

Howard's Indictment Cause of Thinking

ALABAMA MASONS BURN MORTGAGE ON \$750,000 TEMPLE

Principal of Tuskegee Institute Declares Congratulatory Address On Memorable Occasion

PRAISE WORTHY ACHIEVEMENT

Demonstrates Possibilities Open To Enterprise and Co-operation By Race in South and Elsewhere

Birmingham, Ala.—Negro Masons of Alabama closed their fifty-ninth annual communication here Thursday night with the burning of the mortgage on their \$750,000 temple at Fourth Avenue and 17th Street at which time Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, delivered the address.

Congratulating the Masons upon the occasion, Dr. Moton declared that the order gives a demonstration of the "possibilities that are open to Negro enterprise and cooperative effort right here in the South. Sometimes we are tempted to complain that there is not opportunity for development of the Negro in the South. But this building not only shows the possibilities in this direction, but it demonstrates also that the vast majority of Negroes who have remained in the South are going steadily ahead in developing the possibilities right at hand. This building shows to the city of Birmingham and to the state of Alabama that the Negroes of this section are an asset and not a liability. It shows that they are working out the solution of their own problems right where they stand rather than running away from them; that they are determined to vindicate their claim to a right to share in all of the opportunities and privileges of American citizenship right here in the city where they live."

Further, he stated the building is a demonstration of interracial cooperation for the "burning of this \$125,000 mortgage indicates that there have been financial institutions in the white race that have confidence in the order and its leadership and have backed them to the limit in this enterprise. In this sense the temple is a monument of interracial cooperation that is substantial and enduring and is a harbinger of better things which are to come."

Dr. Moton commended Grandmaster Walter Thomas Woods upon the success in erecting and clearing the building of debt, stating that such orders as these prove the capacity of the Negro to handle large sums honestly and efficiently.

William H. Carter, auditor of the Grand Lodge and treasurer of Tuskegee Institute, reported assets in cash and holding of more than \$800,000. In 1917 when he was elected auditor the order was in debt to the extent of \$115,000. Since that time with the reorganization of the financial system which was effected, the order has collected more than \$2,000,000; has paid out in death claims \$1,016,000; and has cleared itself completely of debt with a cash balance of \$80,000.

LOUISVILLE NOW HAS NEGRO TRAFFIC COPS

Louisville, Ky.—The chief of police in making assignments of police officers to certain dangerous corners assigned colored cops to 10th and Chestnut and 10th and Walnut streets during the morning and evening hours when traffic is so dangerous.

WINS SUNSET DYE CONTEST

Mrs. Oleatha Birch of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Alexander, who is visiting her parents at their home, 2734 Parker street, was pleasantly surprised when she received an award of fifty dollars, third prize in the Sunset Dyes contest.

This is one of the many contests Mrs. Birch has entered and won within the past few years.

ANITA PATTI BROWN GIVES PLEASING RECITAL AT PILGRIM

Anita Patti Brown of Chicago, the well known and talented soprano cantatrice, gave a delightful program at Pilgrim Baptist Church, assisted by the choir, Monday night. The audience was not as large as it should have been to greet this fine artist, but it was an appreciative one. Mme. Brown's charming personality as well as her excellent program, charmed and delighted all who heard her. The program included numbers from Handel, Gounod, Brahme, Schubert, Burleigh, Rogers and Mayerbeer. Miss Wills Hayes ably accoupanied herself as Mme. Brown's accompanist.

NEGRO CULTURAL CENTER CLOSES VACATION SCHOOL

The Negro Cultural Center announces the close of its second vacation school with a final exhibit and program to be held in Swift's Service building, 27th and Q street, on Saturday evening, July 30, at 8:15, and cordially invites its friends and patrons to be present.

Street cars stop in front of the door on the Q street viaduct. The Employees' cafeteria, which is loaned for the exhibit, is on the fourth floor. Parking space is available within the gates, at 27th and R streets.

Cooking classes of girls from 8 to 15, directed by Miss Goldie Mitchell, will demonstrate correct table service, and will serve cakes, pies, salads, ice cream and cookies.

Sewing classes taught by Miss Florence Myers and Mrs. Hattie Agee, the latter a volunteer of the South Side, will exhibit dresses, pajamas, aprons, slips, bloomers, and other things.

