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A NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS.

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Nethaway On Trial for Conspiracy to Murder

NETHAWAY, ALLEGED MOB LEADER, ON TRIAL

Man Charged With Conspiracy to Murder Will Brown Who Was Lynched by a Mob September 1918. Accused Jury in Judge Sears' Court. Accused Asked Change of Venue to Judge Redick's Court.

WITNESSES TESTIFY NETHAWAY LED

State Presenting Strong Evidence Showing His Activities in Mob—County Attorney Shotwell in His Opening Argument Said State Would Prove That Nethaway Made Inflammatory Remarks, Urging Lynching, and Boasted That He Had Fired Shots Into Body of Mob's Victim.

CLAUDE Nethaway, a Florence real estate man, is on trial before Judge Sears, charged with conspiracy to murder in connection with the lynching of Will Brown for the alleged raping of Agnes Lobeck. He asked a change of venue from Judge Redick's court and it was granted. The case was then given to Judge Sears before whom, two years ago, Charles Smith, a Negro charged with the murder of Nethaway's wife, was twice tried, the second trial resulting in Smith's conviction. Smith is now under life sentence in Lincoln. Peculiar circumstances surrounding the finding of Mrs. Nethaway's body and other facts in connection with the mystery left grave doubts in the popular mind as to Smith's guilt. However, by a strange coincidence Nethaway is now on trial for a serious crime before the same judge and the state has presented several witnesses who have been positive in their identification of Nethaway as one of the men who incited the mob and urged them "to get the nigger and lynch him."

Monday was consumed in empaneling the jury. Tuesday morning the prosecution and defense outlined what they would prove and the state called its witnesses. County Attorney Shotwell stated that the evidence submitted by the state would prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Nethaway made inflammatory speeches to the mob, urging the men to "get the nigger and lynch him" and also that he subsequently stated that he fired three shots into the body of Brown when it was hauled up on the pole at Eighteenth and Harney streets.

Attorney Fleharty, counsel for the defense, said that he would prove that Nethaway did not reach the court house until 7:30 long after the riot had started and that therefore he was not one of the instigators or leaders. Sheriff Clark was the first witness called and he detailed the events of the night and his efforts to protect the prisoner.

Policemen James J. Hughes and Dan Lahey testified that they saw Nethaway leading a crowd and shouting "get the nigger and lynch him." He also was shouting, "If they'd elected me sheriff this riot wouldn't have happened because I'd give that nigger up to the crowd in ten minutes." Attorney T. Hollister, Morris L. Sugarman, Ed Shanahan, Bee reporter, a World-Herald reporter, and several others testified to seeing Nethaway in the crowd, and heard him urging the mob to "lynch the nigger."

Edward J. Lazure, a grocer of Florence, testified that the next day, Monday, Nethaway told him that he had fired three shots into the nigger's carcass.

Andrew B. Anderson, former postmaster at Florence, also testified that Nethaway had told him that he fired into Brown's body.

"I told Nethaway to keep quiet about any part he might have played in the riots, as there probably would be a grand jury session, and he might indicted," Anderson said. "Well, they can't convict anyone, anyway," Nethaway answered me.

The defense is presenting its witnesses as we go to press.

CLEF CLUB CONCERT FOR EUROPE MEMORIAL

(By The Associated Negro Press.) New York.—The Clef Club of New York gave a concert at Carnegie hall, in aid of a memorial fund to perpetuate the name and honor of Lieutenant Europe, who was murdered by one of his men during a concert in Boston given shortly after his return to America.

COLORED STUDENTS SHOULD ENTER CONTEST

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Offers \$100 in Prizes to Enlist Interest in Race Relationship Problems.

New York, Jan. 7.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, announces an offer of \$100 in prizes for the best essay by a student at a colored institution of learning on the subject, "The Economic Element in Lynching and Mob Violence."

The first prize of \$50 and the second and third of \$30 and \$20 respectively. Essays are limited to 5,000 words and must be at the office of the association not later than May 1, 1920.

The prizes are offered "to enlist the interest and cooperation of colored students in dealing with the problems of race relations in the United States."

Letters have been sent to the presidents of colored institutions of learning throughout the United States, asking them to acquaint their students with the terms of the offer. The names of the successful contestants will be announced at the spring meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

LARGE DENOMINATIONS WANTED BY DENOMINATIONS

Methodists and Baptists to Cooperate With Inter-Church World Movement and Will Launch Spring Drive for \$11,000,000 Fund.

