

Open Air School for Negro Children

The Kansas City Sun

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U. B. F. & S. M. T. Meet in Lexington, Missouri, August 20

N.A.A.C.P. AIDS EAST ST. LOUIS REFUGEES

When the first troubles in East St. Louis became public late in May, the N. A. A. C. P. recognized that this was something of the utmost importance. East St. Louis is one of the great centers whither the migration of at least a quarter of a million Negroes has set. It was therefore of the utmost importance to understand any troubles that might arise and to ward them off if possible. We recognized the strong interest that various people south and north had in stopping Negro migration and discouraging the emancipation of the black serf.

Before, however, our representative could get to East St. Louis, the terrible riot of July 2 had taken place. A hundred or more Negroes were killed, scores of homes and property destroyed, and six thousand refugees crossed the bridge into St. Louis. The St. Louis Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. immediately began relief work. Our members, prominent in professions and in business, for nearly ten days gave almost their entire time to the succor of the victims. A mass meeting was called and a special finance committee appointed. Contributions came from as far as Kansas City and Chicago and some \$400 or \$500 was immediately collected. The association worked in conjunction with the white Red Cross and with other colored individuals in the city. The

bered that Illinois has two statutes which bear upon this riot, first an "Act to indemnify the owners of property for damages caused by mobs and riots," passed in 1887, and the other, an "Act to suppress mob violence," approved in 1905. The Association, through its national office and through the Chicago and St. Louis branches, proposes to leave no stone unturned to bring to justice the guilty perpetrators of the East St. Louis outrage. The St. Louis branch is still active in the investigations of the National office and is proceeding, and the Washington branch is pushing the resolutions for investigation introduced by Congressmen Dyer and Dillinger and Senator Sherman. All members and friends of the race are urged to write to their Congressmen demanding passage of these resolutions which are H. J. Res. 118, H. J. Res. 124, and S. Con. Res. 10.

Detailed stories of the truth about East St. Louis will appear shortly in various magazines and in the Crisis. Persons who are convinced by our experience in East St. Louis and elsewhere that a national fighting body of this sort is absolutely indispensable are urged to join the association and to contribute to our Anti-Lynching and Anti-Mob Violence Fund. A check for \$100 has been received from the Knights of Pythias of the Grand Jurisdiction of Illinois and other contributions have been sent by various organizations and individuals. Literature and information may be had by writing to James W. Johnson, Acting

We are Sitting on a Seething Volcano of Labor Trouble Which is Liable to Explode any Minute, Just as It Did in East St. Louis—A National Colored Labor Organization Is the Only Thing That Can Head It Off.

A NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO LABORERS WILL BE ORGANIZED ON LABOR DAY, MONDAY, SEPT. 2nd, 1917. A CARD WILL BE ISSUED TO EACH MEMBER.

A Certificate of Incorporation Will Be Applied for Immediately After Organization Is Formed, Making the Order a National Concern.

By Rucker Smith. It has been wisely suggested that we have our BIG labor meeting on Labor Day. A very appropriate time to make a start towards uniting our scattering forces into a gigantic national organization. We American Negroes stand in a class by ourselves, while we belong to the working class, we are not accepted into labor unions, and the employers of labor want us to work only when they can get us cheaper. We are never promoted, and, if we should be permitted to do something besides drudgery, it would cause the stampe of all the white workers, and might precipitate a bloody race riot. There is only one thing left for us to do, in order to get our share of the wealth we create, and to be able to enjoy freedom in its fullness, we must organize ourselves against both the capital and hostile labor unions.

THE SOUL OF FORT DES MOINES

By I. M. Horton. Twelve large, modern brick houses, giving shelter to 1,400 men, facing a grass covered, well kept rectangle of many acres, bordered on the other side by another imposing row of bricks, called the Officers' Row, having at the West end the Colonel's Mansion and at the east the Colonel's office and his administrative forces and over this administrative building attended to a 50 ft. iron staff waves OLD GLORY—Fort Des Moines!

But today Fort Des Moines is more than these buildings and rolling acres and waving flag. Fort Des Moines is a soul. The concrete expression of hope, good will and faith in Negro manhood by those white men in the United States army in whom still lives the spirit of Robert Gould Shaw, blended with the aspiration of these Negroes as they struggle here taught, led, aided and encouraged to touch the mark set here for super-men that they might don the uniform and efficiently fill the proud position of officers in the United States Army; that they might draw their swords as free men and go forth to battle as peers and equals among all the men of the world declaring that by their might, too, freedom shall not perish from the earth.

