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COLORED STUDENT IS CHAMPION DE FACTO SPELLER OF DETROIT

RACE STUDENTS TAKE HIGH RANK IN SCHOOLS OF CITY WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.

(By Francis H. Warren.)

Are Southern methods of repression creeping into the North to prevent Negroes in competition with white people from securing even handed justice? This question is thrust to the front by the experiences of George Nurse, admitted champion speller of the sixth grade in the Detroit Public Schools.

The Detroit News recently staged a series of spelling bees in the Detroit Public Schools, of which there are one hundred and fifty-eight, and gave copies of Webster's new dictionary to each champion of their respective schools. Then these school champions competed to see who were the best grade spellers in the city from the fifth grade to the high schools of the city, leaving four grade champions from grades five to eight and one high school champion.

George Nurse the sixth grade champion of which grade he is a member in the Barstow School, with four other grade and high school champions were left to contest for the honor of being champion of the City of Detroit.

GREAT INTEREST SHOWN IN CONTEST

The Majestic Theatre one of Detroit's largest playhouses was the scene of the final struggle between these five students to win the highest prize in the great contest, and one by one the five spellers dropped out for mis-spelling until George Nurse, Negro champion of the sixth grade, aged nine, and Justine Pearsall, a bright child of Caucasian race of the eighth grade, aged twelve. Word after word was given to these two children and each spelled them correctly until the word "peace" the opposite of war was given to Justine which is a single syllable word.

Justine spelled the word wrong twice and was given a third opportunity to spell it correctly, and while she was given words from the grade speller, George was given high school words with several syllables yet he continued to spell them correctly and the excitement became most intense as it was feared that a Negro boy of nine years would out spell all of the other students in the city schools of our great city.

DISCRIMINATION APPARENT

Finally George was given the word "Hawaii" he began with capital "H" then he stopped and started over, and forgot to use the capital "H" when he started the second time he spelled the word correctly. He was disqualified for this without being given three or four opportunities or even two to spell it for he had formerly been told by Miss Pearsall, from all of which it appears that there was at least some discrimination in favor of little Miss Pearsall and against the little Negro boy. George Nurse for had he been given the opportunity to spell "Hawaii" he would have spelled it with her capital "H" and the principal who was ill to attend the final match was confident that he was the best speller in the City of Detroit and could not be spelled down.

NEGRO STUDENTS STAND HIGH

It is for the above reason that we denominate George Nurse champion speller de facto of the City of Detroit while Miss Justine Pearsall is champion de jure, having been granted the first prize as champion speller of the city for the reasons above stated. There is one thing, however, that stands out prominently in this spelling contest and that is that Negro students take their place along with students of all other races and attain the highest character of mental development where educated along with other students in the same schools, for in Detroit all children in a given district attend the same schools. There are no such things as white schools or colored schools in this city. Hence the children of the race secure the same benefits from the curriculum and the teaching staff as the children of all other races.

There are as previously stated, one hundred and fifty-eight champion spellers of their respective schools. Out of these champions one hundred and forty contestants for the grade champion ships. Eight Negro students won the school championship prize, the names of six of which are as follows:

(Continued on Fourth Page)

DANVILLE PREPARING FOR THE VIRGINIA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

(By Charles Stewart.)
Danville, Va., March 29.—The people of Danville are now getting ready for the session of the Virginia Baptist State Convention, which will convene here May 10, and plans are being made to make it the greatest session in the history of the convention from many viewpoints.

The Baptist of the state are preparing to rally for the educational work, as well as for home missions and foreign missions. The Virginia Theological Seminary and College will receive special attention, as it is said to be the best session in the history of the school, and President R. C. Woods and the members of the faculty are doing great things.

President T. J. King, of Richmond is calling on the churches and ministers to come as never before prepared to do his things. He declares that the Negro is no longer considered a baby in civilization, but a full fledged man, and he must work out his own future. "The Virginia Baptist State Convention stands for self-help," he declares, "and we are going to show to the world that we can and will help ourselves."

TENNESSEE WOMEN CONDEMN MOB LAW

Inter-Racial Committee Is Formed for Concerted Action.

Nashville, Tenn.—Declaring that race relations must be put upon a Christian basis, condemning lawlessness and mob violence in unmeasured terms, and demanding equal protection for the women of both races a large group of representative white women of Tennessee in session in this city, unanimously pledged themselves to the effort to arouse public opinion in support of these principles and organized for that purpose. A state committee was created headed by Mrs. J. T. Lupton, prominent Chattanooga club woman and composed of representative women from all sections of the state—leaders in their respective social circles and denominational groups. This committee will compose the woman's section of the State Committee on Inter-Racial Cooperation.

