

OUR
QUEST
Column

Edited by Verna P. Harris

A CRACK IN THE WALL
By Charles S. Johnson, Director of Social Science Institute Fisk University.

Some unfinished business left behind by Judge William Hastie when he went to the Virgin Islands a few weeks ago to become the island's first Negro Governor was cleared up on June 3. The Supreme Court of the United States handed down its decision in the Morgan case, which Mr. Hastie argued before the Court, involving the constitutionality of a state law segregating Negro passengers on vehicles passing through the state. Like so many decisions of far-reaching importance the announcement came quietly and with the casualness of court routine.

Miss Irene Morgan, a Negro, was fined \$10 in the Virginia courts for refusing to move into a Jim Crow section when the bus on which she was riding crossed the state line from Maryland into Virginia. The requirement that she move was in accordance with a Virginia state law making mandatory racial segregation on all public vehicles passing through the state. The decision of the Supreme Court was that Miss Morgan should get her ten dollars back—the state law was unconstitutional.

In recent years, the Supreme Court has shown an increasing disposition to strengthen Federal protection of the rights of the Negro and other minorities under the fourteenth amendment, which forbids a state to deny to any person within its borders the "equal protection of its laws". However, cases decided under this clause have never called segregation itself seriously into question. The insistence has been upon substantial equality of treatment—a futile hope, as demonstrated by the well nigh universal and persistent policies of discriminatory segregation. The fact that in general, Negro passengers in interstate travel have not been segregated has been due rather to the expense and consequent unwillingness of the roads to provide separate Pullman cars for the small number of Negro Pullman passengers than to any prohibition against segregation. Thus, the Supreme Court's decision in the Morgan case is the first of the Court's decisions to question segregation itself.

Interestingly enough, the decision in this case was not based upon the fourteenth amendment, nor was it based upon any provision of the Negro passengers resulting from the segregation requirement. The law was unconstitutional, the decision declared, because in the absence of any general Federal regulation on the subject, the lack of uniformity of state laws governing racial association placed an undue burden on interstate commerce. Said Justice Stanley F. Reed in writing the majority opinion, "as no state law can reach its own border nor bar transportation of passengers across boundaries, diverse seating requirements for the races in interstate journeys result from state efforts at regulation. It seems clear to us that seating arrangements for the different races in interstate motor travel require a single uniform rule to promote and protect national travel. Consequently we hold the Virginia statute in controversy invalid."

The lone dissenting judge remarked that he could find no undue burden, since neither the Federal government nor any state had complained. Literally, he may have a point, but actually he failed in his interpretation of the role which the Supreme Court increasingly is called upon to assume. This body, at one time thought of as the conservator and protector of legal principles, has found itself often in recent years ahead of custom in many parts of the country, although not ahead of the facts of modern relationships. It has become, even more than the conservator, the interpreter of principles in the light of an active dynamic democracy, and of good sound national policy.

What the Court has done in this case has been to formulate in legal terms relationships that, despite custom and rationalizations of

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6 Cities To Compete In Cornhusker's Golf Tournament, July 4th

Presentation To Be Made at AMVETS' Club

The Omaha Cornhusker Golf Club will host to Mid-West golfers on July 4th when teams from Kansas City, St. Louis, Des Moines, Minneapolis, Denver and Omaha will vie for honors at the Indian Hills Golf Course, 74th and Dodge Streets.

All lovers of out-door sports are invited to come out and meet the visiting golfers and have lunch with them.

The golfers will stage their evening celebration at the AMVETS' Club, 24th and Miami Sts., beginning at 8:15 p.m. at which time the winning trophies will be presented.

Out-door sportsmen are urged to come to the AMVETS and join in welcoming the out-of-town visitors.

It is surely not long before the majority of people who do not regard segregation as a life work will begin to wonder why what is efficient and practical on an interstate vehicle becomes unthinkable and dangerous to morals and manners on a local bus or train. It must already have occurred to many that passengers go thru no fundamental change in their human nature when they are scrambled and unscrambled at Evansville.

All this is not to say that segregation in transportation will be abolished in the near future. The old customs will drag along both because of the insistence of whites and because of the long established habits of Negroes.

