A Jewish Community Shows How

What Happened When A Colored Couple Moved Into A Jewish Neighborhood Where The Landlord Was Hostile

Editor's Note: Many persons living outside of New York City erroneously believe that there is little or no racial prejudice existing in this city of eight million people.

Actually, at times, one can find just as many attempts at racial discrimination in New York City as can be found in Georgia or Mississippi.

The big difference, the factor that makes New York City what it is, is the strong civil rights law which the City and State have enacted against such bias, and even more important, the democratic climate of public opinion which can immediately be marshalled against such bias whenever it is spotlighted in the public eye.

In the following series of articles, James L. Hicks reports on three attempts at racial discrimination in New York, one of which has already been settled by the force of public opinion, and two others which are currently being fought. Mr. Hicks will follow these two cases and report their conclusion to AFRO readers.

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK, N.Y.—This is the story of a Jewish community's fight to show the light of democracy to one of their own — to prove to a Jewish landlord that an American citizen is entitled to decent housing irrespective of his race, creed or color.

It is a common story which appears in the press of America today—the story of a colored family being rejected from decent housing because of its race.

What makes this story unusual is the fact that the good people of the community have taken the matter in their own hands and expressed a determination to fight the case all the way to the Supreme Court if the landlord does not change her position.

It's a story that proves that racial prejudice exists in New York as it does in other places. But it also proves that New York is the great city that it is because the majority of its citizens are willing to grab the bull by the horns and do something about it.

90 Percent Jewish

The central figures in the story are a young colored couple, Julius Carter, 26, and his young wife Madie Carter, Raymond Weinstein and his pretty young wife, Helene, and Mrs. Rose Shaffer a Jewish woman who owns an apartment at 491 E. 45th St. in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, where the population is about 90 percent or more Jewish.

Six weeks ago the Carters who have three children were evicted from their apartment and found themselves with no place to live. The Weinsteins invited them to live in their apartment as guests and took over the home of Mr. Weinstein's parents to make room for them.

Mrs. Shaffer, the landlord, objected. The Weinsteins are convinced that the objection is raised because the Carters are colored. The landlady claims a violation of the lease.

To The Courts

On August 7, Mrs. Shaffer planned to move in the courts for the eviction of the Carters. The Weinsteins have marshalled the support of the community of Crown Heights and plan to fight her on every turn.

It was the privilege of this reporter to sit in on a meeting at the East Flatbush Neighborhood Center and watch 26 freedom loving Americans, 19 whites and one colored, map plans to ward off the eviction of the colored family.

Here was democracy in action at its best. The Weinsteins were there and they told of the situation of the Carters. It would be safe to state that no member of the group, except one, was past 35 years old. Most of them were between 20 and 30 years old—young Americans, married, living in decent housing, making their way in the world, and desiring to give all other Americans the same chance.

A representative of the East Flatbush Center presided. They discussed ways and means of arousing public opinion in the matter.

Each person present represented some strong Jewish organization in the community such as the Jewish War Veterans and others, and one recalled a similar case where a letter from the complaining family had been circulated through the community in which the entire story would be told concerning the racial bias of the landlord.

2,000 Letters

It was agreed that this should be done, that about 2,000 copies of the letter should be distributed. This naturally called for money for the printer.

One Jewish veteran rose and said, "If we all chip in a half dollar we'll raise the money." As he spoke, another veteran rose with a half dollar in his hand and collected a half dollar from the young girl next to him.

By the time he reached me the group had contributed $8.50 and a Jewish printer present said he'd print the letters for that amount.

Then came the problem of distribution of the letters. Despite the fact that the New York heat is terrific and the Jewish people are a beach loving people, nine of the group immediately volunteered to give up their Sunday to distribute the letters to homes in the neighborhood. It made me feel good to see the only colored girl present volunteer for this.

Call On Rabbi

Next came plans for other means of pressure. The group decided to call on the Rabbi of the landlady to see if he could persuade her to change her attitude. They approached this idea with a great deal of respect which was exceedingly impressive to one such as this reporter who is not of the Jewish faith. A meeting has been set with the Rabbi.

It was next decided to introduce the Carters to the people of the community to let them see what decent upright people they were.

It was felt that this could best be done at a party.

Because of the hot weather someone suggested "Does anyone have a big back yard where we could stage a lawn party?" Mrs. of the younger couple had such a place.

