BAD HOUSING CONDITIONS!

Bootleg Insurance Agent Caught Red-handed

There comes the time in the life of a slicker when he can no longer fool the people in his midst or find easy prey for his nefarious schemes. As this hour came to Ralph Sicilia, alias Rosi Sicilia, R. Rossi, of 21 Broadway Drive, Irondequoit, N. Y., on February 4th in City Court, where it took a jury just 45 minutes to find Sicilia guilty of acting as an agent for a company not registered to do business in the State and Judge Jacob Gitelman pronounced sentence. He received a sentence of 30 days in the Monroe County Penitentiary.

One of Sicilia's specialties was selling bootleg insurance to Afro-Americans of the 3rd, 7th, 9th and 11th Wards. Having a nice personality and being fairly gifted as a salesman, we was able to worm his way into the bosoms of a number of unsuspecting people and ply his trade, selling them a product which the Afro-American supposedly couldn't get from other agents. Then the bill was surely being gotten in the business by a special investigator from Albany, who is frequently taking care of Mr. Sicilia.

A number of companies represented by him were the Reinsure Assn., Fraternal Mutual Assn., Lincoln National Aid Ins., The American Aid Ins., and the Phys. Mutual of Chicago, Ill., an Afro-American concern. Remember, even though the dollar is green, when we turn it 'pack, let it be black—catch on?

"BLACK ACES" will be the second feature at Grand Theater

It is not necessary to describe or relate all over again what has taken place here in Rochester during the past week concerning bad housing conditions among Afro-American people in the 11th, 3rd, 7th and 8th wards. However, these conditions do prevail and are recognized as a threat to the general health of the inhabitants of this city.

For three or more years this publication has carried on a relentless fight for better housing facilities for the Afro-American people of this community. Representatives of the paper have seen and listened personally to the complaints of many of these people while on regular circulation routes throughout the city. We have realized that these conditions could be cleared up, providing a survey was made and the unfavorable conditions exposed to the general public.

The right time arrived and now Rochester's entire population knows that the Negro is the house of any group, and that something must be done about it. Mr. Harold W. Baker, City Manager, and the City Council are taking the matter into consideration along with the cooperation of Congressman George B. Kelly, who believes that we deserve some relief from these conditions.

A separate housing project for the Negro is needed and we believe every race-minded individual in this city is of the same opinion, therefore beginning in our next issue a series of pictures will appear showing model apartments, interior and exterior, playgrounds, etc. We are asking you again for your moral and financial support in this true matter.

A number of our clergymen have given their support to this worthy movement, as well as some businessmen.

We appreciate the support that we received from our own people during our recent visit in getting the photographs for the Democrat and Chronicle, also the moral cooperation of Dr. C. Luther Fry, University of Rochester Professor in Sociology and Social Agencies in backing our efforts, also the local press, Times-Union and the Democrat and Chronicle for their great support and back-minded stands. Also Co-op brought a letter from Congressman George B. Kelly the man who started ball rolling. The letter reads as follows:

Congress of the United States—House of Representatives


Mr. Howard W. Coles, Editor, Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Coles:

I thank you very much for your letter and for your interest in my plan for low-cost housing for our distressed people.

I am sorry that since you had promised that council candidates were in favor of sponsoring better housing conditions that they are deaf to my plea for setting up an authority to take advantage of the government's assistance for this purpose that we of Congress by enactment have made available for that purpose.

I shall continue my fight to get action by the City Council.

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. KELLY, Representative
38th District, N. Y.

We also wish to thank Rev. A. M. Kearney of Clarissa Street for his interest in better housing. We are asking the support of Congressman George B. Kelly, chairman of the NAACP, Elks Civil Liberties League, Fraternal and Social Organizations. Write to City Mgr. Baker, also to the City Council.

The Observer

T. T. Griffin

The statistics of economy do cover every phase of life. Space does not permit us to discuss the political situation in full detail, but the fact remains that there is economy in political affairs as well as in our housing and social affairs.

It seems that when the present administration took over the political machine there were jobs abolished, unions, changed hands, etc.; the machine was one of our golden opportunities we completely failed to comprehend and by not adhering to the cooperative spirit of economy.

It appears to me that both parties of the Afro-Americans might have rallied to Mr. Castro's support as long as the other party had no one to offer in his place. Yes, it is quite true that the 7th ward Afro-Americans do need a political organ that will function impartially for the benefit and betterment of the race, regardless of what our personal grievances are in political platforms may be.

