

COHEN COMPTROLLER CUSTOMS REMAINS

Urges That Chambers of Commerce Get Acquainted With Negro

COHEN INDICTMENT "RUM CONSPIRACY" CALLED A FRAME-UP

Comptroller of Customs Claims That Charge Another Chapter in Lily White Plan to Have Him Removed

SPEEDY TRIAL IS REQUESTED

Treasury Department Sends Special Investigator But Declines to Suspend Cohen During Probe

Washington, D. C.—The indictment of Walter L. Cohen, comptroller of customs at New Orleans, La., is regarded here by Government officials as a frame-up.

A special investigator of the Treasury Department is on his way to New Orleans to make a rigid examination of the facts and circumstances surrounding the indictment. This investigation was ordered by General Lincoln C. Andrews, assistant secretary of the Treasury, in charge of the customs service. Pending this investigation, Mr. Cohen will not be suspended from office, as the interests of the United States are in no way in jeopardy, General Andrews said.

Mr. Cohen does not plan to come to Washington at this time, as it was at first reported. He wired the following statement:

"My indictment was more of a surprise to me than to many of my friends. I knew nothing of it until called up on the telephone at my summer home at Bay St. Louis.

"The whole matter is only another effort on the part of the lily-white crowd to discredit me and have me removed from office.

"I have requested a speedy trial, and am asking the public to withhold judgment until after my trial, which I am sure will result in my acquittal as I am entirely innocent. I have also requested the Treasury Department to send one of its most trusted and impartial agents here to make a thorough investigation."

Thirty-four persons were involved in the indictments charging conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act. Mr. Cohen is the only one among those indicted against whom no allegation is made of having received any money.

He is involved by allegations that he was consulted by heads of the rum running conspiracy on the movements of customs craft; that he advised when and how it would be safe to transport liquor from Havana, Cuba, to New Orleans.

The indictment charges that Cohen and the thirty-three others conspired to transport 4,250 cases of liquor from the Cuban capital to New Orleans, between June 1 and August 10.

The progress of the alleged conspiracy is traced from early June, when the alleged head of a gigantic rum ring is said to have gone to Cuba to purchase a shipment of liquor.

It is alleged that \$10,000 was paid for protection to a prohibition agent with the understanding that it was to be turned to the Federal prohibition director for Louisiana. This money, officials claim, was collected by the agent who was operating under instructions to accept payments. It is being held as evidence.

Walter L. Cohen was confirmed as comptroller of customs at New Orleans on March 17, 1924, after the Senate had previously voted to reject his nomination.

Mr. Cohen was first nominated by President Harding. The Senate adjourned without acting upon this nomination, and he was given a second recess appointment. President Coolidge returned his nomination to the Senate, and he was rejected upon the personal objections of Senators Broussard and Ramsdell, democrats of Louisiana.

At the instance of the late Senator LaFollette, Senator Henrik Shipstead, farmer-laborer of Minnesota, who had voted against confirmation, moved a reconsideration. Cohen was then confirmed by a vote of 29 to 38.

Contrary to the general belief in Harlem, it was neither Robert S. Abbott, Edward H. Wright, nor Oscar De Priest, but an eminent Harvard scientist who recently expressed the opinion that in thirty years no one but the very rich and the very poor will be able to live in New York City.

GIVE CULTURAL PRIZE AWARDS

(Associated Negro Press.)

New York, N. Y., Sept. 4.—At the exercises incident to the awarding of Spingarn prizes, "The Broken Banjo," a one-act prize play, was given. This play was written by Willis Richardson, Washington, D. C. Those taking part were Bill Andrews, Dr. Frank Horne, Mae Miller, Myles Paige and Charles Burroughs. Reading of prize poems and essays also were features of the evening. The affair was held at the Renaissance Casino, and marked the giving of the Amy Spingarn prizes for Negro literature and art.

Seven hundred colored persons took part. Of the contributions submitted, 330 were short stories, 139 were poems, and the remainder essays and plays. Twenty-eight paintings were also submitted. Myrtle A. Smith of Colorado, third.

Countee Cullen of New York won first prize with his cycle of poems; Frank Harne, New York, was second, and Langston Hughes of Washington, third.