Soon, however, a middle aged Jewish woman joined the group and in the time it took her house which has a large front and back yard was selected as the party site. She cheerfully agreed to make her entire home available. The next question was the payment of the expense of the party.

Champion

The woman came through like a champion. She would buy all the refreshments and the group could pay her back at the party!

That is where the situation now stands. The leaflets are being printed, the time for their distribution has been arranged, the meeting with the Rabbi is set, the party is set and the group hopes that by this time the landlady will see the light of democracy.

If not, the various groups represented, will have again to call on the law and fight her down the line.

The fascinating part of the whole thing is that the ball is being carried by young people. To one who is not of the Jewish faith, it would appear that this group of young people are upholding the principles of Democracy.

Fight Will Be Won

No one in the group doubts that the fight will be won. To one unfamiliar with New York, and especially the Jewish communities, this may seem uncertain.

But let it be known that in New York city there is a strong alliance with the colored man against racial bias than the Jewish person. Actually most of New York's strong civil rights laws were spearheaded by Jews and not by colored people.

Discrimination here against Jewish people is as great as, or greater than that against colored people. The big difference is that the Jewish people don't "sit in every hand and often are puzzled by the fact that so few colored people join with them in the fight.

Legal Maneuvers

There is also another difference. Racial difference. Racial prejudice in New York is not generally accompanied by violence of any kind. On the contrary the fight involves a skillful set of legal maneuvers in which both parties make every effort to get public opinion on its side. The side getting the greatest share of public opinion usually wins without the matter ever coming to court because it is generally accepted that New York judges with an eye on the ballot, will bend over backwards to side with public opinion in a racial case.

Next week a further report on the Carter case will be given here for AFRO readers.

New First Family In Durham

The new president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, W. J. Kennedy Sr., is shown here with his family. His wife, is the former Margaret Spaulding, sister of the late Dr. C. C. Spaulding. Their children are, Mrs. Margaret Goodwin, a hospital technician in Durham; W. J. Kennedy 3rd, who is in the actuary department of N.C. Mutual, and Mrs. Charlotte K. Sloan of Philadelphia. Her husband, Macco, is special ordinary representative of the Philadelphia North Carolina Mutual office.

Mother Knows Best; She Chooses Denim, Cotton For Back-To-School

Take a tip from mother! She went back to school in calico and gingham. Today, she dresses her school-going children in denims and dark plaids, flanelettes and broadcloths and other popular cotton fabrics.

Top favorite in 1952 summer fabrics is denim.

Middy dresses in tweed denims for town and country wear are whistle bait. Shirts, blouse and jumper, slack, and topper combinations are in wide demand.

Jug Like Grandpa's

With these fashion-plate styles comes the same sturdiness of wear that characterized the denim in grandpa's overalls.

Speaking of denim working clothes, the authentic western blue jeans so popular among boys and girls in school here the answer to a mother's prayer.

It used to be that cowboys leaped into the water trough in their blue jeans so as to shrink the denim skin-tight, as well as to wash them briefly. But the days of water trough shrinkage are gone. Jeans are tailored skin-tight and, on the word of the kids themselves, are "dirt resistant."

"Jeanies" For Girls

Alternate choices for young ladies are Jeanies— a straight leg edition which the girls can choose in plaid or solid colors.

They are inexpensive in both initial cost and upkeep. Most cottons are colorfast today, and the hazard of shrinkage is eliminated if they are sanforized.

Little boys and girls, not yet ready for school, are becoming wee workers in striped engineer's suits and vested hunters outfits with a light on it.

The denims in the playsuits are brightened with lining, cuffs and even shirts of plaid or printed flannelette.

Kiddies' Work Clothes

Colorful flannelette lining are an important feature of the work clothes fashioned for children. Dark plaids, are perennial favorites with the school-going misses.

All win mother's heart endorsement because they are so easily washed.

White broadcloth blouses reverse the gingham story, using plaid trims and scalloped gingham on pockets, collar, and down the front.

Alt-Year Fashion

Dark broadcloth— navy and gray—continues as an all-year fashion. New satin-stripped chambray is good for tubbable party dresses.

Cotton can be light or heavy, bright or dark.

However preferred, the tip from mother is that cotton has come into its own as a washable; wearable fasion for 365 days in the year.

Colored Pilot Led First Settlers To Maryland

Hostility Of Historians

Professor Blank, head of the department of history in Blank State University, asked if the story of Mathias DeSousa is taught in colonial history, said:

"I am unacquainted with the fact that these men were colored.

