

City Edition
10c
per Copy

The Weather
Weather Outlook for the Period August 21 to August 26. Upper Miss. and lower Mo. Valleys and Northern and Central Great Plains generally fair weather tem. somewhat below normal early in week and near or slightly above normal remainder of week.

Negroes Spend \$16,000,000 Annually for Funerals. Well?

New Funeral Home Opening Soon at 2022 Lake

Mr. Wendell Thomas of Lincoln, Nebr., who has been a resident of that city for 33 years has come to Omaha and will conduct a Funeral Home at 2022 Lake St. He has also moved his family here and has purchased the beautiful spot to serve his people and will be ready for business in a few days. Watch for the opening. He was associated with Umlberg's Mortuary for 6 years. Graduated from Worsham College of Embalming Chicago, Ill., and has been taking training in Derma Surgery and restorative art and duly licensed by the State of Nebraska to practice embalming and Funeral directing. Also holds a license from the State of Texas (it shall be the aim of this establishment to give the people of Omaha prompt efficient dependable and economical service at all times.

THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS

HEW TO THE LINE

LARGEST ACCREDITED NEGRO NEWSPAPER WEST OF CHICAGO AND NORTH OF KANSAS CITY

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Saturday, August 26, 1939

Number 21

COLORED WOMAN STRIPPED AND BEATEN BY MOB

TRY TO BUY OFF VICTIMS OF JERSEY MOBBISS

New York, Aug. 24—Certain groups in Cranbury, N. J. are trying to hush up prosecution by making a "deal" with the seven Negro potato pickers who were stripped, beaten and threatened by a white mob here August 11, it was reported today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The basis of the deal was reported to be payment in full for work done and small "damages" for treatment by the mob providing the victims would agree not to prosecute.

Governor A. Harry Moore was urged by the NAACP to employ every instrument of his office in support of the Jerseys state police who are attempting to track down the mob which viciously attacked the seven Negro migratory farm workers, one of them a woman.

Action on the part of the national office of the association followed a probe launched by the Princeton, N. J., branch of the NAACP under Mr. David W. Anthony, chairman of the New Jersey State Conference of NAACP branches, and president of the Princeton branch, shortly after the mob attack.

Working in conjunction with Dr. Anthony, the association's national office sent a special investigator to the scene of the crime. A copy of this investigator's report has been sent to Governor Moore.

A general summary of the report made public by the NAACP gives some indication of the sordid conditions that face southern migratory workers, who roam from state to state doing seasonal farm work. Forced to accept a wage level that is beneath subsistence, they face the fierce exploitation of farmers on the one hand and the resentment of local workers, Negro and white, who refuse to work for less than subsistence wages (preferring relief,) on the other. In addition to this, Negro

street, is held by police for investigation. Price told police he drove up to 3019 R street this morning to pick up Eva Starnes to take her to the Cudahy packing plant, where they both work. Before he could drive away, Black drove in front of his car, threatened him with a pistol. Price said he pulled his own gun and shot at Black.

The union's national officers revealed also that charges of unfair labor practices in Armour's Chicago, Oklahoma City and Peoria, Ill., plants have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

To date, Armour officials have refused to open negotiations with the union.

migratory workers face the prejudice of those white who fear the fact that these people are tasting for the first time a modicum of freedom, above their semi-slavery status in the South.

The summary of the NAACP investigator's report follows:

"Generally the situation in Cranbury Township is as follows: There is no one in the Township on relief and there are no people unemployed. The majority of the townspeople are employed in factories in nearby towns. What few would probably go on relief are taken care of by the overseer of the poor.

"They receive grocery orders and other necessities for which they do odd jobs around the town. They are people who are unfit for potato picking because they are too old or physically incapable of such labor. Application has been made by several farmers to the relief office of Trenton and that of New Brunswick for people to do this work.

"Men on relief always refuse to take these jobs and this refusal is easily understood. On relief they work three days a week and get approximately \$15.10. If they get off relief to take these seasonal jobs it takes them six months to get back on relief again. Therefore it is apparent and a fact of which the farmers are well aware, that if it were not for these workers from the South they would have extreme difficulty in getting anyone else to do this work.

"Not only are the wages low, but the hours are practically unlimited. Potatoes cannot be picked at midday in this hot weather (the season runs roughly from the middle of July to the middle of September,) so it is customary for them to work from seven in the morning till about noon, lay off several hours and work till dark.

