

OUR GUEST Column

(Edited by VERA P. HARRIS)

BEYOND THE COURTS...

By BAYARD RUSTIN
Field Secretary, Fellowship of Reconciliation

In August, following the Sub-banning Jimcrow in interstate travel, the Fellowship of Reconciliation wrote the president of Southeastern Greyhound Lines, to discover the effect of the decision upon the company's seating policy. His reply indicated that the Southern bus companies intend to ignore and frustrate the court's decision.

In part, the bus president wrote: "The company reserves the right to seat all passengers and to change the seating arrangements of passengers whenever in the judgment of the coach operator it is to the best interest of all passengers concerned that the passengers be so seated. . . . These rules and regulations do not involve any state statute as in the case of Morgan vs. Virginia."

This letter and the consequent maintenance of Jimcrow made it apparent a new that the legal action would need to be followed by an educational campaign in the buses to assist the general public to face the issue. Such a campaign will mean direct action also. For the responsibility for the change will fall upon disciplined Negroes and whites who can enter buses and without resort to violence, resist by sitting where they choose and refusing to move, no matter the cost.

At present a group of us are trying to encourage southern inter-racial groups to act this way. There is a real need that members of racial and national groups which are non-colored but themselves minorities cooperate. Hitler's "Jimcrowing" of Jews on German trains and buses showed that all minorities throughout the civilized world are bound together by common problems.

We had reason to believe that such disciplined, non-violent action would be widespread. On November 23, however, the New York Times reported a speech in which Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP "cautioned" Negroes in the South to avoid non-violent resistance tactics. Marshall added that a "disobedience movement on the part of Negroes and their white allies . . . would result in wholesale slaughter with no good achieved."

Marshall went on to refer to "well-meaning radical groups" who were advocating non-violent direct action. As one of those who am sure that Marshall is either ill informed on the principles and techniques of non-violence or ignorant of the processes of social change.

Unjust social laws and patterns do not change because supreme courts deliver set decisions. One need merely observe the continued practice of Jimcrow in interstate travel six months after the Supreme Court's decision to see the necessity of resistance. Social progress comes from struggles; all free-men demands a price.

At times freedom will demand that its followers go into situations where their own death is to be faced. Again it will merely mean willingness to face physical inconvenience. Actually, non-violent direct action means picketing, striking and boycotting as well as disobedience against unjust conditions, and all of these methods have already been used with some success by Negroes and sympathetic whites.

I would not advocate merely one approach to so vast a problem. But we might employ the boycott by selecting the Sunday closest to Harriet Tubman's birthday. Such a day might become a national "no ride Sunday" when all Negroes and their white allies would be encouraged to stay off all Jim Crow transportation.

Such a boycott if even partially successful would have, I believe, a profound effect upon the thinking and conscience of the South and would also raise the inner dignity of participating Negroes. Boycott, then, is a form of non-violent direct action. And I cannot believe that Thurgood Marshall thinks that such a program would lead to wholesale slaughter. Certainly more drastic action would be taken finally. Resistance on the buses would, for example, mean humiliation, when treatment by police, arrest and some physical violence inflicted on the participants.

But if any one at this date in history believes that the "white problem," which is one of privilege, can be settled without some violence, he is mistaken and fails

THE OMAHA GUIDE

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1947 Our 19th Year—No. 49 Entered as 2nd Class matter at Post-Office, Omaha, Nebraska, Under Act of March 3, 1879. PUBLISHING OFFICES AT 2420 GRANT ST., Omaha, Nebr.

Children's Pictures Wanted!

1946 Was CRUCIAL YEAR FOR NEGRO EMPLOYMENT

Urban League Report Shows Gains in Campaign Against Job Discrimination

NEW YORK—While 400,000 Negro workers were unemployed during 1946 and racial discrimination in employment remains widespread in America, significant advances have been made by Negroes in a number of job fields, according to a year-end statement released this week by the National Urban League, America's only national interracial social welfare agency.

"This was the year when we feared Negro unemployment would reach 1,000,000," Julius A. Thomas, the League's Industrial Relations Director stated. "We anticipated finding many thousands of displaced Negro war workers during 1946 and the employment level fell remarkably well during the first year of peace."

Not only the comparatively high level of general post-war employment, but the successful experience of many large companies which employed Negroes for the first time during the war, the determined efforts of progressive trade unions to outlaw discrimination, and the enactment and implementation of fair employment practices legislation in several states have proved contributing factors, Mr. Thomas pointed out.

