Movies

SPORTS

Theatres

Uncle Alfred

A column devoted to problems of Courtship and Marriage

Letters, seeking advice, should be addressed to "Uncle Alfred, care of the PLAINDEALER." Each week as many of these letters as space will permit, will be answered through this column.

While only the initials of our correspondents will be published, it is desired, as an evidence of good faith, that the name and address of the writer be appended to each letter. This information will be held in the strictest confidence.

This column is in no sense a joke, but is a feature added for the benefit of those of our readers who are in need of this type of advice. "Uncle Alfred," through years of experience and observation, is eminently fitted to render sane and helpful advice of this nature. Take advantage of this service—it is free to Plaindealer readers.

June 3, 1934.

Dear Uncle Alfred:

I hardly expect any advice as I can see just exactly what kind of a case mine is. But since I have no relatives or friends I can talk to, just telling you this is a real relief.

This is my trouble, just a plain case of discouragement, I know.

I am a widow and have been for several years. In fact I reared my family alone. I have been too busy to really make friends especially the kind of friends other people have. I am highly respected and no one suspects I have a worry in the world aside from the money question and everyone has that.

Everything I attempt to do all turns out bad for me. I can get work and hold it but women who have husbands get more money than I do or if I get a good job I get ill and have to quit. I was lucky enough to get part of a course in beauty culture. I am very well educated but nothing turns out right. I am discouraged as I face the summer with no prospect of any kind.

I have reared my children alone, given them high school education and hope to be able to send one to university this fall.

I believe in God and trust him but I also believe that he helps those that help themselves and when you realize yourself a complete failure it is hard.

I do not need advice I guess but you do not know how being able to tell some one my troubles helps. But I really feel that life is not worth living when everything you do is wrong and everyone else gets along and you just a miserable failure.

I have had hopes of doing great things but when you see everything you do turn out wrong my! but it is discouraging. Thanks for reading this. It helps a lot.

Mrs. B. J. C.

• • •

Dear Mrs. B. J. L.:

You are developing an inferiority complex. Brace up! Things are not half as bad as you are allowing yourself to imagine.

What you need is to get out more. Meet people, cultivate new friends and associates of both sexes. Forget your misfortunes which you in your morbid state have magnified.

You are far from a failure if, as you say, you have reared your children unaided, educated them through the high school and are even contemplating sending at least one to college.

You have much to be proud of for yours has been a real accomplishment. Let the knowledge of what you have done serve as an impetus to renewed courage and greater effort. You are bound to win out if you try hard enough.

You have everything that tends toward success but an optimistic viewpoint. Cultivate that, and the world is yours.

With a sincere belief in your ultimate victory, I am

Yours very truly,
Uncle Alfred.

Dear Uncle Alfred:

I have a question to ask you: Is it often justifiable to show a lack of "perfect" courtesy or "good manners" for the sake of the naturalness, sincerety, or simplicity upon which they should be based? As an example to illustrate my question, I'll say that if on rising in the morning, one is called downstairs to breakfast, by someone else, without a "good morning" greeting passing between them before they meet at the table, would you consider it rude if the one who was called down didn't say a formal "good morning" when they reached the table but otherwise pleasant as to facial expression, conversation, etc.? Was he justified in using for his reason for the lack of a "good morning" the fact that he felt that "the ice had been broken" when words had been exchanged before they appeared together at the breakfast table?

—A Query.

A. Q:

Courtesy and politeness, even among friends and intimates, is a most desirable quality. Persons should never become so common or matter of fact toward each other as to feel that there is a lack of necessity for the exchange of ordinary courtesies.

While in such instances as you mention these omissions are frequent, they are never justifiable, and stamp one as being lacking in the essential social accomplishments.

There are certain courtesies, marks of good breeding, which are indispensable to the maintenance of our standards of civilization and social intercourse. The customary salutation upon meeting a friend or acquaintance is one of them.

While it differs somewhat from the kind of queries for which this column was designed, I am glad you wrote the above letter, and I trust others may gain something of value from the reply.

Sincerely,
Uncle Alfred.

LAFAYETTE THEATRE, N. Y., A COLORED INSTITUTION WHETHER THEY WANT IT THAT WAY OR NOT

(By Romeo L. Dougherty, for the Associated Negro Press)

Concluded from last week, Part 3

If he could not get a better picture for the Lafayette it was dollars to doughnuts he would secure one just as good, and the fact that he could write his own copy for the Negro papers, something no other theatre manager in the community could do, gave him the jump in carrying any story he sought to get out to the readers of these sheets.

