

THE Street... and thereabouts

by Lawrence P. Lewis



A few weeks ago the last of the Omaha boys who served as the Cadre in the Special Training Unit at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, during my service there, returned home.

Now that it is all over I know that Lloyd Neal, Delmar Woods, Wanasabee Fletcher, Jim Jewell, and Lawrence Myers, laugh at many of their experiences during their stay there. Of course, there were times when there was laughter and joy, but for the first few weeks when they were put in charge of a group of trainees, that probably knew more about the army than they did, I know there were plenty of times that they had a headache and a doubt in their minds.

My first day there, the commanding officer dubbed yours truly a clerk, because somewhere in my life I had typed a few words a minute. I used to watch the fellows in the morning as they drilled their formation to chow, stretch, pull my blanket around me, and go back to sleep.

Those days did not last long because in a couple of months I was doing the same thing as the rest. A limited serviceman took over my job. I thought the farmers got up early, but at no time did the sun ever beat the Special Training Unit up, winter or summer.

All of these men have much to be proud of, because they not only helped to build men for the army, but prepared them for their return to civilian life. I was proud to have served with them. Lloyd Neal, Delmar Woods, Wanasabee Fletcher, Jim Jewell, and Lawrence Myers, can all tell some tall tales about their first days of army life at Fort Leavenworth. I know, yes, I know.

As soon as I found out that Lionel Hampton was staying at Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gaskin's residence, 2640 Decatur, I contacted Mrs. Gwen Turner, the niece of Mr. and Mrs. Gaskin, hoping that this young lady would be able to give me some off-hand information about this great band leader.

"How do you feel having such a famous man in your house," I asked.

"I can't quite explain it," she answered. "Of course it is really a treat, and both Mr. and Mrs. Hampton are so busy, and by me going to beauty school, I get to see very little of them."

"Have you been to see the show yet?" I asked.

"Oh, yes and it was grand. I may go again if I have time. They certainly have a wonderful show."

"Are any other of the performers staying where you live?" I asked.

"Yes, one of the dancers, 'Curly' stays there. He is part of the dance team of 'Red and Curly'. Lawrence Neal, Hampton, has two of the most adorable dogs I've ever seen. One of them has a pretty color, almost blue."

Entire Nation in Furore Over Blinding of Vet

LUCKY MILLINDER at The AMVETS Club, MON. JULY 29
★ SEE Advertisement on Page 8

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In Wake of Rising Prices Action Urged To Curb Senator Taft

NEW YORK—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urged its Ohio branches, home state of Sen. Robert A. Taft, to take immediate action to force restoration of OPA. This action came in the wake of fast rising prices in all parts of the nation. The NAACP branches were urged to act in a telegram sent from the Association's offices in New York. The message signed by Walter White stated, "National Association urges you wire today strong protest to Senator Robert A. Taft, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., against opposition to effective price control legislation. Bureau of Labor Statistics announced yesterday prices have increased 25 per cent since OPA ended June 30th. Many prospects point to further runaway inflation prices which work terrible hardship on lower income people. Get as many churches, labor groups and other organizations also to wire Taft so that he will know sentiment of Ohio."

It may be recalled that the NAACP became the first body in the nation to call for a consumer's boycott of skyrocketing commodities when Walter White urged delegates attending the NAACP Annual Conference in Cincinnati late in June, to return to their branches to organize members and neighbors in a solid boycott. At that time Mr. White asked that only bare essentials be purchased until Congress was forced to act to restore OPA price controls.

It was considered significant at that time that both Mr. White and Max Lerner PM columnist and featured speaker at the closing session of the NAACP conference, out of which a new political action program had been instituted, singled out Senator Taft's activities in opposing price controls as being seriously detrimental to the welfare of low income groups. Both speakers implied that the Ohio Senator also was a NAACP candidate for the presidential nomination in 1948. Mr. White did well to realize that most Negroes are in the low income groups now suffering from the effects of OPA's destruction.

