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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU

RACE CONGRESS CLOSES WITH SUCCESS

The National Inter-racial Conference Solved Long Standing Problems of Race

SESSIONS CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28 (ANP)—The spot-light of scientific research was turned upon the various ramifications of the race problem, here Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, when welfare experts from various sections of the country gathered here to attend the National Interracial Conference.

The real meetings, at which the problems were discussed with frankness and candor by white and colored speakers, were held behind closed doors, with the press barred. So completely was the fourth estate kept out that an examination of the "guest list" fails to disclose one member of the press.

According to reports that leaked out of the closed conferences, the following disclosures were made:

That the Negro is not more criminal than other races.

That the Negro's life expectancy is increasing.

That Negroes are poorly educated in Georgia and other Southern states.

That trades unions handicap the Negro's progress in skilled trades.

That recreational segregation prevails in northern cities.

That the voteless class is a menace to the race.

That the races are welded by mutual needs.

National Agencies Participated

The principal meetings were held in the auditorium of the department of Interior, and the evening meetings, which were for the most part open to the public, were held at the Howard University medical building, with the following national agencies participating: American Friends Service Committee, Interracial Section; American Social Hygiene Association; Commission on Interracial Co-operation; Council of Women for Home Missions; Federal Council of Churches; Commission on Race Relations; Fellowship of Reconciliation; Home Missions Council; The Inquiry; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; National Board Y. W. C. A.; National Catholic Welfare Conference; National Council Y. M. C. A.; National Federation of Settlements; National Urban League; Phelps-Stokes Fund; Protestant Episcopal Church, Department of Christian Social Service.

LOS ANGELES PLAYGROUNDS PRAISED

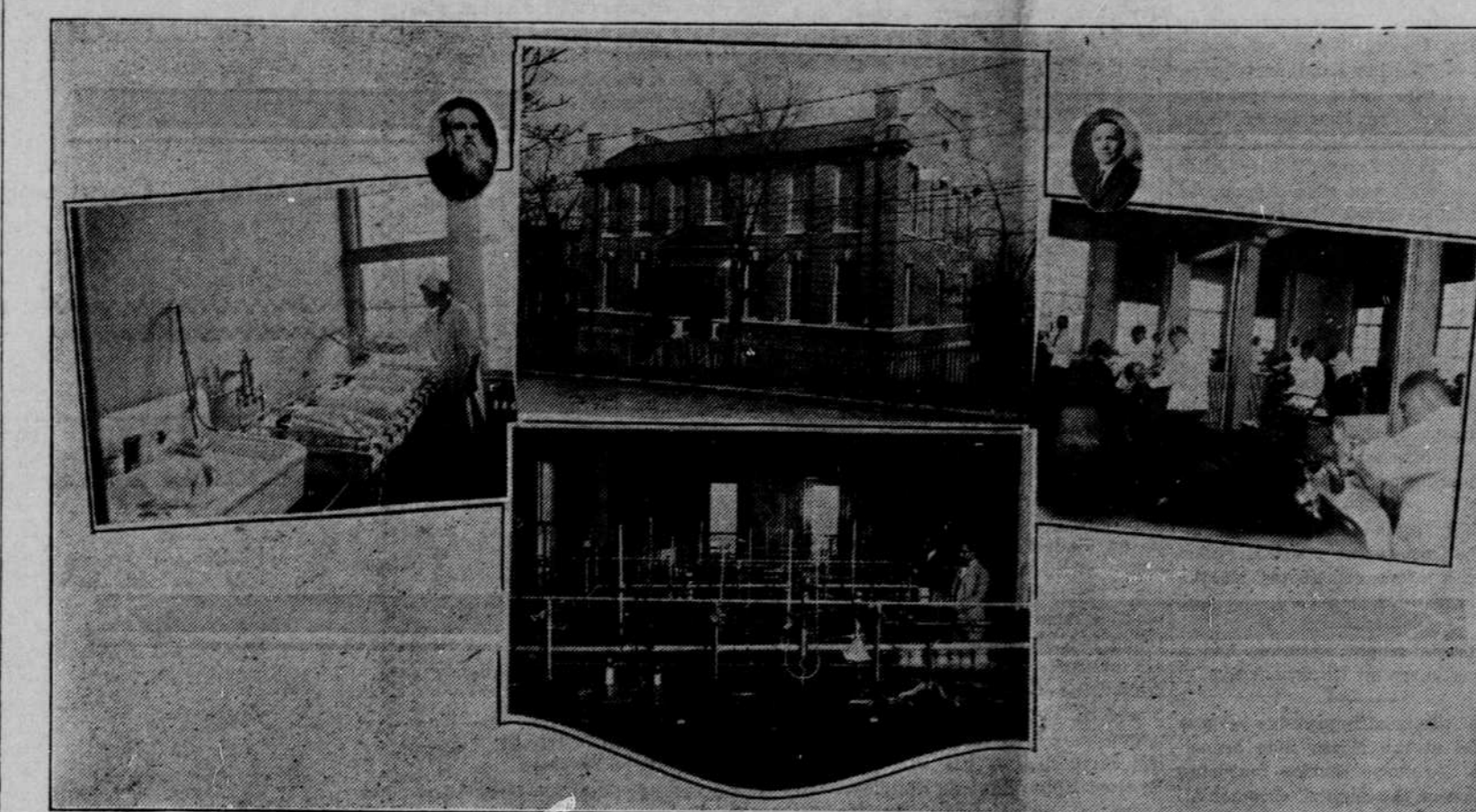
Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Los Angeles playgrounds were given high praise by a San Francisco official last week, when Miss Alicia Mosgrove, playground commissioner of the Bay City visited the local system and complimented its executives upon the great progress being shown in the development of play facilities here.