Basketry classes of both boys and girls, under Mrs. Bolden, will exhibit waste baskets, work baskets and vases; while wood work classes, under Rev. W. D. Smith, assisted by our staff member, Mrs. Lovetta Busch, will show a variety of clever toys. Boys from the wood work classes have less to show in toys because of the time they have put into building a picket fence for the Cultural Center's "beauty spot" on 30th and V streets. This "beauty spot" was suggested by the City Beautiful Campaign inaugurated by the Omaha Chamber of Commerce last spring. Children from the Center have cooperated with grown-ups in clearing a small space at this corner and doing their bit to make it attractive. Boys from the Center, led by Mr. Smith, have also put in time on the building of a shelter on their new playground at 27th and V streets, and on the clearing of one end for tennis courts.

Directors of this playground, Miss Thelma Norris and Mr. C. A. Stewart, will have groups of girls and boys, respectively, participating in the program. Under Miss Norris, two groups of girls will do the Egyptian and a Dutch dance. Mr. Stewart's boys will do a "stunt."

The pre-school group, composed of 34 children under 7 years, which held its classes in the afternoon, will show kindergarten hand work, and sing. Mrs. Lillian Anders, of the South Side, has been the faithful volunteer assistant with this group. Through her efforts the class roll doubled by the end of the second week.

Much credit is due Miss Thelma Norris for her faithful work with this group.

Mrs. Cordella Armstrong helped with choral class, and Mrs. Alma Webster volunteered for handicraft.

The costumes for the dances are being made by the girls, under direction of Miss Norris. They were purchased with money which the older and younger girls earned from the sale of punch on the playground this month. One little girl, Espanola Anders, was so eager to do her bit, though unable to come to the playground at the time of the sale, she made and sold ice cream, which netted more than \$1.00 for the costumes.

Everybody has co-operated for the success of the school.

Mrs. Rhone, director of the Center, reports a large and regular attendance during the past four weeks of vacation school.

EDITORIAL

For several years the need of a municipal playground and recreational center for the congested district lying north of Cuming street and having Thirtieth street as its westward boundary, was keenly felt, and some public spirited citizens began a movement for it. Finally, about four years ago, a tract lying between Twenty-first and Twenty-second and extending from Paul to Seward, was selected and purchased by the city for this purpose for the sum of \$35,000, if our information is correct. Some litigation followed, which delayed opening the playground. However, last year one corner of this tract was fenced in and provided by Park Commissioner Hummel with some playground apparatus, and an attendant placed in charge. The children of the neighborhood throng the place, showing that the playground is needed. But aside from this makeshift arrangement, for that is what it really amounts to, nothing else has been done to make this municipal tract what it really ought to be, an attractive and adequate playground and recreational center for the large community which it serves. There it lies, a dusty, unattractive, barren and little-used tract of land not far removed from the business heart of the city.

This land, all of it, should be used for the purpose for which it was acquired. A few thousand dollars expended upon this tract would be money well spent and make it serviceable as a real municipal playground. What ought to be done, in our opinion, is this: The entire tract should be fenced in with a neat wire fence. Trees should be planted to relieve the barrenness and ultimately provide a reasonable amount of shade. A baseball diamond should be laid out and a stand built for spectators, like those provided elsewhere. Three or four tennis courts should be provided and croquet grounds laid out. There is ample room in this tract for this. We believe that these suggested improvements would not cost to exceed \$5,000; but even though it did, it would be money wisely and judiciously spent and would bring big returns in improved citizenship. We are speaking now only of the tract which the city now owns, but as a matter of fact the little strip on Paul and Twenty-first streets, now occupied by several small houses dangerously crowded together, and that on which Pleasant Green Baptist Church stands, should be acquired and added to the present tract.

It may be contended that the Department of Parks has not money to make these improvements; but we believe it can and should be found. A large sum of money has been recently spent on building a new bear den at Riverview Park. Perhaps the bear den was needed. But surely the children in the territory which the Paul street playground is supposed to serve are worthy of at least as much consideration as the bears in Riverview Park.

If money can be found for new bear dens and like improvements in our parks and boulevards, of which we are all justly proud, surely money can be found to give us a real well-equipped attractive playground and recreational center at Twenty-first and Paul, instead of the makeshift which Mr. Hummel, because of the handicap under which he was placed, was compelled to provide to meet an emergency. Weary of delay, he equipped the present small playground last year for the children of this neighborhood. Our contention is now, that if no litigation bars such action, this whole tract should be adequately fitted up and made a real recreational center and a credit to our city, instead of leaving it the barren, dusty, unattractive and unused spot it is. In other words, we plead for a real playground, for which the taxpayers have been assessed, instead of the makeshift which we now have.

