

Joe Louis, Orson Welles To Head Drive for Southern Conference for Human Welfare

OUR GUEST Column
Edited by Verna P. Harris
Even in Jail
By James Peck, Editor, News Service.
Workers Defense League

During our anti-jimcrow picketing of the American Prison Association's convention last fall in New York, one passerby stopped, scrutinized our signs, shook her head and said: "You mean to say they discriminate even in prison?" We nodded and answered yes. Some of us on that interracial picket line were speaking from experience, as far as federal prisons are concerned, since we had served time as conscientious objectors and had observed, first hand, the white supremacy behind bars.

Some of us, including myself, had been locked in solitary at Danbury (Conn.) four and a half months for going on strike to end jimcrow in the prison mess hall. Using the same phony arguments employed to demand segregated segregation in the outside world, U. S. Prisons Director James V. Bennett and the warden had warned that the inmates would not stand for abolition of jimcrow, and that such changes cannot be made all at once.

Yet, following our strike, non-segregated seating was put into effect without any incident. And within a few days it was taken for granted even by the handful of southern-minded whites who had said they would never sit next to a Negro.

Following the Danbury strike, segregated seating was eliminated as a result of protest actions by prisoners in Tucson (Ariz.) and New York City. And since that time additional progress has been made, even in the south.

At Ashland (Kentucky), where last year 14 men including three Negroes and a Japanese-American were locked in solitary confinement for opposing jimcrow. The Prisons Bureau tried to break this strike by transferring some of the strikers to other prisons. But the strikers held out.

As on the outside, there is job discrimination in federal prisons, most Negroes being relegated to menial jobs. At Lewisburg (Pa.) such discrimination became so flagrant that on one occasion 30 Negroes refused to eat. Two of them were thrown into solitary and some time thereafter another was transferred to Atlanta (Ga.), at which place he received rough treatment.

But meanwhile a couple of the Ashland anti-jimcrow strikers were shipped to Lewisburg and the drive against job discrimination continued. As a result orders arrived recently from Washington that hereafter at least 10 percent of the prison's white collar jobs are to go to Negroes. Previously Negroes had been barred completely from such jobs.

At Milan (Michigan) similar protest actions by inmates ended segregation in some of the sleeping quarters as well as in the mess hall.

The Red Cross blood segregation policy, as practiced by the prison collection units, aroused resentment among many prisoners. Refusing to give their blood to the Red Cross 40 Negroes and whites at Danbury in 1943 donated it instead to a local hospital which does not segregate blood. At Milan a Jewish inmate handed a Red Cross official a letter criticizing the segregated blood bank policy. Claiming that this constituted smuggling, prison officials deprived him of a year's time off for good behavior.

An outstanding feature of these prison struggles for Negro rights was the solidarity of other minority groups. Jewish and Oriental prisoners took leading parts in the various anti-jimcrow strikes.

Recognizing the importance of the anti-jimcrow fight behind prison walls, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at its recent Cincinnati convention adopted an amnesty resolution saying: "especially do we wish to commend conscientious objectors who have been instrumental in breaking down racial barriers in several federal prisons."

APA
Mrs. A. M. McMillan
Guest Speaker Before
Missionary Society

The Mission Society held their guest night meeting Friday evening July 26th at the parsonage, 2422 Ohio St. Many attended and the talk by Mrs. Aaron McMillan, who was the guest speaker was appreciated by all.

ORSON WELLES TO HEAD DRIVE FOR SOUTHERN CONFERENCE FOR HUMAN WELFARE

Group Seeks "To Improve Economic, Social, Spiritual and Cultural Conditions of South Without Regard to Race, Creed or Color"

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(GNS)—When the Southern Conference for Human Welfare has its much needed Drive here in September it will be headed by two greats—Joe Louis and Orson Welles.

Plans are well under way in the New York Office here where petite and charming Eranson Price has just returned from a southern tour where some conditions for the Negro are still somewhat working under deplorable conditions. Many of such conditions and special cases have been helped by this group which was formed in 1938 with the purpose to improve economic, social, spiritual and cultural conditions of the people of the south without regard to race, creed or color.

In order to get the Drive before an unlimited number of people here a luncheon for the International Ministerial Alliance is being held here at the Hotel Theresa next week.

The Drive of the Conference will no doubt be a grand success with the committee having such chairmen as Joe Louis, Boxing Champ and Orson Welles, Theatre Champ.

