

GIVE YOUR SHARE FOR THE ANTI-LYNCHING FUND

"BIRTH OF NATION" CUTS SHORT ITS SHOWING IN CITY

Committee Waits on Mayor Who Writes to Manager of The Moon Calling His Attention to City Ordinance.

MATTER IS HANDLED QUIETLY

Text of Ordinance Prohibiting Certain Public Exhibitions in the City of Omaha—Mayor's Letter.

The newspapers of last Friday carried the advertisement of the appearance of "The Birth of a Nation" which was to open at a local down-town movie house Saturday for an extended run. Saturday morning a delegation consisting of the Rev. W. C. Williams, pastor of St. John's A. M. E. Church and chairman of the Grievance Committee of the Omaha branch of the N. A. A. C. P.; Dr. W. W. Peebles, commander of the Roosevelt Post American Legion; Dr. Herbert Wiggins of the Medical and Dental Association and Attorney A. P. Scruggs waited upon Mayor Dahlgren and protested against the showing of the photoplay, glorifying the Ku Klux Klan. Mayor Dahlgren wrote a letter to the manager of the theatre, which is published herewith. Monday's papers carried an advertisement that the picture would run indefinitely. Tuesday's papers carried the announcement that the picture would not be shown after Tuesday night. Without any unnecessary publicity or noise this prejudice-breeding film cut short its stay here.

THE MAYOR'S LETTER

March 1, 1924.
Manager Moon Theatre,
Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sir:
A delegation of prominent colored citizens has just called upon me to protest against the showing of the picture entitled "The Birth of a Nation", which they state is to commence showing today at your theatre.

The question of the advisability of showing this picture has arisen a number of times in Omaha and in other cities. This seems to have been the occasion for the passage of Ordinance No. 9024 of the City of Omaha, effective December 21, 1915, which ordinance is still in full force and effect. Under this ordinance it is a misdemeanor to show any picture which "tends to incite race riot or race hatred, or which shall represent or purport to represent any hanging, lynching, burning or placing in a place of ignominy, any human being, the same being incited by race hatred."

The penalty provided for the violation of this ordinance is "not less than \$1.00, nor more than \$100.00." This penalty would accrue for each and every showing of the picture, because each showing would be a separate violation thereof.

The question of whether or not this particular picture violates this ordinance is, of course, a question for the courts. I am informed, however, by the committee which has called upon me, that complaints will be filed under the ordinance for each showing of the picture, and it will thereupon become the duty of the City Prosecutor to prosecute the proprietors of the theatre and endeavor to secure a conviction and the imposition of a substantial fine.

In the hope that this difficulty can be avoided without prosecution I am addressing this letter to you, in the belief that you will feel as I do—that it is unwise and unjust to our colored citizens to show in Omaha a picture which meets with universal condemnation among their people, and tends to create a bitterness of feeling which is opposed to that harmony which we all desire shall reign among all citizens of this community.

Respectfully,
JAMES C. DAHLMAN, Mayor.

ORDINANCE NO. 9024

AN ORDINANCE Prohibiting Public Exhibitions in the City of Omaha, and Providing a Penalty for the Violation thereof.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Omaha:
Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to publicly show or exhibit in any place in the city of Omaha, any picture or series of pictures by any device known

as a mutoscope, kinetoscope, cinematograph, kinemacolor, penny arcade moving picture, or any vaudeville act, drama, play, theatrical song or stage or platform performance or any advertisement or bill board display which tends to incite race riot or race hatred, or which shall represent or purport to represent any hanging, lynching, burning or placing in a place of ignominy, any human being, the same being incited by race hatred.
Section 2. Any person, persons, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than one dollar nor more than one hundred dollars.
Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after fifteen days from its passage.
Passed: December 21, 1915.
JAMES C. DAHLMAN,
Mayor and President of City Council.
Attest: T. J. O'CONNOR, City Clerk.
(Seal)

HOPE TO MAKE 125,000 INDIANS CITIZENS

Washington, D. C., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—The door of citizenship will be opened to approximately 25,000 American Indians by the bill favorably reported by the committee on Indian Affairs of the House of Representatives.
The measure introduced by Chairman Homer P. Snyder of the House Committee on Indian Affairs and endorsed by Commissioner Burke of the Indian Office authorizes the Secretary of the Interior at his discretion to issue a certificate of citizenship to any non-citizen Indian born within the territorial limits of the United States who may apply for it. Upon issuance of the citizenship, the bill states, "he or she shall be a citizen of the United States." A proviso stipulates that the citizenship shall not in any manner impair or otherwise affect the right of the Indian to tribal and other property.
Already two-thirds of the entire Indian population of the United States enjoy American citizenship, the actual number being around 200,000. The proposed act will throw down the present bars that have prevented many Indians from becoming citizens and open the way to them by making application to the Secretary of the Interior and securing a certificate. In explaining why there are 125,000 Indians that were not citizens, Commissioner Burke said today that under the present laws they could not achieve citizenship unless they left their reservations, separated themselves from their tribes and took upon themselves the habits and mode of living of white people.
The Snyder bill, he added, will permit the Indians to obtain a citizenship certificate from the Secretary of the Interior regardless of whether they reside on reservations and regardless of their present mode of living.

