

The Dawn of Tomorrow

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

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Few Knew What Future Would Bring

Few of the Negro leaders of today knew in their twenties while they were at college or working at menial jobs what their future jobs would be. Still fewer realized in their youth that they were destined for greatness. For the most part they followed the formula so aptly put by Shakespeare: "Some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them."

Marked for high achievement early in life were talented people like Hazel Scott, who as a child prodigy played the piano in public at the age of 3; Paul Robeson, who seems to have been successful at everything he did whether it was playing football, acting or singing; E. Simms Campbell, who sold his first drawing of a turkey when 11 and won a national high school cartoon prize in his teens; Alain Locke, who graduated from Harvard with Phi Beta Kappa honors at 21.

Others were drifting about aimlessly in their twenties, undecided and unsure about the future. Urban League head Lester Granger went through Dartmouth "romantically planless as to my future career." He recalls: "I pushed aside thoughts of law in favor of some hoped-for foreign office post with a New York bank. No one explained to me that American banks had a color bar as unyielding and as brutally applied as Jim Crow rules on southern trains."

Virgin Islands Governor William Hastie thought about being a civil engineer but went through Amherst mainly concerned with "obtaining a first class liberal college education."

Fisk University head Dr. Charles S. Johnson had not "defined clearly what career I wanted to follow" while in college, got his first lessons in sociology listening to Negro barbers and white customers while working as a porter. NAACP secretary Walter White left a good-paying job in an insurance office to become an NAACP investigator following his participation in an Atlanta campaign for Negro schools.

Bill Robinson, top tap dancer, at 23 was already a veteran in vaudeville. He was dancing in a Richmond show when 7, formed a dancing team at 17.

A. Philip Randolph, AFL porters union head, was studying Shakespeare while working as a waiter when 10. He wanted to be an actor.

J. Rosamond Johnson, noted musician and composer, was touring nation in vaudeville at 23. His mother gave him early musical training.

John A. Gregg, presiding AME bishop, graduated from a Kansas high school at 20 after working his way through as janitor.

W. C. Handy, foremost blues composer was teaching music at Alabama A. & M. at 24. His parents wanted him to be a minister.

C. C. Spaulding, head of biggest Negro insurance firm, was dishwasher and grocery clerk in his twenties.

Local Choir's Work Highly Acclaimed

FRONT PAGE — The Gospel Choir have brought high honors upon themselves and their church when they participated in the afternoon and evening program of the last session of the B.M.E. Conference held at Brantford.

Among the many numbers rendered: "My Lord and I" was especially appealing to all. Organist, Mrs. H. Brooks and conductor, Mr. James Brooks had worked jointly on arranging this selection. Other numbers sung by the choir were: "If I Could Just Make It In," "Yes God Is Real, I Can't Make the Journey by Myself", and a solo by James Brooks "Sweeter as the Years Go By". A duet by Mr. Mallott and Mrs. Berry.

ADA SPUER FISHER BEGINS LAW CLASSES AT OKLA. U.

NORMAN, Okla., June 23 — The legal education of Mrs. Ada Lois Spuer Fisher began at long last this week when the young woman was finally admitted to the University of Oklahoma law school after a 3½-year fight waged by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The case, instituted early in 1946 and carried to the United States Supreme Court by NAACP attorneys, was headed for the highest court again when the State of Oklahoma ordered the University to admit Mrs. Fisher this week.

At the present time, Mrs. Fisher is attending classes at the law school separated from white students by a rail. Her fellow students have threatened to remove the rail and reportedly have taken an affirmative vote on such action.

As she started to classes, the attractive young law student expressed her appreciation to her "many friends" who assisted her in the 42-month fight to gain admission to the law school and stated, "I expect to spend the rest of my life demonstrating to the State of Oklahoma that a mistake was made in attempting to prevent me from getting a legal education at the state university."

NAACP ASKS REOPENING OF GUAM MURDER TRIAL

NEW YORK — The legal department of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today requested of President Truman and the Air Force Adjutant General a reopening of the trial of Pts. Calvin and Herman Dennis and Robert Wesley Burns, convicted of murdering Ruth Farnsworth on the island of Guam.