Miss Mosgrove was a resident of Los Angeles for many years before removing to the northern city and has watched the growth of Los Angeles playgrounds practically from their beginnings. She was warm in her praise of the efficient planned program of development of play facilities to meet the growing needs of the local public.



Paul Sylvester Holliday Special grand organizer of the I. B. P. O. E. of W. for the states of Nebraska and Iowa. The exalted ruler of the Iroquois lodge No. 92, Omaha.

Meharry Medical College of Nashville, Tennessee



"MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE—THE BATTLE GROUND AGAINST DISEASE."

HALF OF NEGRO POPULATION CHURCH MEMBERS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28 (ANP)—The Department of Commerce announces that, according to the returns received, there were in the United States in 1926, 42,585 churches, with a colored membership of 5,203,487, as compared with 39,592 churches and 4,602,805 members in 1916.

The total for 1926 is made up of 24 exclusively colored denominations, with 36,505 churches and 4,558,795 members, and 6,080 churches with 644,692 colored members in 30 white denominations. The corresponding figures for 1916 are 19 exclusively colored denominations with 34,258 churches and 4,070,286 members, and 5,334 Negro churches, with 532,519 members in 21 white denominations. Two of the denominations reported at the Census of 1916, composed exclusively of colored members, have gone out of existence. The data for both census periods relates to the churches composed entirely of Negro members, and the membership reporter does not include Negro members belonging to local white churches.

At the census of 1926 the total expenditures were \$43,024,259 as compared with \$18,529,827 in 1916. Under this item are included the amount expended for salaries, repairs, etc., for payments on church debts; for benevolences, including home and foreign missions, for denominational support, and for all other purposes.

WHITE MAN SHOTS NEGRO WIFE-BEATER

Vicksburg, Miss., Dec. 28 (ANP)—As a result of a shooting fray in the northeastern section of the county, John Dodge is in a critical condition, while Henry Ward, a white man, is slightly injured.

Dodge is said to have been beating his wife when Ward, who lived near, went to the scene. Dodge fired on the peacemaker who returned the compliment. Dodge was struck in the stomach, while Ward was filled with buckshot.

