

THE OMAHA GUIDE

JUSTICE & EQUALITY
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS

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VOLUME XXI NO. 6

THE OMAHA GUIDE OMAHA NEBR. Saturday, March 13th, 1948

ONLY TEN CENTS PER COPY

“\$1,000 in Prizes to be Awarded In Clean-Up Campaign”

Clean Up, Paint Up, Fix Up Campaign MARCH 15th to SEPT. 15th 1948

“Omaha Guide's Annual Clean Up—Fix Up Campaign”
In cooperation with your local Housing Contractors
\$1,000 in Prizes for the Most Improved Homes

- FIRST PRIZE**
Console Radio Phonograph
- SECOND PRIZE**
Deluxe Refrigerator
- THIRD PRIZE**
1948 Electric Range

“Awards to be Judged by a Committee Picked by Mayor”
Anyone having any repairs made on their home during this period are qualified to enter. Call the Omaha Guide and register. A committee appointed by the Mayor will act as judges. The home which is judged the most improved will be the winner of the first prize. Select one of the local contractors whose advertisement will appear in this paper beginning March 2th, and make

arrangements for your improvements. These merchants who will list with us are reliable and can be depended upon to give you the best service at a reasonable cost.
By George McDavis
Promotional Director

GEORGIA DARES WRATH OF KLAN

Two Suspects Ordered to Scene of Crime
Atlantic Ga. (UP)—In a double barreled assault against anti-lynch legislation Friday, Gov. M. E. Thompson:

1. Ordered two killer suspects publicly transferred from State Prison to the scene of their crime.

2. Called for State Laws to prohibit “intimidation” meeting by the Klu Klux Klan.

The governor announced the hour and the route for the transfer of two Tennessee brothers accused of killing a State Police agent from Tattnell Prison to the Emanuel County Jail. He said he was demonstrating that Georgia can control mob feelings.

The Klan meetings should be outlawed, Mr. Thompson maintained because the hooded organization has “cut the ground from beneath the feet” of Southern Congressmen who try to assure the world that Federal anti-lynch laws are necessary.

“FORMER OMAHA RESIDENT RETURNS FOR FUNERAL”

Miss Margaret Starks, former resident of this city returned to attend the funeral of her grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Jackson, of 2506 Jefferson St. Who passed February 14th of this year.

Miss Starks left for her home in Oakland California, Tuesday morning, during her three weeks in the city, she was the recipient of many courtesies extended by her many friends.

TEST IS NEAR ON CIVIL RIGHTS

GOP High Command To Oppose Rider

The civil rights fight moved to the House floor Monday with the GOP leadership apparently ready to side with Dixie Democrats.

The showdown test shaped up over an anti-discrimination rider to the \$1,017,851,000 Labor Department-Federal security appropriation bill up for probable late Tuesday.

The issue is: Shall states that do not give equal educational and job opportunities to citizens of all races, when those opportunities are financed with Federal funds, continue to receive the money?

Representative Keefe (Rep., Wis.) said he would offer it on the floor and give the entire House a chance to vote.

The announced stand of the GOP high command is that the proviso has no place in an appropriations bill and should be considered as a separate bill.

As for the prospect of a roll call vote, one top Republican said: “We would just as soon not go on record on this thing.”

Meanwhile, Senator Byrd of Virginia told a radio audience that his fellow Southern Democrats face a “very difficult” task in trying to stave off civil rights legislation.

Nothing New Here
In 1904 the Pierce-Arrow had a gearshift lever on steering column and a single lever controlled the Gas-a-lec.

Florence Incident Not Community Sentiment

I sincerely hope the recent episode in our “peaceful valley” of Florence will not cause any white or colored people to believe it expresses the sentiments of our community.

I have been a continuous resident of Florence for 33 yrs., and I know whereof I speak. My two sons, have been graduated from Florence School. I am a past president of Florence P. T. A. and I have done some teaching in Omaha.

When two fine principals (Mr. Peterson and Mr. Krebs) have offered so much to Florence School and this community it is a downright shame their planning to help youth should be thwarted in such a senseless manner.

