

Detroit Tribune

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J. EDWARD McCALL, Managing Editor
ROBERT C. PECK, Business Manager

Editorial

IS A KIDNAPPING NEWS?

A six-week-old baby girl was kidnapped in Detroit Monday; yet, very little, if any, publicity was given the case through the daily newspapers of the city. Was it because the kidnapped child was a colored baby, of humble station in life? If the baby had been white, would the local press have kept silent?

We do not presume to answer these questions. We are convinced, however, that whatever harmful social, civic, or economic circumstances endanger the welfare of colored citizens, also imperil the safety of our white neighbors.

The kidnapping of a colored baby is as great a menace to society in general, as the abduction of a white child, whether rich or poor. Negro mothers are capable of suffering as keenly for the loss of their little ones, as white mothers suffer for theirs.

The kidnapping case to which we refer took place at one of the public clinics, where the young mother had gone for treatment. In her absence, the baby was taken from the nursery room in the clinic. A radio broadcast, Tuesday, furnished the police department with information which led to the arrest of the kidnapper Wednesday, and the restoration of the baby to its parents.

This was the first abduction of a colored child to occur in Detroit for many years. It was also the first local kidnapping this year. Newspaper publicity was not given the case, we are told, for fear it might advertise Detroit unfavorably, after its splendid record of no kidnapping during the first seven months of the year.

Although the general public might not be greatly excited over the kidnapping of a Negro baby, still, such a crime deserves to be published in the daily press as a means of at least helping to locate and recover the abducted child. A kidnapping is always news.

UNDER THE BLUE EAGLE'S WINGS

Merchants and business men of all classes and in all parts of the United States are lining up solidly back of President Roosevelt's NRA program for the restoration of national prosperity and the solution of the unemployment problem.

In this, as in all other national movements in the public interest, the colored people of the nation can be counted upon for 100 per cent co-operation.

A committee of colored Detroiters, headed by Rev. W. H. Peck, has been designated by the NRA officials of this community, to assist in the local campaign among our people. They have established headquarters in the St. Antoine Branch Y. M. C. A. and will gladly furnish detailed information and guidance to any merchants or citizens of the group, who desire to become better acquainted with the plans and policies of the NRA.

The members of the committee, all of whom are representatives of the Booker T. Washington Trade Association, will work through this association and its affiliate, the Detroit Housewives' League, in making a house-to-house visitation among the business establishments and citizens of our group, to enlist their co-operation in the NRA drive.

After August 31, the U. S. Government will probably launch a nation-wide campaign, in which the buying public will be urged to support only those business concerns who display the Blue Eagle.

WE DEMAND A SQUARE DEAL

In the contests of life, it is often difficult for Negroes to get a square deal. After we win, we are frequently deprived of the fruits of victory.

This fact was demonstrated in Detroit very recently, when a little colored boy who won in the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company's "Free-Trip-To-The-World's Fair" contest, was induced by the management to accept a check for fifty dollars, instead of making the trip to Chicago with the 149 white boys who won.

When asked why this course was taken, A. Wall, general superintendent of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company here, told representatives of the N. A. A. C. P. that he acted as he did for the colored boy's good as he feared the youngster might have been "lonely, if he had gone on the trip with the white boys. Mr. Wall declared, however, that he and his firm had no thought of discrimination.

Robert Hopson, the 12-year-old boy, in question resides at 2927 Madison, near the A. & P. store located at Madison and Jos. Campau. His heart was set on winning a trip to Chicago, and he worked zealously to secure the necessary number of votes, being aided and encouraged by hundreds of colored citizens in his neighborhood who trade at the A. & P. store.

In this particular neighborhood, where large numbers of colored people reside, the local A. & P. store has a white manager. Other A. & P. stores in colored neighborhoods also have white managers; yet, General Superintendent Wall and his company do not assume that these white managers in Negro localities are "lonely," otherwise, they would replace them with colored managers.

Without Negro patronage, the white-managed stores in these colored neighborhoods would be forced to close their doors.

Stores that are dependent upon Negroes for support, should give us jobs as managers, clerks in those concerns. They should not discriminate against our people and our newspapers, but should give colored contestants an equal chance with other individuals in the public contests they conduct, and should place a fair proportion of advertisement in Negro journals.

