

JUDGE OVER-RIDES BEN BESS REFEREE AND HOLDS PRISONER

Man Sentenced for Thirty Years for Alleged Criminal Assault and Released After Thirteen Years Again Held.

WOMAN RECANTS CONFESSION

New York City.—A new and startling development in the case of Ben Bess, a colored man imprisoned for 13 years on the confessedly perjured testimony of a white woman, is the refusal of a South Carolina judge to abide by the report of a referee appointed in the case. The referee was appointed when the woman recanted her confession, to determine whether the woman's confession of perjury at the original trial had been obtained improperly by "bribery." The referee reported that there was no evidence of fraud and that therefore there was no reason for withdrawing the pardon which the governor of South Carolina had accorded the wronged Negro.

N. J. Frederick, colored attorney of Columbia, S. C., in charge of the case, reports to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that Judge W. H. Townsend of the circuit court has refused to abide by the findings of the referee and has refused to release Ben Bess. Judge Townsend's decision, if allowed to stand, would mean that Bess would have to serve 30 years—17 years more, besides the 13 he has already served—in the penitentiary, despite the general feeling, supported by a sworn confession, that he was unjustly and wrongfully convicted.

"Of course," writes Mr. Frederick to the N. A. A. C. P., "we are going to appeal the case to the supreme court of South Carolina, and if possible and necessary, to the United States supreme court. Our drawback, of course, is money. Bess has nothing, but somehow the appeal is going to be made. I have made up my mind as to that, hoping that in some way I may be able to raise enough to cover the appeal. The gentleman that I have associated with me, Mr. A. L. King, is with us to the end. He thinks that the whole thing is an outrage. We will not be wanting in any legal assistance needed. It is generally realized in this state that this is one of the most important cases that has ever been before the courts and questions of great import are involved."

Commenting on the case, after consulting with the association's legal committee, Robert W. Bagnall, acting secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., said, "We are, of course, going to back Mr. Frederick in his appeal of this case to the higher courts. Just what the association can and will do will be announced after the next meeting of its board of directors. In the meantime, we have assured Mr. Frederick that we are with him and will assuredly

help. What is at stake is the question whether a Negro can get justice in a southern state where the facts are plain to everybody but where there is a disposition to try to hide them after they have been openly confessed. The massed power of southern intolerance and political chicanery is set against this helpless and wronged Negro. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will do its utmost to see whether law can prevail over bigotry, prejudice and what seems to be a deliberate attempt to perpetuate injustice. Those who wish to help in this fight which concerns more than the one unhappy man involved, may do so by contributing to the legal fund of the N. A. A. C. P. out of which such fights as this are financed."

WILLIAMS' JUBILEE SINGERS PLEASE LARGE AUDIENCE

The famous Williams' Jubilee Singers gave one of their delightful concerts before a large and appreciative audience Monday night in Salem Baptist church. The program was a rich and varied one including not only the usual spirituals and jubilee numbers, always favorites, but several classical numbers. The same artistry was disclosed in all. The harmony of the well trained voices was perfect and the shading was excellent. The members of the company are Charles B. Williams, manager; Messrs. James B. Maxwell, Oscar B. Plant and Carl J. Turner and the Misses Ethel M. Brownner, Nellie Mae Dobson and Lillian Lucky.

NATIVES ENSLAVED BY LAND LAWS OF BRITISH KENYA

London, Eng.—The native land bill, in Kenya, East Africa, provides that no native may own land except on the enslaving condition that he give 180 days labor at starvation wages to the European landowner. The total area reserved to the two and a half million natives amount to less than a quarter of the area of the colony and comprises the most undesirable sections. Their unselfish "trustees," the 13,000 Europeans of the colony, have a strangle hold on three-quarters of the fair colony.

RANSOM SAYS NEGRO MUST BREAK POLITICAL TRADITION

Baltimore, Md.—The Negro must go into new paths and break political traditions, the Rt. Rev. Reverdy C. Ransom, bishop of the A. M. E. Church, told large gatherings at the Trinity A. M. E. church and Bethel A. M. E. church.

