

TEXAS JUDGE RELEASES NEGRO; WHITE MEN HELD

RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY OBSERVED IN CITY CHURCHES

Movement Inaugurated by Federated Council of Churches of Christ in America Starts Out Successfully.

UNITED PROGRAMS ARE GIVEN

Mass Meeting at Zion Baptist Church In Afternoon Feature of the Observance.—May Exchange Pulpits.

Race Relations Sunday, the observance of which on the Sunday nearest the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, as suggested by the National Council of the Federated Churches of Christ in America, which includes all the Protestant denominations, was very generally observed throughout the country last Sunday.

Among the white congregations who had colored persons on the program were the First Presbyterian church, the largest and wealthiest of that denomination in the city; First Central Grace Methodist; Westminster and Covenant Presbyterian and Plymouth Congregational.

At the First Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Edwin Hart Jenks, pastor, made a brief address commending the movement and expressing the hope "That from such occasions as this may a spirit of helpfulness be generated by reason of our getting to know each other better."

Several of the colored congregations united in a mass meeting Sunday afternoon at Zion Baptist Church, at which a fair proportion of the audience was white.

At the Westminister Presbyterian church, Twenty-ninth and Mason streets, in the evening, a Lincoln day program of Negro music, poetry and literature was given.

At the Plymouth Congregational church, Eighteenth and Emmet, a similar program was held in the evening, including singing by a visiting colored quartet, and a play depicting the advance of the Negro race in this country.

A quartet from St. Paul's Colored Presbyterian church, Twentysixth and Seward streets, members of the congregation and the pastor, the Rev. Russell Taylor, visited the Covenant Presbyterian church, Twenty-seventh and Pratt streets, of which the Rev. F. H. Grace is pastor, at the evening service.

An interchange of pulpits between white and colored churches, which was originally planned, could not be carried out because it was too late to make such arrangements when notification of the proposed dates was received by many of the pastors.

Mrs. Larry N. Peoples returned last week after a three months' vacation with friends and relatives in Chicago and Davenport.

FOUGHT SEGREGATION IN NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS

New York, Feb. 16—Irving T. Nutt, president of the Camden, New Jersey, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who consistently and persistently fought segregation in and about Camden, has been appointed a member of the Camden school board by Mayor King.

Mr. Nutt, according to the Camden Post-Telegram (white) "is a well known colored resident of the Seventh Ward and is an earnest advocate of equal rights for his race. He has been making a determined effort to have colored children sent to the schools nearest their homes, and is opposed to making them travel long distances to attend schools set apart for colored children."

HARLEM OFFICE GETS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

New York, Feb. 16—Louis Berry, of Indianapolis, pastor of St. Philip's Episcopal church in that city, will take up the duties of executive secretary of the Harlem office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in New York City beginning March 1, it has been announced.

Mr. Berry is the first person to fill the office which is newly created in order to deal with the increasing work of the Association in New York City. He was educated at Howard University and at the General Theological Seminary and has had experience in organization work.

The Harlem Office of the N. A. A. C. P. is located at 2350 Seventh Ave., New York City.

COMMUNISTS REJECT FRENCH OVERTURES

Essen, Feb. 16—(Crusader Service) The French army of occupation approached the Communists here with a view to reaching a friendly understanding in case of serious labor troubles, but the Communists peremptorily rejected the overtures, one of the Communist leaders telling a French official that the Communists were at no time in favor of enslaving the German workers to pay France reparations for a Capitalist war for which French Capitalists were as much responsible as German capitalists.

HEROISM OF RACE IN WAR IS LAUDED BY VICE-PRESIDENT

Coolidge Commends Contribution of Negro to Progress of Country During Times of Peace and of War.