Some business concerns and chain companies are beginning to recognize the justice of these contentions, and are gradually placing Negro managers and other employees in their colored branch stores, with satisfactory results to all concerned. In the spirit of economic justice and self-preservation, we feel entirely justified in asking and demanding the same kind of square deal from other business firms that depend upon our people for support.

LITTLE BLACK BOY

By J. Edward McCall

Little black boy on the crowded street,

Why is your heart so gay?

Whistling and singing your songs so sweet,

And gracefully dancing with nimble feet,

You drive our cares away.

Little black boy who lights our skies,

Playing tunes on your small Jew's harp,

Diamonds of Africa shine in your eyes;

You are our sunshine from paradise,

When the winds are cold and sharp.

Little black boy with eyes so bright,

Scorned by the proud white clan—

You are laughing because your heart is white;

You know God is making things come right,

And tomorrow you'll be a man.

EDITOR'S MAIL

ASKS QUESTIONS

2540 McDougall,
Detroit, Michigan
Mr. J. E. McCall,
Editor
Detroit Tribune,
Detroit, Michigan.
Dear Sir:

I note with interest in issue of Saturday, August 5, 1933, a letter signed by Albert A. Hughes, M. D., Presiding Coroner, and E. J. Knobloch, M. D., Coroner, in answer to a letter of July 22nd, signed by George M. Washington, 5903 Van Court Avenue.

In the letter, the Coroners stated:

"In impaneling juries for inquest, we have been fair—showing no discrimination to the colored race. With one or two exceptions, when it has been necessary to 'fill in' a juror from any one available, our juries have been selected with great care; in fact, only representative citizens have been chosen. Always when the Negro race was involved, one to three of your people have been selected, and this policy will be continued."

I wonder if the coroner realizes that he has set up a form of discrimination by only selecting Negroes for jury duty when Negroes are involved?

Mr. Editor, I wonder will he tell us why that practice is necessary? Do you suppose he considers the Negro is not capable of sitting on the jury when other races are involved? Other races sit on jury duty when a Negro is involved. Why does this policy work only one way?

I also wonder if the Coroner thinks you will not publish any more criticism concerning the conduct of his office by allowing you to submit a prospective list of jurors? If he thinks so, he is sadly mistaken, as the citizens of Detroit know that you and Mr. Robert C. Peck, publisher, have the

true interest of the race at heart from every angle, and are not in the newspaper game for personal gain, but stand for justice and fair play to all mankind irrespective of race, creed or color.

I assure you that the two copies mentioned have been put on file for future use.

More success to you in keeping up the good work and keeping the public informed.

Respectfully yours,
Snow F. Grigsby,
Director of Publicity,
Local Branch, N. A. A. C. P.

ADVISES NEGRO PRINTERS

Detroit, Michigan
August 8, 1933.

Mr. J. E. McCall, Editor
Detroit Tribune,
2146 St. Antoine St.,
Detroit, Mich.

My dear Mr. McCall:
Frank X. Martel and his "Union Printers" are on the run. They are now making every attempt to get the Negro printers into the "Union."

A few years ago the Negro printers were discriminated against and segregated from the union. Now the union claims that these unorganized printers are getting all the business and they are planning a protest against the Negro printers in particular.

I feel that the Negroes should stay out of the union for a short while and let these Czars of Organized Labor sweat a little and come to the Negro printers and make their peace. Negroes fought for many years to get into the union. As they are prospering by the segregation forced upon them, let the union do a little crawling.

Much success to the New Deal.
A Fighting Democrat
(Signed)
Theodore R. Barnes

RAWLINS WRITES ON SEGREGATION

The Tribune is in receipt of an interesting letter from J. W. Rawlins, one of Detroit's well-known business men, who makes some interesting observations regarding segregation. Mr. Rawlins' letter reads in part as follows:

"We hear a great deal today about the New Negro and his progress. As I turn back the pages to 60 years ago, and come down through this one-half century, I find that he has deteriorated in all lines of business, in which he had the whites as his competitors. His only hope for success is where he has entered into what he calls 'A Gentleman's Agreement,' that he will segregate between the races; in other words, he becomes an accessory to Jim Crowism."