The immediate result of the decision has been to let loose floods of speculation as to how this decision in the case of motor buses will affect trains and planes. A more problematical question is to what extent intra-state segregation on carriers can be maintained in the face of this decision. Who can be sure, on a crowded bus which has crossed from Delaware into Virginia, who got on in Delaware and who is merely going from one place in Virginia to another? Bus and train conductors have enough trouble already with out taking case histories of the passengers. Moreover, it will

because Wednesday night at the Waiter's Key Club is Ladies' night. I watched the Bingo game for awhile last Wednesday, and although all the ladies were dressed in their finery, looking fresh and cool, but some a little worried because they had not been able to yell "BINGO". I watched the game Mr. Aljay Simms was in charge of the Bingo game and was calling out the numbers. He has his share of the trouble when some would yell back at him, "What was that number you called before 36 under N?" Mr. Simms kept smiling but I know he had the time of his life satisfying all of these ladies.

Mr. Aljay Simm's wife was the hostess for the evening. She checked the winning cards, gave away the prizes, as well as greeted the guests as they entered the club. Every Wednesday a new hostess is chosen, and soon for the big party the Waiter's Key Club will have in the near future, a grand hostess will be chosen.

The biggest thrill of the evening was when Mrs. Pearl Mitchell, of 2504 No. 24th St., won the grand prize. I know all the ladies wanted to win this one. It was a lovely compact, rich in color, delicately made, a gift any woman would cherish.

REDEDICATION -- JULY 4th

By NATE COLLIER

and harmony with one another and lend their help in any way to help build and maintain what was for the material good for the law abiding citizens that contended for the upholding of the law. Little do we realize the large amount of good that was accomplished that we may enjoy and live together in harmony. We all were created by the Almighty God and not for one group to make slaves of the other. We are all born free and equal.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY

By H. W. Smith

We are almost at the eve of the 4th of July which originated in Philadelphia in 1776. It has been the usual custom of the American people to celebrate as we at all times give a thought to what our forefathers gave honor and praise to a union that was for the good of all the well-thinking ones who shed blood and died that the coming generations could live in peace

Improvement Club Asks Ban On Carnival Site

for the Omaha Guide, jitterbugging with one of those 16 year old hep cats, and I can see now where Miss Doris Ann McGill gets all of her news. Little do I know about jitterbugging, but it made my body tired just watching them. Oh! To Be Young Again!

The YMCA is doing a great job in furnishing recreation for our youngsters. More children should seek this type of recreation, and I feel sure after talking to Mr. Butler, that all are welcome. Remember, boys and girls, age 13 to 19, Wednesday and Friday nights at the YMCA, this is your night. Come on out.

At the Standard Gasoline Station, 24th and Grace Sts, courteous and efficient service is given by the lessee, Linwood Hall. Mr. Hall used to be one of our outstanding golfers, but now with the added work, he doesn't have much time for the game.

"Mr. Hall, how do you feel about being in this type of business?" I asked.

"I like it fine, and business is getting better, but I miss not being able to go out with my friends at night. I'm just too tired at the end of the day", he said.

"When have you played a round of golf?" Mr. Hall asked.

"I tried to evade the question because I have not played any golf in three years, and I hurried on with 'Oh I haven't been able to play much, although many of the fellows have asked me. Mal Scott wants to get a few of my hard-earned dimes. They say Mal is pretty tough to beat this year, but I'll get him (smiling to myself) before the season is over. I'll get back into shape, and then watch'."

He laughed, really laughed. "Yes you'll get him alright."

Although Linwood used to beat me playing snooker, I'd like to get him out on a golf course, I thought to myself as I walked away. Wishful thinking, wishful thinking.

THEY'RE OFF. I intended to write about one of my days at the races. It wasn't funny, but after thinking about it, I laughed about it myself. How can a man bet on so many horses and so many ways

RECEIVES CAA LICENSE

Mr. Herbert Davis



Mr. Herbert Davis, a former Aviation Cadet, received his first CAA License this month. He has been flying light planes from the Municipal air port for the last four weeks.

Mr. Davis received pilot training while in the service and now believes that there is a place in aviation for the civilian Negro.

GET RESTRAINING ORDER TO SAVE PORTERS' JOBS

KANSAS CITY—Judge Albert L. Reeves of the federal district court in Kansas City granted a temporary restraining order Monday, June 24, to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters against the Missouri-Kansas-Texas railroad and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

The order restrains the MKT and the Railroad Trainmen from removing Negro porter-brakemen from the head ends of trains on the MKT lines. The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen is restrained from interfering with the contractual relations between the train porters and the railroad company.

