

# The Weekly Review

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## J. H. Kerns Reports to the Findings Committee

### SOCIAL SURVEY REPORT MADE

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHOSEN

Before an interracial group of 27 persons representing the social, civic and educational groups in Lincoln J. Harvey Kerns, executive secretary of the Urban League of Omaha presented his findings in the recent survey he has just completed on The Social and Economic Conditions of Negroes in Lincoln. The survey, aside from the social and civic life of the local Negro, deals with Negro health, education and race relations.

Among the more serious problems the survey revealed was the poor and unsanitary conditions Negroes must accept on the north side, the lack of recreational opportunities for Negroes and his lack of industrial opportunities. Facts brought out in the survey disclosed that from 1929 to 1933 the death rate among Lincoln Negroes exceeded the birth rate by 17 persons. Mr. Kerns attributed this to lack of definite health training among the Negro population and their failure to take advantage of the various health facilities.

Lack of constructive leisure time activities was given as a cause of the high delinquency rate among Negroes, which was found to be 8.8 of the total population. While the relation of Negroes and Whites in Lincoln are friendly the report stated there had been no serious thought on the part of Negroes and Whites to consider seriously the economic side of the race problem which is basic in the Negroes' social welfare.

The survey revealed 7. Negro churches in the city with a membership of 483 persons. While the churches are doing a commendable service, the report stated, the church programs are largely one of evangelism and offers little or no social service activities. Mr. Kerns stated because the church programs, while lacking in a social appeal many Negro youths are leaving the church. According to the survey Lincoln affords no place where colored youth or adults may have recreational outlets or social programs. Because the churches are burdened with debt and for lack of trained leadership little assistance could be expected from that source it was stated.

Among the more important recommendations based on the findings of the survey were:

1. The organization of neighborhood clubs where household management, child welfare and balanced budgets may be taught colored mothers.

2. A more serious consideration of the employment opportunities for Negroes.

3. An educational campaign to acquaint and urge Negroes to make greater use of the health facilities at their disposal.

4. An effort to federate some of the smaller churches for the sake of economy.

5. A community center in which may be developed a social service program under a competent colored person who would coordinate the activities of local colored groups and cooperate and counsel with heads of established social agencies and schools in matters affecting the Negro.

The following were present at the luncheon: Dr. A. L. Weatherly, pastor of All Souls Unitarian Church; Louis Horne, secretary of the Community Chest; J. D. Hertzler, president of the Council of Social Agencies; Miss Trester, Y. W. C. A. girl reserve secretary; Miss Drake, executive secretary of Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. H. B. Williams, department of sociology, Uni. of Nebraska; T. T. McWilliams, editor of the Weekly

### PLAN FOR NATION WIDE JOBLESS DEMONSTRATIONS

Chicago—Nation-wide demonstrations of protest by the unemployed against cold, hunger and want on the day that Franklin Roosevelt takes the oath as president is called for in a communication mailed from the Chicago office of the National Federation of Unemployed Workers' Leagues of America.

"We are in the midst of the fourth winter of unemployment," writes Karl Borders, chairman of the temporary national executive committee.

Addressed to all organizations, especially of unemployed workers, that wish to join in protest against the conditions which have caused unemployment, the call concludes:

"This further fact is plain: The stage where local activity alone is effective has passed. The problem is a national one. It must be met on a national scale. To this end the Federation of Unemployed Workers' Leagues of America has been formed. The temporary executive committee plans a national convention in May.

"But national action cannot be deferred longer; therefore, the committee has called for mass meetings to be held on March 4.

#### Lists Its Demands

"On March 4, a new administration assumes power in Washington," it states.

"Its greatest problem is unemployment. On that date your temporary executive committee calls upon every member organization of the federation to call a mass meeting in its town or city and forward resolutions through delegates to Washington demanding:

A special session of congress to enact legislation.

For immediate increases in direct unemployment relief.

For public works, especially slum clearance.

For unemployment compensation and a national system of unemployment bureaus.

For a shorter work day and work with no reduction in pay.

For old age pensions to remove the aged from employment and give security to them.

For child labor laws to remove children from the labor market."

### KERNS TO MAKE

#### RADIO ADDRESS

J. Harvey Kerns will give a brief summary of the social survey of Negroes in Lincoln next Thursday afternoon, March 2, over radio station KFOR.

