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The Bystander

A WEEKLY FOR THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE

THE BEST Advertising Medium to Reach the Colored People

FOR THE BAD YOU DO READ OTHER PAPERS FOR THE GOOD YOU DO READ THE BYSTANDER

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DES MOINES, IOWA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1921.

Price Five Cents

COMMISSION STATEMENT ON RACE RIOT

MANY IOWANS SEEK FEDERAL OFFICES

CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION GIVEN RACIAL PROBLEMS BY CHICAGO BODY

Considerable Attention Given Racial Problems by Chicago Body.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—A preliminary statement dealing with the work of the Chicago commission on race relations, appointed by Governor Frank C. Lowden after the 1919 race riot here in which fifteen white persons and twenty-three Negroes were killed, was contained in correspondence between the commission and the governor made public tonight by Graham Bomeyn Taylor, executive secretary of the commission.

The correspondence revealed that the commission had finished an exhaustive study of race relations, not only in connection with the Chicago riot, but also in connection with the riot in 1908 in Springfield, Ill., and in 1917 in East St. Louis, Ill., and that it studied court records, living conditions, newspapers, and interviewed nearly 200 persons in a series of hearings in its quest for information.

A letter to the commission from Governor Lowden complimented it on its work and urged every publication of the final report now being prepared, so that the commission's findings and recommendations may be made available to all students of race relationships in our country.

Commission's Letter.

The letter from the commission to Governor Lowden said in part:

"The commission began its work in October, 1919, and for eleven months has had a staff of investigators assisting it in its activities. While devoting much effort to a study of the Chicago riot as presenting many phases of the

race problem the commission has placed greater emphasis upon a study of conditions of life of the Negro group in this community and of the broad question of race relations. It therefore organized itself into six committees on the following subjects: Racial clashes, housing, industry, crime, racial contact and public opinion.

"In these fields the commission's work has been divided along two lines: conference and research and field work.

"The series of conferences, numbering thirty, covered a wide range of topics, such as contact of whites and Negroes in schools and recreation places, special education for Negro children, housing, labor, social agencies, Negro women in industry, Negro wealth, Negroes and whites in courts, the race riot from the standpoint of the police, the militia, the grand jury, and the state's attorney, race friction, and the Negro and the white press.

"The 175 persons who appeared before the hearings represented both races and various groups and viewpoints.

"The research and field work was done by a staff of investigators and covered the same broad range.

"We believe the large volume of information collected will prove of great value not only in Chicago, but in other communities where public spirited citizens are endeavoring to establish right relations between the two races. This end can be obtained only through a more intelligent appreciation by both races of the gravity of the problem."

State Soldiers Bonus Bill Is Nearly Completed

The state soldiers bonus bill, now nearing completion by the legislative committee of the American Legion probably will be among the early measures introduced, Casper Schenk chairman of the committee, said today.

The measure, it is said, probably will propose raising approximately \$22,000,000 the amount estimated to be necessary to pay each Iowa soldier \$15 a month for the time he was in uniform by a bond issue based upon income from a special tax for the period of twenty years, the whole to be subject to popular approval at the general election in 1922 before it becomes effective.

Friends in Deed LIST OF COLORED PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SCHOOL OF THE FIRE

- Mr. Louis McAfee, Jerusalem, Miss., one quit; Mr. Henry McAfee, Jerusalem, Miss., one quit; Mr. Taylor, Jerusalem, Miss., one quit; Mr. Hobson, Jerusalem, Miss., one quit; Mr. W. B. Bracy, Florence, Miss., \$1; Mr. Webb Dear, Florence, Miss., \$1; Mr. A. C. Hayward, Florence, Miss., \$1; Mrs. Nina Potter, Braxton, Miss., two pair pillow slips, one quilt and one mattress; Mrs. Adah Potter, Braxton, Miss., one quilt; Mrs. E. N. Taylor, Braxton, Miss., one quilt; Rev. A. C. Morris, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Mrs. Lou Ann, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Mrs. Leana Jones, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Mrs. Homer Morris, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Mrs. Josie Brown, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Miss Lizzie McAfee, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Mr. J. A. Enoch, Florence, Miss., one quilt; Enoch Grove Church, Florence, Miss., \$4.85; St. John Church D'Lo, Miss., \$7.60; Mr. Ernest Weatherly, D'Lo, Miss., two beds; Mrs. Fortner Weatherly, D'Lo, Miss., one bed; Mrs. Dan Dixon, D'Lo, Miss., some bedding.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Boston, Mass., Jan. 10.—About twenty-five persons were entertained at the Twentieth Century club, white, at a dinner held under the race relationships committee of the club.

