

THE OMAHA GUIDE

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SPEAKING OF FREEDOM

Indianapolis, Indiana
July 31st, 1948

Sirs:

The hottest perrer in the political pot in America today is civil rights. Under the subterfuge of states rights, the South is determined to offset what it terms a "mixture of the races". Both Democrats and Republicans in the North are determined to gain the Negro vote with their age old promises of equal rights. The Negro looks at both sides, and where in the past he would have been afraid of this open hostility of the South, where he would have been influenced by these glib promises of the North; today he can laugh at or pity both sides.

Freedom is one of the greatest and strongest passions of life. History has well-proven it foolish to suppose that one can demand freedom for himself in one breath and deny it to others in the next, bethey superior or inferior to him, without eventual repercussions. Century after century, was, revolutions, and rebellions amply testify, sometimes without intent, that freedom must be for all or lasting peace for none at all; that even when none have freedom it is only temporarily impaired and waits like a flickering light to be picked up and tended and put to work again. Thus, throughout these many years, nothing has yet been able to completely stop the progress of this great force and no interception has been very effective save war or slavery.

Today in America, there is no war or legal slavery. No matter what the South agrees upon in matters of racial segregation; no matter if the North, in an effort to gain votes, pushes forward civil rights legislation; the Negro's advance in the march of freedom will push forward with that of all the peoples of the world. With the world desperately searching for peace, he is in the midst of a now world-wide resurgence of man's eternal struggle for the good, the just, and the right. A struggle which demands that human freedom cannot be ignored, cannot be segregated, cannot be inconvenienced, and cannot be compromised.

Today in America, the issue over civil rights is bringing to light Caucasians who oppose the Negro's advance herein. If the Caucasian opposes because he desires asuperior race, about all he can do is to put as many obstacles as possible in the Negro's path. This will slow down the advance but will not stop it. It has been tried. If the Caucasian desire a pure race, first, he can only regret. His greatest mistake was bringing the Negro here in the first place, because America was founded upon the love of freedom and built by the sweat and blood of peoples searching for freedom; as long as she is so pledged to the cause of freedom as by our Constitution, the Negro will belong to America and America will belong to him. Secondly, if the Caucasian desires a pure race, he must give up certain other desires. For with all his laws against race mixture, thousands of American mulattoes certainly were not dropped from heaven—nor do they found predominately in the North. Someone, when asked if she approved interracial marriage, quipped quite wisely, "They might as well make it legal!" And that is food for thought. It's a losing battle at any rate, short of race war, which would undoubtedly prove to be the end of the American dream. Still freedom would rise and march on; nurtured in another land probably, by another people.

Yes, the hottest issue in today's campaigns is, oddly enough, NOT a crisis. The South affirms this belief by trying to stop civil rights legislation. Ironically enough, the reason that there is no crisis is because nothing can stop the march of freedom.

Of course this includes freedom of speech—plainly spoken

Marjorie J. Bryant

"CHRISTIAN RELATIONS" DEPARTMENT SET UP BY MANUFACTURER

A Connecticut shoe manufacturer who believes business and religion can work closer has set up a "department of Christian relations" in his company.

The head of the department, Rev. Dale D. Dutton, formerly of Central Baptist Church in Providence, R. I., has the rating of vice president in the company, of which William H. Smith of Bristol, originator of the idea for the Christian relations department, is treasurer.

Free Hand Given Minister

"You will take your orders only from God," Dr. Dutton was told when the job was offered him. "Go about freely, wherever you want, and we will foot the bill."

Dr. Dutton had no definite plans for carrying out his task when he resigned his pastorate to take the position. However, the job has provided many opportunities to give moral and material aid.

His first large organizational task, inspired by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, was to provide shoes at reasonable prices for polio victims. Dr. Dutton learned that 87,500 Americans, whose feet are different sizes as a result of infantile paralysis, had to buy two pairs of shoes in order to fit both feet.

Backed by the shoe manufacturer, Dr. Dutton organized Benefit Shoe Foundation—Dale D. Dutton, president. A non-profit mail order house, it sells single shoes at cost to polio victims and amputees.

