

The Voice

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

Rev. Melvin L. Shakespeare

Publisher and Editor

Business Address 2225 S Street Phone 5-649
If No Answer Call 5-7506

Rubie W. Shakespeare Advertising and Business Manager
Charles Goolsby Associate Editor, Y.M.C.A.
Rev. J. B. Brooks Promotion Manager
Mrs. Joe Green Circulation Manager

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EDITORIALS

The views expressed in these columns are those of the writer and not necessarily a reflection of the policy of The Voice.—Pub.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Dean Gordon B. Hancock,
Virginia Union University,
for ANP

IT TAKES PRAYER PLUS.

Another world's series is ended and like most of those that went before it, ended in favor of the American league entries. As an insurable National league rooter, I am absorbing my annual humiliation and chagrin. The bitter dose is served every autumn and I am forced to drink to the very drags. The devotees of the National league may as well face the fact, the American league plays better baseball and he is exceedingly rash who seeks to minimize this fact.

The Yanks won because they are the best team in the world; and it was almost a minor misfortune that they were matched with the hapless Brooklyn Dodgers. Of course Brooklyn won something far more important than a world series and that is the approbation of mankind. When they entered a team boasting of three Negro baseball celebrities, they struck a mighty blow for democracy in a world that is drunk with race prejudice and bigotry. The world series was above all else a dramatization of the fact that the things of the spirit are the eternal verities of life.

It is difficult to conceive of a better way to dramatize the new spirit that is abroad in the world than by the spirit exhibited in the integration of Negroes into the great American pastime, so wonderfully exemplified in the world's series just ended. Even more dramatic than Joe Louis bursting the beak of some white man, proving his pugilistic prowess for the entertainment of mob-minded thousands. While Joe Louis on exhibition once in a great while the Negro baseball players are on exhibition daily and before millions including millions of children who will not forget, even though their elders who would have them forget.

The impression of a Jackie Robinson cavorting around second, or the matchless Campanella showing baseball catching at its best or, a Don Newcombe pitching his heart out with only two hits to help him lose a heartbreaker in the series opener, will last, as it were, forever! The world watched with bated breath while what is perhaps its twentieth century drama unfolded before our astonished gaze.

But most important for this release is the fact that with three Negroes in its line up, and with millions praying for a Brooklyn victory, the Flatbush entry failed utterly to stand up before the onslaught of the Yankee team that played minus Negroes and without the stimulus of knowing that it was doing a big and godly

thing. There was never a world's series where millions were pulling with more ardour and prayer than that of the current series when not only baseball was being played but the finer spirits of mankind were being stirred.

But all the same the Dodgers went down and the Yankees went up. The whole affair goes to show that it takes more than prayer to achieve our objective as Negroes. Prayer did not carry these Negroes to their place of importance and fame and fortune. Negroes went into their first world's series because they could play baseball. Prayer doubtless had its place but prayer without skill is limited unmercifully. The prayer of 15 million Negroes could not turn the tide, when the Yankee bats began ringing on the Brooklyn pitching. Strangely enough the first game was lost to Brooklyn on one home run; yet the next day Brooklyn got three home runs and could not win. That seemed a little curious but the fact remained those Yanks were something terrible to behold.

Prayer has its place but it cannot take the place of competence and ability. It is just as well for us as Negroes to ever bear this in mind. The way toward our citizenship goal is tedious and tortuous—although prayer will at times stand us in good stead; but fine skills and preparation must not be overlooked or minimized. When Napoleon said that God was usually on the side with the finest artillery, he hardly meant more than that thorough preparation is a major factor in success. Being a Negro and being on the right side does not insure victory or the realization of our dreams. We must be able to outstrip our opponents if we would win the prize. The prayers of 15 million Negroes could not overcome the potency of these terrible Yankees. Prayer wins, but not always victory for our favored team when said team faces those Yankees. It takes prayer plus to beat the Yankees! The Brooklyn Dodgers did not have that "plus," let us be sure we have.

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by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

When the Republicans were casting around for a candidate for governor in 1874 to succeed Robert W. Furnas, at the end of a stormy term had decided not to seek re-election, they selected Silas Garber, a man 41 years of age who had been in Nebraska only about four years.

