'Kerns Falsfies, Evades Question At Issue,' Says Horton

URBAN LEAGUE SECRETARY'S POOR LOGIC 'REMINISCENT OF A FIFTH **GRADE RURAL ALABAMAN RATHER** THAN A SCHOLARLY

BY JOHN BENJ. HORTON, Jr.

Omaha Guide", there appeared one of FIGHT AND FIGHT HARD FOR the most illogical, debasing, falsifing and antagonistic attempts at a sensible answer to several facts expounded by this writer against one J. Harvey Kerns and "The Petersen's Bakery". Kern's answer mostly delved into personalities and not facts in this writplayed in the celebrated "Petersen's Dinner for the Colored Old Folks". It

al reply, he falsified by setting up a issue

This writer has tried to imagine, believed that Kerns was honestly This article would be incomplete if ganization. Kerns didn't want that but has been sadly disappointed, that helping the race; but he's doing just it failed to relate a few of the many because he probably felt that such a Mr. Kerns was even a semi-civilized the oposite in his underhanded way. truths on the administration of J. board was not competent to advise person, and has finally discovered that We would demonstrate to Kerns just Harvey Kerns' office as Secretary of him. Such a man as Kerns probably the Urban League Secretary's reac- how we could and would dictate to the Omaha Urban League. tions or responses to certain stimuli him and make him like it, if it were First, when Kerns came to Omaha, his "inferiors". Just a sham, perare more reminiscent of the 5th grade not for the fact of his leaving our there were 23 colored women em- haps, for convenient purposes. debate as REDUCTIO AD ABSUR- man who had not the chance to speak, secure employment for Negroes. It ply wanted to take credit for doin DUM, which means (to reduce to the (and we might nicely quote Sen. Blease to better serve our purpose), lowest degree of absurdity).

This writer's opponent finds time, namely: "When Prometheus (a Greek also, even in the beginning of his God) was slain, the vultures tore out "answer", to jest by calling his vitals". By the above, this writer flimsv "The Omaha Chronicle" "the little infers that since Kerns is a "dead issheet which appears occasionally', but sue" here in Omaha, we see no good though he erred not in so designating reason to "devour his flesh" after his its actual size, he failed to realize 'death' just because we wield the that its not the size of a Journal that 'whip-hand' over him. counts, but on the contrary its the

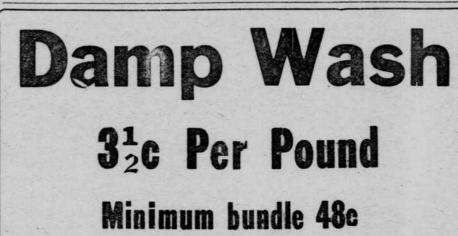
quality of material used which makes ity' as Kerns charges, and "The for either its progress or failure.

Chronicle's" criticism of Mr. Kerns The Urban League Secretary, when "hit", did the thing that most FOOLS Publicity, and it certainly surely is Big Publicity and Important

munity, for "the press" supercedes every other civic agency. In the Jan. 19th, issue of "The MUST IN MOST CASES, ALSO position to assist even more so in the SAME! Can the readers of this paper gaining of public employment than think of any other Negro in Omaha. even Mr. Kerns. aside from Kerns, who might possibly condone Discrimination against the know that this writer has been inter- elevators. Proletariat or any other class of our ested in modern journalism for 10 people on the ground that fighting

Mr. Kerns says he's "never been seemed that in Mr. Kerns' sensation- dictated to as to how he should or in Journalism", we answer with pride best advantage. that it is sometimes wise to employ should not do on matters of racial in-FALSE ALIBI to clear himself! terest". We say: that it would not same if in so doing, it can enlighten formed an "Advisory Board" which Kerns forgot to stick to the points at be proper for "The Chronicle" to its readers on the chicanery of a cer- has never called a meeting to advise make an attempt at dictation if we tain would-be leader.

rural Alabaman rather than that of city. A very militant and prejudiced ployed at "The Medical Arts Bldg.", Kerns says that he organized 2 or the suave and scholarly Urbanite. Southern Senator once said upon the those jobs having been secured Boy Scout Troops in Omaha in one of Kerns finds no competent arguments floor of the National Congress, at a through Mr. Ray L. Williams who at his Annual reports to his superior to rebut the facts which were written time when Woodrow Wilson's enemies that time was Executive Secretary of but, I invite any of our readers in the Jan. 4th., issue of "The Omaha were criticizing him after he had died, the "Colored Commercial Club" and call Scout Hdqtrs., 300 Aquilla Court Chronicle", so, he chose the alterna- on Wilson's part in establishing "A who maintained in his set-up a "La- and you'll be told that Kerns didn tive of what we employ in scholastic League of Nations", in defense of a bor Board" whose object it was to organize same. This man Kerns sin



