

"CHARLIE" SPEARS 'EM UP

By Charles Spears "THE ROVING REPORTER"

HOW DID YOU BREAK IN ...?

"How can I crash the gates" ... "Where do you get your ideas" ... "After I place the first article will all of them be published?"

During the past two years I've pounded out hundreds of thousands of words for the eyes of that great unseen following of the Negro press. I've travelled through every state in America where colored papers are found on the market for I am fortunate (able to devote full time to write or unforunate, perhaps) in being from time to time. Contrary to popular belief, writing is the hardest kind of hard work.

DON'T DO WHAT I AM DOING

In other words don't write about writers or anything connected with writing. Leave that for the readers to do. Don't submit untidy manuscripts. If your articles are worth anything at all, they are worth dressing up in the neatest possible typographical manner.

DON'T USE CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS

Upon which half your reading public may be divided, unless the editor of the paper you are writing for states that he wants to run one on the theme, (A college strike, for instance) leave that to the news reporters and editorial department. You don't want to hurt your following if you are a new writer and controversial subjects mean danger.

Don't write about things you have no knowledge of ... it means more trouble, because some subjects require extreme definiteness. ... leave medicine ... law, dentistry and so on ... to the doctors, lawyers and dentists. Write about the things of which you have first hand knowledge, subject matter which comes within your personal experience.

AND LAST

Don't ridicule and laugh at the Southern "Culled Brother." Remember ... there is just as much difference in a Southern Negro and a Northern Negro as there is between members of the white race. Don't say "Uncle Toms and scared to sass white folks down South" and so on. Ten million Negroes live in the South and unless you are specific and call a name they represent the implication and will not read your articles. A few writers have risen to fame on this form of construction which is now considered outmoded as the Uncle Tom type is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

COLORED READERS

Unlike the white do not write many letters to their favorite columnist, so I learned what little I know which would be beneficial to the "unknowns" who really have something to offer, by traveling from Canada to Mexico, and Maine to California, keeping my identity secret and asking readers and publishers questions. So with the hope of sincerely encouraging new writers I'm going to shoot straight from the shoulder with the truth, the whole truth nothing but the truth, by offering the following attitudes expressed by readers and publishers to all writers who do not wish to impose unnecessary handicaps upon themselves. I don't guarantee that by following them you be assured of success. But we do predict that if you fail to consider the majority of them you will be doomed to fail.

After reading them if you just must write I hope you will have great success ... I really do.

DON'T WRITE THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE

And don't write stories about what happened when you were a little boy or girl. Editors just don't like what happened to you when you were little. The reader can't be bothered either, as the period of your childhood is not sufficiently removed from the present to make it important as history.

Don't Write Letters

To go with your articles, unless you have something of importance to say. After you have had one article published, don't drop the editor a little note saying that here in you are enclosing another article and so on and so on. Grant him intelligence to discover the fact himself, after opening your letter he may probably see your article, you know. Editors are clever that way. He may even figure out that you are hoping to have it published in his paper.

DON'T USE PERMANENT CLIPS

To bind paper together, use nothing more than an ordinary paper clip which an editor can remove with his thumb and forefinger. Don't begin articles with long passages of narration. Instead begin them with a short, pointed sentence which expresses with clarity the very idea you want to express. Newspapers space is valuable.

DON'T DECORATE MANUSCRIPT PAGES

By drawing little art designs on the pages. Even if you think they are cute the editors won't. Don't swear too much. Occasional "hells" and "dawns" will get by in almost any newspaper but profanity will not. Don't write first-person stories until you've had some success with articles and stories told in the 3rd person. Don't use too much description of any kind. Don't stop a news story to describe setting, regardless of how beautiful they may be. Don't give long paragraphs of character description, let the descriptive bits work naturally into the story as it moves along, without actually stopping the narrative movement. Remember that the reader wants to be entertained with news.