Typical Army Specialists



M-SGT. WHITE HERE To Recruit Colored Army Specialists

Three outstanding personalities pictured above are typical examples of the specialists needed for the new Regular Army. In the picture left to right they are:

Retired S-Sgt. G. E. Bivens, 76 years young, retired from the army in 1936 after 40 years continuous service; former 1st Lt. Maurice Simpson of the Army Ordnance Department. Simpson plans to reenlist and make the regular Army his career; M-Sgt. Frank E. White, former 1st Lt. of the Army Quartermaster Corps. He served 20 months in the ETO during World War II. Sgt. White was discharged June 18, 1946 and reenlisted June 28th as a Regular Army Recruiter.

White says the army is very much in need of war time colored specialists and therefore he has been brought to Omaha for the purpose of selecting men who have high on the critical list are certain medical technicians, radio technicians, signal technicians and finance technicians.

Sgt. White can be reached at the U. S. Army Recruiting Station, 1516 Douglas Street, Omaha. Phone Jackson 7900, Extension 542.

By Lawrence A. Caesar, a Negro vet. of Dalton, Mass.

LARGEST NEGRO HOME BUILDER BUILDS FOR NEGRO WAR VETERANS

From coaching championship football teams to building houses is a decided change but Walter "Chief" Aiken of Atlanta, Georgia negotiated it successfully. Today he is known as the largest Negro home builder in the country and the largest builder in Atlanta, according to a story in the August issue of HEADLINES AND PICTURES.

"Chief" Aiken has coached football teams at Howard, Atlanta and Fisk Universities and Clark College. It was in 1925 that he entered the building field but only as a side line and it was not until 1939 that he decided to devote his time exclusively to construction work.

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Miss Jordan Northside YWCA Tenders Resignation

At a meeting Wednesday night, Miss Elizabeth Jordan, Executive Secretary of the Northside YWCA announced her resignation, effective as of August 15th. It is reported that Miss Jordan plans to accept a position in the south.

\$1,000 Reward Offered by Naacp For South Carolina Policemen Who Maimed Negro Veteran

NEW YORK—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People posted a \$1000 reward to any person or persons supplying information which will lead to the apprehension and conviction of the sadistic Aiken, So. Carolina cops who used Nazi Storm trooper tactics on Negro

JUDGE ADMITS STANLEY R. OSBORN WILL

The will of Stanley R. Osborn, Nebraska author who died recently was admitted to probate by County Judge Robert Troyer Saturday, July 27th.

After first providing for certain bequests to relatives, the bulk of the estate will go toward providing scholarships and similar aids to create such employment as would assist Negroes in using their advanced training constructively.

Mr. Osborn had made an exhaustive analytical study of the American Negro and his problems. He reasoned that to withhold and suppress by customs and prejudice the talents of the large Negro population was a double loss to the nation; since energy was being spent to restrain useful energy.

In his desire to do whatever he could "to help Colored Americans upward into a more efficient and productive citizenship", Mr. Osborn willed the bulk of his wealth to create opportunity for the ambitious and capable of the Negro Race.

Where feasible, Mr. Osborn asked that preference in setting up the scholarships be shown, respectively, to the University of Nebraska, Illinois Institute of Technology, and Iowa State College. He also asked preference for Negroes of Nebraska.

The Omaha National Bank Trustee, said it would take several months to work out the initial provisions of the will, after which information and specifications of "The Stanley R. Osborn Fund" will be made available.

No. 14, and the record that it holds. The men in Engine Co. No. 14 also have a right to be proud.

There is little our community can say, except, "thanks gentlemen, for your long and faithful service."

Outstanding men such as Alonzo Jackson, Senior Captain, who has been with the Omaha Fire Department since 1911; Winifred Freeman, Junior Captain, 1919; Jasper Cole, Pipeman, 1922; Manuel Cook, Pipeman, 1923; Robert Greene, Chauffeur, 1928; Harry Speese, Pipeman, 1931; Kittrell Hudson, Pipeman 1932; Clarence Davis, Pipeman, 1934; William King, Chauffeur, 1942; Warren Alston, Pipeman, 1942; are now serving with Engine Co. No. 14.

Venturing as far down as the Althouse School of Beauty Culture, and wanting nothing more than to say hello to Mrs. Althouse, who during my tender years as a young man, used to give me and the many other young people of St. John's church, so much good adv'ce, when she was the sponsor of our church Club, I entered an almost empty beauty school.

After questioning one of the ladies there I found out they were having a picnic, and they politely asked me to come back the next day. I could easily tell that they did not realize how lazy this man was, and how hot the sun is making these days. So I called Mrs. Althouse, hoping that it could all be completed over the telephone.

I was surprised to find that she had so many girls in training. 21 ladies are now studying at the Althouse School of Beauty Culture. After looking over all of the modern equipment and the amount of supplies Mrs. Althouse has, I could understand why so many choose her Beauty School. Not even mentioning Mrs. Althouse, who for so many years has been an excellent instructor and operator.