We must realize the fact that we must become a pendulum (swing) factor, adopting the individual with esteemed ideas favorable to the race.

We will find there is much to be accomplished by accepting the high-

Better Housing Conditions

For the Negroes in Rochester and Western New York

The Right of No People Can Routlessly Be Invaded Whose Peace Is Pure.

Upright and Patriotic... Devoted to the General Welfare of 20,000

Negroes in Rochester and Western New York

Vol. III—No. 43

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MONDAY, FEB. 28, 1938

Price 5 Cents
Calvin's Digest

By Floyd J. Calvin

The Anti-Lynching Bill has been shelved in the Senate, after a 47-

day filibuster by Southern Senators, which the alleged supporters of

the bill made no real effort to break. Our belief is that the reason no

genuine effort was made to break the filibuster was because there were no

genuinely red-blooded backers of the bill. Even those speaking for the bill

seemed to do it with a sort of resigned expression, as if not with their

hearts in their work. As an indication of just how the bill was actually

regarded, we noted that the New York Times and Herald Tribune hand-

lined the bill only because it was losing, even when the bill was temporarily

sidetracked, and again when it was definitely shelved. So the anti-lynch-

ing bill was news only when it was being gotten rid of, and all the white

folk apparently felt it was good redinance.

If this new defeat has taught us anything, we think it has taught us

that we must change our technique in our battle for mankind rights.

Warier White is right in that he seems inclined to the policy of fighting

it out on a definitely political basis. That is the only way we will win.

We must quit depending on the good white folk to save us, for they will

throw us to the wolves of prejudice and proscription every time, unless

their own skins are in danger of being branded. Which means that if we

fight it out as a matter of policy, there will be some white skins brand-

ed if they don't support us — some lucrative jobs lost, some coveted of-

fices denied — and that is when we will get support that will be real

support.

By virtue of his position as an underdog in American life, the Negro

must get schooled for too many scores of years, in trying to calculate

the white man. Coordination works only in certain fields. It has never

worked in the fields of Negro school rights, and it will not work in the

future. Even the issue of slavery was settled only by bloodshed, and to this day white people

argue that the Negro might still be enslaved had it been possible to save the Union and keep him there. Of course Negro Lincoln-day orators

like to say the Emancipator planned to free us, but the truth is Lincoln

started out to save the Union, which was in line with his oath of office,

and he ended slavery because he found it the best way to break the

Confederacy. We do not doubt that, personally, Lincoln disliked slav-

ey and wanted to end it, but it must be said, like many people who
dislike lynching and would like to see it stopped, but they are not willing to

undergo their lives and fortunes for seeing it stopped. We are Eng-

land on the question of Ethiopia — they want peace, even if Ethiopia

must be ended to Italy, in spite of conditions of 51 nations against it.

Ever white folk wants peace, even if Negro must be cut off.

So let us watch the betrayers of the Negro citizens in the Senate,

and march to the polls accordingly.

Adverts: The Voice, Saturday, February 28, 1938

little BLUE RESTAURANT
Try Our Special Home Cooked Meals
We Cater to Parties, Private and Social Clubs
Steaks, Chops and Short Orders
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Marina Street
Prop. James Stotes

You Can't Buy
New Eyes*

NEW EYES just can't be bought, so we have to take care of the ones we now have. Abuse of

eyes is common. The penalties for it are becoming quite well known.

1. E. S. Lamps are a boon to folks who really wish to take the best care of pre-

cious eyesight. Every home should have one or more of them.

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89 East Avenue Main 3960

Our Ads Always Tell The Truth
Hart's

Rochester's Greatest Grocers

Double Coupons on Wednesdays

Everybody Saves HART'S Coupons

35¢ TAXI STATION 2 Alpha Lunch FAVOR STREET, STONE 15

Personal Events

Mrs. Charles Washington of Clarity St., wishes thank her many friends and acquaintances for the hospitality shown her during her recent illness. Their kindness shall never be forgotten.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Cole and son Ronald were entertained at dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Johansen of Food Street on Sunday, Feb. 13th.

Mrs. Cordie Greenlee and young son Warren, have returned home after six weeks visiting in the south with relatives and friends.