Frisco Dept Store Ridicules Intolerance

SAN FRANCISCO, California—Calvin's News Service—Camp's Department Store, one of San Francisco's largest, issued this week a statement from the owner, Richard Gump. The statement was printed on the back of each invoice which goes to a customer. It read:

"Art knows no boundaries, nor differences in race or creed. In Gump's 40 odd international settings, you'll find the nations united in paintings, prints, handicrafts and interior furnishings. Visits to our Continental Room, Cam bodian Court, Mandarin Room, Georgian Room, Discovery Shop, Art Galleries and Jade Room will show how all nations have contributed to a finer, fuller life."

Interestingly enough, Mr. Gump as a side-light, admits he would rather be a successful composer than the very wealthy man he is. His creative and liberal mind was solely behind his business house sending out such a constructive statement to its purchasers.

soon be placed before us. There are not many cooks that can prepare a meal like Mrs. Charlie Gordon.

Man Sought in Double Slaying Surrenders To Police

CHARMING VISITOR was Overseas Veteran



MISS JUNE BAKER
Miss June Baker of Grand Island, Nebraska, who early this month, was the guest of her brother and sister-in-law Lt. and Mrs. Willard Baker of 2723 Corby St. The Bakers are visiting June this week-end at Grand Island.

Henry P. Markham Noted Singer To Appear Here

By Wilbert C. Lewis

Omaha music lovers will have an opportunity to hear a concert artist of rare ability in the person of Henry P. Markham, lyric baritone formerly of Chicago but with present headquarters in Los Angeles.

Mr. Markham makes a yearly concert tour in which he visits such cities as Detroit, Chicago, New York, Savannah, Ga., and numerous other cities. This year Mr. Markham has included Omaha on his list of appearances and will begin his recital at 8:30 P. M. Friday, August 2nd at Zion Baptist church. He has selected several classical and Gospel numbers for rendition, but usually sings from the inspiration he gets from his audience or the occasion.

Elementary school and Sunday school in Topeka, Kansas marked the beginning of Mr. Markham's singing career, when as a boy he sang on many church programs and in school plays. He continued his career in high school, during which time he won many singing contests including a state music contest. He climaxed his work in music in high school by winning the National Gospel Chorus and Singers Convention Scholarship in 1937.

Later his work included singing with the American Negro Light Opera Company of Chicago where he starred in light opera. He is a former minister of music in the 1st African Baptist church of Savannah. At present he is director of the Gospel Choir of the Pilgrim Baptist church of Los Angeles of which Rev. B. W. Wade is pastor. In between times Mr. Markham finds time to conduct his own studio in voice training and appear over the radio on frequent occasions.

After leaving Omaha Mr. Markham has an extensive tour to complete before returning to Los Angeles.

HOME OWNERS ASSN. Pleased with Methods of Assessments

Figures recently released by County Assessor Joe C. Stolinski show an increase of more than \$39,000,000 in assessment valuations on all properties subject to taxation.

State Tax Commissioner issued a statement commending Douglas County Assessor Stolinski for doing a "good job" in evaluation of Douglas County real estate and personal property.

CIO CREATES Five Man Exec. Board

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sound-photo—The CIO created a five-man executive board to lead its political work under the banner of the late Sidney Hillman. Photo shows: left to right: William Pollock, Sect. Treas. of Textile Workers union; Jack Kroll, V. P. of Amalgamated Clothing Workers; and Underhill, who was named Director of PAC to carry on the day to day activities; David J. McDonald Sect. Treas. of United Steel Workers and George F. Aude, Sect. Treas. of United Automobile, Aircraft and Implement Workers. (The 5th member, Julius Empeck, Sect. Treas. of United Elect., Radio and Machine Workers was not present at time photo was made).

"EYES" PUBLISHER Speaks Before Ia. Lion's Club

The colored and white press of America should give as much attention to the progress and achievement of the Negro as they do to the reactionary forces affecting the group. Mr. William C. Ferguson, publisher of EYES the Negro culture magazine declared last week before the Lions Club of Waverly, Iowa.

