

THE OMAHA GUIDE

City Edition
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JUSTICE AND EQUALITY ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS NEW TO THE LINE

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

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Saturday, Sept., 2, 1939

Number 21

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.

600,000 PEOPLE HUNG LIKE BATS

Housing Authority

Jobs for approximately 1,700 men and about \$710,000 in wages put into circulation here are two big direct and tangible benefits Omaha already is deriving from participation in the slum-clearance and low-rent housing program of the United States Housing Authority, Sam J. Howell, chairman of the Housing Authority of the City of Omaha announced today.

Mr. Howell stated that about 1,700 men will be employed on the site of "South Side Terrace Homes" during the work of construction which is now under way. Wages paid to workers on the

site will total around \$710,000 he said, which will be added to the purchasing power of residents in Omaha.

In addition, 640 persons will work one year each to produce and transport construction materials. Materials used will cost about \$1,085,300.

"The money being expended to construct 'South Side Terrace Homes' will be a big stimulus to all business here," Mr. Howell said. "Most of it will go to increase the purchasing power of residents in our city."

(Continued on page 6)

Elks, \$55,249.37. Good Start. Elks \$3,376.40. Bad End.

Electrified His Hearers with A Ringing Call for Unity on Part of the Negro and American Jew

Didn't Get An Education But He Gave \$9,800 to Charities

Registration for the first semester of the Omaha Night School at Central High will be held Thursday, September seventh at 7:00 P. M. in Room 235.

Classes will start Monday, Sept. 11th, at 7:00 P. M.

Both grade and high school courses will be given.

For further information, call At. 3140, Vocational Department.

ELKS END BIGGEST CONVENTION IN 15 YEARS POLITICS FIZZLE OUT

New York, Sept. 1 (By Trezvant W. Anderson for ANP)—The 40th Annual Grand Lodge Session of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World came to a close here Saturday, after a one-week session filled with parades and entertainment.

J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler, and thousands of Elks from all parts of the country gave Harlem the biggest Elks parade in the history of the order when 14,586 persons took part in a huge march which saw 214 units, ranging from marching clubs to bands, showing "the city of seven million" a display they had never before seen the like of.

On Tuesday when the parade started, for five solid hours unit after unit paraded by the great reviewing stands at Seventh avenue and 138th street, the Mecca of Harlemites and their like. From crowded balconies and from roofs, 600,000 people of all races hung like bats while the biggest mass parade in New York's Negro history went by. Newsreel cameras ground, talkies clicked, still shots were made, photo flashes flickered and Harlem got a taste of what Negro Elksdom was really like "before the depression!"

That was only one incident, for the main thing was the report of Grand Treasurer Edward W. Henry of Philadelphia. His report showed to an anxiously awaiting group of delegates the exact financial condition of the grand lodge. And in these turbulent periods of unrest, that was what the grand lodge and the rest of those here wanted to know. His report showed that Negro Elksdom had come through by the skin of its teeth for there was a balance above disbursements of only \$3,376.40 for the last year.

The figures given by Judge Henry showed: total receipts, general fund: \$9,941.01; educational fund: \$9,493; official organ (The Eagle) fund: \$5,249.37; junior Elk fund: \$462.01; and Shrine fund: \$78.17, a total of \$55,223.56. Disbursements rated thus: general fund, \$38,667.09; educational fund, \$7,841.94; official organ fund, \$5,038.43; Junior Elks, \$299.80, a total of \$51,847.16. This left a balance above expenses for the year, as against the receipts of \$3,376.40. This sum however is augmented by \$12,525.03 brought over from 1938, which gives a treasury of \$15,901.43 with which the grand lodge must be operated until 1940.

However, under the astute generalship of J. Finley Wilson, who acted as chairman of the New York entertainment committee, the grand lodge was able to clear over

\$1,000 from benefits and dances given under grand lodge auspices all of which was turned over to the treasury. Thus, the grand lodge was not in the financial "red" as it was some years ago, and used this convention as a turning point in its fight to recuperate its ailing finances.

The outstanding public feature, exclusive of the parade, was the national oratorical contest which was won by Miss Alberta Lawson 19, Washington who delivered a stirring oration on "The Negro and the Constitution." Young Miss Lawson captivated a spellbound audience at the Abyssinian Baptist church with an address which was so poignant that, upon its conclusion Mrs. Mary Mceod Bethune, herself some orator, took the little miss into her arms and hugged her like a child of her own.

