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THE OMAHA GUIDE

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WE REVERSE OURSELVES

(From The Danville (Va.) Register)

When a mob of 100 white men seize two Negroes in Mississippi, haul them in a bus to the scene of a murder they had just denied committing, and torture them to death by searing their bodies with a blow torch, congressmen with legalistic minds can still get up in the House of Representatives to argue that an antilynching bill constitutes an unconstitutional invasion of the rights of states.

On the morning of the very day two men were fiendishly murdered near Duck Hill, Miss., an editorial appeared in this paper reitorating our opinion that though the objectives of the antilynching bill pending in congress were commendable, we did not believe that the enactment of such a law would curb the evil.

But though we still hold these doubts, we herewith reverse ourselves completely and call upon the Congress of the United States to take any action which in its opinion gives any promise of checking such barbarism of the South. It is no longer a question of what we think. So long as any considerable group of men believe that a plan they propose has any chance of preventing such fiendish acts or punishing such fiends, we will hereafter throw whatever influence we have behind their plan.

And we call on every fair minded man and every warm hearted woman among our more than 10,000 readers, who are proud that they are Southerners, to join us in doing our part to remove this stigma from the South. Today, if you do not relish the stench of burning flesh and do not enjoy the screams of tortured men, telegraph or write Hon. Thomas G. Burch, Member of Congress from the Fifth Virginia District, and the Hon. Carter Glass and the Hon. Harry F. Byrd, Senators of Virginia, and ask them to support the Gavagan Bill or any other bill which offers any hope of preventing lynchings.

Tell them that the honor of the South is more important than the rights of the Southern States.

Tell them the South earnestly implores the Federal Government to do what the Southern States have failed in doing.

Tell them the Southern people are decent and honest and human and not fiends as a Mississippi mob represented them.

Tell them that a blow torch has convinced you, as it convinced The Register, that representatives of a disgraced South should bow their heads in Congress and vote in favor of the most drastic anti lynching bill submitted.

NEGRO STRIKE PHENOMENON

(By William Pickens for A N P)

In Chicago, as elsewhere, colored mothers, like other mothers, are hired to be wet nurses and to suckle babies whose own mothers are unable to nurse them. But these colored mothers had recently to go on strike because they found that white women were being paid at a higher rate to give their milk than the colored women. This was an absolutely excuseless discrimination, with economic repressive aims solely; for many of the most noted white men of American history were nurtured in infancy on the milk of black women. Colored women have never been known to give inferior milk. Nobody would be silly enough to propose such a discrimination among the cattle of the field; that milk from a black herd should be sold at a lower figure than milk from a white herd. Humans may be sane toward lower animals and insane toward each other. Which reminds me that when Frederick Douglass and other Negro Abolitionist agitators were visiting in Janesville, Wis., the hotel put the colored men at a separatetable in the dining room; whereupon Doug white horses and black horses eating out of the same trough in lass; who had just been out to the hotel stables where he "saw peace," remarked: "From which I conclude that the horses of Janesville are more civilized than its people."

Another Negro strike phenomenon is illustrated by the recent case in Cairo, Ill. There a body of relief strikers, 90 per cent Negroid, went for a "sit down" in the relief headquarters. What happened? Well, the officers of law and order and the "possess" of citizens simply marched in and made the "sit downers" "git up." That shows what officers can do when Negroes violate the rules; in other words, it proves what officers can do when they want to do it.

American police, sheriffs and courts would within 30 days develp on the best technique for handling mobs and lynchers inn the history of the world, if a few foolhardy black mobs would just start out and try to lynch white people.

So, what? Selah!

KELLY MILLER SAYS

GAVAGAN ANTI LYNCHING BILL SPLITS DEMOCRAT PARTY

The Gavagan Anti Lynching Bill has passed the House of Representatives by an overwhelming majority, composed chiefly of Northern Democratic votes. The split of the northern and southern Democrats on the issue follows the same line of cleavage which has continued to thrust the country apart ever since the adoption of the constitution.

The place of the Negro in the body politic has been the bone of contention. The Mason and Dixon Line was traced by two famous British surveyors from the Delaware Bay to the Ohio River. Thence it was pushed along the Ohio to the Mississippi River by the ordinance of 1784, and was extended still further to the Pacific Ocean by the Missouri Compromises of 1820 and 1850: this isothermal line drawn across the continent has taken on great political significance.

Antilynching legislation in the very nature of the case, should be actuated by moral rather than political consideration. Unless Democracy destroys the mob, the mob will destroy Democracy.

Unfortunately, the anti lynching bill is made to assume the appearance of race legislation. Those who support it are motivated largely by the thought that they are rendering a favor to the Negro race instead of to the national existence, but as a matter of fact the Negro, the more numerous victims of the mob spirit is by no means its only victim: More than 1500 white men and women have been lynched and burned at the stake by the maddened mob in the past fifty years. If not a single Negro had been lynched in the meantime, the enormity of this evil should be the chief concern of national legislation.

