



It Pays to Advertise in the Rising Son for it Reaches More Homes of Colored People than any other Paper in the State.

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## The Beginning of the Downfall of Nelson C. Crews.

Standing as it were before the great body of Negroes, one can watch the trend of circumstances and the changing of history.

Great men have their rise in the advocating of some great principle. When the men who have risen through the combined effort of the people to push them forget from whence their power comes; the wheel of time begins to roll with them down the hill of life. When a man is rising, everybody is inclined to help him up, and when a man's feet begin to go down the ladder, so it is everybody begins to help him down. When a man stands for a strong principle that will benefit the people, the people get behind him and make him a leader, and the stronger he fights for right the greater his leadership among his people. In all periods great men have risen and fallen. In all instances where men have stood for or against certain public questions they have been judged in proportion. So it is with Nelson C. Crews. Some 18 years ago Crews began his political career in this city. For a number of years he has had the great body of Negroes with him, but little acts from time to time in this community they began to tear him down. In every action of his career he has always followed his impulse. Like some god of old he forgot from whence his power came. Many and many a time Crews has risen up to strike men down whom he thought aspired to the leadership of his race. Abraham Lincoln said, and his statement holds true to this day, "You can fool all the people some of the time, some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool them all all the time." Crews has been fooling some of the people too long. Too long has he held the bounded yoke of political tyranny in his hand, but the people have at last found him out. In his attempt the other evening to crush the rising generation of younger Negroes every Negro throughout the breadth of this city has risen up against him. Not only did he, as a so-called leader, strike a blow at the young man in this community, but he struck a blow at the entire race that made it tremble from end to end. For the younger men to have allowed this without retaliation would have been for them to have sunk their manhood into the earth and walk away like a cowardly hound beneath his master's lash. Ah! thank God they did not do it, but like men as they are have risen up and presented a solid front to the enemy. Eighteen years Crews has ruled this city like a god. But never, never more, will the brave Negroes submit to his dictation. The great mistake of his life was his speech for the defense of corruption. This speech will prove his Waterloo. He has injured himself greater than any man could have done it; listen at him at the mass meeting, standing as it were for the corrupt actions of other men, calling on the people to denounce and repudiate the Editor of this paper because he stood for right. It is the same old speech of Brutus asking the people to accept his bloody deed, because he, Brutus it was that stabbed Caesar. Therefore he wished the people to accept the situation because he, Crews, had spoken. Doing the eighteen years of his political career in this city he has not contributed one single thing for the benefit of the Negro in this community. All he has done was to make speeches from time to time. Let us now search the doing of his political career. Eighteen years at the Pic Crib and he doesn't, to the knowledge of anybody, own one single

piece of property. Every Negro who he has tried to crush has excelled him in every manner.

He has never given a single Negro who possessed a small amount of ability any kind of assistance. He has never been a true race leader, always leading for a selfish purpose.

His only power is his gift of gab, but the moment that he uses it for any purpose save a righteous one, he is shorn of his strength. Like Sampson, when he allowed his hair to be clipped, he lost his strength and was weak as a child, so it was with Crews when he made that speech in defense of wrong. His great following of Negroes left him. There was even a mob demonstration against him. Like the Raven in the poem of Edgar Allen Poe, "Never, Never more shall he regain their confidence. One of his first political actions was the crushing of Minor Bass. Then came Lawyer Sublett and Dr. Henderson. His fight against Willis Mosley and J. F. Cole now mail carriers. Then came his fight against J. Silas Harris, Jone Rone, Monholland, John Wheeler, and R. W. Alexander and by misrepresentation he engaged others in his fight against Alexander. For ten years he has made a continuous fight against the principals of the Negro schools and the teachers. He has them at his mercy. He made an open fight against R. W. Foster, crushing his son; refusing to allow Dallas Foster to accept the position as assistant to the clerk of police court. In all cases the men whom he has tried to crush are buying or owning property. Most every Negro with his exception who are holding jobs under the administration have either bought or are buying property. So you see that from a material standpoint he has contributed nothing to the welfare of the Negro race.

Every time the white Republican leaders have picked him up and made him the leader of these splendid Negroes who are earning their bread by the sweat of their brow. These are the things that point toward the beginning of his downfall. No man can be a leader of the people long who has not made good. Now as to Crews and Wm. T. Washington, Crews completely crushed this young man's political aspirations. Fresh from Williams' college this young man sought to rise in his home town. He went to Nelson C. Crews, whom he thought was the Negro political leader and to whom he swore allegiance. This young man stood with Crews in all his actions of right and the first fight against Washington when he received a commission to stomp the state of Missouri for the Republican ticket in the fall of 1904. Crews in an underhand manner fought him in receiving the commission. When the young man in a manly manner asked him about it he denied the assertions. After allowing the young man to serve in the capacity of clerk of the police court during his illness, the next three times of his absence from that office he refused to allow him to serve. Again Crews in a combination with T. C. Unthank fought him when he filed his application for a county position after his splendid work for the party in 1904. Coming on to the city election in which Henry M. Beardsley was elected, Crews fought Washington so viciously that after 8 or 10 speeches he was completely silenced in the campaign. After the election the young man filed his application for a job, and the white men, believing in the leadership of Crews, consulted him about the matter. Crews, knowing that T. C. Unthank was fighting Washington, re-

