

..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.

The MASTER POLITICIAN

THE RISE of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to the highest office of the land has caused historians and writers to speculate on the contributing factors to his success. The late Col. Louis McHenry Howe was one of the President's early backers to whom credit was given for the Roosevelt victory in 1932. In the recent campaign, much of the credit has gone to James A. Farley, Postmaster General and head of the Democratic National Committee.

While not trying to minimize the part these men and other able assistants played in putting Roosevelt over the public, we would like to observe that the President himself is a master politician and is probably the best executive at direct appeals to the public this country has had in recent years. Mr. Roosevelt likes nothing better than to make a gesture such as that made last week when he entertained an ex-slave at the White House.

Upon hearing that William Andrew Johnson, 79-year old former servant of President Andrew Johnson, had expressed a desire to again visit the White House, the President saw an opportunity to gratify this desire and sent a Secret Service messenger to bring the Negro to visit him. This human gesture on the part of the President did not mean anything to the Negro group as citizens, and yet it demonstrated the famed Roosevelt spirit of friendliness and proved good publicity. That particular story was probably published in more papers than any story on the President's plan to increase the membership of the Supreme Court.

It only bears out that the President is himself a master political strategist. Those who oppose him are depending too much, we think, on putting before the public in cold logical reasonings their position, which in this fashion makes dull reasoning. The occasional personal and human touch as President Roosevelt has demonstrated is what makes the difference between the mediocre and master politician.—New York Age.

GOOD CITIZENS

For the first time in the history of Nebraska. Two Omaha boys of the Race are to be commencement speakers at two of Nebraska's largest high schools. These young men have won such distinction through their efforts as good students and outstanding school citizens. They are held in high esteem by both the student body and faculty. This accomplishment, by Alphonso Davis of Technical high school and Monroe Coleman of South high school, should and does offer a source of pleasant reflection on the part of the Negro parents and citizens of Omaha. While these worthwhile achievements do not necessarily solve the many problems with which we are confronted; they do illustrate the democratic spirit prevailing within our public school system and indicate that talent and worthiness among the students is recognized wherever it may be displayed.

SAFEGUARDS

Don't attempt to start fires in stoves or furnaces with gasoline or kerosene.

When using a kerosene or gasoline stove, always follow directions of the manufacturer. Keep stove clean, extinguish flame after use and allow to cool before filling. Store the supply can outside the house.

Don't smoke while filling the stove. In order to be sure of your stove by only those listed as "standard" by the Underwriters' Laboratories.

Don't clean clothes with gasoline, naphtha or benzene. Human life is our most precious possession; guard your own and your dear ones from this giant of destruction.

Petroleum, properly handled, is one man's most useful servants. Improperly handled, it can become a giant of destruction. Remember that—it may save your life.

HERE AND THERE

At a recent party of grown up where young people's games were furnishing the amusement, one of the women was asked to tell "What would you do if you were president." Of course a humorous answer was expected. But after a moment's hesitation the lady replied, "If I were president I would stop lynching of our people in these United States." And for a brief moment there was complete silence, for all present realized that the answer contained dynamite.

It is undoubtedly true that if any Negro were president of this country that is exactly what he would first try to do. It is also true that all believe that if our present executive made this objective of his "must" legislation an antilynch law would be enacted in this session of Congress.



Officials here are amazed at the unexpected reaction to proposals that the Harrison-Fletcher bill be modified so as to provide for equitable sharing by Negroes in the benefits of the funds appropriated and apportioned under the bill to further education.

Both the NAACP and the National Conference on the Problems of the Negro recently went on record as favoring modification of this bill, contending that if it were passed in its present form, Negroes—especially in the south—would receive little benefit from it.

The proposed modification included (1) making regular reports showing the distribution between separate Negro schools where separate schools are maintained compulsory, and (2) giving the Secretary of Interior authority to withhold payments to any state or territory where discriminatory practices are discovered.

Within the past week, however, a number of "educators" from the south have come to the capital to protest against any such amendment to the bill. They claim that it isn't necessary—that their local officials are perfectly honest, fair, and capable of appointing the money where it is most needed. They say, too, that such safeguards as have been proposed are valueless, and that only through local supervision can fair distribution be carried out.

The tragedy of the situation is that most of the Negroes making these protests would admit, under close questioning, that their reasons for doing so is not that they do not prefer Federal supervision of educational funds to that of their local boards of education, but that their white superiors in the south have sent them to Washington for the purpose of killing a proposal designed expressly for their benefit, under penalty of losing their jobs if they fail to carry out instructions.

Negro officials in Washington sense something of what is happening and intend to continue their fight for close Federal supervision of any new funds made available by the government for education. However, it will be difficult to erase from the minds of white politicians here the false impression these emissaries from the south have given them.

PERMANENT RELIEFS
The biggest job of Negro officials in Washington today is that of finding some method of getting colored workers back into private industry. The need of some definite course of action grows day by day as white workers leave the relief and work-project rolls, increasing the percentage of colored workers gradually to a point where local officials and civic groups begin to protest against the seeming "special treatment" accorded Negroes by "the relief."