At the civil liberties meeting in the afternoon of Monday, Sam Leibowitz, Scottsboro lawyer and a Jew, electrified his hearers with a ringing call for unity on the part of the Negro and the American Jew. Mr. Leibowitz indicted Father Coughlin, the Michigan priest, and told the body that "the Negro in American and the Jew in Germany have been in the same boat, and for their own common good they should unite in their purposes." It was at this same meeting that Mrs. Bethune told the Elks that "I have but one life to give, and I give that life unselfishly and for the good of my people."

Earlier in the same day, Educational Commissioner William C. Houston had held the exercises of his department. The Rev. Porter Norcum of this city was the speaker. The educational department showed that it had spent \$160,000 for Negro education, via the scholarship route for deserving youths of the country, over a period of 14 years, and that 125 students have been graduated from colleges and universities during that time, with 42 being in college now under the current appropriation fund.

The Tap and gown ceremony of this department honored Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, great tap dancer, who modestly told the audience that "I didn't get any education when I was comin' up, and it's too late now to try to get it at 61, but I promise you that I will do everything in my power to help all those of my race to get an education while they are young, and through the Elks." And that night he played to the biggest crowd in the history of "The Hot Mikado" at the World's fair! Mr. Robinson revealed that he had donated \$9,800 to Negroes in charities, and aid during the last year. President H. Council Trenholm of Alabama State; John Bruce of the D. C. School system; James A. "Billboard" Jackson of Standard Oil; Basil J. Bryant of

Detroit, grand trustee; J. Dalmus Steele, New York marsall, and Dr. W. L. Davenport graced the platform as directors of the department of education during the service.

Miss Crystal Byrd Fausett, member of the Pennsylvania legislature, was also a speaker on the civil liberties program, under Hobson J. Reynolds of Philadelphia.

At a session Thursday morning, following a presentation of a lucky gold piece to Mr. Wilson from the daughter Elks, the Rev. Lorenzo King, pastor of the St. Marks CME church, indicted the present day Christian church with the remarks that "The church can no longer go along in the old antiquated, out-model and inefficient way it has gone, without giving practical attention to the practical manner of thinking and everyday living, if it expects to carry on in a progressive manner for the advancement of those in it. It must come to its senses if it expects to keep pace."

Dr. King declared to a cheering audience of both men and women, that the church would lose ground if it failed to do this, saying that failure to pay attention to these things will cause people to turn away from it. He also pointed out a noticeable change on the part of certain types of Negroes toward the Elks, citing the fact that "there are many people who belong to other organizations outside the Elks who like Elks milk as much as the Elks do." His observations were caused by remarks made by Miss Lou Swartz, dramatic actress of St. Louis, a daughter Elk who told the bodies that she had found that she had the wrong "slant on the Elks" until about four years, and that when she had become cognizant of what Elksdom really stood for, she had become a member and had been a real active member for four years.

The parade was the real outstanding feature of the convention, for in it were many kaleidoscopic varieties of color, designs costumes and novelties. From Memphis came the 60 piece all girl orchestra of the Booker T. Washington High school, the largest in the South, with "Miss Beale Street," a bronzed venus, leading the march to the applause of thousands who lined the avenues of the parade from St. Nicholas avenue and 135th street back to the reviewing stand in front of the Renaissance casino on Seventh avenue. Unique in this parade was William Washington of Camden and Newark, N. J., a leader of a contingent of paraders who had no legs, both being cut off at the thighs, and yet with the vigor of a 20 year old he propelled himself along the entire long route without seeming to tire, although sweat poured from

every pore of his body. Detroit contributed a float filled with lovely sepien beauties who gave everyone a smile.

From as far away as Los Angeles came marching groups, and from down South, Atlanta was in for the first time in many years. Raleigh, N. C., the Midwest, Ohio, Akron, Cleveland, Columbus, Youngstown, the North from Boston, New Haven, Stamford, Springfield, from Pennsylvania, from Kentucky, from everywhere they came. 214 units of bands, marching clubs, drum and bugle corps, Boy Scouts, nursing units, girls, men, boys, children, young and old, from near and far they came to pay tribute to Finley Wilson, the man who stood at the head of the army and gave to them the orders, which made this the biggest Elks convention in over 15 years, if not longer.