Urban League Op'ned New Jobs. In its efforts to open new and better jobs for Negro workers, the National Urban League met with more success in 1946 than in any previous year, Mr. Thomas reported. The League succeeded in placing "the first Negro" in a wide range of new jobs in 50 cities scattered throughout the country. Switchboard operators, clerks, stenographers, installers, coin collectors and technicians were placed in jobs with local telephone companies in Detroit, Minneapolis, Boston, Providence, Milwaukee, San Francisco and Newark. In New York and New Jersey 500 Negro switchboard operators and workers in other classifications were added to the telephone work force. The companies had employed 152,000 persons since V-J day, of whom less than 1,500 were Negroes.

Despite the initial success in breaking down unfair practices by the telephone companies in these areas, most telephone company operating units still are guilty of flagrant discrimination against

(Continued on Page 8)

YWCA. TO HOLD CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Beginning Saturday night, Jan. 18, there will be a Candlelight Supper at the Branch Building from 6-9 p. m. at which time special tables for individual persons and families and their friends will be provided. Persons are asked to make reservations for this dinner by calling the office or contacting members of the staff. A tasty meal will be served.

Women's Organizations Pledge Support

NEW YORK—Major national women's organizations have pledged their support to the March of Dimes annual fund-raising activity of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, January 15-30. Mrs. Mary W. Ecker, former president, National Congress of Parents and Teachers; Mrs. Mae Wright Downs, national president of Delta Iota Theta Sorority; Mrs. Edna Over Gray, national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Mrs. Fanny Ayer Ponder, past president, Florida State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs; and Mrs. Gertrude Robinson, president, National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa; are among the many national leaders endorsing the work of the National Foundation and its chapters.

All over the nation women will participate in fund-raising activities. . . . The 1946 epidemic, worst in the history of the National Foundation, women gave volunteer service in the care of the unfortunate victims of infantile paralysis.

The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa has made the March of Dimes one of its national activities and chapters of the sorority are actively campaigning for funds to support the National Foundation. The March of Dimes is the sole means of supporting the work of the National Foundation.

FIGHT MARCH OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Join the MARCH OF Dimes JANUARY 15-30 THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Alpha Phi Alpha Holds 32nd Annual Convention

Tulsa, Okla. Selected For 1947 Meeting

By J. RUPERT PICOTT
COLUMBUS, Ohio—Lauding Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity for its unique and pioneer program of internationalism which has been and is focusing attention on the problems of minority peoples through out the world, Paul Robeson, noted stage, concert and screen star, declared at a public meeting held here as a part of the organization's thirty-second annual convention that "elimination of prejudice and discrimination is the

first time to our readers for the small fee of 25c each. The first five lessons in the Happier Living series are: Lesson No. 1 "Abbe's 1947 Inspirational Reading," Lesson No. 2 "How to Hold Your Mate," Lesson No. 3 "The Way to Happiness," Lesson No. 4 "How to Win a Man," Lesson No. 5 "How to Gain and Hold Money."

As in the past, any reader who feels the need of friendly guidance and personal counsel may submit his or her human relationship problem for free analysis with the purchase of one or more of Abbe's manuscripts. The price of each lesson is twenty-five cents. Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope for your confidential reply.

To introduce the first five lessons, Abbe is making a special introductory offer of five lessons for one dollar. Please address your letter and order to The Abbe Wallace Service, in care of this newspaper. Turn to "Problems of Humanity" column on page eight for complete address and instructions.

Pictures To Be Taken and Published In This Newspaper FREE of Charge

Pictures To Be Taken by Woltz Studios at Northside Branch YWCA, Beginning Fri., Jan. 17th.

The OMAHA GUIDE wants a picture of every baby girl or boy in this trade territory so it can have a cut made and the picture published in the OMAHA GUIDE paper exclusively. To be certain that we receive a late picture and a good one, that will portray your baby or youngster (age no limit) just as it is now, we have made arrangements with a nationally known studio, Woltz, of Des Moines, Iowa, to come to Omaha on Friday January 17, Saturday January 18, Monday, January 20 and Tuesday January 21 and take these pictures FREE of charge.

Randolph Warns Negroes Against Communist Carpetbaggers

NEW YORK—Discussing the crisis of Negro leadership, A. Philip Randolph, International President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Co-Chairman of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, stated before the St. James Forum Sunday, January 5, 1947, that Negro leaders are being honey-tricked, shanghaied and taken for an ideological ride in an adventure of revolutionary power-politics by master Machiavellian Communist politicians, without the Negro leaders either knowing the road down which they are traveling or their destination, or even the drivers or the nature of the vehicle of transportation which holds them captive.

Characterizing present day Communists as carpetbaggers who come to minorities, and especially

(Continued on Page Four)

MUSIC LOVERS OF OMAHA St. John Sr. Choir To Present Recital

St. John's AME Senior Choir has been rehearsing for some time in preparation of their forthcoming recital. We are hoping to make this a musical treat long to be remembered in Omaha!