A score of West Point Graduates (volunteers to the Negro uplift) compose the supervising faculty of this college. Each one a top notcher in his line. Among them First Lieutenant Max Murray, Ordinance Expert, served in the Boxer wars, a rare judge of men and a master disciplinarian; Captain Stever, the father of the Wisconsin plan for Military Instruction in American public schools; Major Ingram, expert Tactician and a model in soldierly carriage and demeanor; Major Sturtevant, administrative expert, these and the rest are presided over by Colonel C. W. Ballou, a grizzled old veteran of abolition stock who has led Negro troops for years, knows and loves them because they never failed him.

Such is Fort Des Moines, the soul: thrilling, inspiring, the mecca of the Negro's Military hopes, and first page of a new volume of black history in white America. At Fort Des Moines, white America and black America have joined hands to pull the black race over a mighty barrier of race prejudice.

And such an effort it is! These sons of black women are trying to do in three months what it takes West Point four years to do. These men in the main are not job seekers nor draft dodgers. Many are the draft age. They are patriots and crusaders. Patriots, because they love Old Glory—Lincoln's flag! Crusaders, because they are the leaders of a rising race fighting to rise. And when the call came for Ethiopia to send forth her champions these boys left lucrative positions, deserted paying patients and good clients and threw down the gauntlet to Riley and Plattsburg and Sheridan. They told their instructors "we ask no mercy, beg no sympathy. We want the same standard of efficiency set here that the white boys must rise to." And it was set.

And when the black boys had worked and toiled a few weeks and their marks of efficiency were summed up, I had the life lasting pleasure to hear one of our West Point men say: "You men have made a most remarkable showing." Another one, a Major, stood in the field and cried out, "Boys, you are out of sight." Crusaders, patriots, champions of a rising race! They are competing with each other for the chance to die (Continued to page 4.)

OPEN AIR SCHOOL FOR NEGRO CHILDREN

A much needed feature in connection with the education of our youth in this city will be added this year at the Lincoln School, Eleventh and Campbell streets. It is an open air school for the benefit of children whose physical health is of a nature too frail to stand being shut up in the regular class rooms day after day. Principal Joe E. Herrford is anxious to have it understood that the school is not provided for children who are suffering from tuberculosis in any of its stages. It is a provision for children who are inclined to be weak and whose health might be permanently broken by continuation in regular school room work. The school will be open to children from all grades and from all parts of the city.

The school quarters are now being prepared. Shower baths are being installed and a big sunny room is being remodeled. Open air school suits will be supplied to the children free of cost as will be the lunches twice each day. During a part of the day the children are allowed to sleep and special arrangements are being made for this.

Similar schools have for some time been in operation at the Humbolt, Karnes and McCoy schools and these schools have been unable to accommodate all the children who have desired to enroll. Remarkable instances are pointed out which show how the health of the pupils have been benefited and how after a few months in the open air school children have returned to their regular school entirely strengthened in both mind and body.

Negro parents from all over the city are already consulting their physicians and the principal regarding this opportunity just opened to their children and it now looks like the Lincoln Open Air School is to start out with a big enrollment. Miss Grace P. White who is to have charge of the teaching part of the work is now at the University of California making special preparations for her new duties. A nurse will also be in charge and the wisdom of all the local physicians will be at the service of the new venture. Arrangements will be made for children who are unable to pay their car fare to the school.

RACE MEETING

Our nation, with the rest of the so-called civilized world, is agonizing in the throes of world-wide "human wreckage."

Alarming indeed, therefore, must be the condition of any particular group of American citizens that could justify them, during such awful times, in assembling in large numbers with their own interests chiefly in view. Any justification for the calling of such an assemblage in a group of loyal Americans, numbering fully twelve million, casts a damaging reflection on our national sense of justice and Christian practice.

A Speedy Get-Together Needed. And you, in view of unjust and unbearable conditions that continue, with increasing horror, to afflict all Colored Americans, we challenge this nation, and the world, to show why we have not just and sufficient cause for a speedy and general getting-together at this time, in self-interest and in self defense. However much this may reflect on our boasted Christian Democracy, it is, nevertheless, the truth, and nothing but the truth.

Therefore, by the authority vested in me as president of the National Equal Rights League, I do hereby issue this call for the tenth annual convention of said League, and also for the second National Congress of All Colored Americans to convene in September.

AUTOMOBILE TRAINING SCHOOL CONTROLLED BY NEGROES.

There are no words in any language that can adequately portray the increasingly appalling humiliation to which we Colored Americans are being daily subjected in certain prejudiced-cursed sections of this country. Laughter in Hell and Weeping in Heaven.

