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THE VOICE

It's Different
THE VOICE
Office
135 W. Main Street

VOX POPULI

Publication Devoted to the General Welfare of 20,000 Negroes in Rochester and Western New York

Vol. 2, No. 51

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1936

Price 3 Cents

Local Afro-Americans Examined for Jury Service

The Popular Howard Weiss

Popular Howard Weiss, former manager at Goodrich Silvertown Stores is now identified with Cool Chevrolet Corporation, 360 Culver Road at University Avenue.

He wishes to inform his many Afro-American friends that he is in a position to sell them the best in motive power, the new 1936 Chevrolet or one of the great variety display of used cars of various makes. He desires to interest all Veterans in his superior line. He bids you pay Cool Chevrolet a visit and have him show you how you can buy a car at a reasonable price that will do credit to its makers, while at the same time please you.

Mr. Weiss will always be glad to welcome you to Cool Chevrolet. For appointment, call Monroe 2340. Advertisement.

Try Neiman's For Easter

"Come up and see us some time at Neiman's Retail Liquor Store, 288 West Main Street, opposite Favor Street." Our congenial manager, Mr. Geo. Haungs will serve you to the finest and the best in the liquor line. For Easter we have a large display of Whiskey, Wine, Rum and Cordials a few of the many varieties of liquors sold at retail prices at Neiman's Friendly Liquor Store.

During the Easter holidays, it will be customary to purchase some wines or liquors for your dinners, parties, etc. You will want to buy from a store that can guarantee the best at a reasonable price. May we suggest that you stop in at Neiman's Retail Liquor Store. You will be courteously treated by the gentleman in charge, Mr. Haungs who will take time to help you find the exact brand you are looking for.

Note the exceptional price list on the above advertisement and you will see that these prices really cannot be beat. The proprietor of the store, Mr. Neiman wishes to take this opportunity to express his thanks for the patronage given him during the past year and wishes you all a happy and joyous Easter. Easter—See Advertisement on Page 2

NEW SCOTTSBORO TRIAL SET FOR APRIL 17

New York, March 28—The postponed trial of Clarence Norris second of the Scottsboro defendants, has been set for April 17 in Decatur, Ala., according to notice received here yesterday by the office of Samuel S. Leibowitz, chief defense counsel. Norris was scheduled to have been tried in January immediately following the trial of Haywood Patterson, but when Patterson was found guilty and sentenced to 75 years in the

penitentiary, Judge W. W. Callahan postponed the other trials.

The defense announces that the setting of a definite date for the Norris trial calls for renewed support from the public in spreading the story of the case and raising funds. The hardest struggles are yet to come. There is great need for money and contributors should send gifts to the Scottsboro Defense Committee, 112 East 19th Street, New York, N. Y.

Grand Adds Big Feature

The Grand Theater your favorite movie house has added another special feature which will prove interesting to every member of your family.

On Saturdays of each week there will be ten prizes given away free after each performance or show to the holders of the lucky numbers. This feature will be duplicated three times during the day. The prizes consist of cooking utensils, electric toasters, irons and etc. At present many of these prizes are on display in the lobby including the famous Baltic Blue dinner set, which feature will be continued as usual, by the management.

When you want to see and enjoy a good picture the Grand is the place to go. See you at the Grand Saturday

Local Citizen Offers Aid

There comes a time in the life of every man when he sees the need of assistance and answers the call. In this case, John F. Campbell, local citizen employed at the Arnett Post Office, whose home is at 195 Angelo Street answered the call.

During the recent floods in the East and local areas in and around Rochester, Mr. Campbell offered his services to the local Red Cross to assist in relief work and aid flood victims. As a citizen always interested in his own people and their problems, he deserves the praise of local citizenry for his willingness to serve humanity at such a time.

To all readers, subscribers and advertisers our wish for you is a joyous and happy Easter.

HOPE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE MET

Perhaps for the first time in 29 years the Afro-American citizen in Monroe County has been called for Jury duty and expects to serve in that capacity.

Last week three local citizens within the city of Rochester were notified to appear for examination on Wednesday, April 1st, preparatory to serving on the Jury in Monroe County. The three gentlemen called were, Charles Tyler, proprietor of the Ormond St. Billiard Parlor, Arthur Jarrett, proprietor of a garage on South Water Street and Percival Freeman, a chauffeur, all of this city.