Our talented director, Mrs. Pearl Gibson, has spared none of her musical ability in its preparation.

This recital is being sponsored by the "Progressive Twenty-Four Club" to be presented Monday evening, February 17, 1947 at 8:15. Tickets are being sold by the "Progressive Twenty-Four Club" and members of the Senior Choir.

Do reserve this date for this outstanding musical event.

I. S. McPherson, president; F. L. Spencer, Choir Reporter.

Other nationally and internationally known participants at this convention included Melford Lawson Jr., Washington, D. C. attorney; Dr. Channing Tobias, director, Phelps Stokes Fund, New York City; a former long-time YMCA official, Dr. Raymond W. Logan, Historian and World-Traveler and chairman of Alpha Phi Alpha's powerful committee on International Relations Among Minorities; Dr. Charles H. Wesley, Wilberforce University president; Max Yergan, executive director, Council on African Affairs, New York City; Robert P. Daniel, president of Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C.; Albertus E. Conn, Assistant Attorney General of Ohio; James S. Rhodes Mayor of Columbus, Ohio; H. H. Davis, vice president, Ohio State University; A. Maceo Smith, Dallas Texas business man and NAACP leader; Wm. H. Gray president, Florida A. and M. College; Louis H. Schuster, Virginia State College professor; Jaun Sandifer, New York attorney; H. Council Trenholm, executive secretary, American Teachers Association; Rev. Karl Downs, Sam Houston College; William N. Lovelace, Cincinnati attorney; Burt A. Mayberry, Kansas City assistant school principal; Albert Jones, University of California student; Lewis O. Swingler, Memphis, Tennessee newspaper editor; and others.

Sparked by the General President Lawson's "Call for Action," the convention authorized expansion in the fraternity's program which has already aided in the solution of legal programs facing Negroes; directed that special emphasis be placed on increased participation by younger men in the fraternity's councils in order that they may have every opportunity to develop their capacity for leadership; acknowledged

ALONG MY WAY



(BY LAWRENCE P. LEWIS)

JAMES E. SEAY
It is with a sad heart that I write these few lines A young man a fine young man and a very good friend of mine, recently passed away. It is lonesome here in the office of the Omaha Guide without his presence, and it will continue to be as long as I write this column.

Working in the shop, setting type, James became my personal adviser. He would discuss almost every paragraph that I wrote. Sometimes helping me with the spelling of words, or inserting an idea. Always full of joy and laughter, never complaining, just spreading happiness to the many who knew him.

"The article that was his favorite was 'THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT.' After spending most of the morning writing it I took it back to him in the shop.

He began reading it as I walked over to speak to some of the members of the staff. I had hardly begun conversing before James yelled "Come here, Lewis."

"What's wrong?" I asked half smiling, thinking I had misspelled another word.

"This is good, really good. I think it is your best," James said. "I'm glad you like it," I said. "After all I spent three hours writing it, and I'll bet you can't find a misspelled word."

James just laughed and went back to his job. A smile was still on his face as he touched the keys that would soon have the article ready for printing.

Getting to know James was about as hard as spending money these days. He has always been friendly to me. Of course, we had so much in common. We talked of our war experiences, about our families, and he was so enthused about the little baby that will soon be his or her first breath on this earth.

He never would tell me whether he wanted a boy or a girl. I guess he didn't have a preference, as long as he was going to be a father again. Already being the father of one lovely little girl in his heart he was probably wishing for a boy.

James gave his life, in order to save other misfortune as well as injury. His first thought in dealing madly out of the building with a flaming bucket of gasoline was to insure the safety of the plant as well as the safety of his associates who were with him at the time.

James, burning into his flesh, did not keep James from completing this task. In doing this he lost his life. So young, so energetic, so full of joy and laughter. A great loss to his employer as well as to his family. Words cannot express the tragic sorrow that surrounds his family as well as his many friends.

"We'll miss you James, but the time you were with us, and the pleasure that you brought us, we'll always remember.

James E. Seay

Mr. James E. Seay, 25, 2204 Paul st., died Friday, January 3 at a local hospital. Mr. Seay was a veteran of World War II with three and one half years of service with the Army Air Corps. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Joy Seay, daughter, Gwendolyn; father and mother, Mr. Jimmie and Mrs. Rosie Seay; seven sisters, Mrs. Claudia Downing, Mrs. Corrine White, Mrs. Veola Dryer, Miss Louise Seay, Miss Ellen Jean Seay, Miss Beverly Ann Seay, Sharon Kay Seay, all of Omaha. Funeral

services were held Tuesday afternoon from Pilgrim Baptist church with Rev. Charles Favors officiating, assisted by Rev. J. P. Mosley, Rev. J. H. Reynolds and Rev. J. C. Wade. Honorary pallbearers, Mr. C. C. Galloway, Mr. Edward Luster, Mr. Peter Mehrens, Mr. Lawrence Lewis, Mr. H. W. Smith, Mr. Paul Barnett. The active pallbearers were Mr. Arthur B. McCaw, Mr. D. R. Crooms, Mr. Weldon Ross, Mr. William Harper, Mr. James Williams, Mr. Leroy Thomas. Burial was in Soldiers Circle Forest Lawn cemetery.