The ruthless disregard for our civil, social and political rights; the fiendish destruction of our hard-earned property; the shameful segregation and humiliating demonstrations everywhere enforced against us; the horrible butchery of Colored men, women and children in both southern and northern states, and the sleeping apathy of the American conscience present a picture so infernally horrible as must cause laughter in hell and weeping in heaven.

The fresh, warm blood of innocent men, women and children of color, that clods the clay in East St. Louis, Ill., cries aloud to our racial leaders and to our great masses, TO GET TOGETHER.

Who Can Blame Us? In the face of such unspeakable horrors who can justly charge us with lack of patriotism because we are forced to pause in the midst of international strife and to raise our shackled hands and our unheeded cry in defense of our own outraged manhood?

While Whites Cling to Prejudice. If White Americans during such trying times can cling with such a struggling grip to their color-phobia, should we be blamed for striking a blow for our own continued existence? When the Caucasian, while plunged into the very hell of war, and death, and national and racial decay, can find time at every turn of the road to practice his vile color schemes against us, it is high time that we poor, oppressed burden-bearers of the nation, should call a halt to the oppressor's rod. So heavy grows our burden, and so galling becomes our yoke that patience on our part will soon become a crime against ourselves.

Let Colored Come Together. Therefore, let us come together. Let us gather from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south and, with the combined wisdom and strength of the race, let us "round-about," and confront, and combat the forces of evil that sofly oppress us. If the flag for which we have always fought and bled can find no way to restrain the "polluted, blood-blistered, crime-cankered" hands that continue their wicked slaughter of our wives and children, let us get together and find a way, or make a way, that will lead to freedom. If, under prevailing conditions, we cannot get together and band together, our enemies will continue to hang us separately.

Any person, white or Colored, who preached that "this is not the proper time for the Negro to air his own grievances and to speak in his own behalf," is a dangerous ally to our vilest oppressors. Colored and white pacifists who, during the past have apologized for wrongs against us that they should have fought, constitute one of the root-causes of our present appalling condition in this country.

No Time to Lay Down. So far as relates to our case at this juncture in American history, a Negro pacifist ought to be an impossibility, and a pacifist of any other race, claiming to be our friend, deserves to be branded as our foe in sheep's clothing.

One Great United Move. All organizations—churches, lodges, business and fraternal societies—among us, throughout these United States, are cordially invited and earnestly urged to send one, or more, delegates to represent them in this, the tenth annual convention of the National Equal Rights League, and the Second National Congress of All Colored Americans. Without regard to creed, sect, sex or party, let us come together, and compel public attention to our demand for "a square deal" as citizens of this great republic. Let the entire Colored American population, in all sections of this great country, be strongly represented at this great Race Congress. BYRON GUNNER, President of the National Equal Rights League.

Make a Clean Safe Investment. . .

Shares will be sold for any amount from \$25 up, with the following special inducements free: (1) Anyone buying \$25 worth of shares will be given a complete course in driving free. (2) Anyone buying \$50 worth of shares, will be given a complete chauffeur mechanic course, which will include driving all makes of cars, ignition, carburetor and minor adjustments free. (3) To anyone buying \$100 worth of shares we will give to some one of their relatives a complete mechanical course, which will prepare them for repairing, rebuilding, or driving any make of car free. Parties wishing to buy shares, can do so by calling on Mr. Jas. A. Davis, at the school; Dr. M. G. Brooks, 1810 Woodland, or Fortune J. Weaver, 1510 East Eighteenth street, or call the school, and a representative will be sent to see you.

Special Offer to Parties Wishing before September 1st, 1917. We are in communication with hundreds of boys and men from all parts of the country, mostly people from the rural districts. They are interested in the automobile business. Many of them have arranged to come as soon as the crop is harvested, others as soon as cotton picking is over. We want to give the fellows who come NOW a chance to get in and out before the rush comes and therefore the following cut rates are offered: We will teach you to drive for \$10, or we will teach you the chauffeur mechanic course complete for \$50.

Good Positions Waiting. There are lots of good positions waiting for competent chauffeurs and mechanics. Why not prepare yourself to get paid for what you know. If you have not got all of the money, we will help you. We have an employment department that will assist you in getting a job to help pay your expenses. Don't overlook this fine opportunity to learn a trade that will enable you to earn big money.

AFRO-AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE TRAINING SCHOOL, 1420-26 Woodland avenue. Home E. 5291. Bell, E. 1978. Kansas City, Mo.

A SOIREE. Eight ladies of the Harmony Literary and Art Club entertained with a Soiree in honor of Mrs. R. L. Andrews of Houston, Tex., at the Armory hall, August 2, 1917. Two hundred and fifty guests were present. The Mesdames Fulchers presided at the punch bowl, and music was furnished by Prof. Bentley's orchestra. The guests retired declaring Mesdames Fulchers, Green, Berryman, Winn, Robinson, Elliott and Ross as ideal hostesses.



