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FOR THE GOOD YOU DO  
READ THE BYSTANDER

A PAPER WITH A CLEAN POLICY

# The Bystander

A WEEKLY FOR THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE

THE BEST  
Advertising Medium to  
Reach the Colored People

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# LEWIS WILLIAMS RESIGNS

## War Risk Insurance Official Leaves Service Usefulness of his Work Strangled by Prejudice and Discrimination of Democratic Administration.

Lieutenant J. Williams Clifford, former officer of the 367th infantry, 92nd division, A. E. F. who for over a year has looked after the interests of colored servicemen in the bureau of war risk insurance recently tendered his resignation as their special representative because of continual limitations of his official duties by prejudiced southern white superiors. Upon interviewing Lieutenant Clifford, he said:

"Little by little certain officials in the bureau of war risk insurance have attempted to give my section trouble simply because of their hatred for the Negroes. Upon one occasion it was claimed that a personal letter was sent out from my office in a franked envelope without a stamp, although the envelope was never produced. Another time I was ordered to stop signing letters written in my section to colored soldiers, and friends because they wished them to be signed by a white man. This I refused to do and I was given to understand that if I did not do so I would go to someone who would carry out their orders. It was only after two weeks fight that I was again permitted to sign my name to letters originating in my section. Later I was forced to send my dictated letters to another office where the high school graduates approved and signed them, signing my own signature to my own letters before they were sent out. This was all done because there was fear that I would persist in helping colored soldiers in matters pertaining to their insurance, death claims and allotment claims in a way that embarrassed the Bureau of War Risk Insurance."

Realizing that there was need for a colored man in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance to look after the insurance, compensation, and allotment claims of colored soldiers, I succeeded in having myself appointed to the position during the present administration. My official designation has been special representative of the colored soldiers and sailors in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. By articles in the colored newspapers and magazines and through the enrollment of many volunteer workers including ministers, doctors, lawyers, insurance agents, social workers, Young Men's Christian associations, Young Women's Christian associations, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, fraternity organizations, Urban league workers, and other community service organizations, I have been able to stimulate interest in government life insurance among colored discharged soldiers to the end that millions of dollars worth of insurance have been saved and added to the economic strength of the Negro race. This work according to letters over the signature of my superiors has been carried

on efficiently. In fact it has been common talk in the bureau that the colored servicemen's section for its size is one of the most efficient units in the entire institution.

My office force of twenty-five employees including dictators, stenographers, file clerks, and typists have rendered faithful and conscientious service in the interest of the discharged colored servicemen. Telegrams and letters have been sent to me telling of unjust, discrimination and cruel treatment that is accorded wounded colored heroes by medical examiners in certain United States government hospitals located in the south. Many letters have been received that would bring tears to your eyes upon reading them. Upon one occasion I was ordered to stop signing letters to my fellow-comrades who fought overseas to help make the world safe for democracy, my letter requesting a colored Y. M. C. A. Secretary of Houston, Texas to investigate the condition at Camp Logan, Texas and the treatment of colored war risk patients at that institution was held up—it being claimed that such procedure would get the bureau into trouble. There are letters in the colored servicemen's office from colored soldiers who have been wounded on the battle fronts of Europe, and who are now forced to remain in hospitals in the south that would make your blood boil in reading of the treatment accorded them. The peculiar nature of many cases in the filed occasioned by circumstances over which the bureau has no direct control justifies the employment and recognized representative of the colored race in the bureau of war risk insurance and in the field of medical examination and field investigation. I believe such a policy would minimize the cases where so considerable a number of colored former servicemen are apt to be neglected or set aside. I think that the Negroes of America should know the conditions and that they should be brought to the attention of men and women of noble characters and genuine American principles." Mr. Clifford further stated:

"The policy of segregation and discrimination enforced by the Democratic administration is un-American and dishonorable in the extreme. Merit and ability count for naught if you have a black face. In most every government department the colored members of my race are huddled together in some obscure corner or room and kept away from the other employees just as if they are infected with some insidious disease. Colored soldiers who fought on the bloody battlefields of France, and contributed to the glorious American victory, who are now working in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance are not permitted to eat with the other employees of the building in the war risk restaurant."

### DES MOINES BRANCH

#### ELECTS OFFICERS

Dr. J. A. Jefferson was elected president of the Des Moines Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the annual business meeting of the society held Monday evening at the Y. W. C. A. Center. Dr. Jefferson succeeds Mr. Elbert R. Hall, who has been president during the last three years and under whose leadership the branch became a potent power in the community and whose membership increased from about thirty to approximately six hundred.

