

Comments

EDITORIAL PAGE

Opinions

The Omaha Star

Omaha's Most Progressive Weekly
Editorial and Business Office
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Editorials

ALCOHOL AND GASOLINE TAKE ANOTHER LIFE

Sad, indeed, will be the procession which will follow the remains of an age-old man to the cemetery next week, an alleged drunken driver having caused the untimely death of 84 year-old Solomon Hieronymous, a man who, since 1899, has lived a reputable life in our city; a man who, until his retirement on a pension some years ago, was employed by one company—the Fremont, Elkhorn, Valley Railroad, recently acquired by the Northwestern Railroad. Starting in 1890 as a section hand, he worked up to the position of Section Foreman, a position he held until age caused the company to transfer him to a job as flagman. As such, he became a familiar figure at Sixteenth and Sprague, where, by his alertness, he saved the lives of many. A man that was an ardent church worker of St. John A. M. E. church. A man who migrated to Omaha from Glasgow, Missouri, in 1889. That is the life of an Omahan that is and was a credit to Omaha; that is a life that was snuffed out by an ill-responsible alleged drunken driver—a driver who had not the respect for humanity, to stop after having struck his victim, to offer assistance—a driver who should, when found guilty, be dealt with to the fullest extent of the law. Society needs men with a life history like Mr. Hieronymous, but society does not need men who will attempt to mix Alcohol and Gasoline on the streets of our city. In behalf of fair play and justice, the law of our city is being asked to show no mercy to the guilty party.

OMAHA PAYS HONOR TO A REAL AMERICAN

Father Flanagan is being heralded today as a real American, a man who decided, while a seminary student after having viewed the plight of homeless boys in the East Side Slums of New York, that he would dedicate his life to the helping of boys without the blessings of a home.

In 1917, this same young man set out with a loan of \$90.00 to create a home where homeless boys might receive a chance in life, where useful citizenship might be thoughtfully molded, and from a humble beginning in an old brick house located on the northwest corner of Twenty-fifth and Dodge, this great man has built an institution now located on the West Dodge road that is a real tribute to the work of a real American—an American who has shown no respect of person when it came to color, religion, or nationality. His yardstick of measurement has since his beginning been governed by the need. Omaha in particular and America in general has a right to be proud of such a citizen.

As 30,000 crowded the streets of Omaha Wednesday night, we are but sure that all minds were focused on that great spirit who made the premiere of "Boys Town" possible, Msgr. Edward J. Flanagan.

In the name of God, we salute Father Flanagan, the friend of Homeless boys and hope for him many more grand and successful years.

THE THOUGHT OF YOUTH A CHALLENGE

On the Editorial page of this edition is to be found a article written by one of our young men who, in December, received his diploma from Technical High School—a young man who plans to continue his education by entering a university during the second semester. It is this type of young Negro who, by his own thoughts, hurls an unmistakable challenge to every Negro man, woman, and organization in Omaha. He, along with hundreds of others of our group, are asking the question: "Will time, money, and effort necessary in receiving an education be wasted?" Must we always see Omaha's ambitious Negro youth secure an education here, and then be forced to go elsewhere in search of a community willing to give

them an opportunity to put into practice that which they have received in Omaha?

This young man with the undaunted spirit of the New Negro answers his own question with an emphatic "No!" The editor of this newspaper asks the question directed at the ministry, the business man, the press, and the organizations, Will you stand by and allow such a spirit to die for the want of moral and economic solidarity as written by this young man, or will you form a united front of churches, businesses, organizations, and thereby give to our youth that brighter day so vividly visualized by this young writer.

OMAHA NEEDS A Y. M. C. A.

Omaha, with its 16,000 Negroes, has not kept pace with similar cities of its size throughout the country in that it has failed to recognize the need of a Y. M. C. A., an institution in which the four cardinal principles of character may be imparted to the men of tomorrow.

Following up the opinions as related by nine of Omaha's influential citizenry in the columns of the Roving Reporter in the edition of September 3rd, The Omaha Star also feels that there is a need for a Y. M. C. A. in our great city. Such an institution would help to keep our boys off the streets and from congregating in front of and blocking the sidewalks leading to the entrances of our business places on Twenty-fourth street. It would be a means of elevating their minds to higher ideals. It would draw them closer to church. It would be a means of developing more healthy bodies. All in all, it would develop real manhood in our boys.