Honor Roll

- If you have paid your subscription and did not see your name in the Honor Roll call Walnut 899 and ask for Mr. Shedd.
- | | |
|----------------------|--------|
| N. P. Lewis | \$1.50 |
| L. A. Stanton | 1.50 |
| J. Thomas | 1.50 |
| O. M. White | 1.50 |
| Mr. Thompson | 1.50 |
| Miss Daisy Jones | 1.50 |
| Mrs. Fowler | 1.50 |
| Mrs. Sarah Granville | 1.50 |

Negro Boy Awarded \$50. for being polite

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 10.—Paul Rayfield Johnson, a six year old Negro boy of this city, has taken an honorable place among Chicago's politest citizens. He is \$50 the richer by reason of this fact and "colored" Chicago is highly pleased with this latest honor that has come unsought to the race in this section.

The Chicago Tribune is awarding daily \$50 prizes to the politest person discovered by its "Polite Editor." On the 3d of January the editor ran across young Paul Rayfield Johnson. He had been traveling far and wide through the back streets of the city and had about given up his searching for the day when he ran into Paul at the corner of Wabash avenue and Thirty-fifth street.

The youthful Negro's politeness overwhelmed the editor. The story goes that he was "knocked cold" and that it took him several minutes to recover his equanimity under the stress of the very unusual circumstances of finding a member of the "hull day" race the politest person of a hard day's travel and search.

Paul Rayfield Johnson is wearing his honors easy and becomingly and has promised to use the prize money in an earnest endeavor to start on the road of procuring a good education. His only relative in the city is an aged grandmother who promises to aid the boy to carry out his intentions in this particular.

A considerable number of colored citizens have evinced an interest in the boy and there is a strong probability that he will be the center of a well advised cooperation from members of the race whenever he starts on his trip to the world of the knowledge of things.

Our New Governor



N. E. Kendall

Young Negro Inherits \$56,000 and a lot of Land

Rock Rapids, Iowa, Jan. 11.—Word has been received here that Leonard Wright whose parents died in the West Indies, when he was an infant, has come into a fortune of \$56,000, 550 acres of land and a lot of oil stock by inheritance from them.

He was a member of a Negro paving gang of workmen here.

His parents left him \$5,000 in trust until he was 27 years old. At 18 years of age he was cranesman at the American Foundry company of Granite City, Ill. He served in the world war as second lieutenant in the Canadian army. He won the record for firing on the Union Pacific lines, with low fire, full glass, and getting up a full head of steam.

Negro Farmers' Bureau Increasing

The annual meeting of the State Negro Farmers' Bureau, in Bowling Green, Mo., Friday, Dec. 31 was widely represented.

The work of these Negro specialist agents as directed by Prof. N. C. Bruce, who is agent at large, was highly commended by an enthusiastic rising vote of the state bureau. One of the most important resolutions passed was respecting the often voted for and ever delusive sub-experiment and demonstration farm for Missouri Negro farmers.

Prof. N. C. Bruce, W. S. Wilhoit, Curry, Miller, Floyd D. Winn, Namrah; J. B. Coleman, Boone county; J. B. Weaves, Eolia; John Nunnely, Bluffton; J. W. Butler, Auxvasse; with State Chairman Murry Shepherd, Vandalia, were commissioned to represent the interest of Missouri country life Negro people before the Fifty-first general assembly and elsewhere in the state during 1921.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were: Murry Shepherd, Pike county, president; Geo. W. King, Randolph county, vice president; H. Layton Drew, Cooper county, secretary; W. S. Wilhoit, assistant secretary, Floyd D.

Des Moines Lawyers for Candidate

MANY IOWANS SEEK FEDERAL OFFICES

FEDERAL OFFICES

Geo. H. Woodson and John L. Thompson, Des Moines Attorneys Among the Candidates for Federal Appointments.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 10.—New aspirants for federal offices arising up in Iowa constantly. Iowa will presumably have H. C. Wallace of Des Moines in the cabinet. It may have George M. Reynolds, formerly of Des Moines, and Herbert Clark Hoover, Iowans, not speaking of postoffice, want to fill numerous other important places. The list of those seeking to be marshal, attorney or collector of revenue alone is a long one.

Des Moines has several candidates for first class federal jobs. John L. Thompson of Des Moines is one of these. He would like to be register of the treasury.

George H. Woodson wants to be named minister to Haiti. Oscar Du Stone is a candidate for customs collector and there are other aspirants for this place not here listed. It is understood W. O. Payne would like this or some other good federal appointment.

