

CAP HAYNES LIVES
A HAPPY LIFE

Cap Haynes works like a dog from dawn to dark on his badly eroded 34-acre farm at Liberty Hill, a Negro community in Milam County, Texas. Last year, his best, he netted \$1,000 and that doesn't include his own time as part of his costs. He ought to be full of complaints, but he isn't. George Sessions Perry says in the current (Oct. 23rd) Saturday Evening Post.

"He doesn't owe a penny to anyone, and pays cash for all his modest purchases," Mr. Perry says. "His children are helpful kids with happy dispositions. Cap Haynes' way of life is as foreign to that of the industrialized Negro workers living in the slums of the great northern and eastern cities as any country man's differs from any city man's. . . . He comes about as near as anybody I know to leading a happy, busy life. . . ."

Mr. Perry's article, The Hayneses, is the fourth in the "Your Neighbors" series by the Rockland, Texas, author. The purpose of the series is to tell, in neighborly fashion, how the diverse religious and racial groups which make up the American population live today.

Cap Haynes believes that the Negro in the United States is making clear-cut strides toward the full citizenship and full opportunity promised so long ago in the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution, according to Mr. Perry.

"To Cap, that progress is inescapable," Mr. Perry writes. "His grand father was a slave; he himself, throughout his boyhood and manhood, has been an overworked, barely literate farm hand. Now Junior, his 10-year-old-son, has already passed him in education."

Although Cap Haynes and his family—wife, Ressie, their four children Mary, Pearl, Mae, Viola and Junior and Cap's widowed mother, Lucinda Goff Haynes—live under primitive conditions, the Hayneses have their self-respect, and the respect of their neighbors, Mr. Perry says. When they go to shop in Rockdale, ten miles from their farm, most of the people treat them with kindness and respect.

"They are known to be good people, have many friends among both whites and Negroes in town," Mr. Perry declares. "It's true that some wariness is necessary. They must avoid the corners where the drunks and ruffians hang out. . . . the cafes are compartmented into white and colored sections. . . . The Haynes children must sit in the balcony that is reserved for Negroes at the movies. . . ."

Cap lets Bud Gibson, a successful Negro farmer of 72, do the talking, Mr. Perry says.

"With only moderate impatience, since he's a wise old man—but with some actual impatience, since he's a virile one, a pioneer and a Texan—Bud Gibson, unasked, points out that less than 100 years ago virtually all his people were ignorant, illiterate and unfit to exercise the ballot," Mr. Perry writes. "Like the white peasants driven to the United States from Europe by pogroms and poverty, they were in need primarily of assistance, guidance and education more than anything else. But now he feels that the time has come for the full liberation of his people. . . . Bud is certain that the Negro, in his struggle for equal treatment before the law and in the hearts of men, is traveling with a tail wind behind him. . . ."

JURY INDICTS POLICE
FOR BLINDING NEGRO

Springfield, Ill., Oct. 14 —Accused of beating and blinding a Negro truck driver while imprisoned in a jail cell, a white policeman was this week indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting here. The indictment followed protest by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People demanding an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice.

James Simpson, the victim, told the Grand Jury that he had been blinded in one eye and severely beaten by Patrolman James Swift in the Rock Island, Ill. prison on the night of November 23, 1947. He had been arrested by Rock Island police when he became involved in an accident while driving along the highway between Rock Island and Moline. Swift is reported to have beaten the truck driver in the mistaken belief that he was a man who had recently had a run-in with another Rock Island policeman.

The Tri-Cities branch of the NAACP reported the assault to the national office which, through Franklin H. Williams, assistant counsel, referred it to the Department of Justice, insisting upon investigation and prosecution.

COLOR BLIND

Humiliation and the necessity for a humble apology has been thrust upon the American Association for the Advancement of Science following a deplorable act of discrimination against Ras H. M. Imru, Ethiopian minister to the United States, and a princely relative of Ethiopia's emperor.

