

# EDITORIAL

## The Omaha Guide

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Race prejudice must go. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man must prevail. These are the only principles which will stand the acid test of good citizenship in time of peace, war and death.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1934.

### WHY NEGRO DEMOCRATS?

The question is often asked, "How can a Negro be a democrat?" This query comes oftener from the whites. Also one hears the statement, "I don't see how a Negro can be a democrat." The thought naturally arises in the minds of those who have given some study to the development of the Negro and the progress made by him in all fields of endeavor, "What is so peculiar about him that he should not, in a democratic form of government such as ours, be controlled by the same impulses as members of other races?" Why is he supposed to follow the beaten path of his father? When is he expected to doff his swaddling clothes. What is meant by the intelligent use of the ballot? Why is it necessary that one should be intelligent to "vote 'er straight." All these questions and more suggest themselves to one's mind who considers the first two questions in the light of reason and not from the light of prejudice and ignorance.

The intelligent Negro is sick and tired of hearing the "SPELL BINDERS" OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY preach the doctrine of fear and hate against the democratic party: tired of hearing them "wail and gnash" their teeth and pull their hair, in telling how Abraham Lincoln and the "G. O. P." struck the shackles of slavery from his ancestors; tired of hearing how they left children, wives, mothers and father and sallied forth with "sword and buckler" to free the Negro slave. All of this in the face of the fact that every thinking and intelligent Negro knows that the call for troops was for the purpose of putting down a rebellion started in Charleston, S. C., by firing on Fort Sumpter; that the most pessimistic individual in the North believed that the uprising would be crushed in three months; and that the sole purpose of calling for troops was for that purpose only and not to free the slaves. Had the president known or had he anticipated that the South was as formidable as they afterwards proved to be, he would have called for 300,000 troops for a period of three or five years instead of having called for 75,000 for three months, as was the case. For three long years the North and South were flying at each other's throats. It was soon seen that it was a vain boast that three months would be all the time required to put down the rebellious South. Fresh troops, called by the President, were placed on the line, and yet no mention of freeing the slaves was made by any one, other than a few abolitionists; Fredrick Douglass, Garrison, Lovejoy, Phillips, Mrs. Stowe and others. Not until an economic condition arose was there any mention made of the Negro, and even then his freedom was not discussed. The problem at issue was, that he was supplying the rebels relief by raising crops and food stuff while they fought. For this and for this alone were the slaves allowed to join the Federal forces as laborers, more to keep them from further assisting the rebels, than for what real benefit they would be to the union in that capacity.

In the meantime the Northern forces continued to meet with crushing defeat. President Lincoln was imperturbed by the Secretary of War to arm the slaves, but to no avail, he said, as has since been said by another war President, that "this is a white man's war," but after suffering other defeats at the hands of the rebels, the Secretary of War with other members of his cabinet persuaded the president to arm the slaves and issue the proclamation which declared all slaves, in the states which had seceded from the union, free, if those states did not lay down their arms and come back into the Union within one hundred days. At the expiration of the one hundred days 200,000 Negroes were equipped and armed and placed on the field, not to free themselves, mark you, but to save the Union. The President had already declared that if the South would lay down their arms and come back into the Union, they could have their slaves, or he would buy their slaves. It is obvious, by the statement, that had the South acquiesced, so far as the president was concerned, the Negroes would still be in the bonds of slavery. Had the credit for the freedom of the Negro been placed where it rightfully belonged—TO GOD, AND THE STRONG ARM AND BRAVE HEARTS OF THE 200,000 black men, who gave their lives on the battle field fighting for and defending "OLD GLORY," a greater love for God and a higher regard themselves and their achievement would have been engendered, and they wouldn't have, for years, been exploited and sacrificed on the altar of partisan politics.

### ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Happenings That Affect The Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills Of Every Individual. National And International Problems Inseparable From Local Welfare

A few weeks ago eight black robed figures walked slowly into an ancient chamber in Washington, D. C. They sank down in ag-polished leather chairs, while a chier rapped his gavel and announced: "Oyez, oyez, oyez! All persons having business before the Honorable, the Supreme Court of the United States, are admonished to draw near and give their attention. . . God save the United States and this Honorable Court."

