

# THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE OF EQUALITY  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS

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2420 GRANT ST

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1947—OUR 20TH YEAR—NO. 15,

## Church Celebrates 5th Anniversary

Sunday May 18th the Mt. Moriah Baptist church will celebrate the fifth anniversary of their pastor, Rev. David St. Clair.

Each of these years have been successful ones. The membership has increased through the baptism of many candidates as well as those who have united with the church by Christian experience. Through the effective preaching and teaching and example by the pastor the church has been able to stay in a state of revival.

The organizations of the church are growing and some new ones have been added. There is a place for all ages to work.

The Church has also been able to keep up in all her denominational work.

Also an active and tireless worker in the Church is Mrs. St. Clair. She enjoys working in the Sunday school and B. T. U. department and the mission. Always ready and willing to do whatever she can for the Master.

### OMAHA URBAN LEAGUE

An enthusiastic crowd of 150 youths and young married couples attended the First Annual Youths' Health Conference held in the Urban League Building last Friday evening. After a short introduction of the panel speaker by Mr. M. Leo Bohanon, Executive Secretary of The Omaha Urban League, the Conference got immediately underway.

Dr. Wesley Jones assisted by Miss Mary Ellen O'Neal of the Visiting Nurses Association, gave a simple but cogent lecture on the basic requirements for good health and longevity. Mrs. Mary Fredericks, Counsellor, Omaha Public Schools discussed "Moral Goals for Modern Youth." This group was concerned with every phase of youth social life which are determining factors for successful

adulthood. Mrs. Lucyle Avant, former Red Cross worker analyzed the factors which make up happy and successful marriages to forty young people.

All the sessions were very well attended and the question and answer period extended over an hour. At the close of the panel discussion dancing and refreshments were served.

The Conference was planned by a sub-committee of the Omaha National Negro Health Week Steering Committee of which Mrs. W. W. Solomon is chairman. Sponsoring organizations were, The Omaha Urban League, Near Northside YMCA, North Branch YWCA, Woodson Center, Epsilon chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Omega Psi Phi, Alpha Phi Alpha and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternities, The Midwest Athletic Association, Star-Rite, Ebony, Grosbeaks and Shanks clubs.

### THE WEEK

By H. W. Smith

William J. McCombridge has announced on May 2nd his retirement as vice president and general manager of the press association in N. Y.

A two thousand five hundred lb. steer broke loose in N. Y. near 39th street. On Thursday May 1st it broke loose from a herd in the 11th Ave. stock yards, police brought it down with fifteen shots.

General William G. Lindsay of Fort Jackson, S. C. regrets to leave Omaha as he found the people very sociable and friendly in every way.

President Truman drove to the station Thursday evening to bid President Aleman of Mexico goodbye after he had completed a three day visit in Washington before going to N. Y.

The Nebraska legislature eliminated tobacco and cigarettes from the tax bill after a 2 hour debate.

Five persons were killed when steel plates from a passing freight slashed a passenger coach on the Penn. R. R. Thursday May 1st.

Newburyport, Mass. will continue ten percent slash in prices it was reported on May 1st.

## Buddy McCrea temporarily released

To clear up the thoughts of our civic minded citizens of the community, we want the public to know the real reason why Buddy McCrea is not with the city recreational department.

Following you will see recent statement from the superintendent of the City Recreational Dept. Buddy as you know has helped in the community by showing free movies, teaching boxing lessons, and tumbling, etc. to help curb juvenile delinquency.

Another one of these cases where the Negro is first to be fired and the last one to be hired. This is the second case where a Negro has been dropped from the city pay roll in thirty days. Negroes are entitled to their parole in employment, in accordance to the tax they pay and their ability to serve. This is a matter that the Civic organizations, such as the Urban League and the NAACP should concern themselves with.

Mr. John H. McCrea  
1302 North 26th Street  
Omaha, Nebr.