The logical bureau for carrying out such a program is the U. S. Employment Service, which is under the Department of Labor and has branches in nearly every community. This agency, however, has found it difficult and at times almost impossible to reduce the Negro relief-load by finding jobs for colored workers, although steady pressure to this end has been exerted upon it both from the outside organizations and from within the Department itself.

Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley, Secretary Perkins' righthand man, has been conducting a nation-wide survey to determine the extent to which U. S. E. S. is aiding Negroes to find private employment. He has insisted wherever possible that Negro workers be appointed to work in these Federal employment offices, as he has found that most white workers have little understanding of the job problems of Negroes, and even less inclination to go out of their way to find decent jobs for colored persons.

The NYA is considering expansion of its program of apprentice training, whereby young people are allowed to work with skilled artisans while being paid by the government. If this expansion can be accomplished, the way may be opened for young colored boys and girls to find their place in the industrial world, first, by learning how to do a job well, and second, by showing the prospective employer that they are as capable of fine work as the boys and girls of other racial groups.

THE FORGOTTEN DOMESTIC
Another employment problem which the Federal government is now being asked to solve is that of domestic workers in both rural and urban communities. The realization is general that domestics' wages now are entirely too low, their hours of work too long, and their standards of living too low.

Congress is to be asked soon to provide adequate social security and workmen's compensation legislation for these workers, and to guarantee them the right to organize and bargain collectively. Meanwhile, existing agencies provided to assist these workers to find jobs are being urged to establish policies which will prevent assignment to domestic jobs at less than decent wages.

In some communities relief organizations have begun carrying out the spirit of this recommendation by providing adequate relief for domestics who cannot secure jobs at wages sufficient to provide a decent standard of living. The rub lies in the fact that there is little inclination to do this in the case already excused is provided by for sometime much lower than those for white workers.

Here is a big problem for Congress to consider. It affects countless thousands of Negro workers and even more white employees in domestic fields. Certainly it is one of vital importance, and should have more than cursory attention.

WORLD IN REVIEW
Sen. Borah and the Supreme Court
Senator William E. Borah of Idaho has introduced in Congress an extremely dangerous amendment. The Republican "liberal" of federal anti-lynching legislation and for that reason fought by colored leaders when he offered himself as candidate for the presidency, may or may not have had resentment in mind against their activities when he submitted a proposed amendment calling for drastic changes in the 14th amendment, a bulwark of Aframerican liberty.

While the Idaho senator says he does not wish to change the "due process of law" clause guaranteeing the right of hearing and a fair trial, under which the supreme court has rendered its Scottsboro and other decisions, he does want to give the various states more power than they have even today. He wants to give these states power to make whatever social and economic legislation they desire with the supreme court powerless to interfere.

Calvin's Digest

By Floyd J. Calvin

ROOSEVELT IN ACTION

Not in many years has there been in the White House a president who is so completely a man of his word and of deed as is President Roosevelt. Before the news columns are dry on one progressive move, he has made another; and before the editorial writers can praise him for one courageous act, he has taken another.

At this writing, there are three distinct acts on the part of the President for which colored citizens may feel especially thankful and of which they may be justly proud. First, came the Farm Tenancy Message to Congress, written in typically Rooseveltian words, which still have a potent effect on the multitude. "The agricultural ladder, for these Americans, has become treadmill." So writes the President of many colored and white citizens who have been caught in the net of evils which spread tentacle-like, over a vast part of our southern country.

The President proposes a program which looks toward an amicable solution of the tenancy problem by not completely ignoring the land owner, by definitely aiding the submerged tenants, and also by aiding the national plan of improving basically the economic life of the nation. Problems of finance, methods of guidance, and plans of education, are all a part of this progressive program. Our hope is that once the Congress enacts the necessary legislation, a "wilful" Supreme Court may not circumvent the will of the majority by scrapping the program as it did the NRA and the AAA.

Second, the President acted quickly when Congressman Mitchell told him he had evidence of "skulduggery" in the case of Midshipman Johnson, who was flunked and was all packed up and ready to leave for home at Annapolis Naval Academy. Had this happened a race which is turning out a healthy annual crop of M. A.'s and Ph. D.'s would have been quickly disgraced. But the President, hearing the story, acted instantly, reopened the Johnson case, and we may now expect justice and a square deal for Young Johnson.

Third, the President, without "fuss and feathers," and without, even, the knowledge of some of his secretaries, quietly received Dr. Mary McCleod Bethune at the White House, accepted her report of the National Conference on Negro Problems, which was held recently, and chatted with her in such a way that she left the Executive Offices with complete confidence in the man whom the Negroes broke party lines for a second time to return to power.

The average colored citizen can rest assured that his interests are not being overlooked or side-tracked by the Chief Executive, and that in addition to getting just consideration, he will get action.

LYNCHING FIGHT
It is meet that the anti-lynching fight gain wide support at this time when other progressive measures are gaining a hearing before the bar of public opinion, and when it appears that a general program of social reform is in the making. Certainly no far-reaching changes in the social and economic scheme can be effected without something very definitely being done to check mob violence, which is the basic drag-back to inter-racial co-operation in this country. Negroes cannot co-operate fully in improving the national life so long as they know the country at large is not fully interested in their welfare to stop so humiliating and so degrading a practice as the meting out of summary punishment for any infraction without due process of law.