The telegram sent by the NAACP stated that parents and relatives of the convicted men had requested the Association to intervene on their behalf. It further stated that after studying numerous reports concerning the conduct of the trial, the NAACP felt that justice could best be served if NAACP attorneys were offered an opportunity to intervene upon a review of the case by Air Force authorities.

Dedicate New Gym



ATLANTA — At dedication ceremonies for new gymnasium named after him at Morris Brown College here, Joe Louis is presented with a Lord Elgin watch by W. A. Fountain, Jr., president.

A GUARD OF THE SEPULCHER

I was a Roman soldier in my prime
Now age is on me and the yoke of time.

I saw your risen Christ, for I am he
Who reached the hyssop to Him on the tree;

And I am one of the two who watched beside

The sepulchre of Him we crucified.
The sepulchre of Him we crucified.

All that last night I watched with sleepless eyes;
Great stars arose and decreed across the skies.

The world was all too still for mortal rest,

For pitiless thoughts were busy in my breast.

The night was long, so long, it seemed at last

I had grown old and a long life had passed.

Far off the hills of Moab, touched with light

Were swimming in the halo of the night.

I saw Jerusalem all wrapped in cloud
Stretched like a dead thing, folded in a shroud.

Once in the pauses of our whispered talk

I heard a something on the garden walk,

Perhaps it was a crisp leaf, lightly stirred—

Perhaps the dream note of a waking bird.

Then Suddenly an angel burning white,

Came down with earthquake in the breaking light,

And rolled the great stone from the sepulchre

Mixing the morning with a scent of myrrh

And lo, the dead had risen with the day;

The man of mystery had gone His way.

Years have I wandered, carrying my shame;

Now let the tooth of time eat out my name.

—Selected

Cocoa Industry in Precarious Shape

Two centuries ago chocolate was banned in the court of France's prodigal Louis XIV because it was too expensive (\$3 a pound). Before long— if present price trends and cocoa tree disease continues—Americans will have to clamp down a similar curb on their chocolate budget. The British, who netted a neat profit of more than \$25,000,000 on their cocoa operations during the five war years, are standing pat on prices. They claim they are setting the money aside to guarantee a stable price for cocoa farmers during slump years if and when they come. And America's candy bill—of which chocolate is the biggest part—is still topping a billion dollars.

All indications are that while world demand for the tasty tidbits will continue high, the supply is going to go down. Some experts even talk of cocoa tree extinction in another 20 years. Only a few tropical places in the world are adaptable to the growing of the crop and in many of these areas the dread swollen shoot disease is killing off one out of every ten trees. The disease has cut God Coast cocoa production by 100,000 tons in ten years and is spreading swiftly while British biologists look vainly for some remedy. Brazil and Trinidad, once top cocoa producers in the world, were almost pushed off the cocoa map by tree disease. Tropical America until 1900 produced 80 per cent of the world's supply of cocoa.

Another threat to the livelihood of the three million British West Africans (average annual income \$52) now engaged in the cocoa industry is the U.S. determination to break the John Bull monopoly. First step has been the planting of more than a million cocoa trees in Liberia by the U.S.-financed Liberia Company. Other cocoa-planting projects are also under way in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

America which was 50 years behind Europe in opening its first chocolate factory (Walter Baker & Co. at Dorchester, Mass. in 1780) today has unchallenged world supremacy not only in making chocolate but also in eating it. However, although Negroes grow most of the world's supply, manufacture is virtually a lily-white occupation. The world's biggest plant at Hershey, Pa. has only a handful of Negroes among its 3,000 employees and these mostly in menial jobs. And the Hershey Industrial School, set up by the founder Milton Hershey and caring for 1,200 orphan boys, admits only "normal white orphan boys."

A smile is contagious, but the health department doesn't object. Be proficient—you can spell profit from the same letters.

Aim high, but don't stop shooting just because you missed the first few shots.

B.M.E. MEETING HERE NEXT YEAR

BRANTFORD, July 5 — Rev. J. T. Dawson, Toronto, general superintendent British Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada, today announced appointments to charges for the coming year.