"It is obvious, therefore, that this point is not stressed in the course in American Colonial history offered at our college."

By JOHN JASPER

BALTIMORE — John Price, "black," and Mathias DeSousa, mulatto, were among the 32 passengers on the two ships Ark and Dove when they brought the first white settlers to Maryland in 1633.

Untouted by present - day historians, a score or more of references to the names and the race of these two colored pioneers were found this week in the 300-year-old proceedings of the provincial court records known as the "Archives of Maryland."

Third Colored Colonist

A third colored man, Francis Peres, "mulatto," is listed as coming to the colony in 1635.

Of these three colored men DeSousa was the most prominent. He was a pilot, a sea captain and a trader.

His name appears in several places spelled differently as Mathias de Sousa, Mathias Tusa, Mathias Zause, indicating that early writers found difficulty with its spelling.

Hester Richardson in "Sidelights of Maryland History" declares that authorities agree that these are the same person.

As for John Price, "black," the list, also included John Price Jr, and a white "John Price."

There are several references to "John Price" in these early accounts, but as there is no color designation except in the passenger list, it is difficult to tell which is intended.

DeSousa A Captain

In his volume, "Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland," Raphael Semmes, librarian of the Maryland Historical Society, says that:

"During the fall of 1642, Mathias DeSousa was chosen by Alexander Fulton to 'go in his pinnance as skipper and trader to the Susquehannocks,' " now (Susquehanna).

From Mr. Semmes's account, Sousa or DeSousa was looked upon as a man of much tact and common sense, for after stating that traders from Virginia and other places had treated the Indians in such a way that they were hostile and dangerous, he says that DeSousa "was one of the few traders licensed by the St. Marys Council to trade with the Indians.

Because of the trouble that other traders had made with the Indians, the celebrated Catholic Father Andrew White, who was regarded as the head of the colony had urged that there be few traders and those permitted to trade be selected with care.

Sousa Hired Crew

The account of Semmes, which may also be found in the Archives of Maryland, states that DeSousa was appointed by a Mr. Pulton to hire such men for the voyage as were needed, and that one of those hired was John Prettiman, white, a planter of St. Michael, whom DeSousa agreed to pay 200 pounds tobacco for his services.

The voyage took two months and on the return, DeSousa made a report in which he said that Prettiman helped him save his ships and his crew from destruction by the Susquehannock Indians.

Captain DeSousa Sued

The Archives list "Sousa" as being one of the debtors of the estate of "Justinian Snow, late of St. Marys County," to the amount of twelve shillings or about three dollars worth of cloth.

Maryland court records of December 1, 1642, show that the sheriff was ordered to seize Mathias DeSousa because he owed John Hollis, white, 500 pounds of tobacco.

Hollis secured judgment against him. In these early days, a man could be imprisoned for debt.

Never Heard Of Colored Pioneers

Librarian Louis H. Dielman of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, told us:

"Although I was for twenty-eight years editor of the Maryland Historical Magazine, I know nothing of black John Price and DeSousa.

"However, Librarian Raphael Semmes of the Maryland Historical Society and author of the above - mentioned "Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland," gave references in which could be found information about DeSousa, in the Archives of Maryland.

He also referred to the Maryland Historical Magazine, and to the "Colonial Families of the United States."

Joined In Barbadoes

The Archives indicate that DeSousa was brought into the colony by Father White.

In "The Ark and the Dove," by J. Moses Ives (published 1936), it is stated that the ships stopped at Barbadoes and remained there for some time on their voyage to the New World, so that the two men might have joined the colonists there.

Colored Men Not Slaves

This account of the trip also says that there were on board "Lord Baltimore and his two brothers and about twenty other gentlemen, and 300 laboring men."

One thing is certain, however, Sousa and Price were by no stretch of the imagination slaves.

First Mention Of Slaves

Just when the first slaves were introduced into Maryland is not known, but the earliest reference to them is found in Volume 4 of the Archives of Maryland, on page 183, dated March 7, 1642, when Leonard Calvert made a bargain with John Skinner to "finish the dwelling house at Piscataway with a stack of brick chimneys."

In return Skinner was to deliver to Leonard Calvert "fourteen Negro men slaves and three women slaves, of between the ages of 16 and 26 years old, able and sound in body and limbs, if he brings so many within the Capes by himself or any assignees."

The Ark and the Dove, the ships that brought the first settlers to Maryland, are shown resting on a map that follows the route of that first trip.

