

## ANOTHER TRIAL FOR SWEET

### ORGANIZERS FOR PULLMAN PORTERS SPEAK TO CROWDS

Representatives of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters Tell Plainly Necessity for Organization

AUDIENCES ARE SYMPATHETIC

Totten and Randolph Forcefully the Grievances as to Wages and Hours Urged by Porters

St. John's A. M. E. church was filled Tuesday night by an audience drawn there by the announcement that the brilliant orator and editor, A. Philip Randolph of New York, general organizer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Mr. A. L. Totten, field organizer, would be present to tell the story of and the reason for the organization of the Pullman porters. The large audience was disappointed in learning that Mr. Randolph, detained by illness in Kansas City, was unable to be present, but would be on hand Thursday night.

The audience while they missed the brilliant oratory of Mr. Randolph was, however, fully repaid by the lucid recital by Mr. Totten of the grievances against which the Pullman porters complain. Briefly stated these are: an inadequate wage, the salary paid being \$67.50 per month, the porter being dependent upon the traveling public for tips for the rest of his living expenses; nonpayment for preparatory time, that is to say the time between reporting for duty and that of going out, amounting to many hours for which he receives no pay, his time being only reckoned from time trip starts; 400 working hours for the porter as against 240 hours for other employees; no allowance for overtime; and disrespectful and humiliating treatment in many instances. He explained that the Employee Representative Plan, although very fine in theory does not work out satisfactorily and gave obvious reasons for this. He stated further that with the porters organized, they could lay their grievance before the United States Labor Bureau and have it decide, as it does in the case of other railway employees, whether their wages are adequate and working conditions fair. He also made the point that all other railway employees are organized and because of their organization are the highest paid with the shortest hours and that the Pullman porters are the poorest paid and put in the longest hours.

Wednesday night Mr. Totten addressed a smaller audience and gave opportunity for questions. Thursday night Mr. Randolph spoke to a large and sympathetic audience and made a profound impression. He condemned in scathing terms the recent delegation which went to Washington with the avowed object of seeing President Coolidge about segregation, but which he said had its expenses paid by the Pullman company and passed resolutions endorsing the Pullman company's treatment of its porters and condemning the brotherhood. Mr. Randolph scathingly flayed the old line leaders, calling them by name, who would sell out their race for a mess of pottage.

When fifty-one percent of the porters are organized they can take their case to the Railway Labor Bureau. According to the speaker thirty-three percent have joined since the movement started in August. It is reported that a good number here have signed up.

### LOS ANGELES N. A. A. C. P. FIGHTS JIM CROW LAW

The Los Angeles Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its attorney, E. Burton Ceruti, is fighting an attempt by the city authorities to designate certain days on which alone the colored children shall be permitted to use the municipal swimming pool.

The Branch and Mr. Ceruti have taken the case to court where argument has been had and both sides have been asked to file briefs. It is the contention of the N. A. A. C. P. that the charter does not give the local park commission the right to discriminate against any American citizens.

Court hearing was largely attended by members of the National Association and their friends.

### NATIONAL MEDICAL ASS'N ENDORSES LEGAL DEFENSE

Dr. John A. Kennedy, editor of the Journal of the National Medical Association has forwarded to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People the following editorial which appears in the current number of the Journal:

"It is to the honor of the N. A. A. C. P., that they have secured the best available legal talent to defend Dr. and Mrs. O. H. Sweet, and their associates, against the charge of murder for which they are held, as a result of the killing of a member of a howling mob around their newly acquired and occupied home in Detroit on Sept. 9th. The fact that they have the Honorable Clarence Darrow of Chicago, nationally known for his legal talent and his liberal views on the race question, assures them a fearless defense.

"The National Medical Association would be remiss in its duties and to its opportunities, did it not severally and personally join with the N. A. A. C. P., in its honorable effort to see that the accused get a fair and impartial trial. We editorially call upon the members and readers to give not only moral but financial backing to the defense.

"In our opinion the accused have done nothing more wrong, than to exercise their constitutional right to defend their persons and property against the illegal and irresponsible mob. In this right they are protected by the constitution of the United States, and in it, they should be protected by the municipal and state laws also.

"The editor's moral sympathy is unlimited and to show the earnestness of his sincerity, plus a desire to stimulate others likewise, he is sending a personal check for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to assist the movement.

"Our doctors, dentists, and pharmacists throughout the country, we urge to do likewise."