It is being suggested that a committee of men who are interested in the welfare of our boys be formed; invite some outstanding Negro National Y. M. C. A. representative to come to our city for the purpose of surveying the field and making recommendations for the organization of the work.

SKIP THIS IF YOU ARE A PERFECT DRIVER

Are you a potential killed?

Most drivers probably are never guilty of really flagrant recklessness. The genuinely foolhardy motorists are eliminated, frequently with great pain, by their own acts. Extreme carelessness can bring its own immediate penalty. For example, if a car is driven at excessive speed around a curve, it may capsize. No other contributing factor is necessary to produce a tragedy. Similarly, the driver who falls asleep, or becomes inattentive, is headed for disaster. In such situations, destruction can be a one man job.

These things are obvious. They need no further emphasis.

The vast majority of accidents, however are due to a different sort of carelessness which occurs millions of times daily without ill results. It is the form of recklessness which causes accidents when it occurs in combination with other unexpected happenings.

A motorist has the risky habit of passing other cars at street intersections, as readily as he would pass them in the middle of a block. Year after year, he manages to go along without accident. Another motorist habitually enters crossings with a little less than the maximum regard for what may be coming from another direction. And one day, the man who is swinging around another car, which obscures his view, crashes into him.

Thousands of cars pass other cars at intersections, every day. It is a violation of the law, and of the state driving practice, yet it usually seems a minor violation, that the regulations against it are hardly enforceable. We rarely hear of an arrest for such an offense, unless it is directly involved in an accident.

Such instances of recklessness—little, seemingly harmless infractions of "technical" rules for safe driving—really are responsible, in the aggregate, for most of Nebraska, and America's terrific toll. Until this recklessness can be eliminated, or greatly reduced, accidents will continue.

And it can be reduced. Ever single driver on the road can help to reduce it, because nearly every driver is responsible for some of it.



Seen Thru A Telescope

SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE
By Charles H. Davis

Local Doings

Have you noticed—
How popular boxing is amongst the colored boys on the north side? Ever so often you see some young "Joe Louis" or "Henry Armstrong" bobbing and weaving as imitators of the colored champions.

That colored employees have made their appearance in conspicuous places which are owned and operated by whites, along Twenty-fourth street? Some have never before employed colored people.

That there have been a number of weddings among the younger set lately? Good (we hope).

Omaha really has something to crow about this week. The world premiere of "Boys Town," starring Mickey Rooney, Spencer Tracy, and Maureen O'Sullivan. The story was based on Omaha's own "Boys Town" founded by Father Flanagan. Numbers of little colored boys have been benefitted by their residence in this home. Some are new-married and living cheerful, normal lives, rather than the sordid existence in crime that they might have had if it had not been for Boys Town and Father Flanagan.

Questions
How many jobs will Penney's new department store give Negroes for the pennies (which make dollars) that Negroes have spent and will spend with them?

School has opened for some and will open for others soon. How many colored school teachers will be rushing back to Omaha to begin the fall term?

"That is all."

Mr. William (Billy) Davis, 2514 Corby street, was called to his home, Washington, D. C., on account of the illness of his aunt, Mrs. Ethel Clark. He left Thursday night, September 8th. His stay will be indefinite.

Miss Mary Ann Ward of Sterling, Colorado, is spending a few days in Omaha as the guest of her cousins, Mrs. Roberta Bailey and Gertrude Sucas. Miss Ward is en route to St. Joseph, Missouri, where she has accepted a position as teacher of Modern Languages in the Bartlett High School.

A YOUTH PROBLEM Gide—

By ED GOODWIN

When people speak of economic depression, they usually generalize. That is, they speak of the disruption of normal business routine, of the thousands of displaced wage-earners, and of the effect of these conditions upon the country as a whole.

It is true that the industrious laborer who is suddenly deprived of his means of earning a livelihood is deserving of consideration. Equally worthy is the small business man who finds his precious investment "washed up" by a vicious maelstrom of economic disorder over which he has no control. There is, however, another group, ambitious and eager to find their "places in the sun" that finds itself with opportunity for achievement that is almost negligible. This is the great group of high school graduates whose numbers are being increased annually by approximately one-half million.