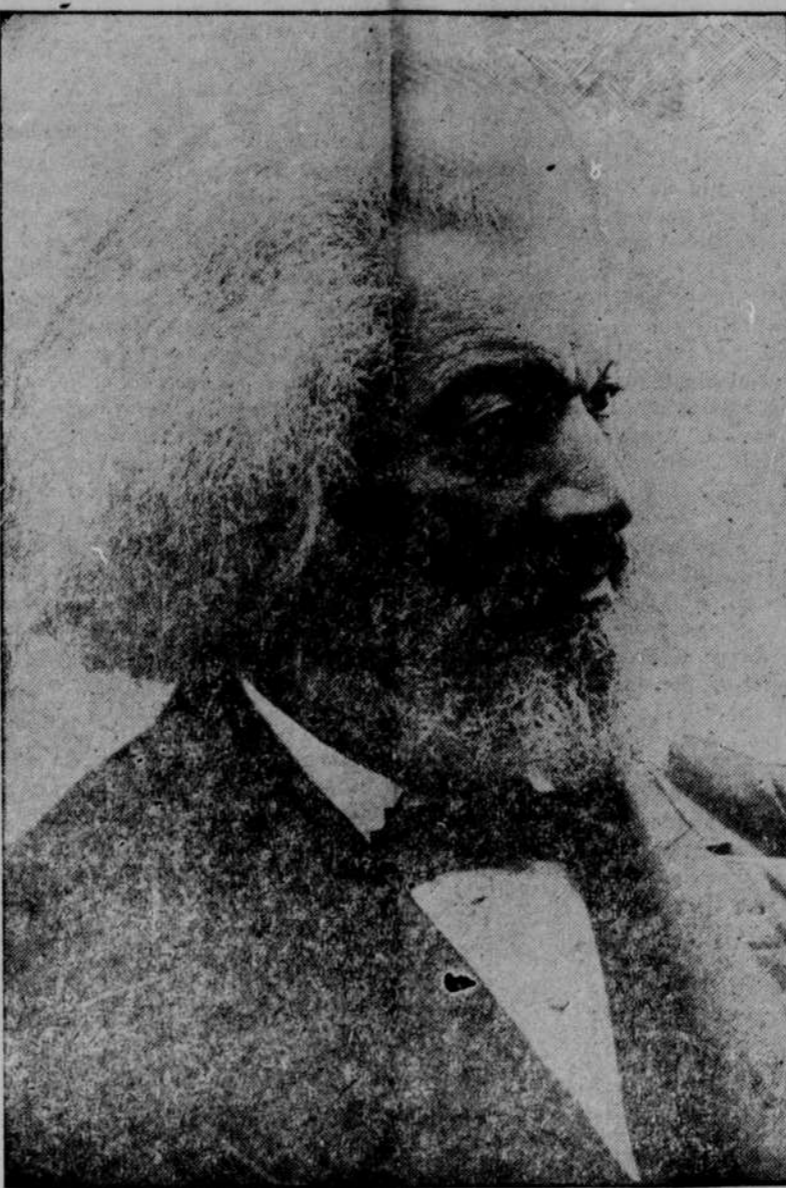
EULOGIZES LINCOLN'S WORK

Negroes Have Justified the Faith of Abraham Lincoln, Declares the Speaker at Dedication of Government Hospital.

Tuskegee, Ala., Feb. 16—America stands unchangeably committed to the principle of the right to individual freedom made forever plain and clear by Abraham Lincoln, Vice President Calvin Coolidge declared Monday in an address dedicating the \$2,000,000 government hospital for Negro veterans of the World War.

"The life of Abraham Lincoln," he said, "gave a new and practical meaning to the right of practical government which was to grow into a great world of influence. Americans are not without justification in assuming that this nation has been called into existence to establish, to maintain, to defend and to extend that principle. Insofar as the World War was a conflict between different theories of civilization, it was a conflict between those who supported this principle and those who opposed it. It was the liberty-loving nations of the earth, those most generously committed to the principle of sovereignty of the people, who were victorious. In that victory, Abraham Lincoln had a very large share."

"Freedom places grave duties and responsibilities on the individual which will bring success if met and performed, but failure if neglected and evaded," the vice president asserted. "It was the belief of Abe Lincoln," he continued, "that all people could and would finally rise to these requirements. In the less than 70 years that the Negro race in America have been in the enjoyment of freedom they have (Continued on Page Two)



FREDERICK DOUGLASS Born a Slave in Maryland, February 15, 1817, but who escaped from slavery and subsequently rose to high positions of honor in the United States. All our youth should read the story of his life.

THE NEGRO SANHEDRIN

Kelly Miller Submits Certain Practical Suggestions Looking Towards Effective Functioning of Proposed Conference of Colored Americans

My suggestion for an all-race conference has met with a nation-wide response. It is unanimously agreed that such a conference is not only important, but imperative. The proposition elicits immediate and spontaneous reaction.

Great ideas are rarely ever the product of a single mind. They are but the outcome of scientific or social necessities demanded by the advancing state of knowledge or social need. Fundamental thoughts stir spontaneously in the minds of many thinkers. It is only by chance or good hap that some fortunate individual is first to formulate and give them public utterance. Fortunate indeed is he if he escapes the rivalry and jealousy of those who are fond of the self-glory of priority.