Ras Imru was invited to an Association session in Constitution Hall at Washington, but when he attended he was asked to leave the diplomatic section because of the Hall's long standing rule against admittance of colored people.

In a hall that stands as a monument to the declaration: "We hold three truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal," the action has about it a mockery that is callow and small.

Too often, however, it is easy to point the finger of scorn at occurrences in another country while blithely ignoring similar, if not worse happenings in our own. There isn't a Canadian who can say that our hands remain unsoiled by the taint of racial discrimination.

The action, however, points to the need for a review of just what is necessary if we are to transform our treasured democracy from a fetish into a vital, living condition for all.

From one coast of our country to the other there have come frequent reports of persons being discriminated against in hotels, in restaurants, in places of social relaxation, in employment, and even in educational institutions. It has rarely taken the violent form it often takes in the United States, where the problem of a large and easily identifiable minority increases the tension and occurrence of discriminatory expressions.

The wrong, and the impact, of discrimination is not lessened appreciably, however, by the absence of violent expression. The crime is one of act, not of degree. It is ridiculous to exercise discrimination against a prince because of his racial origin. But it is just as ridiculous to discriminate against any human for reasons as superficial as race, color, or creed.

—Winnipeg, Man. Citizen

OKLA. U. JIM CROW ABSURD
THURGOOD MARSHALL ASSERTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 14 — The plan to admit a Negro student to the graduate school of the University of Oklahoma on a Jim Crow basis was today branded as "absurd and fumbling" by Thurgood Marshall, NAAACP special counsel, who headed the legal staff which attacked the state's segregation laws. Mr. Marshall further indicated that the case would not be abandoned.

G. W. McLaurin, retired teacher, was admitted to the university's graduate school today as the first Negro student, following a decision handed down recently by a special three-judge Federal Court, declaring that the state's segregation laws were unconstitutional insofar as they prevented the enrollment of Negro students in the university for courses not otherwise available in state-supported institutions.

Mr. Marshall's statement follows: "The State of Oklahoma, having abandoned its attempt to exclude Negro students from the University of Oklahoma by statute, has now resorted to the absurd and fumbling device of admitting G. W. McLaurin and attempting to segregate him within the university. This purported compliance with the 14th Amendment and the Oklahoma segregation statutes at the same time is so ridiculous that it is clear that even these feeble efforts cannot be maintained as the officials of the University of Arkansas have already learned. Accordingly, Arkansas has abandoned intra-class segregation in its law and medical schools."

"Mr. McLaurin's entering the university of Oklahoma does not mean that either he or the NAACP approve of the stupid efforts at segregation, nor does it mean that this particular law suit, which opened the university's doors during its preliminary stages, will be abandoned short of the abolition of segregation in the University of Oklahoma. The case, however, demonstrates the speed with which action may be obtained in this type of proceedings before a special federal court."

NAACP YOUTH CONFERENCE
TO HONOR OLYMPIC CHAMP

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 14 — Miss Alice Coachman of Albany, Ga., winner of the women's high jump competition in the 1948 Olympic Games, will be the recipient of a special Youth Award at the tenth annual Youth Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to be held here, Nov. 10-13. Miss Coachman, a student at Albany State College, was the only woman on the American track team to win an Olympic championship.

In further recognition of the contribution of Youth to better human relations, the Ike Smalls trophy will be presented to the NAACP Youth Council which has the most outstanding record for the past year.

In the course of the four-day Conference program, which stresses active participation by young people in the present-day struggle for peace and democracy, more than 250 representatives of NAACP Youth Councils and college chapters will discuss problems affecting the Negro in America and techniques for solving these problems. Recognizing that important victories have been won against restrictive covenants in housing, inequalities in educational opportunity and denial of the right to vote, the delegates will re-dedicate themselves to the continuing struggle against discrimination in employment, education, housing, and in the armed forces of the United States.

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