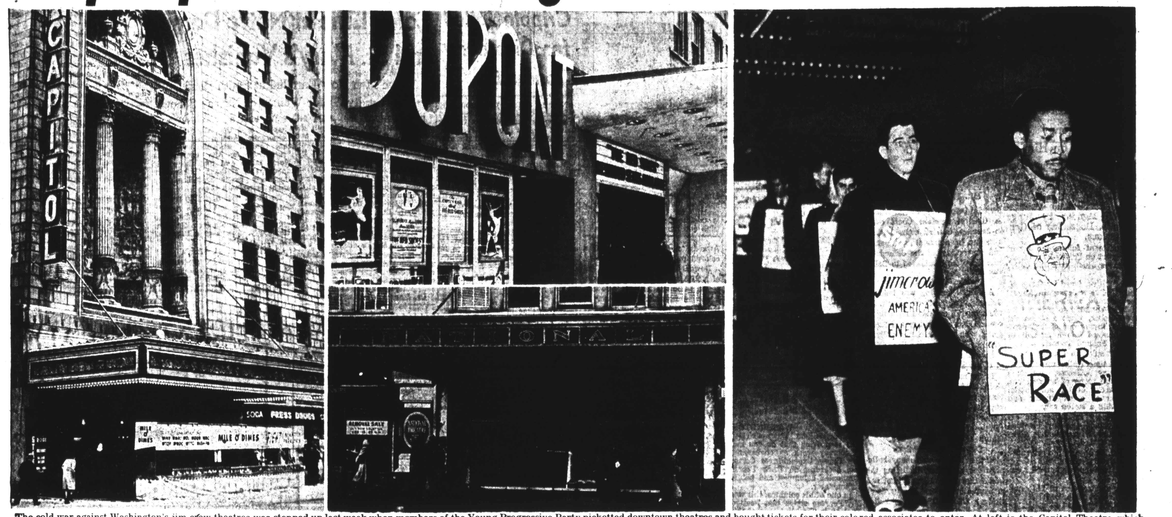
Step Up Cold War Against Theatre Jim Crow



The cold war against Washington's jim crow theatres was stepped up last week when members of the Young Progressive Party picketted downtown theatres and bought tickets for their colored associates to enter. At left is the Capitol Theatre which steadfastly refused to lower its color line. The Dupont Theatre (upper center) at Dupont Circle and Connecticut Avenue permits all races to enter it has been packing them in for the past several weeks with the sensational British Art picture "The Red Shoes." The famous National Theatre (lower center) only legitimitate theatre in the city, was black listed by the Theatre Actors Guild and closed its doors rather than change its undemocratic policy. At right are members of the Young Progressives picketting the Capitol Theatre last week.

Tan Patrons Crash Keith as Ticket Taker Wails

Shatters Racial 'Myth' in Two Theatres Young Progressives' Picket Strategy

WASHINGTON

The myth that white patrons of downtown Washington theatres will not accept colored patrons in the downtown houses was shattered Saturday when two of the latter spent the afternoon in the "for whites only" Keith Theatre.

They were in a group of Young Progressives of America picketing the Keith and two other downtown theatres because of their discriminatory policies.

A Progressive Party spokesman told the AFRO that Miss Esther Johnson and Albert Criss entered the theatre with Miss Marsha Winstead and a Mr. Goldstein, both white, with tickets purchased for them by party members.

Patrons Undisturbed

They took their seats about 3:30 p.m., saw the movie without incident, and left at 5:15 p.m.

The party spokesman stated: "Nobody cut the show and the patrons paid no more attention to the presence of Miss Johnson and Mr. Criss than they did to any other patrons."

Manager's Statement

Hardie Meakin, Keith manager, said his ticket taker was alone at the time Miss Johnson and Mr. Criss "brushed" past him.

Two other colored persons who attempted to enter the theatre were unsuccessful as Meakin called up reinforcements at the ticket door. They were told by the manager: "We reserve the right not to admit those we don't want to admit."

Commenting further, Meakin said: "We don't want to be the first ones to break down the segregation policy which has been established here for 100 years."

The Young Progressives also attempted to crash the Capitol and Warner theatres but were unsuccessful. However, they picketed them throughout the evening. They plan to continue the picketing indefinitely.