Apparently Schiffman had dug himself in for a long time, for even with the opening of the Alhambra Theatre further down the street to the Negro trade it did not interfere with the success of the Lafayette. For a time the Alhambra catered to a pretty fair crowd, but inability to secure good pictures and play the game as the experienced young man so long in association with Lee Brecher, another keen mind in the business, had Milton Gosderfer virtually "hanging on the ropes as they say in the parlance of the prize ring.

One or two Negro newspaper men, wise in the game but not wise in the behind-the-scenes-operation of paying out money you cannot get, suggested that Gosderfer would have continued to meet with some form of success if he could have employed real actors when he was using chorus girls to do certain parts, but the truth of the entire thing is even at its best the Alhambra was never a success or even pointed to the success which could have brought the management hope of staying in Harlem as long as the Lafayette was being operated by the smart Schiffman who could go into the open market, but with a keen business sense and sell with an acumen that will keep him an important figure in the life of Harlem as long as he remains.

What has kept Schiffman more than ten years actively engaged in operating the Lafayette and forever live to the first signs of threatened danger from any source? The Lafayette has housed everything it is possible for a theatre to present, and when Broadway had hailed the Negro during and after the war, the Lafayette theatre played a part which was one of the most important in its history.

Because of the number of performers among Negroes that had met with success on Broadway and abroad, it was possible for many Negro charitable institutions in the community to secure the house without any charge whatsoever for benefits, and the vast majority of these affairs were highly successful. Schiffman drove home the Lafayette to a large clientele and because of certain personal contact with the leading men and women of the community and the various institutions, he always maintained a certain knowledge of everything that affected the Negro and how it applied in the amusement world.

A more technical history of the Lafayette Theatre can perhaps be written, but there is nothing to add to what has already been said from a general standpoint. From Florenz Zeigfeld to the lesser lights of the theatre in America, to Sir Arthur Beerbohm Tree and the lesser lights of the theatre in Europe the Lafayette has had representation. In public life there are only two high officers in the country to top the list as having visited the house, and these are the Governor of the State and the President of the United States, for at least a Mayor of New York has graced its stage and Congressmen, members of the Board of Aldermen, the State Assembly, judges and a host of others prominent in every walk of life have been seen at the Lafayette Theatre.

It would take a prophet to gaze into the crystal ball of the future and dare make predictions of what is in store for the house. Changing times have brought many changes to the Lafayette, yet if the doors were closed tomorrow it would be looked upon as a calamity, for the house has been part and parcel of the growth of this thriving Negro community.

MEMPHIS HURLER HAS SWELL DAY

Memphis, Tenn., June 8—(ANP)—Bill Harvey, durable Memphis Red Sox hurler, had a swell day Saturday afternoon in Memphis' 5 to 3 victory over the touted Birmingham Black Barons. On the mound, Harvey limited the invaders to six hits and at bat, the left hander got four hits out of four times up, knocked in a couple of runs and crossed the plate twice himself.

BELL, COLES TO A BISON GRID COACH

Washington, D. C., June 8—(ANP)—Dr. Charles West, new Howard University football coach, will be assisted this fall in his work by Jack Coles, former H. U. backfield star, and by William "Bill" Bell, ex-Ohio State University star tackle of several years ago, it was announced. The men were selected by the new coach as per his agreement with the university athletic board of control.

SUPERIOR ATHLETICS WIN 20-11

Miamisburg, O., June 8—(ANP)—In a batting spree, the Superior Athletics defeated the Miamisburg Reds, white, 20 to 11 here Saturday. Home runs by Jones, Hicks and Moses of the winners featured Lindsey and Byrd got three hits each while Young with five singles in six times up, led the team's efforts with the flail.

Jack Thompson Freed of Drunk Charges

Los Angels, June 8—(ANP)—Jack Thompson, pugilist, won an acquital on an intoxication charge last week in Municipal Judge Ambrose's court when he declared that instead of being drunk he was only annoyed when two coppers woke him up from a sound sleep in the rear seat of his automobile parked on Central avenue.

The police testified that Thompson attacked them with both fists when they aroused him.

GRIDMAN VOTED BEST ALL-ROUND STUDENT

Hampton Institute, Va., June 8.—(ANP)—Portfield Harris, quarterback on the Hampton '933 football eleven was voted as being the best all-round student at the Institute, according to a senior poll last week.