People have many problems they would rather discuss with a stranger than with local pastors, Dr. Dutton learned. His daily mail takes up personal, family, and occupation difficulties.

One letter was from a convict who needed a brain operation to check incipient insanity, another from a young man who had embezzled \$15,000 from his employers, and a third from a woman whose husband had beaten her. All these problems Dr. Dutton helped to solve. After more than a year as head of his Christian Relations Department, he feels sure he did right in accepting, the offer of the manufacturer who believed business and religion could work closer together.

PROGRESSIVE PARTY (Continued from page 1)

of Federal enforcement powers to assure free exercise of the right of franchise.

"We call for a Civil Rights Act for the District of Columbia to eliminate racial segregation and discrimination in the nations Capitol.

"We demand the ending of segregation and discrimination in the Panama Canal Zone and all territories, possessions and trusteships.

"We demand that Indians, the earliest Americans, be given full citizenship rights and the right to administer their own affairs.

"We will develop special programs to raise the low standards of health, housing, and educational facilities for Negroes, Indians and nationality groups, and will deny Federal funds to any state or local authority which withholds opportunities or benefits for reasons of race, creed, color sex or national origin.

"We will initiate a Federal program of education, in cooperation with state, local, and private agencies to combat racial and religious prejudice.

"We support the enactment of legislation making it a Federal crime to disseminate anti-Semitic, anti-Negro, and all racist propaganda by mail, radio, motion picture or other means of communication.

"We call for a Constitutional amendment which will effectively prohibit every form of discrimination against women—economic, educational, legal and political.

SILENT SERVICE

Ben Davis was the first Negro ever commissioned in the ranks of the U. S. Army. A tight-lipped, light skinned man, he left Howard University for a temporary during the Spanish American War. When it ended, he signed on a private, fought his way up to sergeant, ranked third on the examination that won his permanent commission.

As one of only a half a dozen Negro officers in the Army, his choice of assignments was strictly limited. He taught military sciences at Negro College served as military attache in Liberia. He spent World War I sidetracked in the Philippines. But Ben Davis took a soldierly satisfaction in doing any job he was assigned.

He learned to get along. In making his official courtesy call on the commanding officer of a new post, he always saw to it that the officer was out at the time. Later, as a roving representative of the Inspector General's office, he always arranged his schedule to arrive at a new command in mid-afternoon, so that the commanding officer could look him over and decide whether to invite him to dinner. "I was always the only colored officer at my post," he recalled. "But it didn't make any difference to me. Nobody paid any attention, and at every post I managed to make friends with somebody."

By 1930, his quiet dignity and soldierly efficiency had made him a full colonel; eight years later, he got his first major command; a Harlem Command and regiment. In 1940, Franklin Roosevelt appointed him brigadier general, the U.S. Army's first and only Negro general officer, and he took over the 4th Cavalry Brigade at Fort Riley, Kans. He was sent to Europe in 1942, won the Distinguished Service Medal for his work in inspecting Negro troops and easing explosive Army racial tensions. After the war he settled into the routine of peacetime Army life.

Last week Ben Davis was summoned to the White House. On the steps leading to the White House rose garden, he listened quietly to a complimentary speech from Harry Truman, received a testimonial scroll signed by the President and Davis' Army comrades. After 50 years in the Army, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, 71 had retired. Among the guests was Lieut. Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the 332nd Fighter King, the regular Air Force's ranking Negro officer.

Ban American Comics Authors, Journalists and educators of New South Wales have asked their government to ban all comic strips from the United States and to impose severe restrictions on importation of short stories and articles. A deputation claimed that use of imported features was a serious drain on dollars and that newspapers were using this material in preference to local items at a time when Australian journalists were seriously affected by newspaper cuts.

HISTORICAL NEWS LETTER

Greetings:—This begins what we hope will be an interesting, useful service to the members of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The Historical News Letter will come to you each month to bring you news of the Society, and from time to time an occasional odd bit of information regarding Nebraska's History. As the editors of our pioneer news papers used to say in their initial editorials, "the reader's indulgence is respectfully requested."