It is this group that is forced at the age of eighteen (average) to meet a major crisis of their lives. Every year these 500,000 graduates must make a decision (or accept one which is thrust upon them) between seeking work when twelve million, older, more experienced American citizens cannot find it, or investing four years and a few thousand hard earned dollars in procuring a degree from an institution of higher learning. Should he elect the first course, the odds against his achieving any notable success are so prohibitively long that the task is almost intimidating. Yet, the alternative is scarcely more lucrative unless he is an optimist who can vision only "a brighter tomorrow."

If the problem is acute on a national scale, it is even more critical for the Negro in our own city. The problem of securing employment is unduly large for the Race youth here. The last recession has demoted many of the Caucasian race to the humble menial tasks once performed almost exclusively by Negroes. The same obstacles confronts the Negro as he seeks an opportunity for higher learning. He can well ask himself, "will time,

money, and effort I expend securing a college education be wasted?" With all the training and preparation our modern institutions of learning can bestow, it seems that there is no job available to the Negro youth in Omaha worthy of the struggle he endured to acquire his education.

Must we always see Omaha's ambitious Negro youth secure its education here, and then go elsewhere in search of a community willing to give it opportunity to exercise its talent? Or shall the youth go back to the scrub pail and shovel and await the one "golden opportunity?" I say no! Our leaders are awakening. Our ministry, our business, and our press are beginning to recognize their responsibility. All are working toward moral and economic solidarity which bring new enterprise and economic independence—a vital in maintaining personal liberty. Youth is throwing itself wholeheartedly in the fight.

There is a brighter day ahead. The united front of churches, our presses, and our business will be almost invincible. That day is coming. There is victory ahead.

FALSE PHILOSOPHY

The average young man grows up with this kind of a philosophy and when he becomes a man he still has a boy's ambition, a boy's vision, a boy's education and does a boy's work. Then he wonders why he is not more successful. One result of this limited ambition, limited vision and limited education is, according to the Russell Sage Foundation, "That only five per cent of the males in the nation are fitted by definite educational training for their occupation or vocation."

THE WORLD IS MY TEXTBOOK

Some years ago the late Bishop Fowler went abroad. He visited every big city in the world and when he came home he gave expression to this interesting statement, "America is my alphabet, the world is my textbook." He was standing on a great mental mountain peak. He had a new vision of his own town, his state, the nation and the world. There are people in every town in this nation who might say: "This town is my alphabet, this country is my textbook." There vision is bounded by the confines of their own community. Unless an individual's vision is bigger than the boundary of his own business or his own country or isn't big enough to help him solve his own problems.

ORGANIZE YOUR MENTAL FORCES

The greatest piece of machinery ever constructed is not the adding machine, the typewriter, or the printing press, but the one within the human head. That is a discovery that average man has never made. The mind and soul with all their thoughts, hopes, impulses, desires, prejudices and aspirations are nothing but a confused jumble until organized and made effective by the conscious power of an earnest consecrated purpose.

The Omaha Star invites your candid opinion of its publication. Do you like it, and if not, why? We will publish your replies just as you send them to us. This is your paper and we wish to please you. May we have your suggestions?

The Roving Reporter

The Question: What do you think is an appropriate time to start campaigning for a Y. W. C. A.?

Asked: Mr. J. D. Crawford
Address: 2214 North 28th street
Occupation: Deputy County Clerk
Answer: No time is more adequate than now. It was attempted at one time but failed. Since then, there is an increase in the population. A delay would be disastrous.

Asked: Mrs. Vivian Henderson
Address: 3117 Miami street
Occupation: Cateress
Answer: There is no time that would be more fitting than the present to start a campaign for a Y. M. C. A. for our boys because they do need a place for recreational training other than the Center. Although I think the Center is doing a marvelous job, I think there are too many boys who are unable to get adequate training at the Center.

Asked: Miss Ruth Harris
Address: 2423 Maple street
Occupation: High School girl
Answer: We should begin campaigning for a Y. M. C. A. immediately.

Asked: Mr. C. P. Williams
Address: 2875 Wirt Street
Occupation: Janitor
Answer: My opinion is this: Since the schools are opened now and there is quite a bit of enthusiasm

among most of the people during this time of the year, no better time is appropriate than now to start a campaign for a Y. M. C. A.