Within the past year several Afro-Americans were called for Jury service in the County of Monroe at Mumford, N. Y. However, these three persons were disqualified, Mr. Horace Blackburn, Charles Coles and T. Carpenter, all three named being over 70 years of age.

Last year during the Fall political campaign several candidates used in their platform, the slogan that they would enforce the recent law passed at Albany with regards to our present Jury system and see that Negroes would be given a fair opportunity to serve on Juries in Monroe County.

The entire Afro-American population in Monroe County is watching with interest all recent developments with regards to Negroes actually serving on Juries in Monroe County.

All Jurors serving on the Jury at the recent trial of John Thomas, being tried for the murder of Tom Wilson were white. The question remains, why? Can white men with a background of 240 years or more of freedom, culture, education and civilization be in a position to judge, weigh and render a true verdict according to the Negroes status and standard of living, especially when the white man's standard on a whole is so much higher. In the case of John Thomas, we are confronted with an appalling situation that should be remedied by local Afro-Americans for their

(Continued on Page 4)

GRAND THEATRE

Plymouth Ave. at Main Street

Tuesday and Wednesday, April 7th and 8th

MIRIAM HOPKINS—JOEL McCREA in "SPLENDOR"
and WALTER CONNOLLY in "SO RED THE ROSE"

Thursday and Friday, April 9th and 10th

DOROTHY WILSON—PRESTON FOSTER in
"LAST DAYS OF POMPEII"

WHEELER AND WOOLSEY in "THE RAINMAKERS"

EDITORIAL PAGE

HOME OFFICE, 135 W. MAIN ST. ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

The Voice

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With Deep Regret

It is with deep regret that we look back upon the wave of murder and violence perpetuated by our brethren, members of the Afro-American race in this, our Community within the last two weeks.

The Negroes of this Community realize that the general reaction of the public, as a result of such crimes coming as it were so closely together does not make things any easier for the upright and law-abiding citizen who must go on living here. It is a potent fact that public opinion of the Negro is largely, if not wholly, based upon press reports, radio broadcasts, whether it pertains to religion, politics, morality or otherwise. I hold, therefore, that it is largely misinformation that brings the Negro into bad odor in this regard and earns for him the opinion that he is on the decline or "moral lapse," if you please. Then too, the dying testimony of what is commonly called the worthless Negro is given wider publicity and greater credence than the percept and example of the ten thousand living, straight forward, upright Negroes. I say this because the opinion obtained so widely that the Negro is growing worse. Therefore the right thinking Negro

of this Community is hoping and praying that nothing may be added and nothing taken away from the stories of the incidents of violence committed here in our midst whether the victims were guilty or innocent.

Our pulpit has long been recognized as an influential factor in the formation of character, and the Negro pulpit is not an exception to the general rule. Its influence may be elevating or degrading. The character and the ability of the man in the pulpit will determine its nature and extent. The office itself implies an active interest in the elevation of man from the lower to the highest stage of life. But the uneducated ministry proved itself unequal to the task of teaching and leading the people along the difficult path to true excellence. Therefore, these principles must be taught young Afro-Americans of this Community, for it is young Rochester we must meet on common ground and teach them to be clean, upright, law abiding citizens of this Community. We must reach the youth thru the medium of the mind; train that mind and in later years the citizens of this Community will be proud to re-

Unto the Least of These My Brethren

Editorial By E. P. C.

Friday night Mar. 20 marked another lynching in Georgia, in a place called Cusseta. Philip Baker, a 32-year old Aframerican citizen was denied his right to a trial before a jury of his peers, as written down in the Constitution of this, our America, where our slave forebears toiled for over 200 years to make this into the Country we know today. A sheriff and two deputies, as the story usually goes, were powerless in the hands of 30 or 40 men who took Baker from their custody as they were taking him from Macon to Columbus, Ga. Baker was accused of attacking two white women and a colored woman last December. It seems quite strange that the desire to lynch a man had lasted in the hearts of these 30 or 40 men for almost 3 months. It also seems strange that in these three months he was neither found guilty or innocent. We have so many laws in this land to protect the citizens, to guard the rights of others, but yet,