That New Building:—Without a doubt, the question most frequently asked us is, "When will we get our new Historical Society building?" Here is the situation at this writing. As all of you know, the State Legislature made a specific appropriation of the money provided by the special levy authorized by Section 82-113, Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943. The legislature also directed the State Treasurer, pursuant to the request and direction of the Historical Society Board, to invest the money so raised in United States Government bonds until such time as the contract is let for construction and equipment of the building. To date, the State Treasurer has invested a total of 423 thousand dollars. It is estimated that the total amount available will be approximately 500 thousand dollars. The problem facing us as a Society, of course, is similar to the one facing all of us as individuals—costs have increased so sharply that the money available will not buy nearly so much of a building as it would have when the enabling legislation was passed back in 1943. Your executive board, desirous of getting 100 cents of building for every 100 cents spent, has taken the view that nothing is to be gained by rushing precipitously into a construction program at this time. Consequently, it is holding action in abeyance in the hope that in the not too distant future conditions may become sufficiently stabilized to warrant going ahead.

Meanwhile, We Are Growing Rapidly—It terms of membership, this year is proving to be by far the best in all the Society's long history. From October 1, 1947—the beginning of the Society's current fiscal year—to the date of this writing, we have added a total of 489 new members to our rolls. The membership committee, under the leadership of Senator Arthur Carmody of Trenton, set no specific goal, although it hoped for an increase of about 500 during this year. With two months left to go, it looks as though we may be able to report an even higher figure. The best prospective members are those persons suggested by our already active members. Whenever you think of anyone who would enjoy membership, just drop us a card with his name and address and we'll see that he or she gets an invitation. Why don't you do it now? If you do, we're sure to get well over the 500 mark.

Mr. Hill At Medicine Creek—All of you will be glad to know that the Society's program of archeological field work is going forward at Medicine Creek again this summer under the supervision of Mr. A. T. Hill, Director of the Museum. As was the case last summer, we are co-operating with the River Basin Surveys being conducted under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution. This is one phase of Nebraska's participation in the vest program of development looking to the fuller utilization of the resources of the Missouri Valley. It is gratifying to know that this great—and final—opportunity for archeological investigation in the areas to be flooded is being so effectively utilized.

Honors To Mr. Abbott and Mr. Hill—Many of you have no doubt read of the high honors bestowed on N. C. Abbott, veteran member of our executive board and former president, and A. T. Hill, our first vice-president, by the University of Nebraska at its last Commencement. Mr. Hill was given the "Nebraska Builder" award, the University's highest non-academic citation, and Mr. Abbott was granted an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. The citations included among the many achievements of both in highly varied fields, their distinguished and invaluable service to the cause of the preservation of the history of Nebraska. In honoring these

GRANGER NAMED SPRINGFIELD CORPORATOR

New York—June 23, 1948—Lester B. Granger, Executive Secretary, National Urban League, has been named a Corporator of the historic Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts. The announcement, by President Paul Lambert, was made following recent annual meeting of the Springfield College Corporation.

The Corporators meet once a year and are responsible for the election of both the trustees and the president of the college, as well as for the entire College operations.

Springfield College has been known internationally for its training of YMCA professional workers, and also for its physical education as well as social work emphasis.

DAUGHTER OF GEN. DAVIS MISSED FAREWELL TRIBUTE

Presents Him Grandson New York, (CNS)—Mrs. George Streater, daughter of Gen. and Mrs. Benjamin O. Davis was unable to attend the lavish ceremony tendered her father Tuesday in the White House Rose Garden on his retiring from the Army after 50 years of service. Giving birth to a six pound boy in the Lutheran Hospital just 2 days before the fete, she instead presented the General with a grandson named after him. Meanwhile, both her sister, Mrs. James H. McLendon and her brother, Col. Benjamin Davis, Jr. together with their mother formed the immediate family observing the farewell tribute which included as guests, James Forrestal, Secretary of the Defense and Kenneth C. Royall, Secretary of the Army. Mrs. Streater, wife of George Streater, special staff writer of the New York Times.

