

## PORTIA WHITE FINDS FAME IN U. S.

One of the few places in North America named after Africa is a tiny, shabby colored community close to the city dumps in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

It is called Africville.

Most folks in Halifax, let alone the rest of Canada, never heard of nor came near the little Negro settlement until several years back when the world began hearing Portia White's voice. And then the trex to the neat two-room school-house in Africville began.

Jolly girls in bright dresses now conduct sightseers about and point out: "This is where she taught. Up there's her desk. She taught grade one and two and three. She was awful nice."

"She" is the brilliant 28-year-old singer who is hailed as "the Marian Anderson of Canada." Only several short years ago, Portia White was freezing her knees tramping through deep northern snows for singing lessons in town. And her pupils still remember her coming back and thawing out her legs by the big pot-belly stove while they pretended to be studying their books.

Africville is proud of Portia White, proud of their graduation day prophecy: "Within ten years, Portia White will see her name in lights outside a concert hall."

Today the gifted young contralto, who sings in five languages, has appeared in the leading concert halls of America and been hailed by critics everywhere.

She has been compared to the great Swedish star Sigrid Onegin. One music scholar wrote: "I had the privilege of hearing Marian Anderson on her first appearance in Carnegie Hall and can candidly say that Miss Anderson did not sing as well as did Miss White."

Although her father was a Virginia-born minister, only colored chaplain in the British army in World War I, Portia is a tried and true Canadian. She can never forget that despite her color she was the first singer ever officially sponsored by a Canadian city. After hearing her debut, leading citizens of Halifax were so enthusiastic that they contributed to a Portia White Trust Fund to enable her to further her studies.

Her first trip to the United States also made her a confirmed Canadian. It was there that she discovered the Negro problem. She found out about Jim Crow and became somewhat depressed.

But then she wrote home with new racial pride: "I feel a greater unity with colored peoples everywhere as a result of my stay in the United States. And I am immensely proud of the enormous advance we are making in spite of the efforts of those who would deny us equality."

Despite the rude shock discrimination gave her, Portia's mother was glad to see her learning. "She used to worry because she had no particular feeling for Negro spirituals. But that's because we've never had the tradition of spirituals down here in Nova Scotia. I guess that's a good thing; it would have presupposed a great deal of other things that have never existed here."

### OFFENSIVE NURSERY RHYME DROPPED AFTER PROTEST

New York, Jan. 23rd—The inclusion of a peculiar anti-Negro version of an old nursery rhyme in a recent ten cent edition of "Mother Goose", published by the Samuel Lowe Company of Kenosha, Wisconsin, was decried by Madison S. Jones, Jr., NAACP administrative assistant, in a letter to the publisher which resulted in his promise to delete the offensive rhyme from any

reprints.

The verse, "Ten Little Niggers," was described by Mr. Jones as "extremely derogatory", and he added that "to have it appear in a book of nursery rhymes to which the very young are exposed we feel is most harmful."

Said Mr. Jones: "We have found that children and young people, when exposed to healthy democratic ideals do not embrace the philosophy of racial and religious hatred. One way to ensure the success of such a program is to see to it that reading material, including school text books present true information completely free of bias."

### HERALD TRIBUNE WRITER CITES NEGRO SENATOR

New York, Jan. 22nd — An exciting article written by Bert Andrews for the January 18th issue of the New York Herald Tribune, which compared the respective merits of two Mississippi senators, one, Theodore Bilbo and the other a former slave, Blanche K. Bruce (1875 to 1881), was cited by Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, as being, "the kind of informative article so desperately needed during these times when our basic democratic ideals are being threatened."

Mr. Andrews, of the Tribune's Washington bureau, writes, "The newly elected Senator from Mississippi—a Negro—was ready to take the oath of office."

"He waited at the back of the Senate chamber for an escort to take him down the center aisle to the rostrum."

"There was a pause and then an embarrassing silence, for the senior Senator from Mississippi—a white man—had refused to conform to the custom of accompanying a junior colleague to the Vice-President's desk."

"At that moment the senior Senator from New York walked up to the newly elected Senator from Mississippi, offered his arm and escorted him to the rostrum."

"The foregoing is not a fanciful forecast of what the future may bring in Mississippi as a result of the tactics of Theodore G. Bilbo, who was re-elected to the United States Senate but has not yet been seated."

"It is, instead, a factual account of the days when Mississippi did have a Negro Senator; days when that Senator's eloquent appeal for fairness in elections was spread upon the record of Congress to supply a strange contrast with the doctrine of 'white supremacy' preached so violently nowadays by Mr. Bilbo."

Resorting to a unique journalistic technique in comparing the philosophies of the Negro, ardent champion of democracy, and the rabid, race-baiting, present-day demagogue, Mr. Andrews submitted direct quotes from the two senators of which the following is an example.