Dr. Randolph Fisher of Freedmen's hospital, Washington, won \$100 for the story entitled "High Yaller," Miss Marie French of Colorado Springs, received second prize, and Miss Anita Scott Coleman of New Mexico, third.

"On Being Young—A Woman—and Colored," an essay by Miss Marietta O. Bonner, Massachusetts, received first prize. Langston Hughes received second and G. A. Stewart of Ohio, received third prize in this contest.

For illustrations, E. A. Charleston of South Carolina got first prize, Albert Smith, who is now studying in Paris, received second, and M. A. Woodruff, Indianapolis, third.

PICKENS' DAUGHTER IS A FAST SWIMMER

(Associated Negro Press.)

New York, N. Y., Sept. 11.—Miss Ruby Ann Pickens, the 14-year-old daughter of William Pickens, field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was first in the annual swimming meet held at Lake Tiorati, having in all her races finished well ahead of all other contestants and being the individual star of the meet.

WHITE CITIZENS UNDERWRITE GIRLS' SEMINARY

(Associated Negro Press.)

Lynchburg, Virginia, Sept. 11.—At a conference in this city of the officials and leaders of Lynchburg and its Chamber of Commerce, Secretary I. Garland Penn, Cincinnati, Ohio, outlined the plans of the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church for the establishment of a seminary for colored women at some point in the South, preferably Lynchburg.

As an inducement to locate the seminary here, the city council and Chamber of Commerce agreed to guarantee values at \$25,000.

Five years ago the society at its national council in Detroit, Mich., agreed upon Lynchburg. As the city and business interests are now ready to make good its guarantee, it is expected that the national council at its meeting in First Methodist Episcopal church, Pasadena, Calif., in October, will re-affirm the action at Detroit.

The seminary is to be a select college for Negro girls offering degrees and open to students from any section of the United States. Its main support will come from the Woman's Home Missionary Society which is the organization of leading white and colored women of the Methodist Episcopal church. This organization had an income last year of over two million dollars. The seminary is to be known as the Carrie Barge seminary after Miss Carrie Barge, a noted and consecrated white woman living in Delaware, Ohio.

BAPTIST DELEGATES LEAVE FOR CONVENTION

Sunday night clerical and lay delegates left to attend the National Baptist Convention which opened in Baltimore, Md., Wednesday morning. The Monitor has not secured a complete list of the local delegation, but among those who have gone are the Rev. W. F. Botts, pastor of Zion Baptist Church; the Rev. Z. C. McGee, pastor of Pleasant Green; the Rev. E. H. McDonald, assistant secretary of the National Convention; the Rev. J. S. Williams, pastor of Salem Baptist Church; H. J. Ford, state president of the B. Y. P. U., and Mrs. Senora M. Wilkinson, state president of the Women's Missionary Society.

The Rev. Messrs. Botts and Williams were accompanied by their wives.

America's fire loss in 1924 was approximately \$548,000,000, or \$1,044 a minute.

New York, Sept. 4.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received the American City Magazine for August, in which Leo M. Favrot, of Louisiana, field agent of the General Educational Board, asserts there is hardly any contact between white and colored citizens in southern cities and urges that white chambers of commerce arrange to meet and discuss community problems with colored citizens.

"The South has only recently begun to realize," writes Mr. Favrot, "that it can never attain its highest development while the interests and welfare of 40 per cent of its population are neglected. We southern members of the white race too frequently think of our community life in terms of

the white population alone. It is strange that we should forget the old adage that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link, and that link in the average southern community is likely to be the Negro population or the community influences derived from it.

"There is little opportunity in the South for the leaders of the colored race to come in contact with the leaders of the white race. Southern white people do not come in frequent contact with Negro physicians, dentists, merchants, bankers, educators or ministers, although the number of trained and educated Negroes in southern communities is increasing every day. We come to think of the Negro then entirely in terms of the great masses on the lowest rung

of the ladder and seldom of that intelligent and capable minority which furnishes the guidance and leadership of the masses.

"In my experience of thirteen years as a worker among Negroes, I find a distinct desire on the part of many of their leaders to discuss with white men plans for racial betterment. They feel that their sphere of opportunity as leaders is limited by the fact that they do not have ample opportunity to get before the proper authorities many of the problems that beset the Negroes who live in cities and towns."