Plan to Make Church Community Center

Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 29.—The St. John's African M. E. church of Burlington is undertaking an ambitious program of work for the new year, which will include the rebuilding and remodeling of the basement of the church.

It is planned to use the church basement as a community center and a reading and lecture room for the Burlington colored Boy Scouts.

This program work, for which \$675 is already subscribed, for customs collector and there are other aspirants for this place not here listed. It is understood W. O. Payne would like this or some other good federal appointment.

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Negroes and Cuban Athletes Considered

(By The Associated Press.)

New York, Jan. 11.—George Herman Lawson, president of the recently incorporated Continental Baseball association, was here today inspecting park sites for the league clubs which he hopes to install in or near this city. He said he expects to place the state franchises for New York, New Jersey and Maryland.

The promoter of the new "outlaw" league said three of the eight franchises for the eight club league had been granted as follows:

Indiana with the state club playing at Indianapolis; Massachusetts, with the club playing at Boston; Ontario, playing at Toronto.

In connection with the New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts franchises Lawson stated, he was strongly considering installation of Negro or Cuban clubs. He pointed out that that there were at least 100 Negro baseball players in the country who equalled in playing skill the best average of the major leagues.

Lawson intimated that the Continental league would sign desirable players without regard to their former league affiliations, except that all major league players involved in the recent expose in Chicago were automatically barred. There will be no salary limit or limit on the number of players a club can carry and the contracts will have no reserve clause. A player will be signed for one full season and at the end of this contract will become a free agent.

Application has been made, according to Lawson, for an American Federation of Labor charter for each club, the players thus becoming unionized. He said that while the league had been incorporated less than two weeks 50 per cent of the franchises had been placed, \$75,000 subscribed, several prominent players signed and arrangements made with umpires.

Mrs. Greshman Honored

Assistant Postmistress.

State Federation President Elected.

Mrs. Fred H. Gresham of Cedar Rapids, president of the Iowa Federation of Colored Women's club was elected assistant postmistress at the caucus of the house members held Saturday afternoon at the Savery Hotel. There were several candidates for the place, which was filled by the Cedar Rapids woman during the Thirty-seventh General Assembly. Mrs. Gresham was employed in the general post office at the State House during the last session of the legislature, she having been defeated by the mother of one of the legislators. She staged a strong comeback this year, however, and defeated, among others, the wife of one of Iowa's Senators.

Mrs. Clarence Harding will serve as assistant in the general postoffice during the legislative session.

Other colored employees in the House are: Mr. Henry McGovern of Des Moines, chief janitor; Fred Miller of Newton, Lewis Jackson of Mason City, John Tate of Sioux City and John Rhoades of Buxton. In the Senate: Wm. Tomlin of Des Moines, chief janitor; Wm. Thompson of Ottumwa and Butler of Albia.

Mob Attempts Hang Negro, Is Dispersed

Jeffersonville, Ind., Jan. 7.—Rufus Jones, Negro, alleged assailant of Mrs. Carrie May Fisher, a white woman, was taken from the Clark county jail early today to the Indiana state reformatory a few blocks distant, for safe keeping after a mob of several hundred persons had gathered around the jail in the night with the avowed intention of lynching him.

Members of the mob came from Uta, a nearby village where Mrs. Fisher lived. It apparently lacked a leader and was dispersed by deputy sheriffs. A little later, Jones who had slept through the demonstration was taken to a police machine and conveyed to the reformatory.

Jones is charged with entering Mrs. Fisher's home early Wednesday evening. Mrs. Fisher declares she first was robbed of about \$40 and then dragged from her home to a spot across the road.

The city was quiet today.

Appreciated Gift

R. D. OATIS GIVES PRINCIPAL JONES A HAPPY SURPRISE

A former student and graduate from Piney Woods school, Mr. R. D. Oatis, a student at Ames Iowa college, sent \$100 to the school when he heard of the fire. The first letter opened after the news of the fire spread to the north was the one from Mr. Oatis containing his check for a hundred dollars.

He had planned to send it for equipment in the library, but sent it to help on a new building.

Mr. Oatis has always been a very enthusiastic booster for Piney Woods. The first year he attended school there, he returned home and sent the school a pair of goats in appreciation for what the school had done for him.

The true test of any school is the life of the students and graduates and although but ten years old Piney Woods has produced some exceptional young men and women.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Jan. 10.—A colored couple has been arrested here and held in bonds of \$5,000 each on charges of passing raised \$20 bills. Thomas I. Porter chief of the secret service, said the pair had been sought by government operatives all over the United States. They are alleged to have passed bills in Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Nashville and Chicago. The police have thus far refused to reveal their identity.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Holds Successful Meeting

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 12.—For the first time Negro college men gathered west of the Mississippi river in annual fraternity convention held by the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity in the Greater Kansas City with forty-two delegates and nearly seventy-five visiting members of the fraternity present.