### FALSE REPORT CIRCULATED CONCERNING DEFENSE FUND

It is reported that one reason why the response to the plea for contributions for the Defense Fund which the National Office of the N. A. A. C. P. is raising for the Sweet case and other important cases was so disappointing at the mass meeting held at St. John's A. M. E. church last Sunday afternoon was due to the fact that some one circulated the story that the president of the Omaha Branch had said that half of the money so raised would be retained in Omaha for the work of the local branch. Whoever is responsible for this or started this is guilty of a willful and deliberate lie. The president of the Omaha branch made no such statement. As this was a joint mass meeting, participated in by three organizations, one moment's thought would convince any person with a grain of common sense that if the president of the Omaha branch was foolish enough to make such a statement he would have no authority to do so nor could such a plan be carried out. A joint finance committee consisting of a representative from the National Association, the Ministerial Alliance and the Negro Business Men's League was appointed to take charge of whatever money was raised and forward it promptly to the National Office in New York. The fact was made very plain by the Rev. C. A. Williams, pastor of St. John's church, in opening the meeting and extending welcome, that it was a joint affair in which for the sake of concentrating effort and not dissipating energy, the Omaha Branch, which had planned for a mass meeting early in December, agreed to unite with the other organizations.

This was also emphasized by Rev. J. A. Williams, president of the Omaha Branch when he introduced the Rev. J. H. Ellis, president of the Ministerial Alliance, as chairman of the mass meeting. It is therefore hoped that any who withheld contributions because of this false report will see that their contributions are sent in so that Omaha may add to the amount received and forwarded for this worthy cause.

### OMAHA BRANCH N. A. A. C. P. TO MEET SUNDAY AT 4 P. M.

The Omaha Branch of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People will hold its monthly meeting Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the North Side Y. W. C. A. Twenty-second and Grant streets. A large attendance is urgently requested.

### CALLS 25TH INFANTRY BEST IN THE U. S. ARMY

Washington, D. C.—Colonel Dougherty, commander of the Twenty-fifth Infantry U. S. A., stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, recently bestowed a high commendation on the regiment.

In speaking of the Twenty Fifth Infantry, he stated:

### EDITOR CHILES FILES \$20,000 JIM CROW SUIT

Muskogee, Okla.—Nick Chiles widely known as colored journalist, editor of the Topeka Plain Dealer, has filed suit in the Federal Court here against the Oklahoma Union Traction Company of Tulsa, for \$20,000 damages, based on alleged maladministration of the "jim crow law."

In his petition Editor Chiles charges he boarded a Tulsa-Sapulpa interurban car at Tulsa recently and took a seat in the compartment set apart for Negroes. He says the car was rapidly filled by whites and the conductor attempted to force him to vacate his seat in the Negro section so a white patron could sit down. He says he refused and that upon his arrival at Sapulpa the conductor caused his arrest.

He charges the arrest was without complaint or warrant.

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Fountain City, Ind.—(By the Associated Negro Press) William F. Davis, known as the last of the conductors of the "underground railway system" prior to the Civil War, died here recently.

### JURY DISAGREES; SECOND TRIAL SET EARLY NEXT MONTH

Eight Defendants Are Admitted to Bail in Sum of \$5,000 Each

Furnished by Colored Citizens

BAIL PROBABLE FOR OTHERS

Announcement Made that if Necessary Case Will be Carried up to United States Supreme Court

New York.—Walter White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People returned this morning from Detroit where he had been throughout the trial of Dr. Ossian H. Sweet and ten other Negroes, charged with murder for defending Dr. Sweet's home from a mob on September 9.

Mr. White's report of the present status of the Sweet case, which has commanded nation-wide attention, is as follows:

"After 46 hours of violent argument, which could be heard sometimes by persons outside of the jury room, the jury disagreed. It was rumored that five jurors had stood for acquittal and seven for conviction of second degree murder for 3 of the defendants. The jury was dismissed at 1:31 p. m. on Friday, Nov. 27, and shortly thereafter Mr. Darrow filed a motion for a new trial and made a second motion that all eleven defendants be admitted to bail. New trial has been agreed upon for the first week in January. Eight of the defendants were at once admitted to bail in \$5,000 each which was furnished by colored citizens of Detroit, but opposition from the prosecutor in the case of the remaining three, led Judge Murphy to set Wednesday, Dec. 2, for argument. Mr. White will return to Detroit in time for argument for bail for these three defendants who will be held until then: Dr. Ossian H. Sweet, Henry Sweet and Leonard Morris.

Contrary to the published reports in the daily press, Mr. Darrow has not yet asked for separate trials for each of the 11 defendants but he announced that he probably would do so.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced in connection with the news of the disagreement and the motion for a new trial that it would fight the case while there was any court in the land to appeal to until the 11 colored people were acquitted.

Mr. White stated that the expenses of the trial to date had been about \$20,000, the transcript of testimony alone costing \$2,081.60.

One of the most impressive sights I have ever seen, declared Mr. White, "was the way in which colored people in Detroit flocked to the trial. At half after midnight on Thanksgiving morning, when the jury was still arguing and sent out for instructions, the courtroom was packed. At 2:10 in the morning, when the jury was sent to bed, bailiffs had to make way through the crowd for the jurymen. All Thanksgiving Day colored people remained waiting and watching, many of them going without Thanksgiving Dinner in order to be on hand.