DINING SYSTEM HEAD DIES

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 21 (ANP).—Fred F. Harvey, president of the Harvey system of railroad restaurants and dining car catering, which employs hundreds of Negroes as waiters, died here Thursday of pneumonia, which followed an attack of influenza.

REDISTRICTING WILL IMPERIL NEGRO CONGRESSMAN IN ILLINOIS

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Since 1901 there has been no congressional reapportionment in Illinois. Because of that and because of the growth of the population of the state, Illinois has two congressmen-at-large, twenty-seven including those elected from the regular districts.

But the disparities in the number of voters in districts that have come with the growth of population have finally become so great that there are some congressmen representing nearly ten times as many voters as others.

Cook county, in which Chicago is located, has ten districts and ten congressmen. Five of these districts have 266,703 voters and five congressmen. The other five districts have 1,260,268 voters and only five congressmen.

According to the vote cast for governor at the November election, the First District from which Oscar DePriest has been elected, is the third smallest in the state, having only 50,906 voters. Congressman Michaelson's district, the Seventh, cast 316,512 votes.

Although several of the state representatives have indicated that they plan to put through a reapportionment measure at the coming session of the general assembly, colored political leaders are not looking forward to it without some misgivings. There are, of course, enough Negro voters in Chicago to elect a congressman on any numerical basis if the redistricting were made favorable to them. But the politicians are suspicious that any general redistricting will result in a gerrymander that will so cut up the Negro vote that it will not be big enough in any district to be decisive. In that case, the re-election of Mr. DePriest or of any other Negro would be improbable.

EMANCIPATION SERVICES IN 100 YEAR OLD CHURCH

New Orleans, La., Dec. 28 (ANP)—The old Baptist Church, on Liberty and Third streets, for the past 100 years has stood out in the religious life in our group in New Orleans and is known as the mother church in the state of Louisiana. Preparations are being made for emancipation services to be held there January 1st by Rev. W. Scott Chin, the pastor.

SLAYS WOMAN WHO REFUSES RIDE

Danville, Va., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Just as he was about to make a getaway to Winston-Salem, N. C., Thomas Fitzgerald, alleged murderer of Miss Clorin Owens, was arrested by local police and placed in jail here.

Fitzgerald is charged with fatally stabbing Miss Owens, Sunday afternoon, when she refused to go for a ride with him. After the killing he made his escape and a search by the officers was in vain. Tuesday police learned that he had made arrangements with a friend to take him to Winston-Salem. Finding the friend, the officers forced him to take them to Fitzgerald's hiding place.

When the automobile arrived, Fitzgerald emerged from the cabin in which he was hiding and rushed to the car, only to find that it was filled with officers whom he was attempting to evade.

ASSOCIATION FIGHTS FOR REPRESENTATION

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 28 (NP)—The West Side Improvement Association, an organization here that fights for the betterment of conditions, in its many phases, among Negroes on the west side of the city, has petitioned the Krogger Chain Store management here to place a colored manager in the store located at 28th and Milford streets, where fully 99 per cent of the trade is colored. The installation of a colored manager may also lead to colored clerks.

TREASURER SQUANDERS CHURCH FUNDS; JANITOR LOSES HIS HOME

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Albert Vandye, janitor of the Broadway Baptist Tabernacle Church (white), will lose his home as the result of certain financial manipulations by the treasurer of the church, a former judge, who is accused of misappropriating over \$40,000 of the building fund. The treasurer is blind, yet he is alleged to have squandered over \$200,000 from the church and his friends.

To close our books for the year nineteen hundred and twenty-eight without thanking you for your patronage in the past and soliciting the same in the approaching year would leave us a debt unpaid. We therefore wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. The Omaha Monitor.

JOHNSON SAYS ROSENWALD INDUCED WHITE SOUTH TO SPEND \$17,000,000 ON NEGRO

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Colored people who have been somewhat inclined to discredit the South's attitude toward Negro education will probably be surprised to know that a prominent Hebrew of Chicago has done more toward changing the white South's attitude with reference to Negro education than forty-five years of Negro pleading had done prior to the beginning of the Rosenwald Southern rural school system for Negroes.