Eleven men we re-appointed to charges they served last year.

G. Donaldson, London, a ministerial candidate, was appointed to fill a vacancy in Owen Sound circuit, and Clarence Johnson, London was appointed assistant to Rev. I. H. Edwards at London.

Mrs. Gladys Shreve, Windsor, was installed as president of the Sunday School convention and Young People's Societies.

Other officers are: Miss Y. M. Jackson, Windsor, vice-president; Miss Audrey Johnson, Windsor, recording secretary; Miss Wilma Hunt, Toronto, corresponding secretary, and Rev. T. H. Dougherty, Fort Erie, treasurer.

Announcement was made following the closing day of the annual session, that the 94th annual conference will be held next year at London, Ont. and the 23rd general conference at Toronto in September, of 1950.

NAACP BRINGS JUSTICE AGAIN

WASHINGTON — The United States Supreme Court recently handed down a 6-3 decision reversing the conviction of Robert Austin Watts of Indianapolis for murder, after an appeal from this conviction was argued before the high court by Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall and Assistant Special Counsel Franklin H. Williams of the N.A.A. C.P.

In announcing the reversal of the Watts conviction, Justice Felix Frankfurter asserted that there is "torture of mind as well as body" and pointed out that Watts had been subjected to continued grueling questioning and had been denied a preliminary hearing until days had elapsed.

"In holding that the Due Process Clause bars police procedure which violates the basic notions of our accusatorial mode of prosecuting crime and vitiates a conviction based on the fruits of such procedure," the majority opinion declared, "we apply the Due Process clause to its historic function of assuring appropriate procedure before liberty is curtailed or life is taken . . . The history of criminal law proves overwhelmingly that brutal methods of law enforcement are essentially self-defeating, whatever may be their effect in a particular case."

Mr. Justice Douglas in a special concurring opinion stressed the illegality of the practice of holding prisoners without arraignment for the sole purpose of extorting confessions from them.

Birds will not fly out of sight of the ground when there is a thick fog.

Dawn of Tomorrow

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CULTURE: A REAL DIAMOND, NEVER HAS TO FORCE ITSELF TO SPARKLE

by LANGSTON HUGHES

I don't think real culture is very much concerned with appearing to be culture. Some of the most learned people I have ever met did not wear their knowledge on their sleeves. Truly smart people do not have to act smart nor waste time convincing others of their intelligence.

When you meet somebody who immediately tries to impress you with his brilliance, you can just about be sure he is not very brilliant. A real diamond never has to force itself to speak. Only fake diamonds need to be turned this way and that to snatch a little light from without in order to shine within.

True culture does not depend, as a great many people seem to believe, on college degrees. Thousands of Americans have been through college, yet have no more culture than a dog. In fact, many have not as much, because a dog makes no distinction as to color, for example. But there are Princeton and even Harvard men who do not know how to behave decently toward a Negro or a Mexican or a Jew. Even with Ph.D.s such men could hardly be called cultured. Even with Dr. in front of their names, they are no cure for anything that ails humanity.

Pseudo-culture, however, is not limited to the white race. Dan Burley's Dr. Theodore Bill-Dog with his big car and large income from poor patients, putting on the Ritz in Tulsa, Okla., or Buffalo, N.Y., but not really knowing how to behave decently to a cat, being snobbish and ultra-conservative in a world moving steadily toward greater democracy everywhere, is not a cultured man. For Negroes to ape all the nouveau riche vices of wealthy whites, shows no signs of true culture at all.

A cultured man may have ever so much learning, but he does not lord it over persons who have less learning than he. A genuinely learned man does not use his learning to humiliate others or to put anybody "in his place." Culture, in the great and good sense that gives the word its dignity and respect, means using knowledge for the well-being and happiness and decency of mankind.

It does not mean using what knowledge one may acquire through good fortune, money, or college, to low-rate and look down upon others. The people looked down upon are the foundations of culture, anyhow. The millions who do the ordinary work of the world are the ones who support culture. They are the base of civilization's pyramid.