Whenever action of any kind involving the Negro is broached, the South reverts to its traditional attitude of negation and assumes the doctrine of states' rights and local self government as its protective philosophy.

Lynching, unlike its twin iniquity, kidnapping, is not approached in the national spirit, but its condemnation or condonation follows fixed geographic boundary. Lynching does not constitute a political issue between the two great major parties, The Democrats of the North and the Republicans of that section are of one favorable mind on this question. On the contrary, the Democrats of the South and the lily white Republicans of that section are likewise of one unfavorable opinion. The lily white Republicans of Virginia exclude the Negro from participation in their party conventions as effectively as do the Democrats of Texas by their white primaries.

The Dyer Anti lynching bill and the Gavagan Bill have both passed the House of Representatives by a practically solid northern vote, composed of both Democrats and Republicans as against the solid opposition of the southern vote, composed mainly of Democrats. Both the Dyer Bill and the Costigan Wagner Bill were defeated by the southern senators who resorted to filibustering tactics for that purpose. The Gavagan Bill may be headed for the same fate.

By virtue of the more liberal rule of the senate, a few determined senators can defeat any measure to which they are unalterably opposed.

The sponsors of the Costigan Wagner Bill committed the error of first submitting it to the senate, thus depriving the house of representatives of registering the attitude of the preponderant majority of the American people on the necessity of ridding the nation of a national atrocity. If an yfeasible measure to put down lynching and mob violence ever comes squarely before the senate for a vote, it will pass that body by the same overwhelming majority as it passed the house, and by substantially the same nonpartisan vote, so far as the northern states are concerned.

From the days of the reconstruction to the World War, the southern wing has constituted the controlling factor of the Democratic Party, but since the election of 1932, the northern wing has gained the ascendancy, which is reflected in party alignment on the anti lynching bill. In both houses of the present congress, the northern Democrats are twice as numerous as their southern counterparts.

Because of the historical attitude of the two great parties towards the Negro's political status, the race has clung to the Republican party, which it has bowed down to and worshipped as the man Friday, did his master's gun which had rescued him from a situation of great peril.

For fully a generation the Negro was considered a traitor who deserted the G O P for a Democratic adversary as much as one who gives aid and abetment to the enemies during a time of war.

The triumph of the Democratic party under Cleveland, Wilson and Roosevelt has gradually opened the Negro's eyes to the actuality of the political situation. When he looks about him and applies the acid test of reason instead of the touchstone of emotions to the political situation, he finds there exists no discernible difference between Republican and Democrat except as they are influenced by geography. The vote on the Gavagan Bill clearly demonstrates this proposition.

As soon as the Negro voters arrived at the stage of self consciousness they began to align themselves with the party, men and measures, which promised the greatest advantage and ad-

Calvin's Digest

By Floyd J. Calvin

Benny Goodman

Seeing is believing; and this writer saw Benny Goodman, famed "swing" maestro broadcast on the "Jack Oakie Col lege" program for Camel cigarettes at the CBS broadcast theatre, 54th street and Broadway, New York, Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30 p. m. The remarkable thing about this broadcast was that Goodman, a young white man who is admittedly on top, is so democratic and tolerant that he carries as an integral part of his organization, two colored youths—Teddy Wilson, wizard of the piano, and Lyonel Hampton, vibraphone expert.

There has been some criticism of Mr. Goodman's arrangement and adaptation of certain songs, but we are willing to overlook a good many things after seeing the lesson this young man is teaching America on race relations.

This was our first time to see a coast to coast broadcast, with vancement to the race and nation, regardless of traditional partisan endearment or animosity.

The drift began with a northern migration brought on by the World War. The effective Negro vote in the North began to split more and more evenly between the two parties. Many Negroes cast their ballot for Davis against Coolidge; many more for Al Smith against Herbert Hoover; and still more for Roosevelt against Hoover. The drift to Roosevelt against Landon assumed the proportions of a landslide.

In the last two elections the overwhelming majority of the Negro votes were cast for Roosevelt and the New Deal. If the GOP ever hopes to regain its former Negro following it will have to formulate a new appeal, different from that upon which it has relied since the days of reconstruction. It must outbid the Democrats in wooing his support.

The New Deal has effected remarkable changes in political attitude and alignment. The Republican party which traditionally upheld strong federal authority against the claims of state rights, has now reversed itself in the opposite direction. The southern Democrats have outstripped their northern copartisans in the opposite direction;

part of the program coming from New York and the other from Hollywood, Calif. As Goodman "stands by" and then goes "on the air" with his two colored coworkers, and as all America "eats it up" in millions of homes, and the audience in the broadcast theatre "brings down the house" with applause after seeing the two colored lads perform, it is enough to make one hopeful that the future holds bigger and better things for Negro youth.