Speaking before several hundred persons of both races, President Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, in an address delivered at the new Michigan Avenue Y. M. C. A., Monday night, re-deemed the white South from its one-time unfavorable light generally accepted by the orthodox point of view held by many members of the Negro race unacquainted with what the South is doing for Negro education.

Rosenwald Begins Contributions

Julius Rosenwald began the contributions fifteen years ago by placing \$1,000 in the hands of the late Dr. Washington. Since that time the Rosenwald schools have grown to 4,190 and have exacted a round \$3,000,000 from the Chicago philanthropist. The school property today, Dr. Johnson pointed out, is worth \$25,000,000.

In the last fifteen years colored people have given \$3,500,000; while Rosenwald schools have exacted \$900,000 in voluntary gifts from the Southern whites; added to this is an additional \$17,000,000 which have come from county treasurers. These sums are spent on primary education and furnish educational facilities for 456,000 Negro youth.

The Negro Church and Education

churches which some big folk say are doing nothing, are actually spending upward of \$3,000,000 per year on Negro education," he pointed out. "In the South," he continued, "241 Negro high schools have been accredited. In the normal schools of the South there are over 17,000 Negro students—more than five times the number represented several years ago." President Johnson told his auditors.

Says Howard Only Negro University

Speaking of these secondary schools as feeders to the colleges and universities, he said: "After 65 years of progress we have one great Negro university. There are several institutions going under that name," the educator averred, "but there is only one such institution. That institution is Howard University. A university," he defined, "is an institution of higher education with one undergraduate college, at least three or four other schools with independent faculties; and at least one graduate school. Howard University meets that qualification. Howard has nine schools—medicine, law, dentistry, pharmacy, college, music, education, applied science, and religion," Dr. Johnson explained.

NEGRO ADVANCES IN BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Survey Shows Great Strides of Colored People in Business and Industrial Field.

(By the Associated Negro Press)

The United States chamber of commerce has found through a recent survey, the approximate number of people it takes to support several kinds of retail stores. The chamber reports state that there is an average of 450 people to each grocery store, 900 to each butcher shop, 1,350 to each drug store, 1,700 to each dry goods store, 2,300 to each men's clothing store, 2,600 to each hardware store, 4,300 to each furniture store, 4,800 to each shoe store, and 10,500 to each department store. These figures show an average of 56 retail stores to each 10,000 population and the conclusion to be deduced from these facts is that it takes the number of patrons indicated to give successful support to the individual business enterprise.

Let's compare this average of the nation's with what colored people are doing in Savannah, Georgia. Our survey of that city follows:

Negro population of Savannah by the 1920 census—39,179.

In the field of retail trade Negroes own and operate:

- 4 drug stores
- 50 groceries
- 40 confectionaries and delicatessens, etc.
- 42 restaurants
- They also own and operate:
- 45 barber shops
- 11 beauty parlors
- 1 hotel
- 2 newspapers
- 1 bank
- 3 theaters
- 5 dance halls

Savannah is the home office of two sick and accident insurance companies and one life insurance company. Seven sick and accident companies have branch offices here and two life companies. There are two lawyers, 23 physicians, four dentists, five undertakers, five real estate operators, and two orchestral organizations. The city school system employs approximately 100 teachers, some 75 Negroes work in the postal service and about 200 others work for the city as street sweepers and laborers. Most of the colored wage earners are employed by the steamship companies, lumber manufacturers and sugar refineries. A local branch of the Negro Business league watches the civic interests of the population, as well as encourages co-operation and business expansion.

Editor's Comment: Instead of the 225 retail outlets we might expect to find based upon the chamber of commerce report, we find only 94 of the classes specified. There are no music shops, haberdasheries, shoe stores, furniture stores, or department stores. No manufacturers of any kind have been successfully established and no laundry or cab company is at present in operation. Apparently the city is in need of much enterprise and initiative. Its bank is the most hopeful symbol of progress.