Without the Toms, Dicks, and Harrys of the work-a-day world, whose dollars and dimes pay the doctors and lawyers whose incomes permit them time and study to "pursue" culture, where would the refined and learned folks of this world be? They would be working for small salaries, too, and would remain as unlearned as the rest of us. So it ill behooves any of us to scorn the rest of us who may not be too clear about who Stravinski is, or Jean Paul Sartre.

Not everybody can afford to subscribe to the "Atlantic Monthly" or buy the latest books at three to five dollars each.

It's too bad colleges do not teach young people from non-intellectual homes that politeness is also a part of culture, and that parents who did not have an educational chance, but nevertheless made sacrifices to see that such a chance is given their children, deserve more than scornful toleration when the children come home full of book-learning—but too often, regrettably, no sense.

It is too bad more colleges do not teach good common sense and simple common sense. It is not intelligent to think that because one knows a little, one knows enough to look down one's nose at persons who may know less. In knowing less but better, sometimes folks who know the least are wisest after all.

LONDON NOTES

On Saturday, July 16th, Mr. Frank Howson and Mr. Jack Davis celebrated their birthdays, at a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howson. Mr. Howson and Mr. Davis throughout the last four years have made this celebration an annual event. Tables were set upon the lawn, illuminated by gay coloured lights. A delightful lunch was served. The evening was spent in sing songs. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Desmond Davis and family from Toronto; Mrs. Mallot from Brantford; Mrs. Parker from Toronto and many others.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Fisher and family from Inkster, Mich. visited with Mr. and Mrs. W. Berry and family for a few days.

On June 24th the young people of the B.M.E. Church took their choir and a host of entertainers to put on a programme at the 13th Concession Church. Among the entertainers were the Heavenly Choir Quartette; Hawaiian Quartette pupils of Miss E. Hill Adams, soloists Mr. Van William of Detroit who gave some splendid readings. Mr. Henry Edwards played a piano solo. Mrs. Rumble of Wellington United Church also gave some amusing readings. Mr. Frank Howson did a capable job as master of ceremonies for the evening.

Among the Londoners who attended the B.M.E. Annual Conference, which was a profitable one both spiritually and executive, at Brantford, were: Mrs. H. Fountain, Mrs. M. Harris, Mrs. E. Brooks, Mrs. B. Fountain, Mrs. W. Mallot, Mrs. G. Coursey, Mrs. H. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. B. Corray, Mrs. M. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. F. Howson, Mr. and Mrs. P. Louis; Misses Betty, Alethia and Elinor Mallot, Elinora Groat, Dorena Butler, Dorothy Fountain, Marion Jenkins.

On July 1st the Young People of the B.M.E. Church spent a very enjoyable day at Port Stanley where they held their closing picnic for the season.

Miss Marilyn McCurdy, Windsor, has been the guest of Mrs. Pearl Brown, 711 William St., London for the past few weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson of London visited friends in Brantford over the week end.

We are sorry to hear of the illness of Miss June Anderson and her smaller brother Stephen. Both children are in Victoria Hospital. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Moxley are spending their vacation visiting friends and relatives in Toronto.

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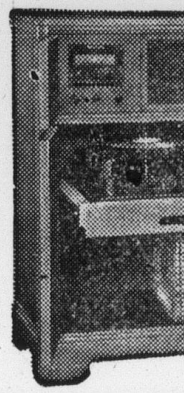
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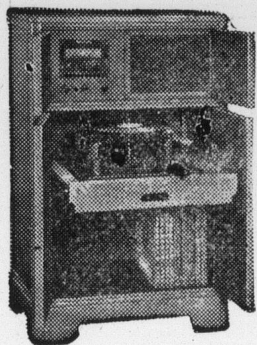
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TWO NEW ORLEANS MEN WERE FIRST NEGRO MILLIONAIRES

As far back as the halcyon days of King Solomon and Egypt's Pharaohs, there have been fabulously wealthy Negroes.

One of the first in America was sea captain Paul Cuffe who built up a small fortune at an early age with a fleet of sailing ships that plied the Atlantic between Boston, the West Indies and England. When he died in 1817, he left an estate of \$20,000. There is a granite memorial to him at Westport, Mass.