Those now taking the course at the Althouse School of Beauty Culture are: Ruth Arnold; Willa Mae Battles; Daisy in training; Marguerite Birdsong of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Betty Mae Bryant; Naomi Byron; Artha Claire of Lincoln; Dorothy Dunn; Nellie Hill of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Carrie Holmes Craig; Ruth Hollingsworth; Odesa Hudson of Lincoln; Anna John-

Men's Day Speaker Ross Professes Love For Slain Wife

Says Not Acquainted With Burnell

23-year-old Oklahoma born William Ross who caused a furor on the near Northside last Tuesday night with the trench-knife slaying of his wife Mattie Ross and Levon Burnell at 2929 Franklin St. now occupies a cell in the County Jail awaiting his trial on first-degree murder charges. The trial will come up in the fall term of court.

Gunman Kills Service Station Attendant

Walter D. Cline, 45, 3335 Maple St. was killed by a gunman late Thursday night in his service station at 30th and Lake Sts.

The shooting was witnessed by Robert Cline, son of the slain man. Both well-known by motorists and the residents of this area. Robert said he arrived at the station as the shooting started, tried vainly to save his father by rushing the gunman with a tire tool. He threw the tool at the fleeing gunman but missed. Mr. Cline died without being able to tell a clear story of what happened. No arrest had been made Friday morning.

An attendant in the station across the street, who heard the shots, called police. He said there was about five shots in all. A preliminary examination indicated that Mr. Cline was shot once, thru the chest.

Inspector Franks theorized that the man had started to hold up Mr. Cline.

CHURCH OF GOD HAS OPENING 33rd AND BEDFORD

The grand opening of the Church of God in Christ at 33rd and Bedford Sts., will be held from Aug. 4th-11th. Elder V. M. Baker, Overseer and the public is invited.

SENATOR HUGH BUTLER MAKES STATEMENT

UNITED STATES SENATE To My Fellow Republican: Needless to say, I was very pleased at the fine votes I received in the Primary, June 11th. This was, of course, due in a large part to the untiring efforts of my numberless good friends in Nebraska. To them go my thanks.

It would be impossible to write all a personal letter, so I am pleased to use this method of expressing my gratitude, but nevertheless it is just as sincere. I hope to see just as many of you as possible when I return to Nebraska later this fall.

WIVES OF AAF MEMBERS TO ORGANIZE DRIVE

LOCKBOURNE ARMY AIR BASE—Mrs. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., announced this week that women at Lockbourne will inaugurate a membership drive for the National Association of Air Force Women in the near future.

Headed by Mrs. Carl Spaatz, wife of the commanding general, Army Air Forces, the organization wishes to draw all possible mothers, wives, and sisters of air force men into the ranks. It was stressed that NAAF—as the Association is known—draws no "line or rank". The sole requirement for membership is that the son, husband, father or brother of the applicant shall either have been in the air forces, or a member of the air forces at the time of application.

The purpose of the Association are generally to provide scholarships for ladies desiring to complete nurse training courses for self support, and to render financial assistance in needy cases being brought before it.

AT 30th & LAKE

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ROSS SHOTWELL, DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Attorney Ross Shotwell, attorney for the defense, in a statement to the Omaha Guide said: "The defense plea for William Ross will be 'The Unwritten Law' and his wrought up mental state of mind. From my consultation with him previously, as his attorney, I am of the opinion that overpowering grief put him in a fearful state of mind. The fear that his home was going to be broken up; that some outside influence was working to separate him from his family. Ross had given his family a regular allowance during the nearly three years he spent in the army. Ross worked hard to support his family before he entered the army and has been working since his return. I don't believe he can be classed as the criminal-minded type. I'm going to do everything within my power to see that he gets a fair trial in these proceedings. Circumstances surrounding and leading up to these acts undoubtedly caused him to 'see red'. I don't believe in killings, and I believe they should be stopped but circumstances such as Ross experienced have often caused, otherwise normal people to lose their sense of mental balance."

ROSS STATEMENT

When asked his reason for the slayings, Ross replied to reporters: "I suppose I loved her too much. No man in the world ever loved a woman any more than I did my wife."

Ross, quiet spoken, said he was born in Oklahoma, coming to Omaha in 1941. He said while in the army he served in France and Germany with the 1325 Engineers which was attached to the Third Army.

"I asked permission to see my wife just once more for the last time before she is buried, but I don't suppose I will get the chance," Ross seemed visibly disturbed when I told him that she had been buried Monday.