SHOT DOWN BY EAST ST. LOUIS MOB.

Municipal Lodging House was opened and hundreds of individuals' homes. Immediate steps were taken to prepare legal cases against the city and county. The Legal Committee of the Association held open doors and hundreds of declarations of losses were received by Attorney Phillips. Dr. W. P. Curtis and others gave much time to the wounds of the victims. From the National Office, Dr. Du Bois was sent to make a thorough study of the situation, and Miss Martha Gruening to inquire into the attitude of the employers and labor unions.

Dr. Du Bois organized a force of twenty-five volunteer workers and five paid workers. Chancellor Lloyd of the Knights of Pythias kindly donated the parlors of the Pythian Hall, and Dr. Curtis donated an office on Market street. Clerks were installed and the stories of nearly two hundred victims carefully taken down. Detailed statistics covering fifteen hundred of the refugees were also compiled. Visits were made to the various sections of East St. Louis and to the colored settlements of Brooklyn and National City. Several meetings of the executive committee of the Branch were held and one mass meeting of citizens which overflowed the beautiful Presbyterian Church on Pine street. Every effort was made to cooperate with churches and other organizations with notable success. We also got in touch with leading white citizens like ex-Secretary Nagel and Mr. C. M. Hubbard and Miss Pulliam of the Red Cross.

The Chicago Branch contributed \$200 to the relief funds and also, under Judge Brown, is preparing to give legal aid to the prosecution of the county and city. It will be remembered that Illinois has two statutes which bear upon this riot, first an "Act to indemnify the owners of property for damages caused by mobs and riots," passed in 1887, and the other, an "Act to suppress mob violence," approved in 1905. The Association, through its national office and through the Chicago and St. Louis branches, proposes to leave no stone unturned to bring to justice the guilty perpetrators of the East St. Louis outrage. The St. Louis branch is still active in the investigations of the National office and is proceeding, and the Washington branch is pushing the resolutions for investigation introduced by Congressmen Dyer and Dillinger and Senator Sherman. All members and friends of the race are urged to write to their Congressmen demanding passage of these resolutions which are H. J. Res. 118, H. J. Res. 124, and S. Con. Res. 10.

Secretary, Room 518, 70 Fifth avenue, New York.

GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. The Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. held its sessions at the Capitol in Jefferson City, Mo., August 6-10, inclusive. An excellent attendance of officers and members of the jurisdiction were present. The session was a very harmonious one. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter elected Mr. T. G. McCampbell as Grand High Priest and the Grand Commandery, Mr. Willis G. Mosely Most Eminent Grand Commander. The result of election in the Blue Lodge was as follows: W. W. Fields, Cameron, Mo., Grand Master; C. C. Clark, St. Louis, D. G. Master; Ernest Boone, Louisiana, Senior Warden; J. H. Bradbury, St. Louis, Junior Warden; H. H. Walker, St. Joseph, Grand Treasurer; Geo. W. K. Love, Kansas City, Grand Secretary; Nelson C. Crews, Kansas City, Relief Secretary; R. A. James, St. Louis and W. H. Jones, St. Joseph, Mo., members of the Board; W. J. Botts, Omaha, Neb., Chaplain. The next place of meeting will be Omaha, Neb.

BUSINESS LEAGUE MEETING. Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 3.—Indications are that the National Business Men's league meeting will be largely attended. President Napier has received letters from all parts of the country from those who will attend. Alabama delegates are asked to communicate with E. T. Atwell, president of the Alabama league. A special train will be run from Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 14th. The date is set for Aug. 15, 16 and 17.

* FORMER PASTORS AT ALLEN CHAPEL. *
* Dr. F. Jesse Peck of Topeka, *
* Kansas, will preach at the 11 *
* a. m. service and Dr. Wm. H. *
* Peck of St. Louis, Mo., will tell *
* the story of the East St. Louis *
* riots at the evening service. *
* The Choir under Prof. Jackson *
* will render special music at *
* both services. *

* ATTENTION LINCOLN INSTITUTE GRADUATES. *
* All graduates of the Lincoln Institute are requested and urged to meet at the residence of Dr. J. H. Williams, 2203 Flora avenue, Monday evening, August 13, at 8:45 o'clock. *

REV. WILLIAM H. PECK, D. D.,
Pastor of St. James A. M. E. Church of St. Louis, Mo., will preach at the Ebenezer Church, 16th and Lydia avenue, Sunday morning, August 12th.