It is largely because the co-operation of a tenth of the population of the nation is necessary to advance the general interests of all the people that the lynching problem will now be seriously considered, and in all probability, a law enacted to wipe it off the national scene.

Currently we find "America," powerful Catholic weekly, devoting its leading editorial to the Wagner-Costigan anti-lynching bill, imploring churchmen everywhere to line up against this evil. A few days ago the New York Herald-Tribune devoted its leading editorial to the proposition that the end of lynching is now in sight because so powerful a southern paper as the Richmond Times Dispatch has come out favoring an anti-lyn-

An Echo

From My Den

By S. E. Gilbert

As I sit here in my "DEN" with pen in hand, meditating, as it were inspired by the encouraging thought that from the walls of Omaha's institutions of knowledge come this month many Negro youth who in accordance to the wonderful record made by them in their respective schools are destined to make a mark in life that which shall make all proud, I write. The Omaha Guide wishes to congratulate these men and women of tomorrow, youth who undoubtedly look upon education; as the one way out. Any one who would attempt to answer the posed question would appear rather presumptuous, and yet I am forced to agree with the poet who said: "For every evil under the sun, there is a remedy or there is none. If there is one try to find it, if there is none never mind it."

In my humble opinion, education is the panacea for our racial ills. By education I do not mean mastery of Greek, Latin, or Hebrew, but rather that training of the heart, head and hand which will fit an individual for useful and happy living.

The Negro race, like other races, is composed of individuals, and the intelligence of the masses of our people, rather than that of the more fortunate few, will be the yard stick by which the worth of the entire group will always be measured.

Education for the masses of the black Americans is the way out because (1) the intelligent man recognizes the importance of being a citizen, keeping himself armed at all times with that most effective of all weapons—the ballot. (2) The intelligent man now realizes that the Negro purchasing power is tremendous force in breaking down economic barriers and will use this power to a good advantage. Furthermore, he is aware of the fact that the owning and efficient operation of various businesses will unlock the door to a greater economic freedom (3) The intelligent man will have some knowledge of the achievements of his forebearers, consequently he will have not only a just pride in the accomplishments of the members of his race, but a well grounded faith in the future triumphs. (4) The educated man should be a co-operative being. Racial and inter-racial co-operation will characterize him. And (5) education should cause one to interpret more clearly the purpose and design of the Creator and to live closer to Him.

There can be no real freedom for black Americans until the masses have been liberated from the throes of ignorance, that breeder of crime, superstition, envy, hatred and jealousy.

To the men and women of today, I say, that the men and women of tomorrow stand patiently by, asking that you do your part in opening the avenues of economic freedom. Thus I commend to you to dedicate your lives to their getting an education, an education that trains the heart, head and hand, thereby preparing them to be able to accept that inevitable opportunity that comes to all who are prepared. I further commend that you turn your vast spending power into the avenue that will build places in which your boy and girl may find an economic out-let, in doing this you shall have made it possible for the future citizens of our race to take their rightful place as American citizens.

CHANGANG PICTURE

By Floyd J. Calvin

Recently there appeared in many newspapers throughout the country a picture of colored members of the changang fighting the Mississippi flood. The picture, humiliating at best, showing human beings on errands of mercy working under slave conditions, was presented from different viewpoints in different sections of the nation. In New York the picture was given a legend which subtly criticized a social order that, for any reason, publicly forces men to wear a chain. In Oklahoma City colored citizens are incensed because a local daily paper published the same picture with an opprobrious caption—one which catered to the ancient stereotype of colored men working on a levee.

Suffice to say, however, that in spite of these untoward incidents, out of the scourge of the flood there came this: The unmistakable attempt, on the part of relief officials, to give succor without discrimination.

"Away"

By James Whitcomb Riley

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead, he is just away
With a cheery smile and a
Wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be since he lingers there
And you—O, you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return
Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of there as the love of here
Think of him still as the same,
I say
He is not dead, he is just away.

SHADYDALE

By William Henry Huff
(For ANP)

They tell me down at Shadydale
They like to put my kind in jail
Because God made us black
I'd surely tell them if I could
How all that God has made is good
But how would I get back?
But God is down at Shadydale
He's writing, too how could He fail?
He'll show His hand some day.
O, Shadydale, I beg, I plead
That you make haste, repent indeed
For wrath is on the way.

Passing Views

By William Pickens

Organized labor is reported to be planning a "march" on Congress to press them into turning the Supreme Court over to Mr. Roosevelt. Many times in human history the masses of men have helped to destroy their own liberties. It is dangerous to grasp a present good at the risk of eternal losses; to fulfill a present desire, heedless of tomorrow. Mr. Roosevelt may be a relatively safe man to be given so much dictatorial power—but who knows what sort of a human animal will follow Roosevelt four years from today? Or if they make Roosevelt dictator for life, how long may a life like his last,—and who next?