Before the Civil War, Negroes were counted among rich plantation owners, both free-born and freedom bought. Louisiana led all other states in black planter aristocracy. When Martin Donat died in 1848, he owned 89 slaves as well as notes and mortgages valued at \$46,000. The free Negroes of Charleston on the eve of the war possessed a million in real estate and nearly 4,000 slaves. The finest hotel in town was owned by free Jehu Jones.

Two New Orleans men were probably the first Negro millionaires in America. Francois Delacroix bought his freedom for \$2,000, became a tailor and amassed amazing wealth in seven figures. Catholic Thomy Lafon, a free Negro money lender of French-Haitian blood, became a millionaire from his operations that started in a grocery store. He gave away a fortune during his lifetime, left a half million to religious and educational institutions, mostly white.

Not all the wealthy Negroes of the 19th Century were in the South, however. The richest was a Philadelphia Negro, Co. John McKee, whose name recently gained front page prominence when his grandson quit "passing" as a Wall Street Lawyer and went into court to claim the trust fund of \$800,000 left by McKee. However, the 67-year-old attorney died before the courts could settle his claim.

The original Colonel McKee left \$2,000,000 when he died in 1902. He was a Virginia Negro, born free, who was apprenticed to a bricklayer at an early age. Later he went to Philadelphia to work in a livery stable and then a restaurant. After marrying his employer's daughter and taking over the business, he began to dabble in real estate. He ran up a fortune by providing homes in Philadelphia for migrating Negroes in exchange for property owned by them in the South. One such transaction netted him lands rich in soft coal. With the money he made on his Southern real estate, he invested in property in the North and at one time was supposed to have owned 1,000,000 acres of land. At the time of his death, his property included 400 Philadelphia houses and 20,000 acres in Steuben County, New York. He was founder and owner of McKee City, New Jersey (which still exists today with a population of 185).

LONDON NOTES

Sunday, July 3rd, Mr. James Brook chartered a bus which carried a number of Londoners to Brantford for the annual sessions of the B.M.E. Conference.

London delegates to the B.M.E. Conference were: Mrs. S. Johnson, Mr. G. Donaldson and Garnet Brooks. At this conference Mr. G. Donaldson was ordained and assigned to a post in Owen Sound. Mr. Clarence Johnson was given the position of assistant to Rev. J. H. Johnson.

Mr. William Myers of Toronto was a guest at the Jenkins-Howson home for the week end.

Mrs. Parker accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. B. Allen, of Toronto has been visiting friends and relatives in London recently.

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THE DAWN OF TO-MORROW

LONDON NOTES

A recent tonsilectomy was performed on 4 children of the same family on the same day. These children who can now brag of not having tonsils which need to be removed are: Misses Patricia and Marion Turner; Messrs. William and Henry Turner. All four children have recovered from their operations with no serious repercussions.

Miss Doreena Butler of Lucan has accepted a position in London while on her summer vacation from school.

Mrs. M. Hackett and children have returned to their home in Texas. Mr. Hackett will follow at a later date.

A lovely reception was held on Thursday, July 14 at the B.M.E. Church. The reception was held in honor of the return of Rev. and Mrs. Edwards to the astorate at London, the farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson, who are accepting the charge at Owen Sound for the coming year and the welcoming of Mr. Clarence Johnson as assistant minister here. A delicious luncheon was served in the daintily decorated Sunday School Room. Rev. Edwards was presented with a bronze desk lamp. Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Donaldson, a breakfast set. Mr. Donaldson was given a leather brief case and Clarence Johnson a leather-bound Bible. Mrs. Brooks was honoured for her service as one of the church organists for the past 10 years. She was presented with a purse. Presentations were made by Mrs. Gladys Coursey, Mrs. S. Johnson, Mrs. F. Howson and Mrs. C. Jenkins. The reception which was well attended was sponsored by friends, members and well wishers of the B.M.E. Church.

Mr. Graham Lawry, of Guelph Veterinary College visited friends for a few hours in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Evans of the city have recently returned from a motor trip to Nova Scotia where they spent an enjoyable time visiting friends and relatives.

