

COMMENTS

EDITORIAL PAGE

OPINIONS

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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 day of issue, to insure publication.

..EDITORIALS..

Lynching—A National Evil Demands A National Remedy

By KELLY MELLER

The Institute of Public Opinion in a nation wide poll sought to determine the attitude of American people on the advisability of Federal action for lynching. The returns showed 72 per cent favored such action by the national government, while 28 per cent opposed it.

Lynching is a peculiar American atrocity which prevails nowhere else among civilized or semicivilized people. Its prevalence is not due primarily to the presence of a large number of Negroes in one section of the country.

Neither can it be claimed, as is too often attempted, lynching is confined to the Southern States. If not a single person, white or black, had been lynched in the South in the last 50 years, hundreds of victims in other sections of the country would cause the nation anxious concern.

If according to Abraham Lincoln's dictum this nation can not remain half slave and half free in his day, it cannot now continue half lynched and half free. If some sneering foreign critic should substitute 'Land of lynchings' for 'Sweet land of liberty' in our national anthem we would have only our gruesome nastiness to blame.

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Children In Court

By Judge Malcolm Hatfield

Following a hearing in juvenile court this week, two groups of parents learned to their amazement that they themselves were partly responsible for their children being disobedient.

A careful investigation by a court officer previous to the hearing revealed the following:

The parents of the first child continually bickered with each other over the type of discipline to be administered. If the father gave a command, the mother invariably countermanded it and took the side of the child.

The parents of the second child frequently threatened the youngster with a whipping but never carried out their threats. On several occasions they sent their daughter to go to bed because she misbehaved when guests were present.

So long as parents countermand their own orders or fail to carry out a warning they can expect disobedience. When children do not learn obedience in the home, there is very little the school can do to correct them.

Youth Forging Ahead

While sitting at home Monday afternoon and listening to a program coming through station WAAW, my interest was focused on a program which had been announced as the Four Rockets of Rhythm.

So interested was I in their ability. I sought them out and found them to be four local boys, namely: John Capleton, basso; Jesse Carter, baritone; Richard Turner, second tenor and Richard Gibson, first tenor, one of whom plays a guitar.

Upon further questioning them I found that they have appeared at the following places where they were received enthusiastically: Peony Park and the Broadway theatre, Council Bluffs; Paxton hotel, Jim Bell's Harlem and Missouri Valley.

Their record was so impressive that they were sought out by the WAAW radio station to appear on its spot program and may be heard every Monday afternoon at 4:45 p. m.

In order that we may help these young men, I urge every reader to listen in every Monday evening at 4:45 p. m. over station WAAW, of which I am sure you will do. Spend one cent to help them on their way to success by dropping a postal card in the mail box addressed to the station over which they may be heard telling the management how much you enjoy the program now rendered by the Four Rockets of Rhythm.

years, on the ground that they have been without constitutional warrant. We are disposed to question the genuineness and sincerity of this robust American patriot and statesman. He is known to be as deeply opposed to lynching and all forms of lawlessness as any American in public or private life. It is most unfortunate, therefore, that this distinguished statesman has chosen to lend the weight of his great prestige and authority towards defeat of the VanNuys Wagner bill, although he fully recognizes the end aimed at is just and righteous altogether.

Had a Taste of It Missionary—And do you know nothing whatsoever of religion, my poor fellow. Educated Cannibal—Well, we had a taste of it with the last missionary.—Pearson's Weekly.

An Echo From My Den

By S. E. Gilbert

As I sit here in my den with pen in hand, meditating as it were, there comes to my mind the fact that black America now faces one of the greatest economic crisis of all times.

In this period of economic chaos there is a need for every organized group within the race to play a part in the breaking up of this chaotic condition. Thanks be to God that there now exists such stalwart organizations as the National Negro Congress, CIO, N. A. A. C. P., Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Workers Alliance, all striking at the very roots of the condition that unless its growth is stopped will strangle civilization into oblivion.

But as I think of those stalwart organizations, I also think of the church, that organization which in the words of Bishop Noah W. Williams, spoken as he addressed the Missouri A. M. E. conference last week, said "that the church must wake up, realize its responsibility in the present economic crisis and help find jobs for the unemployed."

The intrepid clergyman said that business and professional people whose own prosperity depends on the prosperity of the working class, should join hands with the church and aid in its nation wide economic program.

The distinguished prelate declared, "I wish to speak loud enough not only for our fifth Episcopal district to hear, but for the entire African Methodist Episcopal church to hear, that at the bottom of our social and moral and religious life is our economic security. We must have a ministerial leadership who will be socially minded and able to organize the religious forces and help them to find a way out."

Our whole missionary and educational program at least our home fields should be thrown entirely behind preparation for a type of ministerial leadership that is intelligent consecrated and has imagination and the spirit of adventure and self sacrifice. I tell you the church must help the people find a way to make a living.

