

# Calvin's Digest

BY JOHN M. LEE

## HOUSING—A NATIONAL HEADACHE

The indicated recession, for which wide heads are now preparing, will be a greater national calamity, because the basic element of our national family security is in a sad and neglected state. During the previous years of depression there were few if any headaches in the local communities occasioned by the problem of finding housing for the unfortunate. When and if the blow falls again, the Health and Welfare agencies will be besieged with requests for shelter, any kind of shelter, for the hordes of doubled-up families throughout the nation.

Already there is evidence that badly-overcrowded families are thinning out, thus putting a further strain on the acute shortage of housing. The agonized cries of returned veterans that they can do nothing,—nor promise anything for the ans and their families grow louder every day, and the Veteran's Housing authorities in almost every state have announced immediate future.

The theory has been advanced that the shortage of housing is a city problem, caused by the shifting of large groups of rural and suburban dwellers to the urban centers because of the need of manpower in these centers to build the supplies and instruments of war. It was believed that when the great mass of war workers returned to their home communities the pressure would lighten in the cities. However, it develops that not only has the shortage become more alarming in the cities, but those workers who have returned to their home communities have found it impossible to locate any kind of housing accommodations.

Despite the fact that thousands of housing units, previously condemned as being unfit for occupation, have been rehabilitated and put back into service in many communities, there is still no evidence that the local, state and Federal governments have a problem of lesser proportion than it was this time last year—if anything it is growing daily.

Prior to the war, the Negro minority and a portion of the white populations on a similar economic level were the only victims of the housing monster. Their problem was one of quality rather than quantity; there was an abundance of low grade, blighted housing that rented for prices that suited their meager incomes. Far-sighted leaders urged, at that time, that the Federal, State and local governments cooperate with private interests to build adequate, low-rent housing on a large scale. This proposal met with stifling opposition, whenever and wherever it was introduced. As a consequence, the war-time concentrations of war worker populations, put a strain on the limited accommodations, and the creating of new family units by the marriage of maturing youngsters, created the bewildering scarcity we now have.

Direct appeals to President Truman to use executive authority to get some sort of program started seem to be the only avenue leading toward a solution at this time. Because of the deserved priority accorded veterans, a limited building program would not make a dent in the shortage. It must be remembered that we were over our heads before the boys came home.

Most important among the many reasons that can be advanced for a building program that will equal our war effort is the discrimination against Negroes. Little consideration is being given to the Negro minority in over-all discussions and planning. It is expected that the Negro will not get housing benefits until the white population in most communities has been adequately sheltered. The Negro and his friends, then, must act immediately to support the campaign for big scale housing programs all over the country, for, while housing is a national headache today, it can easily revert to its old position of being the Negro's headache.

## WYATT OUSTER BLOW TO VETS

(BY HENRY C. FLEISHER from CIO UNION NEWS SERVICE)  
NOTE: Mr. Wyatt's Housing Program was Fully Endorsed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

The foundation dropped out of the government's housing program last week, and war veterans were the worst sufferers. Wilson Wyatt, who had built up one of the capital's brightest records in his eight-month tenure as National Housing Administrator, submitted his resignation to the President. His departure from top government ranks—the latest in a series which has seen the Administration lose many of its most capable executives—was a victory for private-profit housing interests, which have been gunning for his scalp and for the demise of the National Housing Administration.

Wyatt's resignation was based on his failure to get Presidential backing in his demands for RFC support of a big scale program of prefabricated homes, and for retention of sufficient price and priority controls to keep the home building plans on the beam.

His resignation was also a victory for George F. Allen, "court jester" of top government circles, chairman of the RFC and an intimate friend of the President. R. J. Thomas head of the CIO housing committee, last week described Allen as a "fifth-column agent" of the private-profits housing lobby.

In a final statement, Wyatt charged that the housing crisis is now at a peak. Housing, he added, "as our number one domestic problem... required the retention of present federal controls."