Other officers elected were: Vice President, Mrs. Elbert R. Hall; Secretary, Mr. G. W. Harding; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Carroll E. Curtley; Treasurer, Attorney J. B. Morris; Executive Board Members: Hon. Harvey Ingham, R. N. Hyde, Hon. A. J. Small, Mrs. H. R. Graves, Atty. S. J. Brown, Mrs. W. H. Lowry, Harrison Gould, Mrs. J. B. Rush and Rev. G. W. Robinson. The newly elected officers will assume their duties on Monday evening December 6, when a meeting will be held at the Y. W. C. A. Center, 782 Tenth street.

#### Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The second annual religious workers' institute of the Crocker Street Branch Y. M. C. A. will begin Monday evening, Nov. 15 in the basement of the St. Paul A. M. E. church. This institute is being held for the purpose of helping the Sunday schools to better their teaching along all lines. It is planned and constructed as to equip the teacher to meet the needs of the pupils developing line. Imbued with the idea that a knowledge of the Bible is one of the first requisites for successful Sunday school teaching, and conscious of the fact that a vast majority of our present Sunday school teachers of the Crocker street Branch are laymen, the institute will attempt to give the teachers a second time opportunity to refresh their minds and to be equipped for the past years

## "School Week" to be Observed Thruout the Nation

(Special to the Bystander.)

Washington, D. C., Nov. 10.—"School week" will be observed over the country Dec. 5 to 11. Commissioner of Education Claxton has requested the governors and chief school officers of the states to take such action as may be necessary to cause the people to use this week in such way as it will most effectively disseminate information in regard to the conditions and needs of the schools.

Chamber of commerce, boards of trade, women's clubs, rotary clubs, labor unions, farmers' organizations and patriotic and civic societies are requested to devote one meeting to a discussion of the needs of education in their states. The ministers also are asked to devote one of their church services on Sunday, Dec. 4 for emphasizing the importance of education.

Friday afternoon and evening of school week has been designated as the date on which community meetings in the interests of education should be held in all school houses, both in the city and country, for the purpose of discussing the needs of the schools, the means of meeting these needs and remedying conditions.

## Plans Restricting All Immigration

Aberdeen, Wash., Nov. 5.—Legislation restricting immigration from Europe to blood relatives of foreign born American citizens is to be asked of congress by Representative Albert Johnson, Washington, chairman of the house of representatives committee on immigration. Johnson today, before leaving here for Washington, D. C. said the country cannot absorb the thousands of immigrants now coming and that restrictions are needed.

## Telegraphic Briefs

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Newark, N. J., Nov. 3.—Colored men who served in the A. E. F. during the late war formed a permanent organization in the newly dedicated Roosevelt Memorial Temple last Thursday night. The principal address was delivered by Bishop G. W. Clinton of North Carolina. Mayor Gillen, Rabbi Solomon Foster and the Rev. Sylvester Carrothers were the speakers.

Milledgeville, Ga., No. 3.—Governor Sleeper of the State of Michigan has refused to deliver one Tom Ray, a Negro, to Sheriff of Wilkinson county because he is not convinced that Ray will not be lynched if he is returned to Georgia. Ray is charged with the murder of DeWitt Faulkner, a white farmer of Wilkinson county a few weeks ago.

Houston, Texas, Nov. 3.—1,500 Southern Pacific shopmen struck here last week because four Negro workmen were reinstated by the officials of the road.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 3.—A citizens conference of Negro education has been called by Mr. F. P. Claxton to meet in the senate chamber on the 19th and 20th of November.

## PASTOR'S HOME ATTACKED BY MEMBERS

On Monday night about 8 o'clock while everything was quiet Rev. G. W. Robinson had gone out to a meeting of the N. A. A. C. P. Mr. W. W. White made a special call at the pastor's home. He and Mrs. Robinson seated themselves in the front room for a talk. At this moment more than fifty members approached the house led by Madam Cassell and the fun began. The pastor was called and was frightened out of his wits as he approached the house.

The following brought gifts to Mrs. Robinson: Madams Hutchison, Mary Woods, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. J. C. Roberts, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Sarah James, Mill Willa James, Miss Mamie James, Miss Rosa Gibson, Mrs. H. J. Rogers, Mrs. McClure, W. W. White, Mrs. C. H. Roane, Mrs. C. H. Roane, Mrs. Chas. Brown, Mr. Goggins, Mrs. Robt. Brown, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. Harvey Brown, Mrs. M. E. Cassell, Mr. E. C. Woods, Mr. E. Topson, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Lucy James, Mrs. I. A. Shelton, Mr. E. Coconant, Mrs. Sarah, Wells, Mr. J. B. Rusa, Mrs. Alice Jackson, Mrs. Mullins, Mr. I. B. Stots and others whose names we did not get. The table groaned under the great load brought. Refreshments were served at a late hour.

