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The Bystander

A WEEKLY FOR THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE

THE BEST
Advertising Medium to
Reach the Colored People

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WANT NEGRO IN CABINET

Colored Workmen Die, Tornado Strikes Town

The Bronx and Manhattan Non-Partisan Association Desires The Appointment of Colored Man as Member of The Official Family

New York City, N. Y., Feb. 14. The appointment of a Negro to the cabinet was urged in a letter sent yesterday to President-elect Warren G. Harding by the Bronx and Manhattan Non-Partisan citizens union. The letter, which was signed by Eugene McIntosh, president in part follows:

"This association hereby desires to request your consideration of a colored man for a member of your cabinet. I realize that to some this request will appear paradoxical and that to others it may seem inexpedient for you to appoint a colored man as a member of your official family, but justice knoweth no brother, and who can contend that the Negro by ability, loyalty and sacrifice is not entitled to a place in the council of this nation.

"Today the 12,000,000 colored citizens of this country are represented to no position of honor or emolument in this government!"

Louisiana Conference In Annual Meeting

(By the Associated Negro Press.)
New Orleans, La., Feb. 16.—The fifty-third session of the Louisiana annual conference, Methodist Episcopal church, was held in Mt. Zion church, Rev. B. J. Reddix, pastor, Bishop Robert E. Jones, D. D., presiding.

The history of this conference is unique in Methodism. Fifty-three years ago when it was organized by the late Bishop Thomson, in Wesley church, Liberty street, it was consisted of twelve Negro men, not one of them being able to read or write.

As a result of this humble beginning, however, the work has grown to such an extent that there are now two conferences in Texas and Mississippi, whose holdings in church

property amounts to several millions of dollars with a church membership of 80,000 and more than 100,000 Sunday school scholars. The twelve founders in these fifty or more years have increased to more than 700 ministers.

Bishop Jones, the first Negro bishop elected in the Methodist Episcopal church, was given charge of this area succeeding Bishop W. P. Thirkield, who served eight years. Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell, who began work here fifty-one years ago, and the first editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate, was present.

Leading churchmen visited the conference and spoke, among them being Dr. E. Robert Zaring, editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, Chicago; Clarence True Wilson, secretary of the board of prohibition, temperance and public morals, Washington, D. C.; I. Garland Penn, secretary of the board of education for Negroes, Cincinnati, Ohio; L. H. King, editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate, and W. A. C. Hughes, board of home missions and church extension. Governor John M. Parker also spoke.

N. A. A. C. P. Launches Drive Advancement Society Opens Campaign To Enroll Quarter Million Members

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, from national headquarters, No. 70 Fifth avenue, New York City, has issued instructions to the branches throughout the country to begin a campaign for members. It is the aim of the officials of the organization to enroll during the drive, which will end next June, a total membership of 250,000.

At a special meeting of the Executive Board of the Des Moines Branch held last afternoon, Mrs. Elbert R. Hall was chosen as director of the local campaign and was instructed to formulate plans for the drive.

- ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF N. A. A. C. P. OF 1920**
1. Anti-Lynching.—Had introduced in both the House and Senate anti-lynching measures, as a result of which it is expected that Congress will enact laws making lynching a Federal offense.
 2. The Vote.—Took the matter of disfranchisement of colored voters in the south before the House Committee on the Census; introduced evidence to prove the denial of the right to vote by terrorism and other means; demanded election laws in the southern states, or the reduction of representation wherever the right to vote is denied.
 3. Haiti.—American misuse in the black republic of Haiti was brought into the light of public publicity; forcing investigation by the navy department and resulting in the introduction in the Senate and House of bills providing for Congressional investigation.
 4. Legal Defense.—Defended Arkansas riot victims and had their cases appealed; 6 of the 12 men condemned to death granted new trials on constitutional grounds; Robert L. Hill, charged with being the chief "conspirator" in these riots, freed. Extradition of Tom Ray from Michigan to Georgia fought. Numerous civil rights cases contested by the branches.
 5. Ku Klux Klan.—A campaign was begun against the revived Ku Klux Klan, which eventually put the Klan on the defensive.
 6. Publicity.—The most formidable weapon for fighting wrong and injustice is publicity. Placed The Crisis each month before more than 350,000 readers. Sent 131 press releases to more than 500 white and colored papers all over the country. Sent out 220,550 leaflets and pamphlets.

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.

Secretary Baker In Appeal

(By the Associated Negro Press.)
Washington, D. C., Feb. 16.—An appeal to the newspapers of the country to guard against designating as "ex-service men" burglars, holdup men and other criminals without proper investigation, was issued by Secretary Baker.