With powers granted to it from the Pattman Act, the National Housing Administration had wide authority to allocate building materials, spur construction of low and medium cost housing for veterans, subsidize processors of building materials, make loans to producers, and regulate all phases of the housing program.

In seeking to use that authority, however, Wyatt found himself at constant odds with other government agencies which were reluctant to admit that the veterans housing program was a top-grade emergency measure.

In a statement following Wyatt's resignation, Pres. Truman argued that the first phase of the housing program had been completed, and that it could be continued within the existing government framework of decontrol policies.

# LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM OF REPUBLICANS DISAPPOINTING

## OTIS LUSTER FOUND GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER IN DALTON KILLING

### Jury Deliberates 4 1/2 Hours

(BY BILLY DAVIS)  
Wednesday, December 11th, a jury of ten women and two men returned a verdict of manslaughter against Otis Luster who on October 20, 1946 stabbed to death Ted Dalton at 28th and Q Street in South Omaha.

Witnesses for the State testified that Luster attacked Dalton with out any warning at all. They said Dalton tried desperately to get away from Luster but he tried in vain. After being stabbed in the back by Luster several times he wandered off a distance then fell. Lawyer Jamieson for the defendant, pleaded self-defense to the jury and put up a stiff argument to the jury in his closing remarks. The trial lasted three days before a crowded courtroom. The jury was out four and one-half hours before reaching a verdict.

Otis Luster was a World War II veteran and was wounded in action at Saipan in the Pacific. Dalton's wife, Dolly Delores, was the last one to take the witness stand. She didn't know much about the case so did very little testifying.

Joe Hartfield, the prize fighter was also a witness. He was driving the car that took Luster near the scene where the tragedy occurred. On the witness stand Hartfield testified that he was unaware of what had happened after he had let Luster out of the car. A few minutes later coming across Luster lying on the ground trying to get up and assisted him to do so; taking him to Doctors Hospital where they couldn't take him in. So he took him to the Lutheran Hospital where he was accepted for treatment.

Luster's wife, Virginia and her sister were also witnesses for the State. According to the evidence in the case Luster's wife had been keeping company with Ted Dalton the deceased. She had been missing from home for a couple of days before her husband (Luster) could find her. On the second day Luster had gone on a hunting spree trying to find his wife; and while doing so came across

### Leslie Perry Writes To Republican National Committee Chairman

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec 4.—The NAACP Washington Bureau expressed great disappointment over the legislative program of the Republican Party as tentatively outlined in the December issue of THE REPUBLICAN NEWS, the official organ of the Republican Party. In a letter to Carroll Reece, Republican National Committee Chairman, Leslie Perry wrote:

"The December issue of THE REPUBLICAN NEWS headlines a story titled 'Majority Party Drafts Its 1947 Legislative Program' that states that three items have been definitely given highest priority by Republican leaders: (a) economy in government and reduction in income taxes; (b) elimination of unessential war powers; (c) enactment of new labor legislation.

"It was with a great sense of disappointment that we noted that the program outlined in the article wholly fails to indicate that Republican leaders have any plans 1. Anti-lynching law 2. FEPC 3. Anti-Poll Tax legislation 4. Federal Aid to Education

"The way of mob violence that has choked decent people the world over, the ever mounting employment discrimination against Negroes and other minorities, the brazen disenfranchisement of hundreds of thousands of Negroes in the south, and the low state of educational opportunity for children in certain sections of the country makes it imperative that the correction of these evils be given top priority by the 80th Congress.

"We understand that the Steering Committee of the Senate and the House, under the leadership of its agenda for critical consideration the passage of federal legislation needed to guarantee the constitutional rights and physical safety of 15,000,000 Negroes and members of other minorities in America. These recommendations were outlined in a letter addressed to Senator Wallace H. White (R. Maine).