"A farmer can keep them idle all day if he wishes and call them out suddenly, late in the afternoon if he find that he can sell a load of potatoes if they can be picked promptly. Under these circumstances the Negroes who are most inadequately paid, are forced to work under conditions and for numbers of hours which even a slightly less depressed group would refuse to tolerate.

Contractor Distributes Wages
"The farmers in this district contract with bosses from the So. They deal only through the boss who brings whatever number of Negroes with him that the farmers want. The rate paid by Mr. Dey, on whose farm the attack occurred, is seven and one-half cents per hundred-pound bag of potatoes, which I believe is higher than the general rate in that section. (The contractors in this

(Continued on page 4)

FLEDGING DOCTOR, ARRESTED ON THEFT CHARGE, GETS A BREAK

St. Louis, Aug. 24 (ANP)—After being arrested on a grand larceny charge and released on \$1,500 bail, Dr. Malvern H. Johnson, 29, who on July 1 completed his internship at Homer Phillips hospital, was granted leniency by city officials last Saturday and "given a chance to make good" in his chosen profession.

Dr. Johnson was given his freedom when officials decided to drop prosecution. According to police, supplies, including instruments and medicine valued at about \$290, and the property of Homer Phillips hospital, were taken from Johnson's car parked near the institution.

Speaking of the case, Dr. N. Thompson, city hospital commissioner, said: "Dr. Johnson had a good record, and Mr. Darst and other city officials felt that he should be given an opportunity to go out in the world and make good. No doubt he struggled hard to earn a medical education, and this will be a good lesson to him that crime doesn't pay. We are all sorry that it happened; everything has been restored. I believe he will make good." Dr. Ora S. McClellan is the hospital superintendent.

NEGROES SERVE ON TEXAS JURIES

Austin, Tex. Aug. 21 (By Elaine Ellis for CNA)—Two citizens of Travis county, Andrew Anderson and Eugene Johnson are among the first Negroes to serve on a trial jury in this county since Reconstruction days. It is customary for Negroes to be excused from jury service by agreement of attorneys, but these two were permitted to serve by attorneys who used the scratch method of selecting the juror. They served as jurors in a damage suit brought by an Austin nurseryman against the city.

Recently the Rev. M. M. Haynes, Negro minister, was a member of the Travis county grand jury, being the first Negro to serve on any type of jury within the memory of the oldest courthouse observer.

S. AFRICA TO TRY RACIST LEADER

Capetown, Aug. 24 (ANP)—The Fascist leader of South Africa, General "Manie" Maritz, awaited trial in Cape Town this week on charges of promoting race hatred. The charges were brought by a group of prominent Jewish residents of South Africa. The court released the Fascist leader on \$500 bail for trial in August.

Jewish leaders accused General Maritz of making false allegations against Jews in his book entitled "My Life and Struggle." The book has been officially banned in South Africa.



Willie (Suicide) Jones leaped 29,000 feet

Omaha Girl Weds Parachute Jumper

Miss Ruthgayle Griffin, age 21 of 2910 N 28th Ave. was married Friday Aug. 17 to Mr. Willie "Suicide" Jones the world's champion delayed parachute jumper. They were married by Municipal Judge Dennis E. O'Brien, As Mr. Jones does not believe in delay, no matter what he is trying to accomplish. Theirs was a romance of about 21 days before the couple married. They met when Mr. Jones came here to buy a Monoplane for a four thousand mile hop. It was learned that Mr. Jones would try to fly from New York to Seattle and return in an effort to break the United States long distance nonstop record now held by Howard Hughes. Strong rumors had it that Jones is going to fly from the United States to Paris alone as Lindburgh did.

WRITER AND ARTIST VISIT CHICAGO

Chicago, Aug. 24 (ANP)—William Attaway of New York City, author of the novel, "Let Me Breathe Thunder" was a visitor in Chicago last week with Romare Bearden, the artist who also lives in New York. The youthful artist and writer were absorbing local color and spent considerable time during their stay in the steel mill district.

Mr. Attaway has received wide and favorable comment upon his book, the characters of which are white. Mr. Bearden was the only Negro artist to have a picture accepted for the New York World's Fair. His "Soup Kitchen" was chosen for the exhibit of contemporary American art. Out of 48,000 pictures submitted for this exhibit only 800 were chosen. He is the son of Mrs. Bessye Bearden, deputy internal revenue collector of New York City. The visitors left Chicago Saturday for Pittsburgh.

