

# THE OMAHA GUIDE

ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS

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ADVERTISING RATES MADE KNOWN ON REQUEST

The churches—"the most segregated institutions in America"—are working hard today at the difficult task of bringing about interracial worship, says the October issue of Harper's Magazine.

Louis Cassels and Lee Nichols, two Washington press association reporters, write that segregation in the churches is "one of the sorest spots in America's Christian conscience."

They continue: "The churches are bringing up the rear in a battle they should have led. While racial barriers have been crumbling in sports, in the theater, in trade unions, in schools and in the military services, the worship of God is still being conducted—in almost any community you can name—on a predominantly Jim Crow basis."

"Before we condemn the churches for hypocrisy, however, we must in fairness cite two facts in their defense: first, they face a more difficult task than secular institutions; second, and most important, many of them have confessed the sinfulness of segregation and are now working hard at repentance."

Defending the churches in their difficult task, a Negro theologian, Dr. Frank T. Wilson of Howard University School of Religion, is quoted as saying: "The churches will take longer to achieve integration because they are undertaking a much greater accomplishment. Worshipping together is a more personal thing than riding trains or attending movies together. Tolerance is not enough here; it must be real brotherhood or nothing."

Pronouncements opposing continued segregation have been adopted by various denominational conferences and conventions, the article reports. The groups include the 1954 Southern Baptist Convention, governing body of the largest Protestant denomination in the South; the 1952 General Conference of the Methodist Church, the Congregationalists, Northern Presbyterians, Disciples of Christ, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the Episcopalians, the Northern Baptists, and several small denominations. The Catholic Church has taken a "bold lead" in the Deep South, the article reports, citing the fact that authorities in North Carolina and Louisiana have ended segregation outright by ecclesiastical fiat, and many Catholic parishes elsewhere have ended segregation without a public pronouncement. Protestant spokesmen are reported as pointing out that the Catholics face a somewhat different problem than theirs, both because of the relatively small numbers of Negroes involved and because of the much greater authority that Catholic priests and bishops exercise over church affairs.

"No Protestant bishop could successfully end segregation in a diocese by edict," the article continues. "A Protestant clergyman bent on breaking down racial barriers in his own church must have not only the personal courage and determination to do so, but also the leadership to carry with him the laymen who, through vestries, presbyteries, boards of deacons or congregational meetings, have the final word on church policy."

The sticking point for many congregations is the social intermingling, the article reports. "Some white Christians who would gladly share a pew with Negroes have a deep-seated dread of social intermingling—at church suppers, in youth groups, at the Ladies' Guild meetings," it says.

## News From Around Nebraska

One night last week the firemen at Oshkosh received a call and discovered a car burning fiercely on one of the main streets of the town. Not until after the blaze was out did they learn that the whole thing was merely a practice run to see how alert the men were and how long it would take to put out the blaze.

The Garden County News revealed that the Fire Chief had noted that there had not been many fires and he felt that the men needed practice. He got the old car from a junk yard, towed it downtown after dark, flooded it with gasoline and set it afire. He retired to the shadows and waited for someone to discover the blaze. In due time the alarm was turned in and the firemen were on the job. The department put out the fire in four minutes and two-thirds of the department's membership turned out.

The sheriff in Pierce county is preparing to lower the boom on all persons who have not yet paid their personal taxes. According to the Pierce County Leader, the personal taxes unpaid runs to the sum of \$26,736 which is a sizeable amount to be carrying on the books. The sheriff has reminded taxpayers that their bills are drawing 7% interest and that they will have to pay his expenses in coming out to make the collection if the bills are not paid soon.

The Wilber American Legion Auxiliary is sending its group of singers to the National convention in Miami, Florida. They perform as a trio and as a quartette. In addition to the four singers they have an accompanist. They won first place at the state convention recently, making them eligible for the national meeting.

The Dawson County Herald, printed at Lexington, showed a picture and ran a story last week about an apple tree which is blossoming for the second time this year. The Herald was sure that the blossoms would never make apples, because of the coming cold weather, but the flowers on the tree at this time of the year were regarded as very unusual.

The Union Pacific has given one of its steam train engines to the city of Columbus where it will be mounted in the city park. The engine, one of a series made in 1904, stopped briefly in the yards at Central City last week where the NonPareil took a picture of the "little puffer." It was resplendent with a new paint job and had been all slicked up ready for retirement in the Columbus park. The engine was run on to Columbus where it was taken from the tracks, still ship-shape and able to pull many a carload of freight down the right-of-way. The old steam chuggers have been mostly replaced with diesel outfits now.

A hardware store in David City is staging a big campaign to gather old saws. It has been advertising for big saws and little saws, rusty or otherwise—any saw, in fact, which might have a background of some sort.