### NAACP FIGHTS IN OHIO

## To Uphold Civil Rights Law

NEW YORK, Dec. 5th.—The NAACP, on November 30, 1946, filed a writ in the Supreme Court of Ohio counter attacking the efforts of reactionary forces in Ohio which requires that a retail store sell to Negroes without discrimination in the case of Claude W. Wright vs. Thomas M. Garbet. Wright is a Negro who went into Garbet's store in a Cleveland neighborhood to buy a bottle of milk and was refused. He brought suit and in the lower court, secured a judgment against Garbet. Garbet then appealed to the Ohio Supreme Court stating that the civil rights law is unconstitutional as applied to a purely private business.

In its brief, the NAACP stated: "During the past two decades, there has been increasing restriction of the freedom of contract and freedom to use one's private property, each step in this restriction being predicted upon the responsibility of the Government to protect citizens who are helpless to protect themselves.

"The attempt of appellant herein to place his desire to discriminate against Negroes beyond the pale of the state's police power by resort to a theory of contract' under the Fourteenth Amendment, must be rejected against the valid exercise of the states' power to protect Negroes from discrimination."

Stating that the Ohio Legislature acted reasonably in protecting the right of Negroes to purchase freely in retail stores, the NAACP said:

"Obviously, however, in a competitive economy they must receive fairer prices, better quality and a greater share of available goods if the stores which cater to the Negro people have to compete for their trade with stores in other areas to which Negro shoppers will eventually go in an effort to escape higher prices and poorer quality if they are free left to act as reasonable economic men in the situation."

### NEGROES HONOR UNITED NATIONS DELEGATES

New York (CNS).—New York Negroes honored three distinguished delegates to the United Nations Assembly last Friday night when the Provisional World Council of Dominated People joined with the West Indies National Council in a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Capitole. Guest of honor was Brigadier General Carlos P. Romulo, Philippine delegate to the assembly. Sharing honors with him were Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Indian representative and V. N. Molotov, Soviet delegate.

Richard E. Moore was the general chairman for the testimonial making occasion, marking the appreciation of the Negro people for the efforts of the tree delegates on behalf of the independent peoples of the world. Inez Matthews, soprano, sang several French and German selections as principal guest artist.

### MORALS SQUAD NABS 8 IN RAID ON HOUSE

Metz Manion, 60, of 2509 Maple Street, was booked on a charge of keeping a disorderly house early Sunday after the police morals squad raided a house at 2234 Miami Street. Eight other persons were charged as inmates. Evidence taken by the raiders included eight decks of cards, nine pairs of dice and some change.

FORMER OLYMPIC STAR IN TOWN—Jesse Owens, the world's greatest runner and former Olympic star, is Omaha, traveling with the Kansas City Stars Basketball team, stopping at the Calhoun Hotel.

# THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE OF EQUALITY ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS HEW TO THE LINE  
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## Courageous Negroes Flock To Testify

### At Senator Theo. Bilbo's Hearings

## 24th Street Brawl Injurious To Two

### Ernestine Williams and Mary Canady, are confined in a local hospital as a result of street brawl early Sunday morning about 2 a. m., in front of 2507 North 24th street at which place, a plate glass window was broken during the scuffle and each participant received injuries therefrom.

## NEGROES ON GA. JURY

Over one hundred persons have been subpoenaed to testify in this case that shocked the world last summer when it was revealed that a mob of about twenty men removed the four Negroes from an automobile and riddled their bodies with rifle bullets. It was pointed out during the opening session of the Grand Jury hearings that should it develop that the Federal Government does not have jurisdiction to prosecute the case the evidence will be turned over to the state.

## 25 Congressmen, 2 Senators COMMITTED IN FAVOR OF ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION

Twenty-five Congressmen and two Senators have already committed themselves in favor of Federal anti-lynching legislation. It was announced today by Emanuel Neumark, executive secretary of the American Crusade to End Lynching. These commitments have been obtained in response to a letter sent by the organization last week to all members of the 80th Congress.