A Florence Citizen
Refusal of permission for the Lake School basket ball team to play in the Florence gym because of a colored boy was very foolish. People of Florence, your children come in contact with them every day unless you are sending them to private school. And so far I have not heard of any contamination.
Mrs. Fornetta Elmore

SITTING WITH NEGROES ILLEGAL SAILOR FINED

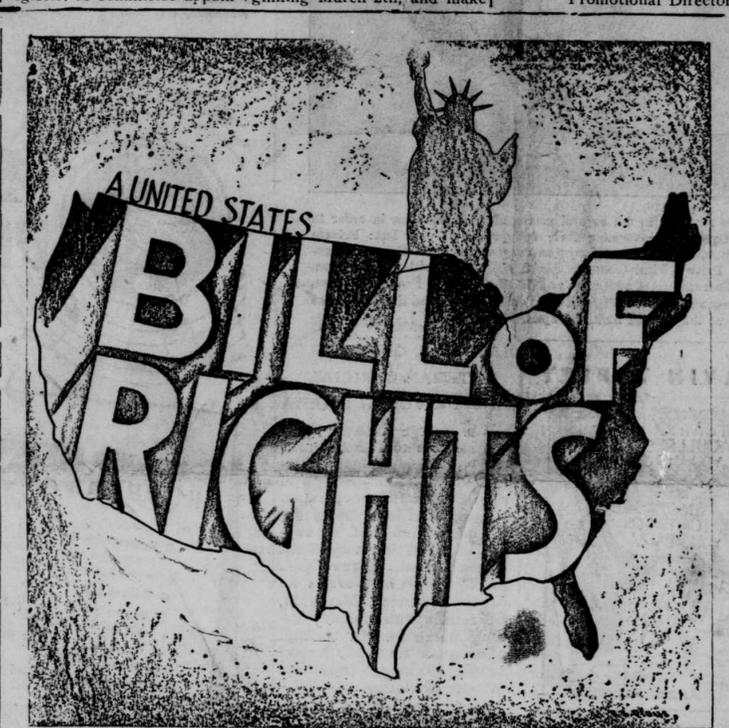
Galveston, Tex. (AP)—Clarence Jack Peterson, 27, seaman from Birchwood, Wis., was fined \$25 and court costs Friday for sitting with Negroes on a Galveston Bus.

HARRY KNUDSEN FILES FOR CITY COMMISSIONER

Files Independently
Harry Knudsen, one of Omaha's present City Commissioners filed independently for reelection.

Mr. Harry Knudsen issued this statement at the time of filing:

“I'm not on any slate or ticket. I'm grateful to the people of Omaha for having confidence in me and the matter is entirely in their hands. I am just



concluding my fifth term in office and want to assure the people of Omaha that I will continue to serve them to the best of my ability.”

Commissioner Knudsen has served nine years as Finance Commissioner, where he had done an enviable job and has also served as Street Commissioner and as Commissioner of the Police Department.

Mr. Knudsen ranks as the senior member of the present City Council and with his past experience and outstanding service, should be re-elected so that the people of Omaha may get the full benefit of that experience and of his ability.

Over Stimulated With Intoxicating Liquor

George C. Higgins came to the front door of the Police Station in an intoxicating condition Sunday, March 7th, was fined \$1.00 and cost.

Felix Sutton Fined a \$1.00 and costs for drunkenness and being a vagrant, 5 days in the jail.

Preston J. Green fined a \$1. and costs for drunkenness
Robert Gaston about 1:30 P. M. Friday, March 5 told police that he was at the Crosstown Bar 2024 North 24th St. He went to the mens rest room, and while he was their two men, Clayton Anderson, and Arthur McCarthy tried to take his money. They struck him in the face several times causing

Going Through Red Light Charge Dismissed

Dr. H. Wiggins, 3016 Emmet St. was dismissed in police court on Monday, March 8, 1948 on charges of going through a red light on Wednesday March 3, 1948. After his explanation to Judge Nimitz his reason for having to go through the light, the Judge granted a dismissal of the charge. The reason being that the light turned red while he was in the middle of the intersection at 30th and Lake St., two other cars blocking his turning East.

WILLIAM E. HILL

Named director of community relations of the South Side Planning board, Chicago, was William E. Hill, former field representative of the American Council on Race relations. A Johnson C. Smith university graduate, who received an M.A. degree in economics

Omaha Public Power Reduce Electric Rates

Omaha Public Power District to Reduce Electric Rates by \$1,250,000
Rate Cut Effective April 1948

There was news—good news—this week for customers served by the Omaha Public Power District.

Tuesday of a one million, two hundred-fifty thousand dollar electric rate reduction following a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the District.

All classes of customers will benefit from the reduction, which becomes effective April 1, 1948.

The action followed a recommendation of the Special Rate Reduction Committee of the Board, which has been studying the possibilities of lower rates for the past several months. Serving on the committee were Samuel L. Cooper, Charles D. Saunders, and Carl A. Swanson, of Omaha; and Roy E. Bott of Hooper.