NEWS ITEMS

New Orleans, La.—A new 20-room hotel with every modern convenience was opened here last week at Julia and South Ramparts streets. It will be known as the Patterson hotel after the name of its proprietor.

Detroit, Mich.—Announcement was recently made of a merger between the Calumet Cab company, with 80 cabs operating, and the Wolverine Cab company with 15. The Calumet company is the largest Negro cab company and the latter is the oldest one here.

Chicago, Ill.—Negro business is constantly becoming more progressive. Liberty Life Insurance company of Illinois has its own broadcasting station and goes on the air once each week. The other nights are let to other enterprises.

Kansas City, Mo.—Roy J. Barker, colored grocer of this city, owns and operates one of the finest as well as largest stores in any colored community. He employs six clerks and does an average daily business of \$250. Total sales for his seventh year were \$77,000.

Atlanta, Ga.—Messrs. T. L. Curry and O. S. Hall have just opened a men's haberdashery at 234 Auburn avenue, N. E. Besides the usual articles, their store carries a full line of shoes and hosiery for women.

Port Arthur, Tex.—Negro business men of the city have just received a charter from the National Negro Business league and established a local branch.

Los Angeles, Cal.—The Dutch Shell Oil company has recently leased 160 acres of land from the Willis Petroleum company, a Negro corporation. \$9,000 was paid for the lease.

Norfolk, Va.—Victory Life Insurance company of Illinois has opened a branch office here. Percy Bond, eastern supervisor, was in charge of arrangements.

Pine Bluff, Ark.—Bids for construction of new buildings for the Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal School will be received by the board of trustees of that institution January 10, it was announced by J. P. Womack, state superintendent of public instruction. Buildings will cost \$275,000.

NEGRO DEMOCRATS IN ARKANSAS SEEK PERMANENT INJUNCTION

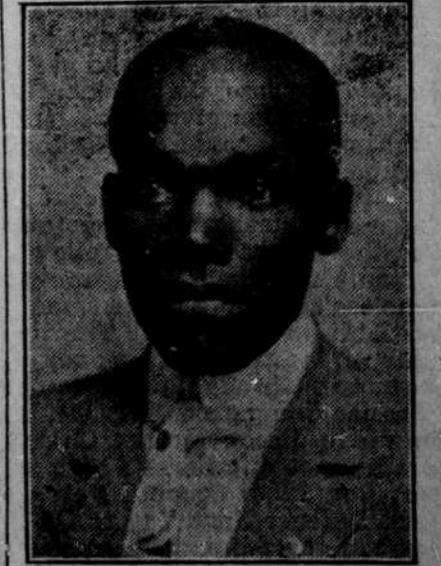
Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 28 (ANP)—The second step to secure full rights of citizenship for Negroes in the state of Arkansas was taken recently, when Negro democratic leaders of Little Rock launched a movement to restrain democratic party officials from barring Negroes in any primary in Arkansas.

The colored members of the democratic party, through the efforts of their attorneys, Booker and Booker, obtained a temporary order on November 27, enabling Negroes who could qualify as democrats to vote in the recent city primary. Permission had been given them by Chancery court, where the litigation is pending, to include E. L. Gompere, chairman of the democratic state central committee, and H. L. Lambert, secretary, according to the amendment filed recently.

With the leaders of the state committee as defendants, the suit is expected to establish definitely the status of Negroes who have allied themselves with the democratic party. Booker and Booker, attorneys, have expressed the opinion that the case will terminate in a victory for Negro citizens and point out that the voting of Negroes in the recent primary resulted in none of the dire calamities so frequently predicted by those desiring to prevent Negroes from exercising their franchise.

PRISONER ESCAPES BUT LEAVES NOTE

Columbus, Miss., Dec. 28 (ANP)—Ed Campbell, who was serving a sentence of 60 days for violating the prohibition laws, saved his way to liberty, but before his departure he wrote the city marshal a note telling him that he had completed his sentence and was going out to make his fine and costs which he would mail to the city as soon as possible.



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