Postal Employee Fired as Disloyal

PHILADELPHIA

A postal employee with more than 28 years' service was one of the first 100 or more post office workers discharged last week as a result of the nationwide "loyalty probe" conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The 28-year-man, William Ridgeway of 3416 Hamilton St., was accused of being a member of the National Negro Congress for more than two years and being executive secretary and treasurer of the local chapter.

Denies Charges

He was also accused of having attended NNC meetings regularly, having attended a convention in Detroit in 1946 and of being sympathetic with well known Communists."

The NNC was one of the organizations listed by Attorney General Tom Clark as subversive. It was then, Ridgeway said, that he resigned, after being a member for only 11 months.

He said he never held office as executive secretary and told the loyalty board that he attended the convention in Detroit as an observer for the Mutual Association of Postal Employees.

He insisted that no subversive material had been presented nor had any such views been discussed in his presence while he was a member of the congress. He withdrew, however, when the national office failed to furnish a satisfactory declaration of policy, he added.

Says Friends Are Not "Reds"

With regard to his sympathetic association with Communists, Ridgeway maintained that "no breath of suspicion" had ever been raised against the persons with whom he was and still is friendly in his job or social contacts.

He is married to Mrs. Sophelia Ridgeway, and is a member of long standing in the Amicitia Club, one of the city's most popular social organizations.

Official figures are not available, but it is reported that an overwhelming majority of the Federal employees under investigation are colored persons or Jews.

CHICAGO FIRE CAUSES $5,000 DAMAGES TO CHURCH

CHICAGO (ANP) — A 2-alarm fire resulting from a defective heating system last week caused an estimated $5,000 damage to the Mount Vernon Baptist Church.

'One-Man Riot' at Theatre Staged by Trouble Maker

GREENVILLE, N. C.—George R. Whitfield, 33, described by police as "a trouble maker with a police record in Scotland Neck, was arrested last week charged with creating a "one-man riot" at the Plaza Theater for colored patrons on Albemarle Ave.

He was charged with trespassing; assaulting John Warner, the theater manager; assaulting Policeman Norman Little; using vulgar and profane language; and being disorderly.

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LIBERALS' RIFT SHARPENS:

Truman Greets One Group, Snubs Other

WASHINGTON

The civil liberties issue is not only becoming a political football in the halls of Congress, but is also causing definite alignments on the outside among organizations pressing for enactment of the Truman program, it became apparent this week.

Tip off to the situation came last week, when Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune withdrew from a civil rights call issued by Dr. J. Ernest Wilson for February 11 and 12, after she had an audience with President Truman at the White House on last Tuesday.

In withdrawing her name and that of her organization, Mrs. Bethune took a slap at some of the organizations associated with the Elks' chief in sponsoring the Legislative Assembly.

Wallace, Robeson Backers

The sponsoring list includes such names as Henry A. Wallace, Paul Robeson, William L. Patterson of the Conference of Human Welfare, outstanding leaders of the Progressive Party and many others considered "leftists."

The cleavage became even more significant over the week end, when the name of the National Council of Negro Women appeared on the list sponsoring a National Citizens Conference on Civil Liberties scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 15, and Wednesday, Feb. 16, under the sponsorship of the Civil Liberties Clearing House.

Many of the organizations listed for the Elks' rally were absent from those sponsoring the later conference.

To make the differences more significant, President Truman, himself, sent a letter endorsing the Citizens Conference, but sent no such communications to the Elks.

In his letter to E. Raymond Wilson, chairman of the National Civil Liberties Clearing House, Mr. Truman said:

"Please accept my best wishes for a successful gathering of the National Citizens Conference on Civil Liberties which will be held in Washington, Feb. 15-17.

"We must provide a solid foundation for the future growth of our country. Of great importance to the present future generations of America is the development of a program of civil liberties guaranteeing to all people the heritage of freedom which we have received from the founders of this Nation.

Halls Founders' Principles

"A free system can endure only when there is freedom of opinion, expression, and conscience

"Your conference has a great responsibility in formulating the kind of program which will give added strength to the principles of freedom which have come down to us from the Fathers of the Constitution."

A spokesman at the office of J. Finley Wilson told the AFRO, on Monday, that no effort had been made to solicit an endorsement of the Elks rally from the President, but he had been asked for a conference appointment for a delegation from the rally.