## SAINT PHILIP'S CHURCH TO PRESENT RECITAL

The St. Philip's Episcopal church 1121 North Twenty-first Street, will present Mrs. Elizabeth Powell in an organ recital Sunday, December 15, at 5 o'clock p. m. A cordial invitation is extended all.

## ANTI-NEGRO POSTERS DISPLAYED IN MANILA

MANILA (AP)—Extra details of American military police in armored cars cruised the streets of Pasay Sunday night after a score of posters, demanding that American Negro soldiers be sent home had appeared.

## North Omaha Organizations To Sponsor Seven Golden Gloves Entrants

Buddy McCrea, formerly athletic director at NSCC, Boxing and Physical Training Instructor in the Army and now of the Charles Street Recreation Center is in charge of training seven aspirants for Golden Glove tournaments, to be held in February of 1947. The following boys are now undergoing rigorous training at the hands of McCrea... all are amateurs: Harold McDonald, 120 pounds, 185 pounds; Reginald Hughes, 135 pounds; Joe Glass, 158 pounds; Eugene Brown, 185 pounds; Charles Martin, 160 pounds; Sam Williams, 147 pounds; Baby June Gray, 112 pounds. All these boys and others will be sponsored by the following Northside Organizations: The AMVETS Post No. 2; American Legion Roosevelt Post No. 30; Charles St. Recreation Center. This Center is sponsored by the City and any boy may come and take lessons to learn the many art of self-defense. Classes are held 3 days a week. There are now 20 boys enrolled.

## Violence Helped Bilbo To Win

(from CIO Union Service News)  
MISSISSIPPI Negroes last week arose to the challenge of race hate designed to rob them of their political rights.

Led by veterans back from the war against fascism, they paid their own transportation costs to testify in Jackson, the state capital against Senator Theodore G. Bilbo, admitted member of the Ku Klux Klan, who is accused of inciting white people to prevent Negroes from voting in the recent Democratic Primary.

## OUR GUEST COLUMN

(Edited by VERA P. HARRIS)

### Upon The Hudson

By Rhetta H. Arter, Educational Director, Hudson Shore Labor School

Since the learning of ideas occurs by the same processes for Negroes as for others, it is predictable that each year some of the students at Hudson Shore Labor School in West Park, New York who have faulty ideas about people of other races and faiths will have brown skins also. It is inevitable that at a school where the subjects concentrated upon are those that relate to the problems of workers today, the class room discussions, dormitory "bull sessions" and table conversations will include confused and unsound statements about groups of people. Discussions about labor legislation, democratic trade unionism and labor's role in the community necessarily bares some of the misinformation that has been picked up.

Negro workers seek escape in moving pictures, they scan news papers, laugh at cartoons and are named in by the same stereotyping that besets other Americans.

What does the School do about it? Students are encouraged to admit their feelings. The interracial faculty operates on the knowledge that an attitude which is brought into the open is one that can be grappled with and which has a chance for constructive change. The anti-Semitism that is encountered among Negro students at Hudson Shore Labor School is treated as are the other "anti-people" feelings we meet; those who are blighted by bigotry are introduced to scientific information and are helped to accept facts.

It is of little importance that while they learn, they have the rare opportunity to live closely with Jewish students and to be taught by teachers, some of whom obey the laws of Judaism.

Things usually hasten arrival at a point where it is possible to realize that Jewish people—like Negroes—are individuals, and that the only sound generalizations about them are those that apply to all people. As these Negro workers begin to realize that the same poison that today writes "the Jews have all the money" is the one which is inked tomorrow for preaching "white supremacy", they come closer to clarity about the interdependence of workers the world over. As they achieve increasing freedom from the burden of bigotry, they are released to join other workers in programs of enlightened social action.

## ANTI-NEGRO POSTERS DISPLAYED IN MANILA

MANILA (AP)—Extra details of American military police in armored cars cruised the streets of Pasay Sunday night after a score of posters, demanding that American Negro soldiers be sent home had appeared.

Two Negro enlisted men were reported beaten and robbed by armed Filipino gang in the section.