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The Dawn of Tomorrow

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

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BOAST SIX YEARS WITHOUT CRIME

North Buxton, April 2—This Negro community nine miles from Chatham is a policeman's paradise. It's been six years since North Buxton ran afoul of the law.

"A couple of young fellows were working on the railway and a housewife complained" winked Provincial Constable John Bain. They were swearing so loudly the wind carried their words. We had to put a stop to that."

At one time elders of the centre faced a crisis when some prize pullets disappeared. A solemn conclave was held and there was talk of building a village jail. Two lots were set aside but nobody ever got around to building it.

"Seems to me there is a constable in town," conceded Rev. Ernest Richardson, pastor of the Methodist church. "Wait till I telephone W. J. Shreve. He should decollect who he is."

Mr. Shreve, 80 years old and a life resident in the district, finally did recollect. "It's Cliff Shreve, my nephew," he said. "But don't mention I told you."

Soon to Celebrate

North Buxton will soon celebrate its 75th anniversary as an unincorporated village. Or should that be 80th anniversary? Five octogenarians can't agree on the date.

"I reckon we just don't pay attention to past history," declared John Carter, 83. "Our philosophy is to live day by day."

North Buxton started as a terminal underground for runaway slaves and most of the 400 residents had parents who fled the yoke of serfdom in the southern states.

The original settlement was at South Buxton, four concessions down the line, but after the Civil War South Buxton's population dwindled to a few families.

The village school at North Buxton has 70 pupils in two rooms and in recent years 75 per cent of those who reach grade eight go to Chatham for higher learning.

The main street has one store, a post-office, two churches and a string of houses. No man does one job alone. Mr. Richardson tends the post-office when he isn't preaching. The storekeeper fixes spare tires in slack moments.

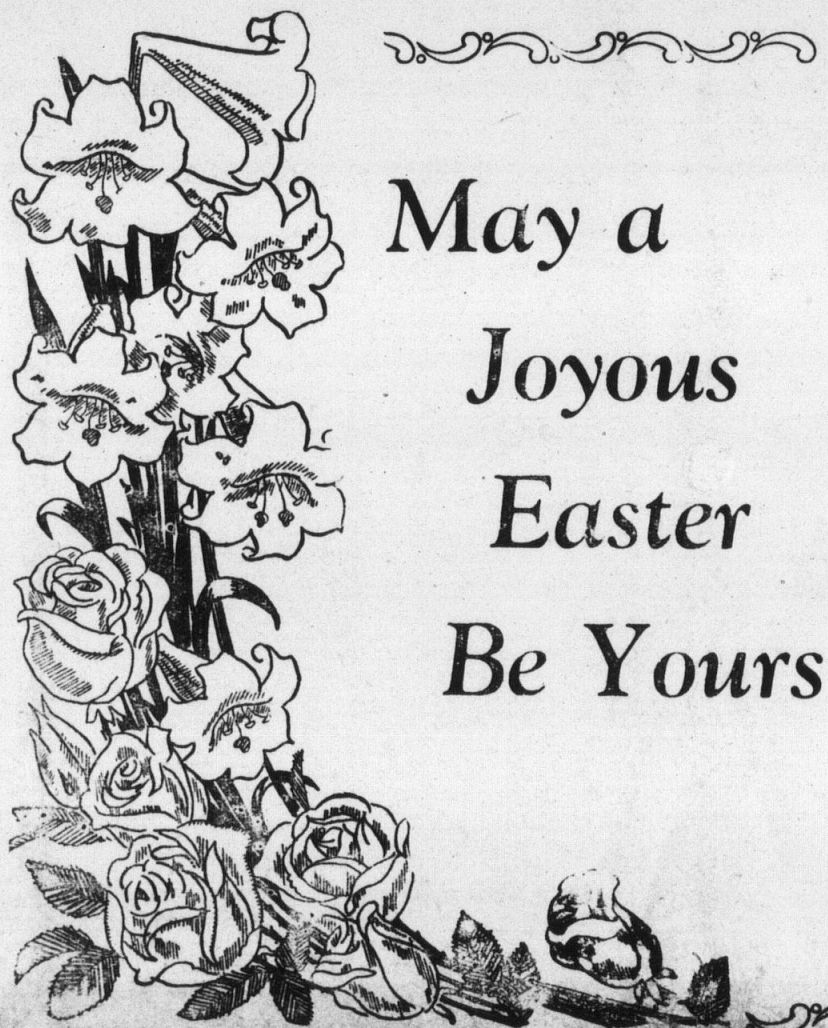
Most young men in North Buxton angle for jobs on the railway. Second on the preferred list is farm work.