Marian Anderson's Rise

The story of the rise of Marian Anderson is now being told on all sides. The latest and most thrilling account is found in the New York Post—a special feature article by Michael Mok, who tells how Miss Anderson came up from humble circumstances in her Philadelphia home, to her present world renown. In fact, it was only twelve years ago that Miss Anderson had won in a competition which started her definitely on the road to fame.

We are getting a new set of heroes, and we are proud. Negro youth is taking its place in the present scheme of things:

Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, Fred D. Patterson, William H. Hastie, Hubert T. Delany, Marian Anderson, Jane Bolin, Elsie Austin, and many others. It is well that we furnish new evidence of our ability, as a group, to achieve.

President Rhoads Upheld

We are happy to note a public statement signed by several individuals, appearing in the Houston Informer which says in part: "President Joseph H. Rhoads has spent eight successful years at Bishop College. He came to the college following the administration of members of the white race who had led us successfully for 48 years. This humble son of the Negro race who was educated at Bishop College stepped out upon the scene and took the task with courage, dignity and honor. During his administration we have seen many changes and de-

but while the South has reverted itself on economic policies, it still maintains stubborn attitude on states' rights and local sovereignty so far as the Negro is concerned. But the wiser minds of the South know fully well that this section must either keep step with the liberal movements which are sweeping throughout the nation and the world, or be left behind in its provincial isolation.

By slow stages toward enlightenment policy, the South has been led to approve and to applaud the 13th amendment, abolishing slavery. It has tardily accepted the overthrow of the doctrine proclaimed in the Dred Scott decision. It still balks at the 14th and 15th amendments, intended to place the Negro on terms of political and civil equality with the rest of the nation. It was unfortunate that the acid test was applied to this essentially moral question. It puts the South on the wrong side of the moral equation.

Democracy will stultify itself unless, or until mob rule is destroyed and broadly speaking until all sections of the country cheerfully acknowledge that the Negro is entitled to equal rights under the law, and to the equal protection of the law.

An Echo From My Den

By S. E. Gilbert

As I sit here in my den, meditating as it were, there is still ringing in my ear the echo of the Third Annual Spring Musical, which was innate in the mind of Mr. L. L. McVay and for three years has indeed been a tremendous success.

Sunday it was my privilege to observe this young man in all his splendor, as he went about his work. His sincerity of purpose was indeed exemplified in his response to perhaps the greatest ovation that has ever been given an individual in Omaha, when 1500 black Americans sang the name of McVay to the tune of "Blessed Be the Tide" so vehemently, that literally the walls of Pilgrim Baptist church rocked in the spirit of praise to a great man, one who had the vision to bring in to being a project designed according to his own response; "Folks I will be satisfied if by these services there can be brought about between the choirs of Omaha, harmony and a spirit of goodwill toward all mankind." Closing he uttered, "Forget McVay and strive to carry out a spirit of harmony.

To me this statement, coming from the originator of such a colossal affair, was indeed a crowning climax to the most wonderful song program of the season, proving that a man can render an invaluable service to the community in which he lives in an unselfish way. May McVay continue to work with a spirit of unselfishness and by his work be able to realize the propagating of such a spirit in to the lives of every black American in Omaha.

velopments take place. The college has grown with the times. The Oscar A. Fuller Memorial Hall has been dedicated to our services. The gymnasium which brings pleasure to thousands of college and high school students as well as friends of athletics was erected in 1935. The campus has been converted into a veritable garden of flowers.

"Again under the administration of President Rhoads, the School of Religion has become an outstanding feature of the college.

"President Rhoads is a forward moving character and he stands for all that is best for humanity."

This testimonial to the worth of President Rhoads as an executive and educator with vision is timely and true. No one should be allowed to besmirch this record of constructive service.

Honoring Irving H. McDuffie

The United Government Employees of Washington, D. C., have seen fit to honor Mr. Irving Henry McDuffie, personal aide to President Roosevelt. Judge Ormond W. Scott and Dr. Wm. J. Thompkins, Recorder of Deeds, were among those attending the testimonial and banquet to this White House at tache.

We are pleased to see members of our group who are close to the "powers that be" accorded due and just recognition and appreciation. Often they render the race as a whole greater service than any but a few even know about. This is true in the case of both Mr. and Mrs. McDuffie.

BRONZE Standouts advertisement featuring portraits and names of Nina Mae McKinney, Ella Fitzgerald, and Bill Bailey. Text includes: 'Nina Mae McKinney Stage & Screen Star Now Successfully Appearing in the Coronation Shows of London Nite Spots', 'Ella Fitzgerald America's First Lady of Swing. Featured with Chick Webb & His Band on Radio with Juan Hernandez Recorded with Benny Goodman The Mills Brothers Teddy Wilson & Others A Product of Amateur Nite in Harlem Station WJMG', and 'Bill Bailey The Present Tap Dance Star at the Cotton Club Replaced Bill Robinson © 1937 INTERNATIONAL NEGRO PRESS'.