We are sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. J. Hooper. Mr. Hooper is a patient at Victoria Hospital where we wish him a speedy recovery.

Miss Beatrice Timbers of Chatham accompanied by a number of friends enjoyed a picnic at Port Stanley and spent a few hours in London.

Mr. Louis Groat of Toronto visited his family in London over the week end.

Miss Christina Jenkins is spending her vacation in Detroit where she is visiting relatives.

Miss Betty Mallott intends to spend her holidays in New York City where she will visit for one week.

Miss Hilda Brown who's home is in Antiqua has completed her course at the U.W.O. and is en route to her home in the B.W.I. where she will be married.

The tag day sponsored by the B. M. E. Church was a success. We thank the many donors who contributed to the day.

Mr. Ross Jenkins has received his First Class Certificate as a teacher from the London Normal School.

Congratulations to Mr. Aston McEachron on the opening of his new restaurant the "Shangrila". Mr. McEachron is bringing fine talent to the London public. We wish him success in this new undertaking.

CHUBBY CALIFORNIA 3-YEAR-OLD SHOWS AMAZING MEMORY AS STAR OF WHIZ QUIZ RADIO PROGRAM

At the age when most kiddies are spending their time playing with blocks and "pull" toys, a three-year-old, chubby California Negro youngster busies himself by dabbling in "head" work which runs the mental scale from figuring square roots to solving chemical formulas. He's tiny Michael James Croques (pronounced Kro-Kay), Oakland kid genius who recently starred as the youngest and smartest small fry ever to appear on the nationwide ABC Whiz Quiz radio program.

Doing the astounding is nothing new for the cherubic colored kid whose father is a real estate broker and mother a schoolteacher. Mickey started creating mild sensations as far back as his eighth day when a nurse was giving him an oil bath. Lying on his stomach then, the brown baby was having trouble breathing and started turning his head from one side to the other to gain breath. His grandmother, Margaret Allen, saw the movement and shouted, "I've never seen anything like it."

Growing up, Mickey piled up one amazing feat after the other. At four months his mother was showing the lad a passing train while holding him at a window. The boy wonder heard the engine's sound, then mimicked, "Choo, Choo!" His mother was so surprised that she almost dropped him.

The youngster completed his first sentence at 10 months when he mumbled, "I go to market in car." He could walk at nine months and was able to hold an interesting conversation with grownups many weeks before he was a year old.

When Mickey was about eleven months old he had mastered a count up to ten by two's. His knack of

working with numbers developed fast and before long the baby brain was digging up answers to square root and chemistry problems.

Because Mickey is highly versatile, many California child psychologists believe that the boy will make good in any field he chooses for a life profession. His mother thinks he might excel in mathematics. But when Mickey is asked what he wants to be when grown up he always replies, "I want to be a doctor."

Most of Mickey's "idle" hours are spent rambling through books. By the time he was 15 months old, the tot had worn out three ABC primers. He now keeps his aunt busy bringing home books for him from Oakland Public Library where she works.

Only books Mickey likes are those which have stories beginning with, "Once upon a time." When he's at a book, the youngster usually sits on the floor and digs through page after page in search of pictures or words he knows by sight.

A one-foot measurement was at one time actually estimated by the length of a man's foot.

Male and female ostriches take turns sitting on their eggs, males working on the night shift.

