

75 Years of Negro Progress Exposition

In 1940, 75 years will have passed since the American Negro became a citizen, three quarters of a century since he was a chattel. An assembly point where an inventory of our achievements to evaluate our contributions to our country, as well as honor the many brave men and women, both black and white who made it possible for us to share the heritage of free men and women had to be selected.

Detroit was the setting of important conferences prior to the Civil War, the final station of the underground railroad whence slaves fled into Canada and safety. "It is fitting," remarks the Rev. George W. Baer, General Chairman of the Seventy-Five Years of Negro Progress Exposition, "Detroit be the scene of this jubilee celebration."

Tentatively headquarters, pending the selection of a site, and definite dates, are in Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, 4225 Brush Street at Willis. Eddie Tolan, who won athletic fame at Cass Technical High School at the University of Michigan, and as a member of the United States Olympic Team is Executive Director.

As outlined, the Exposition calls for the portrayal of Negro effort in Art, Law, Science, In-

dustry, Medicine, Religion, Home Building, Athletics, Government, Architecture and Engineering. In addition to the 48 states, Africa and the West Indies will be represented.

"At this time we will ask white America to pause a little while to become cognizant of this spectacle, 15,000,000 people demonstrating and exhibiting their contribution to civilization," Eddie Tolan said.

Of the 15,000,000 Negroes in the United States, Detroit and Michigan have 289,000 according to figures available. And more than 500,000 are expected to attend the Exposition. In conjunction with this event is the quadrennial conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. A campaign is under way to bring annual conventions of other Negro organizations to the city during Exposition period events that usually draw thousands.

For the first time, business men and manufacturers will be able to contact a buying force that represents 10 per cent of the nation's population. Negro men and women who have made out are making important contributions to the various fields will take an active part in the conduct of various exhibits.

"Private profit has no part in this Exposition," Eddie Tolan, Executive Director explains. "Revenue derived goes into two funds. One will help in the furtherance of such Expositions throughout the United States. The other to assist toward the cure of the tubercular. Unfortunately, deaths from tuberculosis are higher among Negroes. Records of the Exposition officials show that in the 75 years since the Negro was emancipated he had held only one Exposition, at Atlanta, Georgia, in 1895. To him, this is the most important event; of its kind in 45 years and every effort will be towards that end.

Dr. Baber believes the Exposition appropriate since the democratic ideal is on trial in United States and elsewhere. "It remains for America to show the world democracy is no idle boast but is a reality and workable. At no other time has the problem of racial prejudice and narrow bigotry been so acute."

One of the several purposes is to found a new concept of race relations. Once the Negro, emancipated though he was from chattel slavery, lived in bondage none the less, and only now begins to shake off the yoke. And through the Exposition he hopes to aid white America to cast off its yoke of false ideas concerning the Negro race, Dr. Baber indicated.

Correspondence and pledges of Negro intellectuals, scholars, writers, teachers, and artists are united in seeing the Exposition serve as a means to the furtherance of better racial understanding, it must be in opposing subversive influences to agitate for hatred and strife.

The nature of Detroit's industrial organization and its capacity to rejuvenate the nation's economic life makes it wise to bring to notice the hitherto unrecognized purchasing power of 15,000,000 Negroes, the committee agrees.

An investigation by the Work Progress Administration of New Jersey in 1939, the purchasing power of the Negro was disclosed as two billion (2,000,000,000) annually. The Negro value is no less potent, no less felt in all phases of national life, the re-

port said in effect. Among the items on the committee's books is a plan to pattern in some way exhibits from the New York World's Fair. On the commercial side there will be animated and working models of various inventions and processes never before shown to Detroit or the world.

Housing of exhibits will be either in the State Fair Grounds or Convention Hall.

The L W Down From Hickory Grove

Jokes, they are good medicine—when the joke is on the other guy—like where you let some other person's hat get blown off and run over by a truck.

And I got to thinking about jokes; and who they are on, on account of the goings-on down in Old Spenndhrift Town.

A few years back, our Agricultural Department, I told the farmers: it would be wonderful to raise the price of corn-meal, also bacon. But instead of being a joke on the city folks, it was a back fire, and the farmers got their eyebrows singed. And then they tried selling cotton in Europe cheaper than at home, and this time it was a joke on just about everybody—except the guy in Europe.

And now we have padlocked the wheat in the farmer's crib, and nobody knows who this last joke is on—but the taxpayer, he is commencing to scratch his wrinkled brow.

And the Farmer in the Dell—he is in a mess.

Back yonder around a year ago, everybody was all worked up about the business of investigating the fracs down there on the Tennessee River.

And I been thinking about it, from seeing an old paper which I run across when I was kinda 'dying up my desk, before my Susie comes in and does it herself—and I would never know, thereafter, where to find anything.

Investigations are great medicine, if you can choose your own jury. A horse-thief could ask for nothing nicer—or surer.

But this TVA whitewash it has outed folks in some parts of the country—and has about blown over. But in Tennessee, the folks there are in a different boat—they are wondering about who is gonna dig up the rezuma to pay their school teachers, etc., since Uncle Samuel moved in. Sam's pays taxes to nobody—'s just collect.

Glamour, the dictionary says, means something that is artificially glorified. Also it means ILLUSION. TVA was no slouch, in its day—on glamour.

Yours, with the low down,
JO SERRA

FAUSET RESIGNS FROM PA. LEGISLATURE

Harrisburg, Pa. Nov. 23 (ANP)—Resignation of Crystal B. Fauset from her post as member of the Pennsylvania state legislature to accept an appointment as assistant state director of the WPA education and recreation program, was announced by Colonel Philip Matthews, state WPA Administrator, early in Nov.

In addition to her duties with the education and recreation program, the first Negro woman ever to be elected to a state legislature will act as consultant and adviser on all race relations questions and problems in the works program a wealth of experience in educational fields. She was educated at Boston Normal school and the Teachers college of Columbia university. Her work with social service educational and recreation agencies is nationally recognized. She was formerly field secretary of the national board of the YWCA; board member of the Philadelphia YWCA; chairman of the Philadelphia League of Negro Women; executive secretary of the Institute of National Relations at Swarthmore college during the summers of 1933, '34 and '35; member of the board of trustees of Cheyney Teachers' college and interracial lecturer for the American Friends Service in Eastern Secondary Schools and Colleges. Several years ago Mrs. Fauset served with the recreation pro-

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gram of the WPA in Pennsylvania.

Calvin's Newspaper Service TESTED RECIPE

By Frances Lee Barton

COLORS have certain traits that are universally sensed. The green of grass or leaves, the green of the ocean; green salads, beverages and desserts—all give one a feeling of coolness at sight.

Remember this when serving meals. A cool looking salad attracts. A cool tasting salad delights. A carefully balanced green salad is ideal for these early Fall days, particularly when the thermometer is still too high for comfort.

Sea Dream Cheese Salad
1 package lime-flavored gelatin; 1 cup hot water; 1 cup grated cucumber; 1 tablespoon vinegar; ½ teaspoon scraped onion; dash of cayenne; ½ teaspoon salt; 1 package (3 ounces) cream cheese; ¼ cup sliced green pepper; 1 cup diced celery.

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add cucumber, vinegar, onion, cayenne, and salt. Force through sieve. Chill. When slightly thickened, add ½ to softened cream cheese. Fold in green pepper and celery, turn into individual molds, and chill until firm. Fill molds with remaining thickened gelatin mixture. Chill until firm. Unmold on crisp lettuce. Garnish with mayonnaise, if desired. Serves 6.

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