The MKT railroad had notified the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, bargaining agent for train porters, that its contract with the Brotherhood would be cancelled on June 30 because of intimidation and threats made by the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

TEXAS JUDGE AGAINST JIM CROW RULE AT TEXAS UNIVERSITY

TEXAS—(CNS)—The State of Texas has been given six months in which to establish a law school for Negroes or open the doors of the law school at the University of Texas, now restricted to white students.

In a particular case, District Judge Roy C. Archer granted a writ of mandamus requiring university officials to admit Herman Marion Sweatt, a college-educated mail carrier who wants to become a lawyer.

However, Judge Archer postdated the order six months in order to give Texas an opportunity to set up a law course at its vocational school for Negroes.

what I tell my wife when we go out. That saves money", I said. "Mrs. Gordon, you sweepstakes last week that the nation faces the greatest of all crises in its battle against inflation. He also stated that the House and Senate approved OPA extension bills were riddled with booby trap amendments which would inevitably blow up in our faces 2 or 3 months from now.

The one enjoyment I miss in Omaha are the many pinocle games that I have played with Bill Harrigan, Felix Metoyer, Jess Harding, Frank Moore, Cleo Mortimer, and George Dean. Mr. Bill Harrigan, who has been retired from the fire department almost as long as I have lived, is just as familiar a sight at the M & M as the letters on the plate glass window.

In das gone by when I would enter the H & M which is now the M & M, I would first see Mr. Harrigan, and then I would know that I was going to enjoy the afternoon, because we would razz one of the rest of them until a pinocle game got started.

Mr. Harrigan is still a familiar sight around our community and during these many years, has formed lasting friendships. I know that all of Mr. Harrigan's friends wish him a long and happy life, and I wish for him to let me beat him in just one game of pinocle. Our community has always enjoyed your presence Mr. Harrigan, but if you are still able to defeat me at playing pinocle, then I am afraid I will have to let the community speak for themselves.

"I don't drink. At least that is

To Appear At St. John A.M.E.



William Kyles, Jr., National Goodwill Singer and Director of the Gospel Chorus of Convent Ave. Baptist Church of New York City will appear in a Mid-Summer song festival at St. John's A.M.E. Church July 10th. The event is being sponsored by the St. John's Usher Board. Mr. Kyles, who was in attendance at the 13th Anniversary of Mt. Cavalry Community Church will be assisted in the song festival by five outstanding choirs of the city.

ELECTED DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION FROM THE FIFTH DISTRICT!

By Wm. B. Davis
Delegates elected from the 5th District were as follows: Robert Smith, Clerk of Dist. Court, 1,283 votes; Atty. Ross Shotwell, 1,183; Frank Sears, 947; John L. Barber, 909; Ray L. Williams, 889; William B. Davis, 884; Roy Winks, 839; George L. Berger, 797; Carl Samson, 777; Paul Holliday, 762; Atty. Chris Tracy, 724; Mrs. Geo. Althouse, 710.

NEGRO ATHLETES TO ENTER SAN ANTONIO TRACK MEET

SAN ANTONIO—Two major precedents will be set here this week-end when the city of San Antonio shells out a cool \$15,000 for the privilege of being the first city in the Lone Star state to play host to the AAU track and field carnival and to permit Negroes to compete in the track and field meet below the Mason and Dixon line since 1910 in New Orleans.

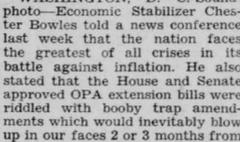
Along with fourteen defending champions will come more than six hundred of the greatest sports men in the history of the cinders and circle and the pit. Such power packed teams as Illinois, who walked off with the National Collegiate Athletic association honors and the Trojans of Southern California, runners up, the New York university squad, all are loaded with first class trackmen who are out to show the Texas braggarts a thing or two about running, jumping and throwing. Chief of those to be watched is record smashing Herb McKenley who heads the Illinois crew.

BOWLES FLAYS OPA EXTENSION BILLS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Soundphoto—Economic Stabilizer Chester Bowles told news conference last week that the nation faces the greatest of all crises in its battle against inflation. He also stated that the House and Senate approved OPA extension bills were riddled with booby trap amendments which would inevitably blow up in our faces 2 or 3 months from now.