Asked: Mrs. O. L. Mosley
Address: 2904 North 28th avenue
Occupation: Housewife
Answer: I think if everyone who is regularly employed would donate one dollar toward building a Y. M. C. A., we should start campaigning now.

Asked: Rev. R. A. Adams
Address: 2416 Binney street
Occupation: Minister
Answer: Unless circumstances cause a delay, I think the most appropriate time to start is now.

Asked: Mrs. Viola Cole
Address: 2010 North 26th street
Occupation: Housewife
Answer: At the beginning of the fall school term when our minds' trend is toward youth progress.

Asked: Miss Ethel Jones
Address: 2811 Caldwell street
Occupation: Music Instructor
Answer: Due to the much needed social adjustment and congregating of youth today, I feel that it is necessary that we should have a Y. M. C. A. now.

WPA Recreation Dept.

A notable addition to WPA city recreation personnel was recently made in the person of Kathryn Enger.

An artist with an enviable record as an arts instructor in many colleges and schools in this country, and the possessor of a gallery of beautiful specimens of her art, Mrs. Enger comes to recreation highly qualified to impart the principles of art to children and adults interested in the subject.

Classes in oil and water color painting, charcoal drawing, pastelle work and chinaware painting are being organized at all recreation centers, thus making available to art-minded men, women and children, free of cost, the knowledge and experience of an expert. This is an opportunity unique in Omaha's recreational history.

There will be a city recreation sponsored street dance on Tuesday September 13, at Twenty-first and Madison and one at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening on Thirty-sixth and Davenport streets.

A dance will be held in the Florence Community hall, Friday at 8:30 p. m.

Music will be furnished by the WPA civic dance orchestra under direction of George Bryant.

BENSON RECREATION

Under city recreation sponsorship an eight act variety show will be presented Friday, September 16 at 8 p. m., in the Benson Fire barn.

The acts comprising this show are the same that recently were received so enthusiastically at the Florence Community hall. The music will be in the capable hands of George Bryant and the WPA Civic dance orchestra.

Arrangements are being made to hold the Benson Center's fall and winter activities in the Fire Barn.

FLORENCE RECREATION

Supervisor Trotter is full of original ideas. His latest brain store is the holding of a father's and mother's day with cake and coffee served, and—well, he doesn't yet know exactly what else. But you can wager it will be something interesting. Full particulars will be announced shortly.

The fall and winter program will be conducted from 1 to 6 p. m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. on Saturday.

The gym will be opened early in October.

Instructor Folker's gym class for ladies of all ages and conditions (single and married) meets every Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m.

For further information call KE 5407.

A dance will be held in the Community hall from 8 to 10 p. m. Saturday September 9.

Brown Park recreation center will feature a Dolls Show Saturday September 17 at 2 p. m. to which all mothers are cordially invited. Between 30 and 40 little girls will parade their dolls, sing songs and recite pieces. The program will be followed by afternoon tea.

What Other Papers Say

(The Chicago Defender)
Since the close of the world war, a war which was waged on behalf of democracy, the nations which had fought for the preservation of this system of government have one by one relaxed their guard. The slogan "Save Democracy" died out even before the last guns had ceased firing on the battlefields of France. True, armistice had been declared, the Versailles treaty had been recognized and accepted by the Central Powers in the usual pompous solemnity that characterizes post-war liquidation of international differences, but the war to save democracy had not been won. The suspension of hostilities was a mere interlude that gave a weary, exhausted world—a world that was worn out by trials and tribulations of war—a chance to gasp.

With this phase of the conflict temporarily abandoned, the war went on in the chancelleries of Europe, in Berlin, London, Paris and Rome. The ground had been shifted, a new technique was being tried. It became a war of ideology, a scramble for sphere of political influence.

Fascism which was up to then a timid tenet advanced by a few political heretics, grew stronger and stronger until it became a living force, a challenging system under the impulse of such monsters as Mussolini and Hitler. With each advance of the fascist beast, democracy retreated. As democracy retreats fascism gathers more strength and becomes more bold. First, it was the invasion of Manchuria by Japan; then Ethiopia by Italy, and now Czechoslovakia looms as the next fascist invasion.

