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Events and Persons

Mrs. M. A. Walker has just returned from Dermott, Ark., where she was called to the bedside of a sick sister.

Miss Gladys Brown left Tuesday morning for Chicago, Ill., to visit her aunt, Mrs. Austin Serreant.

Mrs. N. Irving and her daughter, Fay, will leave Saturday night to spend a few weeks with friends in St. Joseph, Mo.

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Mrs. Ruth Wallace will give a cooking demonstration under the auspices of the board of public welfare Friday, August 9, at 2 o'clock at the Grove M. E. church. Her specialty will be substitutes. All are cordially invited to attend.

Mr. Ed Patton of 2610 Patrick avenue, is spending his vacation in Chicago, Ill., visiting relatives.

Mrs. W. H. Martin of 2610 Patrick avenue will leave for a visit with her mother in Syracuse, Kas.

Mrs. Alfred Jones, accompanied by her children, Donald and Florence, spent Saturday as the guest of Mrs. Robert Sanford at Carroll, Ia.

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Mr. Bert Nichols of Lincoln was an Omaha visitor last Thursday.

Mrs. G. Mack is expecting her daughter, Mrs. G. A. Wheeler, from Kansas City, Mo., who will stay with her while her husband is doing his bit in France.

Mr. W. Allen of Kansas City, Mo., spent several days in our city last week in the interests of the World Wonder Oil and Gas Company of Kansas City, which owns two valuable leases in Butler county, Kansas, the "gusher" county of Kansas.

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Mrs. M. L. Hamilton of Deadwood, S. D., will be the guest of Mrs. A. Bowler for a week.

Miss Cora Price en route home from a western trip, stopped over in Omaha for a few days as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Rhoades.

St. Philip's Episcopal church, Twenty-first, near Paul. Sunday services: 8:30, 10 and 11 a. m., and 8 p. m.; daily, 8:30 a. m.—Adv.

Mrs. Leonard Owen, 2919 Erskine street, served a four-course breakfast Thursday, July 24, in honor of Miss Allie Divers of Des Moines, Ia., who is visiting her sister, Mrs. Chas. Brucher, 2807 Douglas street, and Mr. and Mrs. Jordan of Little Rock, Ark., sister of Mrs. Louis Shellman, 2320 North Twenty-sixth street. Among the guests of honor were Mrs. Hattie Gibson of 2733 Lake street.

W. H. (Bob) Robinson has been appointed local agent for the World-Wonder Oil and Gas Company of Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Lena Thurston, who underwent an operation three weeks ago at University Hospital, is slowly improving.

Madame Jacobs, of 1910 North 27th St., has been called to Chicago recently by the sudden death of her mother.

N. W. C. A. NOTES.

All members of the N. W. C. A. are requested to be at the monthly meeting on August 8.

The advisory board of the N. W. C. A. met Monday the 29th at the residence of Mr. Alphonso Wilson to form plans in regard to the home.

Donations that have been given to the home since May: Mr. M. F. Singleton, \$10; Dr. J. H. Hutton, \$5; Mrs. George Ward, apples, carrots and one glass of jelly; Mrs. W. W. Peebles, one can of cherries; Mrs. J. W. Broath, two glasses of jelly; Mr. Charlie Reed donated his services.

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Appreciative Audience Greet Miss Ovington

First Member Tells of the Organization and Achievements of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

OMAHA BRANCH IS ORGANIZED

Starts Out Vigorously With a Membership of Fifty-two, Which It Hoped Will Be Increased to Five Hundred Within a Year.

LAST Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock Miss Mary (White) Ovington of New York, vice president and in reality the founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, delivered an instructive address on "The Aims and Achievements of the Association," to a comparatively small, but highly appreciative and responsive audience, in Grove Methodist Episcopal church. As a result a local branch was organized with fifty-two members. The Rev. John Albert Williams was elected president; Mrs. James G. Jewell, secretary, and Mr. Alphonso Wilson, treasurer. The election of other officers was deferred until some subsequent meeting.

The next meeting will be held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in Grove M. E. church, to which the public is most cordially invited.

Miss Ovington told how she became interested in improving conditions among the Colored people in New York City, for it was out of this local work that the national association really grew. It was while she was working in a white social settlement in New York that she had brought to her attention the fact that the poor housing conditions and other problems confronting the white people of New York were more acute among the Colored people. She had forced upon her attention gross injustices and discriminations against the Colored people which she had no idea existed in New York. She then turned to the study of and the working out of this northern "race problem" by social settlement work among the Colored people. In 1908 came the Springfield riots, and several newspaper articles dealing with the shocking scenes there enacted in the home of Abraham Lincoln. Among these articles was one by William English Walling in the Independent, entitled "Race War in the North," in which after describing the atrocities committed against the Colored people, Mr. Walling declared:

"Either the spirit of the abolitionists, Lincoln and Lovejoy, must be revived and we must come to treat the Negro on a plane of absolute political and social equality or Vardaman and Tillman will soon have transferred the race war to the north. Yet who realizes the seriousness of the situation, and what large and powerful body of citizens is ready to come to their aid?"