JOHN PRICE

He was not a slave and had the same status as the 300 other laboring men on the trip.

MATHIAS DeSOUSA

He was one of the most prominent men on the first voyage to Maryland.

The Visitor

A Short Story

By LEONARD BUTTS

She finished wiping the last dish and looked about her at the spotless but old-fashioned kitchen. Then she switched the light off and went into the living-room.

All her 19 years, Linda Gifford had lived in this old house on Spring Street. Her father had inherited it, and her mother had loved it before she died. And its big attic, flower garden, rustic beauty had made it good enough for Linda, until Bob Winstead had called her "Sunshine." After that, she was always comparing her home with Auntie's, where amidst luxury and gaiety she'd met Bob, the artist, with his irresistible brown eyes and nice manners.

"When, is he coming?" asked her father from behind his newspaper.

"In about 30 minutes," she said, sinking to the chesterfield.

"You don't seem so cheerful about it."

"I'm worried, Papa. He's never been here. I met him in Lynchburg at Auntie's. It's just that we don't live in style like Auntie. And I'm as decent a girl as she do."

"I see," Buck drawled. He grunted.

"Guess I'd better get ready," she said.

"Okay," he said. "I'll be out of the way."

"Don't be silly. I want you to meet Bob."

"Depends on how he acts," Buck mumbled. "If he takes you here, okay. If not, nuts to him."

The red roses on the table in the hall helped some, she reflected. But what a contrast to Auntie's wide reception hall, large as most rooms.

In her bedroom with its high ceiling, she slipped on the red dress she'd worn at Auntie's. She might she'd met Bob. He'd said it was pretty, did things for her smooth hair and wide eyes. But in this setting, it would be different, she thought.

She remembered that he'd chuckled when she'd told him on the telephone an hour ago that her house was the oldest one in the block. As if he didn't believe it, he would call right.

Robert Winstead. The very name sounded aristocratic.

Before switching the light out, she gazed wistfully at his photograph a moment then placed it face down in the top dresser drawer.

When she entered the living-room, Buck and his newspaper were missing.

"Papa," she called.

Silence. Maybe he'd gone for a walk. He was a policeman, and nights when he was off duty, he couldn't sit still long.

The old clock off the mantel struck eight. Her heart pounded, she moved to the chair Buck had vacated. She gazed at the spot where the coal stove had been last winter. The radiators were in good condition.

Hearing footsteps on the porch, she hurried to the door to have the thrill flash over her.

"Success," Bob said, as if to himself. "Hi there."

"Hello Bob," she greeted. "Have any trouble finding it?"

"Plenty," he said, stepping into the hall.

"Sorry we don't have a light on the porch."

"Wouldn't have helped much," he said, following her into the living-room. "I got on the wrong street."

"Oh," she said, smiling.

"How've you been" he asked.

"Fine," she replied. "And you?"

"Ditto. You haven't changed."

"I'm six months older."

"You're almost grown."

"Uh huh," she said, wondering if he was already seeking a way out.

"Mighty quiet around here. Your father in?"

"I think he's gone for a walk. I want you to meet him when he gets back." But she wondered.

"I'd like to," he said, his eyes quizzical.

After 15 minutes more of words about nothing in particular, she wished she were in her room with the door locked.

"How are you doing with your drawing?" she ventured.

"Not bad," he said. "I'm working for an engraving company now."

"Fine," she said, hoping she started something.

"At least, I'm on a payroll."

Did Robert Winstead have to be on a payroll?

Presently, she heard herself say, "Surprised, Bob?"

"What do you mean?" he asked, meeting her gaze.

"You know."

"Frankly, I am surprised. To fact is, I came here to convince myself you were out of my reach. You expensive for a guy just beginning to earn a little money drawing pictures. Say, how long have you lived here, anyway?"

"All my life," she replied, the hard her breath.

He put his arm around he shoulders. "Yes, I can see that you."

After a moment she slipped from his arms.

"Papa" she called.

"Coming," Buck replied from the kitchen.

I Remember

From George A. Musmhanner, Dowagiac, Ill.: I remember when when there was a death in the family, all the pictures were turned with their faces to the wall, the clock was stopped, and no one could talk in a whisper while the body was in the house.

From Mrs. Bertha Andrew, Baltimore: I remember when mother had to wash the wool and cotton and then went to the woods and found the different plants to color it red or brown.

