

WOMAN IN JAIL ON MURDER CHARGE

MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING BRINGS WIRE TO PRES. COOLIDGE

Advancement Association Contrasts New York Lindbergh Day Triumph With "Degenerate Barbarians"

New York City—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, telegraphed June 14, President Coolidge, calling to his attention that on the very day New York and the nation were celebrating Charles Lindbergh's and America's triumph before the world in aviation, a crowd of "degenerate barbarians" in Mississippi tied two Negroes charged with murder to a telephone pole, saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, humiliating this country before all civilization. The as yet unpunished lynching of Aiken, S. C., is also cited as justifying the plea that the president demand a federal anti-lynching law at the next session of Congress. The telegram to President Coolidge, signed by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is as follows:

"On the very day that millions of people in New York City were celebrating a feat of courage, skill, sagacity and scientific forethought, which has added luster to the name of America throughout the civilized world, a crowd of degenerate barbarians in the state of Mississippi tied two human beings to a telephone pole, saturated them with gasoline and burned them alive, thereby besmirching the name of this land wherever civilization is known.

The victims of the Mississippi mob, the second and third respectively to be publicly murdered by unpunished mobs in that state this year, were Negroes deprived of any semblance of due process of law. It is safe to say that in no spot on earth except the Southern states of America, in particular the state of Mississippi, would such a degenerate and bestial violation of all decent human instincts as the burning alive of two human beings accused of murder, be tolerated.

The occurrence of this mob crime on the very day that New York and the nation were acclaiming Charles A. Lindbergh's feat adds weight to the demand for a federal law to extend the power of the nation to the backward, ignorant and brutal communities in which neither human life nor the Constitution nor the good name of the United States is respected. May we again call to your attention at this time the mob murder in Aiken, S. C., of a colored woman and two colored men, of whom one had been declared innocent in court, new trial ordered for the other two by that state supreme court. This mob murder is as yet unpunished and the mob murderers go unmolested and flaunt their guilt.

"In the name not only of the colored citizens of the United States, but of all the citizens with any pretense to respect for the honor of their native land, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urges you to demand of Congress at its next session the prompt enactment of a federal anti-lynching law."

WEST AFRICA NEEDS SCHOOLS

Washington, D. C.—Although on the Gold Coast of West Africa alone there is a school population conservatively estimated at 300,000, fewer than 40,000 can be taken care of at present. Conditions on the Ivory Coast are even worse.

OPPOSE HOSPITAL

Kansas City, Mo.—The Linwood Improvement association, which led a fight to prevent colored persons from living in white neighborhoods, renewed its activities when its members filed a vigorous protest against the proposed location of the new colored hospital at Twenty-sixth street and Michigan avenue.

MOB VICTIMS BRING SUITS FOR DAMAGES

Two Men Were Hunted by Lynchers Following Girls' False Charge Against Negroes, Bring Suit

Coffeyville, Kansas — Close after the arrest of a white man and a white girl for conspiracy to incite race riot growing out of the riot which occurred in this city several months ago, additional damages suits have been filed by colored persons who were victimized by the rioters. The latest suits were filed recently by Curtis Smith, barber, and Vanges Harden, who were both held as suspects in connection with the attack which the whites charged three Negroes committed on two white high school girls resulting in the riot March 17.

Held as Suspects
Smith filed claim with the city commission asking \$500 damages for injuries he says he received when forced to crawl through the rafters of the cupola of the city hall to escape the infuriated mob.

Harden, who is 16 years old, was also taken into custody in connection with the attack when bloodhounds led officers to the Harden home, where Smith, Vanges Harden and his brother were found, also filed a damage suit through his mother.

Made Nervous Wreck
The boy's mother charges her son had been ill before he was taken from home by the officers and that as a result of his experiences he is a nervous wreck. She asks \$6,500.

The two claims bring the total damages asked as a result of the mob to \$80,425.

The city commission Tuesday placed on first reading a series of ordinances carrying penalties for overt acts on the part of citizens or groups of citizens in a time of public unrest.

ANOTHER ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH COFFEYVILLE RIOT

Coffeyville, Kansas—The third arrest to be made in connection with the race riot which took place here March 18, occurred last Saturday when Frank Attebury, a white shoe salesman of Independence, Kansas, was taken into custody by police. Attebury is being held with Julia Mooney, 19-year-old white high school girl and Ira Kennedy, 30-year-old white automobile salesman of Wichita, Kans., on a charge of complicity in a purported attack on two white girls by three colored youths March 17.

ANTHONY OVERTON AWARDED 1927 SPINGARN MEDAL

Capitalist Wins Honor Through Success in Long Business Career. Heads Powerful Financial Institution

New York, N. Y.—The coveted Spingarn medal, which is awarded each year to the colored American adjudged to have accomplished the most outstanding achievement, has been awarded to Anthony Overton, organizer and capitalist, according to an announcement made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People recently.