I claim no originality or special merit for proclaiming the suggestion of a Negro Sanhedrin. When the cloud is surcharged with electricity, the flash may break out at any point. I have merely expressed the general feeling not before sufficiently focussed in definite form of statement. Enthusiastic

supporters of the idea declare that it was already floating in their minds without form—and void. Indeed it had already received implicit or explicit expression in sundry, partial ways. The National Race Conference had felt the need and uttered it. The Equal Rights League had already sent out invitations to the several Civil Rights organizations including the N. A. A. C. P., the National Race Congress, and the Blood Brotherhood, for a joint meeting and united action. Several secret and fraternal orders were contemplating similar procedure. My suggestion differs from the others only in the comprehensiveness of its range and scope. I would have the conference take into consideration, "the state of the race," involving the entire circle of interests pertinent and peculiar to our race, and its relations to the larger social entity in which it is submerged. The national race movements hitherto have limited their attention to some particular pressing and distressing features of the problem. The dynamic power of politics has been the chief reliance. These

conferences have split on the rock on which they were founded. The political agency must loom large in any effective race program, but the subject must be approached in the spirit of comprehensive race statesmanship, and not of personal and partisan manipulation. Politics forms but a single factor of our tangled problem. The internal development of the race is of primary importance aside from its external relation to the environment. The statesmanlike attitude will not allow itself to become excited over any single distressing factor, but views the whole problem with sobriety of temper and deliberateness of judgment.

Napoleon Bonaparte suggested a Sanhedrin of the Jews of Europe in 1807. The constitution of this body comprehended the entire fabric of Jewish life and relationship. The agenda covered the whole field of Jewish interests as affecting and affected by the dominant Gentile world in which they were enveloped. The outcome of this conference has potent influence in Jewry until the present

time. The political agency must loom large in any effective race program, but the subject must be approached in the spirit of comprehensive race statesmanship, and not of personal and partisan manipulation. Politics forms but a single factor of our tangled problem. The internal development of the race is of primary importance aside from its external relation to the environment. The statesmanlike attitude will not allow itself to become excited over any single distressing factor, but views the whole problem with sobriety of temper and deliberateness of judgment.

...the East Indians meet in annual session of an All Indian Conference to consider the imook of the race, and its outlook upon the world at large. The Negro needs most of all the stimulation of a race consciousness and the formulation of a race ideal which will furnish inspiration to every member thereof. The proposed conference looks to this end. The need is plain. A way farer, though blind, may see it. The demand is upon us. Hove we the wisdom and courage to meet it? The difficulties are great. To the timid they seem insurmountable. The cowardly spirit always sees lions in the way. But to those who have unwavering faith in the humanity of man, nothing is impossible.

The next step is to devise some feasible and effective method of procedure. Merely to issue a sudden call of the wise ones to meet and deliver fiery orations, and adopt heated and hasty resolutions would accomplish nothing. Violent protest against oppression and wrong is but natural ebullition of feeling. Such has been the method of all the conferences which have gone before.

I now suggest that this be a conference of conferences. Let the varied organizations and agencies of nationwide aim and purpose designate some representative in Washington City. The representatives so designated will form a provisional committee. This committee is to meet as often as requirements of the situation demand. When it has reached agreement upon a proper agenda let it set the time and place, and issue the call for the general conference.

I suggest the city of Washington as most fitting seat of the committee because of its central location and focal advantages. In order to meet inevitable objections I suggest that the central committee in Washington may organize, on the same plan of its own complexion, local committees in various centers to cooperate in the formulation of plans. The judgment of the committee should express the findings of our best minds and hearts and conscience, and should be based upon counsel as wide as the race and as broad as its needs.

If my suggestions are acceptable let the various organization proceed at once to designate representatives. I will undertake to call them together. Then my function will be at an end. The rest will be in the hands of the race. Yours truly, (Signed) KELLY MILLER.

URBAN LEAGUE IS STEADILY MAKING INFLUENCE FELT

Gift of \$10,000.00 For Its Work Reported at the Annual Meeting When Reports are Read and Officers Elected.

PHENOMENAL ADVANCEMENT

Organization Which Began as Local Body With Expenditure of \$2,500 Has Grown Into National Movement.

