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THE OMAHA GUIDE

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Tune In "DIGESTING THE NEWS"

BROADCASTED Every Week from this Column

By CLIFFORD C. MITCHELL

LARGEST Y.M.C.A. OPENS IN N. Y.

Urge Dr. Wm. Thompkins As Haitian Minister Ethel Waters-What a Show!

Turner Resigns Head of K. P.'s

Earl Hines to Make Tour

"KING OF THE IVORIES" JOINS MUSIC CORPORATION

Earl Hines, nationally popular colored orchestra leader, often referred to as the "King of the Ivories", has joined the ranks of Music Corporation of America's orchestras which includes America's foremost radio recording and dance bands. Arrangements are being made for a national personal appearance tour of the band under the management of MCA.

Hines, who was born in Duquesne, Penn., and educated in Pittsburgh, was discovered by Lois Deppe, noted baritone of Vincent Youman's "Great Day" and now of Connie's Inn in New York. Deppe gave Hines his first "break" as a pianist with Rideout's orchestra of Charleroi, Penn., in 1916 and his sensational piano playing attracted the attention of theatre managers and ballroom promoters.

In 1921 Earl went to Chicago where he formed his own orchestra and played in several night clubs. Next came a vaudeville tour with the "Charleston Revue" and in 1926-27 he was featured with Louis Armstrong, famous colored cornetist, at the Sunset Cafe in Hollywood.

Earl organized his present orchestra in 1928 and opened the Grand Terrace Cafe in Chicago where he has been featured since that time. The orchestra has been a favorite with north shore society for private functions and has also played many private engagements at such smart Chicago places as the Blackstone, Drake Hotel, Standard Club, Sherman Hotel, and the Palmer House.

TRIO OF WHITES HELD WITH-OUT BOND FOR KILLING NEGRO

Lexington, Ky. (CNS)—French Vermillion, Sherman Townes and Mollie Caldwell, all white, recently got into an argument with four Negroes on a country road near Hazard in Perry County about 136 miles southeast of Lexington, shot and killed three and wounded the fourth of the four men.

The shooting of the men was alleged to have occurred after they refused to help move an automobile in which the defendants were said to have been riding.

BULLET IN HEAD SEVEN DAYS BEFORE VICTIM GOES TO HOSPITAL

Brooklyn, N.Y. (CNS) Frederick C. Pitts, 36 year old Negro, an attendant at the Pilgrim State Hospital at Brentwood, Long Island is reported to have carried a bullet in his head for seven days before entering a hospital for treatment.

William Hardy, 19 a Negro of East Northport, was arrested on a charge of first degree assault and was said by the police to have confessed shooting Pitts in a street brawl at East Northport on Dec. 17.

Pitts had waited until Dec. 23 before seeing a physician about a pain in his head, the police said. He was taken to the Brooklyn Naval Hospital where he was said to be in a critical condition.

R. L. TURNER RETIRES FROM OFFICE IN LODGE

At the annual election of the Knight of Pythias, R. L. Turner who has been Chancellor Commander for the past twelve years retired from the office. He leaves the lodge in a good financial condition despite the depression.

The cause of Mr. Turner's retirement from the office is that he felt that he was being over-worked. He still holds two major offices with the lodge, that of Deputy Supreme Chancellor of the State of Nebraska, also Brigadier General of the Uniform rank department of the State. Besides this he is chairman of the finance committee of the Zion Baptist Church, a member of the Masonic Lodge and a police patrolman.

Reports state that at a meeting of the Nebraska Negro Democratic Club Thursday, January 5th, passed a resolution, endorsing Dr. Wm. Thompkins, Democratic leader and newspaperman of Kansas City, Mo., for Minister to Haiti.



Dr. Wm. Thompkins

The Club also passed a resolution endorsing Hon. Arthur C. Mullen for Attorney General.

Charge N.A.A.C.P. With Suppressing Lynch Records.