Assembly Well Supported

Sen. William Langer (Rep. N. Dak.), former Vice President Henry A. Wallace, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (Dem., N.Y.) and Perry Howard, Republican National Committeeman from Mississippi, are among the principal speakers participating in the opening day's proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks announced. Monday.

Neither Mr. Wallace, the Southern Conference of Human Welfare, nor any members of the Progressive Party are listed on the Civil Liberties Conference roster.

Students' Work Cuts Delinquency

150 Help at Centers, Get College Credit

NEW YORK—While getting college credit, 150 City College students are helping to reduce juvenile delinquency and to improve race relations on the upper West Side by spending some of their time working in the playgrounds and community centers of the Hamilton Grange neighborhood.

These students, who are majoring in sociology, education and psychology, are taking part in a project started and operated by City College Community Service Division as an influence against juvenile delinquency in an area where racial tension was high.

Started in 1945

The students work in the craft shops and help on the playing fields. This project was begun in the spring of 1945, and, according to Professor Harry M. Shulman, director of the service division, the delinquency rate has dropped 73%.

The service division plans to expand the program next month. Professor Shulman said, as he described the activities of the student participants and some of the results of the program.

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N.Y. State Bill Would End Banking, Insurance Bias

NEW YORK — (NNPA) —State Senator Joseph Zaretzki has opened a fight in the New York State Senate to prevent banks and insurance companies from discriminating against minority groups in the handling of mortgage loans, fire insurance and automobile liability insurance.

The Democratic Senator, whose district covers Harlem and Washington Heights, has introduced a bill in the Senate which would prohibit banks and insurance companies from discriminating in this manner. He has also introduced a bill which would bar insurance companies from discriminating in the placing of fire insurance on buildings because of the race, color or creed of the owner or occupants of the building.

It is an "established fact," Senator Zaretzki said, "that banks and insurance companies will not make loans at all on Harlem property or else will offer such small loans as to make it impossible for the owner to accept the loan."

He also stated that it is difficult to obtain fire insurance on property located in Harlem and equally as difficult for colored people to obtain insurance on their automobiles.

If the bills which he introduced are not passed, the Senator said, other bills would be introduced calling for the creation of State-owned and State-controlled insurance companies to serve all residents of New York.

Still another bill introduced by Senator Zaretzki would prohibit a juror from testifying on behalf of a witness charged with a crime on which the juror is sitting as a member of the jury.

Pointing out that the recent situation of this kind which took place in Georgia can be duplicated under the laws of the State of New York, Senator Zaretzki said his bill would remove the possibility of such an occurrence in New York although no such incident has occurred here in modern times.

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What A Doctor Discovered For Women Who Feel Nervous, Weak, Tired Out, Run-down
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It's called Dr. Mott's Celery Compound Prescription, at all druggists today for the Pierce's Favorite Prescription. At druggists, 60z. big bottle, only $1.00.

Fisk Piano Instructor Heard in Jacksonville

NASHVILLE — Miss Amelia Myers, instructor in piano at the Fisk University music department, was presented in a recital on Feb. 7 in Jacksonville, Fla. The affair was sponsored by the local chapter of the Delta Kappa Sorority in that city.

Miss Myers has degrees from Florida A. and M. College and from Fisk. She has also studied at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City, as a General Education Board fellow during 1947-48.

(Advertisement)
TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR INSIDES
NOSE MOUTH PHARYNX GALL BLADDER LIVER STOMACH TRANSVERSE COLON DUODENUM SMALL INTESTINE ASCENDING COLON DESCENDING COLON RECTUM
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At all drug stores everywhere in Baltimore, 60 cents. Money back.

They Discussed Judgeship With Sen. Myers in D.C.

This committee of Philadelphians saw Sen. Francis J. Myers (Dem., Pa.) in Washington, last week, and urged him to back Raymond Pace Alexander for one of the proposed Federal judgeships. Shown as they waited to board train in 30th St. Station are, (l. to r.) right: Benjamin Segal, Granville Jones, member of State Legislature and Democrat leader of 47th Ward; the Rev. Arthur W. Jones, president of Baptist Ministers' Conference; and Mrs. Susan Monroe and the Rev. D. W. Haggard, both members of the State Legislature. They were joined in the Capital by the Rev. Marshall Shephard, recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia.