Despite his youth and relatively brief residence in Nebraska—neither of which were serious disqualifications in pioneer politics—young Garber defeated his Democratic opponent, and went on to win re-election in 1876.

Silas Garber was born in Logan county, Ohio, and at the age of 17 removed to Iowa where he was engaged in farming. He served in the Union army during the Civil war, attaining the rank of captain in the 27th Iowa Infantry. In 1870, accompanied by his brothers, Joseph and Abram, he came to Nebraska, homesteading in what is now Webster county. Joseph was the father of Daniel Garber, veteran Nebraska legislator.

Governor Garber's early career in Nebraska is closely identified with Webster county beginnings. The election for organizing the county was held at his home, April 19, 1871. The next year the town of Red Cloud was laid out on the Garber homestead.

The future governor's first public office in Nebraska was that of probate judge for Webster county. In 1872 he was elected to the House of Representatives of the state legislature. The next year he was appointed register of the land office in Lincoln and was serving in that capacity when nominated for the governorship.

In many respects, Governor Garber's administration was one of the most important in the state's history. It saw the present state constitution drawn up and adopted.

His administration, too, encompassed a highly critical period in



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SCARLET SPORTS

By Leo E. Geier

Nebraska's varsity is using a new type of hip pads this year along with new tear-way jerseys for backs and ends, lightweight game shoes, etc. The old type of hip pads which buckle on like a belt have been replaced by two-way stretch lastex trunks with built-in pockets for pads. Among the players, the garments are called "girdles" because they resemble a type of woman's girdle. The new equipment prevents hip pads from turning when a player is hit and saves a lot of unnecessary bruises.

Floyd Bottorff, the NU equipment manager, keeps spirit high among the players with his pranks and jokes (while the coaches are away) and each year turns poet to help boost "his boys" on to the win column. His literary efforts

the affairs of the young state. The year of his election had brought one of the worst grasshopper plagues in the state's history, and when he assumed office many people were destitute, particularly in the western part of the state.

In his inaugural message Governor Garber urged the legislature to provide adequate relief for Nebraskans stricken by the grasshoppers. He was particularly concerned that seed be provided for the next year's planting.

Through all of his messages to the legislature Governor Garber stressed the importance of encouraging immigration and agriculture and increasing the amount of information available to the farmers of the state.

At the completion of his second term as governor, Mr. Garber returned to Webster county, where he lived until Jan. 12, 1905, engaging in merchandising, banking and stock raising.

include verses about each game on the schedule. Here are portions from this year's Bottorff poem.

"As for Kansas we can close the gate
But that little Latin in Manhattan was
sure a heavy date.
O. K. Lahoma we know you're hard to
slay,
On Oct. 22 we hope to meet you half
way.
Sly Missouri is never a bluff,
Hold together, boys, and show her some
stuff,
She's down in Ole Missouri back in the
dell,
Beat her boys and bring back our bell,
Old maid Kansas is ill, it's been discovered,
By Nov. 5 she will be fully recovered.
Homecoming men! Have I said enough?
Don't stop now for there's two more
that's tough . . ."

Floyd says he's written more verses but says they can't be used until the games are over and we have won.

Although all eyes are on the varsity and the Big 7 race, this reporter is taking a look into the future and back to another field of the Husker football camp. As Coach Ike Handskom groomed his freshmen for their game with the Kansas State frosh Oct. 21, any observer could see that at NU the coaches aren't overlooking any material they have.

Ike is working down deep in his crew of potential grid stars. A week and a half before the K-State frosh contest, Handskom was taking a good look at men who didn't show too much promise early in the season.

Notice

A reward will be given for the return of two aprons unintentionally sold through the grab bag at the Urban League Friday evening, October 14. The aprons belong to Mrs. Winniefred Newton of Beatrice, Neb. Box 77. Please call The Voice office or get in touch with Mrs. Newton direct.

Card of Thanks

Mrs. Ida Hightower wishes to take this opportunity to thank her many friends old and new for making her 3-month stay in California with her son, Paul Neely and wife so very enjoyable.

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