Bishop Williams, who by his stand, is taking his rightful place among the emancipators of the Negro from economic slavery, further stated: "That the time has come when the church must look forward toward the economic well being of our youth. I mean by that," he declared, "that the church must help the people to secure self respecting jobs." In his call for a united front on the part of the church, he concluded his epoch making address by saying, "We have the most tremendous problems before us, and it is no time to be fighting within our own ranks. It is going to take all of us to stem the tide."

Fellow citizens the echo of this great speech should fall on the ears of every minister regardless of denomination. If, the churches are to materially and spiritually survive, the ministers must unite the forces of religion and build racial pride and racial interest. To the extent that the host of church members will realize that they must help create jobs for one another by spending their money in places where they can visualize return through the avenue of employment.

The Omaha Council of the National Negro Congress, an organization seeking to develop a powerful collective voice through the federation and integration of existing Negro organizations and progressive forces, behind crucial issues affecting Negro people in order that Anti Negro and reactionary social trends may be arrested and beaten back and definite and substantial gains of the rights of the Negro people may be achieved, invite every minister in Omaha to head the clarion call of Bishop Williams, and unite with them in a battle to the finish in Omaha.

Impending Passage Of Farm Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

ample, his action in having the 1935 speech against the Costigan-Wagner bill of the then Senator Hugo L. Black, now a Justice of the United States Supreme Court, served to remind many senators who voted for Senator Black's confirmation in ignorance of his Ku Klux Klan affiliation that they can, by making a vigorous fight and voting for the anti-lynching bill, prove to their constituents and country at large that they have not changed their fundamental attitude toward protection of minority groups.

There is also widespread comment upon the action of Senator William Bankhead of Alabama who while Senator Smith of South Carolina was attacking the bill, moved over to a seat near Senator Smith to inquire "how many votes do you think this anti-lynching bill would get if niggers didn't vote?" While Senator Bankhead's purpose was obvious, his question served to remind senators and spectators how closely involved in the question of lynching is disfranchisement. It was in the course of this same speech that he referred repeatedly to the Negro as "an inferior race" though in the printed version of the Congressional Record, Mr. Smith deleted this insulting phrase.

King of Utah Apparently Opposed

It has become apparent that Senator William H. King, of Utah, is definitely opposed to the anti-lynching bill though he had indicated previously that he was mildly favorable. Throughout the filibuster when they faltered or seemed to be running out of arguments designed to prolong the filibuster.

The most vicious attacks of the filibuster were made by Senator Connally. On one occasion when Senator Wagner had left the floor of the Senate for a few minutes, Senator Connally seized upon the occasion to rise and express regret "that the junior senator from New York is not here—I suppose he is out in the corridor talking to some fellow." As he uttered these words, Senator Connally picked up a book with a black cover which was lying on his desk and held it up so that all members of the Senate and especially the press gallery could see it. Perhaps the most helpful service rendered to the anti-lynching bill by Senator Connally was his intemperate attack on the placard placed as an exhibit in the Senate chamber by Senator Bennett C. Clark which contained photographs of the barbaric Duck Hill, Miss. blow torch lynching of last April. This exhibit had hung on the wall of the Senate during the debate last August on the anti-lynching bill and had also been hanging there throughout the first five days of the recent filibuster. No newspaper or other notice had been taken of the placard until Senator Connally's attack upon its presence there and Senator Clark's vigorous defense of his placing the exhibit in the Senate chamber. As a result of this passage-at-arms, newspapers throughout the country featured the exhibit—most of them on the first page and many newspapers, including the New York Sun, carried photographic reproductions of the striking exhibit.

Publicity Widespread

At no time in the many years of agitation for federal anti-lynching legislation has the volume of news, editorial, magazine and radio publicity reached the heights caused by the impending passage of the bill. The Nation, famous weekly magazine, published in its issue of November 27th and article by Virginia Dabney, editor of the Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch, entitled "Dixie Rejects Lynching." Liberty, with a circulation of approximately three million, published in its December 4th issue an article by the famous American writer Will Irwin, bearing the title "They Lynched the Wrong Man." Time, the weekly news magazine, devotes an entire page of its issue for November 29th to the filibuster while News-Week also devotes an illustrated article considerable space to the discussion. The Time article is cleverly illustrated with a photograph of Senator Connally smoking a cigar as he stands under a Senate sign bearing the

The Housing Problem in American Cities

By Dr. T. Earl Sullenger, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Omaha

Housing reform isn't a new social phenomenon. It goes back to the code of Hammurabi written in 2000 B. C. for its earliest consideration. In about 1000 B. C. China became housing conscious. Therefore we see that the problem is not new, but the modern emphasis is somewhat new.