New York, (CNA) That the officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and of Tuskegee Institute, in giving out statistics of lynchings for the year 1932, followed a deliberate policy of suppression and deception, is the charge made in an official joint statement of the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. The statement is to appear in the February "Labor Defender", official monthly organ of the I.L.D.

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights listed 37 instances, reported in the press during 1932, of persons who had been killed by burning, hanging, shooting, or drowning at the hands of more or less organized groups. The NAACP later reported only 11 lynchings for the year, and Tuskegee Institute reported 8. That the discrepancy in figures arises from deep-seated political differences is shown by the statement of the I.L.D. and L.S.N.R. which follows:

"To soft-pedal the crimes of the white ruling class against the Negro masses, to lull these masses into a false sense of security and thus to disarm their watchfulness—that is one of the chief tasks of the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "Thus, the NAACP, in its annual report on lynchings, deceives the Negro masses as to the extent of the present terrible wave of lynch-terror. "A startling report of the extent and nature of this lynch-terror was released some weeks ago by the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. In this report, the L.S.N.R. warned the Negro masses, and the militant white workers, that every effort would be made by the reformist organizations to bring down the true total of lynchings, to deny the lynch-character of certain murders because in the lynch crowds was a sheriff or deputy. That this warning was justified it's shown conclusively in the annual report of the NAACP. ntaional office.

"Here are some outstanding examples of lynchings which the NAACP officials refuse to class as lynchings: "A lynch-gang wiped out an entire Negro family of seven in Senatobia, Mississippi, in September. Accompanied by white men, women, and children, Sheriff A. C. Williams invaded the home of Judge Crawford, in search of another Negro, Jesse Williams. "When Crawford said he knew nothing of the whereabouts of Williams, he was struck down and then the wholesale killing of his family began. The dead are Judge Crawford, father; Annie Crawford, mother; three sons, a daughter and a son-in-law.

KID CHOCOLATE MAKES PILGRIMAGE TO SHRINE OF VIRGIN deCARDAD

Santiago, Cuba, (CNS) Kid Chocolate the featherweight champion is reported to have made a vow, while defending his title against Fidel La Barba in New York last month, to make a pilgrimage to the Cobre Sanctuary of the Virgin deCardad. In fulfillment of this vow he appeared here last week, and his identity being discovered, police had to be called to restore order among the crowd that clamored to meet him.

WET PLEA OF VIRGIN ISLANDS MEETS DISAPPROVAL IN WASHINGTON

Washington, (CNS) Senator Hiram Bingham, of Connecticut, chairman of the Senate Territories Committee, expresses the opinion that the Virgin Islands recent wet plea will fall on deaf ears in Congress and that the islands will have prohibition so long as it exists in the United States. Senator Bingham himself a "wet" expressed the opinion upon being informed of the amendment by the Colonial Council at St. Thomas of the local prohibition law and the adoption of a petition to the American Congress, asking that the Virgin Islands

The Brandeis Theatre Sunday night January 8, 1933, was the setting for that great show, "Rhapsody in Black" featuring that Artist, Ethel Waters. This show has been acclaimed by critics as one of the greatest show of its kind. It was featured on Broadway for one year and ran in Chicago, six months. The only thing that is to be regretted is that it had only a one night's stand here in Omaha. The house was packed and the show could have easily stayed here four days and played to a packed house at every performance.

Ethel Waters was supreme in every number she gave and had to give encores everytime she stepped on the stage. She completely won the audience as she does wherever she goes. Critics proclaim her as the greatest artist of her line in the Negro race.

Special mention must also be given to Avis Andrews and her singing of "Dark Eyes". This writer thinks that in the very near future more will be heard about this rising star. Many thanks to the Manager of The Brandeis Theatre, Mr. Joy Sutton, for making it possible for Omaha to see that much talked about show, "Rhapsody in Black."

NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATOR DIES

Franklinton, N. C. (CNS) Dr. John A. Savage, one of the outstanding Negro educators of the South died at his home here Sunday, January 1. Dr. Savage was for the past 40 years principal of Albion Academy, a Presbyterian school, located here and is well known in educational circles in this State and county.

Citizens Demand Investigation in Chain-gang System

LEADING GEORGIANS URGE INVESTIGATION OF PRISON AND CHAIN GANGS

Atlanta, Ga., (CNS) Alarmed at the unsavory reputation the State of Georgia is fast acquiring throughout the civilized world, many leading Georgians are outspoken for a full investigation into penal camp tortures and prison life generally throughout the state.

Sixteen prominent Georgians have joined in an appeal for a legislative investigation into charges of cruelty in Georgia prisons.

The request has been mailed to incoming legislators. Photographs of alleged torture of prisoners accompanied the requests. The General Assembly meets this week.

The committee requesting the investigation says charges against the State's prison camps have been given national publicity and are "serious enough to justify and demand an investigation so vigorous and impartial as to leave no doubt regarding the facts and to provide an intelligent basis for such reforms as may be found necessary." The committee says it believes such an investigation "will be of genuine service to the State and to a multitude of its helpless wards."

Some of Georgia's leaders in religious, educational, political and business life are members of the committee and signed the request. They include:

Bishop W. N. Ainsworth of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; Harvey Cox, president of Emory University; W. F. Furry, president of Shorter College, former Governor Thomas W. Hardwick; Colonel A. R. Lawton, vice president of the Central of Georgia Railroad; Rabbi David Marx, of Atlanta; Mrs. Cirllyn Moore, Methodist Superintendent of Social Service, and Mrs. K. T. Weathersbee, secretary Georgia Humane Society, Atlanta.

Allegations against the Georgia penal system, the committee says, have been made by John L. Spivak, author of "Georgia Nigger." The committee says Spivak "presents alleged photostatic copies of official prison records, indicating the use of double shackles, racks, barrels and other methods of torture."

"Until disproved, these allegations constitute a basis for serious concern." "Meantime national publicity regarding them has brought the State into disrepute."

The Georgia Prison Commission has denied allegations made by Spivak in his book and charged that some

FESTIVAL OPENS NEW \$1,000,000 Y.M.C.A. BUILDING IN HARLEM

New York City, (CNS) The new \$1,000,000 twelve story Y.M.C.A. building on West 35th street has been opened to the public. A five day festival celebrated the opening.

The initial program centered about the delivering of the keys, Edward P. Corning, president of the Edward Corning Company, builder of the structure, which is the largest Negro Y.M.C.A. in the world, handed the keys to James C. Mackenzie, Jr., the architect, who handed them to F. Louis Slade, chairman of the general building committee, and he handed them to William Wortham, chairman of the branch building committee, who in turn handed them to Dr. Peyton F. Anderson, chairman of the board of managers.

Then the doors were thrown open and the public invited to inspect the building, which includes dining rooms, gymnasiums, a barber shop, a chapel, a cafeteria, social rooms, a little theatre, 246 dormitory rooms, offices, a motion picture outfit, a boys' club room, a tailor shop and lobbies. The downstairs ceilings are of heavy beamed wood, decorated with scenes from the life of the Negro, first in Africa and then in America.

ROARK BRADFORD'S "JOHN HENRY" STORIES TO BE DRAMATIZED IN RADIO SERIES

The American Negro's folk legends will be brought to radio in a new series of sustaining programs based on Roark Bradford's famous story of "John Henry" to be presented by the Columbia Broadcasting System over a nationwide network each Sunday night beginning January 15th. The program to be known as "John Henry Black River Giant" will follow the exploits of the fabulous strong-man of the Mississippi country in dramatized incidents from Bradford's book. The radio adaptation is being prepared by Geraldine Garrick and Juano Hernandez, creator of the role of "Crown" in the New York Theatre Guild's production of "Porgy."