A plan of operation was adopted providing for the creation of committees in every local woman's group for the study of inter-racial questions, with a view to better understanding and sympathetic cooperation in the effort to correct injustices, remove causes of friction and in general promote the best interests of all concerned.

The meeting was arranged by the General Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation, with headquarters in Atlanta, and was well attended. Addresses were made by a number of outstanding leaders in religion and inter-racial cooperation, among them being Dr. W. D. Workman, Dr. W. W. Alexander, Dr. J. H. Johnson, Professor L. M. Eason, and Bishop Troy Beatty. Mr. R. R. Mason, vice of the president of the Southern Association was also among the speakers and was heard with great interest and appreciation.

SALESMAN ROBBED BY BANDITS IN FREDERICK.

Winchester, Va., March 21. R. C. Rauscher, a Philadelphia salesman, traveling for a Cambridge, Mass. concern was held up and robbed of his pocketbook and other valuables by a masked bandits on a bridge over Opequon Creek, five miles east of here early today. The robber's escaped.

Rauscher was traveling in a light automobile from Alexandria to Winchester. He said the men appeared suddenly as his car came upon the bridge and he was thrown up his hands and got out of the car.

While three covered him with revolvers the other rifled his pockets, taking his valuables. They ordered him to leave the place without giving an alarm.

He was unarmed and could offer no resistance, he said. The holdup was the second at the same place since the night of March 4 when a Standard Oil Company representative was "flagged" by highwaymen when he eluded by suddenly "stepping on the gas" and dashing away. Sheriff Barnett was en route tonight to station armed deputies along the Winchester-Bloomington Pike.

Dr. Kelly Miller will speak at the City Auditorium, Sunday, March 26, at 3:30 P. M. Subject, "The Next Step in the Race Problem." This meeting is under the auspices of the Order of Knights of Pythias.

WAGE FIGHT ON SENATORIAL CANDIDATE AGAINST DYER BILL

N. A. A. C. P. TAKES HAND IN MICHIGAN, WHERE CANDIDATE IS AGAINST ANTI-LYNCH BILL.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York, today announced that a letter was being sent to the most important newspapers in the State of Michigan pointing out that in the approaching contest for Senator Townsend's seat in the United States Senate, this interest has been aroused because Representative Patrick H. Kelley of the Sixth Michigan Congressional District, who has announced his candidacy against Senator Townsend, opposed, and voted against the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, H. R. 13, which was passed 230 to 119 by the House and is now before the Senate.

The letter sent to the Michigan newspapers follows:

Sir:—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and its friends in the State of Michigan are interested in the contest for Senator Townsend's seat in the United States Senate. This interest has been aroused because Representative Patrick H. Kelley of the Sixth Michigan Congressional District, who has announced his candidacy against Senator Townsend, opposed, and voted against the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, H. R. 13, which was passed 230 to 119 by the House and is now before the Senate.

Colored people throughout the United States want the Dyer bill enacted into law. They know that such eminent Constitutional lawyers as Attorney General Daugherty and Moorfield Storey, former president of the American Bar Association as well as former Senator, now Representative Burton of Ohio hold the proposed legislation to be constitutional. With such eminent authority in favor of the Dyer bill, colored people hold that the final decision on its constitutionality must be left to the Supreme Court.

Under the circumstances they are not disposed to accept Representative Kelley's excuse that he voted against the Dyer bill because, as he claims in a letter published in the Michigan State News of March 9, 1922, "every lawyer knows that Congress has no jurisdiction over the subject matter." That lawyers as well as laymen know otherwise may be demonstrated to Mr. Kelley in the course of his campaign. Whatever may be the other issues of the campaign, colored Americans will have in mind that the Dyer bill constitutes an issue of supreme importance to orderly government in the United States.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON, Secretary, N. A. A. C. P.

Mr. E. D. Nelson, of 128 E. 18th Street is somewhat indisposed.

Mrs. Florence Harris, of 2909 E. 18th Street, who has been sick for the past six weeks, is out again.

Mrs. Florence Harris, of 2415 Lee Street, after being confined to her home for more than a month is out again.

Mr. Lash Love of New York was called to the City last Sunday on account of the illness of his mother. He returned Wednesday.

Dr. R. C. Woods Visits Richmond.

Dr. R. C. Woods, President of the Virginia Theological Seminary and College was in the city this week. He delivered able sermons at the Fifth St. Baptist Church. His great work at Lynchburg has given him a national reputation. He was the picture of health.