NET MEN TO OPEN SEASON, JUNE 16

Philadelphia, June 8. — (ANP)—When Pennsylvania meets New Jersey in a battle for the Cockburn trophy here June 16, the big 1934 net show of the American Tennis Association will be under way it was reported. Ora Washington, Ernie Ashe, the Worde brothers and many others are expected to take part.

The Sport Roundup

(By Dan Burley for the ANP)

NEGRO ATHLETICS WILL NEVER PROGRESS UNLESS

Chicago, June 8—(ANP)—Negro professional and amateur athletics will never progress, it is your authors humble opinion, until they attach a degree of sentimentality to their various propositions. Such sentimentalities as designating and setting aside certain days for honoring the memory of some figure who did much to make the given sport a success; such sentimentalities as keeping alive the achievements of great athletes so that a shining and concrete example can be afforded for the younger aspiring athlete to follow.

For example: here we have the late Andrew "Rube" Foster, admittedly the guiding light in organized Negro professional baseball, one of the greatest minds the game has ever known, regardless of color, who has been ranked along with Connie Mack and the late John McGraw, as one of the master strategists; but what have we to recall about him? What park, owner, or club has set aside a special date for a game in honor of his memory. What park raises or lowers its flag in tribute to his efforts in MAKING NEGRO

Not even the American Giants' Park, now owned by Negroes. You would never know "Rube" had been in the park, aside from the fact that his brother, William pitches out there. And the players. Our fans never have a Willie Foster Day, a Charleston, Paige, Duncan, Mackey, Lundy or Jenkins' Day like the White Sox or Cubs with their Lyons Dykes, Grimm or Stephenson Days. Why? Don't we appreciate effort to the extent where in we would like to create some interest around our stars who give their all for our entertainment?

The same holds true of other sports. What college has a "Binga Dismond Event" or a "Ben Stevenson for that matter? All a ball club magnate has to do is to announce that next Sunday, Monday, Thursday or whatever day it is, we'll pay tribute to So and So, who did so much to make it possible for me to make money. Colleges could do the same. Take some great athlete out of their files who did much to make his school immortal, name some special event in his honor and run it off.

How many of you folks know about Randolph Butler, "father of Indianapolis baseball" and owner of the first A. B. C. team. Well, "Ran" is dead and I would venture to say that the sepia inhabitants of Indianapolis didnt even know he was around. But the old gentleman, who passed into the Great Beyond at the age of 77, is credited with organizing one of the Middle West's most colorful aggregations. Yes, we need some sentimentality. Who knows Bruce Petway; Gans, Dixon, Russ, John Henry Lloyd and others? We need some sentimentality.

TOPICAL TYPES

Hollywood, Calif., June 7—(ANP)—Tit for Tat—Ida Perry, maid to Kay Francis faced a serious operation recently. Kay sent her to the hospital, paid all expenses, kept her room filled with flowers, spent long hours at her beside. Ida recovered.

Kay accidentally cut her arm last week. A large artery was severad, together with three little ones and a tendon. Ida put in a rush call for a doctor, meantime applied an emergency tourniquet. Kay lives.

• •

Step on wings**It was with no little coaxing that Stepin Fetchit finally made that airplane trip to Harlem to appear in the All-Star Extravaganza staged for the NAACP Defense Fund. Seems that the day before Step was to make the flight, a plane cracked up between here and there, killing several passengers.

Friends rushing over to Step's apartment found the lackadaisical comedian sitting on the side of his bed scratching his small head. "Well," he drawled, "that was to have been my first airplane trip but it's too bad now."

"Aw, what you mean, 'too bad', Step," queried Lawrence LaMarr thru whose efforts the trip was arranged by the studio.

"Too bad that it aint gonna be."

And as the night wore into day onlookers saw the last strand of hair on Larry's pate leave its follicle before Step finally gave in, made the sign of the cross and consented to go thru with original plans.

• • •

Heave, Ho, Mates!—Cablegram from China reports the famous movie wedding of well known theatrical couple featured recently by Hollywood studio has struck an iceberg and the old ship of state may go down before she reaches the Barbary Coast again.

• • •

Shim Sham Revue—Still holds the spot for sophisticated entertainment in the foothills of movieland. Featured are 27 kiddies of Lauretta Butler's kiddies revue while Winnie Shaw, well known bluester is headliner, and Ben Carter's "Golden Gate Pickaninnies" are an added attraction.