He declared that the expression was becoming increasingly common and that in many cases investigation would prove that the persons referred to had never been identified with the nation's armed forces.

"It is popular just now for criminals to plead that they served in the army or navy in the war in the hope of gaining sympathy," Mr. Baker said. "When these people are so styled there is a great injustice done by men who may properly pride themselves in being 'ex-service men.'"

Colored Americans through the country are interested in this appeal from Secretary Baker for the reason that it eminently shows the objectionable psychology of always labeling everything with which a colored person is connected as "Negro" just as the "ex-service man" newspaper statements bring reproach upon the soldiers.

Dr. Fishback In Revival Here

Des Moines people are being given the opportunity this week of hearing the Rev. Mr. Fishback of Wichita, Kansas, who is here to assist the Rev. Geo. W. Robinson in revival meetings at the Corinthian Baptist church, Fifteenth and Linden streets.

The Rev. Mr. Fishback, during recent years has become widely known in the middle west as an evangelist and it is expected that his efforts in the capital city will be fruitful of results. Large crowds are attending the meetings, which are held nightly, beginning at 8 o'clock, and already several have indicated a desire to accept Christ.

Came To Lynch Negro; Remain To Pray with Him

Clyde, Ga., Feb. 15.—Negro possemen who came to shoot remained to pray here last night at their prisoner's call. That ended plans for a lynching. Israel Waters, Negro, charged with having attacked a school girl of his own race was sent to jail. He had been captured by a posse of whites and Negroes. The whites gave Waters to the Negroes for punishment. He said today he had been stood up to be shot. Then he asked "the brethren to pray." He mumbled "did.

"LOVELESS LOVE BLUES."

"Loveless Love Blues" is the title of the latest blues song by W. C. Handy, originator of the blues idea, and better known by "St. Louis Blues" and "Memphis Blues" which are known the world over. The Q. E. S. company has made a roll of this number featuring a colored pianist, James P. Johnson of New York City. Since Jan. 1 six phonograph companies have made phonograph records of "Loveless Love," as the words are a novel construction and the music characteristic of Mr. Handy. The chorus of Loveless Love is written in Spanish tempo and carries a simple melody as beautiful as "Silver Threads Among the Gold." The second chorus is written in jazz tempo and is pronounced by him who hear it as an innovation in the song writing game.

Face & Handy Music company enjoys the distinction of being the first to publish a song with the laughing trombone, the first to put over a song with Maude Smith on the records, and the first to lend dignity to the blues. This company is doing a pioneer work which in the years to come will be pointed to with pride by the members of the race.

White Man Thrown On Fire

Oil Poured on Body of Stranger Found in Louisiana
Monroe, La., Feb. 6.—An unidentified white man, nude and dying, his skull crushed and his flesh burned from his waist down, was found today in the woods near here. Believed by local officers to have come here from Houston, Texas, he died without regaining consciousness.

Evidence that coal oil had been poured on the body was found and a smoldering fire near where it was found indicated that the man had been thrown on it.

Tattoo marks, "W. L." and the name "L. Coleman" on a Houston, Texas hat firm in the hat band, were the only marks of identification.



Dr. Griffin Heads Business Men's League

On last Thursday evening about thirty citizens of Des Moines, representing the churches, business enterprises, the professional field, contractors and real estate men and women assembled at the cafe on Tenth and Center street for dinner. Several weeks ago this same group of interested men and women discussed the advisability of forming themselves into a permanent organization whose purpose would be, "To unite in one organization all civic, industrial and commercial activities of this community, with various departments or bureaus with one central organization to aid, to encourage and to promote the best interest of the colored citizens of Des Moines and the state of Iowa. Thursday evening this permanent organization was perfected with the following officers: President, Dr. W. H. Griffin, pastor of St. Paul's A. M. E. church; Vice President, E. Tracy Blagburn, of the Blagburn-Shelton Pharmacy; Treasurer, Dr. Winifred Willis, dentist; Secretary, Robert D. Durr, advertising and circulating manager of the Bystander Publishing company.

The following bureaus were formed and chairmen of each selected: Organization, Atty. S. Joe Brown; Business, Vivian L. Jones; Public Affairs, Herbert Wright, and the Religious and Womans Bureau. The chairman for the last two bureaus are as follows:

Rev. Geo. W. Robinson will serve as chairman of religious bureau and Mrs. J. B. Rush of the woman's department.