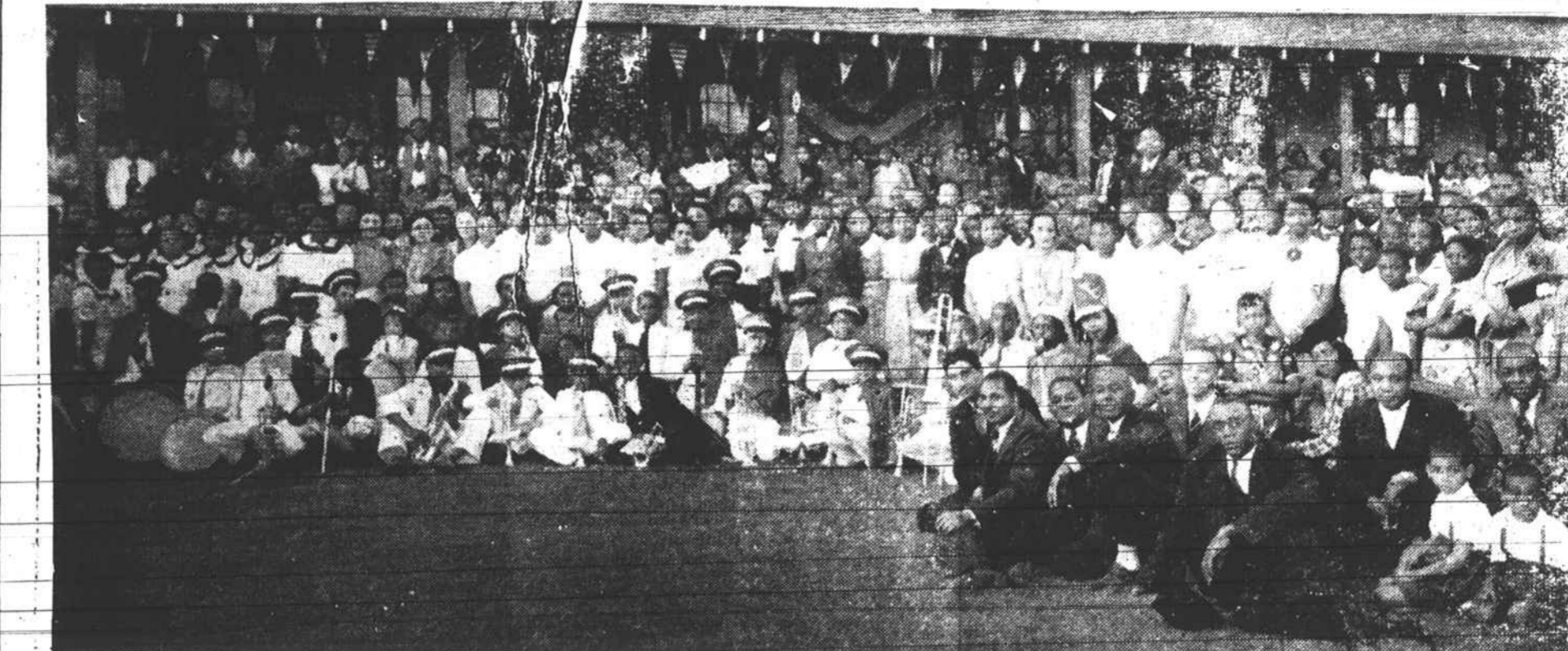
MY LITTLE BLACK BOOK

Among other things shows that for many years George S. Schuyler, was rated by the readers as having a larger following than any other Negro columnist on the big-time. Ralph Matthews of the Afro American was rated as having the second largest following. But according to the readers the rating has been changed. My esteemed colleague, Mr. Schuyler, of "The Pittsburg Courier" is in third place according to the poll and P. L. Prattis, who has appeared on the horizon is now rated as having the largest following of any professional on the staff of the big-time papers. Ralph Matthews is still rated number 2, but mainly because he has to a certain degree stopped sassing "culled folks down South." In theatrical columns Billy Rowe is rated first according to the poll and Dan Burley second.

THE END

AIKEN COUNTY ACHIEVEMENT DAY A SUCCESS

Aiken, S. C. - The Achievement Day held in Aiken last Friday at the Schofield school proved to be most interesting and worthwhile day. A huge number of pupils and teachers from the 79 Aiken County Colored schools as well as



Franklinton, Prentiss, Picayune, The Third Annual Regional Music Festival was an overwhelming success. The Friday session of the Festival was under the auspices of Dillard University Extension Service with instructors and talent from the three colleges participating Dillard, Southern and Alcorn. Outstanding features of the Festival were two concerts featuring talent from the schools of Bogalusa, McComb, Kentwood, Slidell, Columbia, Greensbur, Amite, Hammond, Pomchatoula, Fernwood, Biloxi, Poplarville, Brookhaven, Vernon, Star Creek, Angie, Covington, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans.

The schools who won the highest number of points in the different contest were given trophies. These trophies can be kept until the ensuing Achievement Day and if the schools fail to rank with the preceding year, the trophies will be moved in accord to the school having the highest number of points. The following schools were winners of trophies: Fairfield, Mt. Harris and Jerusalem Branch, tied, twoteachers schools, 10 points Hartley Grove, three teacher school, 13 points; and Graniteville, five teacher school, 21 points the highest.

After the contests came to a close in mid-afternoon, the Brewer Normal school of Greenwood and Schofield of Aiken played two very fascinating basketball games. Both teams worked hard to carry the honor to their Alma Mater, but the games ended with Schofield in the lead.