Then she corded it, spun, the thread and wove the cloth to make our wool blankets, cotton towels and underwear. I also remember the old song, "Just Because She Made Them Goo-Goo Eyes."

From Mrs. Allen Thompson, Eubank, Ky.: I remember when women rode mules and horses to church. They rode side - saddle with one baby in their laps and one on behind. The men would either walk or ride another horse or mule. The women wore long - tail dresses that dragged the ground.

From Mrs. C. B. Scott, Meadows of Dan, Va.: I remember when I was a little girl, mother and we girls would card and spin yarn and knit our winter stockings and gloves. Women wore dresses to the ground. Most everybody walked; sometimes a young man would ride horseback and take his best girl on behind him to church and back.

THE YANKEE TRAVELER

L. T. BROWN

BOSTON — The Otho Boone Lodge of Elks and their auxiliary, the Harriet Tillman Temple, were hosts to visiting lodges and temples throughout New England and New York state at their annual Emancipation Celebration held Aug. 1. at Rocky Point, R.I.

In the evening, they held open house, for guests at the Celebrity Club on Randall st., Providence.

One of the nicest affairs during the AMEZ Board of Bishops Connectional Council four - day meet held at Colombus Ave. Church, was the noonday luncheon given by Dr. James Eichelberger of Chicago, Ill. secretary of the Department of Christian Education.

Invited Board Members

Guests were members of the Official Board of Christian Education's school and college section. The luncheon was held at the Western Lunch Box on Massachusetts Ave. Among the banqueters were:

The Rt. Rev. Mesdrs. and Mesdames Walter W. Slade of Charlotte, N.C., Hampton T. Medford and William Stewart, both of Washington, D.C., William Martin, of Chicago, Ill.

Others were:

James H. Satterwhite, of Livingstone College, Salisbury, N.C.; Mrs. Sally V. Moreland, principal, of Clinton Junior College, Rock Ark.; Mrs. Julia S. Shaw, Columbia, S.C.; Dr. and Mrs. C. Victor Tulane.

Among the many attractive women I met were:

The Mesdames Sula Steward, wife of the new bishop; Willie Beacon, secretary of the young women's department, of Montgomery, Ala.; Missouri Adams Slade, of Charlotte, N.C.; Ardelle Shaw, of Wilmington, N.C.; Carrie Jones, of Salisbury, N.C.; Savannah Medford, Ann Taylor, of Memphis; Viola Spottswood, of Washington;

Among the many other church notables in town during the AME Ecumenical were:

The Rev. James Clement, Charles Fogle, Arthur Marshall, Samuel Barker, and Felix Anderson.

Bishop Alleyne was here as was Bishop William C. Byrd and his wife, Emma. The Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Brown have decided to purchase a home in Brooklyn, N.Y.

I talked with Bishop Daniel C. Pope, who left Friday for Sweden, having been chosen by the AME delegate to the World Council of Churches meet at Lund.

Attended Convention

Dr. Silas Shag Taylor had a grand time at the Democratic convention.

Funeral services were held in Attleboro recently for Miss Quillo Echols of Pleasant St. She is survived by her sister, Mrs. Marie Echols of Attleboro, and Mrs. Henry Smith, Providence, R. I.

Many Mourners

Among the out-of-town mourners were Mr. and Mrs. Heywood Brecks, Mesdames Hattie Young and Ethel Baker; all of Brockton; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Chapman, Dr. and Mrs. McKinnon, Mrs. Randolph, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Craig and their sister Lucille, all of Boston.

Also: Messrs. and Mesdames Francis, Arthur Hedges, Thomas Baskins and Henry Smith; all of Providence.

Others included the Mesdames Mary Young, Grace Taylor, Mary Starks, Laura Leeward.

Rev. Isaac Slater of Attleboro had as recent house guests, Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Lapke of Atlantic City, N.J.

A fine display of African arts and crafts was held at Plymouth AME Bethel Church. Work was by students in the Church's African mission schools.

"Our African Heritage," a skit written and directed by Mrs. Glenie Crawford, of St. Paul's church, Cambridge, was a highlight of the 52nd annual meeting of the New England conference of the Women's missionary society.

The Rev. Charles N. Bourne was host pastor. Bishop and Mrs. D. Ward Nichols were special guests.

The combined Omega Phi fraternities gave a picnic at Goddard Park, E. Greenwich, R.I.