Efforts Needed to Obtain Full Citizenship Outlined

STORMONT, Va.—"Colored citizens must build up in the race a moral, spiritual, intellectual, economic and political background that will lend strength as a racial unit to the American way of life," W. Lester Banks, executive secretary of the Virginia State Conference of the NAACP, declared Feb. 4 at a banquet.

The formal affair was held at Middlesex Training School and members of the Middlesex membership committee were honored.

After outlining the accomplishments of the association, and revealing the tasks which lie ahead to secure full citizenship rights, Mr. Banks stressed the importance of cooperation, manhood and womanhood as essential to good American citizenship.

Voting Strength Stressed

The speaker cited statistics to show the urgent need for colored persons to increase their voting strength in the State in order to play a role in the affairs of government.

In commending the membership committee for its efforts which have kept the Middlesex branch a leader in rural branch memberships, Mr. Banks called attention to the 40th NAACP anniversary observance which is to be celebrated with a nation-wide broadcast on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. over NBC.

The State secretary explained the new $2 minimum membership fee which went into effect last Jan. 1; and praised the association for its 39 years of constructive work without raising or changing its $1 fee.

Small Price For Freedom

Concluding, Mr. Banks declared, "Two dollars is a small price to pay for one's freedom."

J. B. Johnson was toastmaster. Invocation was given by Rev. Grant Gibson.

Z. Willis, an ex-realty broker, is said to visit night clubs, drink, and gamble with the money belonging to Mrs. Thelma Thornton rendered a solo. Other speakers included: J. A. Jones, branch president; G. B. Harris, secretary; Dr. M. Tony, the Rev. B. H. Gayles, James Robinson, principal of Middlesex Training School, and G. James Gilliam, field secretary of the Negro Organization Society.

Gilliam urged colored persons to get inferiority complexes out of their system. Today's program calls for intelligence and we must be an intelligent race, he concluded.

Shriners Host 3,000 Guests

PHILADELPHIA

More than 3,000 persons jammed the two main auditoriums of Reynolds' Hall, 1416 N. Broad St., and at least half that number was turned away Friday night when Pyramid Temple ◆No. 1 of the Shriners presented its annual ball.

A highlight of the affair was the surprise party given during intermission for Noble Dick White, the orchestra leader, who celebrated his birthday anniversary on Feb. 1.

Party hosts included:

Mrs. Lee Huckaby, sister of the promoter; Misses Helen Dow, Virginia Nichols, Myrtle Shields and Caroline Brooks; Nathan Dow, Carven Nichols and Joseph DeShields.

Temple officers are:

Ralph H. Jones, potentate; James McDaniels, chief rabban; William T. Taylor Jr., assistant rabban; Walter Willis, oriental guide; Peter Graham, high priest and prophet; John Moore, treasurer, and Leonard Ricks, secretary.

Members of the ball committee were:

William Howe and John Don Perry, co-chairmen; James Wells, Mack Scott, William Taylor Jr., Arthur Strothers, Charles C. Rice, and Leonard Ricks.

Lorenzo R. Herndon, Charles L. Herndon, Ralph Lester, Leroy Jones, Jesse Rodgers, Wilson Swinson and James B. Davidson.

Bondsman

Perry W. Howard Jr., 35, recently approved as bondsman by the District and Municipal Courts in Washington. He is the first colored bondsman in the Capital since J. Walter Stewart retired several years ago. A former state Post Office employee, he served also three years in the Army and helped build the famed Lido Military Road in South western Asia.

Smoking in Bed Fatal to 2 Women

WASHINGTON

Smoking in bed caused the death of two adult women, last week, and caused a 39-year-old man burns on his face.

The Red Cross reported 74 District residents treated at local hospitals last week and three fatalities, all due to home accidents.

The breakdown of injuries listed 30 falls, seven burns, three accidental poisonings, three injuries in the eye, nose, throat and stomach, 11 cuts, four bruises and 12 miscellaneous.

Variety of Accidents

A 30-year-old man in under treatment at Episcopal Hospital for chemical eye burns. He used acid by mistake for eye drops.