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Takes National Spotlight

Walter White Heard on WOW

Highlights of the 27th Annual Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was broadcast over WOW at 11:15 a. m. on Friday, June 25.

Walter White, secretary of the association spoke on "Race and the Hope of Peace".

NEW YORK, June 20th—Plans for the 37th Annual Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, from Wednesday, June 26th, to Sunday, June 30th, have been completed, it was announced today. With more than 2,000 delegates representing branches in more than 35 states expected to fill Cincinnati's Emory Hall, this year's Conference is expected to be the most important in the Association's history.

The program of the NAACP meeting reveals an impressive group of nationally famous speakers. Included in the group scheduled to address sessions are Chester Bowles, Stabilization Director; Robert W. Kenny, Jr., Attorney-General for California; Walter Reuther, UAW-CIO chieftan; Fiorello LaGuardia, UNRRA head; Governor William Hastie of the Virgin Isles; Charles H. Houston; Earl B. Dickerson, and Walter White, Secretary of the NAACP.

The nation press and radio will provide full coverage to the addresses delivered by the speakers appearing on the convention platform, with several coast-to-coast network outlets scheduled as well as local radio coverage. Network officials were waiting to clear the schedules for broadcasts by LaGuardia, Governor Hastie, and Chester Bowles. One of the most interesting radio features will be the broadcast interview with Walter White on the ABC "Headline Edition", Wednesday, June 26th from 7:00-7:15 p.m., EST. AEC's New York outlet is WJZ.

Local programs scheduled will be a WKRC interview with Walter Reuther and Charles Houston time to be announced; WLW, June 30th, with Governor Hastie to talk over the program "Let's Be Vigilant"; WCPO plans to meet Chester Bowles at the airport with a portable microphone when he arrives in Cincinnati. Presentation of the Springarn Medal to Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Chief Counsel, for his brilliant achievements in Supreme Court victories in civil rights cases will be made by Attorney General Kenny and broadcast over WCPO outlet.

The four-day Conference which will deal with problems affecting Negroes, especially in the fields of voting, housing, employment, and veterans affairs, will be concluded Sunday, June 30th, with a gigantic outdoor rally in the University of Cleveland's Nippert Stadium. Chester Bowles will speak at this meeting. One of the guests on the platform will be Colonel E. O. Davis, Jr., World War II flying hero, commander of the famed 332nd Red Devils overseas.

Colonel Davis' new command, the 47th Composite Group at Lockburn Airfield, will launch several squadrons of the fast B-25 light bombers in stage and impressive air show and salute over the Stadium. Later a chorus of 1,000 voices will be heard by the delegates and visitors to the huge arena.

NAACP officials attach more than usual significance to this year's Conference, a momentous event in the long struggle of Negroes for full citizenship. It was pointed out that the Conference comes at a time when the Association is engaged in one of its bitterest battles, the fight to free 31 Negro victims of Tennessee fascism and race hatred. Delegates to the Conference will hear the entire story from an eye-witness and investigators, among them Mrs. Gladys Stephenson, mother of navy vet James Stephenson. Mrs. Stephenson and her son were involved in the altercation which exploded into the so-called riots in Columbia, Tenn. last February.

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Free Pamphlets For Home Buyers

Veterans and other prospective home buyers may get a free check list which can be used as a guide in estimating the cost of home ownership, the National Housing Agency announced last week.

The check list is contained in a pamphlet entitled "Before you Buy a Home", which warns of the dangers of inflation in housing prices. It is made available to Mayor's Emergency Housing Committees throughout the country.

More than 30 items are listed which should be checked by a person buying or building a house to see if the property will "add up" as a sound, long term investment. Details of construction such as foundations, walls, insulation, wiring and heating equipment should be carefully examined as well as the neighborhood and location of the property with respect to the availability of schools, shopping centers and transportation, the pamphlet pointed out. Financing items to be considered include monthly mortgage payments, interest, taxes, insurance, upkeep and repairs, etc.

The pamphlet also warns that paying an inflated price for a home represents more than just offering a premium for immediate occupancy—it involves running the risk of losing an investment when supply and demand are more nearly in balance.

THE CHAMP



NEW YORK—Soundphoto—Louis Broussard, who has been playing pinocle with trainer Manny Seaman in dressing room after fight.

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