Mr. Overton is the first business man to have received the Spingarn medal, the others being composers, artists, authors, educators and a social worker. The outstanding work of the now powerful capitalist was in distinguishing himself in the recent movement of Negroes for economic freedom, which has resulted in the rise of powerful industrial and financial concerns among the race. His success in a long business career and the crowning achievement of securing the admission of the Victory Life Insurance company to do insurance business under the rigid requirements of the State of New York. The Victory Life Insurance company was the first race insurance company to be permitted to operate in New York.

At the present time Mr. Overton is president of the Victory Life Insurance company and Douglass Na-

EDITORIAL

Since the fight for the employment, or rather re-employment, since we once had them, of colored teachers in the Omaha Public schools is to be relentlessly and uncompromisingly continued until victory is won, it may not be uninteresting or un-instructive to recall the story of the efforts for the appointment of our first colored teacher in 1895, thirty-two years ago. The opposition then came from an entirely different quarter to what it has come during the past seven years. Then, the Superintendent of Education, Mr. A. P. Marble, and the Board of Education were favorable and the task was therefore quite easy of accomplishment. The opposition was from Mrs. Grace Sudborough, principal of the Normal Training Class, who tried her hardest to prevent the applicant qualifying for the position.

In 1893 Miss Lucinda W. Gamble was graduated from Central High school and presented herself for examination for admission to the normal class. Mrs. Sudborough tried to dissuade her from taking the examination, advising her that it would be a waste of time and effort for her to take the training because "no colored girl would have any chance of teaching in Omaha." Miss Gamble, however, insisted upon being permitted to take the examination. At the close of her first day's examinations Mrs. Sudborough insisted that before Miss Gamble continue the examination she should see the President of the School Board as to the wisdom of her entering the training class and the possibility of her being permitted to teach provided she were successful in taking the prescribed course.

The president was Jonathan Edwards. Miss Gamble interviewed him. He said: "By all means take the examination. The question of appointment will be a later consideration. I don't see why Mrs. Sudborough should send you to me or raise any objection to your entering the class. You're entitled to the same privileges as are the other young ladies of your class; so go back and take the examinations for admission to the training school, and if you are successful, when the time comes, the matter of your appointment with that of others will be considered."

Miss Gamble was successful in the entrance examinations, took the two years' normal course, and in due time received her diploma and certificate and filed her application for appointment.

A committee of colored citizens, among whom were the late W. R. Gamble, E. R. Overall, George F. Franklin, George Collins and M. O. Ricketts; and M. F. Singleton, T. J. Mahamitt, Alphonso Wilson and others, who still survive, then waited on the Board of Education and requested that since Miss Gamble had qualified that she be appointed as a teacher in the public schools. The writer was chosen to present the matter to the board.

Superintendent Marble frankly stated that the request was reasonable and right and that personally he favored the appointment of teachers upon their merit and that so far as he was concerned the committee could rest assured that the application would be fairly considered. The president of the board gave like assurances. There was no "passing the buck" about it.

At the regular election of teachers Miss Gamble was appointed, and taught for six years acceptably, successfully and without friction, first at the Dodge school and then at the Cass, until the time of her marriage in June, 1901, many of her former pupils being successful business men of today, who remember her most kindly.

In June, 1901, Miss Eulalia Overall, having graduated from the Normal School at Peru, was elected without opposition as the second colored teacher, and taught acceptably and successfully for nine years, one as a supply teacher, for two years at Mason and six at Columbian, many of her former pupils, too, being prominent men and women of Omaha, who speak of her in highest terms. She resigned in June, 1910, when she became the wife of Dr. L. E. Britt.

It may be noted, in passing, that comparatively few of the children taught by either of these young women were colored children, but children of all groups, and that, just like other teachers, they were highly esteemed by their pupils.

For fifteen consecutive years, then, Omaha had at least one colored teacher on her corps. Had they not married or died they doubtless would have been teaching yet, and the precedent having been set, no doubt by this time, as in other progressive cities, the number would have been increased. No applicants, however, having presented themselves for several years, the door was shut, and if some could have their way the door would be kept shut and barred; but thank God, there are still some men and women in Omaha with a sense of justice and fair play and who are determined that door is again going to be opened and kept open for those who qualify themselves to teach.

Other doors of opportunity will also be opened if we continue to qualify and not lose heart or courage or be discouraged by those who claim "there will be no chance for a colored" youth to follow the calling or avocation for which he is prepared. Prepare and persevere.

"Cole Kitchen Farm," that the ceiling of the room immediately underneath is giving way beneath the weight after 100 years service as a gigantic beehive.

T. H. English, the owner, says nobody ever tried to get the honey because it would necessitate removing the roof. In the swarming season the place is smothered with bees. Hampton Institute, Va.—Farmers' community clubs in Virginia will within the next few days select delegates to send to the annual Hampton Farmers' Conference, June 28 and 29. Farmers and wives from Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland and visitors from more distant states will participate in the program, to which they look forward annually.

CENTURY OF HONEY RUINS FARM HOUSE

Gomshall, England. — There's so much honey in the roof of a fifteenth century farm house here, called

Coolidge Sends Greeting to Race Relations Conference

Expresses "High Regard for Most Valuable Work" of Advancement Association

Indianapolis, Ind., June 22—President Coolidge has sent a warm letter of greeting to the eighteenth annual conference of the National Association of Colored People, which opens here tonight, and in his letter the president expressed his "high regard for the most valuable work" being done by the association. President Coolidge in his letter states that "your organization, including as it does able and sincere men and women—white as well as colored—has been most effective in its efforts to secure for your race the rights and privileges that are the common heritage of us all."