fused to assist him in getting a job. When Crews found out that Washington had filed an application for A. E. Holmes' office, he told that gentleman that he couldn't hold the job because he had one leg and could not get around. His last act committed against Washington was in the mass meeting of Sunday night. When he denounced him as a black scoundrel, pimp, thief and renegade. Will the public let these things go unnoticed? Because Crews can make a speech does the public think that they can not do without him. No! Every young man and old man, for that matter, have decided that Crews is not a fit man to lead his race. From silent opposition they have risen up to outward and open protest.

Crews never proved faithful to his supporters. He has always acted purely from a selfish motive. Crews has always been known as a mud slinger and a bluffer. During the contest between Davenport and Beardsley Crews threw so much mud at Davenport and his friends that the Upper house men refused at first to confirm his appointment. Notwithstanding that the man he supported won the election. Two-thirds of the Negroes were against Crews and Unthank. He lost his ward on account of the bitter opposition; Unthank lost his ward for the same reason. A man in order to hold the leadership of his race must do something for them. Crews has in a great measure failed to do this. For his ungrateful actions he is at last reaping the whirlwind. A drowning man grasps at the last straw. He, Crews, at last has reached the zenith of his power. Now comes the descent.

Farewell, a last farewell to all my greatness. If I had served my race as I have served myself in my last days of prosperity, I could say that I had lived my life and served my God.

### A LARGE CROWD OF NEGRO CITIZENS HEARD CREWS' THREATS TO SHOOT THE EDITOR OF THE RISING SON.

Last Tuesday evening about 6 o'clock, Nelson C. Crews, Clerk of Police Court, walked to the office of the Rising Son, on twelfth street, and with loud tones and great demonstrating threats, swore he would shoot W. T. Washington, Editor of Rising Son, if anything appeared in this week's paper about him. Such actions on the part of one high in authority should be investigated, and further as clerk of the police court, with power to carry a gun, it should be brought to the hearing of the mayor. The Negroes do not want any one in such a responsible position, who is carrying a big cannon on his hip, threatening to shoot on sight. This thing should be brought before the mayor.

### OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY.

Kansas City, June 10, 1907.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have known Mr. William T. Washington for over three years.

I know Mr. Washington to be a good, honest and upright man and an honor to the colored race.

At no time has complaint been filed with me against Mr. Washington.

Respectfully,

JOHN N. SWENSON,  
City Attorney.

The Lincoln High School G. O. C. gave a very entertaining program at the New High School building last Wednesday noon. Speeches were made by old ex-graduates, Geo. Martin, first secretary of the Grisham Oratorical Club; Edward Thompson, first president of the club, and Wm. T. Washington, first vice president, and second president. Speeches were also made by members of the club, David Emery, Wm. Rice and Mr. Fields, now president.

Mr. John Ford, one of Kansas City's most aggressive young men and a waiter at the Baltimore Hotel, was married last week to Miss Erma Robinson.

## The Metropolitan Street Railway has Made Good in Its Offer to the City on the West Traffic Way Proposition.

Before the election of Mayor Beardsley one of the main issues in the campaign was the Metropolitan Street railway proposed offer on the West Traffic Way Construction. From a Caucasian standpoint this issue was one of Mr. Beardsley's chief weapons to win his election, as his propositions held out great possibilities to the people. Mr. Beardsley became mayor, and since that time conference after conference was held to arrive at a fair settlement where all concerned would get justice. A letter no later than February 1 from the mayor to President Corrigan. It remains only for the Metropolitan Street Railway company to improve its street car service on the Twelfth street line and build its own tunnel and viaduct on West Twelfth street. Mr. Corrigan stated that he did not see through that part of the mayor's letter insisting that the Metropolitan shall be kept on the south line of Twelfth street from Mulberry street to the Bluffs. A part of President Corrigan's letter to Mayor Beardsley was as follows:

"In answer to your second proposition in which you have arbitrarily fixed the sum of \$235,000 as the Metropolitan's share of the cost. It is not indicated in your letter as to just how you arrived at that amount as our just proportion. You have made it just \$140,000 more than we estimated a viaduct for our own use would cost. I note also that you cite the Rock Island's offer as justifiable of your demand on us. I can only say that when it was proposed to have the Metropolitan pay all the cost that the Rock Island refused to contribute more than \$100,000 for the same privilege. You evidently have been able to bring other pressure to bear upon them to induce them to double their contribution.