"It is mostly practiced in our Y. M. C. A. s, hospitals, undertaking establishments. In fact, you will find it in public and professional business, north of the Mason and Dixon Line, and if you open a legitimate business—say, a store of good, dependable merchandise—those same Negroes, who make a living off the race, will carry their money to the white man's store."

"Even our preachers, who build their churches and draw their salaries from Negroes' dimes and quarters, spend in the white man's stores, regardless of the fact that the colored man's store has the same class of goods for less money."

"I was delighted to see the Tribune on sale down town. The Free Press on one corner, and the Tribune on another."

"It is well within the memory of many who are living today, when the servant in the house was colored. Colored barbers, porters, waiters, cooks in hotels and on steamboats, stewards and head-

walters at all resorts were employed; but now, there's even a transfiguration on Pullman cars."

"At Dayton, O., they have built for Negro children a \$500,000 school; and in Detroit they are going to build modern apartment buildings, swimming pools, parks, and flower gardens in the 'black belt.' Beware of the Greeks bearing gifts."

Mason and Dixon's Marker Placed In Museum

Harrisburg, Pa.—(C N S)—A Sandstone marker, a part of the historic Mason-Dixon Line has been placed in the Pennsylvania State Museum on permanent exhibition. Weathered almost beyond recognition, one of the original crown stones that marked the line separating two colonies and later used as a dividing line between free states and slaves states has been included in exhibits in the Gettysburg Museum.

The marker was brought from Britain and set in place in 1767. The coat of arms of Lord Baltimore and William Penn, respectively, on opposite sides of the stone indicate the dividing line between the two colonies. Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania and Ritchie of Maryland authorized removal of the stone from its site on a farm between Gettysburg Pa., and Harney, Md., and a new marker was set on the spot.

The stone is of sandstone formation, 12 by 14 inches in size and four and one half feet high.

THE NEW DEAL, -- OUR CITY GOVERNMENT

By Theodore R. Barnes

Some years ago with corruption rampant in our governmental circles a few well-meaning and civic minded individuals thought out a plan which was, as they felt, destined to do away with corruption in public office. This plan was the creation of a Civil Service Commission which did away with the plan of the division of spoils and placed public servants on a merit plan. This plan has worked to much good in numerous instances, but in our own city, the City of Detroit, it was worked to the detriment of a particular racial group and that group is the Negro.

Numerous girls and young men well qualified in their particular lines, have been refused at times examinations, and then when they have passed examinations they have been placed on the waiting list of the Civil Service Commission and have been kept waiting because of one thing, a thing which they have no control over, whatever, and that is their color. Our Common Council, Mayor, and Board of Supervisors have winked their eye at this condition for number of years, and nothing has been done about it, even though many of our people have protested against such discrimination.

In the office of the City Clerk, Richard Reading, the files of the Election Commission headed by Oakley E. Distin, show that people applying for positions on the polls have the same bug-a-bear to contend with, that capital "C" behind the names of Negro applicants. The members of our Common Council who were recommended to the people by our Citizens' Committee, which is none other than a portion of the Michigan Employers and Manufacturers Association, has repeatedly refused to aid men of our group in obtaining employment. One or two of our Councilmen have gone so far as to appoint Negroes to the Board

of Supervisors, mere puppets with strings attached to them dancing to the tune of these Councilmen, as they pull the string.

With this brief summary of our City Governmental activities, I am hoping that the people will take cognizance of their general condition in the civic life of Detroit. Were space permitted me, I would go into the personal activities of our numerous elected officials. I must admit that in the Welfare Department we have a few workers who are curtailed to an extremely great extent, and in the Garbage Department quite a number of our people are hired but as for stenographers in the offices in the City Hall, name one. As for Clerks and Countermen in the City Treasurers office, pick them out. For official members of the City Election Commission, name them, and for independent-minded individuals on the County Board of Supervisors, who make suggestions and have them carried out for the good of the great Negro populace in the City of Detroit, point them out.

Soon we will be engulfed in an election where many of our own misguided, well-paid campaigners will come forward and extol the virtues of our present City Administration, but we as individuals having labored long under oppression, and since in all portions of our County and State and National Government we are beginning to realize just what a New Deal really means to our people.