Dear Mr. McCrea,

This is to notify you that, due to a reduction in Department funds, we are forced to terminate your employment with this department as of May 3rd, 1947.

However, you will be paid for annual leave up to and including the 17th of May, 1947.

We regret sincerely the necessity for taking this action, but conditions allow us no other alternative.

Respectfully,  
William J. Meyers  
Superintendent of Rec.

Among those who attended the National Council of Community Churches were Rev. E. F. Ridley, pastor, Mrs. Gertrude Lucas Craig, and Mrs. Eva Ray, delegates. With the delegation were Mrs. Crouch and Mrs. Wmif Perkins. They reported having a wonderful time and were well treated by the mixed group in Chicago.

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### UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

The fourth annual nationwide appeal of the United Negro College Fund was again highlighted on the air last Tuesday night when these artists gathered before the microphones of the American Broadcasting Company network in a "Carnival of Stars." The Fund seeks \$1,300,000 to help meet current operating expenses of 33 Negro private colleges. The artists are, left to right, top row, Eddie Matthews, baritone; Robert "Believe It or Not" Ripley; Cy Walter, piano stylist; Tony Ruffner, Master of Ceremonies; Bottom row, left to right, Carol Brice, contralto; Three Flames, instrumentalists, Erskine Hawkins, trumpeter.

### DRAMATICS LITERARY VARIETY CLUB

The club met at the usual time Monday night to make future plans for more programs. This club is trying to help young people to be more progressive in the future spiritually and educationally. Some of the programs that you can expect from these groups of young people this month are:

Dramatics: The club is putting on a Mother's day play at Morning Star Friday May 9, at 8:00 p. m. Please come out and back these young people up. I am sure you will enjoy the play, "Pilgrims Passage."

Literary: Some of the young people of the club are putting on an open forum, What can the child expect from his present environment," at Salem Sunday, May 4th, be sure and come out to hear and to participate in this forum, and to see what these young people are doing to develop a more progressive education.

Variety: In the spare time after the business is over the members settle back to enjoy themselves in good clean recreation. If you could attend one of these meetings you will be assured that these young people are indeed the future leaders of our race.

With the fair month of May approaching remember "Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,"—Shakespeare.

### New Loan Association

It has always been the policy of your Omaha Guide to recognize and welcome and encourage new business enterprises in our community. Therefore we take pleasure in passing along to the public the operation of your Guide roving reporter, whose attention was attracted to an unusual sign at 24th and Burdette Sts.

We have known for some time that this corner was one of much activity being headquarters of the Omaha Division of the B. S. C. P. but when your reporter observed a sign reading "Porters Loan" he sought to satisfy his curiosity by entering and questioning the man in charge. He was met by a very pleasant man in the person of Mr. Taylor Murrell, who is Secretary-Treasurer of the Brotherhood and who explained in detail the nature of the business.

We found a Hall suitable for small groups, which is available to the public. In the same building is a licensed "Loan Business" that will courteously serve the public. When we sought to determine the financial soundness of the porters loan we learned that Mr. Murrell had already been checked on by someone in authority, which served to make us still more safe in welcoming this unusual type of business in our community that it will grow and flourish to the credit of our groups as a whole. In conjunction with those features is also a nice line of notions and refreshments which means quite a convenience to groups when using the hall, as well as to any individual, or the public. You will learn more about this unusual business in succeeding issues of The Guide. Read the Guide and keep abreast of the news in your community.

### RUBY SMITH, NIECE OF THE FAMOUS BESSIE, DEBUTS ON RCA VICTOR

Although the great, one and only Bessie Smith now may be just a legend, that legend is being perpetuated in the person of her niece, Ruby Smith. Well schooled in the tradition of the immortal blues singer, Ruby is carving out a career on her own, inspired in no small measure by her famous aunt. With her newest RCA Victor recording, "Hot Sauce Susie" and "I'm Scared of That Woman," Ruby shows that she has much of the same thursty singing talent as Bessie with styling of her own that gives additional vocal color.