These eight men—the ninth was absent for opening day, due to illness—represent the highest power in the land. Theirs is the court of last resort—theirs is the power to settle, finally and for all time, arguments concerning the constitutionality of laws and judgments. Their combined age comes close to 600 years—yet according to observers, all of them, including 88 year old Mr. Justice Brandeis, patriarch of the Court since the retirement of the venerated Mr. Justice Holmes, appeared to be in excellent health. Observers also said that, normally, two or three of the oldest Justices would voluntarily retire—but none, apparently, will do that; for the present session of the Court promises to be one of the most—and perhaps the most important—in living memory. On its docket are some 400 cases, of which about 300 will probably be eliminated on jurisdictional grounds. Among the hundred remaining are three cases which will destroy or revitalize some of the most extraordinary legislative—judicial acts in American history. Two of these cases involve the power of the Recovery Act to restrict production. The third will test the constitutionality of the law abrogating payment of contracts in gold. In addition, it is possible that other cases, now in lower courts, which involve New Deal legislation, will come before the Justices before the session closes.

### ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Whatever the results, decisions of the Court will be final—and they will not be questioned. Senators, Congressmen and Governors are damned and reviled; even Presidents are subject to strong criticism. But the Supreme Court—whose members, in the words of Mr. Justice Holmes, "Take the veil," is above such mundane matters. No other institution possesses the almost unqualified admiration, respect and faith of the American people.

Shortly after opening, the Court made a decision which while it will not affirm or deny constitutionality of any major Administration measure, is of wide interest. It threw out the case of an air-line which held that the government had illegally abrogated air mail contracts, and refused to review the decisions of lower tribunals.

So far as business is concerned the year 1934 has been disappointing—the great hopes that were held for recovery haven't materialized. However, by comparison with last year, our commercial affairs are in much better order.

### ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

During the first six months of 1933 according to a survey made by the National City Bank, representative business earned an average of but 1.7 per cent on their investment. During the same period this year, return was 5.7 per cent. In the year 1927, which is considered normally prosperous, industry's profits were at the rate of 8.7 per cent.

All businesses, of course, are not up to the average—the 5.7 figure is large ly made half year, for example, automobile manufacturers earned 12.2 per cent. Auto parts and accessories makers received 12.8 per cent; household equipment, 10.1 per cent; chemicals 10 per cent. By way of contrast, iron and steel makers earned only 0.4 per cent; coal producers 2.3 per cent, and building material makers, 0.8 per cent. Even in these cases however, the businesses are doing better than last year, when they took losses.

June 20, 1934  
Mr. John Garner  
Vice President of the United States  
Dear Vice President Garner:  
It gives me a great deal of pleasure to add a bouquet to the many others you have received, and to know that we are capable of having a United States Vice President born in our little town. I know you are more than doing your part with the assistance of Mrs. Garner, who looks after you and yours with everlasting devotion.

## Guide Platform

### Local

Race prejudice must go. The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man must prevail. These are the only principles which will stand the acid test of good citizenship in time of peace, war and death.

(1) We must have our pro-rata of employment in businesses to which we give our patronage, such as grocery stores, laundries, furniture stores, department stores and coal companies, in fact every concern which we support. We must give our citizens the chance to live respectably. We are tired of educating our children and permitting them to remain economic slaves and enter into lives of shame.

(2) Our pro-rata of employment for the patronage to our public corporations such as railroad companies, the street car company, the Nebraska Power Company, the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and other establishments which we are forced to support by right of franchise. Also our pro-rata of employment in return for the taxes we pay in our city, county state and federal government.