Another freak accident occurred to an 8-year-old boy who was struck in the eye with a marble thrown through a window by another child. While putting her hair, a 14-year-old girl accidentally swallowed a plastic curler.

Children ate soap powder, bath powder, roach powder and drank strong disinfectants. Three babies sustained first and second degree burns when hot coffee and tea were spilled. Two women suffered burns when their ovens exploded.

Child Injured While Sewing

While carrying a ladder upstairs, a middle-aged man fell and fractured his rib. A 3-year-old boy was pushed from a porch by a playmate and broke his arm. While sewing doll clothes, a little girl stepped on a needle which became imbedded in her foot.

A comparison of statistics with last year shows an increase in home accidents for 1949 and a decrease in fatalities, to date.

Minimum Wage Bill Wins Favor

House Group Urged to Back Legislation

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— The House Labor Committee was urged last week from many sources to vote favorably on a bill to increase the minimum wage for workers throughout the nation.

At the same time Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York introduced a bill calling for a 50 cents per hour minimum wage for all workers in the Panama Canal zone and time and one-half for any work performed over a 40-hour week.

Farm Workers Favored

Unexpected support for the extension of minimum wages to farm workers employed in industrialized agriculture also developed in the past few days.

Chairman John Lesenski of the House Labor Committee brought in a new Fair Labor Standards bill workers under minimum wage protections of the act.

Kemper Elementary School of Arlington became one of the two schools to make a perfect score this school year in the weekly radio "Quizdown" conducted by a Washington newspaper.

The Kemper team, composed of Elwood Chunn, 10, grade 5A, 2605 Seminar Rd.; George Johnson, 12, 6A, 1919 Monroe St.; Barbara Volin, 9, grade 4, 3104 19th St., and Yvonne Boswell, 10, grade 5B, 1911 S. Lorton St. answered all their questions correctly.

Rival Teams

They were competing with rivals from the Hoffman-Boston School, three of which contestants had perfect scores.

Members of the Hoffman-Boston team were Ernestine Ling, 11, grade 6B, 1203 S. Refe St.; Barbara Lee Frye, 10, grade 4A, 1702 S. 14th St.; Mildred Purtyear, 10, grade 5B, 1906 Eo Place Dr., and Albert E. Ross, 12, grade 6B, 1316 S. Queen St., all in Arlington.

6 Make Straight "A's" at Arkansas State

PINE BLUFF, Ark.—Six persons made straight "A's" for the fall quarter at Arkansas State A. M. and N. College, according to a report released by Mrs. Charlie S. Henderson, registrar.

They were Virginia M. Burke, junior of El Dorado, Kenneth N. Colby, sophomore of E. St. Louis, Ill.; Mrs. Marie C. Harris, special student from Pine Bluff, Edward E. Mays, junior, Pine Bluff, Marjorie Nauden, freshman from Wynne, and Norma J. Ward, E.

Virginians Plan School for Girls

RICHMOND, Va. (ANP)— The State Department of Welfare announced here recently that a temporary structure will be erected to replace the academic building destroyed by fire at the Virginia Industrial School for Girls.

A permanent building which is in the progress of being planned will be erected later.

The need for a larger academic building has been recognized by State authorities for some months due to the enlarged program of the school the department stated. The temporary building will also serve as a storage place for the school.

Randolph P-TA to Air Double-Shift Classes

RICHMOND

Discussion of a report on overcrowded conditions in junior primary grades, necessitating double-shift classes through the second grade, will feature the Founders' Day program of the Randolph School P-TA Thursday (today) at 8 p.m.

Also highlighting the annual observance at Randolph will be continuation of discussion on the topic, "Understanding Your Children," according to Mrs. Emily Baskerville, president of the Randolph P-TA.

At 3 p.m. the same day, Sidney School Parent-Teacher Association will meet. It was announced by Mrs. Ethel P. Horne, president. Both meetings, to be held in the schools, will be open to the public.

Rep. Dawson Leads Fight for Reorganization Bill

WASHINGTON—For the first time since the Reconstruction Days, a colored Congressman led legislation on the floor of the House of representatives. The measure was Federal Reorganization Bill, introduced by Representative William L. Dawson (Dem., Ill.) The bill passed by a 206-9 vote.