Monday, Dec. 20, 7:30 to 8. Subject: "The Peace of Y. M. C. A. in the Community." Secretary G. W. Webber.

8:40 to 9:20. Subject: "The Miracles of Jesus." Rev. E. S. Hardge, pastor Kyles A. M. E. Zion church.

A small fee of 25 cents will be charged to cover cost of light and heat of building. Service of faculty is donated.

## COLORED LEADERSHIP TRAINED BY THE Y. W. C. A.

The Young Women's Christian association can be of vital service in helping girls and women to understand the issues of the day, to grasp the significance of trends of thought, to visualize their future in the midst of present confusion. But to successfully bring this life more abundant into realization, leadership must be secured and trained.

On October 30th twenty young women of our group were called from various parts of the country to attend the third extension training course for colored Y. W. C. A. secretaries. This course is being given in Jersey City, New Jersey for a period of three weeks.

Enthusiasm and inspiration have marked each session of the work so far. The faculty is composed of national workers located in New York City. Lectures are the chief features of the course. Among some of the noted women to present the aims, ideals and methods of Y. W. C. A. work are Miss Eva D. Bowles, leader, Miss Mary Scott, dean of school, Dr. Rucker, lecturer on health, Miss Holmes in charge of Bible methods and religious education, Miss Mary E. Jackson, industrial work, Miss Crystal Byrd, girls' work, Mrs. Stokes

and Mrs. Phinney on room registry; Miss Mable Brady is the hostess for the group in attendance in co-operation with Mrs. Hannah C. Smith, the executive secretary, and Miss Adelaide E. Sears, girls' worker of the Jersey City Y. W. C. A.

Among the young women taking the informational training course are: Miss Frances Banks, Des Moines, Iowa; Miss Olive Williams, Detroit, Mich.; Miss E. May Harper, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mrs. Louise S. Love, Houston, Texas; Miss Fredrick Brown, Indianapolis, Ind.; Miss Ruth Moore, Dayton, Ohio; Miss Ruth M. Gilbert, Detroit, Mich.; Miss Anna Hope, Washington, D. C.; Miss Kate Savery, Hillburn, N. Y.; Mrs. Ella S. Mossell, Baltimore, Md.; Miss Beulah Simpson, Mt. Holy, N. J.; Miss Miriam Garrett, Louisville, Ky.; Miss Carrie Belle Hawkins, Lexington, K.; Miss Senora Johnson, E. St. Louis, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Gordon, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Miss Harriet E. King, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Irene M. Gaines, Chicago, Ill.; Miss Carrie Conde, New York City, N. Y.; Miss Willie Long, Little Rock, Ark.; Miss Anna E. Jackson, Kansas City, Mo.—(Mrs.) Irene M. Gaines, Chairman, publicity committee.



Mrs. Laurence C. Jones

Mrs. Laurence C. Jones, whose cut appears, and who until recently was a resident of Iowa has been honored by the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's clubs by being chosen president of that organization. Mrs. Jones, who is the wife of Prof. Laurence Jones, principal of Piney Woods Industrial school at Braxton, Miss., and publisher of "The Bystander," has

carried to her southern home many other ideas that will prove helpful to her in her work in the southland. In addition to her club activities she occupies the position of assistant principal of the Piney Woods school. Prior to her marriage to Mr. Jones she engaged in educational and social uplift work in her native state.

## COLORED ATHLETES IN THE LIMELIGHT

(By "Sideline.")

The battling Tiger eleven upset the dops slightly Friday by administering a 59 to 0 whipping to the "alleged" strong Iowa Wesleyan team. "Curt" Morton scintillated for Des Moines college as usual, being a tower of strength defensively and a veritable armored tank on offense.

Perhaps the most noteworthy happening of the last week, so far as local interest is concerned, was the fact that for the first time in fifteen years of annual East-West classics a colored lad battled for the Maize and Blue. He was Left Guard Clark, who played a steady hard game throughout the entire contest, scrapping it out in the mud with the heavier Lee township forwards in a manner that not only did credit to West High, but also reflected honor on the race that seldom has succeeded in having a representative on a West High football team. West is no longer "Biby white."

No. 7 played a wonderful defensive game against West High Saturday. Yes, you're quite right; No. 7 is "String" Anderson who plays a whale of a game at left tackle for the East-siders. As the boys over at the East High gym say: "When 'Andy' hits 'em, it's 'em'." (Er-dicks and other North High backs take notice.)