we have not grown civilized enough to make a law which will protect a man or woman, who in so many instances is innocent, from that most horrible and brutal of all deaths, death by lynching, while civilized people look on in amusement and enjoyment. We call ourselves Christians, but are we? We cannot understand how the people who lived in our Lord's day could have been so cruel as to nail him to a cross and stand and watch his untold anguish and agony and yet, in this America, Negro Christs are lynched so often that it is almost common to hear that another has been crucified. My friends, we must stop this terrible curse that has made the name of America one of shame, we must remember the words of the great teacher, Jesus Christs when he said, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." There will some day be a judgement, how will the mobsters answer, how will our law makers answer for the multiple crucifixions in which they have taken a part either directly or indirectly. May God have mercy on their souls.

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Rochester, New York

With Deep Regret—(Continued)

member the present generation.

The Negro, as a rule, labors under the belief that he is an object of persecution and proscripton, and in turn that insane belief so works upon him that it is useless for anybody to endeavor to make him believe otherwise. There is one thing I must say in closing and that is this, that if the Negro wants to break down the great undercurrent against him in the courts, he must do all in his power to establish among his

own people the element of caste—a line between the good and bad. He must frown upon those who do wrong, and uphold those who do right. He must lay aside the old adage that you must never do anything against your own color. If a man is my color, and he is wrong, I am against him. If a man is my color and he is right, I am for him. Let the Negro adopt th's as a maxim, and justice in the Courts of the land will be his, now and forever.

SAYS WE MUST STOP GUM BEATIN

Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of Abyssinala Baptist Church of New York City and columnist for the re-organized Amsterdam News said in a recent column that our race can brag some of the biggest gum-beaters in the world. (Quoting him) "We are always ready to solve the world's problems-vocally. In every local shop a gab-fest continually takes place. Negro businesses succeed only to the degree that they are verbally advantageous. As long as Brother Beasley can yawp, your business will succeed, but soon after you hang up the advice, "No Loitering Here," the sheriff knocks at your door. Beauty parlors thrive, barber shops are packed in old Harlem for only one reason; comfortable places to puff and blow.

I walked into a local emporium the other day and every seat was taken except the barber chairs—they were reserved for the customers.

We Negroes beat our gums 'til they bleed, kick the wind-bag around 'til its flat, throw words to the breeze like a man with numbers money—and never do a thing. We have a monopoly on protest meetings. We have virtually cornered the market when it comes to organization. And yet, we're not organized to do anything but die. The only organizations that we have that do anything are our fraternal benevolent ones, and all they do is see that you are buried when you die. Never a day passes without at least five people coming to me for a "sass'tety", a new plan, but I have never had a soul ask me what would be a good organization to work with.

We are not going to get anywhere warming the seats of our

pants in barber shops or having the cuticle pushed back in beauteries. No, we're not going to bring a new day through leather lunged orators or bellowings from my colleagues of the cloth. It's not going to come through signing petitions either. We've got to act.

Let's stop patronizing stores that are not owned by or employing Negroes. Let's find out why of the 50 employees of the 124th Street Home Relief Bureau who were laid off, recently, that most of the whites were reinstated. We can do all this and more. We can let loose a torrent not of words but of community action that will make Harlem a place to be respected. Yes, a few heads will be beaten but that will be proof that we have stopped our gum-beating.

A year ago this month hundreds of Negroes stopped their gum-beating on the night of the 19th and did something. Their methods were not the best. The results were not worth their actions and the sacrifice of blood, but they proved one thing: that there are a few who do not believe th's is a white man's world but who know this is God's free world with a chance to live if we are but willing to work together. If you give up nothing else during Lent, give up this gum-beatin'."

Rochester would do well to follow some of Rev. Powell's most timely advice, and by the way, Rev. Powell not only talks but gets out in the Community and acts. If it means boycotting a place of business and picketing, he may be found in the line of march. We need such a militant young pastor in Rochester.

Classified

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Mail or bring ads with money to this office.

ADVERTISE YOUR WANTS IN OUR CLASSIFIED SECTION. The Voice brings results. Give it a trial. New rate: 4c per word.