TO JIM:

Well Jim a week or so ago, while you were busy pounding out type for the sheet and telling us why that 1935 car of yours was the best in the town . . . nobody . . . not anyone here on this earth could have told you or us that the irony of fate on that second day in January 1947, would cause the linotype matrices to speedily form into the assembling stick . . . writing in lead slugs as they were cast, life's final earthly chapter for you . . . telling those who knew and loved you that this tragedy, which we cannot make ourselves believe, has happened . . . that the skilled typesetting fingers of Jim Seay are forever stilled . . . slowly dawning on our benumbed minds, that great truth, "That the Lord Giveth, and the Lord Taketh Away" . . . That the span between life and death is within the reach of every man.

Our lips, Jim, cannot express the silent, deep, emotional feelings of our hearts in the meaning of your death to your wife, daughter, mother, father, sisters, and other relatives and friends, and to the community in which you lived and helped serve.

Jim, you were one of those printers who kept up the spirit, put a kick in the hard and arduous task of getting out a sheet . . . always had us fellow-workers, laughing at your witty stories and jokes . . . you were a printer through and through . . . the smell of ink and lead, and paper, were not only on your face and hands, but as printers say, "It was in your blood." You never knew what quit was . . . you stayed on the job until it was done . . . night or day. Jim, you were born to a tradition . . . "The Presses Must Roll On" . . . and believe us Jim, whenever a sheet comes off the press . . . all that we could or ever hope to embody into that newspaper, in the great art of journalism and craftsmanship, could never equal that great spirit and the supreme effort in the sacrifice you made, when you gave your life in protection of the material things of your chosen craft . . . so that the Guide presses might roll on.

Yes Jim, we'll miss your slow-walking step, the sound of your merry voice . . . even your silence, when all was not going well. We'll carry on Jim . . . for you have thrown us a torch of supreme sacrifice, which we shall endeavor to hold high and to carry on to the greater light, which all men seeketh . . . So long Jim, until we meet again.

—Your Fellow Workers and Friends.

From The World-Herald Public Pulse Comes

Fairbury Citizen Writes About An Omaha Waiter

TO A WAITER
Fairbury, Nebraska: One of the most unusual personalities is a Negro waiter in downtown Omaha. He has the same pleasing way day after day, making the gloomiest turn to smiles. His voice has a glowing melodious atmosphere along with a cheerful smile. He has an untiring way of giving good service. He is a credit to his race. He is respected and mentioned by people from near and far. His name is A. Thomas. It goes to show you make yourself what you really are.—C. L.

(The full name of the waiter mentioned above is Mr. Theodore A. Thomas, who resides with his wife Mrs. Mamie Thomas in their happy home at 2713 Wirt Street. His friendly and pleasing manners, as well as a reflection of his home life. His neighbors and friends all have the highest fondness and respect for him.)

WILLIAM GREEN URGES FIRM STAND

Against Efforts To Deny Minority Groups Equal Pay, Right To Work

NEW ORLEANS—It was revealed last week by Dr. George W. Snowden, professor of economics at Dillard University and counselor on minority problems for the Southern Organizing Campaign of the American Federation of Labor in Louisiana, that William Green, AFL national president, has urged a firm stand by all international and national unions, State Federations of Labor, City Central Labor Unions and Councils as well as directly affiliated unions against every effort to deny minority groups their equal right to work and right to equal pay for equal work.

Mr. Green, in a letter to all AFL unions, has called attention again to resolutions passed at the recent AFL National Convention in Chicago, sharply condemning such discriminatory practices, Dr. Snowden informed.

Explains Green's Speech
Dr. Snowden stated that, in the memorable speech, Mr. Green condemned "discrimination in our trade unions on account of race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry as a disruptive and destructive evil and called upon international, local and Federal bodies to set up anti-discriminatory committees for the purpose of teaching the membership, through discussion and dissemination of literature, the dangers of discrimination to our American system and world peace."

"The convention," Mr. Snowden also cited, "declared its opposition to the practice in effect in certain Southern States designed to invalidate the constitutional rights of Negro citizens by intimidating them at the polls and by the employment of other deceptive and terroristic practices to prevent these citizens from exercising their right to vote as being un-American, undemocratic and unconstitutional;

MARCH OF DIMES
FIGHT INFANTILE PARALYSIS
JANUARY 15-30

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