Ruby's vivid personality, which has instantaneous appeal, both in person and on her RCA Victor records, has been featured at Cafe Society Downtown and at Carnegie Hall, where she starred in the Spiritualist to Swing programs a while back. She also has been a popular favorite in Harlem's Small's Paradise and Elks' Rendezvous. Her voice is rich, strong and expressive with a wonderful feeling for rhythm.

Ruby first met her aunt Bessie when she was twelve. Later, in her teens, she toured with her and the "Midnight Steppers" revue on vaudeville circuit and in tent shows. Although she started out in the chorus, Ruby soon was doubling as a soubrette and finally, when Bessie was ill, she often stepped in at the last minute and took her place. Audiences were immediately won over by Ruby and soon were applauding her renditions of "Thinking Blues," "Back Water Blues" and "He's Mine."

With that early indoctrination into greasepaint, Ruby has one-nighters and the footlights in her blood. She is planning a new tour this coming season. Meanwhile, she is spending a few weeks planning her repertoire in her attractive Harlem apartment, which she shares with an invalid mother. A graduate of Junior High School P.S. 136, Ruby has many friends uptown, who love to gather for her chicken dinners and listen to Ruby sing the blues like her Aunt Bessie. Ruby's rendition of "Port Wine Blues" and "You Satisfy" on her recent RCA Victor debut, has won acclaim from such an outstanding music critic as George Frazier, of Variety, who stated that Ruby was "a fine blues exponent" and sings with "feeling, humor, and, what is very important, very good enunciation."

### HOUSEHOLD WORKERS FACE BRIGHTER FUTURE

There is going to be a better day for household workers when new plans now in the making materialize. A survey on household employment has just been completed by the women's Bureau, of the U. S. Department of Labor. The survey was conducted in 19 cities, such as Chicago, St. Louis, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Syracuse, Cincinnati and others. A complete report of this highly interesting survey has not been published as yet but a partial report is out and I believe it will have far reaching effect.

It is known that standards of domestic work as proposed by agencies in these 19 cities will be raised much higher and the pattern will probably spread throughout the country. While studying this report fresh off the press, I was reminded of a significant statement ensuing from the Women's Bureau annual report for the year ending June 30, 1946. It was to the effect that — "historically-determined social and economic factors have assigned to women increasingly important roles in the wage earning world." Chief factors the Bureau reported are, (1) The Nation's need for the goods and services made and performed by women; and (2) the need of millions of women to support themselves or supplement the family income.

It occurred to the writer that if this was a significant and important fact with regards to women as a whole, how much more important and factual it is as regards Negro women, who's husbands and fathers get only small and inadequate incomes.

In the over-all program of improvement for household employment, there will be added considerable dignity and security to the occupation. It was specified that forms of contracts be executed with provisions for holidays, paid vacations and even sick leave.

### MRS. MAUDE RAY CROWN ST. JOHN'S MOTHER OF 1947

In a beautiful after service Sunday morning May 11 Mrs. Maude Ray was crowned by Mrs. Hattie the retiring Mother of St. John's of 1946. St. John's Mother of 1947. Mrs. Ray has been a member of the St. John's church since early childhood. She has probably worked in and worked with more auxiliaries and departments of St. John's than any living member today. She is a member of the St. John's Senior Choir, serving as assistant director to her daughter, Mrs. Pearl Gibson. She has assisted in all progressive movements of the church.

She succeeds Mrs. Hattie Adams, retiring Mother of 1947 who is another ardent and faithful worker in St. John's church.

Mrs. Ray is like her predecessor, a true symbol of Motherhood and her reign as Mother of St. John's of 1947 will be one filled with the good things of life.

### YWCA WILL HOLD REPORT MEETING

The public is cordially invited to attend the Annual Report Meeting at the Northside Building, Y. W. C. A. on Sunday, May 18, 1947 at 4:00 p.m. The theme of this Report Meeting will be "Responsibility of the Lamp-lighters in the Community." The service is planned to be impressive as well as interesting an after its completion, there will be a Coffee Hour.