Mrs. Willibrant, Disclaims Politics, Howard Prosecution

Washington, D. C.—(Staff Correspondent of the Associated Negro Press)—Declaring that she was actuated in the prosecution of Perry W. Howard, Mississippi national committee man, by no other motive than that of doing her duty as a law enforcement officer, Mrs. Mable Willibrant in an interview recently with a representative of the Associated Negro Press, insisted that she would not be swayed by public opinion or political pressure from her program of seeking indictments and convictions wherever graft was found, no matter how big and powerful the person involved was or what his racial identity happened to be.

Public attention has been directed toward Mrs. Willibrant recently because of the militant attitude and eager zeal she has shown in her post-convention prosecution of charges of selling federal officers in Mississippi, a practice which in the absence of financing the republican organization in that and other southern states, is reported to exist in most of them.

While it is understood that most present day state political organizations are financed by assessments levied upon patronage, the practice was made a felony by a law passed last year, sponsored by southern senators for the express purpose of trapping those who levied upon federal jobs.

The levelling of attention however, upon Mississippi where the lone Negro national committeeman still survives, and Georgia where a senatorial investigation committee recently pil-

loried Ben Davis, has given rise to the widely expressed view that the real purpose of the drive was to rid the party of Negro leadership. The absence of prosecutions in other states thus far seems to emphasize that opinion.

"I will not discuss the Perry Howard matter, because it would be both unethical and unprofessional to give out information regarding a pending case," Mrs. Willibrant said in answer to a series of pointed questions presented by the Associated Negro Press. "And while I deeply regret the turn the matter has taken in the public press and know that many will perhaps interpret my activity wrongfully, I simply am following the only course open, that of prosecuting such criminality and graft wherever and whenever evidence of it is laid before me. I am first a law officer of the government. While so, as an individual I have espoused the cause of Herbert Hoover, neither that fact nor the interests of the republican party will affect my official attitudes."

Mrs. Willibrant, whose grappling with the red hot problem of southern political methods has focused the country's attention upon her, presents an interesting picture. Evidently, in her middle thirties, slender, garbed in blue, with light brown hair and cool grey eyes, this woman who by sheer force and ability has won a place as an ace in the department of justice, is entirely feminine in her appearance. She has none of the strident (Continued on Page Three)

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH OPENS TENNIS COURT

A fine tennis court has been made on the lot adjoining St. Philip's Episcopal church, and was formally opened Wednesday afternoon with a tennis tournament, thoroughly enjoyed by the group of young people who attended. The winners were Lawrence Burnett and Dorothy Patterson, with Charles Wilson and Edna James close seconds. The work of making the court, including the erection of the fence, was done by Ray Gustin, Clinton James and David Brewer, with one or two other boys putting in a lick or two now and then. St. Philip's tennis court is one of the best in the city and will be kept in use by tennis enthusiasts.

ENTERTAINS AT A MUSICAL TEA

Mrs. Hiram R. Greenfield gave a "Musical Tea" last Saturday at her home, 1005 North 49th avenue, Dundee, from 5 to 7 p. m., honoring her niece, Miss Willette Embry of Richmond, Ky., her guest for the summer. A number of the young smart set, which is composed of the college and high school groups of young girls, were invited. Several piano and violin numbers were rendered by the talented group. Also vocal numbers with violin obligatos. Miss Embry rendered "Minuet in E Minor" by Paderewski. The musical hour was highly interesting, inspirational and entertaining. Several young matrons visiting in Omaha were present, Mrs. Florence Hunt Level of Detroit, Mich., Mrs. Mandel Rick Bondurant of Washington, D. C. Assisting the hostess were Misses Grace Dorsey, and Dorothy Allen. Miss Gertrude Lucas presided at the punch bowl in the reception hall. Mrs. A. L. Hawkins graciously assisted the hostess also, by getting autographs of guests and kodaking. Miss Goldie Mitchell served salad at the dining table. Mrs. Bondurant served the ices. The dining table was resplendent with the beautiful garden flowers and ferns used in decorations, and the guests enjoyed the dainty refreshing summer menu, and the hours were replete with happy voices resounding their college and school experiences.