"I want to pay a tribute to the magnificent way in which Judge Murphy conducted the trial. He did his utmost to exclude the issue of race prejudice and his final charge to the jury was a masterpiece of scholarly learning and judicial impartiality.

"The case has largely changed public sentiment in Detroit. The better class of opinion is now with the defendants, although the Klan is of course more bitter than ever. But the N. A. A. C. P. will continue to fight the case and both Messrs. Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays will continue to lead the defense until a conclusion has been reached."

### DEFENSE FUND IS STILL GROWING

New York—At the close of last week the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, announces that it has in hand nearly half of the \$30,000 which will be required to meet the Garland Fund's offer of \$15,000 to be applied to a \$50,000 Legal Defense Fund. To date \$14,264.71 has been given with constantly increasing interest and an avalanche of mail from all parts of the country, such that it takes an entire morning for the National Office staff to tabulate the returns.

The status of the \$50,000 Legal Defense Fund as of today, is as follows:

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Required to meet offer.....	30,000.00
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Among the large gifts to the Defense Fund are \$200 from Casper Holstein of New York, \$200 from Miss Alice P. Tapley of Boston, and \$100 from each of the following: Miss Ellen McMurtrie of Philadelphia; Rev. Alexander Lewis of Peoria, Ill.; Henry Sachs, of Colorado Springs. The following persons or groups contributed \$50 each during the week: Santa Monica Bay, California Branch; Mrs. John F. Moors of Boston; Mrs. C. K. Ovington of New York; Mrs. George Burnham, Jr., of Philadelphia; Clarence H. Kelsey of New York; Henry W. Farnham of New Haven; Miss Ellen F. Mason, of Boston; Darlington, South Carolina Branch; Golden Rule Lodge No. 15, F. and A. M., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Sioux Falls, S. D. Branch.

Other gifts to the fund during the week are as follows: \$30 each from James H. Floyd, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. Henry Villard, New York City; \$36 from St. Paul A. M. E. Church, Columbus, Ohio; \$64 from the Indianapolis, Ind. Branch; and \$25 from each of the following: Glossilla Art Club, Lynchburg, Va.; George L. Paine of Boston; John Berry, Danville, Ill.; 137th Street Branch, Y. W. C. A. staff, New York; Mrs. Lena Watters-Hall, Clinton, Ill.; Dr. J. S. Lennon, Philadelphia; Arthur F. Hall, Fort Wayne, Ind.; J. Mott Hallowell of Boston; Mrs. Eva Jennifer of Chicago; F. B. Ferguson of St. Louis; Arthur T. Aldis of Chicago; Max Adler of Chicago; Joseph Young, Minneapolis; Mrs. Louise W. Davis, Cleveland; Mrs. F. H. Clemm of Rochester; Joseph Sulzberger of Germantown, Pa.; Domestic Life and Accident Ins. Co., of Louisville, Ky.; Jesse Goode Real Estate Trust, Charlestown, Mass. The Newton, Kansas Branch gave \$19.25; the Urbana, O. Branch, \$13.35 and the Salt Lake City Branch, \$10.

### THE DEFENSE FUND MASS MEETING A HUGE SUCCESS

Euphuism, harmony, unity of purpose together with a determination to do something tangible were manifested in the unusual gathering at the St. John A. M. E. church, Twenty-second and Willis avenue, to participate in a mass meeting aroused by the united efforts of the Colored Business and Professional Men's Club, the Ministerial Alliance and the N. A. A. C. P. Sunday afternoon.

Promptly at the appointed hour the Rev. C. A. Williams, pastor of St. John's A. M. E. church, welcomed the assembly in a gracious manner and stated the origin of the meeting. The assemblage joined in singing "America". Invocation was offered by the Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor of Zion Baptist church. The Rev. John Albert Williams, president of the Omaha Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., after a few explanatory remarks introduced the Rev. J. H. Ellis, pastor of the Grove M. E. church as chairman of the mass meeting.

With cogent and appropriate remarks various speakers were introduced who made short but stirring appeals pointing out the crisis through which the race is passing, manifested not only in the Dr. Sweet case in Detroit, but similarly, though not so demonstratively in Washington, D. C., Cleveland, Chicago, Kansas City and other places. Among those thus introduced and addressing the meeting were the Rev. W. F. Botts, Dr. W. W. Peebles, Mr. Chas. Solomon, attorney; D. H. Oliver and H. W. Black.

The audience was much inspired by the singing of James Weldon Johnson's "Lift Every Voice and Sing", our own national anthem, and which should be sung throughout the nation till its noble sentiment is burned into the heart of every Negro child, youth and adult. The Rev. Russel Taylor, secretary N. A. A. C. P., led in the singing of this song with Miss Bernice Fowler, organist for Pilgrim Baptist church, at the piano.

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