Dr. R. C. Ransome Here.

Rev. Reverdy C. Ransome, the great orator entertained the people of Richmond at the Third Street A. M. E. Church last Sunday and electrified an audience on Monday night at the True Reformers' Hall. He has lost none of his old time fire and his oratory was of the highest order. He worked his audience up to a pitch of enthusiasm that reflected it self at the Reformers' Hall in the form of enthusiastic applause.

WEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Dr. J. Shelton Horsley, of Saint Elizabeth Hospital will give one of his famous lectures, subject, "Health and Happiness" at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Leigh and Judah Streets, under the auspices of Layman's Missionary Movement, on Wednesday, March 29, 1922, at 8:30 P. M. Welcome to all.

COL. HENRY W. ANDERSON AGAIN HEADS REPUBLICAN CLUB.

Body Discusses Plans for Perfecting City Organization and Waging Fight in Campaign.

The Republican Club of Richmond last Tuesday night unanimously re-elected Colonel Henry W. Anderson president for another year. During the afternoon yesterday indications were that he would have opposition, but a truce was declared just before the meeting and the choice was unanimous. The meeting was attended by more than 100 men and about twenty women.

Plans were discussed for perfecting the city organization and putting up a fight in the city campaign.

APPRECIATION SERVICE.

An appreciation service in honor of the 31 years of service of Rev. S. C. Burrell, D. D., as General Secretary of the local Y. M. C. A., will be held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Thursday night, March 29. A fine program has been prepared and the public is invited.

YOUTH IS FREED OF A SERIOUS CHARGE

Henry Lincoln Johnson Scores Great Victory in a Delicate Case.

Washington, D. C., March 21.—A notable victory was scored during the past week by Attorney Henry Lincoln Johnson, of Atlanta, Ga., in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, before Mr. Justice McCoy, Criminal Division, "Colonel" Johnson consented to serve as Chief Counsel for the defendant because of his intimate acquaintance and personal friendship for defendant's family who lived for many years in Georgia. Mr. Johnson and his associates represented a young colored boy, Alphonso Simpkins, who was charged with having criminally assaulted one Ethel Edwards, a white girl under sixteen years of age, the statutory "age of consent" in the District of Columbia where the penalty for this offense if proven, is imprisonment for from 20 to 30 years in the penitentiary or, in the discretion of the jury, the death penalty.

Although the Assistant District Attorney, Mr. Emerson, vigorously prosecuted the case, assisted by a number of white detectives who were unusually active in getting up evidence calculated to convict the defendant and who gave testimony at times contradictory, "infused with passion and flavored with race prejudice," yet, after the careful handling and cross-examination of witnesses by Colonel Johnson, and after he had delivered to the jury, who are the most eloquent and powerful speakers ever presented in a criminal case, the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" and discharged the boy. It was reported to the Court that they were in hopeless disagreement. Whereupon Mr. Johnson, after a short attack, triumphantly declared the jury from their deliberation of the case.

The jury, wholly composed of white citizens, stood seven for nonittal and five for conviction. Three days were consumed in the trial. The case was now being retried.

After its discharge, the Foreman of the Jury came to the main corridor of the Court House and, speaking in the presence of many white and colored attorneys, said to the Father of the defendant: "Your son owes his life to the SUP-UP of Mr. Johnson, your lawyer."

Wagon Upsets in the Fire; Man Is Burned to Death.

Danville, Va. March 21.—Word was received today from Pittsylvania of the unusual death of Arthur Devin, a respected colored farmer, near Gretna. He and his father were burning over a plant bed for the preparation of tobacco. Devin had driven up to the bed with a wagon load of wood when the machine became frightened, wheeled around and upset Devin and the wood into the heart of the fire. The unfortunate man covered by the wood was charred before his father could reach him.

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REPUBLICANS MAKE CLEAN SWEEP IN MAINE ELECTIONS

OVER 6,000 PLURALITY POLLED FOR CANDIDATE IN SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION

Augusta, Maine, March 20.—John E. Nelson, Republican of this city, was elected by more than 6,000 plurality to succeed Federal District Judge John A. Peters as Representative to Congress at the special election in the Third Maine District today on the day of unopposed returns.

Complete returns from Kennebec and Waldo Counties, and from sixty-eight of the 128 towns in Hancock, Somerset and Washington Counties, the remainder of the district gave Nelson 16,598 and Ernest L. McLean, Democrat also of this city 10,358.