MARIAN ANDERSON SINGS IN LONDON

London, Eng.—The English papers have been lavish in their praise of the work of Marian Anderson, the celebrated contralto, who has been studying for sometime in London. Miss Anderson appeared in her initial recital in the famous Wigmore Hall, on the evening of June 15, her program including songs and ballads of Purcell, Martini, Schubert, Caldada, DeBussey, Schumann, a group of Negro Spirituals, and songs by the eminent English composer, Sir Roger Quilter.

Miss Anderson is broadcasting a varied program over the radio in London on August 7.

Musical critics of London are loud in their acclaim that Miss Anderson is destined to become the world's greatest contralto. She is expected back to this country in the early fall, when she is booked to appear at the Academy of Music under the auspices of Nu Sigma, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity.

JOHNNIE JONES, OMAHA'S FAVORITE WELTER WEIGHT, OPENS BOXING CLASS

Johnnie Jones, Omaha's favorite colored welter weight, has been secured by the Executive Committee of Roosevelt Post No. 30 to take charge of the gymnasium and instruct in boxing. The classes will open August 1st. It is the desire of the boxing instructor to conduct morning, afternoon and evening classes.

All young men interested in the art of boxing are requested to communicate with Johnnie Jones, Webster 6768, 2422 Lake street.

Mrs. Harrington of Houston, Tex., is the house guest of her brother, Dr. G. B. Lennox, at 2527 Patrick avenue.

PERRY HOWARD UNDER CHARGE OF SELLING FEDERAL POSITIONS

Mississippi Political Leader Claims Innocence of Wrong Doing But Victim of "Lily White" Enemies

NEGRO LEADERSHIP MARTYR

Powerful Influences Have Been Enlisted to Eliminate Race Prestige in Southern Republican Affairs.

Washington, D. C.—Declaring that the charges preferred against him by the Senatorial Investigation Committee were unfounded, Perry W. Howard, former special assistant to the Attorney General of the United States, characterized himself as a martyr to Negro leadership in the South, and the investigation as a means of overthrowing the power of Negroes in the Republican party in the South, in a statement released recently.

Mr. Howard was indicted on charges of peddling federal patronage, along with several other prominent republican leaders in Mississippi including S. D. Redmond and his brother. Mr. Howard made bond here in Washington and the leaders who are residing in Mississippi were granted a change of venue last week. The statement made by Howard was as follows:

"The only information I have with reference to my indictment is what I have in the daily press.

"I am a martyr to the cause I represent—Negro leadership. Persecution is the price of martyrdom. Prison walls to martyrs are like palaces to the nobility. I am perfectly willing to be offered up and pay the price of martyrdom. A cause is certainly far greater than the individual. I have been pursued politically and in the civil courts, and now my political enemies seek to have me crucified in the criminal courts.

"I have no idea what the charge is. Whatever it is, I know that it is the back fire from the current of a righteous cause, and this cause will go on whether I am temporarily incarcerated or not. I am guilty of no wrongdoing, directly or indirectly.

Confident as to Outcome

"My 'lily white' adversaries have enlisted the aid of powerful influence, material, political and otherwise, and I am not surprised at what has happened. For seven years I have been the most hounded and investigated man in the United States.

"No man in the nation has done more than I to prevent anything that even smacked of the purchase and sale of public offices. I required of applicants for offices in the state of Mississippi affidavits declaring that the applicant has given or promised to give no consideration of any kind for the office. This was at the inception of my administration and prior to the enactment of the statutes requiring the filing of affidavits that that effect with the Comptroller General."

"I appeared before the House judiciary committee, as the records of that committee will show, and urged the enactment of a law requiring all appointees to make an affidavit stating that they had not given or promised to give any consideration for their appointment.

"I repeat that I have done no wrong. I have been merely accused as the result of an expert hearing. No one in public life is safe from accusations by his political enemies, and all fair-minded Americans will throw around me the presumption of innocence until I have been proven guilty.

"I have no fear of the outcome of a trial in Mississippi."

Mrs. A. F. Peoples, 3011 Pinkney street, who has been ill for some time was rushed to the Methodist hospital Sunday, where she was to have been operated upon. She was too weak to undergo the operation and passed away Monday afternoon.