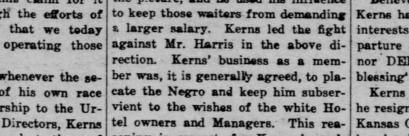
might be said with a great degree something that he knew deep down in tant income for work that an ordi- Secretary of the Kansas City League of certainty that Mr. Williams, his heart that he didn't do, and be- nary high school freshman could have was elected recentl as its Executive when Secretary of the Colored sides, who would ever find out what done. If Kerns had been working for Secretary. If you doubt this writer's Commercial Club, made more place- he placed in that report, knowing well the best interests of the waiters Assn., veracity, read the Jan. 18th, issue of ments in a given period for Ne- enough that he could easily fool his as its President M. L. Harris had been "The Kansas City Call". Kansas groes in Industrial employment than white superiors-provided the Ne- doing, then WHY IN THE NAME OF Cityans were too intelligent to accept Kerns would ever hope to make, groes wouldn't "kick"? Mr. T. P. Ma- COMMON SENSE WAS KERNS AC- such an unfit and unscrupulous person for Mr. Williams made no distinction hammit was the man who is largely CEPTABLE TO THE HOTEL PRO- as Kerns. as te whether one Negro was either due the credit for organizing those PRIETORS AND HARRIS WAS LIGHT or DARK in complexion-Wil- Scouts.

liams cared not, only that the person A year or so ago, the Colored Hotel OWNERS RECEIVE KERNS AND or persons so making applications for Waiters Assn. was formed, and a REJECT HARIS on matters pertinent employment were competent to hold Mr. M. L. Harris was asked to head to the Assn's future? The answer is the prospective job.

This writer claims, not, to be a poli- claimed the glory for colored elevator witnessed that election as a member probably, sell out his race to keep tician; but he appears to be in the girl operators in the Brandeis Stores, of same; Kerns injected himself into within their good graces! but he falsefied in this claim for it the picture, and he used his influence Believe me if you may that this man and expect to win. He must know was largely through the efforts of to keep those waiters from demanding Kerns has been ininimical to the best that his position in our community is "The Omaha Guide" that we today a larger salary. Kerns led the fight interests of our group and that his de- that of just another social worker; It is probably good for Kerns to have Negro women operating those against Mr. Harris in the above di- parture should NOT BE MOURNED ours is that of leadership, and that

I'm informed that whenever the se- ber was, it is generally agreed, to pla- blessing' years, has written for a number of lection of members of his own race cate the Negro and keep him subserthem ANNOYS THE DISCRIMINA- substantial race papers, and claims comes up for membership to the Ur- vient to the wishes of the white Ho- he resigned his post here to accept the NOT in the Editor of any paper-even er's accusations which dealt, principal-TORS? Such a man is of no value to know his business even better than ban League Board of Directors, Kerns tel owners and Managers. This rea-Kansas City Urban League post. Glar-Kerns knows his. Though Kerns ex- does the selecting; he selects those of soning is correct, for Kerns has al- ing headlines were published in anposes this writer's "primitive methods his own group whom he can use to his ways catered to Capatilistic interests other of our local race papers to that

> him on matters of import to his orknew far too much to be advised by



The Urban League, through Kerns,

NOT? WHY DID THE HOTEL same; and Harris accepted the Presi- clear; the Hotel proprietors knew that It is further alleged that Kerns deney after his election. This writer Kerns could be used and that he would

in order that he maintain an exorbi- effect; but a Mr. Webster, Industrial

It's alleged that Kerns has falsefied also, in arranging his resignation for the position which he now holds with thè Omaha Urban League. It is com-

PAGE THREE

mon rumor that he was requested to resign!!! Finally, Kerns must know and realize that he can't cope with the press

nor DEPLORED; its a God-sent leadership is NOT "FALSE" as he would have you believe; and that Kerns falsefied when he said that leadership is vested in the masses and "The Omaha Chronicle".

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do when the truth is told about them; they seek to cover up behind a smokescreen of FALSE ALIBIS and fight

fire, CHIDE THE TRUTH!

Urban League" assisted the Peter- is there? sen's Bakery in the dinner service

but in the beginning, it was another party who, it is said, was asked to assist the bakery in said service-a Mrs. Borders living at 2622 N. 25th St., Omaha, and NOT Kerns! But somehow, Kerns "STOLE THE SHOW" from Mrs. Borders and her associates!