The sociologist is interested in this new emphasis. He sees the problem from the standpoint of its influences on the life of the people who live in houses below the norm of decent living conditions. Regions of poor housing are generally referred to as blighted areas, which are characterized by overcrowded conditions, dilapidated houses, excessive crime rate, poverty, venereal diseases, social degeneration, and deterioration. Such areas are sometimes referred to as foci of infection, where all of the social pathologies are more or less concentrated.

Research has shown that these areas cost the city six times as much to maintain as other areas of equal size. Blighted areas allowed to get worse become slums when located in the heart of the city and shanty-towns when on the outskirts of the city.

There are two kinds of slums. First, slums that "got that way," and second, slums that "started that way."

Cost Is Burden The social cost of bad housing cannot be adequately measured, but the economic cost is becoming an

enormous burden on the tax payer. Realization of the problem can be comprehended only by research and clear presentation of the social evils.

What can be done to meet the situation? Razing of the old houses and construction of low-cost houses seems to be a hopeful approach to the solution of the problem. There are three kinds of people who are interested in low cost housing: the people who live in it, the people who make money from providing it and the people who think something should be done about it.

All Are Active All of these groups are really becoming active. Private enterprises have aided the situation in many industrial centers, but such aid does not reach the average blighted residential urban area. Many metropolitan, state, regional and national planning agencies are seriously considering this problem. The Federal Government has over 50 such projects under its direction. Governmental aid in such countries as England, the Scandinavian countries, and Germany has proven successful, but it remains to be seen how it will succeed in the United States.

It is too early to predict what the social results of the rehabilitation now being undertaken will be. The gratifying fact is that public policy is no longer standing still, but is moving forward.

words "No Smoking Please."

Negro Vote Dominant Factor At no time in recent years has the Negro vote been so dominant in the minds of members of the Senate due to the emphasis by the filibusterers upon the charge that supporters of the bill are advocating it solely because of fear of reprisals from Negro voters. This charge is bitterly resented by many of the senators who are supporting the bill because they honestly oppose lynching. But constant repetition of the charge has kept alive and made more potent than ever before the importance of the Negro vote in state and national elections. This realization was increased during the filibuster by publication of a syndicated article by General Hugh S. Johnson, which was used as the basis of an attack on the bill by Senator Charles O. Andrews of Florida and in which General Johnson pointed out that the Negro vote in certain pivotal states is "now large enough to swing any close election.....and some of those states are large enough to be necessary in any national election." General Johnson's charge that an anti lynching bill is part of a movement to centralize authority in Washington for the purpose of forming a "federal dictatorship based on discontents of all kinds," has created bitter resentment here among members of the Senate, who are supporting the anti-lynching bill and throughout the country.

Upon conclusion of the farm bill, it is reported here that attempts will be made to call up some other bill other than the anti-lynching bill despite the explicit wording of the special order making the Wagner-Van Nuys bill the first order of the Senate, after the farm bill. It is not believed here that these efforts will succeed particularly because Senator Alben W. Barkley, majority leader of the Senate, has unequivocally and repeatedly served notice upon the Senate that it must vote upon the anti-lynching bill in accordance with the Senate's special order. But telegrams, letters, and personal calls upon senators urging them to stand firm against a filibuster and to oppose any and all efforts to postpone action upon or to emasculate the bill is of utmost importance. Appreciation should also be expressed to those senators who are fighting for the bill. Tremendous pressure will be brought upon some members of the Senate to abandon effort to get a vote on the bill and to vote to displace the bill with other measures. Words from "back home" against such a course will be most helpful in causing them to resist such pressure.

THE LOW DOWN from HICKORY GROVE

It kinda seems like every time you turn around, you will run across somebody who is makin' himself a living, in some nice way and easy way, or gettin' himself elected on some idea that sounds great, but caves in right prompt, thereafter.

And the ducks who peddled lightnin' rods, 50 years ago, they are in the kindergarten, when you think about how people are gettin' organized now, for something or other, on this side or that and diggin' up dues by the million. And the fellers collectin' the dues, they don't wear checkered suits, but are sanctimonious persons, and they live in grand houses, and they are just about ready—all the time—to make everything rosy and great for everybody. They are just about ready, but not quite—and then some more dues are due.

And with so many schools, and everybody goin' 'til they are any way 15, it looks like the suckers would become extinct—like a cigar store Indian.

But without suckers, we would be sunk, and look what would happen to our psychoanalysts, and the fan dancers—and who would take mud baths. And the forgotten man, he would have to quit business.

Yours, with the low down,

JO SERRA

Liberian Club To Have Bathing Beach

Monrovia, Liberia, Nov. 26 (ANP)—The Monrovia country club has acquired two and three-quarters acres of ocean front property situated on the Mowrovia-Sinker road. Plans have been drawn for the erection of a club house and the construction of tennis courts and a swimming pool. The club was organized in January last and its progress is indicative of the general development and improvement which marks Liberian history this year under the able leadership of the present administration.