Mr. Favrot reports that he questioned 167 secretaries of chambers of commerce and that 78 per cent of them had no provision for consulting or meeting with colored citizens.

Methodist Weekly Sounds Warning of Klan as a Menace to Protestantism

In its leading editorial of August 27, the Southwestern Christian Advocate, published by the Methodist Book Concern, condemns the recent parade of the Ku Klux Klan in the national capital, and utters a warning that the Klan is a dangerous menace to protestant Christianity. The Southwestern Christian Advocate had previously published two articles defending the Klan and it is upon these articles that the editorial comments. Of the parade in Washington, the editorial says:

"It was an ignominious and defiant flaunting of the red shirt of religious and racial narrowness into the faces of the other scores of millions of law abiding citizens and protestant Christians who refuse to be carried off into bigoted pagan vagaries and excesses of religious Pharisaism and racial discrimination at the Klan's behest. However much it may voluntarily assume, it has no legal or allowed status or recognized role as mentor or guardian of the

rights or religion of American citizens. We have a government of the people, competent for these things. The Klan proposes either to usurp the functions of our government or to supplement them; if the former is their object, they should be stopped by the government; the latter purpose is an indirect indictment of the government as inefficient, and is equally blamable and unAmerican.

"If Klanism is synonymous with protestantism, and this protestantism is the vehicle of Christianity, in such a combination is the death warrant of protestant Christianity. A Christianity that, under dominance of the spirit of rampant racialism such as the Klan espouses, arrays groups within itself against each other; and that not only opposes race against race, but sanctions race subordination and subservience, thereby repudiates itself at the bar of public opinion. It thereby disqualifies itself to become a universal re-

ligion, and loses its sanction and status as a divine revelation. In its basic philosophy, Christianity is non-racial. It must remain so or be outdistanced and supplanted by some other one of the world's living religions.

"We do now and will forever repudiate on ethical, historical, religious and racial grounds that Klan-ridden protestantism being fostered by such fanaticism as was exhibited in the Washington demonstration already alluded to. It was in no sense an official protestant demonstration. It had not the official sanction of any protestant Christian denomination. It is gratifying food for mental reflection that the President of the nation was not bamboozled into honoring it by his presence. As faulty as is the American church, it stands to the eternal credit that no branch of the church gave even tacit approval to that large-scale expression of racial and religious animosities."

EDUCATORS ATTEND CHICAGO UNIVERSITY

(Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 11.—Among the educators and social workers pursuing the course of Sociology during the summer session of the University of Chicago were Jesse O. Thomas, field secretary of the National Urban League, Charles S. Johnson, editor of Opportunity, and Monroe N. Work, editor of The Negro Year Book and director of the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Work were among the speakers at a dinner of the Research association held in the south parlor of the Auditorium hotel.

WASHINGTON SOPRANO TO SING OPERA

Washington, D. C.—Mrs. Lillian Evans Tibbs has been engaged to sing in opera at Nice and at Monte Carlo under the name Madame Evanti next winter. She will be one of the first colored Americans to engage in grand opera, having trained for the past two years in Paris under Champi. She is the wife of Wilfred Roy Tibbs, leader of the Howard University Glee Club and other musical organizations and the daughter of the late W. Bruce Evans for many years principal of the Armstrong Manual Training School. She has been heard frequently in this city over the radio.

NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ORGANIZER URGES CONSERVATION

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 11.—(By the Associated Negro Press.)—Dr. I. Garland Penn of Cincinnati, Ohio, one of the secretaries of the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, organized the National Medical Association in the First Congregational Church, Atlanta, Ga., when he was National Commissioner of Negro Exhibits at the Cotton States and International Exposition, now thirty years ago. He returned to visit the Association in its Chicago meeting, and was introduced by President Dumas as the "Father of the Association."

In his address he congratulated the association upon its wonderful growth and said that in his judgment it was the most representative educational body of the Negro race.

He stressed the importance of conservation in the forward progress of the Negro saying that "the promoter is a valuable man but recent experiences, must reach the Negro, that conservers of progress were equally valuable, if we are to hold our ground and make further advance."

