

..EDITORIALS..

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.

All News Copy of Churches and all Organizations must be in our office not later than 5:00 p. m. Monday for current issue. All Advertising Copy or Paid Articles not later than Wednesday noon, preceding date of issue, to insure publication.

WAR CLOUDS

The average citizen has heard relatively little of foreign affairs lately. Events at home—the election, the convening of Congress, the strikes, the unprecedented floods in the Middle West and South—have taken all his attention.

Yet the foreign situation has grown steadily more menacing.

In Spain, for example, a civil war is going on. Everyone knows that. What everyone doesn't know is that a general European war, on a small scale, is likewise going on in Spain. All the major nations have paid lip service to the cause of neutrality in Spanish affairs—but the fact remains, according to every fact-finding newspaperman who has returned from the Spanish battlefronts, that several European nations have troops actively engaged in Spanish battles, are supplying one side or the other with airplanes, rifles, cannon, ammunition and food. For instance, when the rebellion began, a rebel leader Franco had almost no tanks—now he has great numbers of the most up to date type. And the loyalists had no air force worthy of the name—now they have a considerable number of fairly modern, well armed ships.

Principal participating nations are Russia, Germany and Italy side with the rebels, who are Fascistic in tendency and purpose. Russia and France side with the loyalists who include Communists, Socialists, Syndicalists and Republicans.

To what extent are these foreign nations taking an active interest in Spain? Vivid answer is supplied by Major Al Williams, famous racing pilot, who recently made a European tour for the purpose of evaluating Europe's air armadas. According to Mayor Williams, "One pilot, who had served in the rebel army, told me it was getting tough for a native to find something to do in that civil war. Russia, Germany, Italy and France had all but taken it over for a warming up session of their new war machines."

This "international civil war" has killed thousands of Spaniards. It has laid Spain waste. And it is, perhaps, preparing the way toward the most sanguinary general conflict in weapons are infinitely greater both in number and potential world history. Today all Europe is an armed camp—and its destructiveness than before the World War. It is very possible that if one of the powers becomes satisfied that the "tests" made in Spain show it to be superior to a neighboring unfriendly power, the blow off will come with breath taking suddenness.

So far as America is concerned, the State Department obviously realizes the dangers in Europe—is seeking to formulate an equitable and workable neutrality policy. Here is a great deal of debate going on among those with different views. It seems certain that the President will be given wide discretionary powers in dealing with foreign crises. It also seems certain that the old doctrine, dramatized by Wilson, of "freedom of the seas" will be dropped, in the hope of keeping us out of conflict.

The auto strike overshadows all other business news. At this writing, little or nothing has been accomplished in the way of settlement. John L. Lewis, labor generalissimo, is as adamant as ever, and so is Alfred E. Sloan, General Motors head. G. M. car production has fallen to extreme lows, with strikers in possession of many plants. Labor chief will not call a halt to "sit down" tactics; Mr. Sloan will not arbitrate until strikers leave the plants. So a stalemate exists and long legal battles are pending.

The Administration has done nothing toward forcing a settlement; the belief is growing that it must act soon or the whole course of the recovery movement will be imperiled.

A SQUARE DEAL FROM HEARST

The policy of the Hearst newspapers in their treatment of Negroes in the news, has not been of a character to endear them to the colored people.

But overnight the Hearst newspapers have changed their policy, thanks to the efforts of the NAACP, and the increasing intelligence of Mr. Hearst.

"Negro citizens deeply resent racial labels in crime stories," wrote Walter White, NAACP secretary to Hearst, "especially since no racial designation is made of other criminals or suspects."

"You are perfectly right," Hearst wired back, "and I am so instructing editors."

Thus progresses a campaign launched several months ago asking that racial labels in crime stories be eliminated.

Over fifty daily newspapers are now following the more enlightened practice.

Colored readers of 1937 will not be able to appreciate what their forbears had to contend with whenever they opened a daily newspaper.—Courier.

KELLY MILLER SAYS

IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE NEGRO

One balmy day in April 1884 I walking through the Smithsonian grounds and looked up and saw the sign "Civil Service Commission." At that time I had reached the end of my resources and there seemed to be no recourse but for me to quit school at the end of that year. I went in and upon inquiry received a circular of information stating when the next examination would be held—then within a few days I entered the examination and in the following July received appointment to the Pension Office. This enabled me to complete my college education at Hopkins University in Baltimore.