Attending were:

Messrs. Charles Bentley, of E. Providence; Paul Williams, of Pawtucket; Valentine Cox, Godfrey Rowe, James Keys, Frank Clark.

Cute Ruby Davis was there and pretty Barbara Brooks. Also the Misses MacKinnon, the Vaughn Sterretts and many others.

To Appeal Guam GI's Convictions

NEW YORK — The U.S. Supreme Court will be asked to review the case of two colored servicemen now under sentence of death by a general court-martial for the criminal attack and murder of a civilian worker on the island of Guam in 1948.

The two servicemen, Robert W. Burns and Herman P. Dennis Jr., were convicted following trial by general court-martial on the basis of "confessions" submitted The NAACP sought trial in a civil court for the accused men on the grounds that their confessions were involuntary.

Notes from a--- VA. SCRAPBOOK

By B. T. GILLESPIE

HOT SPRINGS, Va. — This is not, by far, the first time I have been to this mountain resort town, but it is the first time I have gotten the wholesome impression that has been afforded me on this trip.

This is an out-of-the-way place. The roads to travel miles up mountains from any direction the town is approached and most people are fearful of this kind of travel.

Homestead Hotel's Home

Hot Springs has a clean, wholesome atmosphere. It is the home of the famous Homestead Hotel, where none but the most prosperous persons can afford to lodge. It is a hostelry in which every bellboy, waiter, elevator girl or just plain maid longs to work.

Nearly everybody here, in some way or another, is directly or indirectly employed by the hotel.

Over a period of 35 years, S. M. Donaldson, head bellman, has employed intelligent and capable help.

This, he said, has made it less difficult for him to do his job, made it less expensive for the house and has thrown a curtain of social security around the community.

College-Trained Workers

Hardly is there a college in the country that is not represented here in the way of a bellboy, waiter or check girl.

The quarters where the help live actually are cleaner and in better condition than some college dormitories and the department of the people therein will compare better than that of most college groups.

You don't find any million dollar houses here, but search the country over, you won't find any that are kept in any better condition.

Tearoom Meeting Place

The cafe here is operated by M. Donaldson, head bellman, has Ruby. It is called Donaldson's Tearoom. This is where the help meet at night after work hours.

Here they drink their beer, converse and dance. There isn't that loud boisterous gathering that is so often audible in most of our larger cities and where some of our elite may be found.

MR. AND MR. DONALDON

One reason college students like to come here during the summer season, is the quietness of the community. There is no need to spend any unnecessary money because there, is nothing here to spend it on.

Mistaken Barn For House

One young man, in relating how he liked the place, told of how, one night, he knocked at the door of a barn, thinking it was a dwelling house.

"The windows," he said, "were so nicely decorated with flower boxes, that I didn't dream of it being a place where cows live."

That is the type of cleanliness one finds in this resort town, and it does not apply to any special race of people.

NEW YORK — When Gen. Dwight Eisenhower comes out and publicly announces that he is for a compulsory FEPC law as he is expected to do, give the credit for his change of heart to Hobson Reynolds of Philadelphia.

Reynolds was a member of the group that called on Ike in Denver last Monday and virtually wrung from him a statement that he is for everything that an FEPC law would accomplish.

The Philadelphia judge was called to the meeting while he was vacationing in North Carolina. He drove all the way from N.C. to Philadelphia, dropped his wife off there, hopped a train to New York without even going home, and arrived in the Big Town just in time to catch the flight to Denver.

No Sleep

He thus went into the meeting with Ike without any sleep except that he could catch between cat-naps with the group on the way out and when he hit the door of Ike's office in the Brown Palace Hotel he was not in any mood for quibbling with anyone.

Bishop Nichols opened the talk with Eisenhower and then Reynolds picked up the ball. He told Ike that if he expected to win the vote of colored people he had to stop quibbling and let people know where he stands.

"You're running for President," said Reynolds "and you need our help. I can tell you now that if you expect to win any states in the South you might as well forget it.

"I've just come from the South directly out here and I'll give you a hundred dollar bill for every electoral vote you get down there. You need the colored vote to win and if you expect to get it you've got to let them know where you stand on civil rights."

Eisenhower went into a slow burn as Reynolds talked. But Reynolds reminded the general that he had seconded his nomination at Chicago and continued to lecture Ike. He finally told Ike that his position on allowing the states to work out their own FEPC was "utterly unsound."

"Let me tell you, something," said Reynolds, "when you say states rights to colored people, it just like saying civil rights to Talmadge of Georgia."