The Jeanes Teachers, Miss Justine E. Wilkinson, expresses her appreciation to the Aiken County Teachers Ass'n, all committees and the Schofield school for their splendid co-operation in making the Aiken County Achievement Day a success.

IS IT A DISGRACE TO HAVE TUBERCULOSIS?

We have heard and are still hearing much about this disease. It was in 1882 after much hard work Dr. Robert Koch, a noted German scientist found that Tuberculosis was caused by the germs Tubercule Bacilli. We all know how this infectious disease robs one of his strength and vitality and thereby incapacitating him for regular duties of life.

There are people who are afraid to visit a T. B. Camp, but because they enlisted under the banner of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who when he was on earth went about ministering to those that were in need, they half-heart

edly run out to the camp to satisfy their conscience. I have been in and out of a T. B. Camp many years and to my people on the cure, people that humble judgement, I have observed people on the cure, people that came from the many different walk of life. It seemed that Tuberculosis popped up where ever it could get a chance regardless of whether the individual was of mediocre or noble standing. I have as much admiration and respect for the mind, and character of some T. B. Victims, as I have for anybody that has not the disease. No friends, Tuberculosis is not a disgraceful disease; Of course it is one of our great misfortunes.

We are grateful to Drs. Koch, Trudeau, Hoboll and others for what they have done. We appreciate what the national organization local branch is doing, but there is work for each of us to do if we would eradicate, or at least bring this ravaging disease under control. I hereby make the following recommendations:

1. Let us give our good-will and moral support to those who are returning to our communities from T. B. Camps. Limited funds at the disposal of officials, make it necessary to dismiss patients before they are well, so as to give other victims a chance. The expatient will not infect your community, for they have a practical course in health Education. This writer recalls with great pleasure, friends that encouraged and helped him.

2. Let us encourage and help people go to the clinic. 3. Let us do our part, educate the public so as to change the layman's attitude of fear and shame more conscious and to fully realize the meaning of this little verse: "There is a destiny that makes us brothers none go his way alone. All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own."

ANDERSON COUNTY ACHIEVE MENT DAY A SUCCESS

The teachers of group 2 held their annual achievement day at Caroline school, Williamston, S.C., March 31, 1939. Music-Great camp meeting -Carolina High school Prayer- Mr. J. H. Ledbetter Music Couldn't hear nobody pray, Carolina Hi school, Declamation Contest: 1st prize -The aid of the Brain; Pleasant View School 2nd prize, ex-soldiers Memorial, Caroline school; 3rd, Woodman, Spare that tree; John Westly school, Glee Club Contest: 1st prize -Old Ark a Moving; White 1st prize, 2nd prize Shine When troubles shake you -Pleasant View school, 3rd -He is King of Kings-Spearman school, Singing- Caroline Glee Club: Everytime I feel the Spirit, Introduction of speaker- Mr. E. C. McCants, who spoke of schools of yesterday and today. Remarks by the president. Mr. Rice who also presented Mr. W. A. Schiffley. He made some impressive remarks on the Exhibits and spoke of the old type Field's Day which combined the parents to the school.

The president introduced Mr. Holler who spoke of being glad to be here. He stated that the exhibits showed much improvement and interest. He restated some of the facts mentioned by Mr. Schiffley. He wanted to find who was here. Had children and parents to stand. Reading Contest-First Grade

1st and 2nd prizes- New Mt. school, 3rd prize- Spearman school Second grade: 1st prize- Caroline school, 2nd Blake Dale school, 3rd prize- Pleasant View school, Third grade: 1st prize- Caroline school, 2nd prize- New Mt. Grove school, 3rd prize- Pleasant View school. Arithmetic contest: 1st Grade 1st prize- New Mt. Grove school 2nd -Mt. Pleasant View school Second grade: 1st prize- Caroline school, 2nd prize, Maple Springs school, 3rd prize-New Mt. Grove school, 2nd prize-Caroline

school, 3rd prize -John Westly school. Spelling contest: Fourth grade, 1st prize-Caroline school, 2nd prize John Westly school 3rd prize, Pleasant View school Fifth grade: 1st prize- Pleasant View school, 2nd prize- St. Peter school, 3rd -Spearman school Sixth grade, 1st prize, Caroline; 2nd prize- Maple Springs school, 3rd prize -Caroline school Exhibits: 1st prize, Caroline school, 2n prize -Blake Dale, 3rd prize -Spearman Out door activities: Hansel and Gretel, grades 1, 2 and 3. Mrs. A. G. Grimes-Director.

