

Man Risks Life to Save Flood Victims

ADDRESS TO AMERICAN PEOPLE BY ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

New York, N. Y.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has made public the text of the address to the American people adopted by its eighteenth annual conference in Indianapolis. The text of the address, which was drawn up by a committee headed by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, is as follows:

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People meets in its Eighteenth Annual Conference with a distinct feeling of triumph.

Franchisement Gains

For 25 years the white primary system of the South has been the most successful method of disfranchisement of Negroes. This year for the first time we have secured from the Supreme Court of the United States, in the Texas case, a decision which is the beginning of the overthrow of the white primary; and not only this, but in its decision the Supreme Court in the most emphatic language rewrote and reaffirmed the Fourteenth Amendment as the fundamental charter of the rights of Negroes in America.

The champions of race segregation have been chased from pillar to post in city council, legislature and court by this association during the last 15 years; the pursuit was crowned with success by the Louisville decision of the Supreme Court in 1917; and that decision was, this last year, reaffirmed and strengthened in the Louisiana case.

Federal Law Only Remedy

The association during the past year has clearly proven the insufficiency of state law to cope with lynching. We have shown that a state like South Carolina is unable to punish mob murder even when furnished with circumstantial proof of individual guilt. At Aiken, South Carolina, the lynchers are known. Their unmolested freedom is the final demand for national action against lynching.

Education

We have studied during the year the Negro public common school in seven southern states and shown to the nation the present demand for elementary education for black America; a demand reinforced by the cultural movement in literature and art which this association largely inaugurated and first encouraged, and which is still showing vigorous development and healthy growth. The reform in Negro higher education, begun at Fisk and continued at Howard has with our continued encouragement, spread to other institutions.

Sentiment Improving

We note with hopeful interest the beginnings of liberal sentiment in the backward South, manifested in a changed attitude in some of the more courageous newspapers; a growing open-mindedness among white students; a gesture, still all too feeble, toward correcting the outrageous discrimination against Negro schools; an increasingly sympathetic attitude on the part of the cultural elements of the South; and, finally, a more decent respect for the public opinion of the civilized world. These sentiments do not dominate the Southern opinion as yet, but the existence is encouraging to every lover of justice. The persistent campaign of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for social justice has played no small part in the rise and development of this new conscience in the South.

This record of achievement is by no means complete, but it indicates the magnitude of our task and the encouragement which crowns our efforts.

No Relaxation Yet

It would, however, be a grave mistake for this association or for the Negro race in America, to feel that our recent record of triumph is reason for relaxed effort or lessened anxiety. On the contrary, from this record of achievement we have just

learned true methods of aggression and defense and we have just begun to fight in deadly earnest.

The Real Situation

Let us be frank and open with ourselves. The American of Negro descent is still a slave in the United States. Lynching is again increasing and the burning of human beings has not ceased. False accusations of crime as at Coffeyville is meat for mobs. Many Negroes are forced to labor at wretched wages and under impossible conditions. Peonage, even in the midst of such a calamity as the Mississippi flood, has been carried out openly and publicly with armed guards and militia. The doors of trades unions still remain discouraging obstacles even to conspicuous ability.

School Children

The position of the Negro children in the public schools, both in the North and South, is still deplorable and they are not being given an equal or decent chance for common school training. Adequate high school training facilities are being denied in a large part of the Southern states and in many of the Northern states. Negro colleges are starving for funds. State institutions like Lincoln of Missouri are at the mercy of grafting politicians and the admission of Negroes to Northern colleges, even to state universities supported by public taxation, is being restricted by race discrimination.

Segregation

Residential segregation, clearly against the spirit of American institutions, the law of the land and the decision of courts, is still being carried out by the manipulation of real estate dealers and financial interests. Unfair marriage laws to encourage bastardy and prostitution are proposed annually in those states where they have not yet been enacted. In the government departments at Washington Negro civil servants are still openly segregated with the approval of the administration.