Review; George Evans, prominent civic worker; Mrs. Maud Johnson, Grand Matron O. E. S.; W. Luke, executive secretary of the Y. M. C. A.; Mrs. F. F. Teal, former director of Camp Fire activities; Mrs. Dorothy Dean, musician, social worker; J. R. Kelly, employed at Golds, Scout Master Troop 61; Arnold Walker, student sociology department; O. J. Burkhardt, employed at Nebraska state capitol; M. T. Woods, acting executive secretary Lincoln Urban League; Miss R. E. Pyrtle, principal Baneroff School, ex-president N. E. A.; Ward Gray, executive boys secretary Y. M. C. A.; Mr. Hayes, executive secretary University Y. M. C. A.; C. A. Sorensen, ex-Attorney General of State of Nebraska.

Dr. Wetherly presided at the meeting. The following people were selected as members of the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Urban League: Dr. A. L. Weatherly, T. T. McWilliams, C. A. Sorensen, Mrs. J. Edwards, Mrs. Dorothy Dean, George Evans, Miss Ruth E. Pyrtle, J. R. Kelly, Miss Alice Howell, Dr. A. B. Moss and Mrs. F. F. Teal.

### "DE LAWD" OKAYS JIM CROW PLAN

Washington, D. C.—A special separate night has been set aside "for Negroes" by the National Theatre here when colored people will be granted an opportunity to see Richard B. Harrison and the all Negro cast in the world famous religious play, "The Green Pastures." No Negroes will be allowed to enter the National Theatre at any other performance during the two week run of the play. Mr. Harrison has approved the plan.

The Elks have closed a contract for the performance and have announced that the proceeds will go into their educational fund.

### LAST RITES FOR

#### MR. W. A. HARDIN

The funeral of Mr. Willis Augustus Hardin was held Saturday, Feb. 18th, from Brown's Mortuary.

Reverend Burbridge of Quinn Chapel A. M. E. Church officiated and was assisted by Reverend Winchester of Mt. Zion Baptist. Mrs. Pearl Crissman was in charge of the music.

Rev. Burbridge in his eloquent eulogy stressed the beauties of life spent in the services of others. He said "although it is impossible for everyone to be ministers of the gospel, there is the possibility of every person teaching the "Word" through example and precept of every day living."

The acting pallbearers were Mr. William Jenquenz, John Marshall, John Williams, Nimrod Ross, Mose Steptney and W. H. Fields.

Mr. James Dean was in charge of the cars.

### LOUISIANA LYNCHES NEGRO

Only fourteen hours after J. P. Bachelor, the cashier of the Ringgold National Bank of Ringgold, Louisiana, was beaten to death in his home supposedly by a Negro, a mob of citizens took the law into their own hands as is the custom when colored people are said to be involved in crimes.

A mob of sixty people bound and hanged Nelson Nash. Not satisfied with having taken his life by hanging the man, they fired 50 shots into his already limp body.

Nelson Nash was never definitely identified as the man who beat Bachelor to death, by Bachelor's wife, according to police authorities. Unfortunately this has often been the case in Louisiana and other states that have generally adopted this scheme of reducing its colored population.

It will be interesting to see the steps that the state officials of Louisiana take to try to reduce this wild orgy that the savage whites of the south have been on since the days of slavery.

### PREJUDICED REDS EXPELLED

There were nine white persons expelled from the communist party of the United States during the past nine months. These persons were dismissed from the ranks of the Communists because of the race prejudice, or, as it was called by them "white chauvenism."

### LEAGUE DIRECTORS TO MEET

The Board of directors of the recently organized Lincoln Urban League will hold their first monthly meeting at a 12:00 o'clock luncheon in the directors room of the Y. M. C. A., Thursday, March 2nd. Mr. J. Harvey Kerns, the Executive Secretary of the Omaha Urban League has been invited to be present to serve in an advisory capacity. Dr. A. L. Weatherly is chairman of the board.

### METHOD AND PURPOSE OF THE URBAN LEAGUE

The Urban League was formed to bring the leaders of the Negro and white races together to deal with the problems confronting the Urban Negro, many whom had come from rural sections of the South.

It is an organization for stimulating thought and action. It aims to provide:

(a) FORUM—Where the Negro can do his own thinking.

(b) PLATFORM—Where he can express his own thoughts.