Speaking before a regular session of the civic organization, Mr. Ferguson said the one-sided presentation of facts concerning his race without recognition of their

OUR GUEST Column

Edited by Verna P. Harris

SCHOOLS AND PREJUDICE

By Helen Trager, Director of Special Services, Bureau for Intercultural Education

From all over the country, teachers are coming to summer workshops sponsored by intercultural groups like the Bureau for Intercultural Education, 1697 Broadway New York 19, New York, to learn how children can be taught to know, understand, and accept people of different races, religions, and nationalities. These teachers represent the South and Midwest as well as the North and East; they are white, Negro, Chinese-American members of many religions; from cities and small villages; from different backgrounds; and they are all trying to find out how they can, in their schools, further the cause of good human relations.

We know that no child holds racial or religious prejudice or feels superior to another child, unless grown-up people have done so. We believe that they can do much to help boys and girls avoid picking up prejudice—they can teach that there is no superior race, help older children understand how people develop prejudice, and give children the experience of working and playing with people who are different from themselves.

But teaching these things isn't easy, and many teachers do not know how to go about it. To help them find out how, the intercultural workshops have been set up. Those being sponsored this summer by the Bureau for Intercultural Education are located at Goddard College in Vermont, Ohio State University, Columbia University, New York University and Chataqua, New York, and members of the Bureau are on the staff of each. Approximately fifty scholarships, which pay the full cost of tuition have been awarded to teachers for the summer, 1946.

Teachers and Principals come together for three to eight weeks to share ideas and experiences, to talk over their problems and try to find out how to solve them. They work on special projects. Some want to re-write the course of study, review motion pictures which might be used in schools, or work with groups of children to try out learning materials of all kinds. Guest speakers who are expert in some phase of intercultural education are invited to talk.

The workshops may also have an important effect on the teachers' own attitudes. Many of them for the first time meet people of different groups; a white southerner will find herself working on a committee with a Negro teacher or having lunch with her. Such experiences may help her to find her own hidden prejudices and get rid of them.

Only a few teachers out of the thousands in America can come to these workshops; those who do attend go back to their schools as leaders to interview and to interest others.

And what do the teachers themselves think about the workshops? A teachers who attended the one at Columbia University in the summer of '45 expressed the reaction of many in a letter to the director: "I should like to thank you for all of the help the workshop has been, not only in matters such as the materials I learned about, but basic attitudes necessary for any progress in the fight against prejudice. My heart was in the right place, but I have a lot to learn in bringing about changes."

PEACE CARAVAN MEMBERS LECTURE BEFORE SR. GIRL SCOUTS

Monday evening, July 22, the members of the American Friends Service Committee Peace Caravan presented a panel discussion on some phase of international relations before the Senior Girl Scouts of Omaha. The meeting took place at 7:30 p.m. in the Girl Scout Little

Demand Speedy Action

NEW YORK, July 18—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that its offices in New York's Freedom House had been deluged with angry messages from shocked Americans from every part of the country demanding action speedily in bringing the sadistic South Carolina troopers who gouged out the eyes of a Negro vet to justice.

The case of the 27-year-old vet, Isaac Woodard, whose eyes were gouged out by Aiken, South Carolina police only three hours after he'd been discharged from Camp Gordon Ga., has started a storm of protest which is rapidly assuming national and international proportions. A correspondent for British and Indian newspapers described it as one of the most shocking examples of race hate and sadism he'd ever heard.

According to a United Press dispatch of July 17, from Aiken, the chief of police J. M. Sprawls was quoted as stating that there was no record of a Negro veteran being taken from a bus and beaten by police last February 13th as charged by the NAACP. Said Sprawls: "We have given them every cooperation but the whole thing is a mystery as far as we know. We have checked all the Negro ambulances which may have taken the reported victim to Columbia, but none of them know anything about it. None of the men on our force know anything about it and there is no record of any such incident anywhere in Aiken County. Oliver Harrington, NAACP Public Relations Director, commenting on Chief Sprawls' statement declared: "This isn't in the least surprising. It would have been more surprising if there had been a record on the Aiken police blotter admitting that two of their troopers had gouged out the eyes of a veteran just returned from the South Pacific."