New York, Jan. 7.—Two large national denominations of colored people, comprising a membership of nearly 4,000,000—approximately 80 per cent of all the Negro Christians in the United States—have taken steps to cooperate with the Interchurch World Movement in the mammoth financial drive of next spring, it has been announced here.

These two denominations, the National Baptist convention and the African Episcopal Zion church, have set out to raise \$11,000,000 during the drive, and machinery has been set up to carry on the campaign with the Interchurch World Movement. The colored Baptists, who are to raise \$10,000,000, have appointed a campaign commission, which has opened up headquarters in Chicago, with branch offices in Philadelphia and Atlanta.

FRIENDS PAY TRIBUTE TO ROOSEVELT MEMORY

New York, Jan. 7.—Many prominent Americans were among more than 2,000 friends and admirers of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt who gathered at Carnegie hall Monday night, eve of the first anniversary of his death, to pay tribute to his memory.

Among those who occupied seats grouped around a bust of the former president were Archbishop Patrick J. Hayes, Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia university; Bishop Charles Sumner Burch of the Episcopal diocese of New York; Rabbi Samuel Schulman, and Mrs. John Henry Hammond, president of the Roosevelt memorial association, who presided.

AMERICANS IN BUDAPEST WILL REMAIN LONGER

Vienna, Dec. 29, via Paris, Jan. 4.—Having succeeded in obtaining recognition for the Hungarian government at the peace conference and the withdrawal of the Roumanian troops from Budapest, the interallied mission to Hungary will be disbanded soon.

Brig. Gen. H. H. Bandholtz, former provost marshal general, the American representative on this mission, has already reduced his staff to two officers, with whom he will remain in Budapest until the conclusion of the Hungarian elections in January.

YOUNG WOMAN GIVEN CITY APPOINTMENT

Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 7.—Miss Viviana Pollard of Junilla street has received an appointment as clerk in the recorder of deeds office, effective January 2. Miss Pollard, whose appointment comes as an indirect result of the activities of the voters in the Fifth ward, is a graduate of the Fifth Avenue High school and Pittsburgh Training School for Teachers.

IT'S ME, O LORD!

Alma and Paul Ellerbe, a Chautauqua Lecturer and His Wife, the One a Native Alabamian, the Other a Resident of the South and Sharing Its Prejudices, Tell of Their Conversion to the Truth That the Negro Should be Treated as a Human Being, in a Fascinating True Story in Collier's Weekly.

COLLIER'S Weekly, which has a large circulation and wields a tremendous influence in moulding public sentiment, has done a notable service for the American public by publishing several articles bearing upon race conditions in the United States. Education is needed on both sides. There is a large group among white people who need to learn the lesson that these two Southerners learned. There is an increasing number of colored folk who are becoming bitter because of humiliation which either they themselves or others have suffered, who need to learn that there are thousands of white people who have good hearts but who are the slaves of prejudices and traditions, who want to do the right thing. Read this delightful story from Collier's of November 29th and take courage. The Ellerbes are multiplying rapidly throughout the land, therefore, "Sursum corda," lift up your hearts. Here's the story:

We saw the basso first. He is the biggest and the blackest. He was coming down the stairs of the little Middle Western hotel.

We don't know which of us was more shocked. The Lecturer stood with pen poised over the register, and the Passenger, his wife, moved a step closer and put her hand on his arm. We are afraid we stared. It had never occurred to us that it was possible that there were hotels in America, run by white people, that received Negroes.

When the nine of them—five men and four women—had filed out of the door, we looked at each other for one blank, dismayed moment, and then turned to the proprietor.

"Who are they?" "The Jubilee Singers, and the head of a colored school, somewhere in the South, who lectures."

"Are they coming or going?" "Going."

The Lecturer took a fresh dip of ink and completed his signature. "They are as clean and nice as anybody. I've known them for years. I like to have 'em here. You'd feel the same way in my place."

"No," said the Lecturer. "I know too much about them. I'm from Alabama."

The day's drive had been the last lap of an eleven-day, 921-mile plunge, through mud and rain, in an automobile; the chug of the engine still filled our ears, and we needed soap and water and clean clothes and sleep and food. But we forgot them all as we sank together at a little rickety table in our room and spread out between us the Chautauqua prospectus we had found in the lobby below—forgot everything except one clamant question: Were the Negroes scheduled for the fourth day?

For the Lecturer was a fourth-day man. He had come to that first town on the circuit just to meet "the management." He hadn't spoken there, because the morning lecturers were exempted on Sundays, and this was a Sunday; but the fourth-day people in the first town would be fourth-day people in all the towns—and our companions on the branch, therefore, until the summer's end.

We turned the pages hastily, and there they were; in a smiling row—on the fourth-day page!

