my noblest ambitions, if I prove myself worthy of them.

My business in life is not to consider myself superior to my present station, but rather to know that I, myself, have chosen it of my own free will and accord. To understand my limitations; to confine my efforts to fields I best know how to cultivate; to look neither to the right nor to the left with eyes of envy nor thoughts of malice, but rather to perfect my handiwork, that those who in later years may follow in my footsteps, will call me MASTER-CRAFTSMAN.

## Interesting Events

The Semper Fidelis Club will soon sponsor a program in recognition of Negro History Week at the Mt. Zion Baptist church. Watch the Review for the date.

The Lincoln Urban League will hold a meeting in the near future, the date to be announced later.

Members of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity are already making plans for their annual "Guide Right" week program.

The Home Benevolent-Charity Club cordially invites the public to a musical to be held from three to six o'clock Sunday afternoon, January 15th, at the exquisite home of Mr. and Mrs. James Dean, 1028 Rose street. A program will be given in which Lincoln's most talented musicians will be presented. Two or three short talks have also been planned. The tea is to be given in the interests of the Lincoln Urban League to cover the deficit of the expenses of making the recent sociological survey. Every one come out! Remember the Urban League will help you and the Race.

## Chairmen Oppose The Jensen Deal

York, Nebraska.—John L. Riddell, chairman of the York county republican central committee, has joined the insurgents in demanding a voice in party patronage matters. He has written Everett Sanders, chairman of the republican national committee, that he supports the protest of Barton Green in regard to the naming of Prof. A. C. Jensen to the radio commission. Chairman Riddell wrote Mr. Sanders as follows:

"Mr. Barton Green, chairman of the republican central committee of Lancaster county, has sent me a copy of his letter to you, protesting against the appointment of Mr. Jensen.

"I heartily endorse the idea he expressed in his letter to you. I happen to know the hard work that Mr. Green and his committee put in the last campaign in Lancaster county. The results speak emphatically for that labor.

"We all want to cooperate for the success of the republican party, not only in this state for the next two years, but nationally during the next four. This letter is written in the most kindly attitude of spirit, but we fellows who are out here on the firing line not only want to see cooperation all the way back to the general headquarters, but we feel it is absolutely necessary to insure success in the years to come."

Mr. Riddell is chairman in the home county of National Committeeman, Charles McCloud.

Chairman George W. Wertz of Schuyler has written Green that he supports the idea of endorsements by the different counties in the state.

Chairman F. H. McCarthy of Union insists that he wants to see the republican party represent the people instead of a bunch of politicians.

## Modern Religious Trend

The fact that the old Christian church served not merely as a place where the inexpediency of wrong doing was emphasized, by instilling fear into the hearts and minds of the people, but providing a place of meeting for wholesome social purposes were sufficient justifications for its existence at one time. But the church has lost ground in later days and still another reason is that too many ecclesiastical misfits and religious racketeers have sprung up to disgust the worshippers. To be sure, the Christian church and the Negro have had associated with them some well known and greatly respected thinkers, and largely through their influence the church as an institution has survived through all the ages and still stands today.

With all, it seems that one is safe in saying that religion itself will continue to find response in the hearts of our people after the confusions of some pseudo ministers of the gospel have done their worst for our advancement and for human happiness generally.

## Stage Reveals Plot To Burden Taxpayers

Lincoln Business Man Discloses Some Details of City Management.

Several months ago Ernest G. Stage aroused sentiment against buying supplies away from home. Last week, Mr. Stage protested against sending money to St. Louis, the county commissioners having placed these orders. This week Mr. Stage offers suggestions about the Munny station in Lincoln. He says:

Notwithstanding the fact that the people of Lincoln have, on two recent occasions, declared by a two to one vote, that they desired the municipal coal yard and the municipal gasoline station to be operated by the city, the present city commissioners have double-crossed the voters and attempted to wreck these municipal activities and at the present time they are not functioning in the interest of the customers.

When the city government asked authority to issue bonds to build the



ERNEST G. STAGE

city buildings on Haymarket Square, it was indicated that this building would be built facing 10th Street, but it was never intimated that the construction of this building facing 10th St. would require the destruction of the gasoline station and coal yard on the west half of the block, which had been built at a cost of approximately \$30,000.

When the gasoline station was moved to 18th and Q street, it was generally understood by the people that the supply of gasoline would be stored in a tank under the ground at the new location, the same as it had been at the old location. Instead of this the city commissioners placed the supply tanks away over near the railroad tracks, many blocks from the present station and they haul the gasoline this distance in trucks. The cost of handling the gasoline by truck is approximately one cent per gallon. The municipal station regulates the price of gasoline charged by all the stations in the city of Lincoln. In other words, the fact that the refusal of the city commissioners to locate the storage tank under ground at the municipal filling station, causing the gasoline to be trucked to the station instead of being unloaded direct from the railway cars from the Rock Island track, makes the municipal charge one cent more for gasoline than would otherwise be necessary; since an extra one cent charge at the munny station causes an extra charge at all other stations it costs the gasoline consumers in Lincoln one hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year.