"Senator Bruce: 'But if it can be shown that we have used the ballot either to abridge the rights of our fellow citizens or to oppress them; if it shall appear that we have ever used our newly acquired power as a sword of attack and not as a shield of defense, then we may with some show of propriety be charged with incapacity, dishonesty or tyranny. But even then, I submit that the corrective is in the hands of the people, and not of a favored class, and the remedy is in the honest exercise of the ballot and not in fraud and violence.'

(Senator-elect Bilbo: 'I said the best time to keep a nigger away from a white primary in Mississippi was to see him the night before.'

Senator Bruce was born a slave, near Farmville, Edward County, Va., and was tutored by his master's son. He left his master after the Civil War to teach school in Hannibal, Mo., leaving this post to study at Oberlin College, Ohio.

### NEGRO ARTISTS RECEIVE WORLD FAME IN TOUGHEST PROFESSION

Carving a career out of the color line, some forty top-notch American Negro artists have discovered a strange anomaly in the toughest, most competitive profession in the world: the stronger the color line, the greater the career.

A stalwart, once-struggling band of Negro painters now literally makes a living out of conquering color — both on canvas and in the American mind.

Foremost and most successful in cracking the color line is self-taught World War I veteran, warm-hearted Horace Pippin, who commands the highest prices, the most attention. The tall, broad-shouldered, 57-year-old ex-porter's canvases are in more museums than any other Negro painter's. His work, once raffled at church picnics for ten cents a chance now sells for up to a thousand dollars a painting, is displayed in the homes of Hollywood stars like Edward G. Robinson, Charles Laughton and Claude Rains.

Fame hasn't disturbed his simple way of living and his wife still takes in washing at their West Chester, Pa., home. "Folks like Horace's paintings now but maybe next year they'll change their mind," Mrs. Pippin says. "Art is like that. They've been giving me their washing many, many years. That's steady so why should I give it up."

But Pippin isn't worried about changing modes in painting. He paints now, as he painted since he was a boy, because he likes it.

Pippin's name now belongs with the greatest; he is first in American folk or primitive art.

### The Treasure House of Things Musical

- PIANOS
- RADIOS
- Record Players
- RECORDS
- Sheet Music

### Heintzman & Co.

242 DUNDAS STREET  
LONDON

### A. Nicholson

ROE FEEDS AND

SHUR GAIN PRODUCTS

6 Hume Street Fair. 308

### SHOP AT

## Zeller's

IT PAYS!

BUY ONLY WHAT YOU NEED!

## F. B. DIXON CO.

MOVING — PACKING

STORAGE

438 TALBOT ST.

METCALF 3170

## Evans Funeral Service

"PUBLIC PREFERENCE

IS OUR

BEST REFERENCE"

2 Funeral Homes 2

EAST END BRANCH

648 Hamilton Rd.

FAIR. 325

NORTH END BRANCH

Central and Richmond

MET. 6684

## A. Johnson & Sons

697—699 HAMILTON ROAD

### Quality MEATS and GROCERIES

FAIR. 420

WE DELIVER

### PLEASE

### Return your Hangers with your Dry Cleaning

The shortage of steel has made it impossible for our suppliers to furnish us with the new hangers for the present. Will you help?

We pay 1c each for hangers in good condition.

### PARISIAN LAUNDRY

AND DRY CLEANERS LIMITED

PHONE MET. 8282

75 DUNDAS ST.

### London Coat & Apron Supply

96-98 Carling St. — Met. 3580

"It Pays to Keep Clean"

COMPLETE UNIFORM RENTAL SERVICE

## Featherstone's Market

Fresh Meats

Fruits and Groceries

776—778 HAMILTON ROAD

LONDON — ONTARIO

THREAT TO NE  
MOVE TO OU  
SHOP

Washington, D.C. — Sen. Charles McNary, D-Ore., gave the impression of an anti-closed shop law beneficial to minority groups today by his statement of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In a letter to the Senate, McNary, the Oregon Secretary, stated:

"The Washington Post" quotes you as saying that the 'backing' (Senate) of FEPC legislation would be a terrible blow to the civil liberties if, in your closed shop, you give the impression that the fit to minority group employment.

"Where I was staff of the FEPC, scrutinize and investigate before our discriminatory prevented employment in companies contracts. At no on the staff or on dicate that the closed shop provi employment of m the contrary, at a desire to have col in the benefits c agreements by ha to employment an bership.

"At this moment, a matter in believe that the some 300 colored large plant is the gaining represent tated successfully greement with th that there are wh able in the labor ployer gives evidi displace the col the better jobs v individuals. If you closed shop beco place every one jeopardy.

FEEL

A — Junio

BANDEA

\$1.25 to \$

LONG LI

\$3.00 to \$

R