"In conclusion, I will say, that at any time the city will give us a reasonable ordinance to build a tunnel for our own use we will proceed to do so."

Mr. Corrigan, in answer to a question as to the chances of the city and the Metropolitan coming to an agreement said: "If the city will deal with the Metropolitan in a way one busi-

ness man should deal with another, we would certainly get together, but the trouble is the mayor seems to only have a scheme and he wants the Metropolitan and Rock Island to furnish all the money, and the trouble with us is that we don't get anything out of it except the privilege of spending over a half million dollars more in building a tunnel. In other words, the mayor asks us to pay \$140,000 more than a separate viaduct for our own use would cost, and in addition loan the city \$223,000 on what we believe would only be a moral obligation on the part of the city, and it must be remembered that the lender is always more careful about the security than the borrower. Can anything be fairer than the offer on the part of Mr. Corrigan?

Should the mayor continue to put the people off from time to time? Does the mayor seek to postpone from time to time these propositions in order to let them carry over to another campaign?

Does he intend to inject this same issue in his next campaign when it can be properly adjusted?

What are the circumstances surrounding the matter?

Corporations have rights. Municipal Utilities should not be always subservient to arbitrary administrations. Why not come to some agreement? There are 35,000 Negroes in Kansas City and 6,000 do manual labor.

Therefore in the beginning of the construction of the West Traffic Way thousands of Negroes would have work to do whereby they could support their depending families. Every one of these Negroes are voters. Thousands of them don't play politics. They only vote. They vote their sentiment in so much as they and their families can be benefited. This proposition therefore concerns the Negro. The Metropolitan has made good in its proposed offer. Let some agreement be arrived at whereby the city, the company and all the citizens, both black and white, can be benefited.

This proposition has continued for too long a period. Don't drag it into the next campaign. For it may act as a bomboom. Let the Metropolitan and the mayor get together.

are selling very fast. Rev. G. T. Mosby, who is president, is a well experienced business man, and will carry

### THIS IS TO BE A GREAT ORGANIZATION.

The Kansas City Mercantile Co.,



REV. G. T. MOSBY.

was organized January 1, 1907, with a capital stock of \$2,999 in shares which

the company to success. Geo Johnson secretary; G. A. Smith, treasurer.

### Thousands of Negroes Read the Last Issue of the Rising Son.

The people last week were very eager to secure copies of the Rising Son. All over town streams of people came to the various places where the paper was on sale to inform themselves as to the many doings of the people in the city. The publishers put out 5,000 copies more than our regular edition.

Every one of them had been disposed of in a very short time. Down on Independence Ave. people were standing in line to await their turn to get a paper. Over on 18th St., it was the same way. Thirty newsboys were carrying the papers into every hamlet of the Negroes they could reach. At our office we had to have extra forces for relief. The people are aroused. Public sentiment has been deeply touched. Everybody who read the paper knows the paper's position and stand on certain questions were imperatively sincere. The power of the press is mighty, but the power of public opinion is mightier. An aroused public conscience is a dangerous thing to trifle with. Whosoever would try to check public opinion in its onward course for better conditions, will be swept aside like a frame house in a tempest. Last week the people were stirred up. They walked blocks and blocks to secure copies of our paper. If you would conquer, you must surrender. God moves the public and the public removes existing condition. Therefore every Negro who read last week's papers have made up their minds.

### WHITE CITY ELECTRIC PARK.

Mr. J. J. Helm, owner and controller of Electric Park, or as its new name goes "White City" has been kind enough to throw open its gates to the well-behaved and respectable Negroes as a place to go for recreation. Mr. Helm belongs to that element of Pure white people who believes in the Negro. This place should be well attended by our people to show him that he will not lose anything for his kindness toward our race. Every good white man should be exalted. Editorials

### NATURAL GAS TO EVERY DISTRICT INCLUDING THE HOMES OF NEGROES.

Natural gas has been turned on in every district of the city. There are 35,000 Negroes in Kansas City and out of that number a great number no doubt will take advantage of the cheapness of natural gas to have their homes and houses supplied with the beneficial fluid. For full particulars watch a later edition of this paper.

The Negro should make an example of some one, so let us begin now. Now is your time. Let the work go on.

The sooner the people are rid of all the Negro imposters in the various public positions, the better for the race.

A copy of this paper can be secured at 914 E. 12th street. Phone your order and we will send one of our newsboys to your home.

COPIES OF THE RISING SON CAN BE HAD AT SMITH'S THREE DRUG STORES. 805 INDEPENDENCE AVE., 908 E. 12th ST. AND 1307 E. 18th ST.

If you want the best work done cheap bring all of your job printing to the Rising Son.

The Son has a lady attendant who will be here to transact all business along the newspaper line.

Have you been to the new Arlington Theatre? If not, why not, and when are you going?