The town has a community club for young folk which features games, dancing and debates on Friday nights.

Some families in North Buxton have as many as nine children, but the average is four.

North Buxton had 30 men in war service, one was an officer, another was decorated. Two were killed.

Citizens of North Buxton hold prayer meetings at least three nights a week. "We trust ourselves so we don't need policemen," said Mr. Shreve. "That's our main religion."



May a
Joyous
Easter
Be Yours

RUSSIA OPPOSES SPREAD OF BIAS

Blocks S. Africa's Bid for Colony
Johannesburg, South Africa—Russia this week opposed the incorporation of Southwestern Africa, former German colony, into the Union of South Africa on the grounds that the move would extend the union's rigid racial segregation.

The controversy arose when the section's immediate incorporation was urged by a Nationalist Party leader who declared that the color line has been strictly enforced since the mandate was granted by the League of Nations in 1920. Segregation, therefore, would be nothing new to the mandate inhabitants.

South Africa's urgent desire to include the territory as a fifth province of the Union seems to be spurred by fear of disposition of the rich section by the United Nations' Organization.

England is expected to step in once the controversy reaches international proportions. It is this that the Smuts' government is said to be manoeuvring to avoid.

Diamond Mine District

Source of the section's riches are the diamond mines along the barren Atlantic Coastal line, the vast production of Persian lamb skins, and he natural mineral resources such as copper, vanadium, and tin. Native labor, paid cheaply, also is an important factor.

Without this labor, the South African gold mines would be worth little. Authoritative sources declare the system controlling diamonds in the section is a revealing comment-

ary on the entire scheme in which values are kept high by an international cartel.

Mineral rights to the diamond coastal strip are held by a corporation headed by Ernest Oppenheimer known as the diamond king. The diamond strip is patrolled at all times by detectives mounted on camels, and persons walk there under penalty of \$2,000 fine or a year imprisonment unless they have a permit.

Workers of the mines live in camps enclosed by barbed wire fences. Savage dogs patrol the area at night, and before any worker leaves the camp, he must undergo an X-ray examination of his person, clothing, or belongings. South African law provides a maximum \$8,000 fine or 15 years' imprisonment for illegal possession of stones.

SENATE COMMITTEE GETS

ENDORSEMENT OF HASTIE

Washington, D.C.—Endorsement of William H. Hastie to be Governor of the Virgin Islands was received by Senator Abe Murdock, chairman of the Sub-Committee on Territories and Insular Affairs, from Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, on behalf of the organization. The telegram read:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on behalf of its national office and 1200 branches, youth councils and college chapters, strongly recommends favorable action by your committee on nomination of William H. Hastie as Governor of the Virgin Islands. It is superfluous to speak of Judge Hastie's distinguished legal and administrative public record or of his unimpeachable character and courage.

1-MAN NEWSPAPER HITS 'JIM CROW' MEDICAL CARE

Poetry and Personality Dominate
Wendell P. Dabney's "Union"

Dean of Negro newspaper editors is 80-year-old Wendell P. Dabney who owns, edits, and writes Cincinnati's "one-man weekly" —The Union.