Des Moines has long felt the need of such an organization and the present work as outlined by this body of prominent citizens, should and will mean a great help to all Negroes of the city regardless of what line of work they are engaged

Strikes Large Lumber Yard in Oconee Georgia. Many Are Hurt by Lumber Sent Flying Through Yard

Oconee, Ga., Feb. 10.—One white boy and twenty-five Negroes were killed when a tornado struck here soon after one o'clock this afternoon, seriously injuring the plant of the Cleveland-Oconee Lumber company, and other property. Between thirty and forty other Negroes were injured by the flying debris.

After striking here, the tornado continued toward Augusta, according to reports, and was said to have descended again between Macon and Camak.

The Negroes were all employees of the lumber company. The casualty list would have been much larger, it was stated, had it not been for the fact that the storm struck during the noon hour, when scores of the employes had gone to their homes.

While the wind's fury centered about the plant of the Cleveland-Oconee company, the main building, just completed a few weeks ago, was practically unharmed. One of the old buildings was wrecked and fifty dwellings, home of the Negro employes were demolished. About two million feet of lumber stacked in the yards was levelled to the ground. A relief train took the injured to Sandersville and Tennessee.

The lumber plant was valued at approximately \$400,000, but it was stated tonight no estimate could be made of the damaged by the storm.

Much Discussion Over Color Line

New York, Feb. 12.—Heated discussions among boxing fans have been prompted by Jess Willard's recent statement that Jack Dempsey is justified in "drawing the color line" in the case of Harry Wills, the big Negro who knocked out Fred Fulton in Newark last year. Willard admitted that Wills would at least have an even chance to whip Dempsey and that the world champion should confine his antagonists to the white race.

Some boxers find it very convenient to draw the color line when dusky challengers appear dangerous. This policy has been pursued more by heavyweights than by boxers in the other classes.

Georges Carpentier didn't object to Jeannette's color when the latter offered to box him in Paris. The Frenchman then was merely a boy, but he not only took Jeannette on but also scored an unexpected knockdown in one of the early rounds. Jeannette's greater ring experience, however, won the bout on scientific points.

Ketchel Fought Langford. Stanley Ketchel, while holding the middleweight title, consented to mix it up with Sam Langford in a six-round bout at a Philadelphia club. Langford didn't extend himself and let Ketchel stay the limit. The willingness of Benny Leonard, lightweight champion of the world, to put up his hands with colored boxers, is a point worth considering. Leonard says that he fears no challenger.

More than thirty years ago a colored player named Grant covered second base for the Buffalo National league club. He was a sensational fielder and well behaved. But soon the big magnates decided to declare all colored players ineligible, and the rule never has been rescinded.

No Ban on Jockeys. There is no ban on colored jockeys in this country, although they are few in number. The Jockey club has granted licenses to colored trainers on numerous occasions, and some of them have saddled important stake winners.

There is no color line in Harvard athletics. William H. Lewis, one of the best centers that ever played on a Crimson football eleven, had Negro blood in his veins. Rutgers had a colored end named Robson several years ago, who graduated with honors and a national reputation as a gridiron star. Other colleges have been represented in various branches of sport by Negroes, yet few of the rival institutions have filed protests, against them.

Des Moines Branch Observes Lincoln's Birthday

Hon. Benj. J. Gibson, attorney general of Iowa, spoke on the subject "Lincoln" Saturday night before the Des Moines Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In his address Mr. Gibson brought out the salient features of the emancipator's life. He showed how these facts had a bearing upon people's lives in 1921. He advocated using the life of Lincoln as a guide for personal development.

Mr. J. Q. Lindsay, deputy sheriff of Polk county, gave an interesting address dealing with the life and characteristics of Frederick Douglass, first great Negro leader.

Preceding the address Miss Marvel Blagburn gave a reading; a group of songs by Mrs. Harry Noel and instrumental selections by Miss Ethel Bower and Malcolm K. Griffith. The invocation was given by the Rev. White, pastor of Union Congregational church and the benediction by Rev. S. Bates, Mr. Elbert R. Hall, vice president and Dr. J. A. Jefferson, president of the local chapter, presided.

in, better homes, better streets and improved sanitary condition in districts where our people live and better and wholesome place of recreation for our boys and girls.

Important

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Draw Negro Woman For Jury Service

Clarinda, Iowa, Feb. 12.—Otte Baker, one of sixteen women drawn upon the regular court panel in Page county yesterday, is a Negro. It is believed she is the first colored woman to be drawn on a jury in Iowa.