The remaining sixty towns and precincts are small and their vote would not materially change this majority of 6,242. They cast 2,392 Republican and 964 Democratic votes at the last congressional election.

Mr. Nelson was nominated in the Republican primary in February by a wide margin over ex-Mayor Blaine S. Viles of Augusta.

It was thought that this primary contest would leave scars, but the vote to day in Kennebec County the home of both candidates, shows that the result of the primary did not affect the Republican vote.

Few speeches were made during the campaign and for the first time in many years no speakers from abroad invaded the State in behalf of either candidate. Representative Carroll L. Beedy of the First Maine district made a few speeches for Mr. Nelson.

Mr. Nelson carried the city of Waterbury, his former home by a majority of 700. This same city two weeks ago elected a Democratic Mayor and a Democratic city government by a majority of 1,000. Mr. Nelson also carried Augusta by 360 leading in seven of the eight wards.

Neither candidate during the campaign issued any statement as to his position on the soldiers' bonus bill or the four Power Treaty.

Nelson's majority is the biggest obtained by a Republican in many years except in the landslide of 1920.

During the primary campaign the Christian Civic League endorsed Mr. Nelson as against Mr. Viles but was neutral as regards the election. Both candidates came out in statements favoring national prohibition and the so-called Volstead law.

A STRANGE REPORT FROM WINCHESTER.

Winchester, Va., March 19.—Certain colored people who refused to go to Martinsburg, W. Va., this week and testify in behalf of Monroe C. Peyton, who was convicted and sentenced to be hanged for criminally attacking a 10 year old white girl last summer, were reported today to have received threatening messages from colored people who were active in Peyton's defense.

Efforts were made to induce a considerable number of colored people, some of them quite prominent among their race to go to Martinsburg and testify that Peyton was in Winchester at the very time the alleged assault occurred, and they refused to do so, saying they had no knowledge of the man's whereabouts at that time.

When Peyton broke jail at Martinsburg last week he left a note, saying he was going to get evidence to establish his innocence. He made straight for Winchester and sought out a number of colored people, trying to induce them, it was said to aid him in establishing an alibi.

Now that Peyton has been convicted and sentenced to be hanged, reports have become current that his former boon companions are threatening those who refused to perjure themselves on the witness stand. They are also said to have been informed that the spirit of Peyton known among some colored people as a magician and fortune teller, will haunt them to their dying day. This has so worked on their inborn superstition that many cringe at the mention of Peyton's name.

FIRE AT THE VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY.

Much excitement was caused by the discovery of a fire in the Huntley Hall at the Virginia Union University. This is the boys' dormitory of this magnificent structure. All efforts to locate the fire was futile. The students began removing their belongings to the campus and it was only after the arrival of the Fire Department that the blaze was located in the walls. When this had been put out, the students decided to move back into the stone building. The fire was discovered shortly before 4 P. M. last Thursday. There was absolutely no panic. The students fled haphazardly over their noses and did not work in the regulation order. Mrs. and Dr. J. E. Jones have their home in the Southern end of this building. The damage is estimated to be \$500.00. This was caused by the destruction of the woodwork and the stone walls.

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CHURCH FOR BETTER RACE RELATIONSHIP

Methodist Council of Bishops Approves Plan of the Federal Council.

Montgomery, Ala.—The Tri-Council of Bishops of the A. M. E., A. M. E. Zion and C. M. E. Churches, composed of about thirty bishops which held its biennial session in this city last week, went on record as endorsing fully the plan of inter-racial cooperation through the churches, as formulated by the Federal Council of American Churches. This plan heads up in the Federal Council of American Churches, the mission of which is, John J. Eagan, of Atlanta, is chairman and Dr. George E. Haynes secretary. The purposes of this Commission briefly stated are to assert the sufficiency of Christian principles in the solution of race relations, to promote mutual confidence and cooperation, to distribute accurate knowledge of conditions, to develop a true conscience in inter-racial matters, which will secure fair treatment and the correction of wrong conditions and to provide an agency through which all the churches may work together.

The approval of the Tri-Council which is one of the most august ecclesiastical bodies in America, opens the way for the fullest cooperation of the vast Methodist constituency in the inter-racial program laid out by the Federal Council.