FOR RECREATION, soft drinks or cigarettes, stop at **BISHOP'S BILLIARD PARLOR** at 218 Spring St.

FOR RENT—Afro-Americans, a two room heated and lighted apartment at 135 Main Street West. See Mr. A. Bristol, janitor on premises.

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Come to the **KURLY Q BEAUTY SHOPPE** at 7 Waverly Place for that shampoo or wave. Apex and Rexo systems. Reasonable prices.

FOR SALE—Ropeen Hair Pomades, Teezem Brown Powder, Lucky Mojo perfume, La Jac Bleacher, Lovin Brown Skin Cream. Local representative, Mrs. Arthur Ghee, 424 Ormond Street.

STOP AT Charles W. Tyler's Billiard Parlor for smokes, candy and soft drinks, 358 Ormond St. City

STOP IN AT Kaplows Grocery, 344 Clarissa Street, for your Easter shopping. You'll find a full line of meats and food stuffs.

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Discrimination Against Negro Not Christian

"Discrimination against the Negro is not Christian, not Catholic, not true," were the words that rang out to an audience of 400 at Columbus Civic Center on the evening of March 1st, spoken by Elmo M. Anderson, colored, of the Catholic Interracial Council of New York on a visit to Rochester.

The meeting was sponsored by the newly organized St. Peter Claver Society to stimulate better understanding between the white and colored races.

"The Negro suffers in America because he is thought of as a slave, an inferior, a serf," he said. "His great past is forgotten or ignored."

Citing Negro leaders of the past Mr. Anderson claimed for his race, Alexander Hamilton, (one of the men who aided in writing the Constitution) two Catholic popes, the pilot of the ship Nina which sailed to the New World with Columbus and the first convert to Catholicism outside the Jewish race. "In spite of all this, no group has suffered greater ridicule and disparagement than the Negro," he continued. "None is held in greater contempt. If he works, it is said that is all he is good for. If he does not work, he is branded as shiftless. He is the last hired and the first fired. If he resists unlawful seizure, his Southern neighbors shoot him down. His friends cruelly criticize him, his enemies are relentless and unscrupulous."

Father John La Farge, S. J. urged "that Catholics exemplify in their daily lives the teachings of the Catholic Church concerning the justice and charity due to their fellow men. Since the Catholic Church appears today as the champion of social justice, the Negro naturally expects on the part of Catholics an intelligent interest in all those matters which concern his daily welfare."

TALK OF THE TOWNS MUMFORD NEWS

Mrs. H. Blackburn

Mr. Horace Blackburn of Church Street has been ill at his home for the past three weeks, his condition is much improved at this writing. Dr. John T. Carpenter of Main Street was a visitor in Rochester on Monday. Mrs. Minnie Coles of Rochester was a visitor on Sunday last at the home of her parents, Mr and Mrs. Macke Smith of Caledonia.

Scottsville Briefs

Mrs. Roy Dey

Mrs. Richard Phillips who is ill in a hospital in Rochester is much improved at this writing. Baby Shirley Jean Coles, the daughter of Mrs. Emma Coles weighs 4 lbs at a month old. Her twin brother was dead at birth. Mr. and Mrs. Thornton Scott and family have been victims of the flu. The family is much improved. Mr. Alec Payne is out again after a few days illness. Mrs. Phillip Johnson was able to attend church Sunday after being ill for several weeks.

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THE MAGIC CARPET

Well folks, the good Ole Ides of March came in like a lamb, but from all appearances she went out like the proverbial Lion.

However, regardless of the weather, Rochesterians seem to be doing things and going places, as it were, and so my friends, we invite you to join us and go places on our "Magic Carpet."