When you ask the commissioners why they refused to place the bulk supply under ground at the municipal filling station, their answer is that the city engineer refused to grant permission to run a pipe line about 150 feet from the Rock Island track to where the municipal station is located, a part of it to be under the street. It is pretty hard to understand how intelligent men would put a burden of \$150,000 a year on the public.

Those who know, say that at least three railroad companies offered the city the use of land on which to locate the municipal coal yard at only a nominal cost of \$5.00 a year for rental. Instead of accepting this generous proposition, the commissioners elected to locate the coal yard on a privately owned piece of ground at a rental of \$150.00 a year, and this, in turn, required the railroad companies who deliver coal and gasoline in Lincoln to pay a switching charge of \$5.00 a car for moving every car into this private ground.

Our very efficient (?) city commissioners erected a garage at a cost of some \$35,000 in the middle of the west side of Haymarket Square and facing the railroad track. After the building was completed, they awoke to the fact that they could not get into the building at the front door when there happened to be cars on the switch track. In order to make the building available they were compelled to go to the enormous expense of building a drive thru the middle of the block so that this garage must be entered from the rear, and incidentally, to make room for

## Robert W. Bagnell to Speak Here—Plan to Revive N. A. A. C. P.

It was announced recently by William Woods, the president of the Lincoln branch of the N. A. A. C. P., that the members of the local branch would hold a meeting in the near future. The organization which has been inactive for some time as far as local matters are concerned, has kept regularly in touch with the national office, according to Mr. Woods.

A waning interest and poor attendance of meetings necessitated the past fall in participation of local activities. The fact remains however that the national organization cannot carry on its splendid work for the Race unless there is financial as well as moral support from the constituent branches. Many branches that heretofore have been considered banner branches have been apparently dormant at intervals, no doubt another ill effect of this international depression.

Mr. Robert W. Bagnell, director of branches from the National office, is planning to visit Lincoln on or about March 8th. Mr. Bagnell who has been connected with the N. A. A. C. P. in this capacity for nine years, was formerly an Episcopal minister, and a well known public speaker. This may be the last opportunity for Lincoln public to hear Mr. Bagnell, as he recently made a request to resign from his present position.

The date of the afore mentioned meeting will be announced in the Review in the next issue. Everyone should avail themselves of their opportunity to be at this meeting as this organization is doing more from a civil rights point of view to help the Negro than any other contemporary unit. All old members should renew their memberships and each serve as an agent to bring in new members. The Review as of yore will support the policies and program of the N. A. A. C. P.

## A United Race

The beginning of the year 1933 finds the colored people of Lincoln more united into one intelligent race than ever before in the history of our fair city.

The colored people have awakened to the fact that in unity there is strength and power for the making of a great program.

The Review, owned and controlled, not by one individual, but by a group of colored citizens for the advancement of the race, it will be the mouthpiece through which we hope to complete this program. My connection with this paper and my part in the program is for the unity and betterment of the race, I, being in the civil service, taking no part in any political controversy whatsoever.

Every colored man and woman should be a subscriber to this paper and watch the advertisements of the merchants in this paper. Remember, by advertising in this paper they show you their respect for the race. They deserve and merit your trade. PATRONIZE THEM.

Lorette P. Swanigan.

## Baseball News

Even before the appearance of the first robin, the hot stove league located on North Seventeenth street, is taking spring practice, and of course Johnnie Williams is all pepped up with prospects of a classy bunch of ball tossers for 1933. The demands from the smaller towns for colored ball teams is greater each year, and this year Johnnie expects to start the works earlier than usual.

Mr. Perry J. Stepany, who has been on the sick list for the past month, is very much improved.

this driveway, it was necessary to wreck a perfectly good brick building which was erected only about six years ago.

Notwithstanding the fact that two former city attorneys, both recognized as unusually competent lawyers, declared that the city commissioners had no authority to use the funds from the city coal yard and gasoline plant for other purposes, the present city commissioners have done this very thing.

That the present commissioners have deliberately attempted to wreck the coal yard and municipal gasoline station is evidenced by the following facts:

1. Destroying the \$30,000 dollar plant.
2. Refusing to accept rent-free location for the coal yard.
3. Refusing to place the bulk gasoline supply under ground at the gasoline station.
4. Unlawfully taking money from the gasoline and coal fund.
5. By permitting coal dealers to designate the price at which the city shall sell coal.
6. Permitting outside gasoline dealers to dictate the price at which the city shall sell gasoline.

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