SOUTHSIDERS STAGE A GREAT PROGRAM

A splendid and very interesting program was rendered in the P. Y. Church last Sunday evening by talent selected from South Richmond. The singing by the Young Girls' Chorus under the leadership of Mrs. Albert Jenkins Stevenson was exceptionally good. Recitations were rendered by Misses Grace Throat, Mary Ransome, Florence Corbitt and Lacontess Whitely. Solos were sung by Misses Lillian M. Lewis, Noble White and Mr. Henry Armstrong. A duet by Miss Esther and Mr. George Ransome, and selections by the Southside Men's Chorus. All of the numbers were of great calibre. Mr. Haywood Stark led the men's chorus. The collection of \$10.50 was lifted by Messrs. Kirkland Coghill and Edward Stovall.

KU KLUX ORDERS THE PRIVATE MESSENGER OF COLORADO'S GOVERNOR TO EXIT.

Denver, C. J. March 13.—A threatening letter ordering him to leave the city and purporting to be from the Ku Klux Klan was received today by Governor Oliver H. Shoup.

Colonel Patrick J. Hamrock, Adjutant General of the State, and Attorney General Victor Keys immediately started an investigation.

Gross is president of the local Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which has filed a protest with the Attorney-General against the application recently presented to Secretary of State Carl Milliken for incorporation of the local Ku Klux Klan organization.

THE KU KLUX KLAN CHALLENGES CANADA IN BULLOCK AFFAIR

ASSERTS MAN SOUGHT BY N. C. GOVERNOR WILL BE SECURED WITHIN NEXT NINETY DAYS.

Hickory, N. C., March 17.—Speaking before a large audience in Hickory last Thursday night, Dr. Arthur Tab-madge Abernethy, of Asheville, lecturer for the Ku Klux Klan, referred to a case in which he said, Governor Morrison was refused extradition of a colored man from Canada, and asserted that 1,000,000 Klansmen from Maine to Texas have been pledged to see that the man is returned to North Carolina for trial. "And this will happen in the next ninety days," he added.

While Dr. Abernethy did not mention the name of the man, he said was sought by the authorities of this State the audience understood him to refer to Matthew Bullock, wanted at Norfolk on a charge of attempted murder, grave riot of a race riot at that place about a year ago. Bullock was recently given his liberty by Judge Snyder at Hamilton, Ont., where he was arrested when Governor Morrison refused to send witnesses to Canada to testify at his extradition hearing.

Dr. Abernethy had been discussing the efforts he said, the Ku Klux Klan were making to assist the officers in enforcing the law. He referred to a case in Asheville, in which he said a colored man was sent to the roads through the efforts of the Klan and told of two white women being escorted out of that city by Klansmen.

It was near the close of his address that the speaker referred to the Canadian case and declared that the man sought by the authorities of this State from Canada would be returned to North Carolina for trial and that 1,000,000 Klansmen from Maine to Texas were pledged to this undertaking. Dr. Abernethy did not say what measures would be taken by the Klansmen in having the man brought back to North Carolina. His remarks were liberally applauded by the audience.

Sabbath Glee Club at Fifth Street.

The Sabbath Glee Club will render a special program at Fifth Street Baptist Church tomorrow (Sunday) night at eight o'clock. Prof. E. W. Blake, cornetist, accompanied by Mrs. Annie Rowe will also render selections. Benefit missions.

Y. W. C. A. NOTES.

The group meetings which were held in the home of the various members of the Committee of Management last week were very successful. The total number attending was 102. Miss Adele E. Ruffin gave a paper on "The Several Phases of Association Work." Many questions were asked and the answers which followed were very interesting and helpful. As a result of these meetings, we feel that the work of the Y. W. C. A. is better understood. Among the important facts made clear were: how the present building was secured, the same being a gift from the War Work Council at the cost of \$29,000 for building and equipment. Each of membership. To have the power of voting a membership fee of \$1.00 must be paid annually. Membership means not only the payment of fee but also the willingness to interpret the purpose of the Association to the community, a pledge to serve the girls and women. That there is no other institution substituting the work on the Y. W. C. A. does and must do its specific work.

How supported: Secretaries salaries paid by Central Association. Maintenance by the Branch through funds secured from campaign and income from lodging and memberships. As these meetings were informal everyone felt at home and quite free to ask questions and thus more good was accomplished than if a public meeting had been held. The daily repasts served by the various hostesses were enjoyed by all.

These meetings were followed with the Recognition Service which was held at the Vespers service on last Sunday. Addresses were made by Miss MacGeorge, Senior City Secretary of the South Atlantic Field, Miss London, Executive Secretary of the So. Atlantic Field Office, and Miss Ruffin. At this service the members commit themselves for yearly service in the work of the Association.

A special program will be rendered at Vespers on Sunday afternoon under the direction of Mrs. Lillian Harper. You are invited to attend. Vesper hour from 5 to 6 P. M.