I was thus led to observe what an important part the Civil Service of the government played in the life of Howard University. Many students were thus enabled to remain in school and to complete their education. In those days before discrimination crept in the Civil Service Commission was an open gateway through which hundreds of colored men and women who had completed school in their several communities, many of whom were employed as school teachers and in other capacities on such salaries as prevailed at the time, accepted the call to higher remuneration of the departments at Washington. To be a government clerk in those days was a social badge of no little distinction. Many of the most ambitious government clerks entered upon the study of medicine and law in Howard University—those schools being held in the evening. These departments in this wise reach a larger enrollment of well qualified studentry than they have at the present time. Many of the best lawyers and doctors of the race completed their professional courses under such auspices. While a badge of high distinction in local Washington society, to be a government clerk was not regarded as a particularly honorable career for one with a collegiate or professional degree. It was felt that a college bred man ought to go out in the world and serve his race on the higher level of spiritual, intellectual, moral and social leadership. The burning ambition of every genuine college student was to complete his course and go out in the world which he felt, was waiting for his illumined service. Personally I never for a moment felt that I should remain in the government service a day longer than was necessary. I regarded it as but a stepping stone to higher things.

How different today, when the job objected is the chief end in view of the average collegian. There are twenty thousand colored men and women in institutions of higher learning with 2,000 graduates annually, and many more times that number in the high schools throughout the country. There are few prepared places for them. I wonder what the statistics of last year's graduates of our high schools and colleges would show. How many are doing nothing, with little prospect of early improvement of their lot? If the government had not come to the rescue of these jobless educated folk, our streets would literally be crowded

with educated paupers. If the Civil Service were fairly operated they would furnish a considerable outlet for our educated output. The work is reasonably dignified, and the reward commensurate with the compensation along any line in which our folks are employed. Now, since the Civil Service offers to future careers to the competent and worthy, the attraction is all the more persuasive.

I beg to suggest that our college presidents and the principals of our high schools write to the Congressmen with whom they may have influence calling upon them to support the man Mitchell looking towards the abolition of race discrimination in the Civil Service of the government. I believe that in this way, as much as in any other, they would promote the cause of higher education to which they are committed.

—KELLY MILLER.

Washington, D. C.—Negroes all over the country are more anxious than ever, these days, to get into the field of aviation.

The reason: Many find that their rich employer, for whom they have worked as chauffeurs and mechanics, are more and more inclined to leave the car at home these days when going on long trips; to fly instead of driving. Before long these employers may take to buying planes of their own, fire the chauffeur and hire pilots.

Unless the men who are now driving the cars can get training in flying planes, they'll be left out in the cold as this trend gains headway.

For a number of years Negro skilled workers have had a hard time trying to force their way into accredited schools of aviation. Sometimes they have succeeded in getting the training they needed, but most frequently they found this door of opportunity slammed in their faces.

The Department of Commerce today lists only 75 licensed colored aviators. Fifty of these (including the fast-talking ex-Ethiopian Air Force Commander, Hubert Julian) are qualified only as student pilots. If the remainder, only a few have any considerable amount of "air time" on their records, and fewer still have found it feasible to adopt aviation as a full-time vocation.

Obviously, there should be room for thousands more.

Sensing this, Negroes have from time to time tried to set up air schools of their own. A few of these have succeeded for a short time; none have lasted over any considerable period of years. Perhaps the most successful one now operating is the Craftsman of Black Wings, run by Lieutenant William Powell in Los Angeles, with financial aid from the Works Progress Administration.

So successfully has this experiment operated that prospective student from all over the country are now applying for instructions. A move is on foot here in Washington to set up similar courses in other sections. If sufficient pressure can be brought to bear, Uncle Sam might be inclined to help out even more than in the past. Negro officials in the capital are willing to push such a proposal. They believe, with the Back Wing's commander, that the ground floor of aviation is now being laid. If we can get in now, we can grow as aviation grows; but if we fail to get in at the start another great industry will rise up as have others, with Negroes holding only menial jobs.

Government workers who come to Washington at what appears to be abnormally large salary soon discover: (1) the city's tremendous high cost of living, and (2) its life was not worth living. He is not to be condemned for his pride in his family. He is only unfortunate in not being able to obtain work such as would afford adequate remuneration to provide the necessities of life.

So when his wife threatened to leave him, it was more than he could stand. "Everything went black," Tony told the court. Tony shot and killed his wife, and then tried to kill himself, but was unsuccessful. To be nagged, dogged, hounded, persecuted and then left by the one for whom he had actually slaved proved more than he could stand. After all, the capstone of the whole affair, the most malevolent and unkindest cut of it all was to witness his wife go away after having reveled in luxury while he gladly toiled when he could get anything to do. Tony himself had gone in need while his wife wore the finest of the finest and enjoyed evenings away from home late into the night while he was compelled to remain and rest out of sheer physical necessity.

That, in brief is what Tony told the court Tuesday here. Judge Yeager was obviously



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housing shortage.

Social registers say the cost of existing in the capitol city is unquestionably the highest in the country. Gas, electricity, water, and rents are all sky-high especially for the newcomer who doesn't know his way around the shops.

A two-room apartment in Washington costs just twice what it would in Mobile Alabama; Wichita, Kansas, or Seattle, Washington, to name only a few sample cities. The same holds true for larger units. The only city that approaches the capitol city's rental average is New York.