Where does the black man stand in this maelstrom, in this quicksand of racialism? In 1917, he was conscripted an distant overseas to fight for a democracy which was denied him at home. Fifty thousand black men lie buried today on French soil. For what? For a civilization, for a country which is yet making a door-mat out of its black citizens, denying them economic opportunities, exploiting them politically, while restricting their spheres of social and industrial activities. Twenty years have elapsed since the war to save democracy was fought, and the American black man is still a beggar at the shrine of democracy. Will the next war determine our fate? Will the next war result in further economic enslavement, or will it give us those things which constitutional democracy has been promising us?

Talking Things Over

BY MILDRED J. MARTIN

JUST YOU AND I

Dear Reader: Before we enter in to this week's topic, I would like to call your attention to our Youth In Christianity that I wrote upon not so long ago. Several of the younger set asked me when and where would this youth's sermon be preached. I'm again sorry to say that we haven't heard a word from our Christian body or pastor in our city. I cannot understand why such little interest could be shown in such an important matter. I am again asking you, pastors and Christian bodies of our city, if you will, and are interested in our youth, call me or The Omaha Star, and we will gladly cooperate with you.

Today's topic is one that can easily apply to two or as a whole. We will repeat the topic, Just You and I. Speaking again of Christianity, what could you and I do for our youths if we would put our very souls into the movement? We could at least do as the scripture asks us to "suffer little children to come unto me." This would at least be pleasing in the sight of God. Do you expect the youth of today to come and fall at the church door or at the feet of the Christian body, crying, "Save me God, save me, or is it your duty to do as the scripture also says, "Go ye unto all the highways and preach the gospel." This is still your duty.

Just suppose we would pledge ourselves to do the things we know is uplifting to our Race. How long would it be before the other races would begin to recognize us? To do this we must always think as we go into anything just what the price will be. Isn't it strange how they look upon us as a whole, when one individual commits a low crime. This has always seemed to be to be very unfair. But knowing as we do, it is up to you and I to live

down these obstacles and do the things that will force them to consider us. This problem is solely and wholly up to you and I.

Why is it that our temper rises to such that it causes us to want to kill or wound each other and still it takes so much to cause a temper to rise when some other race offends us. This one problem you and I must solve. We must consider the needs of each other before we can be a successful race.

They used to say at election time, "You don't have to worry about the Negro, they were born Republicans." But what is it now? They flock to you in masses with promises of all kinds, because you have broken a chain of party and placed yourself in the political world, causing them to come to you and as a rule, we get results. So will it be in our every day life if you and I will discontinue our low type methods of fighting, quarreling, living in low type beer parlors, encouraging of the running of the low type homes in your neighborhood, and concealing the criminal just because he is one of our Race. We would soon be as other races, have representatives in every department of our city authorities would be glad to cooperate with us because of our clean living, law abiding conduct. All of this is up to "you and I."

Knowing that you will not remember all that I have said, I have tried to bring to you in the way of a poem at the end of each of my stories the highlights so that you may receive some good from them, and let's repeat at the close of today's topic this one:

If just you and I
Would only try
To do the things we should
We would be surprised
When the day's gone by
Of the things we did so good.
Thanks

possess," well said Cicero, "is the greatest and most secure of riches." Be content with such things as ye have," says the apostle. That is, "Enter upon the enjoyment of your present blessings." None of us can be sure that we will ever have more therefore we must be content now or never. Remember this one fact, that most of us have the ingredients of happiness at this moment, home health, food, clothing. We can have three meals each day; ask yourself how much riches would a person need to enable him to enjoy six? Having raiment let us therefore be content.

I do not believe that the apostle meant that we should become satisfied with our attainment, for if we did there would be no progress made. The Christian knows whom he has believed and is persuaded that he is able to keep that which he has committed to Him against that day; and because of this there comes into his soul a peace, a sweet and precious peace, with all its vicissitudes it cannot take away. May we each be so supremely happy as to learn Paul's secret and come in to this rich possession.

Mr. Waddel Johnson, Mrs. Myrtle Blash are visiting their brother, F. W. Johnson and their nephews, Manuel Johnson, Eli Johnson, and Paul Johnson at 2606 Pa. trick avenue.