On the evening of the first day, Monday, December 27, a smoker and symposium was held at the Kansas City Community Center. Much interest was aroused through the discussion of the suggested subjects "The Effects of the Migration Movement on the Political Status of the Negro," and "The Relation of Alpha Phi Alpha to Professional Fraternities." The public session of the convention was held at the Allen Chapel A. M. E. church, Tuesday evening, Dec. 28 to which a large number of citizens of the Greater Kansas Cities attended.

At the last session of the Convention, Friday, Dec. 31, the following national officers were elected for the year: Simeon S. Booker, president, Baltimore, Md.; Elmer J. Cheeks, vice president, Cleveland, O.; Norman L. McGhee, secretary, Howard university, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Homer Cooper, treasurer, Chicago, Ill.; Carl J. Murphy, editor of the official organ, The Sphinx, Baltimore, Md. Members elected on the commission which has charge of graduate work and public affairs of the fraternity are: ex-Governor President, Lucius L. McGee, Chicago, Ill.; Daniel W. Bowles, St. Louis, Mo., and Dr. Homer Cooper, Chicago, Ill. Members remaining on the commission from last year are Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, chairman, Chicago, Ill., and Ormond A. Forte, Cleveland, O.

Des Moines, N.A.A.C.P. Holds Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the Des Moines Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, postponed from last week, was held Monday evening at the Y. W. C. A. center, with a majority of the board members present. Nineteen members were added to the membership roll. Resolutions were passed commending the evening Tribune's editorial on the discrimination against Negroes in hotels, restaurants and other public places, and a purse of \$50.00 and a vote of thanks were tendered to John L. Thompson and Geo. H. Woodson, attorneys, for defending Mrs. Dorothy Quail-Gross in her attempt to purchase a house on the East Side when real estate dealers discriminated against her. The election of a secretary was deferred until the next meeting. Harrison Gould was placed on the meetings committee, succeeding Mrs. W. H. Lowry, resigned. Elbert R. Hall, chairman of the Educational and Amusement committee, announced that Dr. C. S. Medbury, pastor of University Church of Christ, and Dr. T. L. Griffith, pastor of Union Baptist church, have been appointed members of this committee. The meetings committee was instructed to arrange a program of exercises to commemorate the anniversary of the births of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The president was instructed to send telegrams to the Iowa delegation in Congress urging their support of the Anti Lynching Bill now pending in the national congress and to request other local organizations to do likewise.

William M. Trotter, national secretary of the Equal Rights League, protested against lynching and "Jim Crow" cars and demanded "Liberty, equality, fraternity" for Negroes. Suffragan Bishop Babcock said that he felt that the Republican party should reduce the representation in congress of the states which prevented the Negro from voting and expressed the hope that the Negro would soon get his rights, particularly equality before the law.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 10.—Following the finding of the body of Coleman Brown, an aged Negro preacher, hanging from a tree and riddled with bullets shortly after his release on bond in connection with the murder of a fourteen-year-old Negro girl, Sheriff Williamson announced he believed Negroes were responsible for the lynching.

UNDER THE LIGHTS AT BUXTON

Robert D. Durr and Chas. M. Shed of the Bystander made a trip to Buxton Sunday, Jan. 9 in the interest of the paper. They were the guest of the Methodist and Baptist ministers of the city and made several addresses while in the city at the churches and "Y" center all of which were received with great applause.

Buxton is as usual a good place. Among the thriving things I might mention are the three churches, all of which are doing well both financially and spiritually. The "Y" under the supervision of Mr. Hutchinson is the great center here for the social functions of the churches and other recreations. He is to be commended on his work there. Mrs. Watkins, formerly of Des Moines has demonstrated what a woman can do if she tries by running a hotel that is very creditable. Everyone engaged in business in this thriving city are doing well.

Miss Izella Smith is our agent for Rev. Kimball's church and the other church or will also appoint agents. Old subscribers will see Mr. Hutchinson and pay their subscription the new subscribers will see the lady agents at the churches and pay them your subscription.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 10.—About 500 Negroes attended a dinner-dance in the ballroom of Hotel Statler, given by the hotel management to its Negro employees. In addition to the employees, lawyers, physicians and business men were invited.

The grand march was led by Leo Johnson, a lobby porter, who was also chairman of the committee on arrangements. A footman in red velvet and gold braid greeted the guests as they entered the ballroom through the employees' entrance. The hotel management donated the dinner-dance such a success that it is planning to make it an annual event.