"But they told me Tuesday", he repeated twice.

"We were getting the house fixed up. I had bought a washing machine and a icebox. I wanted to get a mechanical refrigerator, but I didn't have enough money at the time. I bought her a new brown suit, for a present. It cost \$75."

When asked why he happened to be at the house on the night of the slaying, he said he had permission to get his personal belongings and that he had took some of them earlier in the evening and was to come back that night or the first thing in the morning to get the rest.

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BILBO, TALMADGE ENCOURAGE RACE HATE VIOLATIONS

NEW YORK, July 26.—Governor elect Eugene Talmadge's Klan-backed exhortations to mob-violence against Negroes bore grim fruit last night, Thursday, July 25th, when an armed mob in Walton County, Georgia, dragged two Negroes and their wives from their homes and lynched them in the nearby woods.

According to reports filtering in to the NAACP News Bureau, the lynching was the culmination of ill-feeling existing between Roger Malcolm, and a white farmer identified only as Hester, which began with an altercation between the two men several weeks ago. According to latest reports Malcolm, Georgia Butler, his brother-in-law and both their wives were seized by the mob last night and hustled off into the woods where their mutilated bodies were found this morning.

These lynchings follow closely upon the threatnings ravings of Bilbo in Mississippi and Talmadge in Georgia, both of whom demanded that mob action be taken to "keep Negroes in their place". Officials of the NAACP also pointed to the bestial gouging out of the eyes of veteran Isaac Woodard recently in South Carolina.

Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, in a statement to the Associated Press stated: "The quadruple lynchings of two Negroes and their wives in Walton County, Georgia, yesterday is the inevitable, inescapable result of Talmadge's and the Klugger's advocacy of outright violation of the laws of the federal government and human decency. Election of a man as brazen as Hitler in his racial theories, makes other dastardly crimes of this nature inevitable unless the federal government and the power of public opinion call a halt to such criminality. Negroes were the victims yesterday; other minorities and eventually democracy itself will be the victims tomorrow."

"These lynchings are not isolated. They fit snugly into the pattern of lawlessness being whipped up in the south, such as the Columbia, Tennessee, outbreak of last February, the more recent gouging out of the eyes of a Negro war veteran at Aiken, South Carolina, three hours after he had been honorably discharged from the army on returning from the Pacific, and other crimes of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has today called on President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark to proceed at once against the lynchers under the conspiracy and civil rights statutes."

"The NAACP has consistently urged the federal government to stop mob violence. This it has failed to do. What other alternative is left these citizens, many of them veterans?"

At a time when our statesmen are pleading for democracy and a restoration of morality in Iran, Germany, China, Japan, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria it seems ironic when Americans are dying because of a lack of this same democracy in Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina (the home of our Secretary of State) and other parts of the south."

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KLAN STRIVES TO KEEP HITLERS CONTENTIONS ALIVE

Termining the lynchings of four Negroes in Monroe, Georgia, "the climax of a series of terror attacks on minority groups which threaten the peace of the nation", the American Council on Race Relations today called upon the hundreds of mayors and governor's commissions and civic unity councils with which it works to use every means at your disposal to bring these undemocratic acts to a halt."

The American Council, which is the central body in its field, warned that "the attacks have not been confined to any one region of the country or one minority group". (CONTINUED ON Page 8)

sonally. My wife had mentioned his name, but I didn't know him. She said he used to put some of the fellows out when they became unruly."

Ross said that he was expecting a visit Friday from his two Omaha relatives. He refused an offer of cigarettes, said he didn't smoke. "I just lost my head, I guess when I saw them there."

The trial will be held in October.

THOMAS F. SCOTT DEAD Thomas F. Scott, 50, active in Union affairs; prominent churchman and an employee of Armour Packing Company for many years, died Monday at his home 2872 Broadway Street. Survivors: Wife, Mary; son, Thomas F. Jr. Services Friday, 9 a. m. St. Benedict's church. Burial Holy Sepulchre. Rosary, Thursday, 8 p. m., Myers Funeral Home.

WINS TWO HEATS IN SOAP BOX DERBY Corby Street playground was well represented in the Soap Box Derby, Russell Hawthorne and Albert Crum were entered for Corby Street playground. Russell Hawthorne won two races; Albert Crum lost his first race by 1/2 second. Time for winner 3.7.

Buddy McCrea, Athletic Director and playground boosters who viewed Derby were: Jack Farmer; Donald Wiley; Kermit Anderson; Edward Anderson; Wesley Ashley; Chilton Blackburn; Norman Carpenter; Bernard Brown; Carl Bryant and Laurie Cook.