(c) INSTITUTION—Which can give support to the Negro in carrying out the aspirations which he forms.

#### Some Urban League Principles

1. That any program, however necessary, should not be undertaken blindly, but must be preceded by a scientific study of the field.

2. To carry out its program, Negro social workers should be secured and trained, thus placing the responsibility for initiative upon the Negro himself.

3. To work with, rather than for Negroes.

4. To substitute for the old terminology, "The Negro Problem" the understanding that the problems of the Negro are basic social problems which are the direct concern of the community as a whole.

### THE URBAN LEAGUE

Is non-sectarian and non-political.

It attempts no radical solution to the "problem" of Negroes but believes a sound and sane approach should be the course pursued.

Industrial relations, health, housing, neighborhood activities, clubs for neighborhood improvement, and race relation programs are a few activities sponsored by the League.

Branches in 47 cities where they are located.

The philosophy of the Urban League may be expressed in the League motto: "Not Alms—But Opportunity."

"The work of the National Urban League in training Negroes in our cities so as to adapt themselves more readily to the condition of urban life is fundamental to the progress of the race. I wish the League all success in the New Year."

Yours faithfully,  
HERBERT HOOVER

### SURVEY REPORT TO BE MADE

The sociological survey that was requested by a group of social minded people of Lincoln has been completed. Several copies of the report have been placed in the hands of the various social agencies.

This report will be given in detail at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 12th and F streets at 8:00 o'clock, Thursday, March 2, by Mr. J. Harvey Kerns, executive secretary of the Omaha Urban League, who directed the work in making the survey. The final report is more comprehensive than had ever been anticipated.

It gives in detail historical facts relative to the Negro in Lincoln and present status of the social and industrial conditions of the Negro in Lincoln with relation to other groups in the community.

This report was given to a mixed group at the Y. M. C. A. who were selected as a Findings Committee and who were to later recommend the present organization of the Lincoln Urban League to the Council of Social Agencies for membership.

This will be a public meeting and one of great interest to everyone in the community.

The Review is your paper—support it and its advertisers.

### NEGRO HISTORY WEEK PROGRAM

Sunday night, at the Quinn Chapel A. M. E. Church, beginning at 7:30 p. m., the Semper Fidelis Literary Club will sponsor its annual Negro History Week Program. This club is composed of university and senior high school students. Its purpose in presenting this program is to familiarize the local race group with the outstanding accomplishments of the race in various lines of endeavor; to inform the public of the tremendous development of the race toward equality with other races in fields hitherto unknown to the Negro.

Accounts of the Negro in education, literature, music and art, business, science, politics, journalism and its social development will be given by students. Readings from Negro authors and musical numbers from Negro composers will be rendered.

### WOE ARE THEY!

Little do we stop to realize what gruesome consequences a wanton lie may have; nor do we often conceive of the destruction on innocent souls which lies in the wake of the false prattlings of a drunken tongue. Ruby Bates, in utter disregard of the truth, made a statement that had the deadliness of a six-shooter; that statement was made without any vision of the consequences, without any care that the lives of innocent Scottsborough boys might be involved; that statement was a false accusation of assault and rape.

Now it has recently appeared from her own written confession in the form of a letter that not one hair of her head did these Negro boys touch. Even after the evidence of the falsity of this trumped up charge was brought into existence by Ruby's own pen, the police of Huntsville would not release it to the boys' attorneys. The police had no interest in the security of the boys' lives. They would rather that the costly consequences of the falsification be realized. However, the justice of the law has compelled this bit of material evidence to be produced; and it means, if the great odds are overcome, that the Scottsborough boys will be vindicated. Had not this statement intervened, what disaster this lie would have caused!

### TIME TO REGISTER

Important spring elections in the offing recall the fact that Negroes often in the past have lost their franchise because of failure to register. These times call for an especially keen interest in the election of the right men to office. For if ever the city needed careful administration to guide it over a trying period it is now.

If we fail to use votes that we have we can have little cause for complaint if those who are elected by the votes of others fail to respond to our wishes. Under the new registration laws the voter need not register for each election. It is sufficient if he registers and votes in the following elections.

Check up on your own case. If you registered last summer or fall and voted in either the primaries or the general election you are ready to vote.

If you failed to vote in both or have moved you must register again. Whatever you do, register, and then vote your choice.

Spring is in the air.