Also at this meeting, there will be the final report of the Northside YWCA Nominating Committee and election of new members to the Committee of Management. Electorals are urged to cast their ballots so that a full democratic report can be had of the election.

### SINGING SENSATION OF 1947



The Ravens are the newest quartet to burst upon the theatrical horizons. The Ravens who made a spectacular debut at the Apollo Theatre a month ago, bow into the New York Strand Theatre April 4th with Cab Calloway's revue. The Ravens are being hailed as the best new harmony bet in the past 10 years.



### Wages and Prices

By GEORGE S. BENSON  
President of Harding College  
Secary, Arkansas



ABOUT fifteen months ago Mr. Henry Wallace, then Secretary of Commerce under President Truman, asserted that wages in the automobile industry could go up 30% without prices of cars going up at all. It wasn't true, as all informed people knew at the time. But the statement tended to gain public support.

At least the statement helped gain public toleration for a long strike, which ended with about a 20% raise in wages. But even then the OPA was immediately convinced that increases in prices were made necessary. Little by little OPA raised the prices on cars until it had granted an average increase of 22%. In short, for a 20% increase in wages for auto workers the public was required, by OPA, to pay 22% more for cars.

Identical NOW the auto workers are asking for another raise of about 25% in wages. Some labor leaders are maintaining that wages in general can go up about 25% without increasing prices. Mr. C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors, asserts that such a raise will put prices of cars up by 25%. Mr. Alfred P. Sloan, chairman of the board of General Motors, also declares that wages cannot be raised without raising prices.

From last year's experience the public will quite readily understand that if wages go up again, prices must also go up. This leaves just one real issue. Is it to the interest of workers and the rest of the public for prices to

keep going up and up? If another raise in wages is granted only to be followed by a still greater boost in prices, workers will be no better off. In fact they, and all the rest of us, will be worse off. Higher prices will finally cause buying to drop off. Then jobs will begin to decrease, leading to unemployment and finally to depression.

A Sound THERE IS a way for Method everybody to gain — both workers and the general public. That way is for management and workers to cooperate to increase production so effectively that goods will become plentiful and prices will go down.

Then the workers will have the equivalent of a real raise in wages because their present wages will buy more food and clothing. All of the public will benefit in the same way. This is sound economics. But for wages to keep going up and up, only to be followed by prices going up and up, is unfortunate for workers and everybody else.

If we want to destroy the American economic order and force our country into state socialism, that is the way to do it. Fifteen months ago many wondered seriously if Henry Wallace believed that wages could go up 30% in any industry without prices going up. Many now wonder if any informed people really think wages can go up 25% without raising prices. If we try it we will again learn the hard way.

The Friendly Sixteen Bridge Club score. A delicious repast was served by met at the home of C. Laster, 2611 Blondo street. The meeting was opened by the president. Business of importance was discussed. Three four hand changes of bridge were played. Brookshire won high!

Emmet Avant, Pres.  
Otto Fruite, Repr.

### On Air for United Negro Colleges



Radio Stations throughout the country are playing transcriptions for the 1947 appeal of the United Negro College Fund, which seeks \$1,300,000 for 33 private colleges. Upper photograph shows Cecil, Duke of Iron, center, with Gregory Felix, Clarinet King, and Modesto Calderon. They play an original Calypso song dedicated to the Fund, "Teach Hope to All—Despair to None." Lower right is Maxine Sullivan, ballad singer. Lower left is Tiny Ruffner, Master of Ceremonies.



Now that the strike is over, telephone men and women everywhere throughout our territory are being welcomed back to their jobs. We assure you that we will work as hard as we can to get back to regular day-to-day operations as quickly as possible . . . and to carry forward our plans for constantly improving and expanding your service.