

## MOB MURDER AROUSES CAROLINA

### SHUMAN HEINK IS WELCOME VISITOR AT BETHUNE COLLEGE

Great Singer Who Has Risen to Emi-  
nence from Poverty by Dilig-  
ence and Sacrifice Brings  
Helpful Message to  
Students

### WARNS AGAINST BITTERNESS

Advises Students to Keep Up Their  
Ambition, Avoid Jealousy, and  
Persist in Doing What is  
Right

Daytona Beach, Fla.—It was an unusual distinction for the students and teachers of Bethune-Cookman College to have as their guest Madam Ernestine Shuman-Heink, world's famous opera singer, to visit the college and in pleasing manner express her feeling with respect to a struggling people. No person is better in position to speak on such a subject than Mme. Shuman-Heink, because her meteoric career has been the result of hard work and sacrifice. It was fitting, therefore, that she should see the work of a woman who has made untold sacrifices for the benefit of the Negro.

Madam Shuman-Heink was received at the college by the president, Mrs. Mary MacLeod Bethune, and escorted to the platform by fifteen members of the advisory board, where she was introduced by the chairman, Mrs. C. M. Ranslow, who said: "I am sure that we are not only glad, but very joyful at this moment that Mme. Shuman-Heink has taken a little time from her resting period to come out and look at us. It is very wonderful for us, because we are deprived of going to hear her at the auditorium. To the school I want to say what, I am sure, she will not tell you, that she has by great diligence and hardship and sacrifice, worked her way up to a grand career, from poverty, like your own. Isn't it wonderful? It gives me great pleasure to present Mme. Ernestine Shuman-Heink."

Madam Shuman-Heink replied as follows: "I am not a speaker, although some time, I find the words to express my feelings. I am an old mother and grandmother. I believe in God. I believe in human beings. They are all alike. We are all children of God, and I have found that your race, the race to which I belong, and all races have some intelligent, fine and beautiful representatives. You are the real, loyal Americans, who have reached a great, big, high point in life. Suffering means sacrifice. I sacrificed, I suffered, but I knew that God would never, never leave me if I did my duty, and if I did not let bitterness and jealousy come into my life. I do love the world—I do love, above all, our blessed America! It is the greatest country in the world! It is the greatest nation, and if I never did know what it meant, I learned to appreciate and to bow my head during my life in the tents when they let me serve them—when I met all of the boys, when I sang for them, when I went to the hospitals. I felt that that was the time when I could prove to the United States my deep, undying gratitude for what the United States did for the old greenhorn, Shuman-Heink. (I am not a greenhorn any more.)

You must excuse my poor English. I started to learn English, not from books and reading, nor old teachers—but from the boys in the tents. You can imagine what I learned.

Now, young men and young women, I am not a speaker, as I told you. I just want to tell you to keep up your ambition; never get bitter; never get jealous, because God Almighty will bless your race just the same as everybody else who is decent and good, who is right and ambitious. Later on, when my career is over—I have just one and a half years more—if I can have the opportunity to come here and be of help to you, you can rest assured that, as the soldier boys called me "Mother Shuman-Heink," I will be just

"Mother Shumann-Heink" to you and help wherever I can."

Madam Shumann-Heink joined in the singing of "Swanee River" and all were held spellbound by the richness of her deep contralto voice.

### SOUTH CAROLINA ROUSED AS GRAND JURY GETS EVIDENCE ON AIKEN LYNCHINGS

New Governor, John G. Ricahrds, Presiding Judge Johnson, and Newspapers Demand Indictments

New York, Jan. 28.—The entire state of South Carolina is aroused over the Aiken lynchings now that the Aiken county grand jury has met and is hearing the testimony of twenty-eight witnesses, according to reports received by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The outstanding developments in the situation are as follows:

1. Governor John G. Richards on January 24 issued a statement saying that the case was "one of the most important matters inherited by my administration" and that he was "deeply concerned in the outcome of the state's efforts to bring to justice those who participated in the murder of the Lowmans."

South Carolina are making strong 2. The leading newspaper of editorial demands for action by the grand jury. The Columbia Record, edited by Charlton Wright, in a front-page editorial, unmercifully condemns the previous grand jury which failed to act and says that the present case "is the most important case, in all probability, than any grand jury in South Carolina has had to consider within the past twenty years. Upon its actions and decisions in that case depends the honor, not alone of Aiken county, but of the whole people of South Carolina."

3. A charge to the grand jury by Judge J. Henry Johnson, calls the lynchings "deliberate, wilful, cowardly murder," and continues: "The time for words is past. It is time for action. Say you propose to bring them to justice or say you don't propose to do anything. And God help Aiken county and South Carolina if you fail to do anything."

4. Governor Richards has re-appointed Detective W. W. Rogers, who had been in charge of the lynching investigation under the preceding administration.

5. A front-page news story in the Charleston News and Courier explicitly credits Walter White, assistant secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. with bringing about the expose of the lynching, as follows: "Walter White (after the coroner's jury had failed to indict) then appeared on the scene as an investigator for the Association for the Advancement of the Colored race (meaning N. A. A. C. P.) and also with a commission from a New York newspaper. After a day or two in Aiken county he compiled a report that led the newspapers to send one of its staff men to investigate the circumstances. White's report, it became known, gave a long list of alleged participants and spectators at the lynching."