Mr. Virgil Jones and son of Indianapolis, Indiana, were visitors in the city last week. Mr. Jones is the father of Mrs. Estie Fields of Loyalist St. and brother-in-law of Mrs. Sel Yorke of Alma Place. Mr. Jones is a prominent businessman of the city, being in the sand and gravel business with seven Pierce-Arrow trucks on the street.

While he was attending services at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church on Adams St.

Mr. Howard Provost of this city recently visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Provost of Utica. Rev. and Mrs. Leah of this city recently visited Rev. and Mrs. E. Andrews of Syracuse, N.Y.

Mrs. Walter Scott of Edith St., kindly call at the Voice office for a free pass to the Grand Theatre.

While here he attended services at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church on Adams St.

Attention—Wood For Sale

Be the Barrel—25¢ & 50¢ Staves
Delivered to your house without extra charges

Call Main 2446 for prompt service.

LeRoy Brooks 7 Waverly Pl.

GRAND THEATRE

PLYMOUTH AVENUE AT MAIN STREET

Sunday and Monday March 6th and 7th

“The Awful Truth”

Gary Grant, Irene Dunne and Ralph Bellamy

Buck Jones in

“Black Ages”

How You can Earn More Money in 1938

Enroll Now!

New Classes, both Day and Evening, Opening Now in

Beauty Culture and Hair Styling

A Porn School Operator is ready to train you for a Better Paying Position in Beauty Culture

The Rose Beauty Salon

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STONE 4946

Try Our Regular Home Cooked Meals

Special Sunday Dinner 50¢

DAN’S LUNCH

379-381 Clarissa Street J. H. DANIELS, Proprietor

Main 8111

WOOD—Five Large Barrels for $1.00

T. T. GRIFFIN MOVING and CARTING AT LOW PRICES Rochester, N. Y.
Surprise Birthday Party

A real surprise birthday party was given in honor of the popular Thomas Jones by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. Jones, at their residence, 131 Leopold Street, on the evening of February 17th.

A large group of friends were present, along with many local celebrities, who were gathered in and spacious dining room and living room when Ti, as he is popularly referred to, arrived home. A birthday cake and punch were served, and the table with buffet service for 36 guests. A swell evening was spent, enjoying various games, bridge, and dancing. Ti was the recipient of many beautiful gifts from his many friends.

Mrs. Jefferis of Henry Street, kindly call at the Voice office for a free pass to the Grand Theatre.

Mr. Merchant:

Advertise in The Voice. It reaches the racial-minded men and women in your community.

JOE LOUIS, the World's Champion encomendace and uses only MURRAY'S HAIR DREAD because it is a World's Champion Hair Dressing. It must be good! \ You try it TODAY!!

General County Taxes

February 8, 1938

Minor County Treasurer

Rochester, N. Y., Jan., 2, 1938.

The monotonous story for the general county tax list in 1937 is now printed in our county tax rolls. This list provides an opportunity for the assessment roll to be revisited.

The county treasurers are required to pay the tax assessed to them before the 15th day of April next, subject to the following conditions as provided in Section 210 of Chapter 755 of the laws of 1937, being the charter of the city of Rochester.

Fees will be added as follows:

All of January without sale: $1 per cent.
February 1st to February 15th, inclusive: 1 per cent.
March 1st to March 31st, inclusive: 2 per cent.
April 1st to April 14th, inclusive: 3 per cent.
After April 14th, odd addition of 3 per cent and also interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum.
Office hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 midday.

It is not necessary to call at the County Treasurer's Office, head portal of city hall; if the tax is paid to the collector and street, tax bill will be mailed.

Then mail with check to the collector.

TOWN TAXES

Taxes cannot be paid to County Treasurer's Office during the month of March, they will be paid to the Town Collectors. Address of town will be received by Director of Finance on request.

C. A. SMITH

Director of Finance.

Rochester Boy Named to Hospital

Staff at Tuskegee, Alabama

From a recent report it was learned that Zack Bradford, formerly of Holcomb, has been in this city, has recently been honored with an appointment to the J. A. Anderson Hospital staff, and is being placed in charge of the Laboratory Department. He has made his work in this capacity, and states that he is doing fine. Zack Bradford will work for a short time in the Laboratory at the Highland Hospital.

Business Man Passes

Mr. John H. Roe of 10 Benedict Place, died Saturday, February 29th, at the General Hospital, where he had been confined only a short time before.