According to Mr. Cooper, chairman of the Rate Reduction Committee, savings will amount to more than a month's free electricity for most Omaha homes. General business customers, including the stores, offices, and small industries will receive a cut amounting to \$500,000 annually. In addition, a special new low rate is being put into effect for all public and parochial schools, public buildings, churches, and charitable institutions.

In commenting on the rate reduction, which comes after only 16 months of public ownership, Mr. Charles D. Saunders, chairman of the Finance Committee and member of the Rate Reduction Committee said, “Before a cut could be recommended by the committee, we had to be sure resulting lowered revenues would be enough to amply protect the principal and interest on the District's bonds. We also had to make sure income would be sufficient to properly maintain the properties and provide adequate working capital for operations. It was further necessary that rate cuts be distributed among all classes of customers in a fair and equitable manner.”

“After the new rate schedules had been prepared, they

were sent to our engineering consultants, Burns and McDonnell of Kansas City, they agree with our findings and the recommendations,” Mr. Saunders stated.

He explained that when the District acquired the properties on December 2, 1946, the Directors were faced with two urgent duties. “Our first duty,” Mr. Saunders said, “was to make certain the District was properly financed. This has been accomplished.”

Our second duty was equally important. Plans had to be made for a program to insure continued dependable service for our customers and take care of their growing needs. Within the next two months, a new turbine will be in operation at our South Omaha plant. Construction of an additional 30,000 kilowatts of generating capacity is well under way at the Jones Street plant and over the period of the next five years, the cost of our proposed expansion program will be in excess of \$15,000,000,” he said.

“In addition to the cost of this expansion program,” Mr. Saunders continued, “the committee was also faced with the problem of increasing costs of fuel, materials and labor. These costs have increased more than \$500,000 in the last year on the basis of price alone. And, of course, the District continues to pay nearly a million dollars a year, in lieu of taxes, to the state, cities, counties and school districts in the territories it serves.”

“All of these facts were carefully weighed by the committee,” he stated, “but after completing our study, we still felt there was justification for reducing rates at this time. Naturally, we are highly pleased that this substantial reduction in the cost of electric service for our customers can be made at this time substantial re-ally, we areduction in the cost of electric service for our customers can be made at this time.”

Mr. J. M. Harding, President of the Omaha Public Power District, said, “In voting this rate reduction, the Board of Directors is fulfilling its promise to distribute to the users of service the benefits of public ownership.”

from Columbia university, he will act as liaison officer between Negro agencies and SSPB directors in the interests of church, social, fraternal, health, education and neighborhood activities. Previously he served as race relations advisor of the U.S. Housing authority for the west and mid-west, and was the first housing manager for the Pittsburgh Housing authority, in a project now occupied by both white and Negro families.

BASEBALL HIT ON NEGRO ISSUE

Continued exclusion of Negroes from most of organized baseball was attacked Sunday by Dan W. Dodson, executive director of the Committee on Unity in New York.

He declared that Brooklyn Dodger President Branch Rickey has been charitable toward his colleagues in indicating that discrimination does not exist in baseball.

“One has only to look to the New York Giants and Yankee organizations to see this is not the case” Dr. Dodson said.

He praised Mr. Rickey for signing Negro players.

The committee which he leads was appointed four years ago by the late Mayor Fiorello La Guardia to promote interracial harmony.

A subcommittee on baseball was named about three years ago.

Dr. Dodson said this was prompted by a request from the Giants. The club told the Mayor an “End Jim Crow in Baseball Committee” had threatened to demonstrate at the Polo Grounds.

The baseball committee asked the “Jim Crow group not to demonstrate and it didn't.” Dr. Dodson said.

“It is now the beginning of the third season since Mr. Rickey started his demonstration that Negroes could be successfully integrated into organized baseball.

“The time has come to ask

OUR Guest Column

Little more than a year following the end of the second World War to perpetuate “democracy,” the status of the Negro still made of the word “democracy” a mockery.

Despite Abraham Lincoln, the thirteenth amendment and the Golden Rule, American Negroes are still underprivileged and ill-used. They are the victims of prejudice and fear. They are guilty of being a minority.

A few Negroes rise to positions of moderate honor among Americans. Those who do rise are, admired hysterically by their own people, but by most so-called whites they are regarded affectionately as a sort of living proof that America is the land of opportunity.

In reality, they were just part of the great mass of American Negroes who make up the “problem” about which so much has been written, and about which so little has been, decided.

The U.S. Negro is a tenth of America's total population—there are 14 million of him. Some are jet black, some are as white as Mississippi's valuable Representative John Rankin. They all can trace at least a part of their ancestry back to Africa. Some of their forbears came from a long civilization, some were bushmen.