The singers furnished a prelude to the educator's lecture in the afternoon, and the whole "bill" at night.

In our mind's eye we saw our summer's route go looping and twisting through most of luxuriant Iowa, a cool, lake-dotted portion of southern Minnesota, a little hot slice of South Dakota, and the drought-seared northern half of Missouri, and saw it lead to these Negroes with diurnal infallibility—on the platforms of ninety-one big brown Chautauqua tents, in the streets of ninety-one towns, in the lobbies and dining-rooms of ninety-one hotels. For three months we'd be vis-a-vis.

"It's a whale of a situation," said the Lecturer, who is wholly Southern; and the Passenger, who is partly so, agreed that it was.

Before we bathed or ate or slept, we talked it out briefly to its inevitable conclusion: We could not lodge in hotels with Negroes. Even if we had been sure that we could trust them, there were things in us that we could not trust—racial instincts older than ourselves. If we could not find places that didn't receive them, we'd cancel our contract and drive home again.

We did not have much trouble. The

Passenger waited in the car in front of the hotel until the Lecturer found out whether reservations had been made for the Jubilees. If they had, we went to another hotel, or, failing to find one, to a private house, or slept in the car, a Ford sedan, Pullmanized and mosquito-netted to meet our needs. But even in Iowa most of the hotels shared our prejudice, and everyone respected it and helped to shield us from the unwelcome contact.

We never expressed, and we tried not to imply, criticism. We have known and liked a great many Negroes, and loved a few with unqualified childish devotion. It would be hard for a Middle Westerner to understand as we do the sunny sweetness, the kindness, the forgivingness of the race—their ability to become as little children. We wished for them, and these nine of them, nothing but good. We were glad for their sake when the hotels took them in; we were sorry only because we thought we had a larger view, and saw that, in the long run, when Iowa knew as much as Alabama, nothing but perplexity and unhappiness could come of it. We were not willing, by going into hotels with them, to assume a part which would be subject to misinterpretations on their part. In a manner of speaking, we were even willing to accord, if not to these individuals whom we scarcely knew, then to other Negroes that we knew about, social equality; but not ever to them, or any of them, social contact. That, we told ourselves, led inevitably to a mixture of the races—the root, after all, of the whole matter, for which, of course, the responsibility lies heavily on the South, and against which, those who love her fight unremittently, in every little and big way.

We defined the issue clearly to ourselves, hoping to forget it. And for a short time we succeeded. Summer swelled and burst. It was magnificent to be a part of it. As we drove to town through that great garden, we could feel the pageant of June go marching with us.

But after a little we began to meet the Jubilees again. We came to know and like their faces; and to like, too, a clean, unassuming quality in them, and to respect their self-respect. An unusual sympathy grew in us for this group of quiet, well-mannered men and women.

It was impossible to avoid them. We came upon them in post offices, drug stores, parks, Chautauqua grounds. And wherever they weren't, their pictures were. And often at night, as we slept in the car, on the banks of a river or in the edges of the green waves of a wheat field, or in some kindly farmer's grove of little oaks, afar off, from the town, mingling with the sounds of sleepy birds and crickets and the friendly sighing of the trees, we could hear them singing "Joshua at Jericho," or "Deep River," or other familiar spirituals. These, coming faintly on the wind across the silent, moon-washed fields, did not make a comforting lullaby.

We were distinctly troubled and unhappy. We were beginning to realize our comparative isolation, and our share of responsibility for it. Both were suddenly made clear by the chances of the road.

After a good night's sleep, we made an early start one morning, before the hotel dining room was open, and stopped at the railroad station for (Continued on Page 8.)

GENERAL PERSHING WOULD INCLUDE COLORED YOUTH IN ARMY TRAINING

Committee on Military Affairs, Discussing Reorganization of the United States Army, Hear Opinion of Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Forces—South, as Usual, Opposes—Quin Speaks for That Section.

"FROM A BROAD STANDPOINT I THINK ANY ADDITIONAL EDUCATION WE GIVE THE COLORED MAN WOULD BE AN ADVANTAGE TO THE NATION," DECLARES GENERAL PERSHING.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—

The testimony presented at the recent meeting of the Joint House and Senate Committees on Military Affairs, Senator Wadsworth of New York presiding, brought forth the following pertinent testimony when General John J. Pershing appeared before the committee, relative to the part the colored youth would play in the reorganization of the army:

General Pershing: Can you consistently fail to take advantage of the splendid opportunity you are giving these young men for broadening themselves, by association with their fellows? They get in three months or six months a view of life which they probably never would get otherwise. It would be a large step toward preventing class distinction. Are you not giving to them value received, and are you not by that method increasing their efficiency as laboring men? I think you are.