Eisenhower then told Reynolds that he felt the way to get FEPC across was to have the states do it and pointed to several states with Republican governors who have strong FEPC laws. But in so doing he made the mistake of saying that Pennsylvania has a good FEPC law.

Seemed Him Cold

Reynolds stopped him cold and told him that Pennsylvania has never been able to pass a strong FEPC law. He was forced to meekly say "I'm sorry, I thought Pennsylvania had an FEPC law."

By this time Reynolds had Ike thoroughly on the offensive. In desperation, Eisenhower jumped on the old familiar "constitutionality" question. He said he wondered if a Federal FEPC law would be "constitutional." Reynolds was ready for him. "The best legal minds in the country say such a law can be drawn that would be constitutional," he said.

Then just at that moment, one of the members of the delegation shoved a newspaper clipping under Ike's nose which stated that Governor Driscoll, Senators Ives, Lodge and about a dozen more of his chief backers, felt that an FEPC law would be constitutional. The paper had just been published that morning.

The general was in a corner. There was nothing he could say.

A white aid of Governor Driscoll who was present, came to his rescue. What he said meant little, but it gave the general the needed time to recover from the verbal beating he had taken before everyone.

Even then he was not ready to completely come over to the side of the delegation but Eisenhower's basic honesty began to assert itself.

"It disturbs me," he said, "that you can raise such questions as these about this matter which I can't answer. It tells me that I need to re-examine my thinking on this matter again."

Promised Study

He then promised to study the possibility of a Federal FEPC law. The delegation left Eisenhower feeling that for the first time someone had actually got to him and talked to him about FEPC in a favorable light.

Later, a member of the high command told the delegation that he felt certain the will soon announce for an FEPC. If and when he does, don't forget Reynolds.

Eisenhower himself told the delegation of the type of thinking he has been fed with on FEPC. He told of a "colored friend of mine in St. Louis named Garner."

He said Garner's wife is in business and hires quite a number of people. He said Garner said to him in speaking AGAINST an FEPC:

"Who is Garner?

"General, I don't want you to pass any law which will say my wife will have to hire some white people in her business."

The general called the first name of Mr. Garner but it was lost in the rifle-fire rebuttals, members of the delegation threw at Ike as soon as he began his mouth.

Another member of the delegation who showed Ike no mercy was Ruth Mueller of the National Council of Negro Women. All in all the General had a rough afternoon.

The only colored person seen around the Ike headquarters was a colored doorman. In fact the delegation did not see a single colored American all during its stay in Denver though, of course, there are colored people there.

This is not to say some were not around but the delegation was there all day and saw none. One might have thought that the Illinoi delegation which called on Ike would have had some. It may have. But they were not in sight.

Send the AFRO To a Serviceman!

Yes, don't forget the servicemen. Even in some foreign country or on some desolate battlefield his heart is still with the folks at home. Help him to keep up with what's going on at home by sending him a subscription to the AFRO. The rates listed below apply to subscriptions for servicemen stationed anywhere in the world.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year .....$5.00 Three Years $12.00

Two Years .....$8.00 Six Months $3.00

Please send the AFRO to:

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE.

For 1 year ( ) 2 years ( ) 3 years ( ) 6 months ( )

AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

628 N. Eutaw Street Baltimore 1, Md.

New Bay Bridge Brings Tourists

Here's story of what happened in Grasonville, Md., the first week a bridge across Chesapeake Bay brought tourists from South on short route to New York which bypasses Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

Residents of Grasonville, Md., enthusiastically hailed the recent completion of the 45 million dollar Chesapeake Bay bridge.

A little selfishness is mingled with the enthusiasm, however.

The quiet little town is located just seven miles from the Eastern Shore terminus of the bridge.

Because of this advantageous position, members of the community hope that the new span will entice more visitors to the shore and put more money in their pockets.

Many Colored Residents

Almost one-half of the thousand odd Grasonville citizens are colored.

Nine out of ten own their homes.

The majority earn their livelihood catching the Bay's succulent sea food, others work in the cannery at Queenstown or as domestics.

The domestic workers are employed in the summer homes on Kent Island, located at the foot of the bridge.

Catching seafood from the bay is a year-round job. The men who make this their living, own their boats and in summer, maintain trot lines for catching crabs.

Oysters In Winter

The daily catch is sold to the seafood packing houses lining the bay. In other seasons attention is devoted to the vast oyster crop for which the Shore is famous.