On January 26, the first day the grand jury heard testimony, nine witnesses were called, including eight, who were prisoners in the Aiken jail at the time of the lynching, when, it is charged, the sheriff and other officers delivered the Lowmans to the mob. Nineteen more witnesses are being called by the state and it is not expected that they will have concluded their testimony today.

The present investigation by the grand jury of Aiken county is the third time the grand jury has met for this purpose. At each of the other two sessions, the grand jurors, of whom two were members of the lynching mob according to evidence, reported inability to reach definite results and were discharged at their own request. The present grand jury, of eighteen members, contains six hold-overs from the grand jury which previously admitted failure.

Our death rate in Atlanta, Ga., is more than double that of the whites, according to the latest statistics.

### EDITORIAL

This may be embarrassing to the woman, for she is modest and retiring and does not seek the limelight, but we are going to say it just the same because she deserves it and because the community needs to know it. We are really an appreciative people and only need to know to express that appreciation. Despite apparent evidence to the contrary we are really proud of our people. This racial pride often leads us to fail to distinguish between those of mediocre ability or training and those of superior ability and training. This is a defect which will eventually be corrected. We mention it to show that we are really proud to see any of our people achieve. This is particularly true of the masses of our people. Among the so-called higher-ups or quasi-intelligentsia, not the genuine, but the counterfeit, there is often manifested envy and jealousy of those who achieve or attain any prominence, but this is not true of the common folk, the masses. They are really delighted when a member of the race gains prominence or distinction.

Omaha is fortunate in having a woman of rare ability and exceptional training who is obsessed with an ambition to develop the musical talent of our children. Endowed with musical ability, she has had the advantage of studying under some of the best teachers in America and Europe. She is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music at Boston under Alfred DeVoto, and a pupil of Isidor Phillips, Paris Conservatory of Music, Paris, France. Advised by teachers and friends to follow a concert career, she has elected the "drudgery of teaching." Said one of her fellow students at the New England Conservatory, who stands eminent in the concert world in America and Europe, and who is soon to appear again in Omaha at the Auditorium, when here some months ago, "Why in the world do you devote yourself to the drudgery of teaching when concert work in which you would do well, is so much more pleasant and remunerative?"

Her reply was, "Because my people, and particularly our children need it. In the hope of perhaps being able to train up some artists among my pupils who will make their contribution to the world I prefer the work of teaching, which is of course hard work; but it is a real joy and I love it."

This young woman has undoubtedly done a great work in developing the musical talent of the Negro children of Omaha. And she should be esteemed highly for her work's sake. She gives generously of her time and money to cultivate the talent of our children.

In addition to her regular work, for over five months she has been training sixty children, ranging in ages from four to eighteen, for an operetta which will demonstrate the ability of these children not only in music, but also in the dramatic and terpsichorean arts.

When asked why she was undertaking this big job her reply was, "To develop the talent there is among the colored children of Omaha and to encourage them in every way I can. The white children are presented from time to time in operettas and plays and are thus given a chance to show what they can do. Negro children need the same chance and encouragement and some of us must see that they are given this chance. Of course it's hard work. I can take care of the music, but they should have the best dramatic instructor it is possible to get, and the best teacher of artistic dancing, so that this operetta can be put on right. If it can't be done right, then it ought not to be done at all. These additional teachers must be employed and paid, but our children must have the best."

This shows the wishes and desires of this young woman for the children of our group. Ought not she have the whole-hearted and loyal backing and support of all who believe in the best interests and progress of our people and in the highest development of our children?

Washington is proud of Miss Nannie Borroughs; Augusta, Georgia, of Miss Lucy Laney; Daytona, Florida, of Mrs. Bethune, for their great educational work among the young; and Omaha, Nebraska, should be equally proud of Florentine F. Pinkston, who is doing a great and far-reaching work for us and our children.

### U. S. WOODCRAFT INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

U. S. Woodcraft Industrial Association, Incorporated, held its annual meeting January 13 and 27. The following officers were elected:

J. W. Dacus, president; M. Landrum, first vice president; J. F. Thomas, second vice president; A. S. Duff, secretary; J. S. Sloan, treasurer; Dr. H. Wiggins, examiner; S. W. Mills, director; E. S. Mills, director; C. W. Pierce, manager.

The meeting was enthusiastic, reports showed progress and plans were proposed for extended activities.

### CHORAL CLUB PARTICIPATES IN PROGRAM AT CENTRAY "Y"

Last Thursday night at the annual meeting of the Central Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, a most delightful program was rendered. An amusing play entitled "Driftwood" demonstrating the excellent work done by the Traveler's Aid of the association was well done by members of the Y. W. C. A. and of the Y. M. C. A. The choral club, numbering forty-seven from the North Side Branch, under the direction of Ben Stanley, contributed three numbers which elicited hearty applause and unstinted praise and commendation. Miss Edna M. Strat-

ton, secretary of the North Side Branch, was accompanist. In the candle-lighting service, illustrating the spirit and ideals of the Y. W. C. A., led by Mrs. A. H. Fetters, Mrs. John Albert Williams participated as a representative from the North Side Branch.

### NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT HOLDS ORGANIZATION MEETING

The new Committee of Management of the North Side Branch, Y. W. C. A., held a very enthusiastic organization meeting Wednesday afternoon at the "Y." The following officers were elected for the year 1927:

Mrs. Estella Craig, chairman. Mrs. W. C. Ricks, vice-chairman. Mrs. John A. Williams, secretary. The following were appointed chairmen of the various committees: Membership, Mrs. W. C. Ricks. Finance, Mrs. L. F. McIntosh. Girl Reserves, Mrs. Craig Morris. General and Religious Education, Mrs. Charles Garrett. Health Education, Mrs. A. D. McGee. House, Mrs. Lena Moore. Service and Hospitality, Mrs. Gertrude Shaleford. Fellowship, Mrs. Irene Jones. Recreation, Mrs. Minnie Dixon. Publicity, Mrs. Goldie Downing.

### Representatives of Race Address Professional Men

The needs and some of the problems of Negroes in Omaha were ably presented to the Professional Men's club at their customary meeting and dinner at the Hotel Fontenelle, Monday noon, by Dr. D. W. Gooden, physician; the Rev. Charles H. Trusty, pastor of the Hillside Presbyterian church, and Harrison J. Pinkett, attorney. Miss Edna M. Stratton, secretary of the North Side Branch of the Y. W. C. A., was also an invited guest and contributed musical numbers to the program and also spoke briefly of her work.

The club is composed of many outstanding men in the various professions in Omaha and consequently has a large and influential membership. Dr. Palmer Findlay is president. The invitation to representatives of our group to address this assembly gave an opportunity of placing important

question is what is his race or nationality. When patients are admitted to the hospital, the Negro physician must turn the patient over to the staff physician. This is especially true in operative cases. Yet we are licensed by the same State Board of Examiners and must pass the same examination."

Dr. Gooden also called attention to much illness resulting from improper housing conditions and undernourishment arising from the lack of employment which compelled many to deny themselves the necessities of life.

The Rev. Dr. Trusty recommended the opening of a branch Y. W. C. A. with an inter-racial committee to take care of the employment situation. Application of the Golden Rule will go a long way towards solving the race problem. He criticized the



Dr. D. W. Gooden, president of the Omaha Negro Medical Association and president of the Colored Commercial Club, who was one of the speakers to address the Professional Men's Club.

facts before molders of sentiment and opinion in the community.

Dr. Findlay, in presenting the speakers, gave evidence of a knowledge of the achievements of notable Negroes in the United States and a sympathetic interest in and an appreciation of the Negro's contribution to American life.

Dr. Gooden, whose topic was "The Problem of the Negro Physician," laid most emphasis upon the lack of hospital facilities, and the practical impossibility of a Negro physician being permitted to attend his patients in the hospital.

"The greatest problem," he said, "is the lack of hospital facilities. In many cases it is almost impossible to get Negro patients into hospitals, even in charity wards. Even when patients are well able to pay for accommodations it is often difficult to secure them. When calling to make arrangements very often the first

church for not stressing the social message and for failure to keep pace with modern developments of efficiency in business education and other fields.

Speaking on "The Problem of the Negro Lawyer," Mr. Pinkett, who is the oldest practicing race attorney in the city, paid a tribute to the uniform courtesy shown by the courts and better members of the bar to the colored lawyer.

"The main problem of the Negro lawyer is competing with the poorer class of white attorneys who hire colored solicitors," he said. "The Negro attorney is far better equipped to handle cases than the average shyster who employs Negro solicitors."

The affluence of the Negro attorney depends directly upon economic status of his community, and indirectly upon the educational standards which prevail among his race, he declared.

The work and duties of the chairman and some of the rules of the Association were briefly explained by the branch secretary, Miss Stratton. A fine spirit prevailed and each seemed anxious to take up her duties and push forward the work of the Association.

### SPANISH WAR VETERANS INSTALL OFFICERS

At a meeting of the Captain Allensworth Camp, United Spanish War Veterans, last Friday evening, fourteen officers were installed by Mr. Charles Stillwater, past commander Lee Forby Camp No. 1. Officers installed were: George Douglas, commander; William Dais, senior vice-commander; Eugene Thomas, Jr.,

vice-commander; John Wright, adjutant; Henry Watts, quartermaster; David C. Elliott, officer of the day; Jesse Williams, officer of the guard; Charles Cooper, Al Gray and Isaac Rainer, trustees; George Anderson and Walter Ford, color sergeants, and James Newton, chaplain.

The N. A. A. C. P. branch, of Washington, D. C., re-elected its officers, last week Friday evening, Professor Neval H. Thomas, presiding.

Officers and members of the Chamber of Commerce of Howard university, Washington, D. C., recently tendered Prof. George W. Cook, dean of the University, a testimonial luncheon in honor of his seventy-second birthday.