Here we are, chillun at Dan's Lunch, down Clarissa way, along the Rialto here we find Danny boy enjoying that inevitable cigar and listening to the sheekies hit the old cash box while genial "Shorty" Douglas all in white dispenses delicious foods and happiness with easy gusto, and those home made pies really look god. We tarry here for a while then we drop in on the Idyl Wyle Luncheonette. Here we find everybody busy with Misses Bennett and Richberg in charge while the amicable proprietor, Bill Lee helps out Bill Day at the cigar counter, everything seems to be O. K. here for Bill's light lunches and ice cream sodas seem to hit the spot, as we're leaving we get a glimpse of Doc Jordan in his sturdy Buick rushing to answer a call, and now, right behind Doc driving quite speedy we wave greeting to J. Campbell, who is always running a race against time. What a day, everyone seems to be up and doing judging from the crowd in Bishop's Recreational Parlor as we passed by. At the corner of Ford and Spring, we were forced to make room for a big red truck manned by Archie Johnson and Majors and helpers, and right behind him driving carefully we met our dear pal, Pope Williams in his maroon Buick giving us the salutation of the day.

Right now, friends, we're traveling down Main Street at a terrific pace when we notice our worthy Professor, Mr. James Whitley on his way to the Center. After all, it doesn't take long to get places on our "Magic Carpet" when you really make a wish, hence the speed. We're on the east side now, at the corner of Central and Leopold Streets, we meet the honorable Rev. Jas. Fuller in his Pontiac

on the way to visit the sick in the various hospitals in our Community. We're at Brown's Barber Shop now, we find things going along smoothly with plenty of colored newspapers for sale including The Voice. At Charlie Tylers Billiard Parlor we find Charlie quite busy stocking up with a variety of tobaccos and candy while all the tables are occupied, while in the rear we find Allen, the popular dancer by night and ambitious sign painter by day. At Miller's Coal & Coke on Ormond Street on the same thoroughfare, business seems to be picking up, what with two men on his truck and one at the store taking orders over the phone it looks as though Afro-American business is looking up in this ole town. Well, it's getting near supper time now, housewives are doing their shopping judging by the many familiar faces at Anthony's Meat Market and Mike Fideor's Grocery on Joseph Ave., for these merchants carry a line of foodstuffs that are not only appetizing but reasonable. From here we visit the colored Republican Club on Ormond Street, where Jim Bolden, colored G. O. P. leader holds sway, (Continued on Page 4)

SOCIAL ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. L. Bergen and son, John and Mr. J. Watkins all of Buffalo were guests on Sunday last at the home of Mrs. Pearl Harvey of 130 Adams Street. Miss Mary Green and George Madison and brother of Canandaigua attended a birthday party in honor of Mr. Jack Anderson at the home of Mrs. Alice Anderson of 123 Ford Street, on Saturday last. Mrs. Dudley, wife of one of the Dudley Brothers of Radio fame made a hasty trip to her home in Syracuse, N. Y. in anticipation of a "blessed event." The Three Kadets, Ali, Tommie and Maxie are appearing at the ? in Detroit, Mich., opening Friday, April 4th, after which engagement they will return to the Flower City. The Mu-So-Lit Club entertained at a formal banquet and dance about eighty guests on Monday evening, March 23rd at Magg's on E. Main Street. Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, who recently returned to this city was the guest speaker.

—AT—

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Local Afro-Americans Examined for Jury Service

(Continued from Page 1)

own particular benefit and peace of mind. We view from the doorway of the large court room, a sea of faces, colored and white, all intensely interested in the very revolting crime. We note a very dignified grey haired judge, a white prosecuting attorney, representing the people, another white attorney representing the defendant, and twelve white jurors. The defendant's fate rests with these people, there is not one of his own represented in any way serving in an official capacity. This is the picture that one can see daily in our courts in Monroe County. The question arises, where does the trouble lie? This time it is the fault of the Negro himself, particularly some of his local Afro-American leaders, political and otherwise. We must face the issue. Monroe County needs a Negro Lawyer practicing in our midst. Several have visited here in recent months but were soon discouraged by a few selfish individuals and persuaded not to stay. One was told on one occasion he would starve to death, naturally he soon decided that he'd better move on without putting such a statement to the test. Several years back a Negro lawyer by the name of Lee made a splendid record here as a practicing attorney in Monroe County, it can be done again. The thing for the local Negro to do is to sponsor this movement. We have two physicians and two Dentists, all of whom have migrated here from other cities within the past 18 years, these gentlemen have met with fair success, why can't a Negro Attorney do the same? This fact is indeed food for thought and one that should interest some of our most alert and influential citizens in our midst. The money that is being spent monthly in Monroe County by the Commonwealth and by Negroes in general for legal service and advice would support an ambitious and industrious Negro Attorney. The American law is quite complicated and regardless of how influential our so called colored Leaders are reputed to be, they are not in a position to advise us intelligently when we become involved in the toils of the law, hence the need of a trained man within the profession, who is equipped in every way to guide us along the right channels whether we be right or wrong is the imperative need of Afro Rochester and vicinity.