Big "Duke" Slater, veteran lineman par excellence of the Hawkeyes, did not have to do battle with his fellow recruit Saturday when Iowa and Northwestern clashed, for Turner covered end on the latter team was out of the game because of injuries. But Big Duke continued to perform in an upstart manner with full orchestra and white spotlight. In all probability Slater's great playing, with his added experience, will land him on the much coveted All-American mythical eleven this year—the goal supreme toward which all great gridiron stars aspire. It will be remembered that Slater was last year picked by the best sports authori-

ties of the country for a tackle position on several mythical All-Western, All-Big Ten, and second All-American eleven, and that alone is sufficient claim for fame. It is conceded by all who follow the game that the big fellow is one of the greatest, if not the greatest linemen ever produced in the midwest.

In Kinney, a freshman recruit hailing from the Dakotas, Iowa has unearthed one of the best boosters seen on the Hawkeye field for some time. Reports from the Iowa camp assert that the youngster fears this big yearling's boot, and under the tutelage of Coach Howard Jones he should develop into a brainy kicker who should be an asset to next year's squad.

Columbia University of New York City, which went down in defeat before Swarthmore last Saturday, to the tune of 21 to 7, includes in its lineup Calloway, tackle and guard.

"Zeus" Ashby, according to the Waterloo, Iowa, sports writers, performed in his customary stellar manner in the game played at that place last Sunday between the Greater Waterloo semi-pro team of that city, and the Grenola 31's, local gridlers. Though the Des Moines team lost—the first defeat of the season—Ashby and his teammate Walters were responsible for most of their team's gains. Ashby will be remembered as one of the greatest half-backs that ever donned the Scarf and Black for East High, an All-State man, and more recent year a star on last year's team at the University of South Dakota.

## MISCEGATION IS O. K.'D IN NEW CONSTITUTION

Negroes Given All the Rights of Whites.

(By Oscar E. Hewitt.)

The new Illinois constitution—as now tentatively agreed upon—specifically guarantees the privilege of intermarriage of the blacks and whites. It proclaims as valid in this state the miscegenation of races.

Under this basic law, if adopted, a

## Presidential Electors Meet Here

13 Iowa Men Cast  
Vote for Harding

On Jan. 10 one elector from each of the eleven districts in Iowa and two electors at large, meet at the State House to go through the formality of casting their vote for Warren G. Harding for president of the United States. They are:

First district—Tracy Garrett, Burlington, Des Moines county.

Second district—A. B. Bowen, Maquoketa, Jackson county.

Third district—Lore Alford, Waterloo, Black Hawk county.

Fourth district—E. J. Curtin, Decora, Winneshiek county.

Fifth district—F. L. Anderson, Marion, Linn county.

Sixth district—Frank B. Younk, Ottumwa, Wapello county.

Seventh district—Oliver P. Judkins, Indianola, Warren county.

Eighth district—Earl R. Ferguson, Stenandah, Page county.

Ninth district—Frank F. Everett, Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie county.

Tenth district—Robert Healy, Ft. Dodge, Webster county.

Eleventh district—Malcolm Currie, Sac City, Sac county.

Electors at large—Guy S. Brewer, Des Moines, Polk county and Roy W. Snell, Hawarden, Sioux county.

After their ballots are cast, they will be sealed and sent to Washington, where the ballots of all the states will be canvassed before a joint session of congress.

colored man and woman will be entitled to buy vacant seats of a grand opera box, otherwise occupied by whites. A Mongolian—if a citizen—and a megalomaniac bride cannot be denied a vacant seat in the most "exclusive" apartment building.

A law prohibiting the Japanese, as in California, from owning land, will be illegal. Two colored people may take two of the four seats in the Blackstone restaurant beside the wives of two pinks.

## Proposals of Colored Lawyer

In a work, the new constitution says "no citizen shall be prohibited from doing anything that any other citizen may do" because of race or color. It was the proposal of the able colored lawyer, Edward Morris, who is a member of the constitutional convention.

It was agreed upon during the newsy days surrounding the national convention and escaped the notice of the public generally. A member of the convention said yesterday that it is as broad and comprehensive as it can be made. He claimed that this sentence in the constitution will prevent the legislature from prohibiting in any way the colored citizen from getting all the rights and privileges accorded to other citizens. According to this constitution as now worded, will prevent segregation of the Negroes, Jim-crow cars or special schools for the colored.

A Negro lawyer said that the Morris section only recognized openly the rights of equality which were settled by the civil war and enunciated in an amendment to the federal constitution.