In a letter addressed to Atty. General Tom Clark, Walter White, NAACP Secretary stated that because it was of interest to the War Dept. we immediately referred it to the Secretary of War with the hope that the War Department would see fit to investigate the case and also to take some steps to assist in rehabilitating Woodard, either by granting him a pension or by helping him to find some sort of employment.

"We feel however that it is mandatory that the responsible parties be prosecuted to the full limit of the law and are requesting that you immediately have this matter thoroughly investigated by the Department of Justice and take steps to punish the police officials who are guilty of this heinous crime."

House, 3201 Farnam St. The Peace Caravan, made up of young women college students, have already spoken at Camp Brewster of the YWCA, at a special meeting of Omaha youth group leaders, ministers and educators, at the Omaha Venture Club, the Alpha Omega Club, the Jewish Community Center and the Young People's Group of the Central Park Congregational Church. They have also told of their activities over stations KOWH, KBON and WOW. Volunteer work with children at the Hattie B. Munro Convalescent Home, the Christ Child Society and the Social Settlement of the south side has been part of their activities in the city.

Negro Scientist Hailed in Reader's Digest



Dr. Percy L. Julian, grandson of an Alabama slave, whose achievements in research have brought him nationwide recognition.

The article traces Dr. Julian's career, from his early dreams of organic chemistry research at DePauw University, through his studies at Harvard, his brief period of teaching at West Virginia State College for Negroes, his appointment as head of the chemistry department at Howard University and his later studies in Vienna under the world-renowned Dr. Ernst Spath. Dr. Julian carried forward his experiments, aided by his stature as a scientist, despite lack of money and at times inadequate equipment, and always having to face the additional barriers against his race.

Today he guides the Glidden Company's staff of 50 highly trained chemists, and the company is preparing to build him a "magnificent research institute". "But one only needs to know Percy Julian," De Kruijff says, "to realize that at 47 he is only at the beginning of his work."

N. A. A. C. P. Hits Order Suspending Enlistments

NEW YORK—Officials of the NAACP revealed today that the number of letters written by Negro vets expressing bitter feelings over conditions they find upon returning to civilian life have reached alarming proportions. Although the shocking Isaac Woodard case now being carried on by the NAACP has spurred the most comment from vet writers, the recent announcement by the War Department that Negro enlistments are no longer wanted by the armed forces has resulted in a flurry of bitter comment. It is usually pointed out in these letters that the irony of the situation, where the War Department issues such a directive at the same time it drastically tightens draft deferment provisions, is not lost on these Negroes who only a short while ago were fighting to make the world safe for democracy.

Walter White, NAACP Executive Secretary, commenting on the suspension of Negro enlistments also called attention to the fact that many Negro GI's, taking advantage of the Army's offer of selection of theatre privileges for enlistments, found after enlisting, for another 'hitch' were told that the order virtually meant for white only. Thus Negroes who had enlisted for service in the ETO found themselves signed up again but excluded from the ETO. I know of at least one instance where a GI has preferred to be taken to the stockade said Mr. White. The War Department is guilty of conscienceless, undemocratic practices when it bars these Negro vets from a peacetime army after drafting them for the shooting war, continued Mr. White. The NAACP stood against discrimination and segregation when we were at war. It stands for an end to discrimination and segregation now that we are at peace.

These students volunteer their summers for this community service and are prepared to speak to civic clubs, churches, young people's societies, farm and labor groups and other community organizations.

They are living at the Northside YWCA and may be reached there or through the chairman of the sponsoring committee, Mrs. C. K. Ross, telephone WA 3752.

The American Friends Service Committee represents the religious society of friends (Quakers) in national and international fields of social action. The committee was founded in 1917 to carry on relief and post-war reconstruction in Europe. It has since been engaged in many projects here and abroad to promote international and industrial understanding and to offer opportunities for constructive service, participated in and supported by Americans of all faiths.

At the present time, the committee is engaged in child feeding and relief work in France, India, Finland, China and Austria. It also maintains workers in the Middle East and many parts of Europe to aid refugees and people displaced by the war. Such relief is always given impartially on the basis of need and without regard to race, creed or color.