Jim Crow Cars

Above all, the "jim crow" car rides its unchecked career on the railroads of the United States throughout the South and even openly and brazenly into the Northern states. This form of open and deliberate stealing by charging black travelers for accommodations which they do not receive, must be attacked in the courts with the view of utterly abolishing the iniquitous and undemocratic "jim crow" system.

Work to Be Done

Despite, then, all that we have accomplished, our task for coming years is all too clear. We must continue to strive for a national law against lynching, for more intensive investigation and prosecution of peonage, for the better education of colored children and for the abolition of the "jim crow" cars in interstate traffic. We must continue to attack disfranchisement and segregation and constantly stand on guard against further encroachments on our fundamental rights. And we must above all remember that our most effective weapon is an independent and unpurchasable ballot mortgaged to no man nor party and cast not for past favors but only for those individual candidates who vote and act for our best interests and the general good.

Interest International

Girding ourselves for this battle at home, we are not unmindful of our oppressed and segregated fellows abroad; we send greeting to the oppressed people of Haiti and Central America; to the enslaved natives in the Union of South Africa; to the people of Kenya whose land and liberty have been taken away; to the people of West Africa still struggling for full political rights; and to the independent but gravely threatened states of Abyssinia and Liberia. We hail the dawn of freedom in China and the hope of independence in India and Egypt. And we thank all nations who are helping the darker peoples to gain the recognition of equality for all races of the world.

EDITORIAL

While it seems almost unbelievable that Henry Ford could have been ignorant for five years of the character of the articles appearing in The Dearborn Independent, defamatory of the Jews, and of the pamphlets, compiled chiefly of articles appearing from time to time in that publication, entitled "The International Jew," and given wide distribution, all right-minded people will rejoice that he has repudiated and retracted those articles, publicly apologized for their appearance, humbly craved pardon of those whom he has caused humiliation and pain, and seeks to amend, as far as possible, whatever evil has been done.

Of course, it is possible that Mr. Ford has been so absorbed in other matters that he never read a copy of what has been commonly believed to be his personal organ, The Dearborn Independent. This is possible, but highly improbable, without at least reflecting upon Mr. Ford's general intelligence. It is possible, but highly improbable, that none of these numerous articles were ever discussed in his presence by his business associates and in this manner, at least, brought to his attention. But granting that he is a truthful, honest and sincere man, which we have no reason to doubt, his word must be taken for it that he was ignorant of "the character of the charges and insinuations made against the Jews, both individually and collectively contained in many of the articles which have been circulated periodically in The Dearborn Independent," until they were recently brought to his attention by trusted friends, and that this caused his personal inspection of the files of the publication, with the result that he was "deeply shocked and mortified" at what his investigation disclosed.

And that's that! That these articles have done much to foster anti-Semitism and to cause anguish of mind upon the part of the Jewish people cannot be doubted. They have had a far-flung influence in creating an hostile attitude towards the Jews. Racial or religious prejudice is undoubtedly a species of insanity and the insane are not amenable to reason. This insanity against the Jews has been increased by the Ford publication. We, therefore, are pleased that whatever be the motivating cause, Mr. Ford has done the manly and right thing. It is a tremendous task to repair the damage done by falsehood and misrepresentation and all the Ford millions can do but little to counteract the evil done. "Boys flying kites, haul in their white-winged birds; but you can't do that way when flying words." Mr. Ford has certainly done the manly, the courageous, the right thing and his action will have its value and influence.

The spirit in which the Jewish people have accepted Mr. Ford's apology shows the characteristic magnanimity of that great, much-maligned and misunderstood people. It is worthy of their traditions.

Suffering as our own people do from misrepresentation, promulgated consciously or unconsciously by a subtle propaganda, in various forms, as unreasonable and as indefensible as that of the Dearborn Independent, we can truly sympathize with those placed in like circumstances. We rejoice whenever there is evidence of tolerance dethroning intolerance, truth displacing falsehood, right triumphant over wrong, justice routing injustice, light banishing darkness, intelligence removing ignorance. Wherever this is done the tide of humanity moves toward the flood, sweeping before it or engulfing that which is unworthy, unsanitary or unsightly. If Jew-baiting and the mental anguish and suffering it entails be wrong, then Negro-baiting, too, must follow in its train.