• • •

Very Grave—Was the condition of Frank Sebastian last week after an emergency operation for a ruptured appendix. Entertainers at the club held a good thought' for him while he fought for life.

Sebastian, heaviest employer of race talent, was stricken while looking over entertainment talent for the opening of the Plantation cafe.

• • •

Theda Bara** Reported dead, married, divorced, and broke is still holding her own quietly in Hollywood.... she of the wicked ways in early flickers....she of the heavy heaving practiced by vamps of yesteryear when the rising bosom spoke the same language to baldhead row as Sally's fan does today to the boys out front.... first of the sirens, Theda received homage of Hollywood opening night at the Little Theatre of Beverly Hills for Professionals when she appeared in "Belle Donna" with an all-pro cast under the direction of Mone Colkins, very much alive, very devastating was Theda then and still a barrel of sex appeal.

• • •

Some of These Days**That moanful wail of the forgotten man of several decades (?) ago is being revived around here over radio, floor show and wherever orchestras tune for hotcha since Shelton Brooks and his troupe arrived to put on the show for Frank Sebastian's Cotton Club.

Shelton takes his mail at the Clark Hotel, fashionable avenue place where the elite of sundown society takes its and.

A Miss Prime, one of Shelton's better looking song and dance gals was seen and heard giving Nora Holt the lowdown on Harlem last night just before the latter departed for Chicago.

On The Air

By Charles Isaac Bowen

(For the Associated Negro Press)

Talent from such shows as "Rhapsody in Black," "Blackbirds," combined and have opened Chicago's newest nightlife center the "Royale Cotton Club" on Wabash avenue in the Loop; also from a local night club two artists were borrowed.

The band stand is occupied by Erskine Tate and his band, who formerly played at the Grand Terrace cafe in the absence of Earl Hines a year or two ago. The show is headed by George Dewey Washington who 'wows' them in with his dramatic barytone, Katheryn Perry, wife of Earl Hines of Grand Terrace fame, who sang her way to fame in "Blackbirds of '34"; Bert Howell, the Ukelele boy of "Dixie on Parade" fame and Mercedes Welker and the Berry Brothers, late of the Grand Terrace Cafe....Others in the show are Dink, Blink and Wink, a trio of fast steppers; Jennie Dancer, of Sophie Tucker type, LeRoy and Kenneth, dancers and sixteen chorus girls. The master of ceremonies is Leonard Reed, of the Milton Berle manner, who has made a considerable hit on the south side in recent months.

The place will probably be wired to Columbia in the latter part of the week. Critics and Manager Gallet are predicting a big summer this year with the invading of the World's Fair visitors.

One Chicago critic said "For many years showmen have been talking about giving Chicago a place like New York's Negro Cafe in Harlem. But they always doubted the possibilities of its success. The nearest thing to an all Negro cafe show was presented down in the College Inn of the Sherman hotel last winter when Noble Sissle, suave Negro showman and band leader, brought a polished group of musicians and entertainers to Chicago."

• • •

Another Chicago cafe offering an all-colored show is the "205 Club" with Little Joe Johnson, M. C., heading the show. Margaret Gosby, singer; Jimmie Keys, tap dancer; Grace Drake, specialty performer; comic singers George West and Harry Frazen and a chorus of girls. This rendezvous is located on Clark and Lake streets.

• • •

Etta Moten was guest artist Sunday on a nation wide National Broadcasting Co. hookup, during Major Bowes Capital Family Hour. This delightful program which has taken the place of Roxy and his Gang on the national circuit, features only the more artistic things. Miss Moten sang in English and German after a most charming and appreciative introduction by Major Bowes.

• • •

"Fats" Waller and the Beale Street Boys were highlights in "Voice of Columbia" last Sunday afternoon. "Fats" gave his inimitable version of "St. Louis Blues" on the program while the boys offered a spiritual "Nobody Knows" and "The Dark Town Strutters' Ball,"......"Harlem Serenade" program has a new cast with the old members either making stage appearance or at night clubs. "Fats" Waller still remains master of ceremonies. The new line up includes radio's newest sensation "The Beale Street Boys," quartet from Memphis (we will give a brief biography of them next week), soloist, Tiny Bradshaw and Louis Russel and his band....Among the sixteen composers to play their own compositions in a benefit broadcast over Columbia last Tuesday was J. Rosamond Johnson, whose brother is as widely known in the field of literature.

