

## COLOR MUST RIGI AMERICAN GIVEN FULL AS CITIZEN

Colonel The Roosevelt Declares That the holding of Such Civil Rights Portends Disaster.

## NO HALF-AMERICAN STATUS Country Cannot Endure Unless All American Citizens Are Accorded Full Rights and Equal Opportunities.

Chicago.—Demanding for colored Americans full civic rights and equal opportunities with all other citizens, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt addressed a crowded and enthusiastic mass meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which closed its 17th annual conference here.

"I believe that the work the N. A. A. C. P. is doing is thoroughly patriotic and constructive," said Colonel Roosevelt. "It is American in the proper sense of the world."

"The United States is a country wherein all citizens are supposed to have an equal share in the government. We are, according to the principles on which this nation was founded, equal partners in its governmental affairs. Any man or group of men who attempt to deny full civic rights to any citizen on account of race, creed or color is committing a thoroughly un-American act, one that is subversive of the ideals of the country."

"Your organization, as I see it, is striving to obtain full constitutional rights for colored Americans and by opening opportunities to them to help them build themselves into better and finer citizens. All colored Americans must have full governmental rights. There must be no distinctions made by law either covertly or openly against any of our citizens. In certain states by subterfuges as to registration or simply by force, colored citizens are denied the vote. Any state which prevents its colored citizens from exercising their privilege of the franchise simply because they are colored, is subverting the constitution of the United States. Every real American should demand that this evil be set right and do his level best to see that his demands receive proper attention."

"Equally important with governmental rights are civic opportunities. Colored Americans must be given the opportunity to get the proper education."

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## N. A. A. C. P. ENDS SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEET IN CHICAGO

Chicago.—With the presentation June 29 before a crowded and enthusiastic gathering in Wendell Phillips High school of the Spingarn medal by Dr. John Haynes Holmes of New York to Dr. Carter G. Woodson of Washington, editor of The Journal of Negro History, and author of numerous historical books on the Negro in America, there came to an end the 17th annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

A profound impression was made on the city of Chicago by the conference, among the outstanding features of the week being a luncheon given to the officers and directors of the N. A. A. C. P., by the Woman's Club of Chicago, one of the oldest and most prominent bodies of its kind in the country. At this luncheon the chief speakers included Miss Mary McDowell, commissioner of public welfare of the City of Chicago, Professors Tufts and Farris of the University of Chicago, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, James Weldon Johnson and Mrs. Addie W. Hunton.

Another event that attracted much comment was the unannounced visit to one of the business sessions of the conference of Julius Rosenwald, well-known for his educational activities in behalf of colored people in the south. Mr. Rosenwald addressed the conference briefly, commending its work and aims and stating that his interest in the cause of the Negro proceeded from his interest in the welfare of the entire country; for he felt the country could not develop as it ought to if 10 per cent or more of the population were denied opportunity.

At the Sunday afternoon mass meeting of the conference in the Auditorium theater, addressed by Clarence Darrow, James Weldon Johnson and Arthur B. Spingarn, a crowd estimated at 3,500 filled the entire auditorium and numbers of people crowded the street vainly seeking admission.

Mr. Darrow commented sarcastically on the white man's feeling of his own superiority. "I never yet knew a white man to object to the presence of a Negro anywhere if that Negro was working for him," said Mr. Darrow. Of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Darrow said:

"There is no other organization, secular or religious, or all of them put together, that compares with this Association for service to the Negro. Never should the colored people of America let them lack ample funds for their great work. They are the only organized body of men and

women having both the intention and the power to protect the Negro's liberties and rights. They have sense enough to know that the Negro cannot become a free man by begging from the whites or by waiting for aid from the clouds. The officers and leaders of the N. A. A. C. P. are the peers of any men of any color on the face of the earth."

## REV. J. S. BLAINE GOES TO GARY, INDIANA

Te Rev. J. S. Blaine, who has served the Cleaves Temple Colored M. E. church for the last three years, has been assigned to Gary, Ind., and will preach his closing sermon Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

He has added to the Cleaves church more than a hundred members and reduced the church indebtedness in principal and interest \$6,060, with church debt paid up to date.

The Rev. Mr. Blaine said, "I regret very much to leave the many friends I have made during my stay in the city, and I leave with most pleasant memories of these few years I have labored among the people of Omaha, whom I have learned to love."

"I have never served a more faithful and a more loyal group than the people of Cleaves. I was assigned to Cleaves from Topeka to take care of an emergency that arose that necessitated a change in the pastorate here. I rejoice that the Lord has smiled upon our labors and that we are leaving the church in a splendid way. There are some outstanding debts, to the amount of \$200 I should like to have paid and believe I would have cleared them up if allowed to stay until the conference. But Gary needs me most. Gary has a basement paid out and about \$2,000 in cash on the erection of a new auditorium. It has a congregation of 500 members and pays a salary of \$2,400 a year."

## NEGRO TRAINMEN URGED TO UNITE MONSTER CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN MEMPHIS JULY 19

Nashville, Tenn.—(By the A. N. P.)—According to an announcement made today by J. H. Eiland, grand president of the Association of Colored Railway Trainmen, a monster meeting of Negro trainmen, including brakemen, porters, and switchmen will be held in Memphis, Monday, July 19. This meeting will be a part of the annual convention of the association, and the purpose of it is to effect an organization of all groups of railroad employees under one association.

Mrs. James H. Wilson leaves Saturday night for a three weeks' visit with relatives in Lawrence, Kansas, and other points in Kansas.

## NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala.—(By the A. N. P.)—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1925, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

## EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE DELEGATION CALLS ON PRESIDENT COOLIDGE

Washington, D. C.—The National Equal Rights League and the United Colored Commercial Committee had an audience at the White House, Friday, at which time they presented the race's sesqui-centennial of the Declaration of Independence petition, against federal employee segregation, at the middle of American Independence Week. Twenty persons composed the delegation. The audience was conducted by Maurice W. Spencer, treasurer of the league, who introduced the delegates, explicitly stating their purposes. After introductions he presented Wm. Monroe Trotter, of Boston, secretary of the N. E. R. L., who presented the petition to the President. He placed on the table a big pile of petitions with 25,000 signatures from 40 states specifying one from Maine, and four from California, saying they proved universal geographical opposition to federal segregation. He also presented one from the "372nd Battalion, Massachusetts National Guards which Mr. Coolidge authorized when governor. Mr. Trotter read the petition and declared segregation to be inequality of rights and asking for its removal for the race which shed the first blood for independence. He then asked the President to lead the way in having the United States make the 150th anniversary of American independence the beginning of a new American epoch for the abolishment of color caste proscription, segregation and public ostracism, by himself removing segregation of the colored clerks at Washington. He said this example by the government had

given great impetus to every form of segregation and unless the President would abolish it now disaster will be inevitable. Finally, he urged abolition was a fair return for over 150 years of fighting, dying and sacrificing and in just appreciation of a perfect record of loyalty with never a traitor.

The President replied to the spokesman in a calm, friendly manner, that some segregation had been removed and he would continue to remove more gradually until it was all removed.

## SHE WAS COLORED, BUT NOT AN AMERICAN NEGRO, SO SHE GOT A PULLMAN BERTH

Kansas City, Mo.—Any kind of colored person in the world can get better treatment in American than the American Negro who has died to form, save and perpetuate the ideals of what many call this wondrous democracy.

If you haven't heard of any case before this, listen to what happened to Senora de Mena, of Nicaragua, who was a visitor in Kansas City last week.

Mrs. de Mena, a U. N. I. A. worker, who was the house guest of Mrs. V. J. Williams, 1323 Jackson street, went to the Pullman window at the Union station and received the same answer that many, many darkskinned travelers have received: "We have no berths . . . if you come back at six o'clock, perhaps . . ."

But Mrs. de Mena was not accustomed to such treatment. "You have not even looked," she said with an accent, "you look at my face and decide you have none. If you were in my country . . ." Then she went upstairs to the passenger agent. After he examined her passports and credentials, he, himself went down to the Pullman window and returned with a reservation for her.

It does not pay to fight and die for a country, evidently, for even with the fighting and dying, one cannot enter certain schools, hold certain jobs, buy certain homes or even reserve a berth in a Pullman.

It pays to speak broken English and come from another country—a country as small, even, as Nicaragua.

## NEGROES TAUNT SOUTHERNERS

Beverly, N. J.—(By the A. N. P.)—White victims of a Negro mob here complain that trouble broke when they got tired of hearing Negroes refer to them as Georgia "crackers". The whites, who are said to have been attacked, were imported laborers for a canning factory and most of them came from the south, especially Georgia.

Mrs. Rebecca Cuff, 2219 Grace street, has been removed to Paxton Memorial hospital, where her condition has somewhat improved.

## JUDGES ARE CHOSEN TO DECIDE WINNERS OF HARMON AWARD

Outstanding Representatives of Music, Arts, Science and Business Will Select Successful Competitors.

## RACE IS WELL REPRESENTED

Among Judges in Each Field Selected to Stimulate Creative Effort Among Negroes Are Race Members.

Washington.—Outstanding musicians, artists, scientists, educators, religious leaders, university professors, economists and business men will serve as judges for the Harmon awards for distinguished achievement by Negroes of American residence. This announcement was made today by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, 105 East Twenty-second street, New York, which has been asked to administer the awards. These judges will consider nominations and make awards to Negroes of American residence who have made creative achievements in the seven major fields of literature, music, fine arts, industry including business, science including invention, education and religion, and also to a candidate, white or Negro, who has made an outstanding achievement in race relations.

The awards are offered by the Harmon Foundation "to give annual recognition and stimulus to creative work among Negroes." The period for making nominations or filing applications is open until August 1 this year. Names of successful candidates will be announced about December 1.

"I believe that the Harmon Foundation will afford a rallying point about which ambitious Negro men and women can gather," said William E. Harmon, president of the Harmon Foundation, in telling of the appointment of the judges. "It offers a platform from which their worthwhile accomplishments will receive the degree of public attention and consideration to which they are entitled."

"No self-respecting Negro desires to secure advantage through special favor without due consideration being given to his merit. All he asks is a fair field of opportunity, words of encouragement, a sympathetic understanding, and the assurance that his work will be judged on a par with the work of the white race, without either unfair discrimination."

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SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, CHICAGO, ILL., JUNE 23-29.

Some of the 500 delegates representing every state in the Union, who gathered in Chicago. Seated in the center are: James Weldon Johnson, secretary, and Mrs. Johnson. Others in the front row are Arthur B. Spingarn (donor of the Spingarn medal), Mr. and Mrs. Walter White; Mary White Ovington, Robert W. Bagnall, Harry E. Davis, and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, editor of The Crisis.

By The Associated Negro Press.