Let us forget sentiment and get behind some new individuals who have pledged themselves to a Jeffersonian type of Democracy which does not wish to throw into discard our non-partisan government, but who believe in equal justice for all and special privileges for none, and then we will get, in our City Government, a New Deal.

Ypsilanti News

The members of the Musical Gem Society will meet at the home of Mrs. Nina Wilson, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Green visited their daughter, Mrs. Robert Collins and family, in Tecumseh, Mich., last Saturday.

Rev. M. R. Rhonenece, pastor of Brown Chapel, and his choir, visited Shiloh Baptist Church, Detroit, last Monday night. They also visited Ebenezer A. M. E. Church, of which Rev. Scott is pastor.

Mrs. Bennie Logan, sister of Mrs. Oscar Hulbert, is visiting in Saginaw, Mich.

Elder and Mrs. John Clark of the Church of God, have moved from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robbins, to the residence of Mrs. Frances Wright, on Harriet street, where they have furnished rooms. Mrs. Clark's sister, Mrs. Taylor, who recently lost her husband, is also residing with them.

Mrs. Lillian Bell, of Detroit, is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Ethel Neely.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Morton are driving a new Buick car.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Brown have moved from Monroe street, to the 400 block in S. Washington street.

Edward Curry is driving a new Studebaker.

Miss Evelyn Frances, Miss Marguerite King, and Charles Rhonenece spent Sunday in Lansing where Miss Frances spoke about South America, and Miss King sang "Teach Me To Pray." They attended the A. M. E. Church, of which Rev. Pettiford is pastor.

The 44th annual session of Wolverine grand lodge, O. E. S., was held in Jackson, Mich., July 30-31. Ypsilanti delegates and visitors were—Messrs. Rose Starks, Rebecca Ward, Hattie Union, Nettie Union, Geneva Williams and Fay Union, representing Ruth Chapter No. 2.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams accompanied Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Kersey of Detroit, Saturday afternoon, to be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, of Harding Avenue.

The Musical Gems will hold a public installation, Aug. 13, at A. M. E. Church, of Whittaker, Mich. Mrs. Olive Green Kersey is director.

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STAGE AND NIGHT CLUBS

By Bob Howe

The Brown Skin Models, featuring Miss Blanche Thompson, Alton Otes, Ernest Seals, Pee Wee, and Felton and Felton, two deluxe dancers, are playing the Castle theatre this week. The stars are supported by a chorus of pretty chorines. The number is a hot one.

David and Goliath are resting this week. The boys are stopping at the Norwood Hotel and state that Mr. Walter Norwood and Mr. Blackmon make it very pleasant for those in the profession.

Solomon Titus' High Brown Flashes are leaving Detroit for Cleveland where they have an engagement at the Main theatre.

The Three Planets are ringing the bell at the M. D. L. Club. The boys are hot stuff.

Miss Glenda Brannock is a feature in one of the outstanding nite clubs in Detroit—the M. D. L.

Joe Herbert and his Lightning Flashes are still at the Arcadia theatre.

In case you don't know George Williams, a very good entertainer, is in Detroit.

Miss Pauline Brint is back in Detroit for an indefinite stay.

Kid Williams' Show is playing one of the nite clubs.

Papa Warfield and George finished at the Colonial theatre this

Joint Birthday Party

A joint birthday party in honor of Mrs. Eddie Robinson, 1678 La-Belle; Mrs. Lenora Green, 1934 St. Aubin; and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis, of Salem, Mich., was held at the latter's spacious home, Sunday, August 8.

The house was decorated to represent a miniature flower garden, while on the outside, the surrounding terrain was a virtual horticulturist's paradise. A wonderful dinner was served after which the guests were entertained with bridge, croquet, and horse-shoes and many other games. Those present were Mrs. Lenora Green, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Robinson and their two children, Miss Agnes Jordan, Mrs. A. Robinson and her son, Mr. Clifford Robinson of Hudson Ave., Mrs. Emma Lewis and son, Robert Lewis and daughter, Miss Virginia Lewis, Mrs. Clara Dickerson of Salem and Miss Elizabeth Groves of Fairway Drive.

week. They stopped the show during their stay there.

I will see you next week and tell you about more of the shows, show folk, entertainers, song birds and what not.

Bathing Beauty Contest and Dance at Graystone, Monday night, August 14th.

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