The political angle fizzled out due to the fact that Governor Lehman, District Attorney Dewey and Rep. Hamilton Fish of New York, and State Chairman Kenneth Simpson did not show up. However, those who did come made their bids, including Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, who told the Elks: "Don't decide to support someone what they are going to do. Base you, judgement on what is already been accomplished." The mayor told them, "Next year this time you are going to be very important people in Indiana, Illinois, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. You are always important when it gets to be election time." He urged Negroes not to expect jobs simply because they are colored, but because of what brains they have, adding that: "We have opened the door to every civil service job in the government of New York to all men and women, regardless of race, color or creed, because we are interested in what's in the head and not what color the face it." Congressman Bruce Barton also spoke, briefly, on educational advancement. Ex-Governor Hoffman of New Jersey was introduced by Mr. Wilson as the last and next governor of New Jersey.

Among the incidental angles on crosswise politics, Dr. Adolphus W. Anderson, president of the Pennsylvania State association, was the revealer of the fact that one of the two major political parties had endorsed for district attorney of Beaver county, Pa., some 13 years ago, and that this same man who had caused the wholesale "shanghai-ing" of Negroes from that county in trucks over the Ohio line, and that this same D.A. was engaged in efforts to secure the colored vote by a house-to-house canvass but has been defeated by the Pennsylvania department of civil liberties which took the matter in hand under its state President, Dr. Anderson.

Negro Woman Lawyer; Salary \$6,000 per year

Dewey Appoint Assistants at \$7,500 per Year Sent Policeman to Jail for Framing Negro

New York, Sept. 1 (ANP)—What sort of person is this Thomas E. Dewey, a man whom half a dozen years ago scarcely anyone knew, but whose name today is spoken by millions of people of every race and creed? Rarely has a personality impressed itself upon the thinking of an entire nation in so brief a time as has that of this fighting district attorney of New York county.

The American public loves a fighter, one who has courage and the brains to battle against great odds. When such a man in addition, despite the ties and restraints which a big city political office imposes, has the integrity and "guts" to go up against one of the most highly organized group of racketeers in the country, backed by a political machine like Tammany, with power so great it is legendary, it is but natural that the entire country should regard such an individual as having unusual potentialities for leadership.

Penetrating into the interior of the building at 137 Center Street devoted entirely to the district attorney's offices in New York, one seeking Mr. Dewey passes the numerous police who guard its portals; note half a dozen assistants and a score of aids, stenographers and messengers hurrying through the halls before finally landing upon the sixth floor where Mr. Dewey's private office is situated.

An alert, vigorous, youthful

man rises from behind a desk, and strides forward to greet you. Handsome, even better looking than his pictures, you observe; but virile with the punch and forcefulness of a go-getter. Rosy complexioned, sharp nosed, brown eyes which are challenging yet friendly, he wears a heavy brown mustache, as much to make him appear older as for any other reason you suspect. Once he starts talking however asking incisive questions, showing by his comment a wide knowledge of current affairs, a broad general philosophy and an understanding of the intricate problems which affect racial minorities, one realizes that here is a man of tremendous force and ability. The question of years is banished.

"There is no room for prejudice in a great cosmopolitan city like New York, with its many diverse populations, nor in an office such as this," Mr. Dewey asserted. "I determined when I became district attorney that all elements in the population should be represented."

"I have more Jews working in the department than has ever been true before, and for the first time a Polish assistant is employed. There are more Negroes in outstanding positions than has been true of any other administration, as you have observed. In fact, a colored woman lawyer is the head of the largest bureau in this office," he pointed out.

She is Mrs. Eunice Hunton Carter, brilliant young lawyer, the only woman assistant on Mr. Dewey's staff, graduate of Smith college and in law at Fordham, daughter of an distinguished father and mother. Mrs. Carter's bureau, which handles misdemeanors, does a tremendous amount of work, her assistant conducting cases in three courts every day during the year. Recent statistics show that her department handles four times as many cases as any similar division in any district attorney's office in the country. She earns \$6,000 per cent.

"Odd, too," Mr. Dewey remarked. "I hired Mrs. Carter the first day I met her. Shortly after I was appointed, a prominent judge who knew that I was looking for a woman assistant, told me he knew a wonderful colored woman lawyer. I told him to send her over, was impressed, and retained her. She has made good, and commands the respect of the bench of the city. You perhaps know that she has been awarded an honorary LL.D. degree by Smith college, her alma mater. I learned from the dean of her college the other day that the school is very proud of her accomplishments."

"Francis' Ellis Rivers, another member of the staff," he continued, "is one of the principal assistants in the office, and regarded among the two or three ablest Negro lawyers at the New York bar."

Mr. Dewey recounted that the (Continued on page 10)



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