

# THE VOICE

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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.

## Chicago Youth Talented Musician; Pete Fischer Gets CBS Press Berth

Pete Fischer, Chicago and New York's gift to instrumental music and arranging, has landed a solid and responsible spot with the CBS (Columbia Broadcasting System) core of press, radio and television press corps.

Fischer writes press publicity for 10 radio shows, and is responsible for making up the daily CBS radio network calendar, listing the various programs and details for the radio editors all over the country.

The lone sepia in this particular division, Fischer has an impressive, business management, music and communications background. He is a product of Englewood High school and Wilson

Junior college, back in Chicago. Fischer was hired by CBS as a writer on the basis of his free lance radio and magazine work over a 10-year period, with leading magazines including Down Beat, Variety, Billboard and other similar sheets. He handles the talent agency and newspaper contacts and plans and executes publicity for the following programs on the CBS Radio:

"Church of the Air"; "Mr. Keen, —Tracer of Lost Persons," "Gang-busters," "Mr. Chamelon," "The Line Up," "Garden Gate," "City Hospital," "Saturday at the Chase," "Gunsmoke," "Curt Massey Time," which recently featured Duke Ellington among a variety of other duties.

## Father of Blues

Continued from Page 1

Miss Gloria Swanson and Mrs. F. H. LaGuardia—and how he played the "St. Louis Blues" on his trumpet during the occasion, and how the Elks' band played "Hike With Ike" and the author, Jack Gould, sang it with them as he did at the GOP National Convention.

He told how he appeared on television with Vice President-elect and Mrs. Nixon, with Sen. Nixon's arm around him. Referring to this he wrote—"I thought that would have been a good story for the Race papers, but, no!

Then the aged artist unbridled all his feelings, stating:

"The Press forgets this famous quotation—I care not who makes the Nation's laws, if I can write the nation's songs."

"They discriminate in so many ways, because I wrote the St. Louis Blues, but forget that I wrote the anthem, 'They that Sow in Tears, Shall Reap in Joy,' and hundreds of other sacred compositions that could be sung in choirs

of the nation. They also forget that the 'St. Louis Blues' makes me about as much money as if I were a congressman or a college president and that his song glorifies our Race around the world, the celebrated composer wrote.

"So, for 'rank discrimination' I wonder at times who is most to be blamed—the opponents of the civil rights or some of my folk," he continued.

"Monday before election I rode in a motorcade. The car carried my name on a banner and someone threw papers from the New York Times dated, Oct. 24, attacking Gov. Dewey with their names signed, forgetting that New York under Gov. Dewey was the first state in the union to wipe out race discrimination with an FEPC law.

"I appeared on Television with Eisenhower at the Astor hotel. He introduced me and I made a short talk telling about our song, 'Hike with Ike.' I am a Republican by tradition. I was born in Florence, Ala., birthplace of the first Negro elected to congress from the north, Oscar DePriest, and the home of



**Question:** Can you tell me what to use on a concrete retaining wall for color? Should it be oil paint, waterpaint, whitewash, or colored cement? Part of the wall was treated with water-repellent, and holds whitewash well, but the other parts did not.

C.J.H., Staten Island, N.Y.

**Answer:** If you want to stick to whitewash, and make it stick, try one of these: 1 oz. of alum to a gallon of whitewash; or, 1 pint of molasses (or 1 pound sugar dissolved in hot water as a substitute) to each 5 gallons of whitewash. Both stick well. You may also use oil base outside paints, or those with a resin emulsion. You'll have more trouble making colored cement stick to waterproofed surfaces.

**Question:** Our middle-aged house is equipped with half-screens which ride up and down on a wood molding. These screens do not fit flush against the bottom and small sized insects gain easy entry. Is there any way we can seal these openings and still have the screens work?

C.S., Baltimore, Md.

**Answer:** You might plane or sand the lower edges of the screens to fit the uneven sills by first drawing a pencil line along the sill-and-screen joint to discover the points that fit poorly, then remove the causes of trouble. Or, you might apply felt weather-stripping to the under-

James T. Rapier, congressman in Reconstruction Days. Many times, my father told me how he helped hide Rapier from the Ku Klux Klan on an island in the Tennessee river until they could spirit him away to Washington.

"You will not see that in the papers, but it's in my books," he wrote.

Ending on a philosophical note, The Father of the Blues state:

"This letter is written in the spirit of Thanksgiving with the hope we will continue to render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's and render unto God thanks for the blessings bestowed on us, most especially, from the day of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation."

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side of the bottom edges where its springy action will seal the gaps when the screen is closed tightly.

**Question:** I plan to cover my basement joists with ceiling tiles, and have to set the copper water pipe and electrical conduits back into notches in the joists, but have been told this will weaken the joists. Can you suggest a solution?  
D.J.T., Lansing, Ill.

**Answer:** It is a better plan to disconnect the electrical wiring, and run BX cables through drilled holes in each joist it must cross. If your water pipe is flexible tubing, do the same with it. If rigid pipe, you may cut notches to recess the pipe but cover each notch with a heavy steel plate the width of the joist, and drilled with holes for at least two screws on each side of the notch. Best way is to relocate the pipe along one wall and box it in.

**Question:** We are bothered with ants in the basement which seem to appear each time the floor is washed and waxed. They are difficult to get rid of. Can you suggest any treatment?  
R.G., Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Answer:** Chlordane is one of the most successful poisons in combatting ants. In liquid or powder form, spread chlordane around all cracks and wall joints where entrance is possible. Also, along door and window sills. This, and other methods of getting rid of ants was

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*Archie Furr*

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discussed in great detail in the April-May 1952 issue of The Family Handyman.

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