PASTOR OF ST. JOHN'S A. M. E. CHURCH CLOSES FIRST YEAR

The Rev. Charles A. Williams will close Sunday his first conference year as pastor of St. John's A. M. E. Church, Twenty-second and Willis avenue. At the morning service he will preach his closing sermon and at night will present the financial report for the year. He will leave Tuesday for Leavenworth, Kans., to attend the annual conference.

The Rev. Charles A. Williams succeeded his brother, the Rev. W. C. Williams, at St. John's last year, com-



ing here from St. Louis, Mo., where he had served as pastor of St. Paul's A. M. E. Church for six years. Prior to that time he had filled other important pastorates in the Kansas, Colorado and Missouri conferences. His first year's pastorate at St. John's has been most acceptable and his return here is confidently expected. While devoting himself to the up-building of St. John's the Rev. Mr. Williams has been always ready to cheerfully cooperate in any movement of the community for civic and racial uplift.

Mrs. Lottie Roach, formerly a resident of Omaha now residing in Los Angeles, Calif., arrived Sunday and left Wednesday for a visit in St. Louis, Mo. On her return she will tarry here for a visit with friends.

MASONIC GRAND MASTER KILLED

(Associated Negro Press.)

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 11.—William G. Butler, one of the best known men in this section, was killed in an automobile accident on the Lincoln Highway two miles east of Coatesville late Friday night. He died of a fractured skull and internal injuries. Mr. Butler was elected Grand Master of the Pennsylvania Masons last December and for many years had been an active and prominent figure in this order. He was a member of the Knights Templar, a patron of the Eastern Star and was connected with other branches of the Masonic fraternity.

Funeral services which were largely attended were impressive. He was the accounting warden of St. Cyril Protestant Episcopal church, serving in this capacity for eight years, from which church his funeral services were held. His body lay in state at the Masonic Temple where it was reviewed by hundreds of persons. The impressive and solemn Episcopal funeral rites were held. Archdeacon Henry L. Phillips officiated. Music was rendered by the Rev. Mr. Young and C. Holloway. Miss Margaret Jackson, a soprano of prominence rendered "Deep River."

The interment was at Bennett Square, where full Masonic services were held by Acting Grand Master James R. Williams. Mr. Butler is survived by one daughter, Mrs. John T. Cuff, of Haiti, a brother, Theodore, and one sister, Mrs. Mary Hackett, both of Kent county, Md., and several nieces and nephews. His wife died several years ago, since which time he had made his home with his daughter and son-in-law.

ARREST SIX WHITES FOR MURDER

New Orleans, La., Sept. 11.—Six white men are in jail at Point-a-la-Hache, a short distance from here charged with the murder of Felix Narcisse, a Negro, in the swamps of Plaquemine several days ago. Narcisse was struck on the head, his throat cut and also stabbed in the stomach. No reason can be assigned for the crime unless it was the victim's color.

NEGRO IS JUST HALF THE EQUAL OF WHITE MAN

(Associated Negro Press.)

New Orleans, La., Sept. 11.—It has been learned that the Mississippi Power Company, domiciled at Gulfport, Miss., with 1,000 employees, had taken a blanket insurance coverage of \$500 for white and \$250 for colored laborers. These amounts will be increased for each year of continuous service up to ten years to the maximum of \$2500 for white and \$1000 for colored. Of course, these Southern gentlemen do not draw the color line or discriminate against the Negro.

SECRETARY KELLOGG HIS LUNGHEON HOST

Washington, D. C.—The secretary of state, Mr. Kellogg, entertained at luncheon Monday, August 31st, in honor of Hon. Edwin Barclay, secretary of state of Liberia.

The guests were Secretary of the Navy Wilbur; Garrard B. Winston, acting secretary of the treasury; Joseph C. Grew, undersecretary of state; J. Butler Wright, assistant secretary of state; Surgeon General Hugh Cummings of the Public Health Service; William R. Castle, Jr., chief of the Division of Western European Affairs of the state department; Doctor Arthur N. Young, economic adviser of the department of state; Doctor Ernest Lyon, Liberian consul general; Henry Carter, of the state department, and Richard C. Bundy, business manager of Wilberforce University.

GOOD SAMARITANS MEET IN WASHINGTON

(Associated Negro Press.)