The bill gives wider powers to President Truman in reorganizing the huge Executive Branch of the Government under terms which required submission of his proposed reorganization to Congress. Whatever Mr. Truman proposes will be effective at the end of 60 days unless both houses vote disapproval.

The bill now goes to the Senate for action. Representative Dawson as chairman of the Expenditures Committee led the floor battle for passage of the legislation. Only one Democrat, Rep. Rankin of Mississippi, opposed the bill. The other eight dissenters were Republicans.

4,500 Harlem Families Aided by Welfare Society

Nonsectarian Agency Appeals for $1,400,000; Scholarships, Health Services Provided

NEW YORK—Nearly 4500 Harlem families benefitted from the welfare and health programs of the Community Service Society during the past year, according to figures released by Mrs. Peyton F. Anderson of 61 W. 130th St., in an appeal for support of the Society's current emergency 101st Year Fund appeal for $1,400,000.

Mrs. Anderson, a member of the board of trustees of the C.S.S., the city's largest voluntary nonsectarian family and health agency, was announced as chairman of the campaign in Harlem by General Chairman S. Spencer Scott, president of Harcourt, Brace and Co., publishers.

She also serves as vice-chairman of the women's committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Elkworth M. Stalter. "Many families have turned to the agency when worries and troubles became too big to handle without help," Mrs. Anderson pointed out.

Long Range Programs

"The C.S.S. not only serves families' everyday needs through its counselling, dental and nursing services, but also points the way to long-range civic improvement programs through its research work and pioneering in such fields as housing and health.

"In addition, since 1939, the Harlem District Committee of the C.S.S. has made scholarships available to 39 colored college graduates for professional social work study at the Society's New York School of Social Work, Columbia University," Mrs. Anderson, widow of Dr. Peyton F. Anderson, declared.

Statistics released by Mrs. Anderson in connection with the current appeal, show that 4,331 Harlem families, including 12,710 individuals, 5,520 of them under 16 years of age, were served by the Community Service Society during the past year.

2,366 Received Counsel

Of these families, 2,366 received confidential, counsel and guidance through the Harlem District Office, 103 E. 125th St., Riverside District Office, 2112 Broadway, and Jefferson District Office, 19 E. 110th St. Among the problems were those involving broken homes, delinquency, burdensome debts, care of the aged and illness.

In addition, 478 families received nurses' health service and 202 families received nutrition teaching. Dental service was provided for 2,312 patients from 1,810 families at the Lenox-Harlem Dental Clinic, 67 W. 125th St. Among the 2,139 persons attending the Society's camps last summer were 420 Harlem children.

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And here's the amazing thing! The action of FEEN-A-MINT's special medicine stays in the stomach! It acts not in the stomach, but when it is farther along in the lower digestive tract . . . where you want it to act. Therefore, chewing FEEN-A-MINT does not upset the stomach—leaves you feeling fine.
Try FEEN-A-MINT—at any drug counter. At 25¢, 50¢ or only 10¢
FEEN-A-MINT FAMOUS CHEWING-GUM LAXATIVE

JOHN HENRY NEWSPME
Pullman porter switched to Calvert Reserve when he found it so much smoother and mellower.
*of 224 East 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
CALVERT RESERVE Blended Whiskey 86.8 Proof. 65% Grain Neutral Spirits. Product is now delighted. Write NOW, 50¢ Calvert Distillers Corp., New York City

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MAKE THIS EASY 7-DAY TEST
Just try JURLENE SYSTEM on your hair 7 days and see if you are really enjoying the pleasure of ATTRACTIVE HAIR that can be very your being. Love and Romance.
MARVELOUS HELP FOR DRY BRITTLE BREAKING-OFF HAIR
Yes! LONGER HAIR IS POSSIBLE when weak and hair conditions are corrected and dry, brittle, breaking-off hair is made healthy. Hair is thicker and longer . . . and much more beautiful. JURLENE is not a hair restorative. $10.00 MONEY - FULLY GUARANTEED! Just try the JURLENE SYSTEM for 7 days. Then see how it improves the thrilling results. JURLENE comes in 2 Forms: Formula (1) Liquid. SEND FOR IT TODAY. C.O.D. $1.00 plus Government Tax. It is fully guaranteed. Use it 7 days. If not as we say it is not delighted. Write NOW. SEND TODAY!
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FEELING POORLY?
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