Funeral services were held on the following Tuesday from the Letimer Funeral Home with the Rev. Robinson officiating. He leaves to mourn his loss, his widow, Mrs. Daisy Roe, one daughter, Dorothy Curry of West Choteau, Pa., one sister, Mrs. Mattie Moseley of Philadelphia, and two brothers in Virginia, one nephew and niece, Walter and Margarette Peaks, Interment was in the Mt. Hope Cemetery.

For many years Mr. Roe was active in business in Rochester; at one time being proprietor of two filling stations here, as well as being the owner of a prosperous cleaning and window washing business. He was a member of the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church for a number of years, was always active in community work, and the progress of the Afro-American everywhere.

Religion—Home

Mrs. A. L. Jordan, widow of Dr. Jordan of Atkinson Street, is visiting from Red Bank, N. J., with her mother, who recently experienced a serious breakdown.

Lehman Club Gives Banquet

The annual banquet of the Lutheran Democratic Club was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Lehman, Monday, Feb. 14th.

Among those attending were Mr. and Mrs. E. Moore, Mrs. Rebecca Saunders, Mrs. C. Carter, Mrs. M. Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. Clayton, and Mrs. I. Roy, Mrs. Alice M. Gross, Mrs. Helen Williams, Miss Helen Schuyler, Mr. Chester Holcomb, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Davis, Mrs. E. E. Davis, Mrs. Eliza Holcomb, Mr. Leon Rowland, Mr. N. Ellis, Miss H. Glee and a host of others. The evening was spent at cards, dancing. T.J. was the recipient of many beautiful gifts from his many friends.

Miss Gloria Jones is home on account of Mrs. Smith's illness.

MUMFORD—Mrs. H. Blackburn

Rev. Turpin preached a fine sermon on Sunday last.

Rev. Hickman and his daughter attended church.

Mrs. Florence Johnson is much better at this writing.

William Johnson is slick at his home.

Mrs. Sellers of Lehman called on Mrs. Florence Johnson, also Mr. and Mrs. John Jackson and Warner, all of Caledonia. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas and son called on Mr. Wright of Avon recently.

Little William Lewis visited his grandmother Lucas. He is 3 months old and weighs 12 pounds.

Mrs. Alice Jackson of Rochester called on Mrs. Grace Coles Feb. 6th.

Mrs. Mark Smith is some better at this writing.

LEROY—Mrs. Poles, Reporter

LeRoy Second Baptist Church—Rev. P. M. Steckland, Minister

The Headhouse Quartet rendered a wonderful program at the church recently and it was well attended.

The Banquet Club met at the home of Mrs. Samuel Arrington on last Monday evening.

A birthday party was given in honor of Miss Ruby Hammond at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Asbury Gales on Sunday, February 14th. Beautiful gifts and presents were present from Gessens, Biffard, Mumford, Mrs. Malinda Clark, Miss Martha Gales and Mrs. E. Zion Church held its quarterly meeting on February 6th, with Mrs. Lillian Clark as hostess.

The nominating committee met at the church last Thursday, and an appointment to the J. A. Commons Laboratory and X-Ray Departments.

Mrs. Janet Poles was a visitor of Mrs. Fred Peterson last Thursday.

Harold Sellers and Miss Martha Gales were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Asbury Gales of Church Street.

Mrs. Fred Peterson has been very ill but is reported much improved at this writing.

Mrs. Franklin Bundy, Mrs. Ruth Sellers Ruth Sellers and Mrs. Jack Lewis attended the banquet in Rochester, Monday, Feb. 14th.

The missionary meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Knox last Thursday, with Mrs. F. H. N. Scott of Rochester. The Pastor's Aid Club met at the church on Thursday.

Miss Clara Alexander of Rochester was a recent visitor at the church and also a member of her mother's association, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alexander.

Miss Jenny Kyte of Batavia is spending a while with Mr. Fred Peterson, caring for her while she is ill.

A Box Social was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Arrington on last Thursday at the church sponsored by the choir, which was a success.

Mrs. Malinda Clark was a dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Poles on Sunday.

The nominating committee met at the church last Tuesday evening.

Miss Ruby Hammond and Harold Sellers called on Mrs. Fred Peterson Monday evening.

Junior Alexander and Miss Mary Layne were victims of an automobile accident, but both escaped with minor injuries.

Master Clyde Burrell underwent an operation last Wednesday and is reported to be doing well as can be expected.

Miss Virginia Burrell has been a patient at St. Jerome's Hospital, where she underwent an operation for appendicitis.

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