The old saw display carries with it prizes for the one who brings in the oldest, the one with the most interesting background etc. The campaign may end with a rather novel window display which will get a lot of attention.

The United States Navy Band will appear in Chadron on October 25th for a matinee and evening concert, the Chadron Record announced last week.

The outstanding program, which is decidedly unusual for a town the size of Chadron, is one which has been arranged for more than a year and the concert is termed the most ambitious musical event ever attempted there.

There are probably a lot of good sized cities over the country that would give a lot to have such a concert in their own community, and Chadron music lovers are indeed fortunate to be able to hear the United States Navy Band right at home.

The City Council at Ogallala is discussing the removal of all parking along parts of highway 30 as it goes through the business district. Ogallala's streets can accommodate but 12-foot lanes, according to the Keith County News and this has been found to be too small. (Blair's main street is 60-feet wide and accommodates traffic of the highway nicely.)

A County Commissioner at Ord in Greeley County is on the hotseat because he is said to have participated in profits in his dealings with the county. A lawsuit which has been filed claims the Commissioner had done grading work for private individuals using county equipment. The petition also states that he has carried out work for which he has received direct pay from the county. The state law strictly forbids the practices which the petition alleges have existed. The Ord Quiz made no comment.

Ogallala, which has always been a Saturday night town, much the same as Blair, is considering closing up on Saturday night and staying open Wednesdays instead. The Keith County News pointed out, editorially, last week, that changing the habits of the thousands of farm families around Ogallala was no easy job and it was something which should be given a lot of consideration before it is undertaken.

Folks come to town Saturday night to shop, and also to see and visit their neighbors and to have a little "time out" from the regular routine of life. The News expressed the belief that merchants would lose business and create much dissatisfaction among those in the trade area if they carried out the Wednesday night opening.

Daily tours are being conducted through the Loup City schools all this month, The Sherman County Times has announced. Visitors go through singly or in small groups, as they happen to come along. Purpose of the tours is to enlighten the public on the needs of the schools and the true facts surrounding their operation. On October 25 the voters at Loup City will vote on a bond issue to determine community feelings about improvements to the school system.

Business was brisk at the Curtis, Nebraska airport one afternoon last week. Eighteen planes, all a part of the 1955 Nebraska-Wyoming Air Tour, stopped at the Curtis airport for an hour. The Chamber of Commerce bade them welcome and served coffee and doughnuts to the visitors. The tour had started the previous day at Minden with a route which would circle out over Wyoming and double back to Grand Island which was the eastern point of the route.

At Central City 45 women's organizations have banded together to form what they have called a "Hospital Auxiliary." The new organization has as its purpose the promotion of any project which will help the hospital. A recent tangible benefit from the Auxiliary is the addition of a commercial sized clothes dryer which will be a big assist in the laundry room of the institution. Other items recently purchased with funds raised by the Auxiliary include nursery supplies, bedpan washer, and a large sterilizer.

Chadron is investigating the possibility of a sugar factory there. A plant now located at Belle Fourche, South Dakota has indicated it would like to move closer to its source of supply and is eyeing Chadron as a possibly likely spot. The Chadron C of C is making an effort to interest the firm.

## Says GOP Opposes Race Gains

NEW YORK, N. Y. — New York State Housing Commissioner Charles Abrams charged today that the Republican Party is trying to scuttle the Racial Relations Service of the Federal Housing Administration.

In a copyrighted story in the current issue of THE REPORTER magazine, Abrams said that the Racial Relations Service "has degenerated into that of official apologist for official acceptance of segregation."

The dismissal of Frank S. Horne, who helped establish the Racial Relations Service in 1938, "may be the culminating step in the Republican Party's effort to scuttle... the Service and many of the gains it has made in its long fight against discrimination..." "Abrams charged in his article "Segregation, Housing, and the Home Case."

Horne, who is appealing his dismissal to the Civil Service Commission, was given a hearing before a trial examiner September 22nd. A decision is expected within a week.

Abrams listed the steps he claimed are undermining the Racial Relations Service:

1. Ten official positions in the Service assigned to FHA were removed from Civil Service classification to make political appointments possible. The post of Racial Relations officer for the important Northeastern area has remained unfilled.
2. Only three of six officials assigned to the staff of FHA Chief Albert M. Cole remain.
3. Four of five officials assigned to race-relations and relocation duties in the urban renewal program have been told to forget the race-relations part of their jobs. The fifth was taken off the Director's staff and the Board of Review. New appointments have been indefinitely postponed.
4. Flimsy charges of disloyalty have been leveled at three key staff members, who were later reinstated after months of suspension.
5. Abrams added that most of the gains made on race relations in the past few years have been erased in the last few months. He cited the following:
  1. On February 7, 1955, the requirement that local housing authorities show that public-housing projects will make "equitable provision for eligible families of all races" and that tenants will be selected according to ur-

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also asked for the plans. Dr. Linton is a former director of radio-TV at the University of Omaha.