UNDERTAKING BUSINESS IS BIG NEGRO ENTERPRISE

Forthcoming Convention in Chicago Focuses Attention on Industry. President W. J. Morsell of Progressive National Funeral Directors' Association Gives Interesting Data on Burial Business

Chicago, Aug. 23 (ANP)—With the approaching annual convention of the Progressive National Funeral Directors' association set for Aug. 20-24 here in Chicago this week gave an insight into the magnitude of the business.

He said that burial of Negroes is almost entirely conducted by members of their own race. They have their own embalmers undertakers, cemeteries, burial societies etc. It is estimated that 150,000 die annually, and of these 135,000 are buried by Negro funeral directors.

Colored people spend \$16,000,000 annually for funerals and an average of \$6,420,000 is spent yearly for caskets, embalming fluids and accessories. An average of \$1,500,000 represents the annual expenditure for graves. There are nine casket factories owned and operated by Negroes, two colored manufacturers of embalming fluids and supplies, and two Negro jobbing supply houses.

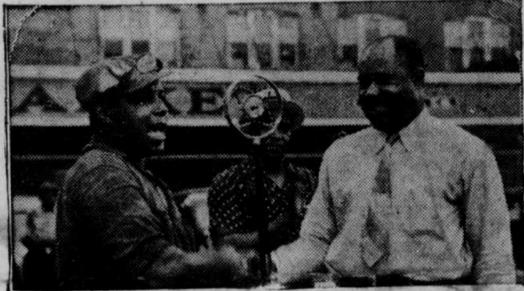
There are about 3,000 colored funeral directors and 1,258 funeral homes in the United States. Total cost of Negro-owned funeral homes is \$15,000,000 while the investment in rolling stock amounts to \$1,000,000. States ranking one, two, three in the number of funeral homes are Texas, 106; Illinois, 90, and Georgia, 89. Low mark goes to Seattle Wash., with one, while states having only two Negro funeral homes are Iowa, Wisconsin and Arizona. Concerning this year's convention, which will be held at Metropolitan Community center, 4100 South Parkway, President Morsell said:

"These annual conventions are for the purpose of discussing the methods and service of funeral directors, so that good will can be built up between association members and the public. Topics for discussion include getting business, rendering service, making friends and repeating service. There will be lectures and demonstrations in embalming, funeral direction, salesmanship, purchasing power and public relations.

"The public has rather a fair opinion who are aspiring to a higher position in the eyes of their fellow man. The task of public relations is a personal one—it's an individual problem and one that is essential to the success of the undertaker."

NEW YORK, Aug. 24, (CNA)—Police this week charged the Harding Republic Club, 1580 Lexington Avenue, with operating one of the largest crap games in the city. The club is seeking a court order restraining Police Commissioner Valentine from keeping a cop on post in their club house.

CIO Leaders in Packinghouse Drive



James Sampson, head of the Wilson local of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee (left) welcomes PWOC Assistant Director Henry Johnson to the microphone during a noon-hour organizing rally at the Wilson plant Chicago, Ill. Johnson came

to the meeting direct from Washington, D. C., where he had conferred with CIO head, John L. Lewis on the plans of the packinghouse workers to enforce their demands for union recognition.

—CNA Photograph.

ARMOUR REHIRES FIRED UNIONISTS

Chicago, Aug. 24 (CNA)—Armour and Co., giant meat packing firm, this week bowed to union strength and rehired 15 suddenly discharged members of the Packinghouse Organizing Committee, averting a strike of the company's several thousand Negro and white employees.

Discharge of the 15 men occurred while they were attempting to take up a grievance with the

management. After several days of refusal to rehire the grievance committee, a mass meeting of 2,000 workers demanded action.

Developments in the situation arising out of Armour's refusal to negotiate a contract with the PWOC meanwhile remained at the boiling point.

Van A. Bittner, PWOC chairman, announced that the union's National Policy committee will be called to Washington in the next few days to lay their grievances before government officials.

SHE COULDN'T RIDE WITH BUT ONE SO THEY SHOT IT OUT

AS A RESULT ONE MAN IN JAIL, THE OTHER IN HOSPITAL

Willie Black, 39, 2612 Jefferson street is in Nicholas Senn hospital with a bullet-fractured left arm and a scratched chest where a second bullet grazed him. Lee Price, 37, 5038 South Twenty-fifth

street, is held by police for investigation.

Price told police he drove up to 3019 R street this morning to pick up Eva Starnes to take her to the Cudahy packing plant, where they both work. Before he could drive away, Black drove in front of his car, threatened him with a pistol. Price said he pulled his own gun and shot at Black.



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Seven Colored Girls Go To Work for N. W. Bell Telephone as Elevator Operators Sept. 1st