The opening broadcast of "John Henry" will be heard from 8:00 to 8:15 p. m., Eastern Standard Time, on Sunday, January 15th. The second episode will be on the air from 8:45 to 9:00 p. m., Eastern Standard Time, the same evening. Each period will be complete in itself.

John Henry will greet the radio audience in the person of Mr. Hernandez, while opposite him will be the outstanding Negro actress of the American theatre, Rose McClendon. Miss McClendon's talents were hailed by the critics when she played in "Porgy," "In Abraham's Bosom," "Deep River," "Never No More," and most recently in the Group Theatre's production of "The House of Connelly." Miss McClendon and Mr. Hernandez, with a supporting cast of eight players, will form the permanent company for presenting "John Henry."

The atmospheric music accompanying the program will be selected from authentic American Negro folk songs, "Mississippi" an original composition by Mr. Hernandez, who also directs the music, will be woven through the score. Original responsive chants will break into the dialogue quite frequently.

HARLEM SURVEY SHOWS 64 PERCENT OF MEN JOBLESS

New York City, (CNS) A recent survey taken in Harlem shows 64 per cent of the Negro male population of the territory between St. Nicholas Avenue and the Harlem River and 125th and 149th streets, is without work.

The Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee, the New York Urban League and the Red Cross are handling more than 1,000 applications a day for food, clothing, transportation South or employment.

FIFTY NEWSBOYS TO DELIVER THE OMAHA GUIDE TO YOUR DOOR

The MEMPHIS WORLD

Recently I sent out a release, "1933 and the Negro!" in which I offered my cooperation, in the form of publicity, to progressive and fruitful racial efforts. Lewis O. Swingler, editor of the Memphis World, is the first person to respond to my offer of cooperation.

While Memphis has a population of nearly one hundred thousand Negroes it has always been a disastrous town for Negro business, and newspapers in particular. The most successful race business in Memphis, at the present time being, the Universal Life Insurance Company.

At one time Memphis boasted of a daily race paper, The Striker. At other times the well-known Orsis editor, W. E. R. DuBois, and Roscoe C. Simmons, have edited papers there. The failure of these and many other papers, coupled with the failure of so many business concerns served to create a feeling of suspicion and distrust against all prospective and new racial enterprises in Memphis.

Records show that the illiteracy rate in the Delta region, contiguous to Memphis, is high. Recent reports in the Negro press indicates that crime among Negroes is rampant and that Memphis Negroes head the list in percentage of homicides.

Despite these conditions, John Oakes, business and circulation manager, of the Memphis World, backed by the progressive Southern Newspaper Syndicate, entered the Memphis field on June 28th, 1931, as a tri-weekly. Since October 1931 they have operated as a semi-weekly.

At the present time they enjoy a circulation, so Mr. Swingler informs me, of eight thousand, served almost entirely by news-carriers, with a system of monthly collections—after the readers have received their papers. In order to win the confidence of the skeptical Memphis public the World sought no advance subscriptions.

It should be interesting to a great many of our publishers in various parts of the country to know the system that the Memphis World uses in keeping their hundreds of newsboys "pepped" up, and the various newsboys contests they hold. And while I have no authority to say so, I believe that if any of our circulation managers will write to Mr. Swingler, or Mr. Oakes, 234 Hernanda Street, Memphis, Tenn., that these gentlemen will be glad to explain their methods, purely to enhance the journalistic efforts of others.

Again, this column wishes to offer a sincere cooperation to any of our struggling or unique enterprises who have, and are, facing and surmounting peculiar difficulties, and if in your efforts I can find some points that would be interesting and beneficial to others of our race, I shall gladly proclaim them to all America, through this column.

IN CONTEST
Worthington L. Williams, driver for the Kimball Laundry Co., reports that he is running close to the top position in a contest among fellow drivers for new business. He says that the contest is to last four weeks and that the winner will receive cash and bonuses as prizes.