Miss Ovington's four years' study of conditions not only in the north, but also in the south, convinced her that the spirit of the abolitionists must be revived. She wrote Mr. Walling that she was one willing to join with him in trying to revive this spirit. The outcome of this correspondence was a call signed by the foremost men and women of the nation for a conference, which resulted in the organization on Lincoln's birthday, 1909, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which has achieved much for improving conditions. Continuing Miss Ovington said in part:

This association made up of Colored and white members, has its headquarters at 70 Fifth avenue, New York. Its president is the eminent Boston lawyer, Moorfield Storey, former president of the American Bar association, the chairman of the board of directors, Major J. E. Spingarn, attached to the general staff of the United States army at Washington. Its present secretary is Mr. John R. Shillady. Its former secretary is Captain Roy Nash, some where in France leading the only artillery manned by Colored men in the world. It has a paid up membership of 38,000.

The object of the Association is to secure to the Negro in the United States his full civil and political rights. It believes that in a democracy there is no place for a subject people; and it has striven during the nine years of its existence to secure for Colored people their full status as citizens. In this work it has the full support of the law since all racial discrimination in the United States is by its constitution, illegal. It has two statutes written into the law of the land that it can turn to and as it were present to you as its greatest contribution during its nine years of life: The two decisions of the supreme court, one declaring the Grandfather Clause unconstitutional, the other denying the right to a municipality to segregate Negroes. Our president, Mr. Moorfield Storey, filed briefs in both of these cases and won them for you and for me; for an in-

justice to the Negro is a sin to the white man, and each is helped when it is removed.

Another thing we have done was the securing of the officers training camp at Des Moines. Major Spingarn, our chairman, went to Plattsburg to our first training camp. There he endeavored to secure the admittance of Negroes, but without success. He became convinced that a separate camp was necessary and by his exertions, backed by our Association, the administration accepted the Negro as an officer. Now we have over a thousand holding commissions. So little do the people of the country appreciate the splendid caliber of young Negro manhood that it was necessary to make a fight to secure their recognition for positions, not only in the ranks, but in commands.

We are battling against lynching and mob violence, and if there is an editor of importance in this country who does not know about the shocking crimes that are committed weekly against the black man, it is his fault, not ours. We have sent out hundreds of thousands of copies of our investigations into the Tennessee lynchings, the Texas lynchings, the Louisiana lynchings, the East St. Louis riots and many others. We believe that the people of this country will not tolerate this mob violence, but will demand punishment of the offenders if they are only familiar with the facts. We favor legislation making lynching a federal offense.

Colored and white soldiers today across the seas are fighting for liberty in Europe. We have helped to put them there, in such places as they can well fill, not laborers but soldiers. And while they are fighting for liberty abroad we are fighting for liberty at home, liberty for them and their people. We mean to have a good record for them when they return.

This is a time of thanksgiving. A month ago we wrote to all our branches urging them to write in turn to the president of the United States respectfully urging him to say some word against lynching in his Fourth of July address. When that address was made we looked in vain for a rebuke to the lawless element in the land. We were disappointed, but in that we were foolish. It was not that the president did not intend to speak on the matter, it was that he desired to make it a separate piece of business, to address a message on this subject of mob violence to his fellow citizens.

Of course, you have all read that message. We have a master in the art of noble, forceful speech at the White House, but never have we had a more magnificent utterance than that appearing in the press on July 26, asking the governors and officers of every community to make an end of the disgraceful evil of lynching, and upon the people of the country to stand out actively against it. From today on, every lyncher in the president's tremendous words, "adopts the standards of the enemies of the countries whom he affects to despise."

There were twelve prayers, were there not, and only one thanksgiving. Let it not be the case in this event, but let us every one today personally send our message of gratitude to the man whom the country has chosen to guide it through this difficult time, expressing to him our appreciation of his denunciation of the spirit of mob law.

Having brought to you the simple story of what this organization has done and is striving to do to improve conditions in this country for all of us, for tolerated injustice to any class of our citizens works injury to us all, and as this is a work in which Colored people and white people who believe in the triumph of right and are willing to strive for its accomplishment must sympathetically join, I hope that you will see your way clear to organize and join in this work.

DOUGLAS REPUBLICAN LEAGUE RE-ELECTS OFFICERS

Sends Resolution of Thanks to President Wilson for His Anti-Lynching Message.

The Douglas Republican League met Tuesday night in St. Philip's Guild rooms, with M. F. Singleton presiding, re-elected officers and transacted other important business. The only changes made in the officers were the election of W. E. Alexander, as second vice president in the place of Dr. J. H. Hutten, resigned; and J. D. Crum as third vice president in the place of the Rev. W. T. Osborne, who has removed from the city. Vacancies were also filled on the several standing committees. Several new members joined the organization. A resolution of thanks was sent by the league to President Wilson for his anti-lynching message. It was decided to hold meetings weekly until further notice, the next meeting to be in the same place next Tuesday night, at which time a permanent place of meeting will be decided upon.

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