Fundamentally, these high rents spring from a shortage of space, accentuated partly by the influx of a large number of emergency government workers in the past few years, and partly by the action of the government in taking over many houses and apartment buildings for the use of its new agencies, and in wrecking others to make way for new departments.

The result is that many newly-made Washingtonians either find themselves constantly "in the red" despite the fact that their pay checks are larger than they are accustomed to or are taking refuge outside the city limits, in nearly Maryland or Virginia. Here homes are available at lower rents, and other living expenses are correspondingly less bothersome.

Dr. Frank Horne, assistant to Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune in the National Youth Administration, thinks that the thing our youth needs most these days is the enlightened leadership of thoroughly trained and experienced vocational guidance workers.

"Today the young Negro is caught in the dilemma of whether to take the chance to seeking preparation in the field of his interest and aptitude or grasping hold of a possible blind-alley job more immediately available," he says.

"Even in this contingency, he faces a definitely limited vocational field of choice; he has little information as to the fields of work or of the training possibilities; apprenticeship is practically closed to him and, to cap the climax, all of these factors have already operated to place his family in such precarious economic status that little time or opportunity for choice or re-consideration are left open to him. He must pitch head-first into the battle of life, poorly armed and highly vulnerable."

One solution, he believes, lies in better trained vocational guidance workers. He puts it up to the Negro schools throughout the country to provide them, and suggests that if they would do this effectively they must first adjust their courses "to meet more realistic he needs of Negro youth, and to institute same and sound program of guidance."

Some claim they saw tears well up in his eyes. The court turned to the Deputy County Attorney Rudy Tesar and asked if he had any reason whatever to doubt any of the facts set forth by Tony in his story. The Deputy County Attorney replied he had none and then added: "I wish I could make a plea like that."

Obviously moved, Judge Yeager said that in the nine years he had been prosecutor in the county attorney's office and in the three years he had served on the criminal bench, he had never been confronted by a decision more difficult to render fairly.

"The maximum penalty for second degree murder under the law is life. The minimum is ten years. I can't in fairness give you either. For that reason," Judge Yeager said, "I sentence you to spend twenty years in the State Penitentiary."

Tony told his life's history in his recital. He related how at 13 he went to Lake Charles, Louisiana, as an Italian immigrant with but scant knowledge of English. He began the job as humble errand boy on a Louisiana plantation.

From this humble beginning through a period of hard working years, he rose to foreman of a steel gang on the Union Pacific out of Omaha at a salary of \$100 per week.

In the purest Addisonian English which once won Tony the job as Italian-American interpreter with a southern railroad, he recalled he had changed his name from Giacomo to his present name, Jackson when he was naturalized at Omaha when 21 years of age.

He was married to Miss Mary Rotolo, an Omaha girl of Italian descent 21 years ago. Tony Jackson is now 46. To this union three children were born—Nicholas, who died two years ago, who would now be 20 years old had he lived; Sam, 18, and Phillip 15. The first son was sickly from childhood and died of a lung infection. Tony had spent large sums for salary of doctors and medicine. He likewise produced uncontroverted evidence of having spent a huge sum for doctors and medicine for his wife who threatened to leave him.

When Tony's fortune declined after quitting the Union Pacific job to go into the restaurant business in 1926 to do business for himself, the pathetic and tragic end began. The San Carlo, his new enterprise, failed after 8 months. Then followed a succession of various kinds of jobs such as he could get and finally in 1933 a job of civilian administration.

"But never, with my relief jobs and the sidelines, did I earn less than \$20 a week," more and more dissatisfied she nagged me. She threatened to leave me and break up the home. She tried twice in the past two years to sue me for divorce. On October 8, I came home with word a railroad here might put on a steel gang. I had to return next day with the awful news that this wasn't true—that the gang—and my job—wouldn't be ready until spring. My wife was crushed: "I'll leave you now, and this time it's for good she said."

"Everything went black. I shot, her and tried to kill myself," Tony said.

Tony's sole consolation while in his cell is a letter from his son, Sam, in which he takes comfort as he reads it. Sam had written his father these words among other things: "Don't feel too badly about mama. I know that you did not mean it, and I am sure she has forgiven you."

Tony has lots of people who sympathize with him, and I am one of them.

Ray L. Williams, Atty.

Tuchman Bldg. 24th and Lak
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the County Court of Douglas County, Nebraska.

In the matter of the estate of IRENE CAROMAN JOHNSON, deceased:

All persons interested in said matter are hereby notified that on the 20th day of January, 1937, W. L. Myers filed a petition in said County Court, praying that his final administration account filed herein be settled and allowed, and that he be discharged from his trust as administrator and that a hearing will be had on said petition before said court on the 13th day of February 1937, and that if you fail to appear before said court on the said 13th day of February 1937 at 9 o'clock a. m., and contest, the Court may grant the prayer of said petition, enter a decree of heirship, and make such other and further orders, allowances and decrees, as to this Court may seem proper, to the end that all matters pertaining to said estate may be finally settled and determined.

Bryce Crawford
County Judge