We frown upon Kerns' statement in "answer" when he said that "Mrs. Petersen did so because it has always been the policy of this organization to assist in a worthwhile effort". Such "tommy-rot" from Kerns is unbelievable! Mrs. Petersen has NEVER done this type of charity for Negroes before to our knowledge; she gave this dinner because she was losing Negro business and desired to gain goodwill, so she used Mr. "Judas" to pull her "chestnuts out of the fire".

The egotistic "gentleman" speaks indulgently and "deplores the poorly written and burlesque articles" from the pen of this writer. Incidentally, Kerns has forgotten how he has, upon numerous occasions, praised the "Chronicle" on its fine brand and progressive piece of Journalism. If the "gentleman" has forgotten so soon, we admonish him to think back on the occasion of the "birthday banquet" of "The Omaha Chronicle" on Sept. 8th, 1934 when he made quite an impressive talk on the program with emminent journalists such as Ballard Dunn, Editor of The Omaha Journal and Dwight Griswold, Editor of The Gordon Journal on behalf of this paper's progress. This writer remembers, verbatum, the above quoted portion of this certain "tool of the classes". We are not sure that the public takes our articles as a "joke" as kerns infers, for they continue to call our office when there's the least doubt in their minds that our paper would issue upon the regular date; the business-men

concerns the Negroes in Omaha.

We do not engage in 'cheap public-

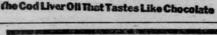
Yes, our present methods "antagoback in their mentall; feeble manner. nize some employeers" as the "gentle-Men of Kerns' calibre, when under man charges in his answer", and our methods have antagonized Kerns. This individual tells us that "The Nothing inunderstandable about that,

for the "Old Folks". True enough, so instrumental in molding public We, perhaps, have been even more opinion through our "poorly edited and burlesque articles" than another of our professed but chicken-hearted leaders; and the truth made known about him will mould rublic opinion against him.

We, perhaps, know even better than the second paragraph of his grotesque Kerns where our place is in this com-

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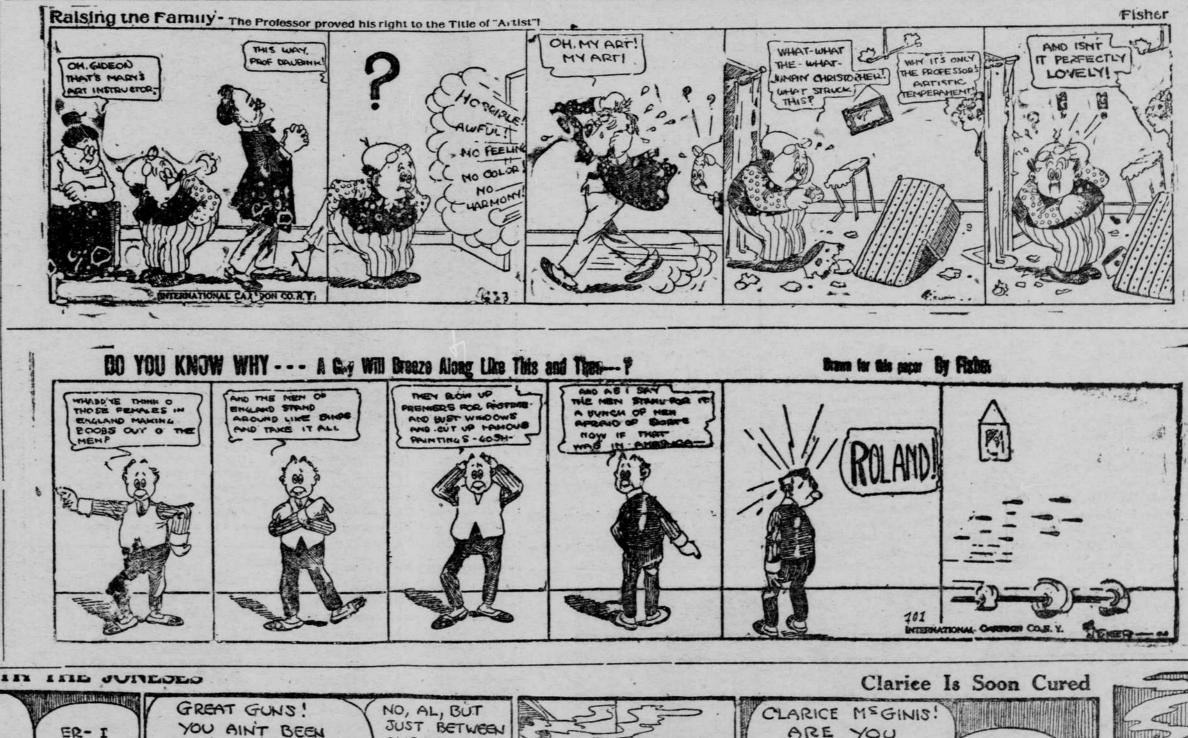
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