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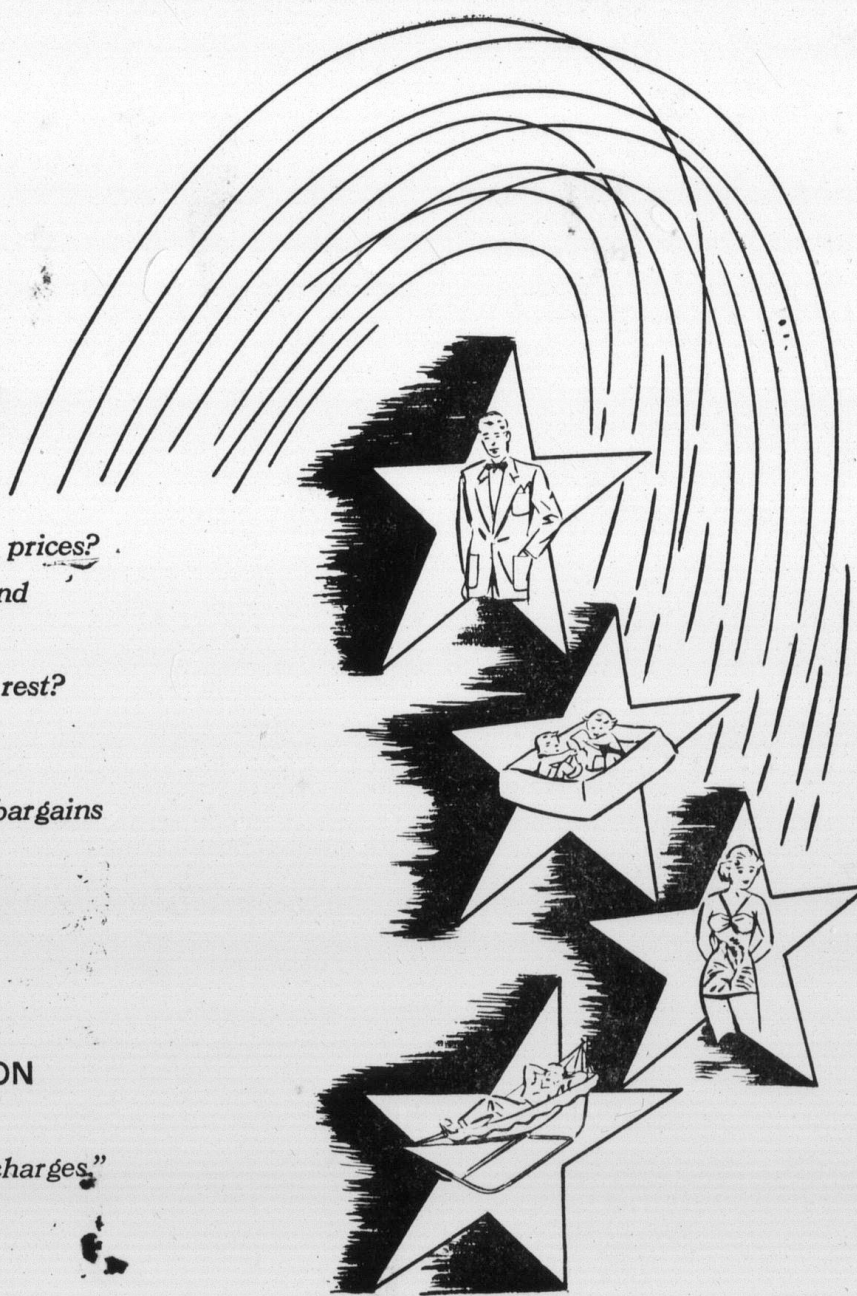
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VOL. IV—NO. 42

Spiritual "Find" Due On The

HOLLYWOOD — Sister Carr of Cleveland, Ohio, been touring the south and west for the past four months to arrive in Hollywood



for a recording session. Sister Carr's first spiritual claim with her first SPE recording of "Each Day," "Lord Jesus." Her message delivery is done with power and sincerity that has ed listeners throughout

CLOTURE VOTE IS PRIME

New York — With scheduled to take up FEPC bill in the next few porters of the measure a vote for cloture to shuster is the prime need

"All supporters of F tion should write to th at once urging them to ture and then to vote f McGrath bill," said acting secretary of the socation for the Adv Colored People.

"Some Republicans a mocrats have already i will vote for cloture, b sent moment sufficient openly on record. Th cations that the Dixie have enough votes solie prevent cloture. Or southern daily paper, Morning News, and newspapers (Scripps-I both asserted that th lack the votes at the p prevent cloture. Thi there are a number of ators who have not d one way or the other.

"Our primary job i is to get Senators on ture. The argument should be that regar they feel about the k should vote to shut o so the bill can have f be voted upon. Both Democrats should be port cloture."