SEEKS RIGHT TO VOTE

Birmingham, Ala., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Considerable interest has been created here by the filing of a suit by Mrs. Cora Trotter against County Registrar I. K. Bowen, who refused to permit her to register for voting. He claimed that she did not know enough about the constitution of the United States after he had given her a piece of paper and told her to write down what she knew. Mrs. Trotter holds that she is a property owner, has paid her poll tax, a citizen of age, and therefore, entitled to vote. She is being represented in court by Attorney J. E. Robinson. She is the first colored woman in Alabama to demand the right to vote.

PATTERSON RETURNS AS ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL

Chicago, Ill., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Major Adam E. Patterson, National Democratic leader, has been restored to his position of Assistant Corporation Counsel by Mayor Wm. E. Dever. Attorney Patterson who is nationally known was suspended from office recently because of charges by one Levy, cabaret owner, that Patterson had accepted graft money for favoring his



REV. T. S. SCOTT, D. D.
Who is conducting a revival at St. John's A. M. E. Church

place and then failed to deliver the protection. Because of the seriousness of the charges the Chicago Bar Association investigated the case and gave him a clean bill of health and the mayor congratulated him upon his vindication.

PREDICTS GREAT GROWTH FOR NEW YORK COLORED SECTION

New York, March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Daily papers have been paying some attention to the fact that James C. Thomas, a young assistant district attorney, who when he was unable to rent an apartment in the section of the city where he desired to live, purchased a modern \$200,000 seven story apartment house. The building is occupied by white families and is located in an exclusive section some blocks outside Harlem's "black belt." Mr. Thomas said he would make no change in the tenant list, that he did not intend to move colored families in unless those now occupying the apartments left it vacant. Mr. Thomas said he paid \$30,000 of the purchase price for the house. He made the money, he said in real estate transactions, collecting rents at night with one hand on a pistol in his pocket. He declared that Negroes were coming to New York by thousands and predicted that the Harlem "black belt" soon would absorb miles of flats and apartments now occupied by white families.
Mr. Thomas, a Cornell graduate, was appointed an assistant federal attorney by United States District Attorney Hayward three years ago. He has a charming wife and son.

COLONEL YOUNG'S BIRTHDAY, MARCH 12

Chicago, Ill., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—The birthday anniversary of the late Colonel Chas. Young, March 12th, will be commemorated in various parts of the country, including New York, Washington, Wilberforce, O., Cleveland, Chicago and other points. In Chicago a special program has been arranged by the National University of Music, Miss Pauline James Lee, President, "Africa, the Mother of Music" will be the theme, and the achievements of Colonel Young along musical lines, and his researches in Africa just before his death will be emphasized.

STEVEDORES PROTEST ALL HEAVY LOADS

Washington, D. C., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Importers, distributors, and bakers of Tenerife, Canary Islands, have been notified by the stevedores' labor union that after March 1, 1924, sacks of flour weighing more than 100 kilos (220.46 lbs.) will not be discharged from vessels in the port of Santa Cruz. Flour has been generally imported from England in sacks weighing 120 kilos (264.55 lbs.) and in the notice published by the labor union, mention is made of the flour brought from England in these large sacks,

HARLEM POST OFFICE IS ONE OF RICHEST, HAS RACIAL SUPT.

New York, March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—College Station one of the forty-eight branch post-offices in Manhattan and the Bronx, is at 140th street, near Eighth Avenue, in the midst of the world's largest racial colony.

It is patronized by more foreign born colored than any other post-office in America. Alexander King, colored, is superintendent; an Irishman and a Jew are assistant superintendents. Out of a working force of ninety, there is a slight preponderance of colored employees. The white clerks outnumber the colored clerks, and the colored carriers outnumber the white carriers, but in each instance the margin of numerical superiority is scant.

