

(HISTORY, from page 1)

"NO BETTER proof of Johnson's skill can be cited than the fact that his face, ears, and skin, unlike those of most pugilists, bore no disfiguring marks.

"Johnson's career was adventurous in other ways. During the World War he was nearly killed by a German shell at Boulogne; in Spain he narrowly escaped death when caught on the street between the fire of government troops and the revolutionists; he had had several automobile accidents, and died in one.

"Unlike most prize-fighters, he was fairly well read and acquired considerable culture in his contact with leaders of art, science, politics, and industry. King Edward VII spent an hour chatting with him. Among other European rulers who invited him to their palaces were Franz Joseph II, Alphonso XIII, and Poincare.

"Johnson was fond of classical music and played the bass viol. In October, 1936, he took the role of Rhadames, the Ethiopian general, in a Chicago Grand Opera Company production of 'Aida.'

"IN NO OTHER country in the world are those who start at the bottom and reach the top, more generally admired than in America. It is therefore, quite impossible to exclude Johnson from America's galaxy of self-made men, for he was certainly one of the most brilliant examples. His rise from poverty to international fame had in it all those elements of romance and glitter that unfailingly delight mankind.

"He tells the story in his own words: 'Of course, I had the dreams and desires that are common to youth, but never in the wildest moments of my boyhood imagination did I vision myself the champion fighter of the world and the first man of my race ever to attain that distinction. Never did I imagine myself in the picturesque costume of a Spanish matador, or a victor in the bull-fighting arena, surrounded by cheering thousands in the gala attire of the festival in historic Barcelona. How incongruous to think that I, a little Galveston colored boy, should ever become an acquaintance of kings and rulers of the Old World, or that I should number among my friends some of the most notable persons of America and of the world.'

NEWS MEDIA ACCUSED

NEW YORK - (NPI)--Major newspapers and television and radio stations have been attacked for not hiring more Negroes for their staffs.

The Rev. Eugene S. Callender, executive director, New York Urban League, charged that the number of Negroes in the news industry was "exceedingly small."

"We have the personnel and the talent," he said. "What is needed is the will and the desire of people in executive positions."

EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Dr. Charles I. West
Editor
Las Vegas VOICE
958 W. Owens Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dear Dr. West:

As an avid reader of the VOICE, I just couldn't pass up the opportunity to comment you on your wonderful editorial concerning Commissioner Ed Fountain. I have always considered you as a man of high integrity and intelligence--a man that speaks straight from the heart and with great conviction.

Your editorial was truly a masterpiece about a man that is certainly worthy of every good thing that can be said of him. We, as citizens of Las Vegas, are fortunate indeed to have someone of Commissioner Fountain's calibre serving in this very important capacity.

Commissioner Fountain does many good and worthwhile deeds that will never be recognized, or even known, as he is indeed a very dedicated man and is happiest when he can be of help or service to others. You are correct, Dr. West, THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS DOES NEED ED FOUNTAIN!

Your friend,
JACK WATSON
324 W. Cleveland - Apt. #2

P.S. Warmest regards to your lovely wife, Dottie.

Girl Scouts Stage Cook-Out For Moms



Even gusty winds didn't dispel the gaiety or hinder the happenings at the recent Mother and Daughter "Cook Out" enjoyed by mothers and daughter members of Highland Girl Scouts Group #176 at the school. Joyce Carnegie and Peggy Burns are scout leaders of the group.

(OUTBREAKS, from page 1)

suburban police became suspicious when they kept getting the same story of attacks by Negroes from different youths. As a result, they swooped down on what they described as a "hate gang" and arrested several youths.

In Chicago, civil rights leader Albert A. Raby said a possible U.S. House investigation of riots in Chicago and other cities could result in racial trouble. Charges that the riots were Communist-inspired might temporarily "put the lid" on the Negro problem, but ultimately would result in a greater buildup of tensions in low-income areas and "even greater explosions," he said. Raby, convenor, Coordinating Council of Community Organizations, was referring to the possibility that the House Committee on Un-American Activities might probe racial unrest.

IN CLEVELAND, racial tensions were said to be building up to such a fever pitch that insurance companies were hesitant to write any type of insurance within city limits. The Home Mutual Insurance Company, Binghamton, N.Y., wrote in a letter to its local agent that "quite frankly, we are concerned at the racial situation in Cleveland and feel that quite probably the next blow-up will not be confined to any particular area."

A local Negro leader, Bertram E. Gardner, became embroiled in controversy when he suggested that lawless elements within the Negro community itself may be responsible for the threat of summer violence. Gardner, who heads Cleveland's Community Relations board, warned that "if the spring or summer is hot, it will be because the 99 per cent group (of moderate, hard-working Negroes) has refused to take a positive community position against methods which threaten his own home, his own neighborhood, his own person and his own positive efforts to prosper, to become middle class."

He denounced militants who maintain "that white men have no rights in a Negro community and then proceed to intimidate whites by robbing them or looting or maliciously breaking out the windows of their stores, leaving whole business areas desolate, while at the same time insisting that they, as Negroes, have a right to go downtown or anywhere else they please."

Gardner is promoting an interracial home visit program to bring whites and Negroes together for "continuing dialogue" and involvement in the problems of housing employment and poverty.

Claim Negro's Slaying A Plot Kill King

NATCHEZ, Miss. - (NPI)--A mistrial has been declared in the murder trial of James L. Jones, accused of taking part in the slaying of an elderly Negro.

Prosecutors contended that the slaying was really a plot to lure Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to Natchez to assassinate him.

Circuit Judge James Torrey declared a mistrial when a bi-racial jury insisted it couldn't reach a verdict in the murder trial.

The jury, made up of three Negroes and nine white, had reported it was "hopelessly deadlocked."

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