N. A. A. C. P. CHOOSES LOS ANGELES FOR THE 1928 CONFERENCE

Governor C. C. Young of California and Mayor George E. Cryer Telegraphed Invitations for the Meeting

Indianapolis, Ind.—The Committee on Time and Place for the next Annual Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, headed by Dr. George W. Lucas of New Orleans, has announced that they had chosen Los Angeles as the meeting place for the Nineteenth Annual Conference of the Association next spring. The committee took its action in response not only to invitation from the Los Angeles branch of the Association, but from Governor Young of California, Mayor George E. Cryer of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce as well.

Governor Young's telegram to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, reads as follows: "Joining in the invitation of the local branch of your Association, California will be delighted to have you hold your next annual meeting in our golden state. (Signed) C. C. Young, Governor."

"In support of invitation of the local branch of your Association, it gives me pleasure in behalf of citizens of Los Angeles to invite you to hold your next annual meeting in this city. Kind regards and best wishes for success of your present convention. (Signed) George E. Cryer, Mayor."

PARDON FOR ANITA WHITNEY

Los Angeles, Cal.—Pardon for Charlotte Anita Whitney, who was convicted under the California criminal syndicalism act and who faced a term of from one to fourteen years in San Quentin prison, was granted June 20 by Governor C. C. Young. The governor's action ended a fight of seven years waged by Miss Whitney and advocates of civil liberty to save her from imprisonment on a charge of simply being a member of an organization which had been declared illegal in California.

The governor's decision was made after several weeks of studying the records of the case from the Alameda County Superior Court to the United States Supreme Court where the conviction was upheld May 16.

THREE JEWISH LEADERS LISTED AS DANGEROUS

Three Jews of national prominence are included in the blacklist of fifty-six names of "dangerous un-American personages" who are accused of working to undermine the government by what it terms "communistic tendencies," in a special bulletin issued in Chicago by the Society of the Scabbard and Blade.

The three Jews named are Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of New York, and Joseph Schlossberg, secretary and treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. Rabbi Silver and Mr. Schlossberg are members of the National Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union. The latter is also a member of the executive committee of the organization.

RISKS HIS LIFE RESCUING THE FLOOD REFUGEES

Daring of Army Man in Taking 22 Victims Affected with Smallpox To Hospital Is Praised

Washington, D. C.—Out of the Mississippi flood area there comes a story of the personal heroism of a Maryland white man—Major Gordon H. McCoy of the regular army field artillery.

For weeks Major McCoy has been rescuing refugees, sometimes at the peril of his own life, sometimes paying his own expenses because he could not wait for orders. Little has been heard of him in the country at large, but some of those familiar with his work call him one of the outstanding heroes of the flood.

Uses Plane in Rescue

The story has just reached here of one instance of his rescue work. In circling in an airplane over the flood waters he found a half submerged house on the upper reaches of the Boeu river in northern Louisiana, and when he flew low he saw a Colored American sitting on the roof and frantically waving.

Major McCoy brought the plane to the surface of the water and entering the house found twenty-two men and women stricken by smallpox. He obtained two motorboats, carried them to safety, took another shot of smallpox vaccine and went to look for others.

A veteran of the World War, Major McCoy is a descendant of fighting ancestors. He is a great-great-grandson of William Pinkney of Annapolis, at one time attorney general of the United States, a colonel in the War of 1812, who was wounded at the Battle of Bladensburg.

NEBRASKA TOWN WINS THE PLAYGROUND AWARD

Harmon Foundation of New York Gives Recognition to Recreation Work on Its Playfield in Kearney in Contest

Kearney, Neb., received an award of \$50 from the Harmon Foundation of New York, according to an announcement just made for the promotion of recreation work on its play field during the past twelve months.

The sum of \$5,900 was distributed to thirty-nine communities by the Foundation in an Honorarium Contest which is held annually to stimulate improvements and arouse interest in the playground movement. It is open to all seventy-seven fields in the country established under its auspices.