## Negro Choirs Will Sing

New York, N. Y. — The choral groups of Wiley, Bennett and Clark Colleges, Hampton Institute, and Fisk University will be heard during the month of October on the American Broadcasting Company's weekly radio series of college choir concerts. The programs originate Sundays, over station WABC, 10:35 to 11:00 a.m. and are heard at local broadcasting times in some 170 cities throughout the country. The series, a public service presentation of ABC, features the choirs of the member colleges of the United Negro College Fund.

The October schedule, as announced by W. J. Trent, Jr., executive director of the Fund, is as follows: October 2, the choir of Wiley College of Marshall, Texas; October 9, the choral ensemble of Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; October 16, the choir of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.; October 23, the all-girl chorus of Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C. and October 30, the Philharmonic Society of Clark College, Atlanta, Ga. The United Negro College Fund

has "been a target of the real-estate lobby," Abrams said. As late as 1949, official government manuals sanctioned racial discrimination, but in the postwar era there were many gains, and the government intervened on the side of Negroes in a legal fight against restrictive covenants. The Supreme Court forbade enforcement of such covenants, and FHA officials agreed not to insure mortgages on covenanted property.

Despite these advances, GOP strategists began to view the racial issue in a different light, Abrams said. They watered down the civil-rights plan of the 1952 platform after President Truman's strong position on civil rights had made the South open territory for the Republicans, he said. Building and real-estate interests, working through the Housing Agency and the President's Advisory Committee on Housing, have insisted that Horne's ideas will hamper the building boom, Abrams said, adding that President Eisenhower, this spring, condemned the use of anti-discrimination riders appended to housing and other appropriation measures as "clouding" the issue.

On July 14, 1955, Cole told a House committee that the government shouldn't "move too precipitously" in eliminating racial segregation from the Federal housing programs.

"A choice must be made," Abrams concluded, "between subordinating the government's higher public ethic to that of the market place and raising the ethic of the market place to that of the Constitution."

**Joseph Henry**  
Mr. Joseph Henry, 64 years, 2411 Blondo Street, passed away Thursday, September 29th at a local hospital. Mr. Henry had lived in Omaha thirty-six years and was employed at the Armour Packing Plant.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lillian Henry of Omaha; three sons, Mr. Julius Henry and Mr. Eugene Henry of Omaha, Joseph D. Henry of the U. S. Army in England; four daughters, Mrs. Betty Clift, Mrs. Josephine Bastiste, Misses Ophelia and Alberta Henry, all of Omaha; two brothers, Mr. March Henry of Cleveland, Ohio and Mr. Moses Henry of New Orleans, Louisiana; one sister, Mrs. Ophelia Wilson of New Orleans, La. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon from the Thomas Mortuary with the Rev. R. W. Johnson officiating. Burial was in the Veteran's Plot at Mt. Hope Cemetery with arrangements by Thomas Mortuary.

## Creighton Man Invents TV Camera

A Creighton University Jesuit is gaining national fame as inventor of a television rehearsal camera. More than 30 colleges and universities have secured plans for the camera which is used for "packaging" TV programs before they are telecast and for training students in production techniques.

Most recent requests for blueprints of the Creighton TV Camera have come from Chico State College, California, and the University of Kansas, according to the Rev. R. C. Williams, S. J., inventor of the equipment. The California request came from Robert C. Allerton, newly-appointed instructor in radio and television at Chico State. Mr. Allerton attended Creighton in 1951-52.

**Card Of Thanks**  
We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the acts of kindness, messages of sympathy and beautiful floral offerings received from our many friends in Omaha and other cities at the time of the death of our beloved father, Mr. W. L. Meyers, who departed this life Monday morning, September 19, 1955 at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

We especially thank the Rev. S. H. Lewis; Presiding Elder John Adams, Sr., the Rev. F. C. Williams, the Rev. Charles Favors and all other ministers.

Florence J. Starks and Hazel A. Kealing, daughters; Robert L. and L. Kenneth Meyers, sons; Janet, Karen, Valerie and Sybil Meyers, granddaughters.

is currently conducting campaigns in some seventy cities throughout the nation to raise the 1955 goal of \$1,750,000 which will help its thirty-one member institutions meet annual operating expenses.

The U. S. Army Mother's Post No. 9 will hold a guest social at the home of Mrs. Ben F. Gardner, 2426 Parker Street Friday, October 14, at 8:00 P.M. All members are requested to bring a guest.

Class officers will be elected in all seven schools and colleges of Creighton University next week except the freshman classes in the Arts and Commerce Colleges.

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