## HARD LUCK



Lonely (a South African Bachelor)—It's pretty rough at this glad Thanksgiving season, when happy families gather to gather around their festive boards, that I've got to sneak away and dine at the club alone.

## Life's Harvest.

Smooth ease, and joyous ways, and pastures green.  
Rich wealth of sunshine and a death of rain.  
Nay, hearts must bear the thrust of plowshare keen.  
The hurt of harrow and the blind-ling rain.  
For life can garner in the golden grain.  
—Jean Biewest.

## What Some of Our Boys "Said and Did" on Armistice Day

(By James B. Morris.)

At a meeting of Lincoln post No. 126 American Legion on Tuesday, Nov. 9 a casual remark was made concerning the whereabouts of one of the members on Armistice day. I thought it would be interesting to the readers of the Bystander to know just where the member was on that day and what each one said when he heard the memorable or paper were passed to the members, each of whom wrote a statement:

Mike C. Adams, Company A 366 infantry. On Nov. 11, 1918 my company in the forest fact near Post-A-Mousson and was ordered over the top that morning at 5:30 o'clock. We were fighting until the last gun was fired, after it was all over I found out that I had been gassed, and was sent to the hospital.

Sick in hospital at Toul, France, gas wounds and bronchitis Nov. 11, 1918. Hearing that the armistice was signed, I said: "What a blessing, I wonder how my men are getting along."—J. Lindsey, Lieut., 366 infantry.

James L. McGuire, formerly first sergeant, Company H 370 United States infantry. On Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918, I was a patient at American Red Cross hospital 109, having been wounded on Nov. 8 three days before. I remember, remarking, "Con you beat it, now I must go home a casual."

Lowell Owens, formerly of Company M 366 infantry. On Armistice Day I was in the trenches in the Metz sector giving instruction to my platoon concerning the use and meaning of the different flares in preparation of going over the top.

L. W. Harding, formerly first lieutenant, 366 infantry. I was in action at the Bois Yvrotte, France on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918 and in command of first and fourth platoon of Company F 366 infantry, which was preparing to attack the village of Brouilliers, which was held by the Germans. When the armistice was signed I said, "Thank God!"

Joseph J. Johnson, cook and baker school, Camp Dodge. I was cooking at Camp Dodge and said, "What a relief!"

H. C. Gater, Company B 804 Pioneer infantry. I was at Bonnet, France, as the third line trenches were ordered to the front. I said "By the Help of the Lord peace has been declared and firing ceased." I also prayed at the time at 11 o'clock was not a gun sound. The band played then.

O. L. Carter, On Nov. 11, 1918, I was at one of the ports of embarkation, Camp Merritt, N. J. I was very much surprised on hearing of the Armistice and it was some time before I could realize enough to take off my pack.

James B. Morris, second lieutenant, intelligence officer, Third Pioneer 366 infantry. I was in the Forest De pac near the historical city, Post-A-Mousson. At 8 o'clock on Nov. 11, 1918, I received an order from the adjutant which told the news, "said, 'It will be peace to the families whose loved ones are killed after this hour knowing that at least temporary peace is within three hours.'"

Armistice day was one of the most trying expedients during the war as far as the Ninety-seventh division was concerned and particularly the 366 infantry. This regiment was fighting against one of the strongest positions held by the Boche, directly in front of Mity and Nancy at its back.

Contrary to sound military tactics five companies of this regiment were in offensive action and three left for reserves and support. The boys pushed on and as General Ballou's order following the Armistice stated made each objective assigned and captured prisoners. Machine guns were popping, Austrian 88's, pound 77's, grenades, rifles, tank German 105's, 155's were in action until the last minute.

For two days following the Armistice dead, wounded and gassed men were being hauled from these woods to go to the cemetery by the French. The boys remember the cemetery in these woods near where these men fell, the crosses and marks that mark the graves and last but not least the brave heroes who faced death without resisting who rest in the said cemetery of fair France—May these have not been spent in vain.

## NEGROES FREE FOR FEELING

Occo, Fla., Issues I-ohor. Proving

## Election Lynchings.

Orlando, Fla., Nov. 4.—Reports tonight from Occo, near here where an election day riot caused the death of two white men and a number of Negroes indicated that quite probably that practically all Negroes had left the region, nearly all of them afraid, as there was no exodus by rail. The white citizens have begun harvesting the citrus crop owing to the lack of Negro labor.

It developed today that Estelle Perry widow of the Negro who was lynched and who demanded that he be permitted to vote, was said to have precipitated the riot, and her daughter was wounded during the fighting. They have been sent to Tampa by the authorities for treatment and to avoid further disturbances.