(3) To encourage the establishment of a first class hospital that we may get the best that there is in medical science from our doctors whom we know to be nearest us, also to encourage a high respect of them and encourage

(5) A one hundred per cent membership in the Omaha efforts put forth by the founders of the organization aha branch of the NAACP. should be had to encourage dollar endowment fund to maintain operating expenses and to assist the general office to establish a five million and to further the principles of the NAACP. All people of all races must be educated up to a higher principle and a more thorough understanding of interracial relationship that our country may in reality be a government of the people, for the people and by the people in whole and not in part.

(6) The re-establishment of the Christian Religion as Christ taught it, for the uplifting of mankind, eliminating financial and personal gain. A practical Christian Religion, week day as well as Sunday. An attitude toward our fellowman as a brother in order to establish a principle which will guide the destiny of each other's children; our neighbor's children today are our children tomorrow.

(7) Courteous treatment in all places of business and the enforcement of the State Civil Right Law.

(8) To encourage and assist in the establishment of the following financial institutions near 24th and Lake Streets: A building and loan association, a state bank, and, also, a first-class trust company for the purpose of more of our girls to take nurse training. administering aid and assistance to our widows and children.

(9) To encourage the erection of a one hundred thousand dollar Young Men's Christian Association Building near 24th and Lake Streets.

(10) To enlarge the Young Women's Christian Association that it may supply sufficient dormitory accommodations.

(11) To teach our citizens to live economically within their earning capacity by printing in each issue a budget system for various salaries.

(12) To make Omaha a better city in which to live by inaugurating a more cosmopolitan spirit among our American citizens.

### OMAHA GUIDE NATIONAL PLATFORM

(1) Fight for a passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill and thus stop the shameful lynching of American citizens.

(2) One of our citizens in the president's cabinet.

(3) Federal control of the educational system that every child must have a high school education.

(4) Assist in the furtherance of research by our scientists and historians to prove that civilization was first founded in Africa.

(5) Establish a political influence which will bring about our pro-rata of higher appointments made by our making election day a legal holiday and compelling every American citizen of voting age to vote.

(6) Stop graft in politics by passing a Federal Law chief executives.

(7) Prevent further wars by teaching the so-called themselves about white supremacy with only three-tenths of the world's population. They must be taught that color is due to climatic conditions. They must be taught that seven-tenths of the world's population is made up of darker races. They must be taught that the rays of sun that blaze upon the equator and turn the skin brown do not affect the power of the brain any more than the coldness of icy glaciers affect the brain of the white race; and that the darker races will not continue to be crushed by a money mad few. If the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man are not welded into the hearts of this world's family now, by teaching the principles laid down by our Saviour, it will be welded into the hearts of our children some day soon, on the bloodiest battlefields this world has ever known.

(8) Cut down congressional representation from the Southern States in proportion to the number of votes. The OMAHA GUIDE will put forth its best efforts to bring about the above 22 points with the assistance of those who believe it is for the best interest of good Amer-

### AFTER ME - WHAT?

I am the public treasury. I must be kept under constant guard against looters and despoilers. As never before I have been converted into a ponderous feed trough. A veritable deluge is being poured into me, only to be seized upon and snatched up by a growing army of jostling, grasping, contending humanity. The more I give, the louder they cry for MORE. The FAT as well as the LEAN have deserted their own boards to come to feed their fill out of my generous hold. There seems to be no end to their capacity. Their hunger is never appeased. They give no thought that there might come a day when the food stream that feeds them may dwindle to a mere trickle. Experience has taught me that day will, and must, come.

Dr. G. B. Lennox  
2122 1/2 No. 24th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska  
June 29, 1934

Dr. G. B. Lennox  
2122 1/2 No. 24th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Dear Dr. Lennox:

In the absence of the Vice President, I am taking the privilege of acknowledging receipt of your letter of June 26th.

Mr. Garner will, I am sure, be very glad to have the benefit of your views and suggestions. Although, as Vice President, he has limited legislative functions, he is glad to have the expressions of those who have the welfare of the country at heart.

With kind wishes, I am  
Yours very truly,  
Josephine Sterling,  
Clerk of Vice President