Bishop Ransom explained that he did not consider himself a "political parson" if he discussed the 18th amendment in the pulpits.

"The 18th amendment," he said, "is not a fetish. It is no more sacred than the 14th and 15th amendments, the latter being the source of all government."

North Side Branch Has New Secretary



Miss Margie L. Danley, the new executive secretary for the North Side Branch of the Y. W. C. A., comes to Omaha from a successful experience of five years as executive secretary of the Williams Avenue Branch, in Portland, Ore., where, under her administration, a new branch building was erected and left without indebtedness.

Miss Danley was very active in interracial work and was in much demand as a speaker before churches, clubs, and student groups. She also served as discussion leader for the student, business, industrial and Girl Reserve conference groups of the Y. W. C. A. of the northwest; and served as one of the recorders at the recent national convention of the Y. W. C. A., and as such, was a member of the committee on the report of the national board.

Miss Danley was also very active in civic, social, service and club groups. She was a member of the

executive board of the Oregon Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and of the executive board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and of the Oregon Social Workers' association.

Miss Danley is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. S. B. Danley of Pasadena, Cal., and received her elementary and academic training in the schools of that city and took her college work at the Pasadena university and the University of Southern California. Prior to entering the association work, Miss Danley was connected with the Los Angeles county staff of social workers.

The committee of management of the North Side Branch, held a reception Tuesday night in honor of Miss Danley, at which time only the members of the various committees were present. An excellent session was held, which promises to bring about very definite results.

KENTUCKY NEGROES OPEN REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS

Louisville, Ky.—The formal opening of the colored republican state headquarters here recently marked the initial step in the launching of an aggressive campaign to get out a large Negro vote for Hoover and Curtis, the republican nominees, in the state of Kentucky. The headquarters are located on the third floor of the new Mammoth Life

building and the offices and conference rooms are well appointed and furnished.

A full corps of workers is on duty and the campaign plans will get under way within the next few days. The leaders plan to conduct a drive among colored voters which is expected to place Kentucky in the republican column in the national election. The state committee is composed of some of the leaders in business, professional and religious life.

SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS WIN BIG VICTORY

London, Eng.—A strike of clothing workers in the Union of South Africa has ended in victory for the workers. The strike was remarkable by the fact that it was carried out in solidarity by white and Negro workers and under the leadership of the communist party of South Africa. As a result of its militant leadership in this strike, the communist party is said to have attracted hundreds of natives to its banner, while even before this strike the majority of its membership were natives.

FORMER MINISTER TO LIBERIA LEADS OHIO DEMOCRATS

Columbus, Ohio.—Negro democrats and independent voters have organized to wage an intensive campaign and have formed the "Al Smith League of Colored Voters of Ohio." Negroes from all sections of the state attended a recent meeting which was held to promote Governor Smith's candidacy, as well as support "such other officials as may be considered favorable to the progress and advancement of the colored people." Dr. Joseph L. Johnson, of this city, formerly United States minister to Liberia, was elected president. Other officers chosen were Dr. R. E. Pettiford, Springfield, vice president, and Albert T. Allen, Rendville, secretary.

OKLAHOMA MESSENGER WILL KILL SENATOR'S VOTE

New York City.—Jim Noble, one of the best known Negroes in Oklahoma, and messenger to every governor since statehood, with the exception of the present Governor Johnson, has announced his intention of voting for Alfred E. Smith.

In a telegram to former Senator Robert L. Owen, who has come out for Hoover, Noble wired:

"See by the press that you are going to vote for Hoover. I'm gwine to kill your vote."

Jim Noble is known to all the politicians of Oklahoma. It is said that he was ousted from the messengership at the capitol because of Ku Klux influence.