College Station is the fourth largest postal savings deposit in the city of New York. It has 11,000 open accounts. There is on deposit \$1,300,000.00

BUSINESS MEN TO TOUR SOUTH

Chicago, Ill., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—A good will Educational Tour of leading cities of the South, under the personal direction of Prof. J. R. E. Lee, Extension Secretary of the National Urban League, has been arranged, starting from New York, on the evening of April 6th and continuing for fifteen days.

The following cities will be visited: Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, Va., Durham, N. C., Columbia, S. C., Savannah, Ga., Atlanta, Ga., Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Montgomery, Ala., Birmingham, Ala., Memphis, Tenn., Meud Bayou, Miss., Nashville, Tenn., Louisville, Ky., Indianapolis, Ind., Chicago, Ill., and Pittsburgh, Pa.

Special Pullmans will be used for the entire journey, and will be the "home" of the tourists, except at such times when they are guests of local committees. At every place visited the business tourists will be met by committees of local citizens who will have provided local entertainment and sightseeing tours.

During April the beautiful Southland is in its glory of spring climate. The grass is green, flowers are in bloom, and the sun shines bright. To those who have been passing through the seige of winter's icy blasts, the change is quite refreshing.

The Chicago party will be in direct charge of Claude A. Barnett of The Associated Negro Press and Phil A. Jones of the Chicago Defender. Chicagoans will be active in urging attendance to the "Silver Jubilee" of the National Negro Business League which will hold forth here in August. There will be an exchange of business contacts that will be helpful for those of New York and Chicago, as well as the South. It is expected that there will be business men from St. Louis, Kansas City, Detroit, Cleveland and other points who will join the Chicago group.

MAYOR DAHLMAN SPEAKS AT PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH MASS MEETING

Chief Executive Unqualifiedly Favors Passage of Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill—Meeting in Interest of Drive

Pilgrim Baptist church, Twenty-fifth and Hamilton street, Rev. W. M. Franklin, pastor, was filled Sunday afternoon for the mass meeting held under the auspices of the Omaha Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. It was in charge of the Anti-Lynching Fund Committee. Attorney John Adams, was master of ceremonies. Mayor Dahlgren delivered the address which was an unqualified defense of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. The Mayor said that he was not strong on the centralization of power and believed in the localization of authority in state government, but when it came to the protection of life and liberty, guaranteed to every citizen in the constitution, and states failed in this duty, the strong arm of the federal government should intervene. States had shown themselves impotent in suppressing mob violence and for that reason it had become apparent to many that such a measure as that proposed was the need of the hour. He had gone on record as favoring the bill.

Mr. Bezell warns of the Klan's political power:
"There is no use blinking this fact. The Klan dominates Texas; it dominates Oklahoma; it is powerful in Kansas and Missouri; it is powerful in Illinois. It is powerful in Ohio; it is powerful in Western and Eastern Pennsylvania, although not in the central section. Its membership in New Jersey is greater in proportion to the population than in any other state, perhaps. It is negligible in New York, but strong in Connecticut.
"Here is a Ku Klux Klan belt that binds an actual majority of all the people of the United States. Through this territory every endeavor has been bent toward political power, and usable political power. It is a situation that is worthy of the consideration of every sincerely devoted citizen. The Klan today numbers no more than 1,800,000 members, but they are shock troops, make no mistake about it."

Musical numbers were furnished by Rufus Long, Mrs. B. S. Brown, and the Rev. Russel Taylor. Mr. Taylor sang "Omaha" the words and music of which he had composed, the audience joining heartily in the chorus.

Mr. Adams made a strong appeal for contributions to the anti-lynching fund which resulted in cash contributions totaling \$44.00 and a pledge of \$10.

The President called attention to the ordinance passed several years ago forbidding the showing of films, etc., which had a tendency to embitter race relations and stated that "The Birth of a Nation" was showing at a local theatre. Mayor Dahlgren read a letter which he had written the management.

COLORED COMMERCIAL CLUB MOVES INTO LARGER QUARTERS

The Colored Commercial Club has leased a 6-room flat over the Crouse Booterie, 1514 North Twentyfourth street, for a year and moved in on the first. The Commissioner's office and Free Labor Bureau occupies one of the front rooms. Off of this open two large rooms, which will be used for assembly purposes. There are three other large rooms, including a kitchen. There is also a bath room. The place is most suitable for the activities of the Club. It is the purpose of the officers and members to make it as useful to the community as possible. The assembly rooms will be available for meetings of small clubs and organizations, including those of women, which have as their aim social betterment. This, of course, does not apply to political clubs. It is planned to gradually add features of interest such as a reading room, recreation room and smoking rooms which will make it a popular place for all of its members.

DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES NATIONAL ASSOCIATION COMING TO OMAHA SOON

Robert W. Bagnall Will Spend Several Days Here in Interest of the National Advancement Association.

Robert W. Bagnall of New York, director of branches of the N. A. A. C. P., will spend four days here in the interest of the organization. He will be here March 19th to 23rd and will probably return for a mass meeting April 1. Plans are being made to have him hold conferences with organizations and individuals and do some intensive work. It was hoped that James Weldon Johnson, national secretary, could come, but he must keep in close touch with Washington in the interests of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and so is not available. Those who heard Mr. Bagnall when he was here some months ago will be pleased to hear him again.

THE ANTI-LYNCHING FUND DRIVE

The committee who have been working very hard to raise \$1,000 for the Anti-Lynching Fund to help put over the Dyer Bill have not met with the success hoped for. Only a few days remain as the drive closes Monday. Contributions from One Cent up have been requested in order that everybody could feel that he or she, even the children, had given something. Earnest efforts have been made to reach everybody. This accounts for the literature which has been printed and sent out. Up to the present time the total cash receipts have amounted to about \$250, only one-fourth of the sum asked. It is confidently believed that offerings from churches and contributions from individuals will rapidly increase this amount during the closing days. If you have not already given, give something to help STOP LYNCHING.

REVIVAL AT ST. JOHN'S A. M. E. CHURCH

A revival which is to be of one month's duration is being conducted at St. John's A. M. E. church, Twenty-second and Willis. It began last Monday night and is being conducted by the Rev. T. S. Scott, D. D., pastor of Allen Temple A. M. E. Church, Chicago. He is a forceful, earnest and eloquent speaker. Dr. Scott is the brother of Mr. E. G. Scott of this city.

METHODISTS GIVE GENEROUSLY FOR CENTENARY FUND

Colored Membership Numbering One-Third of a Million Organized in Twenty Conferences Raises \$1,451,687

DENOMINATION GETS RESULTS

Points to Praiseworthy Record of Educational and Evangelistic Work Among Race

Chicago, Ill., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—The Colored members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in twenty conferences in various parts of the United States, now number 350,406, and these gave to the benevolent enterprises of the denomination during four of the five-year period, the sum of \$1,451,687. This money is above and separate from the donations of members for the local expenses of their churches and of their conferences. The Methodists entered into the Centenary expansion movement of the denomination with enthusiasm, says the Year Book, and their record in giving money and service is regarded as even above expectations. The fourth year of the five-year Centenary period ended May 31, last, and the amount named above has been exceeded by nearly one-fifth since then, according to Bishop R. E. Jones, New Orleans, Louisiana. Full returns will not be available until after May 31st, next, however.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is one of the oldest agencies which has extended the hand of fellowship to the black man. Its work began immediately after the end of the Civil War and has continued in unbroken progress to the present day. Now six of the ten boards of the denomination co-operate in benevolent activities in his behalf. The Board of Education for Negroes, with Dr. I. Garland Penn, and Dr. P. J. Naveety, as Corresponding Secretaries in charge of administration, supervise nineteen schools for colored. In these schools are nearly 7,000 boys and girls receiving careful Christian education for becoming leaders in the solution of the problems of the race in future years. These schools include ten colleges and academic institutes, five normal schools and secondary schools, two hospitals and nurses' training schools, one first class medical college with dental and pharmaceutical departments, and one theological seminary.

Nineteen Methodist Schools have 15,652 Graduates. There have been 15,652 of both sexes graduated from the schools of the Methodist Episcopal church and in the fifty-six years of their existence more than 206,545 young people of the race have been enrolled as students. Of the graduates, eleven have been elected bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church, one was an assistant secretary of War, another was surgeon-in-chief of a hospital, one was United States minister to Liberia, another is assistant attorney general of the United States, and scores have become presidents of Negro colleges and principals of high schools throughout the country. Under the board of education for Negroes more than \$1,102,000 has been expended in the past four years in improvement and modernization of the nineteen schools. These included additional buildings, scientific laboratories, heating plants, and other improvements. The increased valuation of the total properties during the four years of expansion was nearly \$2,000,000, making a total of \$4,131,604.
In 1921-22 the Centenary gave \$450,000 to the twenty Negro conferences.

PHYSICIANS AND NURSES ARE INVITED

Nashville, Tenn., March 7.—(By the Associated Negro Press)—Colored physicians and nurses were invited to be present at the monthly meeting of the medical staff of the Millie E. Hale hospital, white, this city. The President of Meharry Medical College and assistants were guests of honor.

Remit for your paper now.

Be Sure to Vote for Klaver for County Assessor