During a jobless period which lasts from the first of May to the middle of July, fishermen migrate to New Jersey and find jobs with the various seafood outfits there.

One attractive feminine resident of Grasonville wistfully describes that period as "the manless time. If you don't know how lonesome it can be when your man is gone."

Fire Hopes On Bridge

The completion of the long awaited Chesapeake Bay Bridge is expected to change all that.

Mrs. Emily Carter, whose father owns a small tavern in Grasonville, likens the bridge's completion to the situation which inspired the notorious boom towns in the West during the gold rush.

"A lot of people in Baltimore and other parts of Maryland have never been to the Eastern Shore. Some of them have wanted to come, but the long wait for the ferry made them change their minds.

"With the new bridge, though, people will be taking trips on week ends just to see the Shore. This is the best thing that ever happened," she concluded.

Anticipation of the expected "boom" has spurred construction of at least two new business ventures in Grasonville.

Tourist Camp Opened

One of these, a tourist camp, offers tourists newly constructed, modern cabins of the sort found along the nation's highways.

The co-owners are Mrs. Frances Till and her daughter, Totos Miss Till, using the stage name "Totos Ellington," is an interpretive dancer who worked in many of the leading night clubs along the Eastern seaboard.

When it was certain that the bridge would be built Totos and her mother purchased a plot of land and began construction of the tourist camp along Route 50 leading directly to the Bay Bridge.

Business Good

Although the camp has not been officially opened, because of minor construction details, the owners report that business is brisk.

"On the day the bridge was dedicated," states Mrs. Till, "we had so many requests for food and lodging that we were swamped. Shortly after nightfall, we had to turn guests away."

"You would be surprised at the many white couples we have had staying in our cabins. You see, we don't have a sign outside the place advertising that it's for colored people.

"I know we're in America though, and when a white couple drives up and I have a vacancy, I accept them as guests. I don't intend to discontinue this practice either," Mrs. Till declared.

New Cocktail Lounge

Another successful new business venture has been the opening of a modern, tastefully appointed restaurant and cocktail lounge. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sampson.

Just as the resort owners, "Chuck" and Jackie opened in direct anticipation of garnering patronage from the Western Shore residents.

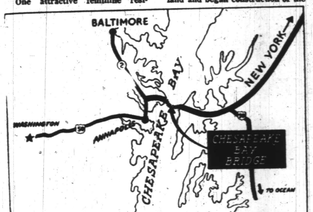
The new business boom is continuing throughout Grasonville.

Heretofore, the men in the town never had the services of a full-time barber, but had to depend on a retired, part-time tonsorial specialist. Recently, however, a skilled barber opened shop on a full-time basis and has done a booming business.

Fashion Note Added

Another little known advantage of having the Bay Bridge was voiced by a beauteous member of the fair sex. "If nothing else, I think the Chesapeake Bay Bridge will make the women on the Eastern Shore better dressed.

"Before the bridge, we had to either travel 28 miles to Easton to buy decent clothes, or else take the long ferry ride to Baltimore. Now we can go to Baltimore or Annapolis—at the drop of a hat—and buy our clothes. These cities are closer than Easton.



Baltimore's Route 2 and Washington's Route 50 lead to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge which brings western and eastern sections of Maryland separated by the Bay closer together. Travel time to the vacation areas of the eastern shore are sharply reduced.

Tourists Flocked Here First Week End

Newly built Till home and tourist cabins north of bridge on route 50. They were swamped first week end.

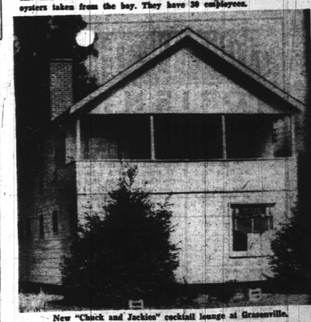
Robinson AME Church, Grasonville, the Rev. C. C. Haynes, pastor, whose church may stay in Sundays. The church is a center for community activities.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Oscar Dunn and Lawrence specialist in crabs and oysters taken from the bay. They have 30 employees.

DREAMING

By LORENZO ZANDERS

It's all a dream but it can
be so true and real,
Someone will want you and
love you, it's me, I will.
Although I'm not with you,
you are deep in my heart,
If you could only want me
I'm willing to do my part.



New "Chuck and Jackies" cocktail lounge at Grasonville.