• • •

The Four Washboard Serenaders in town from WFLA, St. Petersburg, Fla., are looking for a good radio spot....Claude Hopkins and band are apearing at Roton Point Park, South Norwolk up in New England. Duke Ellington and band are creating quite a sensation up in the north-west region of these United States of America. This is his first invasion of this territory and the theatre-goers don't seem to get enough of his work. Now don't forget that the Duke will be on the Fair Grounds at a Century of Progress here for four weeks after completing his present tour which will take in Portland, Oregon, Seattle, Tacoma, Salt Lake City, Ogden and Denver. However, the spot he will play in hasn't been definitely settled. His trip to Europe last year foiled plans for a long stay in Chicago. Eddie Duchin, white, and his band will occupy the spot where Ellington usually has his summer stays in the windy city, The Lincoln Tavern, a road house....Cab Calloway, after playing theatres in the east and middle west, will take his orchestra to Hollywood to make pictures for Paramount...WTMJ, Milwaukee, has been swamped with mail by confused listeners who thought Cal Calloway, playing at the Schroeder Hotel, was Cab. He is a soloist picked up in St. Paul to be featured with the orchestra there. He doesn't sound a bit like Cab, therefore it seems foolish to get the two voices confused. Also the announcer pronounces the name Cal distinctly....One reader writes in and asks why were the Mills Brothers taken off the Bing Crosby program, and they added a lot to that program. The answer is that at the time the quartet stopped broadcasting they finished two pictures and made a flying trip across the country to make a steamer for England for personal appearances.

DRINK NEHI

CLAUDE L. JONES
LAWYER
Residence Residence Phone
Office: Drexel 0462
617 Parallel Ave. Fairfax 5210
207 Wyandotte Building
KANSAS CITY, KANS

BE KIND
Send Sick or Unwanted Animals to
The Humane Society Shelter
333 Minnesota Ave.
Drexel 3389

The Wills Norton Company
E. B. SEWELL, JR., Manager
Use White Loaf Flour
North Topeka, Kans., U. S. A.

MYLES CLAY STEVENS
Attorney and Counsellor at Law
342 MINNESOTA AVENUE
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
Phones:
Office Dr. 6706 Home Dr. 0229

The Industrial Department
AT
Wstern University
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
OFFERS
A Complete Four Year High School; Junior College, offering two full years of College work in the essential subjects required for admission to any standard accredited college or university. Industrial department offering diplomas in: Commercial subjects (bookkeeping, shorthand, and typewriting); carpentry, cabinet making, auto mechanics, engineering, scientific agriculture, domestic sciences (dress making, ladies' tailoring, cooking); music, printing.

A Competent Faculty
The Faculty has been organized and many teachers added. Four members of the faculty have Master's degrees from leading Universities of the country. These Teachers will teach the Junior College subjects. Our High School department has been greatly strengthened by the addition of many new teachers who hold degrees from our leading universities and colleges. The trades department has been completely reorganized.
—For Further Information Address—
Bishop W. T. Vernon
PHONES:
Office, FA. 4481 Residence, FA. 2744

WHITCOMB'S GREENHOUSE
9th Ry. St. Lawrence, Kans.
C. V. Bell, Mgr.
Cut Flowers and Funeral Designs

FOR RENT
6-room house at 2414 North 28th St., Kansas City, Kansas. Inquire at Mrs. Green's next door.

DR. N. C. CAIN
Physician and Surgeon
Office and Medicine
1315 Haskell Ave.

For All Classes of
Signs
—CALL—
Maguson Sign Company
422 Kansas Phone 3-3341

NOW IS TIRE TIME
Equip your Car with
Pennsylvania Tires
and ride in comfort and security—on Sale at
JAMES POULTRY COMPANY
406-8-10 Minnesota Avenue
BOSTON still offers you courteous and efficient service on all your Auto Needs—
Pennfield Oil, 100 per cent pure Pennsylvania, 20c per quart
Parland Oil, 100 per cent paraffin base, 15c per quart

9-Piece Davenport Suite Group
A stylish davenport suite with chair to match, slightly used elegantly upholstered. Other pieces are brand new as illustrated Come early, Sat. only
$49
EASY TERMS
Many Groups to Choose From
New and Used Goods
New Baby Sulky $2.95
Used Studio Couch $4.95
New Porch Gliders $12.95
Used Refrigerators $4.95
Used Dining Rm. Suite $12.95
New Porch Chair $2.95
Used Dresser $4.95
New Cedar Chest $11.95
Used Gas Range $11.95
Used Walnut Suite
$39
FAMOUS