The first and second prizes of \$1,000 and \$500 were awarded to Granville and Sidney, Ohio, and West St. Paul and Worthington, Minn., tied for third place, receiving \$300 each.

Kearney's Park Commission has already increased the amount of land which was secured in 1925 with the assistance of the Foundation, and plans are under way for following out a ten-year program outlined by the University of Nebraska. This year an \$8,000 concrete wading pool, the gift of the Kiwanis Club, and a drinking fountain have been added to the equipment.

During 1927 the Foundation is proposing to increase this number of permanently dedicated affiliated fields from seventy-seven to one hundred and is offering to give as much as \$2,000 to twenty-three communities for the purchase of land. Towns of more than 2,500 inhabitants desiring this assistance should make application to the Recreation and Playground Association of America, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, which is administering the offer. They must show an increase in population of 30 per cent since 1900, the need for saving land, and a local interest in its development.

Messrs. J. Dillard and Lovejoy Crawford, accompanied by their mother and their aunt, Mrs. William Russ of Denver, who has been her sister's guest, will leave for an auto trip to Denver Friday night. They expect to be away for a fortnight.

SOUTHERN SHERIFF PROTECTS PRISONER PRESENTED MEDAL

Brave Officer Defies Mob Bent on Lynching Joe Hardy, Accused of Murdering a Planter

THE EIGHTH MEDAL AWARDED

Alexandria, La.—For saving Joe Hardy, a Negro prisoner, from a mob bent on lynching him, Sheriff U. T. Downs and Jailer W. G. Penny of this city were publicly honored here last Sunday by a great popular mass meeting, at which their courage and faithfulness were lauded by distinguished speakers and handsome bronze medals were awarded them. The meeting was held in the First Baptist church at the morning preaching hour, and was featured by a sermon suited to the occasion by the pastor, Rev. Carl DeVane.

The presentation of the medals was made by Hon. T. W. Holloman, a prominent attorney. The medals were provided by a Commission on Interracial Co-operation and were awarded by a committee composed of Hon. Hugh M. Dorsey, former governor of Georgia; Governor John W. Martin of Florida, Mrs. J. H. McCoy of Alabama, George B. Dealey, president of the Dallas News, and Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item.

In 1925 the Commission authorized the preparation of medals to be conferred on officers successfully resisting mobs. Up to the present, awards have been made in eight cases, and several others are now under investigation. In the Alexandria case, members of the mob went to the jail on February 1st of last year and demanded that Joe Hardy, Negro prisoner charged with the murder of a Louisiana planter, be turned over to them. Jailer Penny flatly refused and sent a hurry call to Sheriff Downs who rushed to the scene and told the mob that the prisoner would be protected at all costs and advised them not to start anything. Convinced that the officers meant business, the mob dispersed.

NORTH CAROLINA EXTENDS SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAM

Raleigh, N. C.—The Division of Negro Work of the North Carolina State Board of Charities began on July 1st a more extensive state-wide social welfare program with the appointment of C. Glenn Carrington and Miss A. Marie Crawford as members of the staff, according to an announcement by Lieutenant Lawrence A. Oxley, Director of the Division.

Mr. Carrington, a native of Richmond, is a graduate of Howard University and New York School of Social Work, and prior to his present appointment served as Boys' Worker in the 135th Street Branch Y. M. C. A., New York City, and special worker at the Children's Temporary Home School, Washington, D. C. He will give special study to two important research projects—Negro Crime and Negro Child Welfare in North Carolina.

Miss Crawford is a native of South Carolina and a product of South Carolina State College, Orangeburg, who since leaving school has made her home in Charlotte, N. C. She will be assistant to Mr. Oxley and have charge of case records.

The Division of Negro Work was created January 1, 1925, with Mr. Oxley as director. Its work, particularly in the field of organizing social forces in small Negro communities, has attracted the favorable attention of many state departments of public welfare. Started as an experiment, it has become an established and permanent part of North Carolina's progressive state-wide program. The results obtained thus far promise increasing returns in family life, better race relations, justice in the courts, and larger opportunity for the citizenship of the state.