Today the African American descendant has made one enormous jump. He was once a slave whose human rights were non-existent. Now he is a free man whose rights are often unrecognized. He is still living under the triple curse of the slave trader, his American plantation master and Harriet Beecher Stowe, who has typed him in American minds as an eternal Uncle Tom whose conversational abilities are limited to “Yassuh, Boss,” or “Yuk, yuk, yuk.”

Millions of Negroes are so illiterate they cannot sign their names. Most of them have the equivalent of a third grade education. Some of them, such as New Yorker W. J. Trent, Jr., director of the Negro College Fund, are so highly educated that they insist the real problem is education of the whites.

Politically, the way is clearer. This year, for the first time, Negroes may vote in any primary in the country because the U. S. Supreme Court has ruled that “white primaries” are unconstitutional. Only seven states still have a poll tax, and these are bound to crumple under public pressure.

All the pressure it not from the outside. The Southerners who have reacted to their sense of guilt since slavery days by attacking the use of the guilt, the Negro, have recently shown some inclination to approach the situation more rationally. Such organizations as the Southern Regional Council, made up of leaders of both races, and the University of North Carolina Press, have been plugging a better deal for Negroes as a way to a better deal for the South. The most ardent editorial crusades against the poll tax (and Jim Crow laws) are in Southern papers.

Also, the CIO and the AFL have gone into the South with the announced purpose of making Negroes politically conscious.

With anything like an even break, economically and politically, the Negro who is 10 per cent of the U.S. might well contribute more than 10 per cent toward U.S. progress. For, as a group, U.S. Negroes have come further than any other.

if it isn't possible for both the Yankee and Giant organizations to find some Negro some where who is worth being employed in some capacity in some league, however minor.”

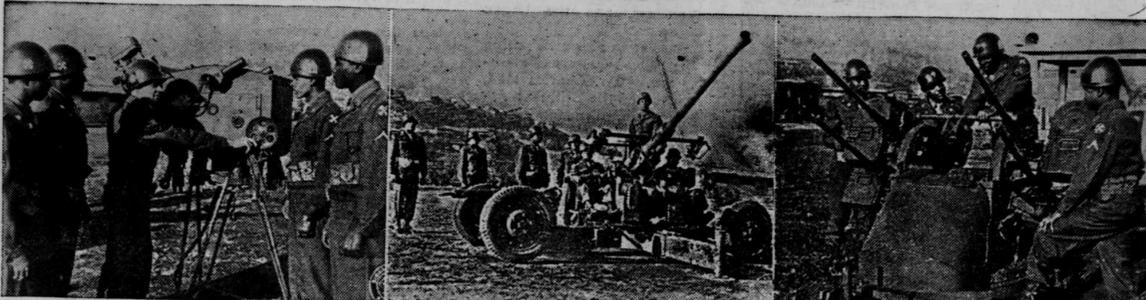
In Phoenix, Ariz., Horace Stoneham, president of the Giants, said his club has no objection to Negro players.

“We have tried out Negroes for several years,” Mr. Stoneham said. “But as yet we have n't found any who would fit in our plant.”

Mr. Stoneham added the Giants would be glad to get hold of any Negro ball players who could fit into their organizations.

Officials of the Yankees could not be reached for comment.

ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY TRAINS IN JAPAN



Members of the 933rd Antiaircraft Artillery (Automatic Weapons) Battalion, Yokohama, Japan, are presently undergoing intensive field training. Shown here are members of the battalion receiving instruction and in position at three of the units crew served weapons. At left, four members of the gun director crew are receiving instructions from First Lieutenant Eugene Pfauth, Fairmont, Michigan. Left to right: Corporal Henry Benson, Chicago, Illinois; Private First Class James Maryett, San Francisco California; Lieutenant Pfauth; Private First Class Sam D. Coons, Detroit, Michigan, and Private First Class Leland Witherspoon, Brooklyn, New York. Center: The gun crew of “C” Battery, 933rd AAA Battalion, is shown in position at one of the battalions 40mm. (millimeter) guns. Members of the gun crew are, left to right: Staff Sergeant Jewell W. Hayes, Columbia, Missouri; Private First Class Alex Thomas, St. Louis, Missouri; Private First Class John O. Battles, Ardmore, Pennsylvania; and Private First Class George L. Brown, Chicago, Illinois. At right, members of the battalion are shown in position at a .50 calibre machine gun. Left to right: Private First Class Judge Harper, Hammond, Indiana; Technician Fifth Grade Bennie Grooms, Miami, Florida; Technician Fifth Grade William Battles, Goldsboro, North Carolina and Private First Class Theodore Henderson, Chicago, Illinois.