

EDITORIALS of the week

DWIGHT GRISWOLD TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION

WHAT ABOUT WHERRY? At Lincoln last Saturday, Governor Dwight Griswold announced he will be a candidate to succeed himself as Governor of Nebraska. For sometime he was expected to file for United States Senator.

State Chairman Kenneth Wherry is now expected to file for United States Senator, even if "Uncle George" also files. "Uncle George Norris" voted to compel supreme court justices to retire at 75 years of age. He will be eighty-one soon and if he practices what he preaches he will not file.

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The Omaha Guide, long ago, announced it would support Kenneth Wherry, if he files. It will do so, because it believes he is able, honest and sincere. He is well educated, a product of the college and law school of the state university. He served as a captain in the armed forces of the United States during the First World War, and throughout his adult life has been a valiant fighter for everything which he believes to be for the common good. Now, as always, he has been the friend and champion of the farmer and worker and business man who live and serve within the law.

When he was made Republican State Chairman in 1940, the Republican Party in Nebraska was DEAD. He breathed into it the life and led it into victorious battle.

In the election of 1940, no republican leader matched his perfect record by electing every state candidate to office. Of course, he had support, but he had it because he knew how to get it and hold it.

He is a liberal, independent, progressive man, for whom it will be a privilege for the men and women of this state to vote.

The United States Senate needs men of the Wherry type in its councils. It needs the character and intelligence which he will contribute in national service and the integrity and sincerity he will bestow.

If he files for the exalted office of United States Senator, we believe he will be elected. And we know he will be in every way a worthy member of the greatest deliberative body in the world which has been graced by so many distinguished men.

Were it left to the Omaha Guide to elect, Kenneth Wherry would be elected by acclamation.

WILLIAM PICKENS
William Pickens, according to newspaper reports, has been dismissed from the staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the behest of Walter White, Executive Secretary. He is the last of the GRAND triumvirate of heroic souls who did more than all others to make the NAACP respected and feared throughout America.

Dean Pickens was one of the founders of the Niagara Movement in 1905 out of which the National Association grew. When the National Association was founded, Pickens went with DuBois and James Weldon Johnson to it. And for a quarter of a century...

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...ry, DuBois, Johnson and Pickens led the battle array. They brought Walter White out of the deep south and made him a national figure. They taught him the ABC's of the fight for "Racial Rights". And now that White has learned them, apparently he thinks he no longer needs the services and benefits the veterans of other years, can bestow.

When Dean Pickens helped found the Niagara Movement, Walter White was 16 years of age. Dr. DuBois and James Weldon Johnson were internationally famous, and Pickens, many years younger than they, had won national renown.

And may we observe that Walter White must learn and understand that he is the servant and not the master of the members of the NAACP, and if he knows on which side his bread is buttered, it will be wise for him to act accordingly.

JAPAN TAKES THE DUTCH EAST INDIES

Japan has almost completed her seizure of the Dutch East Indies. The population of the islands is variously estimated at 60,000,000 to 80,000,000. The native non-white population is 90 percent of the total. Java, the wealthiest and most densely populated of the group, contains the precious and base metals in abundance and the fertility of the soil is matched nowhere else outside parts of Africa.

The Dutch have been in the islands a comparatively short time. They claim title to them through "treaty"; the usual term applied in such cases.

The natives are said to be Mohammedans in so far as they profess any faith at all. They will constitute a rich prize for Japan. Japan, however, in our judgement is looking toward Australia as an outlet for her population.

Australia could very easily accommodate the total Japanese population for the next half century, allowing for a normal increase of 1,000,000 per year. She would like to get India, but here is trouble. Great wealth, to be sure, but already a dense population to consume it, and one that is ready to fight to keep it. Do you want to stop Japan?—If so, arm China.

PLEASE CONFER BEFORE TALKING
We hope, that in the future, Secretary of the Navy Knox will refrain from making announcements on military matters until after he has conferred with Secretary of War Stimson.

STILL FIGHTING FOR A CHANCE TO WORK AND FIGHT

The Negroes of the country are still fighting for a chance to work and fight, while on every hand industries clamor for workers. When colored workers apply they are told that the work is for whites only. This attitude is no lighter a mere matter of color prejudice; it is unpatrician.

The allies are reeling before the blows being struck by Japanese and their allies because we cannot produce defensive weapons rapidly enough.

Are we going to wait until Germany and Japan invade America before we utilize our whole energies for production of implements of war?

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AN AMERICAN SCENE

by H. J. PINKETT FOR ANP

Lincoln, Nebraska, February 28.—Last Saturday night at Lincoln, Nebraska, the annual Founders' Day Banquet was held at the Lincoln Hotel. It was sponsored by members of the Republican party. Men and women were there from all over the state, one thousand of them, to hear and cheer "the spoken word". Nearly every racial group in our American population was represented at the banquet table, and many races "had actors in the play". The presiding officer and president of Founders' Day was named Holmquist, The First Vice President was named Mrs. Edna Basten Donald, another was named Frasar, another Mockett, while Wm. Stewart was Secretary and George B. Cook was treasurer.

U. S. Senator Hugh Butler, Governor Dwight Griswold, Rep. State Chairman Kenneth Wherry, who in 1940, by the force of his genius raised the Nebraska Republican party from the dead, and Mrs. Ella Wagener was there playing leading roles. Sitting almost unnoticed amidst the drama was the Republican National Committeeman, G. E. Carpenter.

During the day, pursuant to plans of the clever Edna Basten Donald and the dynamic Ella Wagener, there were luncheons and teas and receptions for visiting men and women. At Men's luncheon, Congressman Karl Stefan delivered an excellent address on current farm and governmental problems. At the woman's luncheon Remley of Mo. dilated logically and eloquently upon the "American Predicament".

At the evening banquet, Mr. Wheeler McMillan, Editor of a Philadelphia Farm Journal, delivered an unique argument on agricultural economy, in which he maintained that the views advanced by Vice President Wallace, that all doors are closed to agriculture, because all lands are now occupied, is little short of nonsense. And he pointed out that through production of farm products and chemistry an era of prosperity lies before us which will surpass anything previously known.

During the day and evening these were the things I saw and heard. At the banquet table, facing me was a blonde woman, on her right sat a Scotchman, beside him an Irishman and to the right of the Irishman sat a Swede. On my right sat a Scotch-Irishman, and next to him sat a woman of Jewish faith, while on my left sat the son of the Scotch-Irishman. All over the room were the children of nearly every race and land. I was the only person of color at the feast. Again and again the "Japs" were mentioned, but there was an entire absence of "funny stories" about Negroes, which often mar otherwise fine meetings.

My Scotch-Irish banquet friend was solicitous of my comfort and was fearful that I might perchance be seated by someone who might be "color conscious". Everywhere I went throughout the hotel courteous treatment was always accorded me.

THE SOCIAL BEHAVIOR of the leaders of Founders' Day as well as that of the rank and file, was commendable. But I wondered, as I went "hither and yon" among the guests of Founders' Day, if the fact that ten thousand colored voters in this state who constitute the "balance of power", might not have been visualized through me. Whatever the reason, they all behaved as civilized social beings.

Perhaps, also, the liberal leadership of Kenneth Wherry, Edna Basten Donald and Ella Wagener might have set this pattern. And it may be that this pattern will broaden until the experience which I had on Founders' Day, may be the daily experience of my people all over their native land.

H. J. Pinkett, 2118 N. 25th St. Omaha, Nebraska

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