Self-styled "little but loud, pool out proud," the Union is one of the few remaining personal newspapers in America, a hangover from an era in American journalism when virtually every editor's personality was reflected in the columns of his paper. The Union is unique too for its poetic headlines—like "The A and P Gave Her A Chance: She Proved Her Greatness Despite Color Or Pants" (a story about a Negro woman doing nauding for 100 A and P stores).

But most unique about The Union is its one-man staff, the editor-author-composer-musician-politician-historian-teacher Wendell P. Dabney who sits daily in his downtown Cincinnati office and lives with his memories, two coal stoves, stacks of old magazines and newspapers, a library of 10,000 books. Very much alive and alert, Dabney is an institution in Cincinnati with his rapier-like, crusading news stories and items that keep local white and Negro folks on their toes.

A jolly, bright-eyed gent, he has a lusty sense of humor and finds editing his one-man newspaper lots of fun, even if it never amounts to much of a financial success. He has a flock of friends who steer occasional advertising his way and manages to keep The Union out of the red although his circulation is only 3,000.

"At 80 I'm still enjoying life about as much as ever," he says. "I think life should be enjoyed—and when enjoyment ceases a fellow might as well make his exit."

Dabney has personally know virtually all the Negro greats since the Civil War and treasures autographed photos of them that cover the walls of his office. There are Paul Lawrence Dunbar, the poet; W. C. Handy, father of the blues; Ira Aldridge, the actor. There are white notables too like Lady Astor, the ex-Virginian Britisher, and Nicholas Longworth, politician.

Tall and robust, Dabney is a great conversationalist. He loves to talk hours on end and his remarkable memory will bring back stories of decades ago.

But much as he likes to reminisce, Dabney's greatest pleasure out of life is editing his 40-year-old newspaper and writing the poetic headlines that give The Union its individuality. He likes to josh his customers and recently ran this bit: I opened the envelope
Out fell a ten,
From an old subscriber,
Who had promised,
Again and again
I nearly had
A fainting fit,
I was so surprised,
At getting it.

His favourite crusade is for good conduct among Negroes. During the

New York, N.Y. — A sharp protest against the edict of Dr. Paul R. Hawley, medical director for the Veterans' Administration, that Negro units will be established in Veterans hospitals under the care of Negro doctors and nurses was voiced in a telegram March 16 by the NAACP. Hawley also declared, according to newspaper reports, that even in the North, the Veterans Administration would restrict Negro doctors and nurses to Negro patients—a strict Jim Crow arrangement.

"The NAACP unqualifiedly protests such a plan as reported which would make for not only the continuance of racial segregation in veterans hospitals but its extension to areas where non-discrimination is against law and public policy. Dual basis of administering hospital care to veterans places undue burden on taxpayers and demonstrates un-American attitude on part of government hospitals. Further urge decision to use Negro doctors and nurses for care of all patients in Veterans Administration hospitals without regard to race, creed or color."

SOLDIER WINS FREEDOM ON GERMAN RAPE CHARGE

New York, N.Y. — The NAACP has been informed that Eugene R. Lewis is of the 3496 Quartermaster Truck Company, in whose behalf the association's lawyers wrote the Commanding General of the European Theatre of Operations, has had his sentence for rape entirely vacated, and all his rights, privileges and property restored to him.

Lewis wrote the NAACP from Germany, and his wife wrote from Columbus, Ga. He had been found guilty and sentenced to death. NAA CP attorneys wrote the general:

"A cursory reading of the record shows that on the night of the alleged crime, two other soldiers also participated in the same act, at the same time, and with the same woman, and that these two unnamed soldiers were also tried by a court-martial sitting at the same place on the same afternoon of the same day as that of the trial of Lewis."

These two soldiers, tried on substantially the same set of facts, were acquitted.

war he expanded the "V For Victory" slogan to a triple V: victory abroad, victory at home against racism and "victory over ourselves—our public misconduct, impoliteness, spendthrift habits, slovenliness, uncleanliness."