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THE NEGRO AND THE PRIMARIES

The Afro-American finds himself on the threshold of the Spring Primaries, a very important event. This means that another milestone is passed and the Negro in politics in this County is just as disorganized as ever and in some cases disinterested. To my mind politics isn't as rotten as reported to be by some local potential leaders. It's just another game that requires brains, intelligence, mother-wit and good common horse sense.

Mr. Voter, even though you are usually always the goat and left holding the bag, I would like to ask you several questions about local politics, which has to do with the 11th, 3rd, 7th, 22nd and 18th wards. If I seem too impertinent I beg of you to excuse me this time because I seem to be in a fog about them, here goes.

How do you feel when the vote getters come into your home, the colored and white and ask you to vote for their beloved candidates and paint for you a glowing picture of men in blue (meaning policemen) men in gray (meaning postmen) men in blue with top hat (firemen) young Negro women with Medical kit (meaning Nurses) while after election you see the great army on the Ash

gang, the Garbage wagon, the Wash Rack, and the measly 3months at Albany as Messenger, while the remainder remain on relief.

The second question, Mr. Voter is also quite important at this stage of the game. Why does the Negro during Primaries put on his own little private scraps along with other little small time leaders over who should handle the pecuniary pittance at general election, which is usually turned over to him that day to dispose among his fellow-voters?

Third, does the Afro-American voter realize why he continues to allow this cheap masquerade to continue each year, when we really could be doing something constructive with our voting power even though we represent a minority group.

Now, my good friends, we think the time is ripe for a few choicy statements. Many leaders have informed our worthy political constituents down town that I, (we) control so many votes. I ask, where are those votes? These types control one vote and sometimes not even that, for they are Democrats today and Republicans tomorrow, with louder voices than those who have never changed their affiliations.

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DAN'S LUNCH

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Try Our Regular Home Cooked Meals—25—30—35 cts.

J. H. Daniels, Prop.

The Magic Carpet

(Continued from Page 3)

with the "Big Apple" restaurant conveniently located next door with "Jersey", the proprietor looking out for his modest business and Chef, Shirley Cole behind the range. However, we note that more of our people should patronize these places of business whenever possible, which in turn would help make the wheels of colored business go around and round and come right out among our own. It's getting rather late now, men and women in the streets seem to be homeward bound, their days work is done and judging from some of the expressions on their faces, there seems to be sort of a feeling of contentment at having reached another milestone in the course of the day. Folks, this is a slant at our Community life, next week the "Magic Carpet" will be back with you to take you on another jaunt around the town.

There are others who try to force themselves into this, using their superior intelligence to push themselves forward, who also have no following, but who are smart enough to tour the Political offices down town trading on their dignity and what not to the tune of a few selfish dollars, which in time will be their undoing.

Well, what is the remedy you might ask? Here it is. We need new Leaders in Politics, we need a complete new slate representative of home owners and Negroes with more Race pride and human feeling. Men and women with vision. People who have already sighted their goal and are working to that end. People who observe and can see the conditions in our midst, particularly the plight of our young boys and girls graduating every year from Rochester's great schools of learning.

Citizens, isn't it about time we lined up with that party that will attempt to do these things for us? What does it matter what Party as long as that party shows the Negro that respect that is due any human being, regardless of race, creed or color. Perhaps one of the most depicable tricks being used by the unscrupulous white and colored politicians is, well such and such party is always in a position to get you out of trouble (meaning jail). We must say here that every Negro voter has not been in jail and does not aspire to go, neither does he want to be forced to put too much confidence in small time leaders getting him out. He probably feels, I'm safer on the outside looking in, rather than on the inside, looking out.

ANTHONY'S MARKET

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Patronize Your Neighborhood Grocer—Don't walk a mile for what you can buy at home at reasonable prices.