New York, Feb. 16—Steady increase in the forces making for cooperation between the Negro and white races was emphasized by L. Hollingsworth Wood, Chairman of the National Urban League, at its eleventh annual meeting in the Russell Sage Foundation Building Wednesday afternoon. He reported that the year 1922 had been the most important in the history of the Urban League movement which started with a small group in New York spending \$2,600 in 1910 and has grown to a national movement with branches in more than forty cities spending more than \$250,000 a year.

"The greatest handicap to better inter-racial relations has been the indifference of the great mass of whites and this indifference has been due mostly to the limited knowledge by the whites of Negroes," said Mr. Wood. "The last few years have shown a new and significant change which has come about through the great migration of Negroes from the South into the industrial centers of the East and Middle West and through the attention which has been brought to inter-racial relations by the exposition of Ku Klux activities, by the Congressional debates on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, by the public discussion of President Lowell's attempt to scrap one of Harvard's most precious traditions, and by similar incidents in which the Negro has figured in the news.

"These incidents have made the great contribution of focusing attention on this matter and for every person (Continued on Page Two)

TEXAS JUDGE FREES COLORED PRISONER CHARGED WITH RAPE

Man Accused of Criminally Assaulting White Girl and Murdering Her Escort is Freed by Order of the Court.

ARREST GIRL AND BROTHERS

Another Case Where Truth Thwarts Attempt to Make Negro Pay the Penalty for Crime Committed by Whites

Waco, Texas, Feb. 16—Wanted on the wires of the Associated Press last November, came the report from this southern town that another "lynching party" was in the making, following an accusation that Ivory Clay was held in connection with a "brutal and vicious" assault on a white girl and the murdering of her escort. This crime occurred November 29, last.

Last week, wanted on the wires of this same press service, came the news that Ivory Clay had been released, and that the hundreds of spectators, who crowded into the historic court house, vigorously applauded the decision of Judge R. I. Monroe. (It will be remembered that Jesse Washington was burned alive in this same court house yard in May, 1916.)

This case is but one of the hundreds of cases reported over the press wires yearly, in which a colored man, accused of "assaulting" a white girl, is a prey to the fury of a blood-thirsty mob. The result is death, either via fire, bullets or the hangman's noose.

No one knows the true facts in the case. The victim is hunted to his hiding place like a drowning rat or either picked up, usually taken to the place of the alleged assault, and there forced to go through untold agonies and indignities before rope, fire or bullet puts a merciful end to his life.

And this state, with its warped and soulless ideas of justice, the home of the "lyncher and Ku Kluxer;" this state, at whose door the stigma of staining the Stars and Stripes of Old Glory, has fallen no less than four times in the last two months, has finally "played square." For not only was Clay released, but the decision of the court was cheered.

What a contrast to a similar case in North Carolina this past week, where the governor was forced to call out the State Militia to quell the spirit of mob control. That had threatened to lynch a race man, in case a jury deliberating on his case returned a verdict of not guilty, or anything less than murder in the first degree.

Girl and Two Brothers Held Clay was arrested shortly after an alleged assault on Miss Naomi Boucher, southern girl, and the murder of her escort, Grady Skipworth, on the night of November 20.

At the hearing, Miss Boucher testified that Clay was the man who shot Skipworth and treated her roughly, finally throwing her over a cliff. The story as told by the girl was colored to the extreme and told of the climax to an auto ride, in which the "burly Negro," had shot Skipworth down in cold blood and then brutally assaulted her.

But in direct rebuttal to this story was the action of the father of the slain man ordering the arrest of Miss Boucher and her two brothers, Horace and Bernard. What a different angle this puts on the case.

Indications point to the fact that the elder Skipworth caused the arrest of the trio after he had gleaned certain facts seeming to show that the girl and his son had been surprised in a compromising position, that Skipworth was killed, and that the "Negro" story was trumped up in an endeavor to save the girl's "honor" and the lives of her brothers.

Arrest Creates Sensation Recently Miss Boucher and her brothers were arrested by Ranger Captain E. D. Shumate and removed separately to other counties in order that he might have better opportunity to investigate the death of young Skipworth. The removal of the three from McLennan county created a sensation which rocked the entire state and the three were brought back only after Judge J. P. Alexander had issued a warrant for the arrest of Shumate on charges of evasion of service.

"Evidence Insufficient" Habeas Corpus hearing of Clay followed sensational testimony of J. P. Williams and his son, who named Joe Miller, an alleged former roomer at the Boucher home, as the man in the (Continued on Page Two)