I think they go back into civil life better prepared, more aggressive, more imbued with a spirit of leadership and initiative than if they had not had this training, and even if we were assured of never having another war, I should be in favor of some such system as this, simply for training young men to be more law-abiding citizens. There is too little regard for law and order.

Mr. Quin: I could not agree with your premise. I come from a section of the country where we have the black man in large numbers, and it is actually demonstrated that it is a very dangerous thing to train him as a soldier. He has come back into society now and is a menace to the white race. What would you do under this plan for universal training to keep those sections of the country, some of them in the south and some in the middle west and in the north, from being menaced in such a way? That is not hearsay, but it is an actual reality which I am relating to you.

General Pershing: I am not entirely familiar with that situation nor with the result that would be produced by giving these men this sort of training. But from a broad standpoint I think any additional education we give the colored man would be an advantage to the nation.

Mr. Quin: So far as education is concerned, those sections are educating him in free schools. The proposition is that this military training has demonstrated that it develops a real danger. He is coming back home with all that virus in him.

General Pershing: I do not know that that can be entirely attributed to his military training. May it not be attributed to some extent, to the peculiar circumstances under which he served abroad? I am not prepared to analyze it entirely or give you a complete answer, but it seems to me that that feature of it should be considered. You remember that the relations that exist over there and the attitude toward the colored man are different from what they are with us.

Mr. Quin: Would you object, after you had had time to analyze it and study it, to put a complete answer to that in the record?

General Pershing: Of course, I think the question of going to come up, if congress in its wisdom concludes to adopt any system of military training; and if I should be called upon to assist in the preparation of the details of a bill I should be glad to comply with your request. I may state, however, that my information is that few, if any, of the colored men who were in the army have been engaged in any of the recent racial troubles.

The first census of the United States was taken in 1790, during the administration of George Washington. It related solely to population.

GEORGIA LEADS IN SHAMING AMERICA

1919 Record Lynching Year—78 Met Death From Mobs.

New York, Jan. 7.—Complete lynching statistics for the year 1919, made available by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, show 78 mob murders during the year, the greater number of any year since 1915, when 96 persons were lynched.

Georgia leads the list of states with 21 lynchings, Mississippi follows with 12, and Alabama and Louisiana are tied for third place in the list with eight.

Of the persons lynched in 1919, four were white Americans, two were Mexicans and 72 were Negroes. Shooting to death claimed 27 victims, hanging 23 and burning at stake 13. Nine of the victims were ex-soldiers of the United States army.

In the list of alleged causes of lynching, murder is given in 27 cases, assault in 14 cases, shooting of a white man in 7 cases.

In less than one-fifth of the lynchings of 1919 was assault upon women even alleged as a justification.

NEW YORKERS PLAN TO ESTABLISH BANK

Pioneer Development Corporation Starts Movement to Promote Bank With Capitalization of \$1,000,000.

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

NEW YORK, N. Y., Jan. 7.—At a meeting of 1,000 Negroes in the Palace Casino, 135th street and Madison avenue, under the auspices of the Pioneer Development Corporation, a movement to promote a bank capitalized at \$1,000,000 for the exclusive use of Negroes was inaugurated.

Augustus Duncan said that although the Negroes put \$17,000,000 annually into banks now they are unable to borrow money for commercial and business purposes from the banks operated by white men.

John W. Lewis, the Negro president of the Industrial Savings bank, of Washington, D. C., said his institution has 6,082 depositors, with total deposits of \$523,000, affording the Negroes of Washington an opportunity to borrow money with which to compete in business with the whites.

SINN FEINERS AND POLICE HAVE FIGHT

Cork, Ireland, Jan. 7.—A prolonged battle was fought between the police and Sinn Feiners in the village of Carrigobhill, nine miles outside of Cork, last night. For four hours the fight lasted, and there were, it is stated, 300 Sinn Fein volunteers in the attack which was made on the police barracks.

An ex-soldier who resides in the village, which has a population of less than 500, described the whole affair as being similar to going over the top at night in Flanders for an attack on pill boxes.

SMART SET DRAWS GOOD AUDIENCES

"The Children of the Sun," Founded Upon Work of George Wells Parker, Pleases.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 7.—The Smart Set presented its new and attractive play at the Auditorium here to large and appreciative audiences. The play is entitled "Children of the Sun," and is founded upon the work of George Wells Parker of Omaha, the well known race writer and historical authority on African matters.

Mr. Parker was formerly associate editor of The Monitor.