In the letter transmitting President Coolidge's message of greeting, his secretary, Everett Sanders, states his gratification that the race relations conference is being held in his native state of Indiana and the hope that increased good will will be the result of its proceedings.

President Coolidge's letter, which is addressed to James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is in full as follows: White House, Washington, D. C. June 8, 1927.

"My dear Mr. Johnson: It is always a pleasure to express my high regard for the most valuable work being done by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and, I thank you for the opportunity of sending a message to be read at its eighteenth annual conference.

"When we recall the history of the colored man in this country, the long period of his bondage—during which he established a record for industry and fidelity—when we consider his lack of educational and other opportunities for many years, we cannot but marvel at his advancement. It has been steady in the face of many discouragements. We find the colored man today not only an important factor in our industrial and agricultural development, but successful in business and showing skill in the professions and in the arts. That his achievements and standing in our communities will continue to increase

is certain. To that end he should receive every assistance that may be given.

"I would like to repeat and emphasize here what I said in my last annual message to Congress:

"The social well-being of our country requires our constant effort for the amelioration of race prejudice and the extension to all elements of equal opportunity and equal protection under the laws which are guaranteed by the Constitution. The federal government especially is charged with this obligation in behalf of the colored people of the nation. Not only their remarkable progress, their devotion to duty and their loyalty, but our duty to ourselves under our claim that we are an enlightened people requires us to use all our power to protect them from the crime of lynching. Although violence of this kind has very much decreased, while any of it remains we cannot justify neglecting to make every effort to eradicate it by law.

"The education of the colored race under government encouragement is proceeding successfully and ought to have continuing support. An increasing need exists for properly educated and trained medical skill to be devoted to the service of this race."

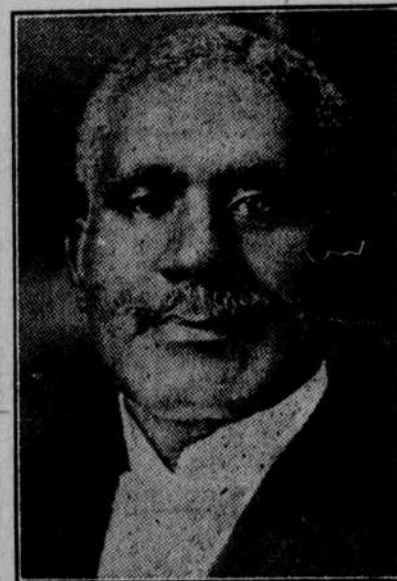
"Your organization, including as it does able and sincere men and women—white as well as colored—has been most effective in its efforts to secure for your race the rights and privileges that are the common heritage of us all.

"My best wishes for the future. Very truly yours, (Signed) CALVIN COOLIDGE."

In his letter transmitting the President's greeting, Mr. Sanders writes:

"As an Indian I should like to say that I am glad personally that this conference is to be held in my native state; and I am sure that the people of Indiana will welcome so auspicious an event. We shall look with interest to the addresses to be delivered by the distinguished guests of your conference; and we shall expect that great and mutual good will between the groups of our citizens will result from the interchange of views broadcast from your meetings."

BISHOP CLAIR SPEAKS HERE TUESDAY NIGHT



The Rt. Rev. W. M. Clair, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, will deliver an address Tuesday night at Grove M. E. church, Twenty-second and Sevard streets, Rev. T. V. Oville, pastor. Bishop Clair has just returned from Africa and will speak on his observations there. A social hour, giving the public an opportunity to meet the bishop will follow the lecture and refreshments will be served. Public invited. There will be no admission charged but a free-will offering will be taken.

Miss Rachel Rice left the city Saturday for St. Louis where she will spend the summer with her mother and brother.

WOMAN ACCUSED OF KILLING HUSBAND HELD FOR MURDER

Mrs. Alma Wright, who it is alleged shot and killed her husband, Allus Wright, a Pullman porter, following a quarrel at their home, May 24, and was freed by a coroner's jury, has been rearrested and is held to the district court without bond on a charge of first degree murder. This is the case, as The Monitor readers will recall, in which it is alleged that some time after a quarrel at their home, Mrs. Wright took a revolver and went hunting for her husband, who had gone away from home, threatening to kill him, and intercepting him on Twenty-fourth street, shot him, killing him almost instantly.

Inasmuch as there had been several similar homicides recently among Negroes and coroner's juries had freed persons accused a strong sentiment prevailed among the law abiding members of the race that the attention of the county attorney's office should be called to this apparent laxity where only Negroes were involved and cases of this character should be more rigidly investigated and prosecuted. This was done, with the result that County Attorney Beal ordered a further investigation of the Wright case. As a result of this investigation Mrs. Wright was rearrested on a charge of murder. She waived preliminary trial in police court last Friday morning and was bound over to the district court. Judge Ben Baker and N. W. Ware have been retained as her attorneys.