LIVE WIRE COMMITTEE TALBERT CONCERT SPONSOR

Mrs. John Albert Williams, who is chairman of the committee sponsoring the appearance of Madam Florence Cole-Talbert in recital at the Strand theater, is being ably assisted by the following women: Mesdames H. R. Greenfield, Z. E. McGee, George Ashby, Minnie Dixon, Price Terrill, Bertha Bailey, T. P. Mahammit, H. J. Pinkett, Frank Gray, R. K. Lawry, Sarah B. Canty, Walter Craig, and Leroy Porter.

Mr. M. M. Marshall of Culpepper, Va., brother-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. West, is house guest at their home, 2916 Decatur street.

TUSKEGEE PRINCIPAL COMMENDS HOOVER

Tuskegee, Ala.—Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute, successor to the late Booker T. Washington, commends Herbert Hoover's efforts "in behalf of all classes" in a statement praising Mr. Hoover's acceptance speech.

Dr. Moton in a message to A. L. Holsey, secretary of the colored voters' division of the republican national committee, said:

"After listening to the acceptance speech of Mr. Hoover, I felt that here was the spokesman of the finest and best in American life. He spoke as one familiar with the problems discussed, whether sectional, national or international. His grasp was firm and sure; his outlook statesmanlike, controlled and directed by strong human sympathies.

"Associated with him on the work of the Mississippi flood relief committee I had ample opportunity to know the earnestness and sincerity of his efforts in behalf of all classes. No man in America is better qualified to serve this country in strong, virile, high-minded leadership than is Herbert Hoover."

ENTERTAIN AT BARN DANCE

Messrs. Gerald and Alger Adams entertained with a "Country Barn Dance," at their home, 2870 Pinkney street, Friday evening, honoring the Misses Jennie Blackwell of Baltimore, Md., Denise Lacey of Pasadena, Cal., and Miss Marion Smallwood of Washington, D. C., who have been house guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Mahammit. There were so many lovely country maidens and farmer boys that it was difficult for the judges to select the most typical country boy and girl. Drawing straws Jennie Blackwell and Theodore Bell won the prizes. The barn was artistically decorated with asparagus fern, corn stalks and tree branches. The beautiful spacious lawn was illuminated by many lights. The hostess was assisted by Mesdames A. Hicks, Florentine Pinkston, J. S. LaCour, G. Gordon, J. H. Smith and Miss Lena Paul. Several out-of-town guests were present.

THEATER PARTY LUNCHEON AND SIGHTSEEING DRIVE

Mesdames William Rose and M. L. Myers were joint hostesses at a theater party to the Riviera last Saturday afternoon, honoring the following visitors: Mrs. W. O. King, Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. M. A. Lewis, Hanibal, Mo.; Madame J. Ernestine Wyatt, Waterloo, Ia.; Misses Esther Jones, Cincinnati, O.; Willette Embury, Richmond, Ky. There were 12 ladies in the party. A delicious luncheon and delightful drive concluded the enjoyable affair.

Mrs. Marie New, 1817 North 23rd street, met with a serious accident, resulting in the cutting of her right hand.



REPUBLICAN CHIEFTAINS MEET
Washington, D. C.—The members of the executive committee are shown above, flanked by officers and workers of the several divisions. Reading left to right are W. T. Andrews, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Addie W. Hunton, New York City; Claude A. Barnett, Chicago; Secretary Albion L. Holsey, Tuskegee; Mrs. Daisy B. Lampkin, Pittsburgh; John R. Hawkins, Washington, D. C., chairman of the colored voters division; Attorney R. R. Horner, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Kansas City; Joseph Johnson, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Washington, D. C.; Robert L. Vann, Pittsburgh; Mrs. George S. Williams, Georgia; George W. Harris, New York City; Raymond Pace Alexander, Philadelphia; Clarence R. Vena, Toledo; John Campbell, Tennessee; Fred R. Moore, New York; Ernest T. Atwell, Philadelphia; and Charles E. Mitchell, West Virginia.