Washington D. C., Sept. 11.—The Independent Order of Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria held its Sixth International Biennial Session and its 78th Annual Session at Odd Fellows' Hall, 16th and M streets, N. W., Washington, D. C., August 25-28, inclusive.

Delegates were in attendance from twenty states, besides which there were representatives from Panama, Colon, Jamaica, Cuba, Porto Rico, Costa Rica, and the Turkish Islands.

ELKS ESTABLISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

(Associated Negro Press.)

Richmond, Va., Sept. 11.—One of the outstanding features of the recent meeting of the Elks held in this city, was the establishment of a national scholarship fund amounting to about \$20,000 to aid deserving young men and women of the race in securing an education. The scholarship fund was suggested by Judge W. C. Hueston, Gary, Ind., and was received with much enthusiasm as was indicated by its almost unanimous passage.

SIXTEEN HUNDRED NEGRO GRADUATES IN PHARMACY, CLAIM

Interesting Article Recently Published in The American Druggist Gives Many Important and Valuable Facts

AUTHOR IS PRIZE WINNER

Part Taken By Race in Development and Progress of Pharmaceutical Profession Worthy of Record

(Associated Negro Press.)

Washington, D. C., Sept. 11.—The American Druggist, a monthly magazine for pharmacists and drug merchants, published in New York City, issue of August, 1925, contains an article covering five pages being "A History of the Negro in Pharmacy," by Miss Mozella E. Lewis, who graduated from the College of Pharmacy, Howard university, with the class of 1925.

Along with the article itself is a picture of Miss Lewis and the following statement: "This history of the Negro pharmacist in America is a thesis written by Miss Mozella Ether Lewis, winner of the Lehn & Fink medal in pharmacy this year at the College of Pharmacy of Howard university, Washington, D. C. As is well known, Lehn & Fink, New York, award a gold medal each year in some forty colleges of pharmacy all over the United States. Each medal goes to the student showing the greatest proficiency in pharmacy or who submits the best thesis, though this is not a requirement for the award, which is made entirely on the recommendation of the faculty. In this case, the medal was awarded by a committee of the faculty on the basis of "Originality in thesis, amount of work invested and conscientious effort." This article is largely statistical, but it is not abridged, as it is believed it will prove of value as a record to any compiler of American pharmaceutical history. The description of the part that the Negro has taken in the development and progress of the profession is well worthy of note and recording for permanent preservation and reference."

As stated by the publisher, the article is largely statistical, but it is probably the most complete story so far written of the Negro in pharmacy, with an extensive bibliographical reference. An important statement contained in Miss Lewis' article is: "We have had approximately one hundred Negro pharmacists graduated from white colleges and approximately one thousand five hundred from Negro colleges. Of this number about twenty per cent have taken medicine and are at present successful physicians and surgeons. About ten per cent have taken dentistry, and twenty per cent have pursued other lines of study, such as teaching, law, theology. The other fifty per cent have found wonderful fields in pharmacy. These statistics give us an idea of what the Negro has done in pharmacy, and should encourage the young men and women of that race interested in this work to improve the many branches of this science in which the Negro has become famous and further develop those phases in which he seemingly has not entered to any great extent, so that the Negro will be an outstanding light in the development of pharmaceutical science."

RELEASE PRISONER AS AFTERMATH OF LYNCHING

(Associated Negro Press.)

Stillwater, Minn., Sept. 11.—Max Mason, one of the nine Negroes charged with raping a white girl, on the circus grounds at Duluth, Minn., June 15, 1920, and the only one to be convicted upon trial after three of them had been lynched, was released from Stillwater prison upon conditional discharge Monday. One of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Minnesota in a dissenting opinion said: "In my view the evidence does not sustain the conviction." It is the general opinion that Mason was not guilty.

Mason spent some time with Attorney W. T. Francis, in St. Paul, who has been working to secure his release for the past two years.

SOUTH AMERICAN PAPER PRAISES N. CLARK SMITH

(Associated Negro Press.)

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 11.—Press dispatches from the Independent, published in Honduras, South America, have been received praising the work of Professor N. Clark Smith, local handmaster, composer and musician. The reports commend especially the work which Professor Smith has done with the Negro Spirituals.