Grand march-grades 4, 5, and 6 Mr. H. W. Rice-Director. Basket-ball: Mt. Pleasant VS Caroline, scores 10-5-Caroline. Mr. H. W. Rice-president and Mrs. Julia M. Greene-Reporter

SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOLS CELEBRATE FIRST SPRING FESTIVAL AND ACHIEVEMENT DAY

Friday -March 31 at Moors' school Sumter, S. C. a large crowd witnessed the program which began at 11:00 a. m. with devotional service. The Herald announced the program. Six attendants dressed in lovely green gowns, four flower girls in beautiful costumes of orange and the maid of honor in a lovely pink preceded the queen to the throne which was covered with white decorated with pink roses. The queen's chariot covered with white and lovely pink roses was support to be drawn by two beautiful white swans. The queen was followed to the throne by two pages in suits of blue trimmed with gold. She wore a lovely gown of white with a long train of blue and white. She ascended the throne under an arch of pink roses. The maid of honor placed on her head the crown repeating appropriate words a beautiful chorus, we crown the queen etc. was sung. Seven groups danced before the queen in ring plays; each girl wore white tennies slippers white dress and a wreath of pink roses across her shoulders. At the conclusion of the coronation a dance the butterfly from the Rose school was had. Mrs. Minnie Benbow soloist, Mrs. Ruth Dinking pianist also a sash drill; these numbers were very beautiful and added much to the scene. Prof. Bownes made the announcement for the continuation of the program for the day.

Those interested in the hoop rolling contest etc. went to Morris College athletic field. In Morris school building was found the work of the county schools on exhibition. The unit man and his environment etc. was divided into seven groups each group was subdivided giving each school a distinct part of the unit. Each group made an enviable record in bringing out its part of the unit. Butlmar shoe store, Cut-Rate drug store and Belk-Robinson gave a demonstration in the health unit. Prize winners were Moore Mayesville and St. John. Our visitors were Mr. J. B. Felton. Dr. from Cute Rate Drug store who gave a demonstration with the human body how it function etc., Rev. Geddis, Rev. Spears Benbow, Mrs. I. P. Pogue, Mrs. C. A. Lawson members from the faculty of Morris College Lincoln Hi, Savage-Glover and many other distinguished person whose names I failed to get.

The group leaders, committee, teachers and all concerned under the leadership of our efficient supervising Jean teachers of Sumter county, Mrs. I. H. Goddis made the most outstanding of its kind ever had in the history of the county. We are grateful for past achievements thankful for the present and stirring to make the future more beneficial and outstanding for the education of our youth. Our motto "Better Teacher, Better schools Better trained boys and girls to Result in Better

as it gives opportunity for the development of the music talent of the young people of this region. Special groups from this festival will be invited to take part in the annual music festival to be held May 5, 6, 7, on Dillard's campus, New Orleans, which will emphasize the use of music in the home, church and school. The festival this year will be climaxed with the cantata "Deliverance" featuring a chorus, baritone and tenor soloists. (ANP)

McMurry. Since the past week was the last week of the Lenten season, Misses Laura B. Cooke, Julia Livesey and Va-niti Johnson conducted the mid-week services. Miss Va-hti Johnson gave to the student body and friends some interesting facts concerning the Lenten season and the cross. The Easter cantata entitled "Calvary" by Henry Wessel was presented in a sunrise service at the Mount Olivet A. M. E. Zion church which is pastored by Rev. H. R. Hawkins on Easter Sunday morning by a chorus from Clinton; Many were witness to this program which was a slightly different type of any of the Easter programs recently rendered. All present reported having enjoyed it. The chorus was under the direction of Miss Louise Worthey the instructor of French. Mrs. Lorcelle Johnson and Mr. Charles Turner were our representatives in Greenville last week studying with the group in Parker Mill school district. Miss Lizzie Harris had as her guest Sunday after noon; Mr. and Mrs. James Rousseau also Messers Floyd Leroy, and Marshall Harris all of N. Wilksbury, N C

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CLINTON COLLEGE NEWS

The comedy Drama in three acts entitled "Just Pals" was presented in Columbia, S. C. April 3. The directess and the cast were accompanied there and back by Miss Amelia Hutchenson who is a senior here and Prof. W. J. Nelson, Jr. who is an instructor here. While in Columbia we visited the campus of Allen and Benedict college.

Tuesday April 4, at 7:00 o'clock Prof. R. V. McGirt of the Emmett Scott High School gave a very interesting lecture on "Youth in a Democracy" to the students of the Social Science club under the auspices of Prof. W. J. Nelson, Jr. who heads this department.

Last week was celebrated here and many other places as you know as the National Negro Health Week. Our noon day services were centered around Health On Monday Mrs. Ethel Duckert R. N., gave a very entertaining lecture on Nursing.

The groups called "The groups" is under the auspices of Miss Jennie Hawze and Mr. A. J. Johnson. This group gave a moon light party Thursday evening which was a success. For the past two weeks we have been favored to have a sermon delivered to us by our young ministers of the institution during our mid-week services. Namely: Revs. J. D. Murdock and George

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