ALLEGRO MOOD



Bob Bence

As merry as music designated for allegro interpretation are the "What's the Name of That Song" quiz programs with participants now being queried, after the playing of familiar strains on the MBS Saturday evening broadcasts, as to the melodies' identities by Bob Bence, the new emcee of the series.

My Neighbors



"Maybe we Americans are a bunch of dollar chasers but, by Jinx, when taxes take almost a third of what we catch—we gotta chase."

men, the University honors itself. Naturally, we of the Historical Society are proud of their recognition.

Gould Dietz—In the death of Gould Dietz of Omaha on June 29th, the Society lost a valued member of its executive board. Best known, perhaps, for his activities in politics, business, and the development of aviation, Mr. Dietz was for many years an active, interested member of the Historical Society. He was virtually always present at meetings of the Executive Board and was always insistent upon progress in the Society's affairs.

The Annual Meeting—Saturday, November 13th, has been set as the date for the Society's annual meeting. As in the past, it will be a joint meeting with the Native Sons and Daughters of Nebraska. We hope to be able to tell you more about the program in the August News Letter. Meanwhile, mark the date on your calendar and plan to be in Lincoln. We should have representation from every county. Very cordially yours, James C. Olson, Sup.



Opening speaker on the program, scheduled in Philadelphia's Shibe Park so that 35,000 persons could hear Henry Wallace accept nomination for President was Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, President of the Philadelphia NAACP, he is a congressional candidate of the new party and a former state athletics commissioner. He is a grandson of the first Negro congressman in the United States, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina.



NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING WASHINGTON, D. C.

By Anne Good

A new plastic broom really chases dust and dirt. By producing static electricity when wielded briskly, it pulls dust and lint particles from rugs and floors.

At this writing, it seems doubtful that during this session of Congress the Senate will have the opportunity to vote on legislation which would repeal taxes on yellow margarine. But home-makers can continue to remind legislators, both Federal and State, that you want yellow margarine tax-free. Such great progress was made during this session that it seems impossible that selfish dairy interests can prevent legislation from being passed during the next session.

There's a gold rush this summer—but this time the mine is accessories. Gold bags and shoes that never wear out till after dark are now being featured with informal daytime dresses, particularly white. Gold jewelry, too, is fashionable.

If you sandpaper baby's shoes just a bit on the bottom, the little one won't be apt to slip and fall as often. And speaking of shoes—keep those diminutive numbers clean with the oil of hinala white which both cleans and whitens.

Going a picnicking? Then look for the new Poly-Bowl plastic bowls which are grand for picnics and equally good for iced salad bowls because they save a marvelous tight cover. At big stores, they'll probably soon be at the smaller ones.

NEWS FROM NAACP (Continued from Page 1)

(R., Mich.) urging the Senate to censure the South Carolinian Mr. White cited the speech made by Senator Johnston in which he said pressure for enactment of civil rights bills will bring an end to the bipartisan foreign policy. "The peace of the world will then probably have been jeopardized," the Senator said, "and probably the seeds will have been planted which will eventually develop and grow into a third world war."

The text of Mr. White's wire to Senator Vandenberg follows: It is hereby respectfully requested that a committee of the United States Senate be directed to take appropriate action on the threat made in the Senate on July 28, 1948 by Senator Olin Johnston of South Carolina.

In his statement, to be found at page 9607 of the Congressional Record, Senator Johnston served notice that if any civil rights legislation is taken up by the Congress, those who believe with him will put an end to the present bi-partisan foreign policy program, thus planting seeds "which will eventually grow and develop into a third World War."

We submit that this willingness by a United States Senator to risk plunging the nation and the entire world into obliterative germ and atomic

warfare, in an attempt to prevent legislation guaranteeing basic human rights, is not only subversive but dangerously close to treason.

We are fully aware of the fact that statements made on the floor of Congress are privileged. But we submit that any Senator who brazenly and irresponsibly makes a threat of this character has exceeded the bounds of senatorial privilege and should be censured by the United States Senate.

My Neighbors



"There ain't nothin' wrong with the world that work won't cure. Had our forefathers decided on a 40 hour week...we'd still be fightin' Indians!"

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